

64tass v1.54 r1864 reference manual

This is the manual for 64tass, the multi pass optimizing macro assembler for the 65xx series of processors. Key features:

- Open source portable C with minimal dependencies
- Familiar syntax to Omicron TASS and TASM
- Supports 6502, 65C02, R65C02, W65C02, 65CE02, 65816, DTV, 65EL02, 4510
- Arbitrary-precision integers and bit strings, double precision floating point numbers
- Character and byte strings, array arithmetic
- Handles UTF-8, UTF-16 and 8 bit RAW encoded source files, Unicode character strings
- Supports Unicode identifiers with compatibility normalization and optional case insensitivity
- Built-in “linker” with section support
- Various memory models, binary targets and text output formats (also Hex/S-record)
- Assembly and label listings available for debugging or exporting
- Conditional compilation, macros, structures, unions, scopes

Contrary how the length of this document suggests 64tass can be used with just basic 6502 assembly knowledge in simple ways like any other assembler. If some advanced functionality is needed then this document can serve as a reference.

This is a development version. Features or syntax may change as a result of corrections in non-backwards compatible ways in some rare cases. It's difficult to get everything “right” first time.

Project page: <http://sourceforge.net/projects/tass64/>

The page hosts the latest and older versions with sources and a bug and a feature request tracker.

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2 Usage tips

64tass is a command line assembler, the source can be written in any text editor. As a minimum the source filename must be given on the command line. The “-a” command line option is highly recommended if the source is Unicode or ASCII.

```
64tass -a src.asm
```

There are also some useful parameters which are described later.

For comfortable compiling I use such “Makefile”s (for make):

```
demo.prg: source.asm macros.asm pic.drp music.bin
    64tass -C -a -B -i source.asm -o demo.tmp
    pucrunch -ffast -x 2048 demo.tmp >demo.prg
```

This way “demo.prg” is recreated by compiling “source.asm” whenever “source.asm”, “macros.asm”, “pic.drp” or “music.bin” had changed.

Of course it's not much harder to create something similar for win32 (make.bat), however this will always compile and compress:

```
64tass.exe -C -a -B -i source.asm -o demo.tmp
pucrunch.exe -ffast -x 2048 demo.tmp >demo.prg
```

Here's a slightly more advanced Makefile example with default action as testing in VICE, clean target for removal of temporary files and compressing using an intermediate temporary file:

```
all: demo.prg
    x64 -autostartprgmode 1 -autostart-warp +truedrive +cart $<
```

```
demo.prg: demo.tmp
          pucrunch -ffast -x 2048 $< >$@

demo.tmp: source.asm macros.asm pic.drp music.bin
          64tass -C -a -B -i $< -o $@

.INTERMEDIATE: demo.tmp
.PHONY: all clean
clean:
          $(RM) demo.prg demo.tmp
```

It's useful to add a basic header to your source files like the one below, so that the resulting file is directly runnable without additional compression:

```
*      = $0801
        .word (+), 2005 ;pointer, line number
        .null $9e, format("%d", start);will be sys 4096
+      .word 0          ;basic line end

*      = $1000

start  rts
```

A frequently coming up question is, how to automatically allocate memory, without hacks like `*+=1`? Sure there's `.byte` and friends for variables with initial values but what about zero page, or RAM outside of program area? The solution is to not use an initial value by using `"?"` or not giving a fill byte value to `.fill`.

```
*      = $02
p1      .addr ?          ;a zero page pointer
temp    .fill 10         ;a 10 byte temporary area
```

Space allocated this way is not saved in the output as there's no data to save at those addresses.

What about some code running on zero page for speed? It needs to be relocated, and the length must be known to copy it there. Here's an example:

```
        ldx #size(zpcode)-1;calculate length
-        lda zpcode,x
        sta wrbyte,x
        dex                ;install to zero page
        bpl -
        jsr wrbyte
        rts
;code continues here but is compiled to run from $02
zpcode   .logical $02
wrbyte   sta $ffff        ;quick byte writer at $02
        inc wrbyte+1
        bne +
        inc wrbyte+2
+        rts
        .here
```

The assembler supports lists and tuples, which does not seem interesting at first as it sounds like something which is only useful when heavy scripting is involved. But as normal arithmetic operations also apply on all their elements at once, this could spare quite some typing and repetition.

Let's take a simple example of a low/high byte jump table of return addresses, this usually involves some unnecessary copy/pasting to create a pair of tables with constructs like `>(label-1)`.

```
jumpcmd lda hbytes,x    ; selected routine in X register
        pha
        lda lbytes,x    ; push address to stack
        pha
        rts             ; jump, rts will increase pc by one!
; Build a list of jump addresses minus 1
_       := (cmd_p, cmd_c, cmd_m, cmd_s, cmd_r, cmd_l, cmd_e)-1
lbytes .byte <_         ; low bytes of jump addresses
hbytes .byte >_         ; high bytes
```

There are some other tips below in the descriptions.

3 Expressions and data types

3.1 Integer constants

Integer constants can be entered as decimal digits of arbitrary length. An underscore can be used between digits as a separator for better readability of long numbers. The following operations are accepted:

<code>x + y</code>	add x to y	<code>2 + 2</code> is 4
<code>x - y</code>	subtract y from x	<code>4 - 1</code> is 3
<code>x * y</code>	multiply x with y	<code>2 * 3</code> is 6
<code>x / y</code>	integer divide x by y	<code>7 / 2</code> is 3
<code>x % y</code>	integer modulo of x divided by y	<code>5 % 2</code> is 1
<code>x ** y</code>	x raised to power of y	<code>2 ** 4</code> is 16
<code>-x</code>	negated value	<code>-2</code> is -2
<code>+x</code>	unchanged	<code>+2</code> is 2
<code>~x</code>	<code>-x - 1</code>	<code>~3</code> is -4
<code>x y</code>	bitwise or	<code>2 6</code> is 6
<code>x ^ y</code>	bitwise xor	<code>2 ^ 6</code> is 4
<code>x & y</code>	bitwise and	<code>2 & 6</code> is 2
<code>x << y</code>	logical shift left	<code>1 << 3</code> is 8
<code>x >> y</code>	arithmetic shift right	<code>-8 >> 3</code> is -1

Table 1: Integer operators and functions

Integers are automatically promoted to float as necessary in expressions. Other types can be converted to integer using the integer type `int`.

```
.byte 23          ; as unsigned
.char -23         ; as signed

; using negative integers as immediate values
ldx #-3          ; works as '#-' is signed immediate
num = -3
ldx #+num         ; needs explicit '+' for signed 8 bits

lda #((bitmap >> 10) & $0f) | ((screen >> 6) & $f0)
sta $d018
```

3.2 Bit string constants

Bit string constants can be entered in hexadecimal form with a leading dollar sign or in binary with a leading percent sign. An underscore can be used between digits as a separator for better readability of long numbers. The following operations are accepted:

<code>~x</code>	invert bits	<code>~%101</code> is <code>~%101</code>
<code>y .. x</code>	concatenate bits	<code>\$a .. \$b</code> is <code>\$ab</code>
<code>y x n</code>	repeat	<code>%101 x 3</code> is <code>%101101101</code>
<code>x[n]</code>	extract bit(s)	<code>\$a[1]</code> is <code>%1</code>
<code>x[s]</code>	slice bits	<code>\$1234[4:8]</code> is <code>\$3</code>
<code>x y</code>	bitwise or	<code>~\$2 \$6</code> is <code>~\$0</code>
<code>x ^ y</code>	bitwise xor	<code>~\$2 ^ \$6</code> is <code>~\$4</code>
<code>x & y</code>	bitwise and	<code>~\$2 & \$6</code> is <code>\$4</code>
<code>x << y</code>	bitwise shift left	<code>\$0f << 4</code> is <code>\$0f0</code>
<code>x >> y</code>	bitwise shift right	<code>~\$f4 >> 4</code> is <code>~\$f</code>

Table 2: Bit string operators and functions

Length of bit string constants are defined in bits and is calculated from the number of bit digits used including leading zeros.

Bit strings are automatically promoted to integer or floating point as necessary in expressions. The higher bits are extended with zeros or ones as needed.

Bit strings support indexing and slicing. This is explained in detail in section “Slicing and indexing”.

Other types can be converted to bit string using the bit string type `bits`.

```
.byte $33      ; 8 bits in hexadecimal
.byte %00011111 ; 8 bits in binary
.text $1234    ; $34, $12 (little endian)

lda $01
and #~$07      ; 8 bits even after inversion
ora #$05
sta $01

lda $d015
and #~%00100000 ;clear a bit
sta $d015
```

3.3 Floating point constants

Floating point constants have a radix point in them and optionally an exponent. A decimal exponent is “e” while a binary one is “p”. An underscore can be used between digits as a separator for better readability. The following operations can be used:

<code>x + y</code>	add x to y	<code>2.2 + 2.2</code> is <code>4.4</code>
<code>x - y</code>	subtract y from x	<code>4.1 - 1.1</code> is <code>3.0</code>
<code>x * y</code>	multiply x with y	<code>1.5 * 3</code> is <code>4.5</code>
<code>x / y</code>	integer divide x by y	<code>7.0 / 2.0</code> is <code>3.5</code>
<code>x % y</code>	integer modulo of x divided by y	<code>5.0 % 2.0</code> is <code>1.0</code>
<code>x ** y</code>	x raised t power of y	<code>2.0 ** -1</code> is <code>0.5</code>
<code>-x</code>	negated value	<code>-2.0</code> is <code>-2.0</code>
<code>+x</code>	unchanged	<code>+2.0</code> is <code>2.0</code>
<code>~x</code>	almost <code>-x</code>	<code>~2.1</code> is almost <code>-2.1</code>
<code>x y</code>	bitwise or	<code>2.5 6.5</code> is <code>6.5</code>
<code>x ^ y</code>	bitwise xor	<code>2.5 ^ 6.5</code> is <code>4.0</code>

Table 3: Floating point operators and functions

<code>x & y</code>	bitwise and	<code>2.5 & 6.5</code> is <code>2.5</code>
<code>x << y</code>	logical shift left	<code>1.0 << 3.0</code> is <code>8.0</code>
<code>x >> y</code>	arithmetic shift right	<code>-8.0 >> 4</code> is <code>-0.5</code>

As usual comparing floating point numbers for (non) equality is a bad idea due to rounding errors.

The only predefined constant is `pi`.

Floating point numbers are automatically truncated to integer as necessary. Other types can be converted to floating point by using the type `float`.

Fixed point conversion can be done by using the shift operators. For example a 8.16 fixed point number can be calculated as `(3.14 << 16) & $ffffff`. The binary operators operate like if the floating point number would be a fixed point one. This is the reason for the strange definition of inversion.

```
.byte 3.66e1      ; 36.6, truncated to 36
.byte $1.8p4      ; 4:4 fixed point number (1.5)
.sint 12.2p8      ; 8:8 fixed point number (12.2)
```

3.4 Character string constants

Character strings are enclosed in single or double quotes and can hold any Unicode character.

Operations like indexing or slicing are always done on the original representation. The current encoding is only applied when it's used in expressions as numeric constants or in context of text data directives.

Doubling the quotes inside string literals escapes them and results in a single quote.

<code>y .. x</code>	concatenate strings	<code>"a" .. "b"</code> is <code>"ab"</code>
<code>y in x</code>	is substring of	<code>"b" in "abc"</code> is <code>true</code>
<code>a x n</code>	repeat	<code>"ab" x 3</code> is <code>"ababab"</code>
<code>a[i]</code>	character from start	<code>"abc"[1]</code> is <code>"b"</code>
<code>a[i]</code>	character from end	<code>"abc"[-1]</code> is <code>"c"</code>
<code>a[s]</code>	no change	<code>"abc"[:]</code> is <code>"abc"</code>
<code>a[s]</code>	cut off start	<code>"abc"[1:]</code> is <code>"bc"</code>
<code>a[s]</code>	cut off end	<code>"abc"[:-1]</code> is <code>"ab"</code>
<code>a[s]</code>	reverse	<code>"abc"[::-1]</code> is <code>"cba"</code>

Table 4: Character string operators and functions

Character strings are converted to integers, byte and bit strings as necessary using the current encoding and escape rules. For example when using a sane encoding `"z"-"a"` is 25.

Other types can be converted to character strings by using the type `str` or by using the `repr` and `format` functions.

Character strings support indexing and slicing. This is explained in detail in section “Slicing and indexing”.

```
mystr = "oeU"      ; character string constant
.text 'it's'       ; it's
.word "ab"+1       ; conversion result is "bb" usually

.text "text"[:2]    ; "te"
.text "text"[2:]    ; "xt"
.text "text"[:-1]   ; "tex"
.text "reverse"[::-1]; "esrever"
```

3.5 Byte string constants

Byte strings are like character strings, but hold bytes instead of characters.

Quoted character strings prefixing by “b”, “l”, “n”, “p”, “s” or “x” characters can be used to create byte strings. The resulting byte string contains what `.text`, `.shiftl`, `.null`, `.ptext` and `.shift` would create. Direct hexadecimal entry can be done using the “x” prefix which.

<code>y .. x</code>	concatenate strings	<code>x"12" .. x"34" is x"1234"</code>
<code>y in x</code>	is substring of	<code>x"34" in x"1234" is true</code>
<code>a x n</code>	repeat	<code>x"ab" x 3 is x"ababab"</code>
<code>a[i]</code>	byte from start	<code>x"abcd12"[1] is x"cd"</code>
<code>a[i]</code>	byte from end	<code>x"abcd"[-1] is x"cd"</code>
<code>a[s]</code>	no change	<code>x"abcd"[:] is x"abcd"</code>
<code>a[s]</code>	cut off start	<code>x"abcdef"[1:] is x"cdef"</code>
<code>a[s]</code>	cut off end	<code>x"abcdef"[:-1] is x"abcd"</code>
<code>a[s]</code>	reverse	<code>x"abcdef"[::-1] is x"efcdab"</code>

Table 5: Byte string operators and functions

Byte strings support indexing and slicing. This is explained in detail in section “Slicing and indexing”.

Other types can be converted to byte strings by using the type `bytes`.

```

mystr .enc "screen"    ;use screen encoding
      = b"oeU"        ;convert text to bytes, like .text
      .enc "none"     ;normal encoding

      .text mystr      ;text as originally encoded
      .text s"p1"      ;convert to bytes like .shift
      .text l"p2"      ;convert to bytes like .shiftl
      .text n"p3"      ;convert to bytes like .null
      .text p"p4"      ;convert to bytes like .ptext
      .text x"fce2"    ;2 bytes: $fc and $e2 (big endian)

```

3.6 Lists and tuples

Lists and tuples can hold a collection of values. Lists are defined from values separated by comma between square brackets `[1, 2, 3]`, an empty list is `[]`. Tuples are similar but are enclosed in parentheses instead. An empty tuple is `()`, a single element tuple is `(4,)` to differentiate from normal numeric expression parentheses. When nested they function similar to an array. Currently both types are immutable.

<code>y .. x</code>	concatenate lists	<code>[1] .. [2] is [1, 2]</code>
<code>y in x</code>	is member of list	<code>2 in [1, 2, 3] is true</code>
<code>a x n</code>	repeat	<code>[1, 2] x 2 is [1, 2, 1, 2]</code>
<code>a[i]</code>	element from start	<code>("1", 2)[1] is 2</code>
<code>a[i]</code>	element from end	<code>("1", 2, 3)[-1] is 3</code>
<code>a[s]</code>	no change	<code>(1, 2, 3)[:] is (1, 2, 3)</code>
<code>a[s]</code>	cut off start	<code>(1, 2, 3)[1:] is (2, 3)</code>
<code>a[s]</code>	cut off end	<code>(1, 2.0, 3)[: -1] is (1, 2.0)</code>
<code>a[s]</code>	reverse	<code>(1, 2, 3)[::-1] is (3, 2, 1)</code>
<code>*a</code>	convert to arguments	<code>format("%d: %s", *mylist)</code>
<code>... op a</code>	left fold	<code>... + (1, 2, 3) is ((1+2)+3)</code>
<code>a op ...</code>	right fold	<code>(1, 2, 3) - ... is (1-(2-3))</code>

Table 6: List and tuple operators and functions

Arithmetic operations are applied on the all elements recursively, therefore `[1, 2] + 1` is `[2, 3]`, and `abs([1, -1])` is `[1, 1]`.

Arithmetic operations between lists are applied one by one on their elements, so `[1, 2] + [3, 4]` is `[4, 6]`.

When lists form an array and columns/rows are missing the smaller array is stretched to fill in the gaps if possible, so `[[1], [2]] * [3, 4]` is `[[3, 4], [6, 8]]`.

Lists and tuples support indexing and slicing. This is explained in detail in section “Slicing and indexing”.

```
mylist = [1, 2, "whatever"]
mytuple = (cmd_e, cmd_g)

mylist = ("e", cmd_e, "g", cmd_g, "i", cmd_i)
keys .text mylist[::2] ; keys ("e", "g", "i")
call_l .byte <mylist[1::2]-1; routines (<cmd_e-1, <cmd_g-1, <cmd_i-1)
call_h .byte >mylist[1::2]-1; routines (>cmd_e-1, >cmd_g-1, >cmd_i-1)
```

Folding is done on pair of elements either forward (left) or reverse (right). The list must contain at least one element. Here are some folding examples:

```
minimum = size([part1, part2, part3]) <? ...
maximum = size([part1, part2, part3]) >? ...
sum      = size([part1, part2, part3]) + ...
xorall   = list_of_numbers ^ ...
join     = list_of_strings .. ...
allbits  = sprites.(left, middle, right).bits | ...
all      = [true, true, true, true] && ...
any      = [false, false, false, true] || ...
```

The `range(start, end, step)` built-in function can be used to create lists of integers in a range with a given step value. At least the end must be given, the start defaults to 0 and the step to 1. Sounds not very useful, so here are a few examples:

```
;Bitmask table, 8 bits from left to right
.byte %10000000 >> range(8)
;Classic 256 byte single period sinus table with values of 0-255.
.byte 128 + 127.5 * sin(range(256) * rad(360.0/256))
;Screen row address tables
_ := $400 + range(0, 1000, 40)
scrlo .byte <_
scrhi .byte >_
```

3.7 Dictionaries

Dictionaries are unsorted lists holding key and value pairs. Definition is done by collecting key:value pairs separated by comma between braces `{1:"value", "key":1, : "optional default value"}`.

Looking up a non existing key is normally an error unless a default value is given. An empty dictionary is `{}`. Currently this type is immutable. Numeric and string keys are accepted, the value can be anything.

<code>x[i]</code>	value lookup	<code>{"1":2}["1"]</code> is 2
<code>y in x</code>	is a key	<code>1 in {1:2}</code> is true

Table 7: Dictionary operators and functions

```
; Simple lookup
```

```
.text {1:"one", 2:"two"}[2]; "two"
; 16 element "fader" table 1->15->12->11->0
.byte {1:15, 15:12, 12:11, :0}[range(16)]
```

3.8 Code

Code holds the result of compilation in binary and other enclosed objects. In an arithmetic operation it's used as the numeric address of the memory where it starts. The compiled content remains static even if later parts of the source overwrite the same memory area.

Indexing and slicing of code to access the compiled content might be implemented differently in future releases. Use this feature at your own risk for now, you might need to update your code later.

a.b	member	label.locallabel
a[i]	element from start	label[1]
a[i]	element from end	label[-1]
a[s]	copy as tuple	label[:]
a[s]	cut off start, as tuple	label[1:]
a[s]	cut off end, as tuple	label[:-1]
a[s]	reverse, as tuple	label[::-1]

Table 8: Label operators and functions

```
mydata .word 1, 4, 3
mycode .block
local  lda #0
      .bend

      ldx #size(mydata) ;6 bytes (3*2)
      ldx #len(mydata)  ;3 elements
      ldx #mycode[0]    ;lda instruction, $a9
      ldx #mydata[1]    ;2nd element, 4
      jmp mycode.local  ;address of local label
```

3.9 Addressing modes

Addressing modes are used for determining addressing modes of instructions.

For indexing there must be no white space between the comma and the register letter, otherwise the indexing operator is not recognized. On the other hand put a space between the comma and a single letter symbol in a list to avoid it being recognized as an operator.

#	immediate
#+	signed immediate
#-	signed immediate
(indirect
[long indirect
,b	data bank indexed
,d	direct page indexed
,k	program bank indexed
,r	data stack pointer indexed
,s	stack pointer indexed
,x	x register indexed
,y	y register indexed
,z	z register indexed

Table 9: Addressing mode operators

Parentheses are used for indirection and square brackets for long indirection. These operations are only available after instructions and functions to not interfere with their normal use in expressions.

Several addressing mode operators can be combined together. **Currently the complexity is limited to 4 operators. This is enough to describe all addressing modes of the supported CPUs.**

#	immediate	<code>lda #\$12</code>
#+	signed immediate	<code>lda #+127</code>
#-	signed immediate	<code>lda #-128</code>
#addr, #addr	move	<code>mvp #5, #6</code>
addr	direct or relative	<code>lda \$12 lda \$1234 bne \$1234</code>
bit, addr	direct page bit	<code>rmb 5, \$12</code>
bit, addr, addr	direct page bit relative jump	<code>bbs 5, \$12, \$1234</code>
(addr)	indirect	<code>lda (\$12) jmp (\$1234)</code>
(addr), y	indirect y indexed	<code>lda (\$12), y</code>
(addr), z	indirect z indexed	<code>lda (\$12), z</code>
(addr, x)	x indexed indirect	<code>lda (\$12, x) jmp (\$1234, x)</code>
[addr]	long indirect	<code>lda [\$12] jmp [\$1234]</code>
[addr], y	long indirect y indexed	<code>lda [\$12], y</code>
#addr, b	data bank indexed	<code>lda #0, b</code>
#addr, b, x	data bank x indexed	<code>lda #0, b, x</code>
#addr, b, y	data bank y indexed	<code>lda #0, b, y</code>
#addr, d	direct page indexed	<code>lda #0, d</code>
#addr, d, x	direct page x indexed	<code>lda #0, d, x</code>
#addr, d, y	direct page y indexed	<code>ldx #0, d, y</code>
(#addr, d)	direct page indirect	<code>lda (#\$12, d)</code>
(#addr, d, x)	direct page x indexed indirect	<code>lda (#\$12, d, x)</code>
(#addr, d), y	direct page indirect y indexed	<code>lda (#\$12, d), y</code>
(#addr, d), z	direct page indirect z indexed	<code>lda (#\$12, d), z</code>
[#addr, d]	direct page long indirect	<code>lda [#\$12, d]</code>
[#addr, d], y	direct page long indirect y indexed	<code>lda [#\$12, d], y</code>
#addr, k	program bank indexed	<code>jsr #0, k</code>
(#addr, k, x)	program bank x indexed indirect	<code>jmp (#\$1234, k, x)</code>
#addr, r	data stack indexed	<code>lda #1, r</code>
(#addr, r), y	data stack indexed indirect y indexed	<code>lda (#\$12, r), y</code>
#addr, s	stack indexed	<code>lda #1, s</code>
(#addr, s), y	stack indexed indirect y indexed	<code>lda (#\$12, s), y</code>
addr, x	x indexed	<code>lda \$12, x</code>
addr, y	y indexed	<code>lda \$12, y</code>

Table 10: Valid addressing mode operator combinations

Direct page, data bank, program bank indexed and long addressing modes of instructions are intelligently chosen based on the instruction type, the address ranges set up by .dpage, .databank and the current program counter address. Therefore the “,d”, “,b” and “,k” indexing is only used in very special cases.

The immediate direct page indexed “#0,d” addressing mode is usable for direct page access. The 8 bit constant is a direct offset from the start of actual direct page.

The immediate data bank indexed “#0,b” addressing mode is usable for data bank access. The 16 bit constant is a direct offset from the start of actual data bank.

The immediate program bank indexed “#0,k” addressing mode is usable for program bank jumps, braches and calls. The 16 bit constant is a direct offset from the start of actual program bank.

The immediate stack indexed “#0,s” and data stack indexed “#0,r” accept 8 bit constants as an offset from the start of (data) stack. These are sometimes written without the immediate notation, but this makes it more clear what's going on. For the same reason the move instructions are written with an immediate addressing mode “#0,#0” as well.

The immediate (#) addressing mode expects unsigned values of byte or word size. Therefore it only accepts constants of 1 byte or in range 0-255 or 2 bytes or in range 0-65535.

The signed immediate (#+ and #-) addressing mode is to allow signed numbers to be used as immediate constants. It accepts a single byte or an integer in range -128-127, or two bytes or an integer of -32768-32767.

The use of signed immediate (like #-3) is seamless, but it needs to be explicitly written out for variables or expressions (#+variable). In case the unsigned variant is needed but the expression starts with a negation then it needs to be put into parentheses (#(-variable)) or else it'll change the address mode to signed.

Normally addressing mode operators are used in expressions right after instructions. They can also be used for defining stack variable symbols when using a 65816, or to force a specific addressing mode.

```
param = #1,s      ;define a stack variable
const = #1        ;immediate constant
lda #0,b          ;always "absolute" lda $0000
lda param          ;results in lda #$01,s
lda param+1        ;results in lda #$02,s
lda (param),y      ;results in lda ($$01,s),y
ldx const          ;results in ldx #$01
lda #-2           ;negative constant, $fe
```

3.10 Uninitialized memory

There's a special value for uninitialized memory, it's represented by a question mark. Whenever it's used to generate data it creates a “hole” where the previous content of memory is visible.

Uninitialized memory holes without previous content are not saved unless it's really necessary for the output format, in that case it's replaced with zeros.

It's not just data generation statements (e.g. .byte) that can create uninitialized memory, but .fill, .align, .offs or address manipulation as well.

```
*      = $200      ;bytes as necessary
.word ?      ;2 bytes
.fill 10     ;10 bytes
.align 64    ;bytes as necessary
.offs 16     ;16 bytes
```

3.11 Booleans

There are two predefined boolean constant variables, true and false.

Booleans are created by comparison operators (<, <=, !=, ==, >=, >), logical operators (&&, ||, ^, !), the membership operator (in) and the all and any functions.

Normally in numeric expressions true is 1 and false is 0, unless the “-Wstrict-bool” command line option was used.

Other types can be converted to boolean by using the type bool.

bits	At least one non-zero bit
------	---------------------------

Table 11: Boolean values of various types

<code>bool</code>	When true
<code>bytes</code>	At least one non-zero byte
<code>code</code>	Address is non-zero
<code>float</code>	Not 0.0
<code>int</code>	Not zero
<code>str</code>	At least one non-zero byte after translation

3.12 Types

The various types mentioned earlier have predefined names. These can be used for conversions or type checks.

<code>address</code>	Address type
<code>bits</code>	Bit string type
<code>bool</code>	Boolean type
<code>bytes</code>	Byte string type
<code>code</code>	Code type
<code>dict</code>	Dictionary type
<code>float</code>	Floating point type
<code>gap</code>	Uninitialized memory type
<code>int</code>	Integer type
<code>list</code>	List type
<code>str</code>	Character string type
<code>tuple</code>	Tuple type
<code>type</code>	Type type

Table 12: Built-in type names

```
.cerror type(var) != str, "Not a string!"
.text str(year) ; convert to string
```

3.13 Symbols

Symbols are used to reference objects. Regularly named, anonymous and local symbols are supported. These can be constant or re-definable.

Scopes are where symbols are stored and looked up. The global scope is always defined and it can contain any number of nested scopes.

Symbols must be uniquely named in a scope, therefore in big programs it's hard to come up with useful and easy to type names. That's why local and anonymous symbols exist. And grouping certain related symbols into a scope makes sense sometimes too.

Scopes are usually created by `.proc` and `.block` directives, but there are a few other ways. Symbols in a scope can be accessed by using the dot operator, which is applied between the name of the scope and the symbol (e.g. `myconsts.math.pi`).

3.13.1 Regular symbols

Regular symbol names are starting with a letter and containing letters, numbers and under-scores. Unicode letters are allowed if the `"-a"` command line option was used. There's no restriction on the length of symbol names.

Care must be taken to not use duplicate names in the same scope when the symbol is used as a constant as there can be only one definition for them.

Duplicate names in parent scopes are not a problem and this gives the ability to override names defined in lower scopes. However this can just as well lead to mistakes if a lower scoped symbol with the same name was meant so there's a `-Wshadow` command line option to warn if such ambiguity exists.

Case sensitivity can be enabled with the “-c” command line option, otherwise all symbols are matched case insensitive.

For case insensitive matching it's possible to check for consistent symbol name use with the “-Wcase-symbol” command line option.

A regular symbol is looked up first in the current scope, then in lower scopes until the global scope is reached.

```
f      .block
g      .block
n      nop          ;jump here
      .bend
      .bend

      jsr f.g.n      ;reference from a scope
f.x    = 3           ;create x in scope f with value 3
```

3.13.2 Local symbols

Local symbols have their own scope between two regularly named code symbols and are assigned to the code symbol above them.

Therefore they're easy to reuse without explicit scope declaration directives.

Not all regularly named symbols can be scope boundaries just plain code symbol ones without anything or an opcode after them (no macros!). Symbols defined as procedures, blocks, macros, functions, structures and unions are ignored. Also symbols defined by `.var`, `:=` or `=` don't apply, and there are a few more exceptions, so stick to using plain code labels.

The name must start with an underscore (`_`), otherwise the same character restrictions apply as for regular symbols. There's no restriction on the length of the name.

Care must be taken to not use the duplicate names in the same scope when the symbol is used as a constant.

A local symbol is only looked up in it's own scope and nowhere else.

```
incr   inc ac
       bne _skip
       inc ac+1
_skip  rts

decr   lda ac
       bne _skip
       dec ac+1
_skip  dec ac      ;symbol reused here
       jmp incr._skip ;this works too, but is not advised
```

3.13.3 Anonymous symbols

Anonymous symbols don't have a unique name and are always called as a single plus or minus sign. They are also called as forward (+) and backward (-) references.

When referencing them “-” means the first backward, “--” means the second backwards and so on. It's the same for forward, but with “+”. In expressions it may be necessary to put them into brackets.

```
      ldy #4
-      ldx #0
-      txa
      cmp #3
```

```

    bcc +
    adc #44
+   sta $400,x
    inx
    bne -
    dey
    bne --

```

Excessive nesting or long distance references create poorly readable code. It's also very easy to copy-paste a few lines of code with these references into a code fragment already containing similar references. The result is usually a long debugging session to find out what went wrong.

These references are also useful in segments, but this can create a nice trap when segments are copied into the code with their internal references.

```

    bne +
    #somenakro      ;let's hope that this segment does
+   nop             ;not contain forward references...

```

Anonymous symbols are looked up first in the current scope, then in lower scopes until the global scope is reached.

Anonymous labels within conditionally assembled code are counted even if the code itself is not compiled and the label won't get defined. This ensures that anonymous labels are always at the same "distance" independent of the conditions in between.

3.13.4 Constant and re-definable symbols

Constant symbols can be created with the equal sign. These are not re-definable. Forward referencing of them is allowed as they retain the objects over compilation passes.

Symbols in front of code or certain assembler directives are created as constant symbols too. They are bound to the object following them.

Re-definable symbols can be created by the `.var` directive or `:=` construct. These are also called as variables. They don't carry their content over from the previous pass therefore it's not possible to use them before their definition.

Variables can be conditionally defined using the `:=` construct. If the variable was defined already then the original value is retained otherwise a new one is created with this value.

```

WIDTH  = 40           ;a constant
      lda #WIDTH      ;lda #$28
variabl .var 1         ;a variable
var2    := 1          ;another variable
variabl .var variabl + 1;update it verbosely
var2    += 1           ;compound assignment (add one)
var3    := 5           ;assign 5 if undefined

```

3.13.5 The star label

The `"*"` symbol denotes the current program counter value. When accessed it's value is the program counter at the beginning of the line. Assigning to it changes the program counter and the compiling offset.

3.14 Built-in functions

Built-in functions are pre-assigned to the symbols listed below. If you reuse these symbols in a scope for other purposes then they become inaccessible, or can perform a different function.

Built-in functions can be assigned to symbols (e.g. `sinus = sin`), and the new name can be used as the original function. They can even be passed as parameters to functions.

3.14.1 Mathematical functions

floor(`<expression>`)

Round down. E.g. `floor(-4.8)` is `-5.0`

round(`<expression>`)

Round to nearest away from zero. E.g. `round(4.8)` is `5.0`

ceil(`<expression>`)

Round up. E.g. `ceil(1.1)` is `2.0`

trunc(`<expression>`)

Round down towards zero. E.g. `trunc(-1.9)` is `-1`

frac(`<expression>`)

Fractional part. E.g. `frac(1.1)` is `0.1`

sqrt(`<expression>`)

Square root. E.g. `sqrt(16.0)` is `4.0`

cbrt(`<expression>`)

Cube root. E.g. `cbrt(27.0)` is `3.0`

log10(`<expression>`)

Common logarithm. E.g. `log10(100.0)` is `2.0`

log(`<expression>`)

Natural logarithm. E.g. `log(1)` is `0.0`

exp(`<expression>`)

Exponential. E.g. `exp(0)` is `1.0`

pow(`<expression a>`, `<expression b>`)

A raised to power of B. E.g. `pow(2.0, 3.0)` is `8.0`

sin(`<expression>`)

Sine. E.g. `sin(0.0)` is `0.0`

asin(`<expression>`)

Arc sine. E.g. `asin(0.0)` is `0.0`

sinh(`<expression>`)

Hyperbolic sine. E.g. `sinh(0.0)` is `0.0`

cos(`<expression>`)

Cosine. E.g. `cos(0.0)` is `1.0`

acos(`<expression>`)

Arc cosine. E.g. `acos(1.0)` is `0.0`

cosh(`<expression>`)

Hyperbolic cosine. E.g. `cosh(0.0)` is `1.0`

tan(`<expression>`)

Tangent. E.g. `tan(0.0)` is `0.0`

atan(`<expression>`)

Arc tangent. E.g. `atan(0.0)` is `0.0`

tanh(`<expression>`)

Hyperbolic tangent. E.g. `tanh(0.0)` is `0.0`

rad(`<expression>`)

Degrees to radian. E.g. `rad(0.0)` is `0.0`

deg(`<expression>`)

Radian to degrees. E.g. `deg(0.0)` is `0.0`

hypot(*<expression y>*, *<expression x>*)

Polar distance. E.g. `hypot(4.0, 3.0)` is `5.0`

atan2(*<expression y>*, *<expression x>*)

Polar angle in $-\pi$ to $+\pi$ range. E.g. `atan2(0.0, 3.0)` is `0.0`

abs(*<expression>*)

Absolute value. E.g. `abs(-1)` is `1`

sign(*<expression>*)

Returns the sign of value as -1 , 0 or 1 for negative, zero and positive. E.g. `sign(-5)` is `-1`

3.14.2 Other functions

all(*<expression>*)

Return truth for various definitions of “all”.

all bits set or no bits at all	<code>all(\$f)</code> is <code>true</code>
all characters non-zero or empty string	<code>all("c")</code> is <code>true</code>
all bytes non-zero or no bytes	<code>all(x"ac24")</code> is <code>true</code>
all elements true or empty list	<code>all([true, true, false])</code> is <code>false</code>

Table 13: All function

Only booleans in a list are accepted with the “-Wstrict-bool” command line option.

any(*<expression>*)

Return truth for various definitions of “any”.

at least one bit set	<code>any(~\$f)</code> is <code>false</code>
at least one non-zero character	<code>any("c")</code> is <code>true</code>
at least one non-zero byte	<code>any(x"ac24")</code> is <code>true</code>
at least one true element	<code>any([true, true, false])</code> is <code>true</code>

Table 14: Any function

Only booleans in a list are accepted with the “-Wstrict-bool” command line option.

binary(*<string expression>*[, *<offset>*[, *<length>*]])

Returns the binary file content as bytes.

This function reads the content of a binary file as a byte string. It also accepts optional offset and length parameters.

Read everything	<code>binary(name)</code>
Skip starting bytes	<code>binary(name, offset)</code>
Some bytes from offset	<code>binary(name, offset, length)</code>

Table 15: Binary function invocation types

```
sid    = "music.sid"           ; file name
init   = binary(sid, $0a, 2); init address
play   = binary(sid, $0c, 2); play address

*      = binary(sid, $7c, 2); use loading address
        .binary sid, $7e      ; load music data
```

format(*<string expression>*[, *<expression>*, ...])

Create string from values according to a format string.

The format function converts a list of values into a character string. The converted values are inserted in place of the `%` sign. Optional conversion flags and minimum field length may follow, before the conversion type character. These flags can be used:

#	alternate form (\$a, %10, 10.)
*	width/precision from list
.	precision
0	pad with zeros
-	left adjusted (default right)
	blank when positive or minus sign
+	sign even if positive

Table 16: Formatting flags

The following conversion types are implemented:

a A	hexadecimal floating point (uppercase)
b	binary
c	Unicode character
d	decimal
e E	exponential float (uppercase)
f F	floating point (uppercase)
g G	exponential/floating point
s	string
r	representation
x X	hexadecimal (uppercase)
%	percent sign

Table 17: Formatting conversion types

```
.text format("%#04x bytes left", 1000); $03e8 bytes left
```

len(<expression>)

Returns the number of elements.

bit string	length in bits	<code>len(\$034)</code> is 12
character string	number of characters	<code>len("abc")</code> is 3
byte string	number of bytes	<code>len(x"abcd23")</code> is 3
tuple, list	number of elements	<code>len([1, 2, 3])</code> is 3
dictionary	number of elements	<code>len({1:2, 3:4})</code> is 2
code	number of elements	<code>len(label)</code>

Table 18: Length of various types

random([<expression>, ...])

Returns a pseudo random number.

The sequence does not change across compilations and is the same every time. Different sequences can be generated by seeding with `.seed`.

floating point number $0.0 \leq x < 1.0$	<code>random()</code>
integer in range of $0 \leq x < e$	<code>random(e)</code>
integer in range of $s \leq x < e$	<code>random(s, a)</code>
integer in range of $s \leq x < e$, step t	<code>random(s, a, t)</code>

Table 19: Random function invocation types

```
.seed 1234 ; default is boring, seed the generator
.byte random(256); a pseudo random byte (0..255)
.byte random([16] x 8); 8 pseudo random bytes (0..15)
```

range(<expression>[, <expression>, ...])

Returns a list of integers in a range, with optional stepping.

integers from 0 to e-1	<code>range(e)</code>
integers from s to e-1	<code>range(s, a)</code>
integers from s to e (not including e), step t	<code>range(s, a, t)</code>

Table 20: Range function invocation types

```
.byte range(16) ; 0, 1, ..., 14, 15
.char range(-5, 6); -5, -4, ..., 4, 5
mylist = range(10, 0, -2); [10, 8, 6, 4, 2]
```

repr(<expression>)

Returns a string representation of value.

```
.warn repr(var) ; pretty print value, for debugging
```

size(<expression>)

Returns the size of code, structure or union in bytes.

```
ldx #size(var) ; size to x
```

sort(<list>)

Returns a sorted list or tuple.

If the original list contains further lists then these must be all of the same length. In this case the order of lists is determined by comparing their elements from the start until a difference is found. The sort is stable.

```
; sort IRQ routines by their raster lines
sorted = sort([(60, irq1), (50, irq2)])
lines .byte sorted[:, 0] ; 50, 60
irqs .addr sorted[:, 1] ; irq2, irq1
```

3.15 Expressions

3.15.1 Operators

The following operators are available. Not all are defined for all types of arguments and their meaning might slightly vary depending on the type.

-	negative	+	positive
!	not	~	invert
*	convert to arguments	^	<i>decimal string</i>

Table 21: Unary operators

The “^” decimal string operator will be changed to mean the bank byte soon. Please update your sources to use `format("%d", xxx)` instead! This is done to be in line with it's use in most other assemblers.

+	add	-	subtract
*	multiply	/	divide
%	modulo	**	raise to power
	binary or	^	binary xor
&	binary and	<<	shift left
>>	shift right	.	member
..	concat	x	repeat
in	contains		

Table 22: Binary operators

There's a ternary operator (`? :`) which gives the second value if the first is true or the third if the first is false.

Parenthesis (`()`) can be used to override operator precedence. Don't forget that they also denote indirect addressing mode for certain opcodes.

```
lda #(4+2)*3
```

3.15.2 Comparison operators

Traditional comparison operators give false or true depending on the result.

The compare operator (`<=>`) gives `-1` for less, `0` for equal and `1` for more.

<code><=></code>	compare		
<code>==</code>	equals	<code>!=</code>	not equal
<code><</code>	less than	<code>>=</code>	more than or equals
<code>></code>	more than	<code><=</code>	less than or equals

Table 23: Comparison operators

3.15.3 Bit string extraction operators

These unary operators extract 8 or 16 bits as a bit string from various types of operands.

<code><</code>	lower byte	<code>></code>	higher byte
<code><></code>	lower word	<code>>`</code>	higher word
<code>><</code>	lower byte swapped word	<code>`</code>	bank byte

Table 24: Bit string extraction operators

```
lda #<label
ldy #>label
jsr $ab1e

ldx #<>source ; word extraction
ldy #<>dest
lda #size(source)-1
mvn #`source, #`dest; bank extraction
```

3.15.4 Conditional operators

Boolean conditional operators give false or true or one of the operands as the result.

<code>x y</code>	if x is true then x otherwise y
<code>x ^^ y</code>	if both false or true then false otherwise x y
<code>x && y</code>	if x is true then y otherwise x
<code>!x</code>	if x is true then false otherwise true
<code>c ? x : y</code>	if c is true then x otherwise y
<code>x <? y</code>	if x is smaller then x otherwise y
<code>x >? y</code>	if x is greater then x otherwise y

Table 25: Logical and conditional operators

```
;Silly example for 1=>"simple", 2=>"advanced", else "normal"
.text MODE == 1 && "simple" || MODE == 2 && "advanced" || "normal"
.text MODE == 1 ? "simple" : MODE == 2 ? "advanced" : "normal"
;Limit result to 0 .. 8
light .byte 0 >? range(-16, 101)/6 <? 8
```

Please note that these are not short circuiting operations and both sides are calculated even if thrown away later.

With the “-wstrict-bool” command line option booleans are required as arguments and only the “?” operator may return something else.

3.15.5 Address length forcing

Special addressing length forcing operators in front of an expression can be used to make sure the expected addressing mode is used. Only applicable when used directly with instructions.

@b	to force 8 bit address
@w	to force 16 bit address
@l	to force 24 bit address (65816)

Table 26: Address size forcing

```
lda @w$0000
```

3.15.6 Compound assignment

These assignment operators are short hands for common .var directive use.

With the exception of := the variables updated must be defined beforehand. As with .var they can't update constants, only variables.

+=	add	-=	subtract
*=	multiply	/=	divide
%=	modulo	**=	raise to power
=	binary or	^=	binary xor
&=	binary and	=	logical or
&&=	logical and	<<=	shift left
>>=	shift right	..=	concat
<?=	smaller	>?=	greater
x=	repeat	.=	member

Table 27: Compound assignments

```
v += 1 ; same as 'v .var v + 1'
```

3.15.7 Slicing and indexing

Lists, character strings, byte strings and bit strings support various slicing and indexing possibilities through the [] operator.

Indexing elements with positive integers is zero based. Negative indexes are transformed to positive by adding the number of elements to them, therefore -1 is the last element. Indexing with list of integers is possible as well so [1, 2, 3][(-1, 0, 1)] is [3, 1, 2].

Slicing is an operation when parts of sequence is extracted from a start position to an end position with a step value. These parameters are separated with colons enclosed in square brackets and are all optional. Their default values are [start:maximum:step=1]. Negative start and end characters are converted to positive internally by adding the length of string to them. Negative step operates in reverse direction, non-single steps will jump over elements.

This is quite powerful and therefore a few examples will be given here:

Positive indexing a[x]

It'll simply extracts a numbered element. It is zero based, therefore "abcd"[1] results in "b".

Negative indexing `a[-x]`

This extracts an element counted from the end, `-1` is the last one. So `"abcd"[-2]` results in `"c"`.

Cut off end `a[:to]`

Extracts a continuous range stopping before `"to"`. So `[10,20,30,40][:1]` results in `[10,20,30]`.

Cut off start `a[from:]`

Extracts a continuous range starting from `"from"`. So `[10,20,30,40][-2:]` results in `[30,40]`.

Slicing `a[from:to]`

Extracts a continuous range starting from element `"from"` and stopping before `"to"`. The two end positions can be positive or negative indexes. So `[10,20,30,40][1:-1]` results in `[20,30]`.

Everything `a[:]`

Giving no start or end will cover everything and therefore results in a complete copy.

Reverse `a[::-1]`

This gives everything in reverse, so `"abcd"[::-1]` is `"dcba"`.

Stepping through `a[from:to:step]`

Extracts every `"step"`th element starting from `"from"` and stopping before `"to"`. So `"abcdef"[1:4:2]` results in `"bd"`. The `"from"` and `"to"` can be omitted in case it starts from the beginning or end at the end. If the `"step"` is negative then it's done in reverse.

Extract multiple elements `a[list]`

Extract elements based on a list. So `"abcd"[[1,3]]` will be `"bd"`.

The fun start with nested lists and tuples, as these can be used to create a matrix. The examples will be given for a two dimensional matrix for easier understanding, but this also works in higher dimensions.

Extract row `a[x]`

Given a `[(1,2), (3,4)]` matrix `[0]` will give the first row which is `(1,2)`

Extract row range `a[from:to]`

Given a `[(1,2), (3,4), (5,6), (7,8)]` matrix `[1:3]` will give `[(3,4), (5,6)]`

Extract column `a[x]`

Given a `[(1,2), (3,4)]` matrix `[:,0]` will give the first column of all rows which is `[1,3]`

Extract column range `a[:, from:to]`

Given a `[(1,2,3,4), (5,6,7,8)]` matrix `[:,1:3]` will give `[(2,3), (6,7)]`

And it works for list of indexes, negative indexes, stepped ranges, reversing, etc. on all axes in too many ways to show all possibilities.

Basically it's just the indexing and slicing applied on nested constructs, where each nesting level is separated by a comma.

4 Compiler directives

4.1 Controlling the compile offset and program counter

Two counters are used while assembling.

The compile offset is where the data and code ends up in memory (or in image file).

The program counter is what labels get set to and what the special star label refers to. It wraps when the border of a 64 KiB program bank is crossed. The actual program bank is not incremented, just like on a real processor.

Normally both are the same (code is compiled to the location it runs from) but it does not

need to be.

***=** <expression>

The compile offset is adjusted so that the program counter will match the requested address in the expression.

<i>;Offset</i>	<i>PC</i>	<i>Bytes</i>	<i>Disassembly</i>	<i>Source</i>
				* = \$0800
>0800				.byte
				.logical \$1000
>0800	1000			.byte
				* = \$1200
>0a00	1200			.byte
				.here
>0a00				.byte

.offs <expression>

Add an offset to the compile offset (create a gap). The program counter stays the same as before.

Popular in old TASM code where this was the only way to create relocated code, otherwise it's use is not recommended as there are easier to use alternatives below.

<i>;Offset</i>	<i>PC</i>	<i>Bytes</i>	<i>Disassembly</i>	<i>Source</i>
				* = \$1000
.1000			nop	.byte
				.offs 100
.1064	1000		nop	.byte

.logical <expression>

.here

Changes the program counter only, the compile offset is not changed. When finished all continues where it was left off before.

The naming is not logical at all for relocated code, but that's how it was named in old 6502tass.

It's used for code copied to it's proper location at runtime. Can be nested of course.

<i>;Offset</i>	<i>PC</i>	<i>Bytes</i>	<i>Disassembly</i>	<i>Source</i>
				* = \$1000
				.logical \$300
.1000	0300	a9 80	lda #\$80	drive lda #\$80
.1002	0302	85 00	sta \$00	sta \$00
.1004	0304	4c 00 03	jmp \$0300	jmp drive
				.here

.virtual [<expression>]

.endv

Changes the program counter to the expression (if given) and discards the result of compilation.

This is useful to define structures to fixed addresses.

```

.virtual $d400 ; base address
sid .block
freq .word ? ; frequency
pulsew .word ? ; pulse width
control .byte ? ; control

```

```

ad      .byte ?      ; attack/decay
sr      .byte ?      ; sustain/release
        .bend
        .endv

```

Or to define stack "allocated" variables on 65816.

```

        .virtual #1,s
p1      .addr ?      ; at #1,s
tmp     .byte ?      ; at #3,s
        .endv
lda (p1),y      ; lda ($01,s),y

```

.align <expression>[, <fill>]

Align the program counter to a dividable address by inserting uninitialized memory or repeated bytes.

Usually used to page align data or code to avoid penalty cycles when indexing or branching.

<i>;Offset PC</i>	<i>Bytes</i>	<i>Disassembly</i>	<i>Source</i>
>0ffc			* = \$ffc
.1000	ee 19 d0	inc \$d019	irq .align \$100 inc \$d019
>1003	ea		.align 4, \$ea
.1004	69 01	adc #\$01	loop adc #1

When alignment is done within named structures then it's relative to the start of the structure. This means the structure layout will be always the same independent which address it's instantiated at. Anonymous structures do not change the way the alignment works.

4.2 Dumping data

4.2.1 Storing numeric values

Multi byte numeric data is stored in the little-endian order, which is the natural byte order for 65xx processors. Numeric ranges are enforced depending on the directives used.

When using lists or tuples their content will be used one by one. Uninitialized data ("?",) creates holes of different sizes. Character string constants are converted using the current encoding.

Please note that multi character strings usually don't fit into 8 bits and therefore the `.byte` directive is not appropriate for them. Use `.text` instead which accepts strings of any length.

.byte <expression>[, <expression>, ...]

Create bytes from 8 bit unsigned constants (0-255)

.char <expression>[, <expression>, ...]

Create bytes from 8 bit signed constants (-128-127)

```

>1000 ff 03      .byte 255, $03
>1002 41         .byte "a"
>1003           .byte ?      ; reserve 1 byte
>1004 fd         .char -3
;Store 4.4 signed fixed point constants
>1005 c8 34 32   .char (-3.5, 3.25, 3.125) * 1p4
;Compact computed jumps using self modifying code
.1008 bd 0f 10   lda $1010,x      lda jumps,x

```



```

.100b 8d 0e 10 sta $100f          sta smod+1
.100e d0 fe    bne $100e          bne *
;Routines nearby (-128-127 bytes)
>1010 23 49          jumps .char (routine1, routine2)-smod-2

```

.word <expression>[, <expression>, ...]
Create bytes from 16 bit unsigned constants (0-65535)

.sint <expression>[, <expression>, ...]
Create bytes from 16 bit signed constants (-32768-32767)

```

>1000 42 23 55 45          .word $2342, $4555
>1004          .word ?          ; reserve 2 bytes
>1006 eb fd 51 11          .sint -533, 4433
;Store 8.8 signed fixed point constants
>100a 80 fc 40 03 20 03    .sint (-3.5, 3.25, 3.125) * 1p8
.1010 bd 19 10 lda $1019,x    lda texts,x
.1013 bc 1a 10 ldy $101a,x    ldy texts+1,x
.1016 4c 1e ab jmp $ab1e      jmp $ab1e
>1019 33 10 59 10          texts .word text1, text2

```

.addr <expression>[, <expression>, ...]
Create 16 bit address constants for addresses (in current program bank)

.rta <expression>[, <expression>, ...]
Create 16 bit return address constants for addresses (in current program bank)

```

          *          = $12000
.012000 7c 03 20          jmp ($012003,x)    jmp (jumps,x)
>012003 50 20 32 03 92 15 jumps          .addr $12050, routine1, routine2
;Computed jumps by using stack (current bank)
          *          = $103000
.103000 bf 0c 30 10 lda $10300c,x    lda rets+1,x
.103004 48          pha          pha
.103005 bf 0b 30 10 lda $10300b,x    lda rets,x
.103009 48          pha          pha
.10300a 60          rts          rts
>10300b ff ef a1 36 f3 42          rets .rta $10f000, routine1, routine2

```

.long <expression>[, <expression>, ...]
Create bytes from 24 bit unsigned constants (0-16777215)

.lint <expression>[, <expression>, ...]
Create bytes from 24 bit signed constants (-8388608-8388607)

```

>1000 56 34 12          .long $123456
>1003          .long ?          ; reserve 3 bytes
>1006 eb fd ff 51 11 00 .lint -533, 4433
;Store 8.16 signed fixed point constants
>100c 5d 8f fc 66 66 03 1e 85 .lint (-3.44, 3.4, 3.52) * 1p16
>1014 03
;Computed long jumps with jump table (65816)
.1015 bd 2a 10 lda $102a,x    lda jumps,x
.1018 8d 11 03 sta $0311      sta ind
.101b bd 2b 10 lda $102b,x    lda jumps+1,x
.101e 8d 12 03 sta $0312      sta ind+1
.1021 bd 2c 10 lda $102c,x    lda jumps+2,x
.1024 8d 13 03 sta $0313      sta ind+2
.1027 dc 11 03 jmp [$0311]    jmp [ind]
>102a 32 03 01 92 05 02          jumps .long routine1, routine2

```

.dword <expression>[, <expression>, ...]

Create bytes from 32 bit constants (0-4294967295)

.dint <expression>[, <expression>, ...]

Create bytes from 32 bit signed constants (-2147483648-2147483647)

```
>1000 78 56 34 12      .dword $12345678
>1004                  .dword ?          ; reserve 4 bytes
>1008 5d 7a 79 e7      .dint -411469219
;Store 16.16 signed fixed point constants
>100c 5d 8f fc ff 66 66 03 00 .dint (-3.44, 3.4, 3.52) * 1p16
>1014 1e 85 03 00
```

4.2.2 Storing string values

The following directives store strings of characters, bytes or bits as bytes. Small numeric constants can be mixed in to represent single byte control characters.

When using lists or tuples their content will be used one by one. Uninitialized data ("?.") creates byte sized holes. Character string constants are converted using the current encoding.

.text <expression>[, <expression>, ...]

Assemble strings into 8 bit bytes.

```
>1000 4f 45 d5 .text "oeU"
>1003 4f 45 d5 .text 'oeU'
>1006 17 33    .text 23, $33 ; bytes
>1008 0d 0a    .text $0a0d ; $0d, $0a, little endian!
>100a 1f       .text %00011111; more bytes
```

.fill <length>[, <fill>]

Reserve space (using uninitialized data), or fill with repeated bytes.

```
>1000          .fill $100 ;no fill, just reserve $100 bytes
>1100 00 00 00 .fill $4000, 0 ;16384 bytes of 0
...
>5100 55 aa 55 .fill 8000, [$55, $aa];8000 bytes of alternating $55, $aa
...
>7040 ff ff ff .fill $7100 - *, $ff;fill until $7100 with $ff
...
```

.shift <expression>[, <expression>, ...]

Assemble strings of 7 bit bytes and mark the last byte by setting it's most significant bit.

Any byte which already has the most significant bit set will cause an error. The last byte can't be uninitialized or missing of course.

The naming comes from old TASM and is a reference to setting the high bit of alphabetic letters which results in it's uppercase version in PETSCII.

```
.1000 a2 00      ldx #$00      ldx #0
.1002 bd 10 10   lda $1010,x   lda txt,x
.1005 08         php          php
.1006 29 7f     and #$7f      and #$7f
.1008 20 d2 ff   jsr $ffd2     jsr $ffd2
.100b e8        inx          inx
.100c 28        plp          plp
.100d 10 f3     bpl $1002     bpl loop
```

```
.100f 60          rts          rts
>1010 53 49 4e 47 4c 45 20 53      txt      .shift "single", 32, "string"
>1018 54 52 49 4e c7
```

.shiftl <expression>[, <expression>, ...]

Assemble strings of 7 bit bytes shifted to the left once with the last byte's least significant bit set.

Any byte which already has the most significant bit set will cause an error as this is cut off on shifting. The last byte can't be uninitialized or missing of course.

The naming is a reference to left shifting.

```
.1000 a2 00          ldx #$00          ldx #0
.1002 bd 0d 10      lda $100d,x      lda txt,x
.1005 4a           lsr a           lsr
.1006 9d 00 04      sta $0400,x      sta $400,x      ;screen memory
.1009 e8           inx           inx
.100a 90 f6         bcc $1002        bcc loop
.100c 60           rts           rts
                                .enc "screen"
>100d a6 92 9c 8e 98 8a 40 a6      .shiftl "single", 32, "string"
>1015 a8 a4 92 9c 8f          txt      .enc "none"
```

.null <expression>[, <expression>, ...]

Same as .text, but adds a zero byte to the end. An existing zero byte is an error as it'd cause a false end marker.

```
.1000 a9 07          lda #$07          lda #<txt
.1002 a0 10          ldy #$10          ldy #>txt
.1004 20 1e ab      jsr $ab1e          jsr $ab1e
>1007 53 49 4e 47 4c 45 20 53      txt      .null "single", 32, "string"
>100f 54 52 49 4e 47 00
```

.ptext <expression>[, <expression>, ...]

Same as .text, but prepend the number of bytes in front of the string (pascal style string). Therefore it can't do more than 255 bytes.

```
.1000 a9 1d          lda #$1d          lda #<txt
.1002 a2 10          ldx #$10          ldx #>txt
.1004 20 08 10      jsr $1008          jsr print
.1007 60           rts           rts

.1008 85 fb          sta $fb          sta $fb      print
.100a 86 fc          stx $fc          stx $fc
.100c a0 00          ldy #$00          ldy #0
.100e b1 fb          lda ($fb),y      lda ($fb),y
.1010 f0 0a          beq $101c        beq null
.1012 aa            tax            tax
.1013 c8            iny            iny
.1014 b1 fb          lda ($fb),y      lda ($fb),y
.1016 20 d2 ff      jsr $ffd2          jsr $ffd2
.1019 ca            dex            dex
.101a d0 f7          bne $1013        bne -
.101c 60           rts           rts      null
>101d 0d 53 49 4e 47 4c 45 20      txt      .ptext "single", 32, "string"
>1025 53 54 52 49 4e 47
```

4.3 Text encoding

64tass supports sources written in UTF-8, UTF-16 (be/le) and RAW 8 bit encoding. To take advantage of this capability custom encodings can be defined to map Unicode characters to 8 bit values in strings.

.enc "<name>"

Selects text encoding, predefined encodings are "none" and "screen" (screen code), anything else is user defined. All user encodings start without any character or escape definitions, add some as required.

```
.enc "screen";screen code mode
>1000 13 03 12 05 05 0e 20 03 .text "screen codes"
>1008 0f 04 05 13
.100c c9 15      cmp #$15      cmp #"u"      ;compare screen code
.enc "none" ;normal mode again
.100e c9 55      cmp #$55      cmp #"u"      ;compare PETSCII
```

.cdef <start>, <end>, <coded> [, <start>, <end>, <coded>, ...]

.cdef "<start><end>", <coded> [, "<start><end>", <coded>, ...]

Assigns characters in a range to single bytes.

This is a simple single character to byte translation definition. It is applied to a range as characters and bytes are usually assigned sequentially. The start and end positions are Unicode character codes either by numbers or by typing them. Overlapping ranges are not allowed.

```
.enc "ascii" ;define an ascii encoding
.cdef " ~", 32 ;identity for printable
```

.edef "<escapetext>", <value> [, "<escapetext>", <value>, ...]

Assigns strings to byte sequences as a translated value.

When these substrings are found in a text they are replaced by bytes defined here. When strings with common prefixes are used the longest match wins. Useful for defining non-typeable control code aliases, or as a simple tokenizer.

```
.enc "petscii" ;define an ascii->petscii encoding
.cdef " @", 32 ;characters
.cdef "AZ", $c1
.cdef "az", $41
.cdef "[[", $5b
.cdef "]]", $5d
.cdef "ff", $5c
.cdef "]]", $5d
.cdef "ππ", $5e
.cdef $2190, $2190, $1f;left arrow

.edef "\n", 13 ;one byte control codes
.edef "{clr}", 147
.edef "{CrLf}", [13, 10];two byte control code
.edef "<nothing>", [];replace with no bytes

>1000 93 d4 45 58 54 20 49 4e .text "{clr}Text in PETSCII\n"
>1008 20 d0 c5 d4 d3 c3 c9 c9 0d
```

4.4 Structured data

Structures and unions can be defined to create complex data types. The offset of fields are available by using the definition's name. The fields themselves by using the instance name.

The initialization method is very similar to macro parameters, the difference is that unset

parameters always return uninitialized data (“?”) instead of an error.

4.4.1 Structure

Structures are for organizing sequential data, so the length of a structure is the sum of lengths of all items.

```
.struct [<name>][=<default>]][, [<name>][=<default>]] ...]
.ends [<result>]][, <result>] ...]
```

Structure definition, with named parameters and default values

```
.dstruct <name>[, <initialization values>]
.<name> [<initialization values>]
```

Create instance of structure with initialization values

```
x      .struct      ;anonymous structure
      .byte 0      ;labels are visible
y      .byte 0      ;content compiled here
      .ends        ;useful inside unions

nn_s   .struct col, row;named structure
x      .byte \col   ;labels are not visible
y      .byte \row   ;no content is compiled here
      .ends        ;it's just a definition

nn     .dstruct nn_s, 1, 2;structure instance, content here

      lda nn.x      ;direct field access
      ldy #nn_s.x   ;get offset of field
      lda nn,y      ;and use it indirectly
```

4.4.2 Union

Unions can be used for overlapping data as the compile offset and program counter remains the same on each line. Therefore the length of a union is the length of it's longest item.

```
.union [<name>][=<default>]][, [<name>][=<default>]] ...]
.endu
```

Union definition, with named parameters and default values

```
.dunion <name>[, <initialization values>]
.<name> [<initialization values>]
```

Create instance of union with initialization values

```
x      .union      ;anonymous union
      .byte 0      ;labels are visible
y      .word 0     ;content compiled here
      .endu

nn_u   .union      ;named union
x      .byte ?     ;labels are not visible
y      .word \1    ;no content is compiled here
      .endu        ;it's just a definition

nn     .dunion nn_u, 1 ;union instance here

      lda nn.x      ;direct field access
      ldy #nn_u.x   ;get offset of field
      lda nn,y      ;and use it indirectly
```

4.4.3 Combined use of structures and unions

The example below shows how to define structure to a binary include.

```
.union
.binary "pic.drp", 2
.struct
color .fill 1024
screen .fill 1024
bitmap .fill 8000
backg .byte ?
.ends
.endu
```

Anonymous structures and unions in combination with sections are useful for overlapping memory assignment. The example below shares zero page allocations for two separate parts of a bigger program. The common subroutine variables are assigned after in the “zp” section.

```
*      = $02
.union          ;spare some memory
.struct
.dsection zp1 ;declare zp1 section
.ends
.struct
.dsection zp2 ;declare zp2 section
.ends
.endu
.dsection zp    ;declare zp section
```

4.5 Macros

Macros can be used to reduce typing of frequently used source lines. Each invocation is a copy of the macro's content with parameter references replaced by the parameter texts.

```
.segment [<name>][=<default>]][, [<name>][=<default>]] ...]
.endm [<result>][, <result> ...]
```

Copies the code segment as it is, so symbols can be used from outside, but this also means multiple use will result in double defines unless anonymous labels are used.

```
.macro [<name>][=<default>]][, [<name>][=<default>]] ...]
.endm [<result>][, <result> ...]
```

The code is enclosed in it's own block so symbols inside are non-accessible, unless a label is prefixed at the place of use, then local labels can be accessed through that label.

```
#<name> [<param>][[, ][<param>]] ...]
.<name> [<param>][[, ][<param>]] ...]
```

Invoke the macro after “#” or “.” with the parameters. Normally the name of the macro is used, but it can be any expression.

```
;A simple macro
copy .macro
    ldx #size(\1)
lp    lda \1,x
    sta \2,x
    dex
    bpl lp
    .endm
```

```

        #copy label, $500

;Use macro as an assembler directive
lohi    .macro
lo       .byte <(\@)
hi       .byte >(\@)
        .endm

var     .lohi 1234, 5678

        lda var.lo,y
        ldx var.hi,y

```

4.5.1 Parameter references

The first 9 parameters can be referenced by “\1”–“\9”. The entire parameter list including separators is “\@”.

```

name    .macro
        lda #\1      ;first parameter 23+1
        .endm

        #name 23+1    ;call macro

```

Parameters can be named, and it's possible to set a default value after an equal sign which is used as a replacement when the parameter is missing.

These named parameters can be referenced by \name or \{name}. Names must match completely, if unsure use the quoted name reference syntax.

```

name    .macro first, b=2, , last
        lda #\first   ;first parameter
        lda #\b       ;second parameter
        lda #\3       ;third parameter
        lda #\last    ;fourth parameter
        .endm

        #name 1, , 3, 4 ;call macro

```

4.5.2 Text references

In the original turbo assembler normal references are passed by value and can only appear in place of one. Text references on the other hand can appear everywhere and will work in place of e.g. quoted text or opcodes and labels. The first 9 parameters can be referenced as text by @1-@9.

```

name    .macro
        jsr print
        .null "Hello @1!";first parameter
        .endm

        #name "wth?"    ;call macro

```

4.6 Custom functions

Beyond the built-in functions mentioned earlier it's possible to define custom ones for frequently used calculations.

```
.function <name>[=<default>]][, <name>[=<default>] ...][, *<name>]
.endif [<result>][, <result> ...]
    Defines a user function
```

```
#<name> [<param>][[, ]<param>] ...]
.<name> [<param>][[, ]<param>] ...]
<name> [<param>][[, ]<param>] ...]
```

Invoke a function like a macro, directive or pseudo instruction.

Parameters are assigned to constant symbols in the function scope on invocation. The default values are calculated at function definition time only, and these values are used at invocation time when a parameter is missing.

Extra parameters are not accepted, unless the last parameter symbol is preceded with a star, in this case these parameters are collected into a tuple. Multiple values are returned are also returned as tuple.

Functions can span multiple lines but unlike macros they can't create new code. Only those external variables and functions are available which were accessible at the place of definition, but not those at the place of invocation.

```
wpack .function a, b=0
      .endif a+b*256

      .word wpack(1), wpack(2, 3)
```

If a function is used as macro, directive or pseudo instruction and there's a label in front then the returned value is assigned to it. If nothing is returned then it's used as regular label. Of course when used like this it can create code and access local variables.

```
mva .function s, d
    lda s
    sta d
    .endif

    mva #1, label
```

4.7 Conditional assembly

To prevent parts of source from compiling conditional constructs can be used. This is useful when multiple slightly different versions needs to be compiled from the same source.

Anonymous labels are still recognized in the non-compiling parts even if they won't get defined. This ensures consistent relative referencing across conditionally compiled areas with such labels.

4.7.1 If, else if, else

```
.if <condition>
    Compile if condition is true
.elseif <condition>
    Compile if previous conditions were not met and the condition is true
.else
    Compile if previous conditions were not met
.fi
.endif
    End of conditional compilation.
.ifne <value>
    Compile if value is not zero
```


.ifeq <value>
Compile if value is zero

.ifpl <value>
Compile if value is greater or equal zero

.ifmi <value>
Compile if value is less than zero

The `.ifne`, `.ifeq`, `.ifpl` and `.ifmi` directives exists for compatibility only, in practice it's better to use comparison operators instead.

```
.if wait==2      ;2 cycles
nop
.elseif wait==3  ;3 cycles
bit $ea
.elseif wait==4  ;4 cycles
bit $eaea
.else            ;else 5 cycles
inc $2
.fi
```

4.7.2 Switch, case, default

Similar to the `.if/.elseif/.else/.fi` construct, but the compared value needs to be written only once in the switch statement.

.switch <expression>
Evaluate expression and remember it

.case <expression>[, <expression> ...]
Compile if the previous conditions were all skipped and one of the values equals

.default
Compile if the previous conditions were all skipped

.endswitch
End of conditional compilation.

```
.switch wait
.case 2      ;2 cycles
nop
.case 3      ;3 cycles
bit $ea
.case 4      ;4 cycles
bit $eaea
.default    ;else 5 cycles
inc $2
.endswitch
```

4.7.3 Comment

.comment
Never compile.

.endc
End of conditional compilation.

```
.comment
lda #1      ;this won't be compiled
sta $d020
```

`.endc`

4.8 Repetitions

```
.for [<assignment>], [<condition>], [<assignment>]
.bfor [<assignment>], [<condition>], [<assignment>]
.next
```

Assign initial value, loop while the condition is true and modify value.

The `.for` directive is more useful calculate data as normal labels will be double defined when used.

The `.bfor` directive creates a new scope for each iteration therefore it also works with normal labels but is a bit more resource intensive.

If the `.bfor` directive was prefixed with a label then individual scopes are accessible through that label using indexing, otherwise these are not accessible. Variable access needs dot notation in addition of course.

```

    ldx #0
    lda #32
lp    .for ue := $400, ue < $800, ue += $100
      sta ue,x          ;do $400, $500, $600 and $700
    .next
    dex
    bne lp
```

First a variable is set, usually this is used for counting. This is optional, the variable may be set already before the loop.

Then the condition is checked and the enclosed lines are compiled if it's true. If there's no condition then it's an infinite loop and `.break` must be used to terminate it.

After an iteration the second assignment is calculated, usually it's updating the loop counter variable. This is optional as well.

```
.for <variable>[, <variable>, ...] in <expression>
.bfor <variable>[, <variable>, ...] in <expression>
.next
```

Assign variable(s) to values in sequence one-by-one in order.

The expression is usually the `range` function or some sort of list.

```

    .for col in 0, 11, 12, 15, 1
    lda #col          ;0, 11, 12, 15 and 1
    sta $d020
    .next
```

```
.rept <expression>
.brept <expression>
.next
```

Repeat enclosed lines the specified number of times.

The `.rept` directive is useful to repeat data definitions as normal labels will be double defined when used.

The `.brept` directive creates a new scope for each repetition therefore it also works with normal labels but is a bit more resource intensive.

If the `.brept` directive was prefixed with a label the scopes are accessible through that label using indexing, otherwise not at all. Variable access needs dot notation in addition of course.

```

        .rept 100
-       inx
        bne -
        .next

lst     .brept 100      ;each iteration into a tuple
label  .jmp label      ;not a duplicate definition
        .next
        jmp lst[5].label ;use label of 6th iteration

```

.break

Exit current loop immediately.

Can be used inside `.for`, `.bfor`, `.rept` and `.brept` to terminate the loop immediately.

.continue

Continue current loop's next iteration.

Can be used inside `.for`, `.bfor`, `.rept` and `.brept` to start the next iteration immediately.

.next

Closing directive of `.for`, `.bfor`, `.rept` and `.brept` loop.

.lbl

Creates a special jump label that can be referenced by `.goto`

.goto <labelname>

Causes assembler to continue assembling from the jump label. No forward references of course, handle with care. Should only be used in classic TASM sources for creating loops.

```

i       .var 100
loop    .lbl
        nop
i       .var i - 1
        .ifne i
        .goto loop      ;generates 100 nops
        .fi             ;the hard way ;)

```

4.9 Including files

Longer sources are usually separated into multiple files for easier handling. Precomputed binary data can also be included directly without converting it into source code first.

Search path is relative to the location of current source file. If it's not found there the include search path is consulted for further possible locations.

To make your sources portable please always use forward slashes (/) as a directory separator and use lower/uppercase consistently in file names!

.include <filename>

Include source file here.

.bininclude <filename>

Include source file here in it's local block. If the directive is prefixed with a label then all labels are local and are accessible through that label only, otherwise not reachable at all.

```

        .include "macros.asm"      ;include macros
menu    .bininclude "menu.asm"     ;include in a block

```

```
jmp menu.start
```

.binary <filename>[, <offset>[, <length>]]
Include raw binary data from file.

By using offset and length it's possible to break out chunks of data from a file separately, like bitmap and colors for example. Negative offsets are calculated from the end of file.

```
.binary "stuffz.bin"           ;simple include, all bytes
.binary "stuffz.bin", 2       ;skip start address
.binary "stuffz.bin", 2, 1000;skip start address, 1000 bytes max
```

4.10 Scopes

Scopes may contain symbols or other scopes nested. They are useful to avoid symbol clashes as the same symbol name can be repeated as long as it's in a different scope.

In nested scopes the symbol lookup starts from the local scope and goes in the direction of the global scope. This means that local variables will “shadow” global one with the same name.

.proc
.pend

Procedure start and end of procedure.

If it's label is not used then the code won't be compiled at all. This is very useful to avoid a lot of `.if` blocks to exclude unused sections of code.

All labels inside are local enclosed in a scope and are accessible through the prefixed label. Useful for building libraries.

```
ize      .proc
        nop
cucc     .pend

jsr ize
jmp ize.cucc
```

.block
.bend

Block start and block end.

All labels inside a block are local enclosed in a scope. If prefixed with a label local variables are accessible through that label using the dot notation, otherwise not at all.

```
.block
inc count + 1
count ldx #0
.bend
```

.namespace [<symbol>]
.endn

Namespace area

This directive either creates a new scope (if used without a parameter) or activates the one in the parameter.

The scope can be assigned to a symbol in front of the directive so that it can be re-activated later.

This enabled label definitions into the same scope in different files.

```
.weak
```

```
.endweak
```

Weak symbol area

Any symbols defined inside can be overridden by “stronger” symbols in the same scope from outside. Can be nested as necessary.

This gives the possibility of giving default values for symbols which might not always exist without resorting to `.ifdef/.ifndef` or similar directives in other assemblers.

```
symbol = 1           ;stronger symbol than the one below
.weak
symbol = 0           ;default value if the one above does not exists
.endweak
.if symbol          ;almost like an .ifdef ;)
```

Other use of weak symbols might be in included libraries to change default values or replace stub functions and data structures.

If these stubs are defined using `.proc/.pend` then their default implementations will not even exist in the output at all when a stronger symbol overrides them.

Multiple definition of a symbol with the same “strength” in the same scope is of course not allowed and it results in double definition error.

Please note that `.ifdef/.ifndef` directives are left out from 64tass for of technical reasons, so don't wait for them to appear anytime soon.

4.11 Sections

Sections can be used to collect data or code into separate memory areas without moving source code lines around. This is achieved by having separate compile offset and program counters for each defined section.

```
.section <name>
```

```
.send [<name>]
```

Defines a section fragment. The name at `.send` must match but it's optional.

```
.dsection <name>
```

Collect the section fragments here.

All `.section` fragments are compiled to the memory area allocated by the `.dsection` directive. Compilation happens as the code appears, this directive only assigns enough space to hold all the content in the section fragments.

The space used by section fragments is calculated from the difference of starting compile offset and the maximum compile offset reached. It is possible to manipulate the compile offset in fragments, but putting code before the start of `.dsection` is not allowed.

```
*      = $02
      .dsection zp      ;declare zero page section
      .cerror * > $30, "Too many zero page variables"

*      = $334
      .dsection bss     ;declare uninitialized variable section
      .cerror * > $400, "Too many variables"

*      = $0801
      .dsection code    ;declare code section
      .cerror * > $1000, "Program too long!"
```

```

*      = $1000
      .dsection data      ;declare data section
      .cerror * > $2000, "Data too long!"
;-----
      .section code
      .word ss, 2005
      .null $9e, format("%d", start)
ss     .word 0

start  sei
      .section zp      ;declare some new zero page variables
p2     .addr ?          ;a pointer
      .send zp
      .section bss     ;new variables
buffer .fill 10         ;temporary area
      .send bss

      lda (p2),y
      lda #<label
      ldy #>label
      jsr print

label  .section data    ;some data
      .null "message"
      .send data

      jmp error
      .section zp      ;declare some more zero page variables
p3     .addr ?          ;a pointer
      .send zp
      .send code

```

The compiled code will look like:

>0801	0b 08 d5 07		.word ss, 2005
>0805	9e 32 30 36 31 00		.null \$9e, format("%d", start)
>080b	00 00	ss	.word 0
.080d	78	start	sei
>0802		p2	.addr ? ;a pointer
>0334		buffer	.fill 10 ;temporary area
.080e	b1 02		lda (p2),y
.0810	a9 00		lda #<label
.0812	a0 10		ldy #>label
.0814	20 1e ab		jsr print
>1000	6d 65 73 73 61 67 65 00	label	.null "message"
.0817	4c e2 fc		jmp error
>0804		p2	.addr ? ;a pointer

Sections can form a hierarchy by nesting a `.dsection` into another section. The section names must only be unique within a section but can be reused otherwise. Parent section names are visible for children, siblings can be reached through parents.

In the following example the included sources don't have to know which “code” and “data” sections they use, while the “bss” section is shared for all banks.

```
;First 8K bank at the beginning, PC at $8000
*      = $0000
      .logical $8000
      .dsection bank1
      .cerror * > $a000, "Bank1 too long"
      .here

bank1  .block           ;Make all symbols local
      .section bank1
      .dsection code   ;Code and data sections in bank1
      .dsection data
      .section code    ;Pre-open code section
      .include "code.asm"; see below
      .include "iter.asm"
      .send code
      .send bank1
      .bend

;Second 8K bank at $2000, PC at $8000
*      = $2000
      .logical $8000
      .dsection bank2
      .cerror * > $a000, "Bank2 too long"
      .here

bank2  .block           ;Make all symbols local
      .section bank2
      .dsection code   ;Code and data sections in bank2
      .dsection data
      .section code    ;Pre-open code section
      .include "scr.asm"
      .send code
      .send bank2
      .bend

;Common data, avoid initialized variables here!
*      = $c000
      .dsection bss
      .cerror * > $d000, "Too much common data"
;------ The following is in "code.asm"
code    sei

      .section bss     ;Common data section
buffer  .fill 10
      .send bss

      .section data    ;Data section (in bank1)
routine .addr print
      .send bss
```

4.12 65816 related

.as
.al

Select short (8 bit) or long (16 bit) accumulator immediate constants.

```
.al
lda #$4322
```

.xs
.xl

Select short (8 bit) or long (16 bit) index register immediate constants.

```
.xl
ldx #$1000
```

.autsiz
.mansiz

Select automatic adjustment of immediate constant sizes based on SEP/REP instructions.

```
.autsiz
rep #$10      ;implicit .xl
ldx #$1000
```

.databank <expression>

Data bank (absolute) addressing is only used for addresses falling into this 64 KiB bank. The default is 0, which means addresses in bank zero.

When data bank is switched off only data bank indexed (,b) addresses create data bank accessing instructions.

```
.databank $10      ;data bank at $10xxxx
lda $101234        ;results in $a5, $34, $12
.databank ?        ;no data bank
lda $1234          ;direct page or long addressing
lda #$1234,b       ;results in $a5, $34, $12
```

.dpage <expression>

Direct (zero) page addressing is only used for addresses falling into a specific 256 byte address range. The default is 0, which is the first page of bank zero.

When direct page is switched off only the direct page indexed (,d) addresses create direct page accessing instructions.

```
.dpage $400        ;direct page $400-$4ff
lda $456           ;results in $a5, $56
.dpage ?          ;no direct page
lda $56            ;data bank or long addressing
lda #$56,d         ;results in $a5, $56
```

4.13 Controlling errors

.page
.endp

Gives an error on page boundary crossing, e.g. for timing sensitive code.

```
.page
table .byte 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
.endp
```

.option allow_branch_across_page

Switches error generation on page boundary crossing during relative branch. Such a condition on 6502 adds 1 extra cycle to the execution time, which can ruin the timing of a carefully cycle counted code.


```

.option allow_branch_across_page = 0
ldx #3          ;now this will execute in
- dex          ;16 cycles for sure
bne -
.option allow_branch_across_page = 1

```

.error <message> [, <message>, ...]

.cerror <condition>, <message> [, <message>, ...]

Exit with error or conditionally exit with error

```

.error "Unfinished here..."
.cerror * > $1200, "Program too long by ", * - $1200, " bytes"

```

.warn <message> [, <message>, ...]

.cwarn <condition>, <message> [, <message>, ...]

Display a warning message always or depending on a condition

```

.warn "FIXME: handle negative values too!"
.cwarn * > $1200, "This may not work!"

```

4.14 Target

.cpu <expression>

Selects CPU according to the string argument.

```

.cpu "6502"      ;standard 65xx
.cpu "65c02"     ;CMOS 65C02
.cpu "65ce02"    ;CSG 65CE02
.cpu "6502i"     ;NMOS 65xx
.cpu "65816"     ;W65C816
.cpu "65dtv02"   ;65dtv02
.cpu "65e102"    ;65e102
.cpu "r65c02"    ;R65C02
.cpu "w65c02"    ;W65C02
.cpu "4510"      ;CSG 4510
.cpu "default"   ;cpu set on commandline

```

4.15 Misc

.end

Terminate assembly. Any content after this directive is ignored.

.eor <expression>

XOR output with a 8 bit value. Useful for reverse screen code text for example, or for silly "encryption".

.seed <expression>

Seed the pseudo random number generator with an unsigned integer of maximum 128 bits to make the generated numbers less boring.

.var <expression>

Defines a variable identified by the label preceding, which is set to the value of expression or reference of variable.

.assert

.check

Do not use these, the syntax will change in next version!

4.16 Printer control

`.pron`
`.proff`

Turn on or off source listing on part of the file.

```

    .proff                ;Don't put filler bytes into listing
*    = $8000
    .fill $2000, $ff ;Pre-fill ROM area
    .pron
*    = $8000
    .addr reset, restore
    .text "CBM80"
reset cld

```

`.hidemac`
`.showmac`

Ignored for compatibility.

5 Pseudo instructions

5.1 Aliases

For better code readability BCC has an alias named BLT (**B**ranch **L**ess **T**han) and BCS one named BGE (**B**ranch **G**reater **E**qual).

```

cmp #3
blt exit        ; less than 3?

```

For similar reasons ASL has an alias named SHL (**S**hift **L**eft) and LSR one named SHR (**S**hift **R**ight). This naming however is not very common.

The implied variants LSR, ROR, ASL and ROL are a shorthand for LSR A, ROR A, ASL A and ROL A. Using the implied form is considered poor coding style.

For compatibility INA and DEA is a shorthand of INC A and DEC A. Therefore there's no "implied" variants like INC or DEC. The full form with the accumulator is preferred.

The longer forms of INC X, DEC X, INC Y, DEC Y, INC Z and DEC Z are available for INX, DEX, INY, DEY, INZ and DEZ. For this to work care must be taken to not reuse the "x", "y" and "z" single letter register symbols for other purposes. Same goes for "a" of course.

Load instructions with registers are translated to transfer instructions. For example LDA X becomes TXA.

Store instructions with registers are translated to transfer instructions, but only if it involves the "s" or "b" registers. For example STX S becomes TXS.

Many illegal opcodes have aliases for compatibility as there's no standard naming convention.

5.2 Always taken branches

For writing short code there are some special pseudo instructions for always taken branches. These are automatically compiled as relative branches when the jump distance is short enough and as JMP or BRL when longer.

The names are derived from conditional branches and are: GEQ, GNE, GCC, GCS, GPL, GMI, GVC, GVS, GLT and GGE.

```

.0000    a9 03        lda #$03        in1    lda #3
.0002    d0 02        bne $0006        gne at        ;branch always
.0004    a9 02        lda #$02        in2    lda #2

```

```
.0006    4c 00 10        jmp $1000        at    gne $1000        ;branch further
```

If the branch would skip only one byte then the opposite condition is compiled and only the first byte is emitted. This is now a never executed jump, and the relative distance byte after the opcode is the jumped over byte. If the CPU has long conditional branches (65CE02/4510) then the same method is applied to two byte skips as well.

There's a pseudo opcode called `GRA` for CPUs supporting `BRA`, which is expanded to `BRL` (if available) or `JMP`. A one byte skip will be shortened to a single byte if the CPU has a `NOP` immediate instruction (R65C02/W65C02).

If the branch would not skip anything at all then no code is generated.

```
.0009                                geq in3        ;zero length "branch"
.0009    18                clc                in3    clc
.000a    b0                bcs                gcc at2        ;one byte skip, as bcs
.000b    38                sec                in4    sec        ;sec is skipped!
.000c    20 0f 00        jsr $000f            at2    jsr func
.000f                                func
```

Please note that expressions like `Gxx **2` or `Gxx **3` are not allowed as the compiler can't figure out if it has to create no code at all, the 1 byte variant or the 2 byte one. Therefore use normal or anonymous labels defined after the jump instruction when jumping forward!

5.3 Long branches

To avoid branch too long errors the assembler also supports long branches. It can automatically convert conditional relative branches to it's opposite and a `JMP` or `BRL`. This can be enabled on the command line using the `--long-branch` option.

```
.0000    ea                nop                nop
.0001    b0 03            bcs $0006            bcc $1000        ;long branch (6502)
.0003    4c 00 10        jmp $1000
.0006    1f 17 03        bbr 1,$17,$000c        bbs 1,23,$1000 ;long branch (R65C02)
.0009    4c 00 10        jmp $1000
.000c    d0 04            bne $0012        beq $10000        ;long branch (65816)
.000e    5c 00 00 01    jmp $010000
.0012    30 03            bmi $0017        bpl $1000        ;long branch (65816)
.0014    82 e9 1f        brl $1000
.0017    ea                nop                nop
```

Please note that forward jump expressions like `Bxx **130`, `Bxx **131` and `Bxx **132` are not allowed as the compiler can't decide between a short/long branch. Of course these destinations can be used, but only with normal or anonymous labels defined after the jump instruction.

In the above example extra `JMP` instructions are emitted for each long branch. This is sub-optimal and wasting space if there are several long branches to the same location in close proximity. Therefore the assembler might decide to reuse a `JMP` for more than one long branch to save space.

6 Original turbo assembler compatibility

6.1 How to convert source code for use with 64tass

Currently there are two options, either use `"TMPview"` by Style to convert the source file directly, or do the following:

- load turbo assembler, start (by `SYS 9*4096` or `SYS 8*4096` depending on version)

- ← then l to load a source file
- ← then w to write a source file in PETSCII format
- convert the result to ASCII using petcat (from the vice package)

The resulting file should then (with the restrictions below) assemble using the following command line:

```
64tass -C -T -a -W -i source.asm -o outfile.prg
```

6.2 Differences to the original turbo ass macro on the C64

64tass is nearly 100% compatible with the original “Turbo Assembler”, and supports most of the features of the original “Turbo Assembler Macro”. The remaining notable differences are listed here.

6.3 Labels

The original turbo assembler uses case sensitive labels, use the “--case-sensitive” command line option to enable this behaviour.

6.4 Expression evaluation

There are a few differences which can be worked around by the “--tasm-compatible” command line option. These are:

The original expression parser has no operator precedence, but 64tass has. That means that you will have to fix expressions using braces accordingly, for example $1+2*3$ becomes $(1+2)*3$.

The following operators used by the original Turbo Assembler are different:

.	bitwise or, now
:	bitwise eor, now ^
!	force 16 bit address, now @w

Table 28: TASM Operator differences

The default expression evaluation is not limited to 16 bit unsigned numbers anymore.

6.5 Macros

Macro parameters are referenced by “\1”-“\9” instead of using the pound sign.

Parameters are always copied as text into the macro and not passed by value as the original turbo assembler does, which sometimes may lead to unexpected behaviour. You may need to make use of braces around arguments and/or references to fix this.

6.6 Bugs

Some versions of the original turbo assembler had bugs that are not reproduced by 64tass, you will have to fix the code instead.

In some versions labels used in the first .block are globally available. If you get a related error move the respective label out of the .block.

7 Command line options

Short command line options consist of “-” and a letter, long options start with “--”.

If “--” is encountered then further options are not recognized and are assumed to be file names.

Options requiring file names are marked with “<filename>”. A single “-” as name means standard input or output. File name quoting is system specific.

7.1 Output options

-o <filename>, --output <filename>

Place output into <filename>. The default output filename is “a.out”. This option changes it.

```
64tass a.asm -o a.prg
```

--output-section <sectionname>

By default all sections go into the output file. Using this option limits the output to specific section and it's children. This is useful to split a larger program into several files.

```
64tass a.asm --output-section main -o main.prg
64tass a.asm --output-section loader -o loader.prg
```

-X, --long-address

Use 3 byte address/length for CBM and nonlinear output instead of 2 bytes. Also increases the size of raw output to 16 MiB.

```
64tass --long-address --m65816 a.asm
```

--cbm-prg

Generate CBM format binaries (default)

The first 2 bytes are the little endian address of the first valid byte (start address). Overlapping blocks are flattened and uninitialized memory is filled up with zeros. Uninitialized memory before the first and after the last valid bytes are not saved. Up to 64 KiB or 16 MiB with long address.

Used for C64 binaries.

-b, --nostart

Output raw data without start address.

Overlapping blocks are flattened and uninitialized memory is filled up with zeros. Uninitialized memory before the first and after the last valid bytes are not saved. Up to 64 KiB or 16 MiB with long address.

Useful for small ROM files.

-f, --flat

Flat address space output mode.

Overlapping blocks are flattened and uninitialized memory is filled up with zeros. Uninitialized memory after the last valid byte is not saved. Up to 4 GiB.

Useful for creating huge multi bank ROM files. See sections for an example.

-n, --nonlinear

Generate nonlinear output file.

Overlapping blocks are flattened. Blocks are saved in sorted order and uninitialized memory is skipped. Up to 64 KiB or 16 MiB with long address.

Used for linkers and downloading.

```
64tass --nonlinear a.asm
*      = $1000
      lda #2
```

```
*      = $2000
      nop
```

\$02, \$00	little endian length, 2 bytes
\$00, \$10	little endian start \$1000
\$a9, \$02	code
\$01, \$00	little endian length, 1 byte
\$00, \$20	little endian start \$2000
\$ea	code
\$00, \$00	end marker (length=0)

Table 29: Result of compilation**--atari-xex**

Generate a Atari XEX output file.

Overlapping blocks are kept, continuing blocks are concatenated. Saving happens in the definition order without sorting, and uninitialized memory is skipped in the output. Up to 64 KiB.

Used for Atari executables.

```
64tass --atari-xex a.asm
*      = $02e0
      .addr start      ;run address
*      = $2000
start  rts
```

\$ff, \$ff	header, 2 bytes
\$e0, \$02	little endian start \$02e0
\$e1, \$02	little endian last byte \$02e1
\$00, \$20	start address word
\$00, \$20	little endian start \$2000
\$00, \$20	little endian last byte \$2000
\$60	code

Table 30: Result of compilation**--apple2**

Generate a Apple II output file (DOS 3.3).

Overlapping blocks are flattened and uninitialized memory is filled up with zeros. Uninitialized memory before the first and after the last valid bytes are not saved. Up to 64 KiB.

Used for Apple II executables.

```
64tass --apple-ii a.asm
*      = $0c00
      rts
```

\$00, \$0c	little endian start \$0c00
\$01, \$00	little endian length \$0001
\$60	code

Table 31: Result of compilation**--intel-hex**

Use Intel HEX output file format.

Overlapping blocks are kept, data is stored in the definition order, and uninitialized areas are skipped. I8HEX up to 64 KiB, I32HEX up to 4 GiB.

Used for EPROM programming or downloading.

```
64tass --intel-hex a.asm
*      = $0c00
      rts
```

Result of compilation:

```
:010C00006093
:00000001FF
```

--s-record

Use Motorola S-record output file format.

Overlapping blocks are kept, data is stored in the definition order, and uninitialized memory areas are skipped. S19 up to 64 KiB, S28 up to 16 MiB and S37 up to 4 GiB.

Used for EPROM programming or downloading.

```
64tass --s-record a.asm
*      = $0c00
      rts
```

Result of compilation:

```
S1040C00608F
S9030C00F0
```

7.2 Operation options

-a, --ascii

Use ASCII/Unicode text encoding instead of raw 8-bit

Normally no conversion takes place, this is for backwards compatibility with a DOS based Turbo Assembler editor, which could create PETSCII files for 6502tass. (including control characters of course)

Using this option will change the default “none” and “screen” encodings to map 'a'-'z' and 'A'-'Z' into the correct PETSCII range of \$41-\$5A and \$C1-\$DA, which is more suitable for an ASCII editor. It also adds predefined petcat style PETSCII literals to the default encodings, and enables Unicode letters in symbol names.

For writing sources in UTF-8/UTF-16 encodings this option is required!

```
64tass a.asm

.0000      a9 61          lda #$61          lda #"a"

>0002      31 61 41          .text "1aA"
>0005      7b 63 6c 65 61 72 7d 74      .text "{clear}text{return}more"
>000e      65 78 74 7b 72 65 74 75
>0016      72 6e 7d 6d 6f 72 65

64tass --ascii a.asm

.0000      a9 41          lda #$41          lda #"a"
>0002      31 41 c1          .text "1aA"
>0005      93 54 45 58 54 0d 4d 4f      .text "{clear}text{return}more"
>000e      52 45
```

-B, --long-branch

Automatic BXX **5 JMP xxx. Branch too long messages are usually solved by manually rewriting them as BXX **5 JMP xxx. 64tass can do this automatically if this option is used. BRR is of course not converted.

```
64tass a.asm
*      = $1000
      bcc $1233      ;error...

64tass a.asm
*      = $1000
      bcs **5        ;opposite condition
      jmp $1233      ;as simple workaround

64tass --long-branch a.asm
*      = $1000
      bcc $1233      ;no error, automatically converted to the above one.
```

-C, --case-sensitive

Make all symbols (variables, opcodes, directives, operators, etc.) case sensitive. Otherwise everything is case insensitive by default.

```
64tass a.asm
label  nop
Label  nop      ;double defined...

64tass --case-sensitive a.asm
label  nop
Label  nop      ;Ok, it's a different label...
```

-D <label>=<value>

Command line definition.

Same syntax is allowed as in source files. Be careful with strings, the shell might eat the quotes unless escaped.

```
64tass -D ii=2 -D var=\"string\" -D FAST:=true a.asm
      lda #ii ;result: $a9, $02
FAST   :?= false ;define if undefined
```

-w, --no-warn

Suppress warnings.

Disables warnings during compile. For fine grained diagnostic message suppression see the diagnostic options section.

```
64tass --no-warn a.asm
```

--no-caret-diag

Suppress displaying of faulty source line and fault position after fault messages.

```
64tass --no-caret-diag a.asm
```

-q, --quiet

Suppress messages. Disables header and summary messages.

```
64tass --quiet a.asm
```


-T, --tasm-compatible

Enable TASM compatible operators and precedence

Switches the expression evaluator into compatibility mode. This enables “.”, “:” and “!” operators and disables 64tass specific extensions, disables precedence handling and forces 16 bit unsigned evaluation (see “differences to original Turbo Assembler” below)

-I <path>

Specify include search path

If an included source or binary file can't be found in the directory of the source file then this path is tried. More than one directories can be specified by repeating this option. If multiple matches exist the first one is used.

-M <file>

Specify make rule output file

Writes a dependency rule suitable for “make” from the list of files used during compilation.

-E <file>, --error <file>

Specify error output file

Normally compilation errors are written to the standard error output. It's possible to redirect them to a file or to the standard output by using “-” as the file name.

7.3 Diagnostic options

Diagnostic messages switched start with a “-W” and can have an optional “no-” prefix to disable them. The options below with this prefix are enabled by default, the others are disabled.

-Wall

Enable most diagnostic warnings, except those individually disabled. Or with the “no-” prefix disable all except those enabled.

-Werror

Make all diagnostic warnings to an error, except those individually set to a warning.

-Werror=<name>

Change a diagnostic warning to an error.

For example “-Werror=implied-reg” makes this check an error. The “-Wno-error=” variant is useful with “-Werror” to set some to warnings.

-Walias

Warns about alias opcodes.

There are several opcodes for the same task, especially for the “6502i” target.

-Waltmode

Warn about alternative address modes.

Sometimes alternative addressing modes are used as the fitting one is not available. For example there's no lda direct page y so instead data bank y is used with a warning.

-Wbranch-page

Warns if a branch is crossing a page.

Page crossing branches execute with a penalty cycle. This option helps to locate them easily.

-Wcase-symbol

Warn if symbol letter case is used inconsistently.

This option can be used to enforce letter case matching of symbols in case insensitive mode. This gives similar results to the case sensitive mode (symbols must match exactly) with the main difference of disallowing symbol name definitions differing only in case (these are reported as duplicates).

-Wimmediate

Warns for cases where immediate addressing is more likely.

It may be hard to notice if a “#” was missed. The code still compiles but there's a huge difference between “cpx #const” and “cpx const”. Unless the right sort of garbage was on zero page at the time of testing...

This check might have a lot of false positives if zero page locations are accessed by using small numbers, which is a popular coding style. But there are ways to reduce them.

For “known” fixed locations `address(x)` can be used, preferably bound to a symbol. Automatic allocation of zero page variables works too (e.g. `zpstuff .byte ?`). And basically everything which is a traditional “label” or derived from a label with an offset.

-Wimplied-reg

Warns if implied addressing is used instead of register.

Some instructions have implied aliases like “a₅₁” for “a₅₁ a” for compatibility reasons, but this shorthand is not the preferred form.

-Wleading-zeros

Warns if about leading zeros.

A leading zero could be a prefix for an octal number but as octals are not supported the result will be decimal.

-Wlong-branch

Warns when a long branch is used.

This option gives a warning for instructions which were modified by the long branch function. Less intrusive than disabling long branches and see where it fails.

-Wno-deprecated

Don't warn about deprecated features.

Unfortunately there were some features added previously which shouldn't have been included. This option disables warnings about their uses.

-Wno-float-compare

Don't warn if floating point comparisons are only approximate.

Floating point numbers have a finite precision and comparing them might give unexpected results.

For example `2.1 + 0.2 == 2.3` is true but gives a warning as the left side is actually bigger by approximately `4.44E-16`.

Normally this is solved by rounding or changing the comparison values.

-Wno-ignored

Don't warn about ignored directives.

-Wno-jmp-bug

Don't warn about the `jmp ($x\xff)` bug.

With this option it's fine that the high byte is read from the “wrong” address on a 6502, NMOS 6502 and 65DTV02.

-Wno-label-left

Don't warn about certain labels not being on left side.

You may disable this if you use labels which look like mistyped versions of implied addressing mode instructions and you don't want to put them in the first column.

This check is there to catch typos, unsupported implied instructions, or unknown aliases and not for enforcing label placement.

-Wno-mem-wrap

Don't warn for compile offset wrap around.

Continue from the beginning of image file once it's end was reached.

-Wno-pc-wrap

Don't warn for program counter wrap around.

Continue from the beginning of program bank once it's end was reached.

-Wno-pitfalls

Don't note about common pitfalls.

There are some common mistakes, but experts and those who read this don't need extra notes about them. These are:

Use multi character strings with “.byte” instead of “.text”.

This fails because “.byte” enforces the 0-255 range for each value.

Using “label *+=+1” style space reservations.

Warns as “*=” is also the compound multiply operator. The “*+=+1” needs to be on a separate line without a label. A better alternative is to use “.fill 1” or “.byte ?”.

Negative numbers with “.byte” or “.word”

There are other directives which accept them with proper range checks like “.char”, “.sint”.

Negative numbers with “lda #xxx”

There's a signed variant for the immediate addressing so “lda #+xx” will make it work

-Wno-star-assign

Don't warn about ignored compound multiply.

Normally “symbol *= ...” means compound multiply of the variable in front. Unfortunately this looks the same as a “label *+=+x” which is an old-school way to allocate space.

If the symbol was a variable defined earlier then the multiply is performed without a warning. If it's a new label definition then this warning is used to note that maybe a variable definition was missed earlier.

If the intention was really a label definition then the “*=” can be moved to a separate line, or in case of space allocation it could be improved to use “.byte ?” or “.fill x”.

-Wold-equal

Warn about old equal operator.

The single “=” operator is only there for compatibility reasons and should be written as “==” normally.

-Woptimize

Warn about optimizable code.

Warns on things that could be optimized, at least according to the limited analysis done. Currently it's easy to fool with these constructs:

- Self modifying code, especially modifying immediate addressing mode instructions or branch targets
- Using `.byte $2c` and similar tricks to skip instructions.
- Using `**5` and similar tricks to skip instructions, or to loop like `*-1`.
- Any other method of flow control not involving referenced labels. E.g. calculated returns.
- Register re-mappings on 65DTV02 with SIR and SAC.

It's also rather simple and conservative, so some opportunities will be missed. Most CPUs are supported with the notable exception of 65816 and 65EL02, but this could improve in later versions.

-Wno-page

Don't do an error for page crossing

Normally the `.page` directive gives an error on page crossing, this directive can disable it. Using `"-Wno-error=page"` can turn it into a warning only.

-Wno-portable

Don't warn about source portability problems.

These cross platform development annoyances are checked for:

- Case insensitive use of file names or use of short names.
- Use of backslashes for path separation instead of forward slashes.
- Use of reserved characters in file names.
- Absolute paths

-Wshadow

Warn about symbol shadowing.

Checks if local variables "shadow" other variables of same name in upper scopes in ambiguous ways.

This is useful to detect hard to notice bugs where a new local variable takes the place of a global one by mistake.

```

b1      .block
a       .byte 2           ; 'a' is a built-in register
x       .byte 2           ; 'x' is a built-in register
        asl a             ; accumulator or the byte above?
        .end
        asl b1.x          ; not ambiguous

```

-Wstrict-bool

Warn about implicit boolean conversions.

Boolean values can be interpreted as numeric 0/1 and other types as booleans. This is convenient but may cause mistakes.

To pass this option the following constructs need improvements:

- "1" and "0" as boolean constants. Use the slightly longer "true" and "false".
- Implicit non-zero checks. Write it out like `".if (b1 & 1) != 0"`.
- Zero checks with "!". Write it out like `"b1 == 0"`.
- Binary operators on booleans. Use the proper "||", "&&" and "^^" operators.

- Numeric expressions like “1 + (1b1 > 3)”. It's better as “(1b1 > 3) ? 2 : 1”.

-Wswitch-case

Warn about multiple switch case matches

A switch value can match several case conditions but only the first occurrence will compile. A second match might be a mistake.

-Wunused

Warn about unused constant symbols.

Symbols which have no references to them are likely redundant. Before removing them check if there's any conditionally compiled out code which might still need them.

The following options can be used to be more specific:

-Wunused-macro

Warn about unused macros.

-Wunused-const

Warn about unused constants.

-Wunused-label

Warn about unused labels.

-Wunused-variable

Warn about unused variables.

Symbols which appear in a default 64tass symbol list file and their root symbols are treated as used for exporting purposes.

7.4 Target selection on command line

These options will select the default architecture. It can be overridden by using the `.cpu` directive in the source.

--m65xx

Standard 65xx (default). For writing compatible code, no extra codes. This is the default.

```
64tass --m65xx a.asm
    lda $14      ;regular instructions
```

-c, --m65c02

CMOS 65C02. Enables extra opcodes and addressing modes specific to this CPU.

```
64tass --m65c02 a.asm
    stz $d020    ;65c02 instruction
```

--m65ce02

CSG 65CE02. Enables extra opcodes and addressing modes specific to this CPU.

```
64tass --m65ce02 a.asm
    inz
```

-i, --m6502

NMOS 65xx. Enables extra illegal opcodes. Useful for demo coding for C64, disk drive code, etc.

```
64tass --m6502 a.asm
    lax $14      ;illegal instruction
```

-t, --m65dtv02

65DTV02. Enables extra opcodes specific to DTV.

```
64tass --m65dtv02 a.asm
      sac #$00
```

-x, --m65816

W65C816. Enables extra opcodes. Useful for SuperCPU projects.

```
64tass --m65816 a.asm
      lda $123456,x
```

-e, --m65e102

65EL02. Enables extra opcodes, useful RedPower CPU projects. Probably you'll need "--nostart" as well.

```
64tass --m65e102 a.asm
      lda #0,r
```

--mr65c02

R65C02. Enables extra opcodes and addressing modes specific to this CPU.

```
64tass --mr65c02 a.asm
      rmb 7,$20
```

--mw65c02

W65C02. Enables extra opcodes and addressing modes specific to this CPU.

```
64tass --mw65c02 a.asm
      wai
```

--m4510

CSG 4510. Enables extra opcodes and addressing modes specific to this CPU. Useful for C65 projects.

```
64tass --m4510 a.asm
      map
      eom
```

7.5 Symbol listing

-l <file>, --labels=<file>

List symbols into <file>.

```
64tass -l labels.txt a.asm
*      = $1000
label  jmp label

result (labels.txt):
label      = $1000
```

This option may be used multiple times. In this case the format and root scope options must be placed before using this option.

```
64tass --vice-labels -l all.l --labels-root=export -l myexport.inc source.asm
```

This writes symbols for VICE into "all.l" and symbols from scope "export" into "myexport.inc".

--vice-labels

List labels in a VICE readable format.

This format may be used to translate memory locations to something readable in VICE monitor. Therefore simple numeric constants will not show up unless converted to an address first.

VICE symbols may only contain ASCII letters, numbers and underscore. Symbols not meeting this requirement will be omitted.

```
64tass --vice-labels -l labels.l a.asm
*      = $1000
label  jmp label

result (labels.l):
a1 1000 .label
```

For now colons are used as scope delimiter due to a VICE limitation, but this will be changed to dots in the future.

--dump-labels

List labels for debugging.

The output will contain symbol locations and paths.

--labels-root=<path>

Specify the scope to list labels from

This option can be used to limit the output to only a subset of labels. The parameter is a dot separated path to a scope started from the global scope.

7.6 Assembly listing

-L <file>, --list=<file>

List into <file>. Dumps source code and compiled code into file. Useful for debugging, it's much easier to identify the code in memory within the source files.

```
; 64tass Turbo Assembler Macro V1.5x listing file
; 64tass -L list.txt a.asm
; Fri Dec 9 19:08:55 2005

;Offset ;Hex           ;Monitor           ;Source

;***** Processing input file: a.asm

.1000  a2 00           ldx #$00           ldx #0
.1002  ca              dex              loop    dex
.1003  d0 fd          bne $1002          bne loop
.1005  60             rts                rts

;***** End of listing
```

-m, --no-monitor

Don't put monitor code into listing. There won't be any monitor listing in the list file.

```
; 64tass Turbo Assembler Macro V1.5x listing file
; 64tass --no-monitor -L list.txt a.asm
; Fri Dec 9 19:11:43 2005

;Offset ;Hex           ;Source
```

```
;***** Processing input file: a.asm

.1000  a2 00          ldx #0
.1002  ca           loop  dex
.1003  d0 fd          bne loop
.1005  60           rts

;***** End of listing
```

-s, --no-source

Don't put source code into listing. There won't be any source listing in the list file.

```
; 64tass Turbo Assembler Macro V1.5x listing file
; 64tass --no-source -L list.txt a.asm
; Fri Dec 9 19:13:25 2005

;Offset ;Hex          ;Monitor

;***** Processing input file: a.asm

.1000  a2 00          ldx #$00
.1002  ca             dex
.1003  d0 fd          bne $1002
.1005  60             rts

;***** End of listing
```

--line-numbers

This option creates a new column for showing line numbers for easier identification of source origin. The line number is followed with an optional colon separated file number in case it comes from a different file then the previous lines.

```
; 64tass Turbo Assembler Macro V1.5x listing file
; 64tass --line-numbers -L list.txt a.asm
; Fri Dec 9 19:13:25 2005

;Line   ;Offset ;Hex          ;Monitor          ;Source

:1       ;***** Processing input file: a.asm

3       .1000  a2 00          ldx #$00          ldx #0
4       .1002  ca             dex           loop  dex
5       .1003  d0 fd          bne $1002        bne loop
6       .1005  60             rts             rts

;***** End of listing
```

--tab-size=<number>

By default the listing file is using a tab size of 8 to align the disassembly. This can be changed to other more favorable values like 4. Only spaces are used if 1 is selected. Please note that this has no effect on the source code on the right hand side.

--verbose-list

Normally the assembler tries to minimize listing output by omitting "unimportant" lines. But sometimes it's better to just list everything including comments and empty lines.

```
; 64tass Turbo Assembler Macro V1.5x listing file
```



```

; 64tass --verbose-list -L list.txt a.asm
; Fri Dec 9 19:13:25 2005

;Offset ;Hex           ;Monitor           ;Source

;***** Processing input file: a.asm

                                *           = $1000

.1000  a2 00           ldx #$00           ldx #0
.1002  ca             dex             loop  dex
.1003  d0 fd           bne $1002          bne loop
.1005  60             rts               rts

;***** End of listing

```

7.7 Other options

-?, --help

Give this help list. Prints help about command line options.

--usage

Give a short usage message. Prints short help about command line options.

-V, --version

Print program version

7.8 Command line from file

Command line arguments can be read from a file as well. This is useful to store common options for multiple files in one place or to overcome the argument list length limitations of some systems.

The filename needs to be prefixed with an at sign, so “@argsfile” reads options from “argsfile”. It will only work if there's not another file named “@argsfile”. The content is expanded in-place of “@argsfile”.

Stored options must be separated by white space. Single or double quotes can be used in case file names have white space in their names.

Backslash can be used to escape the character following it and it must be used to escape itself. Single and double quotes need to be escaped if needed for string quoting.

Forward slashes can be used as a portable path separation on all systems.

8 Messages

Faults and warnings encountered are sent to standard error for logging. To redirect them into a file append “2>filename.log” after the command, or use the “-E” command line option. The message format is the following:

```
<filename>:<line>:<character>: <severity>: <message>
```

- filename: The name and path of source file where the error happened.
- line: Line number of file, starts from 1.
- character: Character in line, starts from 1. Tabs are not expanded.
- severity: Note, warning, error or fatal.
- message: The fault message itself.

The faulty line may be displayed after the message with a caret pointing to the error location.

```
a.asm:3:21: error: not defined 'label'
```

```
    lda label
```

```
    ^
```

```
a.asm:3:21: note: searched in the global scope
```

Lines containing macros are expanded whenever possible, but due to internal limitations referenced lines in relation to the actual fault will display without them.

Messages ending with “[*-Wxxx*]” are user controllable. This means that using “*-Wno-xxx*” on the command line will silence them and “*-Werror=xxx*” will turn them into a fault. See Diagnostic options for more details.

8.1 Warnings

approximate floating point

floating point comparisons are not exact and the numbers were close but maybe not quite

case ignored, value already handled

this value was already used in an earlier case so here it's ignored

compile offset overflow

compile continues at the bottom (\$0000) as end of compile area was reached

constant result, possibly changeable to 'lda'

a pre-calculated value could be loaded instead as the result seems to be always the same

could be shorter by using 'xxx' instead

this shorter instruction gives the same result according to the optimizer

could be simpler by using 'xxx' instead

this instruction gives the same result but with less dependencies according to the optimizer

deprecated directive, only for TASM compatible mode

.goto and .lbl should only be used in TASM compatible mode and there are better ways to loop

deprecated equal operator, use '==' instead

single equal sign for comparisons is going away soon, update source

deprecated modulo operator, use '%' instead

double slash for modulo is going away soon, update source

deprecated not equal operator, use '!=' instead

non-standard not equal operators which will stop working in the future, update source

directive ignored

an assembler directive was ignored for compatibility reasons

expected ? values but got ? to unpack

the number of variables must match the number of values when unpacking

immediate addressing mode suggested

numeric constant was used as an address which was likely meant as an immediate value

independent result, possibly changeable to 'lda'

the result does not seem to depend on the input so it could be just loaded instead

instruction 'xxx' is an alias of 'xxx'

an alternative instruction name was used

label defined instead of variable multiplication for compatibility

move the '*=' construct to a separate line or define the variable first as this construct is ambiguous

label not on left side
 check if an instruction name was not mistyped and if the current CPU has it, or remove white space before label

leading zeros ignored
 leading zeros in front of decimals are redundant and don't denote an octal number

long branch used
 branch distance was too long so long branch was used (bxx *+5 jmp)

please use format("%d", ...) as '^' will change it's meaning
 this operator will be changed to mean the bank byte later, please update your sources

please use quotes now to allow expressions in future
 the directive will allow expressions later and the parameter will be a string

possible jmp (\$xxff) bug
 some 6502 variants read don't increment the high byte on page cross and this may be unexpected

possibly redundant as ...
 according to the optimizer this might not be needed

possibly redundant if last 'jsr' is changed to 'jmp'
 tail call elimination possibility was detected

possibly redundant indexing with a constant value
 the index register used seems to be constant and there's a way to eliminate indexing by a constant offset

processor program counter overflow
 pc address was set back to the start of actual 64 KiB program bank as end of bank was reached

symbol case mismatch '?'
 the symbol is matching case insensitively but it's not all letters are exactly the same

the file's real name is not '?'
 check if all characters match including their case as this is not the real name of the file

this name uses reserved characters '?'
 do not use \ : * ? " < > | in file names as some operating systems don't like these

unused symbol '?'
 this symbol has is not referred anywhere and therefore may be unused

use '/' as path separation '?'
 backslash is not a path separator on all systems while forward slash will work independent of the host operating system

use relative path for '?'
 file's path is absolute and depends on the file system layout and the source will not compile without the exact same environment

8.2 Errors

'?' expected
 something is missing

? argument is missing
 not enough arguments supplied

address in different program bank
 this instruction is only limited to access the current bank

address not in processor address space
 value larger than current CPU address space

address out of section
 moving the address around is fine as long as it does not end up before the start of the

section

addressing mode too complex

too much indexing or indirection for a valid address

at least one byte is needed

the expression didn't yield any bytes but it's needed here

branch crosses page by ? bytes

page crossing was on branch was detected

branch too far by ? bytes

branches have limited range and this went over by some bytes

can't calculate stable value

somehow it's impossible to calculate this expression

can't calculate this

could not get any value, is this a circular reference?

can't encode character '?' (\$xx) in encoding '?'

can't translate character in this encoding as no definition was given

can't get absolute value of

not possible to calculate the absolute value of this type

can't get boolean value of

not possible to determine if this value is true or false

can't get integer value of

this value is not a number

can't get length of

this type has no length

can't get sign of

this type does not have a sign as it's not a number

can't get size of

this type has no size

closing/opening directive '?' not found

couldn't find the other half of block directive pair

conflict

at least one feature is provided, which shouldn't be there

conversion of ? '?' to ? is not possible

this type conversion can't be done

division by zero

dividing with zero can't be done

double defined escape

escape sequence already defined in another .edef differently

double defined range

part of a character range was already defined by another .cdef and these ranges can't overlap

duplicate definition

symbol defined more than once

empty encoding, add something or correct name

probably a typo in the name of encoding but if not then use .cdef/.edef to define something

empty list not allowed

at least one element is required

empty range not allowed

invalid range but there must be at least one element

empty string not allowed
 at least one character is required

expected exactly/at least/at most ? arguments, got ?
 wrong number of function arguments used

expression syntax
 syntax error

extra characters on line
 there's some garbage on the end of line

floating point overflow
 infinity reached during a calculation

general syntax
 can't do anything with this

index out of range
 not enough elements in list

key error
 key not in the dictionary

label required
 a label is mandatory for this directive

last byte must not be gap
 .shift or .shiftl needs a normal byte at the end

logarithm of non-positive number
 only positive numbers have a logarithm

more than a single character
 no more than a single character is allowed

more than two characters
 no more than two characters are allowed

most significant bit must be clear in byte
 for .shift and .shiftl only 7 bit "bytes" are valid

must be within a '.for' or '.rept' loop
 .break or .continue must be used within a loop

negative number raised on fractional power
 can't calculate this

no ? addressing mode for opcode
 this addressing mode is not valid for this instruction

not a bank 0 address
 value must be a bank zero address

not a data bank address
 value must be a data bank address

not a direct page address
 value must be a direct page address

not a key and value pair
 dictionaries are built from key and value pairs separated by a colon

not a variable
 only variables are changeable

not allowed here: ?
 do not use this directive here

not defined '?'
 can't find this label at this point

not hashable

the type can't be used as a key in a dictionary

not in range -1.0 to 1.0
the function is only valid in the -1.0 to 1.0 range

not iterable
value is not a list or other iterable object

offset out of range
code offset too much

operands could not be broadcast together with shapes ? and ?
list length must match or must have a single element only

different start and end page \$xxxx and \$xxxx
page crossing was detected

pnext too long by ? bytes
.pnext is limited to 255 bytes maximum

requirements not met
not all features are provided, at least one is missing

reserved symbol name '?'
do not use this symbol name

shadow definition
symbol is defined in an upper scope as well and is used ambiguously

some operation '?' of type '?' and type '?' not possible
can't do this calculation with these values

square root of negative number
can't calculate the square root of a negative number

too early to reference
processing still ongoing, can't access this yet

too large for a ? bit signed/unsigned integer
value out of range

unknown processor '?'
unknown cpu name

unknown argument name '?'
no parameter argument known like this

value needs to be non-negative
only positive numbers or zero is accepted here

wrong type <?>
wrong object type used

zero value not allowed
do not use zero for example with .null

8.3 Fatal errors

can't open file
cannot open file

can't write error file
cannot write the error file

can't write label file
cannot write the label file

can't write listing file
cannot write the list file

can't write make file

- cannot write the make rule file
- can't write object file
 - cannot write the result
- error reading file
 - error while reading
- file recursion
 - wrong nesting of .include
- function recursion too deep
 - wrong use of nested functions
- macro recursion too deep
 - wrong use of nested macros
- option '?' doesn't allow an argument
 - command line option doesn't need any argument
- option '?' is ambiguous
 - command line option abbreviation is too short
- option '?' not recognized
 - no such command line option
- option '?' requires an argument
 - command line option needs an argument
- out of memory
 - won't happen ;)
- scope '?' for label listing not found
 - the scope given on command line couldn't be found
- section '?' for output not found
 - the section given on command line couldn't be found
- too many passes
 - with a carefully crafted source file it's possible to create unresolvable situations but try to avoid this
- unknown option '?'
 - option not known
- weak recursion
 - excessive nesting of .weak

9 Credits

Original 6502tass written for DOS by Marek Matula of Taboo.

It was ported to ANSI C by BigFoot/Breeze. This is when it's name changed to 64tass.

Soci/Singular reworked the code over the years to the point that practically nothing was left from original at this point.

Improved TASS compatibility, PETSCII codes by Groepaz.

Additional code: my_getopt command-line argument parser by Benjamin Sittler, avl tree code by Franck Bui-Huu, ternary tree code by Daniel Berlin, snprintf Alain Magloire, Amiga OS4 support files by Janne Peräaho.

Pierre Zero helped to uncover a lot of faults by fuzzing. Also there were a lot of discussions with oziphantom about the need of various features.

Main developer and maintainer: soci at c64.rulez.org

10 Default translation and escape sequences

10.1 Raw 8-bit source

By default raw 8-bit encoding is used and nothing is translated or escaped. This mode is for compiling sources which are already PETSCII.

10.1.1 The “none” encoding for raw 8-bit

Does no translation at all, no translation table, no escape sequences.

10.1.2 The “screen” encoding for raw 8-bit

The following translation table applies, no escape sequences.

Input	Byte	Input	Byte
00-1F	80-9F	20-3F	20-3F
40-5F	00-1F	60-7F	40-5F
80-9F	80-9F	A0-BF	60-7F
C0-FE	40-7E	FF	5E

Table 32: Built-in PETSCII to PETSCII screen code translation table

10.2 Unicode and ASCII source

Unicode encoding is used when the “-a” option is given on the command line.

10.2.1 The “none” encoding for Unicode

This is a Unicode to PETSCII mapping, including escape sequences for control codes.

Glyph	Unicode	Byte	Glyph	Unicode	Byte
-@	U+0020-U+0040	20-40	A-Z	U+0041-U+005A	C1-DA
[U+005B	5B]	U+005D	5D
a-z	U+0061-U+007A	41-5A	£	U+00A3	5C
π	U+03C0	FF	←	U+2190	5F
↑	U+2191	5E	—	U+2500	C0
	U+2502	DD	┘	U+250C	B0
┐	U+2510	AE	└	U+2514	AD
┘	U+2518	BD	┌	U+251C	AB
└	U+2524	B3	┐	U+252C	B2
┌	U+2534	B1	┘	U+253C	DB
┘	U+256D	D5	┐	U+256E	C9
└	U+256F	CB	┌	U+2570	CA
/	U+2571	CE	\	U+2572	CD
X	U+2573	D6	_	U+2581	A4
-	U+2582	AF	■	U+2583	B9
■	U+2584	A2	▮	U+258C	A1
▮	U+258D	B5	▮	U+258E	B4
▮	U+258F	A5	▮	U+2592	A6
▮	U+2594	A3	▮	U+2595	A7
▮	U+2596	BB	▮	U+2597	AC
▮	U+2598	BE	▮	U+259A	BF
▮	U+259D	BC	◦	U+25CB	D7
•	U+25CF	D1	▮	U+25E4	A9
▮	U+25E5	DF	♠	U+2660	C1
♣	U+2663	D8	♥	U+2665	D3
♦	U+2666	DA	✓	U+2713	BA

Table 33: Built-in Unicode to PETSCII translation table

Glyph	Unicode	Byte	Glyph	Unicode	Byte
	U+1FB70	D4		U+1FB71	C7
	U+1FB72	C2		U+1FB73	DD
	U+1FB74	C8		U+1FB75	D9
-	U+1FB76	C5	-	U+1FB77	C4
-	U+1FB78	C3	-	U+1FB79	C0
-	U+1FB7A	C6	-	U+1FB7B	D2
L	U+1FB7C	CC	┐	U+1FB7D	CF
┐	U+1FB7E	D0	┐	U+1FB7F	BA
■	U+1FB82	B7	■	U+1FB83	B8
	U+1FB87	AA		U+1FB88	B6
▤	U+1FB8C	DC	▤	U+1FB8F	A8
▥	U+1FB95	FF	▥	U+1FB98	DF
▧	U+1FB99	A9			

Escape	Byte	Escape	Byte	Escape	Byte
{bell}	07	{black}	90	{blk}	90
{blue}	1F	{blu}	1F	{brn}	95
{brown}	95	{cbm-*}	DF	{cbm-+}	A6
{cbm--}	DC	{cbm-0}	30	{cbm-1}	81
{cbm-2}	95	{cbm-3}	96	{cbm-4}	97
{cbm-5}	98	{cbm-6}	99	{cbm-7}	9A
{cbm-8}	9B	{cbm-9}	29	{cbm-@}	A4
{cbm-^}	DE	{cbm-a}	B0	{cbm-b}	BF
{cbm-c}	BC	{cbm-d}	AC	{cbm-e}	B1
{cbm-f}	BB	{cbm-g}	A5	{cbm-h}	B4
{cbm-i}	A2	{cbm-j}	B5	{cbm-k}	A1
{cbm-l}	B6	{cbm-m}	A7	{cbm-n}	AA
{cbm-o}	B9	{cbm-pound}	A8	{cbm-p}	AF
{cbm-q}	AB	{cbm-r}	B2	{cbm-s}	AE
{cbm-t}	A3	{cbm-up arrow}	DE	{cbm-u}	B8
{cbm-v}	BE	{cbm-w}	B3	{cbm-x}	BD
{cbm-y}	B7	{cbm-z}	AD	{clear}	93
{clr}	93	{control-0}	92	{control-1}	90
{control-2}	05	{control-3}	1C	{control-4}	9F
{control-5}	9C	{control-6}	1E	{control-7}	1F
{control-8}	9E	{control-9}	12	{control-:}	1B
{control-;}	1D	{control-=}	1F	{control-@}	00
{control-a}	01	{control-b}	02	{control-c}	03
{control-d}	04	{control-e}	05	{control-f}	06
{control-g}	07	{control-h}	08	{control-i}	09
{control-j}	0A	{control-k}	0B	{control-left arrow}	06
{control-l}	0C	{control-m}	0D	{control-n}	0E
{control-o}	0F	{control-pound}	1C	{control-p}	10
{control-q}	11	{control-r}	12	{control-s}	13
{control-t}	14	{control-up arrow}	1E	{control-u}	15
{control-v}	16	{control-w}	17	{control-x}	18
{control-y}	19	{control-z}	1A	{cr}	0D
{cyan}	9F	{cyn}	9F	{delete}	14
{del}	14	{dish}	08	{down}	11
{ensh}	09	{esc}	1B	{f10}	82
{f11}	84	{f12}	8F	{f1}	85
{f2}	89	{f3}	86	{f4}	8A
{f5}	87	{f6}	8B	{f7}	88

Table 34: Built-in PETSCII escape sequences

Escape	Byte	Escape	Byte	Escape	Byte
{f8}	8C	{f9}	80	{gray1}	97
{gray2}	98	{gray3}	9B	{green}	1E
{grey1}	97	{grey2}	98	{grey3}	9B
{grn}	1E	{gry1}	97	{gry2}	98
{gry3}	9B	{help}	84	{home}	13
{insert}	94	{inst}	94	{lblu}	9A
{left arrow}	5F	{left}	9D	{lf}	0A
{lgrn}	99	{lower case}	0E	{lred}	96
{lt blue}	9A	{lt green}	99	{lt red}	96
{orange}	81	{orng}	81	{pi}	FF
{pound}	5C	{purple}	9C	{pur}	9C
{red}	1C	{return}	0D	{reverse off}	92
{reverse on}	12	{rgh}	1D	{right}	1D
{run}	83	{rvof}	92	{rvon}	12
{rvs off}	92	{rvs on}	12	{shift return}	8D
{shift-*}	C0	{shift-+}	DB	{shift-,}	3C
{shift--}	DD	{shift-.}	3E	{shift-/}	3F
{shift-0}	30	{shift-1}	21	{shift-2}	22
{shift-3}	23	{shift-4}	24	{shift-5}	25
{shift-6}	26	{shift-7}	27	{shift-8}	28
{shift-9}	29	{shift-:}	5B	{shift-;}	5D
{shift-@}	BA	{shift-^}	DE	{shift-a}	C1
{shift-b}	C2	{shift-c}	C3	{shift-d}	C4
{shift-e}	C5	{shift-f}	C6	{shift-g}	C7
{shift-h}	C8	{shift-i}	C9	{shift-j}	CA
{shift-k}	CB	{shift-l}	CC	{shift-m}	CD
{shift-n}	CE	{shift-o}	CF	{shift-pound}	A9
{shift-p}	D0	{shift-q}	D1	{shift-r}	D2
{shift-space}	A0	{shift-s}	D3	{shift-t}	D4
{shift-up arrow}	DE	{shift-u}	D5	{shift-v}	D6
{shift-w}	D7	{shift-x}	D8	{shift-y}	D9
{shift-z}	DA	{space}	20	{sret}	8D
{stop}	03	{swlc}	0E	{swuc}	8E
{tab}	09	{up arrow}	5E	{up/lo lock off}	09
{up/lo lock on}	08	{upper case}	8E	{up}	91
{white}	05	{wht}	05	{yellow}	9E
{yel}	9E				

10.2.2 The “screen” encoding for Unicode

This is a Unicode to PETSCII screen code mapping, including escape sequences for control code screen codes.

Glyph	Unicode	Translated	Glyph	Unicode	Translated
-?	U+0020-U+003F	20-3F	@	U+0040	00
A-Z	U+0041-U+005A	41-5A	[U+005B	1B
]	U+005D	1D	a-z	U+0061-U+007A	01-1A
£	U+00A3	1C	π	U+00C0	5E
←	U+2190	1F	↑	U+2191	1E
—	U+2500	40		U+2502	5D
┐	U+250C	70	┑	U+2510	6E
└	U+2514	6D	┓	U+2518	7D
┘	U+251C	6B	┛	U+2524	73

Table 35: Built-in Unicode to PETSCII screen code translation table

Glyph	Unicode	Translated	Glyph	Unicode	Translated
⌈	U+252C	72	⌋	U+2534	71
⌈	U+253C	5B	⌋	U+256D	55
⌋	U+256E	49	⌋	U+256F	4B
⌋	U+2570	4A	/	U+2571	4E
\	U+2572	4D	X	U+2573	56
-	U+2581	64	-	U+2582	6F
■	U+2583	79	■	U+2584	62
█	U+258C	61	█	U+258D	75
█	U+258E	74	█	U+258F	65
▒	U+2592	66	-	U+2594	63
	U+2595	67	█	U+2596	7B
█	U+2597	6C	█	U+2598	7E
█	U+259A	7F	█	U+259D	7C
◦	U+25CB	57	•	U+25CF	51
↙	U+25E4	69	↘	U+25E5	5F
♠	U+2660	41	♣	U+2663	58
♥	U+2665	53	♦	U+2666	5A
✓	U+2713	7A		U+1FB70	54
	U+1FB71	47		U+1FB72	42
	U+1FB73	5D		U+1FB74	48
	U+1FB75	59	-	U+1FB76	45
-	U+1FB77	44	-	U+1FB78	43
-	U+1FB79	40	-	U+1FB7A	46
-	U+1FB7B	52	L	U+1FB7C	4C
┌	U+1FB7D	4F	┐	U+1FB7E	50
└	U+1FB7F	7A	-	U+1FB82	77
■	U+1FB83	78		U+1FB87	6A
█	U+1FB88	76	▒	U+1FB8C	5C
▒	U+1FB8F	68	▒	U+1FB95	5E
▒	U+1FB98	5F	▒	U+1FB99	69

Escape	Byte	Escape	Byte	Escape	Byte
{cbm-*}	5F	{cbm-+}	66	{cbm--}	5C
{cbm-0}	30	{cbm-9}	29	{cbm-@}	64
{cbm-^}	5E	{cbm-a}	70	{cbm-b}	7F
{cbm-c}	7C	{cbm-d}	6C	{cbm-e}	71
{cbm-f}	7B	{cbm-g}	65	{cbm-h}	74
{cbm-i}	62	{cbm-j}	75	{cbm-k}	61
{cbm-l}	76	{cbm-m}	67	{cbm-n}	6A
{cbm-o}	79	{cbm-pound}	68	{cbm-p}	6F
{cbm-q}	6B	{cbm-r}	72	{cbm-s}	6E
{cbm-t}	63	{cbm-up arrow}	5E	{cbm-u}	78
{cbm-v}	7E	{cbm-w}	73	{cbm-x}	7D
{cbm-y}	77	{cbm-z}	6D	{left arrow}	1F
{pi}	5E	{pound}	1C	{shift-*}	40
{shift-+}	5B	{shift-,}	3C	{shift--}	5D
{shift-.}	3E	{shift-/}	3F	{shift-0}	30
{shift-1}	21	{shift-2}	22	{shift-3}	23
{shift-4}	24	{shift-5}	25	{shift-6}	26
{shift-7}	27	{shift-8}	28	{shift-9}	29
{shift-:}	1B	{shift-;}	1D	{shift-@}	7A
{shift-^}	5E	{shift-a}	41	{shift-b}	42
{shift-c}	43	{shift-d}	44	{shift-e}	45

Table 36: Built-in PETSCII screen code escape sequences

Escape	Byte	Escape	Byte	Escape	Byte
{shift-f}	46	{shift-g}	47	{shift-h}	48
{shift-i}	49	{shift-j}	4A	{shift-k}	4B
{shift-l}	4C	{shift-m}	4D	{shift-n}	4E
{shift-o}	4F	{shift-pound}	69	{shift-p}	50
{shift-q}	51	{shift-r}	52	{shift-space}	60
{shift-s}	53	{shift-t}	54	{shift-up arrow}	5E
{shift-u}	55	{shift-v}	56	{shift-w}	57
{shift-x}	58	{shift-y}	59	{shift-z}	5A
{space}	20	{up arrow}	1E		

11 Opcodes

11.1 Standard 6502 opcodes

ADC	61 65 69 6D 71 75 79 7D	AND	21 25 29 2D 31 35 39 3D
ASL	06 0A 0E 16 1E	BCC	90
BCS	B0	BEQ	F0
BIT	24 2C	BMI	30
BNE	D0	BPL	10
BRK	00	BVC	50
BVS	70	CLC	18
CLD	D8	CLI	58
CLV	B8	CMP	C1 C5 C9 CD D1 D5 D9 DD
CPX	E0 E4 EC	CPY	C0 C4 CC
DEC	C6 CE D6 DE	DEX	CA
DEY	88	EOR	41 45 49 4D 51 55 59 5D
INC	E6 EE F6 FE	INX	E8
INY	C8	JMP	4C 6C
JSR	20	LDA	A1 A5 A9 AD B1 B5 B9 BD
LDX	A2 A6 AE B6 BE	LDY	A0 A4 AC B4 BC
LSR	46 4A 4E 56 5E	NOP	EA
ORA	01 05 09 0D 11 15 19 1D	PHA	48
PHP	08	PLA	68
PLP	28	ROL	26 2A 2E 36 3E
ROR	66 6A 6E 76 7E	RTI	40
RTS	60	SBC	E1 E5 E9 ED F1 F5 F9 FD
SEC	38	SED	F8
SEI	78	STA	81 85 8D 91 95 99 9D
STX	86 8E 96	STY	84 8C 94
TAX	AA	TAY	A8
TSX	BA	TXA	8A
TXS	9A	TYA	98

Table 37: The standard 6502 opcodes

ASL	0A	BGE	B0
BLT	90	GCC	4C 90
GCS	4C B0	GEQ	4C F0
GGE	4C B0	GLT	4C 90
GMI	30 4C	GNE	4C D0
GPL	10 4C	GVC	4C 50
GVS	4C 70	LSR	4A
ROL	2A	ROR	6A
SHL	06 0A 0E 16 1E	SHR	46 4A 4E 56 5E

Table 38: Aliases, pseudo instructions

11.2 6502 illegal opcodes

This processor is a standard 6502 with the NMOS illegal opcodes.

ANC	0B	ANE	8B
ARR	6B	ASR	4B
DCP	C3 C7 CF D3 D7 DB DF	ISB	E3 E7 EF F3 F7 FB FF
JAM	02	LAX	A3 A7 AB AF B3 B7 BF
LDS	BB	NOP	04 0C 14 1C 80
RLA	23 27 2F 33 37 3B 3F	RRA	63 67 6F 73 77 7B 7F
SAX	83 87 8F 97	SBX	CB
SHA	93 9F	SHS	9B
SHX	9E	SHY	9C
SLO	03 07 0F 13 17 1B 1F	SRE	43 47 4F 53 57 5B 5F

Table 39: Additional opcodes

AHX	93 9F	ALR	4B
AXS	CB	DCM	C3 C7 CF D3 D7 DB DF
INS	E3 E7 EF F3 F7 FB FF	ISC	E3 E7 EF F3 F7 FB FF
LAE	BB	LAS	BB
LXA	AB	TAS	9B
XAA	8B		

Table 40: Additional aliases

11.3 65DTV02 opcodes

This processor is an enhanced version of standard 6502 with some illegal opcodes.

BRA	12	SAC	32
SIR	42		

Table 41: Additionally to 6502 illegal opcodes

GRA	12 4C		
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Table 42: Additional pseudo instruction

ANC	0B	JAM	02
LDS	BB	NOP	04 0C 14 1C 80
SBX	CB	SHA	93 9F
SHS	9B	SHX	9E
SHY	9C		

Table 43: These illegal opcodes are not valid

AHX	93 9F	AXS	CB
LAE	BB	LAS	BB
TAS	9B		

Table 44: These aliases are not valid

11.4 Standard 65C02 opcodes

This processor is an enhanced version of standard 6502.

ADC	72	AND	32
BIT	34 3C 89	BRA	80
CMP	D2	DEC	3A
EOR	52	INC	1A
JMP	7C	LDA	B2
ORA	12	PHX	DA

Table 45: Additional opcodes

PHY	5A	PLX	FA
PLY	7A	SBC	F2
STA	92	STZ	64 74 9C 9E
TRB	14 1C	TSB	04 0C
CLR	64 74 9C 9E	DEA	3A
GRA	4C 80	INA	1A

Table 46: Additional aliases and pseudo instructions

11.5 R65C02 opcodes

This processor is an enhanced version of standard 65C02.

Please note that the bit number is not part of the instruction name (like `rmb7 $20`). Instead it's the first element of coma separated parameters (e.g. `rmb 7,$20`).

BBR	0F 1F 2F 3F 4F 5F 6F 7F	BBS	8F 9F AF BF CF DF EF FF
NOP	44 54 82 DC	RMB	07 17 27 37 47 57 67 77
SMB	87 97 A7 B7 C7 D7 E7 F7		

Table 47: Additional opcodes

11.6 W65C02 opcodes

This processor is an enhanced version of R65C02.

STP	DB	WAI	CB
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Table 48: Additional opcodes

HLT	DB		
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Table 49: Additional aliases

11.7 W65816 opcodes

This processor is an enhanced version of 65C02.

ADC	63 67 6F 73 77 7F	AND	23 27 2F 33 37 3F
BRL	82	CMP	C3 C7 CF D3 D7 DF
COP	02	EOR	43 47 4F 53 57 5F
JMP	5C DC	JSL	22
JSR	FC	LDA	A3 A7 AF B3 B7 BF
MVN	54	MVP	44
ORA	03 07 0F 13 17 1F	PEA	F4
PEI	D4	PER	62
PHB	8B	PHD	0B
PHK	4B	PLB	AB
PLD	2B	REP	C2
RTL	6B	SBC	E3 E7 EF F3 F7 FF
SEP	E2	STA	83 87 8F 93 97 9F
STP	DB	TCD	5B
TCS	1B	TDC	7B
TSC	3B	TXY	9B
TYX	BB	WAI	CB
XBA	EB	XCE	FB

Table 50: Additional opcodes

CSP	02	CLP	C2
HLT	DB	JML	5C DC

Table 51: Additional aliases

SWA	EB	TAD	5B
TAS	1B	TDA	7B
TSA	3B		

11.8 65EL02 opcodes

This processor is an enhanced version of standard 65C02.

ADC	63 67 73 77	AND	23 27 33 37
CMP	C3 C7 D3 D7	DIV	4F 5F 6F 7F
ENT	22	EOR	43 47 53 57
JSR	FC	LDA	A3 A7 B3 B7
MMU	EF	MUL	0F 1F 2F 3F
NXA	42	NXT	02
ORA	03 07 13 17	PEA	F4
PEI	D4	PER	62
PHD	DF	PLD	CF
REA	44	REI	54
REP	C2	RER	82
RHA	4B	RHI	0B
RHX	1B	RHY	5B
RLA	6B	RLI	2B
RLX	3B	RLY	7B
SBC	E3 E7 F3 F7	SEA	9F
SEP	E2	STA	83 87 93 97
STP	DB	SWA	EB
TAD	BF	TDA	AF
TIX	DC	TRX	AB
TXI	5C	TXR	8B
TXY	9B	TYX	BB
WAI	CB	XBA	EB
XCE	FB	ZEA	8F

Table 52: Additional opcodes

CLP	C2	HLT	DB
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Table 53: Additional aliases

11.9 65CE02 opcodes

This processor is an enhanced version of R65C02.

ASR	43 44 54	ASW	CB
BCC	93	BCS	B3
BEQ	F3	BMI	33
BNE	D3	BPL	13
BRA	83	BSR	63
BVC	53	BVS	73
CLE	02	CPZ	C2 D4 DC
DEW	C3	DEZ	3B
INW	E3	INZ	1B
JSR	22 23	LDA	E2
LDZ	A3 AB BB	NEG	42
PHW	F4 FC	PHZ	DB
PLZ	FB	ROW	EB
RTS	62	SEE	03

Table 54: Additional opcodes

STA	82	STX	9B
STY	8B	TAB	5B
TAZ	4B	TBA	7B
TSY	0B	TYS	2B
TZA	6B		
ASR	43	BGE	83
BLT	93	NEG	42
RTN	62		

Table 55: Additional aliases

CLR	64 74 9C 9E		
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Table 56: This alias is not valid

11.10 CSG 4510 opcodes

This processor is an enhanced version of 65CE02.

MAP	5C		
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Table 57: Additional opcodes

EOM	EA		
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Table 58: Additional aliases

12 Appendix

12.1 Assembler directives

.addr .al .align .as .assert .autsiz .bend .binary .bininclude .bfor .block .break
.brept .byte .case .cdef .cerror .char .check .comment .continue .cpu .cwarn .data-
bank .default .dint .dpage .dsection .dstruct .dunion .dword .edef .else .elsif .enc
.end .endc .endf .endif .endm .endn .endp .ends .endswitch .endu .endv .endweak
.eor .error .fi .fill .for .function .goto .here .hidemac .if .ifeq .ifmi .ifne .ifpl .in-
clude .lbl .lint .logical .long .macro .mansiz .namespace .next .null .offs .option
.page .pend .proc .proff .pron .ptext .rept .rta .section .seed .segment .send .shift
.shifl .showmac .sint .struct .switch .text .union .var .virtual .warn .weak .word
.xl .xs

12.2 Built-in functions

abs acos all any asin atan atan2 binary cbrt ceil cos cosh deg exp floor format
frac hypot len log log10 pow rad random range repr round sign sin sinh size
sort sqrt tan tanh trunc

12.3 Built-in types

address bits bool bytes code dict float gap int list str tuple type