

"We now interrupt our regular series of commercials for this special commercial message."

7. Interrupts

Chapter 3, section 3.2

Spring 2016

Sections 3.2 (Interrupts)

• Reading: pp.74-83

Interrupt

- Interrupt is an external request for service.
- An interrupt causes the microprocessor to stop executing the current procedure (saving the status) and continue on with the routine specified by the interrupt.
- When the interrupt has been fully serviced, control returns to the previously executing routine.

Types of Interrupts

- Two types of interrupts exist:
 - 1. maskable depending on the status of the interrupt flag, this interrupt can be ignored by the hardware.
 - 2. nonmaskable must be acknowledged by the hardware independent of the interrupt flag.

Classes of Interrupts

- Program generated by some instruction execution
 - 1. division by zero
 - 2. attempt to execute illegal opcode
 - 3. reference outside a user's memory space
- Timer generated by a timer within the processor for OS
- I/O generated by an I/O controller to signal normal completion
- Hardware Failure generated by a power failure or memory parity error

Basic Instruction Cycle



Modified Instruction Cycle



Flow of Control



Flow of Control



Time Savings using Interrupts



Time Savings using Interrupts



Instruction Cycle with Interrupts



Sequential Interrupt Processing



Nested Interrupt Processing



Multiple Inputs with Priorities

