μC/51 V1.10
User's Manual

ANSI C-Compiler
for the 8051 family of microcontrollers
Predefined symbols ................................................................. 19
Some important options (command line, #pragma) .................. 19

**UmShell & Umake** .................................................................. 20
The most important Flags in Make files .................................. 21
Make files simple ................................................................. 21

**Technical description of the compiler UC51.EXE** .................. 22

**Technical description of the assembler A51.EXE** .............. 22
Mnemonics ................................................................. 23
Names, variables and labels ............................................. 23
Numbers ................................................................. 23
Operators ................................................................. 24
Directives ........................................................................ 24
  .segment ........................................................................ 24
  .include ........................................................................ 26
  .ibytes .......................................................................... 26
  .error ........................................................................... 26
  .end ............................................................................... 26
  .import ........................................................................ 26
  .export .......................................................................... 26
  .file ............................................................................. 27
  .line - and a word about source level debugging ............. 27
  .macro / .endmacro .................................................... 27
  .if / .else / .endif ........................................................ 28
  .ifdef / .ifndef .......................................................... 28
  .hide / .show ............................................................... 28
  .dc.b / .dc.w / .dc.l / .dc.f ........................................ 28
  .ds.b / .ds.w / .ds.l / .ds.f ........................................... 29
Macros ........................................................................ 29
Generated symbols ................................................................. 30

**Technical description of the related tools** ....................... 30

**The libraries** ..................................................................... 30
standard libraries ................................................................. 30
  stdio.h ........................................................................ 30
  string.h ........................................................................ 31
  ctype.h .......................................................................... 32
  stdarg.h ........................................................................ 32
  bin_safe.h ..................................................................... 32
  math.h ........................................................................... 32
8051 specific ................................................................. 32
  irq52.h ......................................................................... 32
  reg51.h, reg52.h, reg535.h ............................................ 33

**Appendix A: Migrating from other compilers** .................... 33
Memory usage - memory models ......................................... 33
Absolute addresses ............................................................ 33
Interrupts ........................................................................ 33
Assembly language ............................................................... 33

**Appendix B: A demo of µC/51's optimisers** ....................... 34
Preface

Thank you for deciding to use µC/51, a complete ANSI C language development system for the whole 8051 family of microcontrollers.

This is the documentation for the first "official release". Although this is a version V1.xx, using µC/51 bears no risk of "jumping into cold water": This development system has a long history, the generated code is very stable and highly optimised. Until now, many industrial developments have been done with it. The included source code, libraries and demos cover a broad range: from writing applications in full ANSI C for the smallest available 8051 CPUs (ATMEL's 89C1051 with as little as 1kB of code space and only 64 bytes of internal RAM) up to the largest (µC/51 is able to manage memory sizes up to 16 MB), from Maxim's 1-Wire® Bus, over the I²C Bus, up to Ethernet.

We developed µC/51 for our own use and needs. Almost daily µC/51 is used by ourselves for all kind of industrial applications and these test beds are not easy. Besides of that, many useful functions arise, like our I²C Bus library or the 'binary safe'-function, that locks a whole binary file against modifications...

History

The idea for writing compilers was born a few years ago. We had written a small BASIC-compiler for use with 8051 based microcontroller. Although this ‘µBASIC/51’ was quite simple, writing software for the 8051’s suddenly became much easier than in Assembler. But with the projects the demands grew too... So the µC/51 ß-Version was developed. Although the ß-Version’s code generator was quite ineffective, it was ideally suited for data logging applications, where speed and software size usually is not crucial, but where other things like floating point math and modular structured software are more important.

Still focusing on ‘small devices’, we decided to embed the Internet in further developments. For this, a high efficient and optimising compiler was needed. This was the trigger for the µC/51 V1.xx. It comes with a totally new code generator, generates a very high efficient code, is easy to use and is full ANSI compatible (with only a very few restrictions due to hardware limitations).

Target processors

µC/51 is suited for all members of the 8051 family. There are no special requirements (like the need of external RAM). We are using µC/51 on ATMEL's 89C1051 as well as on larger systems with banked memory (like our FlexGate (512kB) and or data loggers (currently 2 MB)). Ready-to-start header files and source codes are included for many popular 8051 family members, including some very interesting mixed signal parts, like TI's MSC1210 and the ADuC8xx family from Analog Devices.
Code quality

µC/51 is based on a universal modelling system, capable of modelling all kind of 8/16/32 bit processor cores. But more important is, that this system was especially designed to deal with ‘non linear’ architectures (like the 8051’s Harvard architecture, with separated code and data space).

µC/51 is the first implementation for this system and the results are very good. There is only a very small part in the software especially dedicated to the 8051, but the generated code can easily compete with the ‘market leaders’ (as they describe themselves). In some cases, the code is even better (i.e. µC/51 V1.10 translates the SIEVE demo (‘SRC\SIEVE\SIEVE.C’, which is one of the standard demos) with a module size of 142 bytes, the closest competitor needs 6% more...), the total code size is only 897 bytes - no one of the ‘market leaders’ does beat this!

Read more about µC/51’s optimisation techniques and a comparison with other compilers in the appendix of this documentation.

If demanded (like here) the compiler utilises a ‘call graph’ scheme for minimum usage of the precious resources (for the 8051 this is undoubted the internal RAM). In combination with a ‘data flow optimisation’ the amount of allocated internal RAM is astonishing low.

Before publishing µC/51 V1.xx we have implemented (for customers and as a test suite) many reference applications. One was a data logger: controlling a RS485 network of remote sensor nodes. The logger has a built in a cellular (GSM) modem, 2MB Flash memory (for program and data), only (!) 256 Bytes of internal RAM and a Real Time Clock. For minimum power, the modem is hooked to the cellular net only for short times. If required, the logger can send and receive calls and SMS. The complete software required only about 15 kB of Code and about 60 Bytes of the internal RAM! No external memory is needed.

Accessing the Internet requires to compile a ‘TCP/IP stack’. For µC/51 this is no problem, the stack is finished as another reference application, the appropriate hardware is available: the board is match box sized and has a built in 10 MB Ethernet (you may find more information about the ‘FlexGate(r) family’ under WWW.FLEXGATE.COM). The idea for the FlexGates was to have a module with a ‘well known infrastructure’ on the one side, and a true Web Server on the other side. With only a very low overhead the user can access the application on the FlexGate with a standard Internet browser or by e-mail...

But - returning to the topics - there is still a lot of room for further optimisation in µC/51. We will implement as much as possible.

Limitations of the demo version

The demo version comes with only two restrictions: the maximum size of the generated code is limited to 8 kB. This is more than enough for ‘real world applications’. 8 kB allows the use of floating point routines and ‘printf()’ functions. In one of the demos, shipped with µC/51 we have implemented a complete spectrum analysis in only about 6 kB... The second restriction is: the demo version may only be used for educational or evaluation purposes.
µC/51 does not make any (hidden) changes on the installed computer (like copying DLLs to the system directories, or writing unsolicited entries in the registry...). You can remove it 100% (if using the included uninstaller).

**Sourcecode compatibility with other compilers**

µC/51 is a full ANSI C compiler. So it will accept any ANSI C compliant sourcecode (with only a very few 8051 specific restrictions). However, due to the limitations of the 8051, each manufacturer has made specific extensions to his implementation.

One of our most important design topics was, to make µC/51 an highly portable and easy-to-use compiler and not yet-another-clone of any other very specific implementation.

But in most cases sourcecodes from other (8051) compilers can be compiled without any problems, if only a few items are regarded. More information about using sourcecodes from other compilers with uC/51 can be found in the appendix and in the included demos.

**Full version**

The full version is offered through our web shop and through different distributors. Please visit our website for detailed information.

**Support - Versions**

A license for µC/51 is valid for all ‘minor’ releases of this version (here V1). You can download new releases for free from our website. Questions about the actual release should be sent to UC51@WICKENHAUSER.DE. Support is only possible by e-mail.

You will find a list of improvements/changes of new version (>V1.10) in the supplement.

**About us**

‘Wickenhäuser Elektrotechnik’ is a small company, located in the southern part of Germany.

This is our address:

Wickenhäuser Elektrotechnik
Nikolaus-Lenau-Str. 20
D-76199 Karlsruhe, Germany
Phone: ++49(0) 721 98849 - 0
Fax: ++49(0) 721 98849 - 29
E-mail: SERVICE@WICKENHAUSER.DE (for administrative contacts only)
UC51@WICKENHAUSER.DE (for µC/51 related correspondence)

**The future**

There are lots of improvements (optimisations, tools, demos, ..) on our list. One is the Graphical User Interface for µC/51. Although the included one is quite sufficient, putting it all under one IDE might be a little more convenient. Additionally we want to expand the FlexGate family by some members, and port the µC to other cores.
Disclaimer
If you disagree in any of the following items, installation and use of this software is not permitted!

Errors
Our software and hardware has been carefully developed and tested. But it is a well known fact, that at the contemporary state of technology, it is not possible to guarantee that a product is completely free of errors. For that reason we decline any liability, loss, or damage caused directly or indirectly by our software and/or use of our hardware. The use is at your own risk.

Trademarks
All terms mentioned in this software and the complementary documentation that are known to be trademarks or service marks have been appropriate marked. But we can not attest the accuracy of this information. Use of a term should not be regarded as affecting the validity of any trademark or service mark.

Internet
All references to Internet addresses are given by best knowledge. However, we want to emphasise particularly that the contents of those addresses usually are beyond our influence. Therefor we dissociate us explicitly from any referenced contents, if they are an offence against any current laws.

Installation and de installation
µC/51 will work on any ‘Win9x’ (or better) computer. There is no special requirement. This software may be completely removed by the computer's standard de installation routines. Merely files, which have been produced by the use of this software are excluded from de installation. If desired remove them manually.

Important: Please note, that µC/51 must be installed in a path without ‘whitespace characters’ (i.e. ‘C:\MyFiles\uC51\...’, but not ‘C:\My Files\uC51\...’), because µC/51’s ‘MAKE’ system is currently not able to handle such filenames.

Installing the full version
If µC/51 is installed, it will run first in the 8kb limited demo mode. If you are owner of a license for the full version, you first have to register your installation. Each license gives your the right to install µC/51 on two (2) different computers, provided that the software is only used on one computer at the same time. From your vendor you will get a 12 digit code, that we will named ‘Key1’ here.
Registering µC/51 is a two step process:

1. First you must start ‘KEY51.EXE’. If a valid license is found for this computer, the data will be displayed, else you must enter the ‘Key1’. With this information ‘KEY51.EXE’ will collect some computer specific data and generate a new key, which has 20 digits (‘Key2’). This ‘Key2’ must be sent to us by e-mail, where it is processed by a machine in short intervals (a few minutes). If you cannot send e-mails from this computer, you must send us the ‘Key2’ manually (as an e-mail).

2. If everything is ok, you will receive a license file with the name ‘UC51.KEY’ as a reply. You must copy this file into the ‘BIN’-file of your µC/51 installation. After that program ‘KEY51.EXE’ should find a valid license, if started again.

Your privacy is not touched! The ‘Key2’ contains only hardware specific information with a strong redundancy, you may change quite a lot of system components before the license file won’t be recognised as valid any more...

If you request more than two license files, you can only order them manually (by e-mail to 'service@wickenhaeuser.de' and we might ask you for the reason...

We have ensured by independent trustees, that µC/51 can be always distributed, maintained and licensed - no matter what will happen.

Documentation

The complementary documentation is available as separate files. Please read the documentation carefully prior to the use of the software. You will find the 'latest remarks' in the file 'README.TXT'.

Quick start - a micro tutorial

Installation

µC/51 will work on any ‘Win9x’ (or better) computer. There is no special requirement, For installation simply follow the advices, again: µC/51 does not make any (hidden) changes on the installed computer (like copying DLLs to the system directories, or writing unsolicited entries in the registry...). You can remove it 100%.

Important: Please note, that µC/51 must be installed in a path without ‘whitespace characters’ (i.e. ‘C:\MyFiles\uC51\...’, but not ‘C:\My Files\uC51\...’), because µC/51’s ‘MAKE’ system is currently not able to handle such filenames.
Microcontroller hardware - special development boards

As stated before: µC/51 is a development system for all 8051 family members. But for developing and testing, a convenient way is, to use a (special) board, where you can download and run binary files in an external RAM. Of course, there are alternatives, like using an ‘emulator’ or doing a pure software simulation, decide this for your own.

Later, if the program or the tested functions are running as expected, they might be directly used on or programmed to the dedicated target system.

Note: We recommend to use such a special development board for developing functions and algorithms in the RAM. Finally, you may use them on the intended boards, where debugging might be more difficult.

Alternative: Some of our boards (like the FlexGate) offer two different memory models: memory model one allows download to RAM (like the following picture), memory model two offers several different 64kB banks of Flash memory for the code, the RAM is totally free for data. Switching between the two memory models is handled by our ‘OS535.BIN’, together in combination with a programmable logic chip. That's why they are best suited for development and field use!

Here, we assume that you use a board with the following hardware structure (like our MINI535, FLASH_M1, FlexGate, ...), where you can download the binary files with the included tools (‘FLASHMON’ and/or ‘SLD51’):

```
$0000  $8000  $FFFF
Data   Code & Data joint tog. as XRAM for download

$7FFF  OS535.BIN
 free   Eprom

$0000
```

The CPU should be a 80C535, C515, 8051 compatible or a generic 8051. Most of the demos require a 11.0592 to 12.0 MHz crystal. If you have an 80C535 or an C515 with 12.0 MHz, you can start immediately: Burn the file ‘SRC\OS\OS535.BIN’ to an Eprom (format is ‘binary’). For other commonly used CPUs or crystals, the ‘OS535.BIN’ supports a switch, but nevertheless, it must be rebuilt, as shown below. The board must have a serial port (RS232). If your hardware does have other memory layout, you can easily adapt the ‘OS535.BIN’ by following the remarks in the source code (and the appropriate make file). ‘OS535.BIN’ expects a LED on port P3.5 (to let it blink) if it is ready. After a hardware reset, the LED first flashes some times faster, then keeps flashing slower. If an error occurs (data transmission), the LED will flash irregularly. In this case reset the hardware.

Of course, the included demos for the two mixed signal micro controllers, can only be used on their development boards ;-) or similar boards.
Hello World!

Now start ‘µEdit’, our enclosed editor. Enter the following:

```c
#include <stdio.h>

void main(void){
    printf("Hello World\n");
}
```

Save this text in 'SRC\HELLO\HELLO.C' (might be already there...). Don't close µEdit.

Now start ‘UmShell’. This is the second part of the current IDE. UmShell is based on an industrial approved system named ‘Make’. For a beginner it might look a little bit strange, but Make is a very powerful tool and in the background of most other IDE’s a Make tool is working. Think of Make as just a simple ‘recipe’ how to build a target. In this case the make file has only one line:

```
Hello.bin: hello.c
```

This tells Make, that ‘HELLO.BIN’ is to be made from ‘HELLO.C’.

By default UmShell knows a set of rules how to translate one extension to another (i.e. *.C to *.BIN). In addition to that Make uses ‘Macros’. Think of them as variables. By default some macros are predefined, i.e. ‘L51FLAGS’ may hold extra settings, to be passed to the linker.

Back to the demo - you may enter the rule above or simply open the prepared make file ‘SRC\HELLO\HELLO.MAK’ in UmShell. Pressing ‘<F9>’ will generate the program. It will have something about 300 bytes in size.

Now start the Source Level Debugger ‘SLD51’. Select ‘SRC\HELLO\HELLO.BIN’ for download (maybe you must select the appropriate baud rate for your board first, if it is not 9600 Bd).

After downloading you may start, by clicking on the ‘shoe’. The program will run in an endless loop printing „Hello World“. You can single step through the assembler commands, C files and set breakpoints with the mouse.

Note: Currently there is no way to step 'over' a breakpoint. First disable it, step over it, then enable it again. After a software stop through a breakpoint, you need two assembler single steps (just press '<F2>' twice). Because are simulated by an 'ljmp' instruction, written to the external RAM. Because 'ljmp' needs 3 Bytes, it is not possible to set a breakpoint everywhere!

For the future we will revise the debugger totally, that it even might be able to debug programs in Flash memory.
**Important:** Most of the demo makefiles will generate a pure binary file (suitable to be with FLASHMON or SLD51). Other 3rd party downloaoders might only support Hex-files. To instruct the UmShell to make a Hex-file (from the always generated binary file), simply add a new line in the makefile. Here, the additional line would be:

```
hello.hex: hello.bin
```

More infos about makefiles is given in one of the following paragraphs.

**More about C, the ANSI compatibility of µC/51**

To learn more about the C language, we recommend to contact a bookstore or a public library. Another endless source of information is the Internet. Many primers and interesting articles may be found. For the future a step by step manual - ideal for educational purposes - will be available.

We have designed the µC/51 for easy use and we have tried to get optimal compatibility with ANSI C. Of course, on a micro controller you won’t find functions for disk access or similar. But if you keep in mind, that a 8051 has only very limited resources, you could easily develop algorithms on your PC and then later transfer the software to the 8051.

Large parts of the floating point libraries and other stuff of µC/51 have been designed with Borland C++ 5, the source code may be compiled with Borland C++ as well as with µC/51. Because of µC/51's optimiser, the generated code size is only slightly more than if coded by hand in Assembler. Another example of portable code is the demo ‘SRC\DFHT\DFHT.C’ for which the PC’s EXE is included... We think it is the best solution to write (library functions) in C and then optimise the compiler to produce ‘handcrafted’ quality. Although it is more difficult at first, it will pay of, because the optimiser will surely reuse, what he learnt by this...

**More demos...**

In ‘SOURCES’ some more demos are found. All of them can be compiled by loading their Make file in UmShell. The folder ‘SRC\A51’ does contain only one Make file for different projects: select the target in the selection box of UmShell.

**What's going on?**

Now, as you know how to write a C program, it might be interesting to track it's way to a binary..

In the first step all C files are translated by the compiler 'UC51.EXE'. The compiler may require some system include files (usually 'INCLUDE\*.*)'. The compiler produces a plain assembler source file (*.S51). Immediately after that, the Assembler translates the compiler's output to an object file (*.OBJ). So the first step is the transition from *.C to *.OBJ.

For the next step the linker takes all object files at once and puts them together to a binary file (*.BIN). If there are still references left open, the linker tries to get those missing references from the supported libraries (*.LIB) (you may pass as many libraries as you want to the
linker). Together with the binary file a listing (*.LST) might be written and a memory map file (*.MEM). Both are intended to be read by debuggers (or the user).

**Basic data of µC/51**

**Bug report**

If you think of having found a bug, please let us know! We will try as fast as possible to solve it. Please include a small source to track the bug. Please send bug reports only to UC51@WICKENHAUSER.DE.

**Data types**

µC/51 is offers the following data types:

**Integral types**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>char</td>
<td>8 Bit</td>
<td>0..255 (chars are treated as 'unsigned', this is ANSI compatible)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unsigned char</td>
<td></td>
<td>(as above)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>signed char</td>
<td>8 Bit</td>
<td>-128..+127 (please note: as a constant -128 is int (ANSI))!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>short</td>
<td>16 Bit</td>
<td>-32768..32767 (please note: as a constant -32768 is long (ANSI))!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>int</td>
<td>(as above)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unsigned int</td>
<td>16 Bit</td>
<td>0..65535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>long</td>
<td>32 Bit</td>
<td>-214783648..2147483647</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unsigned long</td>
<td>32 Bit</td>
<td>0..4294967295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>float</td>
<td>32 Bit</td>
<td>IEEE format</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>char unsigned bit</td>
<td>1 Bit</td>
<td>(the modifier 'bit' is no ANSI keyword)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

all data is represented in the 'big endian' format. Data types not mentioned here are mapped to the next smaller types (like double to float, long long to long, ...)

The data type ‘bit’ is 8051 specific. It has the values only 0 and non-0 (the integral representation is 1, but the integral value 123 is seen as non-0 too).

**Floating point precision**

The floating point routines are based on IEEE proceedings. Rounding is performed as proposed. All mathematical library functions (like 'sin()', ...) have been implemented by using industrial approved algorithms and approximations.

**Pointer types**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>'generic' (far) pointer</td>
<td>32 Bit</td>
<td>(explained later, may point to everything)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xdata pointer</td>
<td>16 Bit</td>
<td>(external ram)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>code pointer</td>
<td>16 Bit</td>
<td>(code memory)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
near pointer 8 Bit (internal RAM, address 0..127)
inear pointer 8 Bit (internal RAM, address 0..255)
bit pointer not an allowed type

**Memory models**

uC/51 supports two memory models: small and large. In the small model all local variables are located in the internal RAM (‘near’). This is the fastest model. Unfortunately there are only 128 Bytes. If large blocks must be allocated as local variables, the large model must be used. Currently it is not possible to mix both models in one application. Both memory models use the call graph scheme for minimum RAM usage.

The type of the memory which is used for the local variables and parameters is the only difference for the two memory models! Global variables can be placed in both models anywhere! By default (if nothing else is specified) they will be placed in the external RAM or in the code area (if it is a constant). But if using the memory modifies (‘xdata’ ‘code’ ‘near’ ’inear’ and bit) each variable can separately been placed anywhere you like! Of course, generic pointers can address the whole 256 * 16 MB address space in both models.

The names 'small' and 'large' denote only the size of the available memory for the local variables. Nothing else.

By default the compilers chooses the small model. To use the large model, the flag 'C51FLAGS' must be set to 'C51FLAGS = large' in UmShell.

**Please note:** for uC/51 the memory model has no affect on where global variables are located (unlike as in other compilers). We suggest, that you should use a ‘typedef’ or a ‘#define’ to modify the memory type of global data, depending on the memory model.

**8051 memory modifiers**

To distinguish between the different types of memory on the 8051 uC/51 defines some new keywords (modifiers):

- **bit** as 'unsigned char bit' this data type uses only 1 bit. Ideal for global flags.
  The 8051 allows up to 128 bits for data. 128 bits are reserved for ‘Special Function Bits’ (SFB). Many of them have commonly used names, like ‘RI’.

- **xdata** data with this modifier is located in the external ram, access to it needs a 16 Bit pointer

- **code** data is in the code memory, access by a 16 Bit pointer

- **near** data is in the internal RAM, locations 0..127, access by an 8 Bit pointer

- **inear** data is in the internal RAM, locations 0..255, access by an 8 Bit pointer. Using
inear is less effective than near, because access is always done by an indirection. It is well suited i.e. for global arrays in the internal RAM. The advantage for inear is, that it might be located in the upper half of the internal RAM, whereas near (and all local variables in the small memory model) must be located in the lower half. If the internal space is low on the controller, consider the use of inear.

far or 'generic' a far modified pointer may point to everything, Currently far pointer are only 'virtual' pointers. You can not declare a variable as far, this will be possible in future version. In some cases the far keyword may be left out, such pointers are called 'generic' pointers (the same is for 'local' data types, because there is no explicit modifier).

Understanding memory modifiers, memory spaces and segmentation

On common PCs there is no need for memory modifiers, because all data can be accessed over a single (usually 32 Bit) pointer type, the memory is 'flat'. A few years ago, in the days of the 'good (?)' old 16 Bit PCs, modifiers were quite common. Even in some header files they still live on (although without any effect...).

For µC/51 we implemented modifiers as an ‘option for the wise’: If you do not want to deal with memory modifiers: just don't use them. The price you have to pay is code size, memory usage and speed. An example: the Dhrystone demo (‘SRC\DHRY\DHRY.C’) which is one of the standard demos of ancient times, does not use them. Nevertheless µC/51 compiles it. But if you let it run, it will be quite slower than it could be. Some competitors offer additional memory models, which are better suited for such kind of source code, but they usually are of limited practical use, because they have other disadvantages (*) and lesser portability...

For an explanation of memory modifiers, let’s start without them and look at the following code. If you don't want to take an as close look at the internals, don't worry. The simple usage of µC/51 does not require this:

```c
int a;
char pre_name[]="Bart";
const char last_name[]="Simpson";
void say_hi(char *pc, char *pd){
    printf("Hello %s %s\n",pc, pd);
}
void do_it(void){
    char no[1];
    no[0]=0;
    say_hi(pre_name, last_name);
    say_hi(no,"King Kong");
}
```

'a', 'pre_name' and 'last_name' are so called 'top-level definitions'. They represent the data itself. 'a' and 'pre_name' are global variables with read and write access. µC/51 will place them in the external RAM ('xdata'). 'last_name' is declared as const. The compiler knows, that it might only be read later. So it is safe to locate it in 'code', the Code space (some other compilers offer memory models, that blindly pack everything in the external RAM, only that they can later use single 16 Bit pointers, what we think is an incredible waste of RAM (see (*) above)).
Same is for the string "King Kong". It is definitely a constant string, so it will be placed in the 'code' code space too. The 'no' is local, there is no choice for placement: in the small model it will become a 'near', in the large model it will become a 'xdata'. It is not 'top-level' too.

So 'pc' and 'pd' might point to anything in the 8051's code space. Because they are pointers and not bound to real data, they are not 'top-level'. This means, the compiler cannot automatically determine the type of memory they are pointing to. That is, why they become 'generic' pointers with a size of 32 Bit. By calling the function 'say_hi' µC/51 automatically extends a given pointer to a generic one if needed.

You might recognize, that there is a 8 Bit overhead in the generic pointers? Well, you're right, but we thought, that this extra byte does not hurt more than it might be worth: With such a 32 Bit generic pointer you can access 256 different types of memory, each with a linear size of up to 16 MB! We think this is 'almost' flat too... On some of our boards, we already use this extra byte, i.e. the FlexGate, which has (V1.0) 512kB of Flash memory or the data loggers with 2MB.

The access over generic pointers is done through library functions. You may find their source code in 'LIB\LIB_ASS\MEM32.S51'. Feel free to add your own memory space. After that you must rebuild the libraries, as described later in this document. For our data loggers, we have mapped almost everything in this space: the Flash with 2MB, internal RAM, even the FC-peripherals have their own 'selector'...

Summary: All unmodified constant 'top-level' integral data and strings will be placed in 'code', all other unmodified 'top-level' data will be paced in 'xram'. All unmodified pointers will become 'generic' ones.

And what about this (as a global definition):

char* pc="HELLO";

This is really difficult! "HELLO" is a constant string. OK. So it will be located in the 'code' space, but what about 'pc'? Well, it is definitely not constant, because pc can be written! So µC/51 will spend a 'generic' pointer in the 'xdata' for it.... Even if you qualify it as

const char* const pc="HELLO";

µC/51 will use a generic pointer (although both in 'code', because pc is a pointer and not an integral type)...

For an explicit memory determination you may use the memory modifiers:

xdata int a; // a is xdata (this is the default too)
near char u; // u is near, access is fastest!
inear char x; // x is in the inear, access is a little bit slower
inear buf[50]; // if more internal memory is needed, inear is the // best choice
unsigned char flag motor_state; // On or off
Memory modifiers for pointers follow the same rules as the ANSI 'const' and 'volatile' modifiers:

```c
code char* code pc="HELLO"; // This will fix pc as a bullet proof
// 16 Bit code pointer, pointing to code
xdata char* near xp; // xp is in 'near' but *xp is 'xdata'
far char* fp; // fp is in 'xdata' (default), the 'far'
// is obsolete, but may be more readable
```

Summary: Modifying the memory type in some situation will result in an optimised memory access. µC/51 will track the modifiers over a random number of indirection's. But don't exaggerate it, the compiler will have the better overview than the user...

Memory modifiers in typedefs

This is not recommended! There is no situation, where a memory modifier can not be put outside a typedef.

Register usage

On the 8051 we have 4 register banks. By default uC/51 uses the lower two banks (0 and 1). If not desired (as it might be for interrupt functions), the compiler can be instructed only to use bank 0. An example for this can be found in 'SRC\MISC\SOFT_RTC.C'. Bank 2 and 3 are completely free. We suggest to reserve them for debuggers, protocol stacks and other background stuff.

Of course, they can be used as regular space in the 'near' memory. But currently the linker can not do this automatically, because it can not locate 'near' segments below the 'bit' segment. For this, the easiest way is to partition those (at maximum 16 Bytes) manually, i. e.:

```c
near char buf_a[8] @ 16;
near char buf_b[8] @ 24;
```

This will reserve two buffers in the bank 2 and 3 area (the '@' directive is described later).

Interrupts in C

Interrupts may be written in C. µC/51 is keeping a list of the trashed registers during a function and will only save the trashed registers. To declare a function an interrupts function, the 'interrupt' keyword must be added after the declaration. The function must have a prototype! To assign the function to an interrupts, the macro 'IRQ_VECTOR(function, cpu_irqaddress)' from '<irq52.h>' is needed. See 'SRC\MISC\SOFT_RTC.C' as an example.

Dealing with call graphs

Call graphs are graphs, which describe the logical hierarchy of a program. Because each program begins with a 'main()' function, main is always a 'root' of the call graph. After the call graph is built, the linker knows about the used local space. An example: if main() calls two functions 'a()' and 'b()', both may share the same local data (if none of them calls each other). In other situations they may only share parts of the data or none at all. This information is represented by the call graph.
Call graphs can either be totally exclusive or identical. Reasons for having more than one call graph in a program are interrupts or Assembler called C functions. If the linker detects irregularities in the call graph it is not able to build the binary!

The depth of a call graph will represent the amount of used stack! On the a 8051 each call takes 2 bytes, so the depth of the call graph is about the same as the required stack space (this is why each call takes two levels in the call graph).

Of course, the compiler will at first try to use registers for parameters and variables. Only if more space is needed, local variables are allocated!

**Using the ‘printf()’ formatter**

Formatted output is a too precious routine to waste it to a single 'printf()' implementation! For this our 'printf()' simply calls a formatter function with its arguments and an additional output function. By using this mechanism it is very easy to generate a formatted output to almost everywhere. One example is 'SRC\RS232_2\RS232_C2.C', where a function 'com2_printf()' is defined with only a few lines. On our data loggers, we use a 'flash_printf()' to write formatted messages to the Flash memory. For our LC Displays a 'lcd_printf()' is supported. For µC/51's libraries the 'sprintf()' functions is based on this formatter!

You can find the complete source code of the formatter ('_doprnt()') in the file 'LIB\LIB_C\DOPRNT.C'. Feel free to modify it! The system is, to pass a character handler, the format string, and the caller's arguments to the formatter.

Currently the 'printf()' -formatter accepts formatting instructions of the type:

```
% [flags] [width] [.prec] [l | L] type_char
```

**[flags] (optional):**

- Left-justifies the result, pads on the right with blanks. If not given, it right-justifies the result, pads on the left with zeros or blanks.
- Signed conversion results always begin with a plus (+) or minus (-) sign.
- If value is nonnegative, the output begins with a blank instead of a plus; negative values still begin with a minus.

**[width] (optional):**

Minimum number of characters to print, padding with blanks or zeros.

**[prec] (optional):**

Maximum number of characters to print; for integers, minimum number of digits to print.

**[l | L] (optional):**

Treat the following type as 32 bit (instead of 16 bit)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>type_char</th>
<th>u</th>
<th>d</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unssigned format</td>
<td>Signed format</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
As you see, the formatter is quite complete.

The formatter will always return the number of written bytes (= number of calls of for the character handler).

*Note:* for UART output, each newline ('
') is replaced by the sequence ('
'). This is required for most terminal programs (but our FLASHMON and SLD51 are inherent to this...). This is done directly by the character handlers of the serial I/O (see 'LIB\LIB_ASS\SERIOD.S51' and 'LIB\LIB_ASS\SERIOP.S51'). So for the formatter each 'n' counts only as one.

*Remark:* There is no need of explicitly casting 8 bit sized values to 16 bit values. This is automatically done by uC/51, as the ANSI standard requires! The need of an explicit cast (like other 8051 compilers need it), is not according to the standard.

**A word about strings in general**

Besides the alphanumeric and other printable characters, you can designate hexadecimal and octal escape sequences in µC/51. These escape sequences are interpreted as ASCII characters, allowing you to use characters outside the printable range (ASCII decimal 20-126). The format of a hexadecimal escape sequence is \x<hexnum>, where <hexnum> is up to 2 hexadecimal digits (0-F). For example, the string "R3" can be written as "\x5233" or "\x52\x33". Octals are a backslash followed by up to three octal digits (\ooo). For example, "R3" in octal could be written "\1223" or "\122\063".

**Mixing C and Assembler**

Mixing C and Assembler is very easy in µC/51. The compiler itself was designed for easy assembler usage. Up to 8 bytes of arguments are passed in registers!

What's going on:

After reset, the controller will jump to 'main' trough a 'ljmp'. The first thing in 'main()' is to call 'startup()'. This routine will initialize the global data of the program and initialize the stack pointer. Then it will return to 'main()'. After 'main()' is done, 'startup()' will be called again...
So if you want to call assembler functions from C, you will find the controller's infrastructure well prepared. You even can even use this to get assembler data initialised by 'startup()' (as we did in some demo and library functions).

Because the user might define variable of the same name as CPU registers (like 'A' and 'B'), we decided to use a leading '_' in all compiler exported definitions. A call from C to a function 'test()' will result as an '_call _test' (the compiler will write an assembler source code as output). The assembler can access all global C variables and vice versa (but don't forget the consider the '_' ...),

Parameter passing in registers is very easy: All parameters are passed in bank 0!
There are 4 groups of each 2 Bytes, starting from R7:R6 (L:H) to R1:2 (L:H)
Allocation is done left to right, where R7 is the first.

If 1. Par. is a Byte it is in R7, if it is 2 Bytes it is in R6:R7 (H:L)
The next Parameter will allocate R5 or R4:R5 (H:L)
If a parameter has 4 Bytes it will allocate either R4..R7 (HH..LL) if it is free or R3..R0

Results are passed in R7, R6:R7 (H:L) or R4..R7 (HH..LL).
The assembler function may change all registers and may use bank 1 for temporaries, if it is sure, that the callers above have enabled bank 1 access (which is the default).

If you pass more arguments to a function, they will be stored in local memory, for assembler usage this is not recommended (it requires access to the call graph), in this case it is better to pass a pointer to the assembler function.

**How to use assembler**

There are two ways to write software in assembler:

The first: put all assembler functions in one source file (extension *.s51), a shown in some demos. The second: embed a block of assembler instructions in an '#asm' / '#endasm' block of a C file. This has the advantage, that the C Preprocessor may be used too (like in 'SRC\RS232_2\RS232_C2.C'. If there is only one line of assembler, you can use the '#asmline' directive. The instruction follow immediately ('#asmline nop') or in the next line ('#asmline nop'). It is possible to include assembler in a C function, but this is not recommended, because it may disturb the optimiser, which sometimes completely reorders the instructions of a function!

A good starting point is: write a skeleton of your functions in C and use the compiler's output.

Our assembler syntax is slightly different from the 'standard': we think, that our syntax is better readable, for information read the chapter about the assembler's technical reference. Of course, the differences concern only assembler directives and number representation, the mnemonics are full compatible to the standard.

A few short hints for using the Assembler/51: continuous blocks of code should be placed in 'segments'. each segment starts with a '.segment NAME [,OPTIONS]' directive. Segments of the same name will be joint by the linker. The OPTIONS may be 'sclass SCLASS', 'org
ORG', 'size SIZE', 'notext'. SCLASS is 'dram', 'iram', xram', without SCLASS the segment is 'code'. ORG sets the segment to an absolute position (the linker may add an additional offset due to it's '-rCODE,XRAM' parameter). With 'SIZE' the size of the segment will be fixed. 'notext' is only of use for data segments. If 'notext' is not set, a mirror segment with initialisation data is added in the code segment (this mechanism is used by the 'startup()' routine to initialise the data segments). The labels of a segments can by exported with '.export' or importet with '.import'. A more detailed description for the assembler is in a later chapter.

Reentrant functions

Reentrant functions are seldom required. To learn more about them, see 'MISC\FACULTY.C'. There is only one special case, where reentrant functions are really required, this is, when a function is called indirect as well as direct, like 'putc()': it may be used direct to send single chars to the UART, but it is also used as a parameter for the 'printf()' formatter, which calls it indirect. Our advice is: don't care about reentrant functions, unless the linker explicitly tells you to use them.

On the 8051 reentrant functions are not allowed to have variable argument lists.

The execution speed of reentrant functions is somewhat slower than non reentrant ones, if there are local arguments to be saved, because all reentrant functions share one memory space for local variables and passed non register arguments.

Indirect functions

Indirect functions may be used in the common manner, there is only one limitation: indirect functions are limited to 6 Bytes for arguments.

All indirect functions will become a root of a call graph, so the linker will not share memory for local variables between them.

Variadic functions

Functions with variable argument lists are common C standard, (like 'printf()' ). Variadic functions must have a prototye. There is one special exception for arguments: variadic arguments are always promoted to integrals. You need to consider this to access them later...

Integral promotion

The ANSI standard defines the 'integral promotion'. It says, that all calculations smaller than 'int' are extended to 'int' size, and 'float' to 'double', ... On a 8 Bit microcontroller this will produce a huge overhead of code. You can enable the integral promotion for µC/51 too, by default it is disabled. µC/51 uses a 'smart promotion' scheme: it will only extend the size of a result, if it is required! For functions integral promotion is omitted, if a prototype for the function is given.
Old style functions

They may be used in the 'common old way', but all arguments are automatically treated by integral promotion, even if there is a prototype following. Mixing old style and new style declarations in different files may lead to undesired results...

Defining your own SFR's - defining absolute addresses with '@'

One of the reasons for the success of the 8051 family is, that new family members simply have more or other 'special function registers' (SFR). To use a special family member, we have supplied some register definition files like 'INCLUDE\REG51.H' or '..REG52.H' or 'REG535.H'. To extend or modify the given definition files, there are two ways:

The first way might be used, if it is important to have the definition for assembler as well as for C: First add the definition for Assembler (like 'WPM_BIT = P3.4'). Then in a second line this definition must be mapped to the appropriate C symbol, because C adds an '_' : '_WPM_BIT = WPM_BIT'). In the last step the new symbol must have a declaration for the compiler 'extern unsigned char bit WPM_BIT;'.

The Second way is more easy, but it declares the new symbol only for C use: simply add the definition to the declaration: 'unsigned char WPM_BIT @ 0x85;'. That's all!

Overwriting library functions

You may overwrite C library functions (those with a '_' as first character...). For instance if you think you have a better 'sin()' function than ours: simply add your own as an *.OBJ file to your program. Symbols in objects files always have a higher priority than library symbols.

If you overwrite an assembler symbol, the linker will use your definition, but it will present you a warning, which you might ignore...

The job of startup()

The 'startup()' function is responsible for the initialisation of the microcontroller's stack and all types of RAM (and even Bits): All variable spaces are either set to 0, or initialised by their initial values. You may customise the startup()-function to perform some extra work (find it in ‘LIB\LIB_C’ (it is not a real C function, but it requires the C preprocessor).

Sometimes the user might be interested to run one specific routine before doing all the initialising. One example is the C515’s impacient watchdog: It has a timeout of only 65 msec. But if there is a lot of data to initialise, it might take longer than this period. The result would be a constantly triggered watchdog reset. To omit such things, the user can specify a custom function. It is called immediately after reset, but internal RAM is already cleared and the stackpointer is set, so it might be even written in C:

    // This tells the linker, that a custom function must be called first:
    #asm
    .export START_DEF
    START_DEF=1
    #endasm
// The function itself: The name is given!
void _startup_first(void){
    ...
}

For the C515 our solution was, to start a 60 msec. interrupt, delaying the watchdog to 16 sec... Another idea is to jump directly to '_main', if no initialisation of the external memory must be done.

**The binary safe '_bin_safe()'**

With this function a program can check it's integrity. We have provided this function, to lock binary files against modifications. An example: one of our customers distributes his binary updates (for his machines) by e-mail, the users can upload the update by themselves. So there might be a chance, that the one or other user tries to make changes in the binaries, like text messages or something else. But the software might still work!

'_bin_safe()' will detect such changes with a very high reliability. Because it does not compute a simple checksum over itself, it uses a 16 bit CRC instead, which is quite hard to bypass ;-).

'_bin_safe()' will return 0, if no changes are found. Decide for yourself, what to to in the other case... Include the header file 'bin_safe.h' to declare the function. Due to the algorithm, the speed is not very fast, on a 12MHz 8051, about 8kB per sec. can be examined.

*Remark:* If one of our competitors has such a function too, please let us know...

**Efficient coding**

Keep in mind, that the 8051 is a 8 Bit CPU, whereas most books about C assume a 32 Bit bolt. Unsigned operations usually are significantly faster than signed on the 8051. And the native' data type for an 8051 is not 'int' (as for 16 Bit and 32 Bit CPUs), but 'unsigned char'.

**Predefined symbols**

The compiler defines some preprocessor symbols, which are common standard (except for "__UC__" and "_i8051"):

- __DATE__ today's date
- __TIME__ and time
- __FILE__ the name of the source file
- __LINE__ and the current line no.
- __STDC__ defined as "__STDC__"
- __UC__ defined as "__UC__", this is µC/51 specific!
- _i8051 defined as 1, this is µC/51 specific! (only one leading '_').

**Some important options (command line, #pragma)**

The compiler can be controlled either by command line, or by '#pragma' directives. For the command line options, the compiler will show a full list, if called as 'UC51 -?'. Here the most
important options are described. You can pass them to the compiler in a makefile by using
the variable 'C51FLAGS'):

-\texttt{g} \quad \text{Debug level (1 (= default) or 2). If set to 2, the compiler will}
include more source info in the output, but the code might
be less optimised.
-\texttt{-size} \quad \text{Optimise for size, this is the default}
-\texttt{-speed} \quad \text{Optimise for speed}
-\texttt{-a} \quad \text{Suppress strict warnings}
-\texttt{-w} \quad \text{Suppress all warnings}
-\texttt{-dMACRO} \quad \text{Define a Macro (to assign a value use '-dMACRO=VALUE')}
-\texttt{-b0} \quad \text{Use only register bank 0 (by default 0 and 1 will be used)}
-\texttt{-nograph} \quad \text{Disable the call graph. Will need a lot of RAM...}
-\texttt{-noline} \quad \text{Don't emit code for the macro '__line'. You can supply an own}
version for this macro, see 'Technical description of the assembler...'

Some parameters are also available as '#pragma's:

\begin{verbatim}
'#pragma  option -gX' Set debug level, X=1 or 2
'#pragma  option -a' Suppress strict warnings
'#pragma  option -a-' Enable strict warnings
'#pragma  option -w' Suppress all warnings
'#pragma  option -w-' Enable all warnings
'#pragma  cpu -b0' Use only register bank 0
'#pragma  cpu -b0-' Use register bank 0 and 1
'#pragma  cpu -noline' Don't emit '.line' directives
'#pragma  cpu -noline-' Emit '.line' directives
'#pragma  cpu -nograph' Don't emit call graph information
'#pragma  cpu -nograph-' Emit call graph information
'#pragma  cpu -large' Switch to large memory model
'#pragma  cpu -small' Switch to small memory model
'#pragma  cpu -labeldist X' Set new label distance for short jumps
'#pragma  cpu -labeldist-' Restore default label distance
\end{verbatim}

The label distance is a number (currently set to 50 as default). Because µC/51 has no internal
assembler, it does not know, if a short jump could be used as an optimisation. Therefore it
uses a guess: Most instructions are less than 2 bytes long, so a label distance of 50 would
allow short jumps within a distance of 50 assembler lines (or +/- 100 bytes) which should be
safe. However, increasing this value could improve code size. If the assembler requires to
decrease it, please let us know.

\textbf{UmShell & Umake}

As introduced before: these two helpers will build your software, by using a 'recipe' (also
named 'makefile'). UmShell is the graphical user interface, but Umake will do all the work...
The most important Flags in Make files

The flags in the Make file are nothing more than variables, able to hold a string value. As there are:

**C51FLAGS**: Flags for the compiler, default is empty. They be used for telling the compiler something, like a definition: (`C51FLAGS = -dTEST -dABC=3` is the same as if '#define TEST' and '#define ABC 3' inside the source code.

**A51FLAGS**: Flags for the assembler, predefined as `-d -g`
- `-d`: expand the macro '__line' for each sourceline (needed for single step)
- `-g`: include sourcecode info in the listing

**L51FLAGS**: Flags for the linker, predefined to `-r$8000,$F000`, this will link all programs to $8000, with xdata starting at $F000.

**MODEL**: The memory model, default is 'small', set to 'large' if required

**SIOTYPE**: The used library for the serial i/o. Default is ‘d’, for using the interrupt driven one. In some cases, a polled version might fit better (the polled version gets all possible values (0..255) and is smaller in size, but the interrupt driven version allows source code debugging. Set to ‘p’ to use the polled version

**PFLAGS**: If set to ‘PFLAGS=FULL_PRINTF’ the full featured printf()-formatter is used. This might be interesting, if format strings are dynamically generated during execution. By default the value is ‘SMART_PRINTF’, which allow the compiler to tailor the formatter to the minimum size.

The default definitions for the macros above are found in 'BIN\BUILTINS.MAK'. If you want to get help about additional parameters, you can start the program (Assembler, Compiler, Linker, ...) from command line with the parameter `-?`.

One of the most important items is 'A51FLAGS -d ...': Usually the compiler writes a definition for the macro '__line' at the beginning of each translated file. Currently this macro does nothing else than make a call to location $0006, where the debugger is expected. The assembler then will expand this macro for each C source line in its output (so you can single step through your program). But if the software development is finished you should disable this feature, because for each line 3 bytes are spend... (if you forget it, this is not crucial, because there is a default handler, so your software won't crash...).

The format of the numbers in the L51FLAGS can be either '0x', decimal, or '$' for base 16.

Make files simple

This is a minimum description for make files. The idea behind make is, to have an recipe of how something is made from something else, if the result is older than the sources. in other words: Make will only do what is really necessary. Make is based on rules, depending on file name extensions. You may find the default rules in 'BIN\BUILTINS.MAK'. We have supplied rules for the most common tasks here in, like:
Making a *.bin out of *.c or *.s51
Making a *.obj out of *.c or *.s51
Making a *.bin out of *.obj and *.lib
Making a *.hex out of *.bin

Using a rule in a make file always starts with the result, followed by a colon. Then the sources follow. To select a rule, Make must detect the Target's filename in the sources. i.e.

    happy.bin: fast.obj happy.obj newlink.obj

If any of the three sources are younger than 'happy.bin', Make will try to find a rule how to make happy.bin. It will detect, that 'happy' is in happy.obj, so it will use the rule for Making *.bin out of *.obj. In case of success, the file time stamps will reflect this.

Guess, what the following line will do:

    happy.hex: happy.bin

In some cases Make is not able to detect all dependencies, i.e. if you change header files for a source code, but Make does not know about this dependency (it could be advised to watch for this, but often one is too lazy to tell that...). In this case you can tell Make to rebuilt the whole project without regarding the dependencies.

The place where a macro is defined, is not important, because first the make file is totally read. It is allowed to overwrite macros or to use other macros as parameters (in brackets with a leading '$'). A simple '$*' is replaced by the filename of the destination (without file extension), a '$<' is replaced by all dependencies (for UmShell this is '<F8>').

It is possible to supply an own rule for a dependency. In this case a default rule will be ignored, if there is one. An example for this may be found in 'LIB\LIB_ALL.MAK'.

In a future version we will support UmShell with some kind of 'Expert'....

**Technical description of the compiler UC51.EXE**

This chapter will work out some of the deeper details of the compiler. It will follow in an later version of this documentation...

**Technical description of the assembler A51.EXE**

The A51 is a macro assembler. It was designed as a reliable and stable workhorse and (as for the compiler) the A51 is almost totally independent from the 8051 too! A51 operates as a single pass assembler. Thus making it very fast.
Mnemonics

The syntax uses the common standard Mnemonics and is sensitive. Mnemonics itself are not case sensitive, but any used symbols (you may write 'mov a,#0' or 'mov a,#0', or 'mov ACC,#0', but not 'mov acc,#0', because ACC is a symbol, defined in an include file). As a convention, all of the 8051's SFRs are upper case letters.

In cases, where a number is expected, you may even use a calculation, like simply writing

'mov R6,a', you could write (could be useful in macros, use braces):

```
WORKREG=5
mov R(WORKREG+1),a
```

Names, variables and labels

All names must be composed as in C: first char: '_', 'a-z' or 'A-Z', rest may contain numbers. A name must not exceed 64 characters, else this will lead to an error message.

Labels have a following colon and are treated as addresses.

A variable is a symbol, that can hold a value (assignment). Multiple assignments for the same symbol are allowed:

```
nr=11
mov A,#nr ; nr is 11
nr=21
mov A,#21 ; nr is 21
```

Temporary labels may have a '?' as first sign. Temporary labels behave like normal labels, except they will never appear in a listing.

Numbers

The assembler will accept many different formats:

```
123 regular decimal number

'X' 8 bit number (ASCII character)
'AB' 16 bit number (like ASCII character: ('A'*256)+'B'))

0x100 Hex number (256 dec.) C language syntax
$100 Hex number (256 dec.) Motorola syntax
0100h Hex number (256 dec.) Intel syntax (version 1)
0100H Hex number (256 dec.) Intel syntax (version 1)
100h Hex number (256 dec.) Intel syntax (version 2)
100H Hex number (256 dec.) Intel syntax (version 2)

0100 Octal (base 8) number (83 dec.) C language syntax
```
%111 Binary number (7 dec.)
%000111 Binary number (7 dec.)
0111b Binary number (7 dec.) Intel syntax (version 1)
0111B Binary number (7 dec.) Intel syntax (version 1)
111b Binary number (7 dec.) Intel syntax (version 2)
111b Binary number (7 dec.) Intel syntax (version 2)

We recommend the formats with "$" and "%". They are the most readable ones.

Operators

The A51 uses the same operators and hierarchy as C (except bit addressing)

(   ) Braces, highest Priority
.   Bit addressing (like ACC.7: highest bit of ACC)
* / % Multiplication, division, module
+ - As sign
<< >> Shift operators
< > >= <= Comparison, value is 1 if true, 0 for false
&   Binary and
^   Binary exclusive or
|   Binary or
&&  Logical and
||  Logical or

Directives

.segment

Usage: .segment NAME [, Parameter ]opt.

Open an existing or a new segment 'NAME'. The linker will collect all segments with the same NAME and treat them as an unit. The compiler will generate a segment for each C function. We recommend to use as NAME the name of the function (or entry label) plus a leading '_'. For functions each function should have its own segment for the code, whereas for data of the same type only one segment should be used. The names for the data segments are given and so the 'startup()' function can initialise them properly (the IRQ driven serial I/O driver ('LIB_ASS\SERIOD.S51') uses this technique to declare a byte variable in the 'nearbss' segment. This segment is cleared by 'startup()'.

On demand, the linker will generate additional symbols, allowing access to internal data of the segments (like size, load address, ...) This feature is normally not used

Note: The linker will remove all unused segments, only referenced segments of segments containing an 'org' parameter will be linked to the binary.

Parameter: org NUMBER
Sets an absolute address for this segment. Only once per segment allowed. The program will start with the first label of the segment with org $0000. This value might be added by and offset from the linker, like for our development boards. The linker offset is set to $8000 by default, where the RAM starts and the program will be downloaded to.

Parameter: sclass NAME

Sets the memory class of the segment. If no 'sclass' is given, the default sclass is 'text'

Allowed NAMEs for the 8051:

- **text**: Code, constants.("EPROM"). This is also the default storage class
- **xram**: The external RAM
- **bit**: The bit field in the internal RAM (from $20..$2F)
- **dram**: The internal, direct accessible RAM (from 0..$7F)
- **dram**: The internal, indirect accessible RAM (from 0..$FF)

Parameter: size NUMBER

Defines the maximum size for this segment. For multiple set 'size': only the largest directive is used. The compiler makes intensive use of this directive to manage local variables.

Parameter: fill

If set, the linker will always set the size of the segment to its maximum size (makes only sense in combination with parameter 'size')

Parameter: notext

Normally there is no way for the linker to initialise non-code segments (like RAM). So the linker puts all initialisations data in a 'mirror segment'. This 'mirror segment' might be accessed by the 'startup()' function to copy it to the RAM,

Parameter: page NUMBER

If this parameter is given, the segment will be completely located inside a page of the given NUMBER. As an example: if the segment uses 'acall' and 'ajmp' instructions, NUMBER must be 2048. A fixed value can be set for the segment (parameter 'size'). Normally for NUMBER only powers of 2 are used.

Parameter: align NUMBER

This parameter specifies the condition for the first byte of the segment. I.e. if a segment must start at an even address, NUMBER must be 2. 'align' and 'page' might be used in any combination.
.include

There are two versions: '.include <FILE>' and '.include "FILE"'. Both version include a (text) file in the assembly. The difference is: '<FILE>' uses the path, given to the assembler by command line (option '-i'), which points normally to µC/51's 'include' directory, whereas '"FILE"' uses the directory relative to the current directory.

Included files may include further files.

.ibytes

This directive will include a pure binary file (i.e. a data table). only the format '.ibytes "FNAME"' is allowed.

.error

An optional text might follow this directive. An error will be displayed and assembling is stopped. Like:

    .if VERSION!=1
        .error Only version 1 allowed
    .endif

.end

Assembly is stopped. All following text is ignored (even if '.end' is in an included file!).

.import

Usage: .import SYMBOL [, FURTHER_SYMBOLS]opt.

To use a symbol, defined in another sourcecode, it must be imported (otherwise the assembler would give an error). This is done by '.import'.

.export

Usage: .export SYMBOL [, FURTHER_SYMBOLS]opt.

Exporting a symbol allows its global use. If a symbol has '.import' and '.export' in the same sourcecode, an '.export' is assumed. This is useful for libraries. There is also the possibility to export assignments in µC/51 (i.e. used for the '_startup_first()' function). This might be useful i.e. for libraries. I.e.: If the FC-library would import the SDA and SCL pins (and not define them by itself), the user could write the following:

    .export SDA,SCL
    SDA=P1.7
    SCL=P1.6
This would set SDA and SCL only for this project to P1.6/7. Other pins could be used for other projects without changing the library!

**Note:** If dealing with compiler generated symbols, you must consider, that the compiler will add a leading '_' to each symbol. So the function 'test()' in C corresponds to the symbol '_test' in assembler!

### .file

The directive '.file "HLL_FILENAME" ' tells the assembler, that a high level language sourcefile (currently only µC/51) corresponds to this assembler file. Only one '.file' directive is allowed in an assembler sourcefile.

### .line - and a word about source level debugging

The directive '.line NUMBER' tells the assembler, that all following mnemonics correspondent to line no. NUMBER of the sourcefile, previously set by a '.file' directive'. If the assembler is instructed to produce a listing (commandline '-s') or to include high level sourcecode information in the object file (commandline '-g'), the assembler will include the appropriate high level lines. Otherwise nothing will happen.

But '.line' has a second, very important function: It may be used to lard the binary file with breakpoints: if the assembler is instructed to expand the macro '__line' (by command line's '-d') and a macro with the name '__line' is called, with NUMBER as an argument. By default the µC/51 includes a definition for this macro as 'ljmp $0006' (the argument NUMBER is currently not used). At address $0006 there will be either the 'OS515.BIN' or a simple 'ret' instruction (added by 'LIB\LIB_C\STARTUP.C' as a safety precaution). So, after each high level line (C statement) the monitor OS515.BIN is called.

This is a very nice feature for debugging software. Unfortunately each breakpoint is three bytes of extra code (and a little bit of time). To disable this feature, set either the definition 'A51FLAGS' in the project's makefile (UmShell) to '-d' (listing only) or to something else. The default is 'A51FLAGS = -d -g' (from 'BIN\BUILTINS.MAK').

**Remark:** We are currently planning a new version of the SLD51. For a 'real breakpoint' SLD51 will modify the 'ljmp $0006' by something else (possible because the program is located in the RAM). This is not possible for Flash memory. Because nowadays many 8051's are equipped with Flash memory, we will modify the breakpoint system to a 'non destructive' system. The new SLD51 will be able to debug on all 8051's, directly on the field used board.

**Note:** The above mixing of assembly and sourcecode is quite simple. Because the compiler sometimes totally reorders the logical flow of a function, the output might not be 100% synchronise in some cases. This is not an error, it's just a matter of lazy cosmetics...

### .macro / .endmacro

**Usage:** .macro NAME
The A51 is a macro assembler. A macro is a simple text replacement with some additional features. Programming with macros is described in the next part of this documentation.

**.if / .else / .endif**

Usage: `.if CONDITION`

This directive is used for conditional assembly. The '.else' part is an option. The condition must be fully evaluable at assembly time. You cannot use labels for the condition. Conditions might be nested, like:

```assembly
.if DEBUG_LEVEL ==1
 .if SUBVERSION >=2
   lcall test12p
 .else
   lcall test11
 .endif
 .endif
```

**.ifdef / .ifndef**

Usage: `.ifdef SYMBOL` and `.ifndef SYMBOL`

This directive simply checks if a SYMBOL is already defined. It is quite similar to the '.if' above. An example:

```assembly
.ifndef char_out ; If macro not already defined
 .macro char_out ; define it!
   mov A,@1 ; parameter @1 into A
   lcall output ; and OUT
 .endmacro ; now the macro is definitely defined!
 .endif
 ... char_out 'X' ; use the macro for output of a 'X'
```

**.hide / .show**

This two directives increment and decrement the 'documentation level' of the assembler. Only if this level is greater than zero, a listing or sourcecode information is generated. During expansion of a macro, the level will be temporarily decremented. So if you're interested in the expanded macros, simply add an addition '.show'. The default level is 1.

**.dc.b / .dc.w / .dc.l / .dc.f**

These directives insert numbers and strings in the output. A comma is used as a delimiter. For '.dc.b' strings may be used. The byte order for '.dc.w' and '.dc.l' is **Big Endian**, this means highbyte first. The '.dc.f' inserts a number in the IEEE32 32 bit floating point format. Some example:
."dc.b  "Hello World",13,10,0       ; Text, <CR>, <LF>, 0
dc.w  init, $0000, 'AB' ; 'AB' is $41,$42 (same as .dc.b 'A','B')
"dc.w  test   ; suppose test=$8023, would be same as .dc.b $80, $23
"dc.l  init, 'ABCD'    ; 4 byte constant
."dc.f  3.14159, 2.718282 ; two floating points...

.ds.b / .ds.w / .ds.l / .ds.f

Usage: .ds.X NUMBER

The '.ds.X' directives do nothing than simple reserve the number of bytes, words, longs or floats. NUMBER must be a constant value or expression. For the reserved space, bytes of the value 255 are written. NUMBER might be zero. In this case nothing is written.

Macros

A macro is a simple text replacement with some additional features. A macro may contain other macros and usage of temporary labels.

Before a macro can be used, it has to be defined inside a '.macro' / '.endmacro' block.

Each macro can have up to 10 arguments '@0' to '@9'. The number of supplied arguments is given in '@0', the first argument is in '@1'. If using an undefined argument, an error will be generated. Even complete strings might be used as macro arguments! Please note: during the expansion of a macro, the 'documentation level' is decremented (see '.hide / .show').

Temporary labels are generated for each expansion. An example:

.macro help_text   ; help text in a table
    .dc.b @1,@2,0   ; The system : Help-ID, String, 0
.endmacro
...
.segment help_tab, sclass text
help_text 22,"Valve open" ; usage
help_text 25,"Temperature low" ; another usage
help_text 17, "(C) Copyright 2003"

.macro safe       ; save register
    mov R0,@1      ; start
    mov R1,@2      ; len
?s0: mov A,R0      ; not an argument, instead a mnemonic
    inc R0        ; next addr.
    push ACC
    djnz R1,?s0    ; '?s0' treated as '?ID_s0' (ID: 1,2,...)
.endmacro
...
sichern _temp,17 ; 17 bytes safe from
...
sichern _temp,10 ; 10 Bytes safe from temp

The label '?s0' in the both expansions is different.
Generated symbols

On demand (if imported with '.import'), the assembler and the linker will generate additional symbols, containing info about segments. The system: let "%s" be the segment's name, so these additional labels are available (a double '_' at the beginning and end):

- __%s_org__ segment's start (real) address
- __%s_size__ segment's (real) size in bytes (bits for 'sclass bit')
- __%s_maxsize__ maximum segment's size (if supplied)
- __%s_load__ address of the initialisation data in the code space (if supplied)

Additionally for each 'sclass' (for "%s"sclass can be "text", "bit", "dram", "iram", "xram"):

- __%s_org__
- __%s_size__

Last not least:

- __stack_org__ the first unused byte in the internal RAM is used for the stack. It will grow upwards!
- __bin_size__ this is the complete size of the binary, including all code and initialisation data.

Technical description of the related tools

This chapter will work out some of the deeper details of the related tools. It will follow in an later version of this documentation...

The libraries

Currently only the most important library functions have been added. But the list is continuously growing...

standard libraries

stdio.h

This is one of the most important header files. All functions work as the standard proposes.

The following two defines simplify the use of the 8051's 'native' data type and are quite common:

```c
typedef unsigned int uint;
typedef unsigned char uchar;

void putc(uchar) reentrant; // reentrant because called indirect
uchar getc(void);
```
uchar kbhit(void);

// printf() and sprintf() return the no. of characters printed (ANSI)
// read more about the format string in an earlier chapter...
int printf(far char* pfmt, ...); // print usingputc()
int sprintf(far char *dest far char* pfmt, ...); // print to a string
int puts(far char* ps); // result is always 1 (ANSI)

The following two functions implement a pseudo random number generator, based on a
linear congruent algorithm. The sequence will always be the same, depending on 'seed'. A 4
Byte global variable will be used to keep the last result (sourcecode in
'LIB\LIB_C\RAND.C').

unsigned int rand(void); // pseudo random between 0..65535
void srand(unsigned int seed); // set starting value for the sequence

Remark: on a microcontroller a shifting register algorithm or one of the timer
registers may be better suited, we will show some alternatives in the next version...

Conversion functions for strings to integer or long values

int atoi(far char* pc);
long int atol(far char* pc);

The following functions are non standard, but often quite useful. 'puts1()' is like 'puts()',
except it does not add the new line char at the end. The 'inputse()' can be used to retrieve a
input from the user to the string, where '*pc' points to, of size 'max'. The result is the length
of the user's input (at maximum this is 'max'-1). The string has a '0' char at the end.

void putsl(far char *ps); // Non Standard
unsigned char inputse(far char *pc,unsigned char max); // Non Standard

Remark: inputse() is used in the demo 'SRC\MINI535\M535V3.C'

string.h

A few ANSI standard string functions...

int strlen(far char* px);
int strcmp(far char* pa,far char* pb);
int memcmp(far char* pa,far char* pb, int n);
far char* strcpy(far char * pdst, far char * psrc);

A non ANSI byte move (note: 'src' is the first argument!). But also quite common.

void bmove(far void * _psrc, far void * _pdest, unsigned int count);

Remark: all memory move functions use generic pointer, so memory can be moved from and
to everywhere. If the memory type of the source and destination is known (i.e. both external
RAM), a more specific move function could run very much faster. We will supply these, in
the next version of µC/51.
ctype.h

    char tolower(char c);
    char toupper(char c);

stdarg.h

Defines ANSI compatible access to variadic arguments

    va_start(y,y);
    va_arg(x,y);
    va_end(x);

bin_safe.h

This file declares only one function for the 'binary safe' (as stated before):

    unsigned char _bin_safe(void); // success: return 0

math.h

All math functions have a precision of at least 7 significant digits. All algorithms use industrial approved iterations. If you need a special mathematical function, let us know!

Constants:

    M_PI_2 1.570796326794895 // ANSI
    M_PI  3.14159265358979 // ANSI
    M_TWO_PI 6.28318530717958 // Constant NOT ANSI

Functions (all according to the ANSI standard):

    float atof(char* pc); // convert a string to float
    float sqrt(float f); // square root
    float sin(float x); // sin() function in radians (standard)
    float cos(float x); // cos()
    float log(float x); // natural logarithm
    float log10(float x); // decimal logarithm
    float exp(float x); // exponential function
    float pow(float x); // power function

8051 specific

irq52.h

To bind an interrupt to an interrupt function, 'irq52.h' defines a macro. 'name' is the name of the function, 'loc' is either the address of the interrupts or its name (like INT0, SERIAL, ...)

    IRQ_VECTOR(name, loc);
Header files for the most common CPUs, other CPUs will follow. The header files for very specific CPUs (like the both mixed signal parts), are located in the directory above their demos.

Appendix A: Migrating from other compilers

As stated before, µC/51 was designed to be as close to the ANSI standard as possible on the 8051. That is why most items in converting sourcecodes from other compilers concern non standard language extensions of these compilers. Usually the µC/51 compiler will tell you, what it does not like. Some of the most important things you should know:

Memory usage - memory models

µC/51 offers only two memory models: 'small' (this is the default) and 'large'. The only difference between the two models is the type of memory for the local variables. For 'small' it is the internal RAM, for 'large' it is external RAM.

Non-constant Global variables will always be placed in external RAM, except something else is explicitly specified. Globals might be placed in the internal RAM by the memory modifier 'near', in the indirect internal RAM with 'inear', ...

Constant global variables are located in the code memory.

Bit variables are declared as 'unsigned char bit'

Absolute addresses

Assigning an absolute address to a variable is done by the '@' operator (i.e. 'near unsigned char P0 @ 0x80'). After '@' only a number, a constant expression or a defined constant (i.e. '#define SCL 0xB0+7', 'unsigned char bit scl_bit @ SCL') is allowed.

Interrupts

Interrupts might be written in µC/51. The vector is not included in the declaration, binding an interrupt to a function requires the macro 'IRQ VECTOR' (as mentioned in the previous text).

Assembly language

µC/51's assembler uses other directives. However, mnemonics are full compatible to the 8051 standard. Best way to convert assembler files to µC/51 is to use a text editor and some bulk 'search and replace'.

reg51.h, reg52.h, reg35.h
Appendix B: A demo of µC/51's optimisers

In this appendix, we made a comparison with the KXXX compiler V6.21. You can trace the results, they offer a 2kB limited demo version...

The test function is some kind of "bit banger": shift something in and out...

This is the result of KXXX V6.21 - it needs 35 bytes to solve the problem:

```c
bit out_bit;
bit in_bit;

// Simple 8-Bit-Banger
unsigned char test(unsigned char ob){
    int i;
    unsigned char ib;
    for(i=0;i<8;i++){
        out_bit=(ob&128);
        ib<<=1;
        if(in_bit) ib|=1;
        ob<<=1;
    }
    return ib;
}
```

And this is the result of µC/51 V1.10 - we need only 25 bytes ;-):
μC/51's optimisers are still not fully implemented (some parts are still completely missing). The compiler is yet a learning child. Many of the optimisers are founded on some kind of expert system. As you might see, the system is working, but the collections of rules, these expert systems are based on, are still quite small and in other cases, the results will not be as much as 40% better. But μC/51 has the ability to do it and: we have first V1.10 yet...

*END*