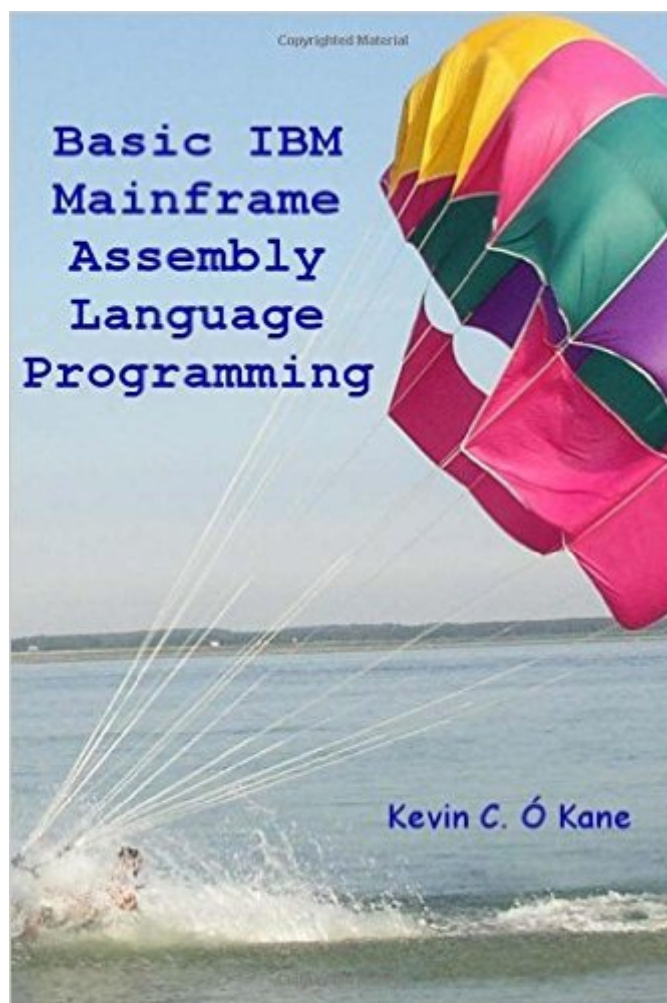


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Basic IBM Mainframe Assembly Language Programming



Synopsis

A revised and expanded (2013) introduction to the IBM mainframe assembly language and architecture including addressing models, basic and extended instruction formats, operand addressing, the Program Status Word, subroutine linkage, looping, input output, character & bit manipulation, and the decimal (BCD) programming. The book includes more than 40 pages of comprehensive programming examples. Designed to be used in conjunction with the Window's based open source, z390 mainframe emulator. Assumes no prior knowledge of assembly language programming. About the author: the author is professor emeritus of computer science at the University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls, Iowa where he taught IBM assembly language for over twenty years.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I bought this book with the intention of accomplishing one thing...come up to speed on all the new instructions and changes related to 64 bit. Well, this book is very poorly written did not help me much. Although it's a fairly new edition (2011 - reason why I bought it in the first place) compared to my old 1986 book, the writer has a hard time explaining even the basics of the language. His writing style is convoluted and unclear and the examples are poorly chosen. I did a search and this seems to be one of the only new editions of Assembly language for the mainframe. Any one out there with good knowledge of the language could make a lot of money publishing a book covering this subject. After all, the mainframe business is still alive and well.

Overall I'd give this book positive ratings -- at least so far as the general content is concerned. Very few mainstream books about IBM mainframe architecture and assembly language are being written these days . Many of the author's explanations in plain language, particularly of recently-added IBM hardware features, are no doubt not available anywhere else, except hidden in dark corners of arcane IBM technical publications Bravo to the author for that! My primary gripes with this book concern 1) very poor proofreading/editing and 2) very poor physical construction.=> 1. Just as an example, but a glaring one, the copyright page tells us that "Windows is [sic] a trademark of Microsoft Corporation." Hey, this is at least the third edition of the book, if the copyright dates are to be believed (2011, 2013, 2014). Do you think someone just might have noticed and fixed that typo by now?=> 2. The book is literally falling apart on me! When one page in the middle of the book suddenly came loose and fell out, I lovingly glued it back in, hoping there would be no more of the same. But a week or two later it's the same story with yet another page. How much free time do I have to restore a book, page by page, that I purchased only a month or two ago, and have treated --as I do all my books-- with great care and respect (such that nothing *I* have done could be causing it to unravel on me). I would not normally hold it against this book, or any book, that rather than being published by Addison-Wesley, or O'reilly, or McGraw-Hill, or one of the other big names in computer book publishing, its publisher is Threadsafe Publishing and Railway Maintenance Co. of Hyannis, Nebraska. But when the *quality* suffers greatly on that account, I would certainly hold that against the book! Is the name "Threadsafe Publishing and Railway Maintenance Co." some kind of a joke? Well, they should stick to what they know best. (Laying track, perhaps? Hey, you won't find *me* riding on any of their rail lines!) But leave book production to the experts. Instead of "Threadsafe Publishing...", the company would be more aptly named "Threadbare Publishing".

Having started my career in programming in the early 1960's -- machine language, in the case of IBM / 360 / 370 and following mainframes were my "teething rings". The current book would have been improved only by including more on the user defined macro instructions which almost all programmers use to manage the allocation of SAVE AREA's and BASE REGISTERS. Other than that, the book is up-to-date including the expanded addressing of the newer machines -- a neat trick.

I am an application programmer [HLL] with 35 + years experience on IBM plafforms, but have no knowledge of BAL or Assembler. I was unable to get into this book. I'm sure programmers with some assembler background would understand this book, but Not for beginners.

This a well-written introduction to IBM z/Architecture assembly language - aimed probably at Freshmen CS students. Very good for someone just getting started. It lacks details of more advanced books - however it is easily understood.

Nice basic material about Assembler in this book. I referenced this book several times during work.

Delivered on time, excellent package and price

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