

# The 8051 Microcontroller and Embedded Systems

**8051 TIMER  
PROGRAMMING IN  
ASSEMBLY**

**By**

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## COUNTER PROGRAMMING

### **C/T bit in TMOD register**

**used as a timer, the 8051's crystal is used as the source of the frequency**

**used as a counter, pulse outside the 8051 increments the TH, TL registers**

**counter mode, TMOD and TH, TL registers are the same as for the timer**

**timer modes are the same as well**

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## COUNTER PROGRAMMING

### C/T bit in TMOD register

C/T bit in the TMOD register decides the source of the clock for the timer

C/T = 0, timer gets pulses from crystal

C/T = 1, the timer used as counter and gets pulses from outside the 8051

C/T = 1, the counter counts up as pulses are fed from pins 14 and 15 pins are called T0 (Timer 0 input) and T1 (Timer 1 input)

these two pins belong to port 3

Timer 0, when C/T = 1, pin P3.4 provides the clock pulse and the counter counts up for each clock pulse coming from that pin

Timer 1, when C/T = 1 each clock pulse coming in from pin P3.5 makes the counter count up

## COUNTER PROGRAMMING

Pin	Port Pin	Function	Description
14	P3.4	T0	Timer/Counter 0 external input
15	P3.5	T1	Timer/Counter 1 external input

(MSB) (LSB)

GATE	C/T	M1	M0	GATE	C/T	M1	M0
Timer 1				Timer 0			

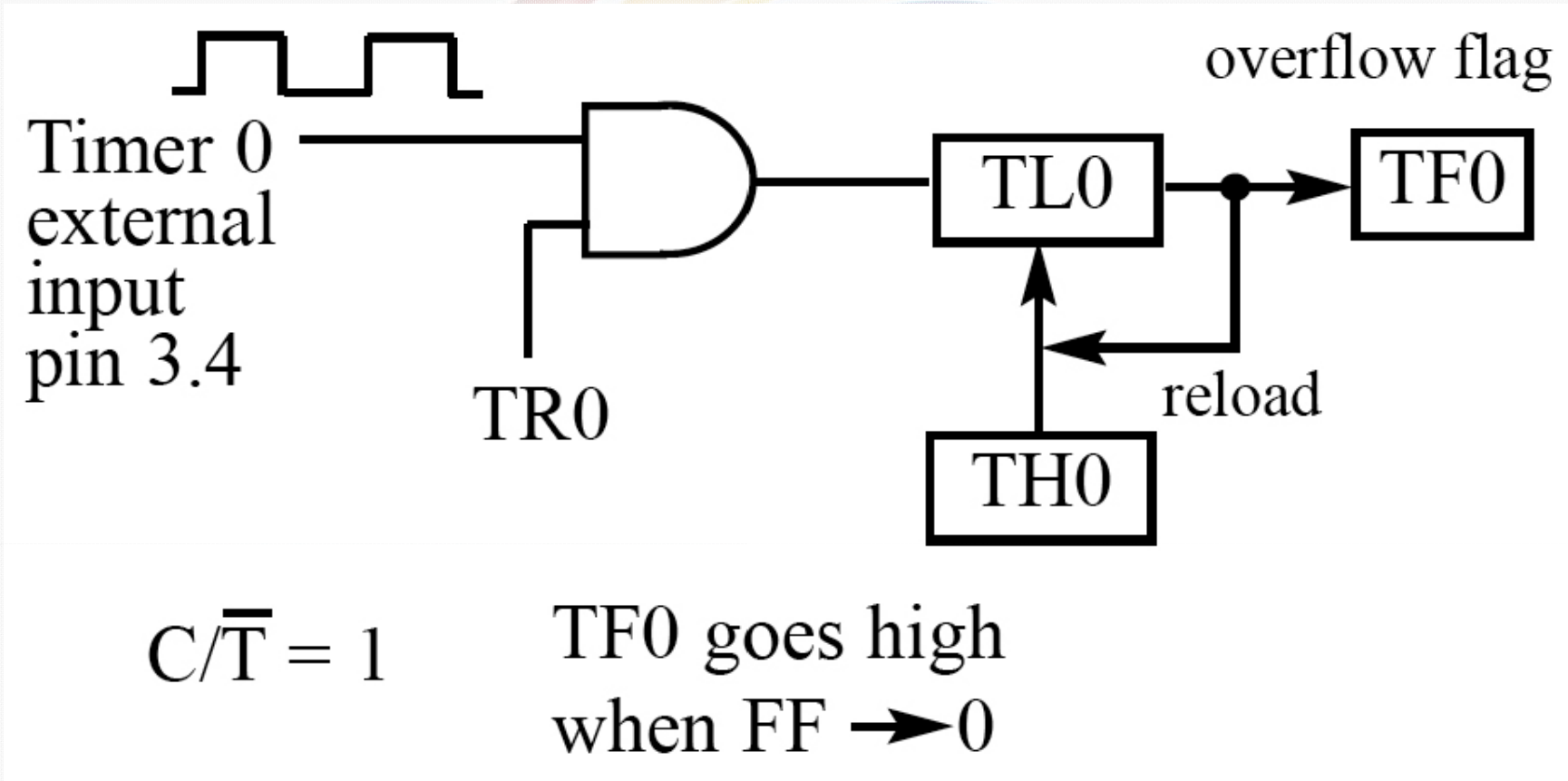
**Table 9–1** Port 3 Pins Used For Timers 0 and 1

Assuming that clock pulses are fed into pin T1, write a program for counter 1 in mode 2 to count the pulses and display the state of the TL1 count on P2.

```
01 MOV TMOD,#01100000B      ;counter 1,mode 2,C/T=1
02                          ;external pulses
03 MOV TH1,#0              ;clear TH1
04 SETB P3.5               ;make T1 input
05 AGAIN: SETB TR1         ;start the counter
06 BACK: MOV A,TL1         ;get copy of count TL1
07 MOV P2,A                ;display it on port 2
08 JNB TF1,BACK           ;keep doing it if TF=0
09 CLR TR1                 ;stop the counter 1
10 CLR TF1                 ;make TF=0
11 SJMP AGAIN              ;keep doing it
12
13 END
14
```

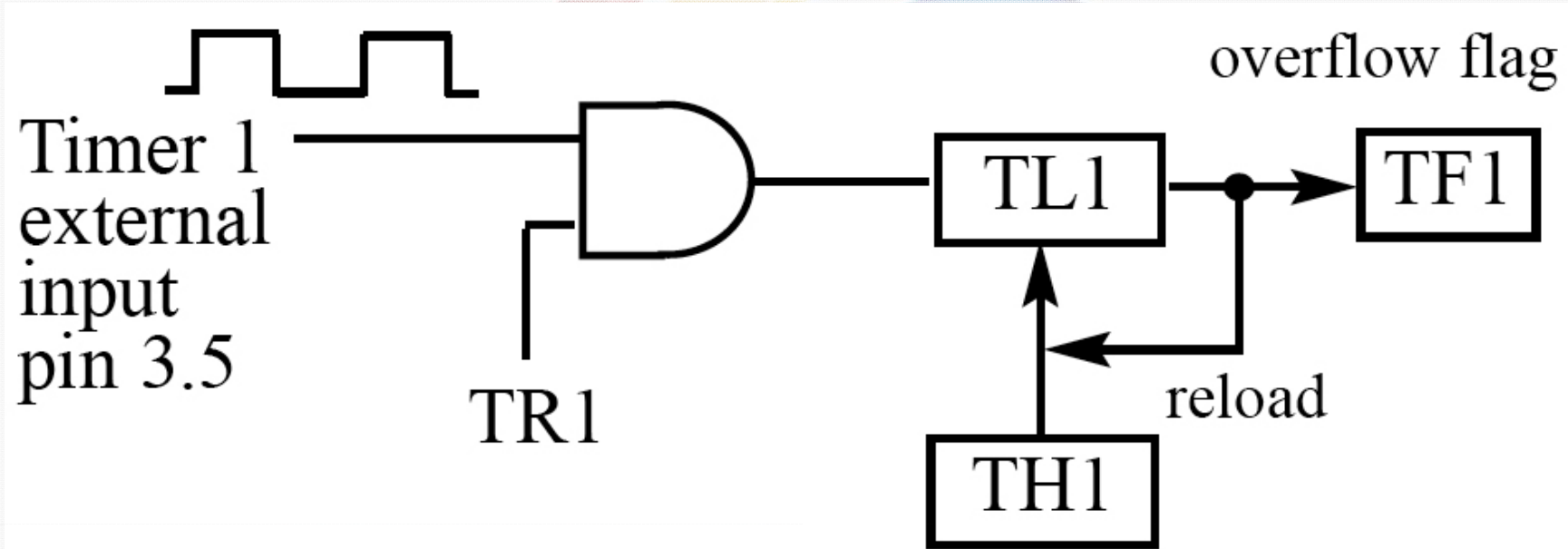
P2 is connected to 8 LEDs and input T1 to pulse.

## COUNTER PROGRAMMING



Timer 0 with External Input (Mode 2)

## COUNTER PROGRAMMING

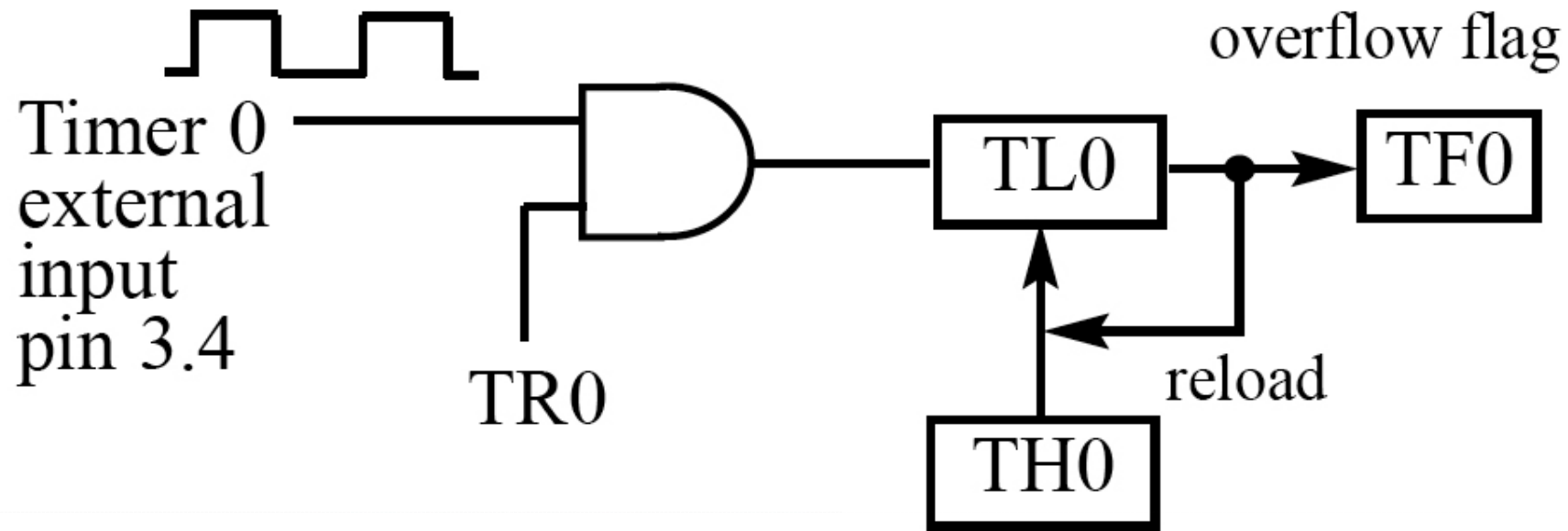


$$C/\bar{T} = 1$$

TF1 goes high  
when FF  $\rightarrow$  0

Timer 1 with External Input (Mode 2)

## COUNTER PROGRAMMING

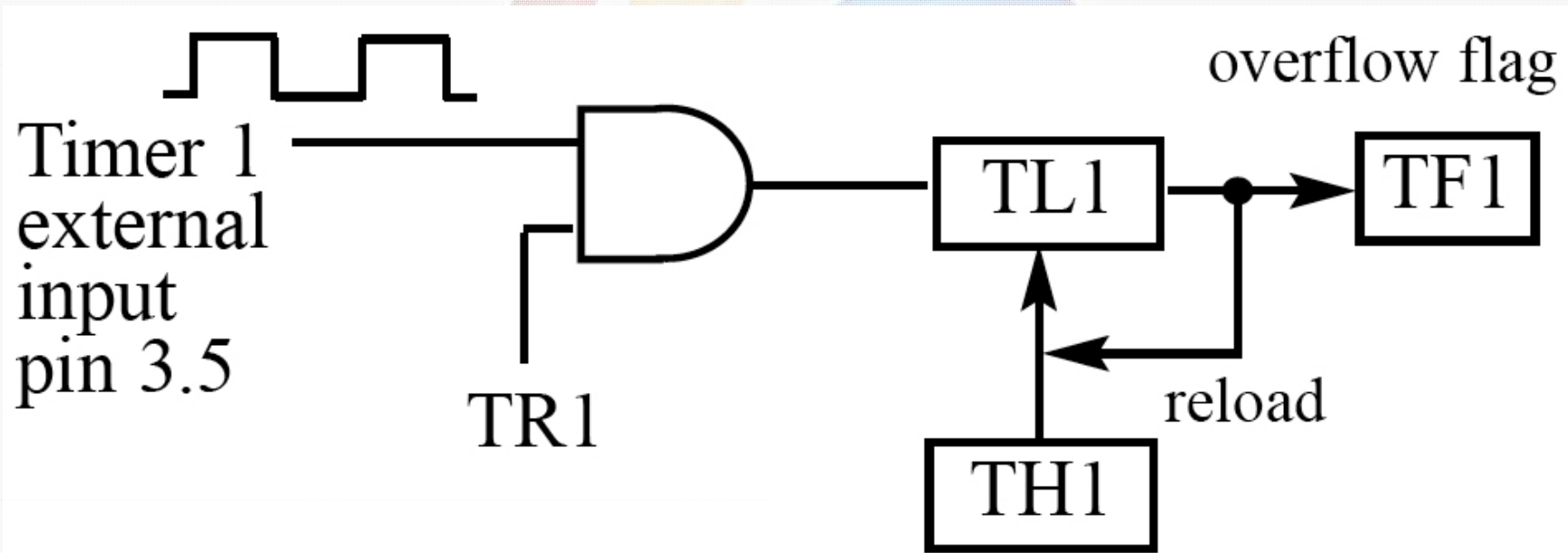


$$C/\bar{T} = 1$$

TF0 goes high  
when FF  $\rightarrow$  0



### COUNTER PROGRAMMING



$$C/\bar{T} = 1$$

TF1 goes high  
when FF  $\rightarrow$  0

## COUNTER PROGRAMMING

### For Timer 0

SETB TR0	=	SETB TCON.4
CLR TR0	=	CLR TCON.4
SETB TF0	=	SETB TCON.5
CLR TF0	=	CLR TCON.5

### For Timer 1

SETB TR1	=	SETB TCON.6
CLR TR1	=	CLR TCON.6
SETB TF1	=	SETB TCON.7
CLR TF1	=	CLR TCON.7

TCON: Timer/Counter Control Register

TF1	TR1	TF0	TR0	IE1	IT1	IE0	IT0
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Port 3 Pins Used For Timers 0 and 1

## **COUNTER PROGRAMMING**

### **TCON register**

**TR0 and TR1 flags turn on or off the timers**

**bits are part of a register called TCON (timer control)**

**upper four bits are used to store the TF and TR bits of both  
Timer 0 and Timer 1**

**lower four bits are set aside for controlling the interrupt  
bits**

**"SETB TRI" and "CLR TRI"**

**"SETB TCON. 6" and "CLR TCON. 6"**

## COUNTER PROGRAMMING

### For Timer 0

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SETB TR0 = SETB TCON.4

CLR TR0 = CLR TCON.4

---

SETB TF0 = SETB TCON.5

CLR TF0 = CLR TCON.5

---

### For Timer 1

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---

SETB TR1 = SETB TCON.6

CLR TR1 = CLR TCON.6

---

SETB TF1 = SETB TCON.7

CLR TF1 = CLR TCON.7

---

TCON: Timer/Counter Control Register

TF1	TR1	TF0	TR0	IE1	IT1	IE0	IT0
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Equivalent Instructions for the Timer Control Register (TCON)

## COUNTER PROGRAMMING

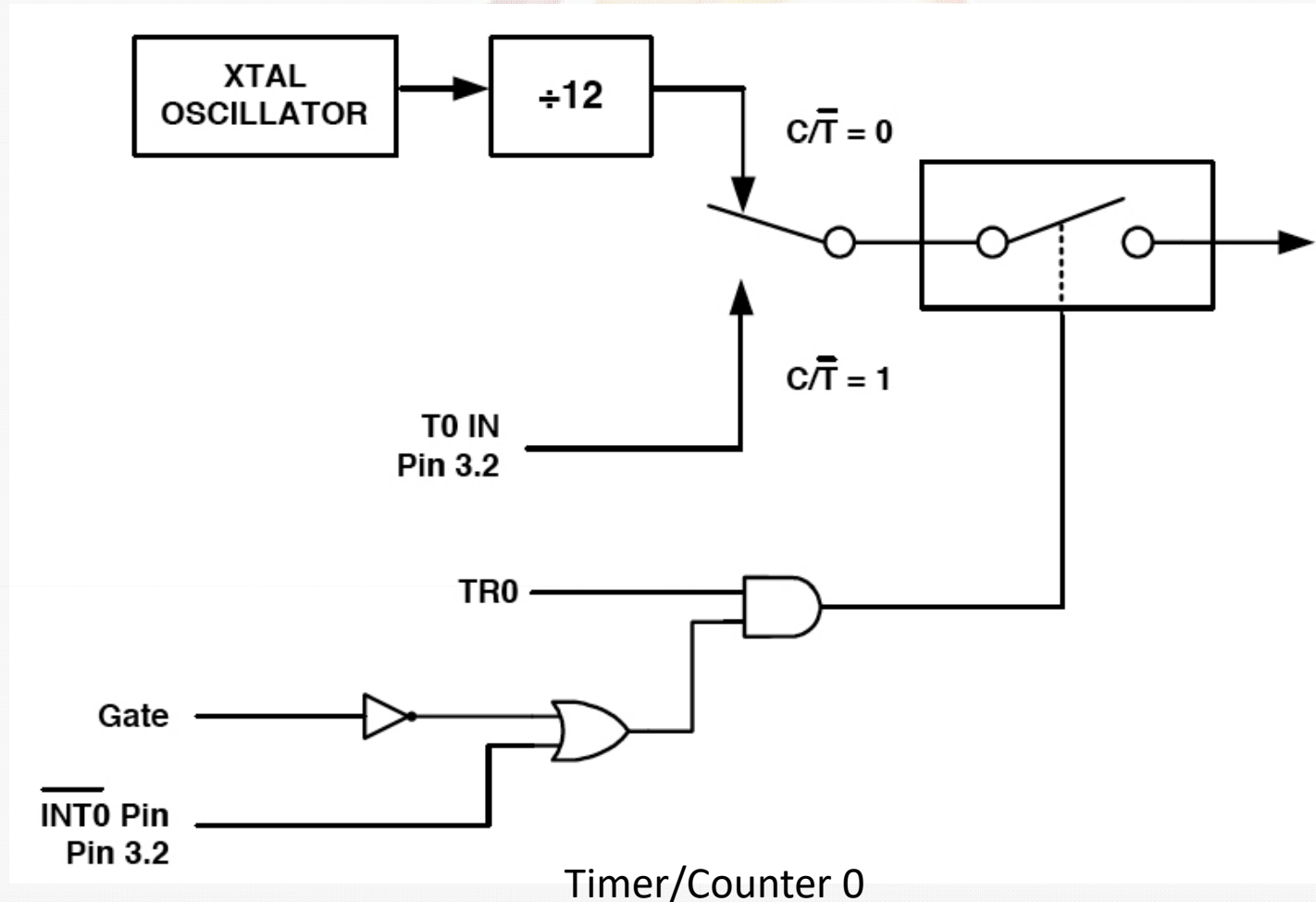
**The case of GATE = 1 in TMOD**

**GATE = 0, the timer is started with instructions "SETB TR0" and "SETB TR1"**

**GATE = 1, the start and stop of the timers are done externally through pins P3.2 and P3.3**

**allows us to start or stop the timer externally at any time via a simple switch**

# COUNTER PROGRAMMING



## COUNTER PROGRAMMING

