**DP** is a SS2 instruction which is used to divide two packed decimal fields and produce a quotient and a remainder. Since packed decimal fields are integers, the division that occurs is an integer division. If you are interested in producing a quotient with decimals, you may need to use **SRP** to shift the quotient before the division, and **ED** to provide a decimal point in the output. (See the topic on "Decimal Precision").

Operand 1 is a field containing a packed decimal number which is the dividend. Both the quotient and the remainder develop in this field. Operand 2 is a packed decimal field containing the divisor. The maximum length of the dividend is 16 bytes, and the maximum length of the divisor is 8 bytes. Keep in mind the following rules when thinking about the sizes of the generated quotient and remainder,

1) The remainder size is equal to the size of the divisor.

2) The quotient occupies the portion of operand 1 that is not occupied by the remainder.

The rules make practical sense when you think about the division process. Suppose you divide an m-byte divisor into an n-byte dividend. Without knowing the specific values, we can see that in an integer division, the remainder might be as large as m bytes, and the quotient might be as large as n-bytes. This observation leads to the following rule of thumb for creating work fields in which to perform the calculation,

*If the dividend is an n-byte field, and the divisor is an m-byte field, make the work field for the computation at least n+m bytes.*

Following this rule of thumb will insure that the dividend contains a sufficient number of bytes of leading zeroes before the computation. Specifically, the number of bytes of leading zeroes in the dividend must be at least large as the number of bytes in the divisor. Here is a sample computation where we want to divide APK by BPK. Since APK is 3 bytes and BPK is 2 bytes, we create a work area called "WORK" which is 5 bytes. This will provide the required number of bytes of leading 0's for our computation.
DP does not set the condition code.

Examples

Some unrelated DP’s:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LPK</th>
<th>DC</th>
<th>PL4’100’ = X’0000100C’</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MPK</td>
<td>DC</td>
<td>PL3’6’ = X’00006C’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NPK</td>
<td>DC</td>
<td>PL2’6’ = X’006C’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OZONE</td>
<td>DC</td>
<td>2’11’ = X’F1C1’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WORK1</td>
<td>DS</td>
<td>0CL7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QUOT1</td>
<td>DS</td>
<td>PL4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REM1</td>
<td>DS</td>
<td>PL3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WORK2</td>
<td>DS</td>
<td>0CL7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QUOT2</td>
<td>DS</td>
<td>PL5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REM2</td>
<td>DS</td>
<td>PL2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Results:

ZAP WORK1,LPK WORK = X’0000000000100C’
DP WORK1,MPK WORK = X’0000016C0004C’ QUOT1=16, REM1=4
LENGTH OF REM1=3
ZAP WORK2,LPK WORK = X’0000000000100C’
DP WORK2,NPK WORK = X’000000016C004C’ QUOT1=16, REM1=4
LENGTH OF REM2=2
ZAP WORK1,LPK WORK = X’0000000000100C’
DP WORK1,OZONE ABEND - OZONE NOT PACKED
ZAP WORK1,=P’1234567890’ WORK = X’0001234567890C’
DP WORK,MPK ABEND - NOT ENOUGH BYTES OF LEADING 0’S IN WORK1 - NEEDS 3 BYTES
Tips

1. Don’t divide by zero. An attempt to divide by zero causes an "0CB" abend. Protect your divisions by testing the divisor before you divide.

```
ZAP BPK,BPK IS DIVISOR 0?
BZ ZERODIV BRANCH IF ZERO
ZAP WORK,APK OTHERWISE...
DP WORK,BPK ... WE CAN DIVIDE
...
ZERODIV EQU *
(CODE TO HANDLE A ZERO DIVISOR)
```