



Musical Memory Mapper

Documentation

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by GDx

Thanks to Ericb59

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Introduction

The Musical Memory Mapper (MMM) cartridge is a standard 1024KB memory extension for MSX1, MSX2, MSX2 + and MSX Turbo R.

However, it has other features. A SN76489AN sound chip used in various game consoles of the 80s has been added. The purpose is, among others, to run on MSX the games of other consoles that have this sound chip as main difference with the MSX computers. Softwares are provided to run games of the Sega SG-1000 and Colecovision, with identical sound as the original!

The Musical Memory Mapper has also a write protection function and the ability to manage its memory regardless of other Memory Mapper to make easier launch of MSX ROM files.

Registers description

The cartridge has registers accessible by two different ways except those of SN76489AN.

Registers accessible via I/O ports

Memory Mapper's registers ports :

These registers are the standard Memory Mapper registers, and work at the same time and in the same way as all Memory Mapper on MSX.

Bank	Port	Write							
		7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
0000h~3FFFh	FCh	-	-	Page (0~31)					
4000h~7FFFh	FDh	-	-	Page (0~31)					
8000h~BFFFh	FEh	-	-	Page (0~31)					
C000h~FFFFh	FFh	-	-	Page (0~31)					

Bits 6 and 7 are ignored. They can be set or reset.

Note: MMM initializes Memory Mapper pages on each memory bank of 0000h~3FFFh, 4000h~7FFFh, 8000h~BFFFh and C000h~FFFFh in the order 3, 2, 1, 0 at MSX startup to provide a full compatibility even on MSX1. A standard Memory Mapper does not initialize its pages. This is the BIOS or the MSX-DOS2 that does it during the system initialization. The MSX1 Bios does not take into account the Memory Mapper. This may cause a crash at launch a program if a standard Memory Mapper was chosen as the main RAM.

Control Register Port of MMM:

Only bit 7 of this register is accessible via I/O port.

Write only								
Port	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
3Ch	BA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

BA : Enables access to registers via access to an address.

Write port to SN76489AN registers:

The SN76489AN has four channels sound (three programmable tone generators and one noise generator which can also generate a periodic pulse waveform).

The SN76489A has 8 internal registers which are used to control the 3 tone generators and the noise source. During all data transfers to the SN76489A, the first byte contains a 3 bits field which determines the channel and the control/attenuation.

The volume of each channel can be controlled separately on 16 levels (high until silence) using registers 1, 3, 5 and 7.

Each byte Written to sound chip port determines either the register to be used with its value or the upper part of the value of frequency.

Tone generators registers:

Tone generator frequency is coded on 10 bits thus it is sent on 2 bytes to send one after the other. The output frequency is square with some imperfections.

First byte:

Write only								
Port	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
3Fh	1	R2	R1	R0	D3	D2	D1	D0

D0~D3: Least significant 4 bits of frequency value.

R0~R2: Tone control register number

000 = Tone frequency for channel 1

010 = Tone frequency for channel 2

100 = Tone frequency for channel 3

110 = Noise control (channel 4)

Bit 7: Set to indicate that this is an access to the register of sound control

The second byte contains the most significant bits of wave value:

Write only								
Port	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
3Fh	0	-	D9	D8	D7	D6	D5	D4

D4~D9: Most significant 6 bits of frequency value

Bit 6: Unused

Bit 7: Reset to indicate that this is the most significant bits of frequency value

Use:

To write the frequency value, you need to send the first byte that contains the 4 least significant bits of the value of the wave and destination and the second of the rest of the frequency value.

So if we want a frequency tone at 135 Hz (11 0011 1010 b) on channel 1, we need to do as in the following example.

First, we write the control word with least significant 4 bits of the frequency value:

```
LD    A,10001010b
OUT   (3Fh),A
```

Then, most significant 6 bits of the frequency value:

```
LD    A,00110011b
OUT   (3Fh),A
```

The frequency can be calculated by the following:

$$f = 3579545 / 32n$$

f is the output frequency and n is the binary 10-bit value.

Notes Frequency Conversion Table (Hz ↔ hexadecimal):

	Hz	Hex	Hz	Hex	Hz	Hex	Hz	Hex	Hz	Hex
A	110.00	3F8	220.00	1FC	440.00	0FE	880.00	07F	1760.0	03F
A#/B ^b	116.54	3BF	233.08	1DF	466.16	0EF	932.33	077	1864.6	03B
B	123.47	389	246.94	1C4	493.88	0E2	987.77	071	1975.5	038
C	130.81	356	261.63	1AB	523.25	0D5	1046.5	06A	2093.0	035
C#/D ^b	138.59	327	277.18	193	554.36	0C9	1108.7	064	2217.5	032
D	146.83	2F9	293.66	17C	587.33	0BE	1174.7	05F	2349.3	02F
D#/E ^b	155.56	2CE	311.13	167	622.25	0B3	1244.5	059	2489.0	02C
E	164.81	2A6	329.63	153	659.25	0A9	1318.5	054	2637.0	02A
F	174.61	280	349.23	140	698.46	0A0	1396.9	050	2793.8	028
F#/G ^b	185.00	25C	370.00	12E	739.99	097	1480.0	04B	2960.0	025
G	196.00	23A	391.99	11D	783.99	08E	1568.0	047	3136.0	023
G#/A ^b	207.65	21A	415.30	10D	830.61	086	1661.2	043	3322.4	021

Note: The frequency of middle C is 523.25 Hz. The frequency of the same note an octave higher is 1046.5 Hz.

Control Registers of volumes:

To control the volume, a single byte has to be sent.

Write only								
Port	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
3Fh	1	R2	R1	R0	V3	V2	V1	V0

V0~V3: Volume value

- 0000 = Maximum volume
- 0001 = Attenuation of 2dB
- 0010 = Attenuation of 4dB
- 0100 = Attenuation of 8dB
- 1000 = Attenuation of 16dB
- 1111 = Silence

R0~R2: Register number of volumes control

- 001 = Tone volume for the channel 1
- 011 = Tone volume for the channel 2
- 101 = Tone volume for the channel 3
- 111 = Noise volume (channel 4)

Bit 7: Reset to indicate that this is an access to volume control register.

Example:

Here is a routine in assembler to mute the sound of the four channels.

```
LD    A,09Fh
OUT   (3Fh),A    ; channel 1
LD    A,0BFh
OUT   (3Fh),A    ; channel 2
LD    A,0DFh
OUT   (3Fh),A    ; channel 3
LD    A,0FFh
OUT   (3Fh),A    ; channel 4
```

The equivalent in Basic.

```
OUT&H3F,&H9F:OUT&H3F,&HBF:OUT&H3F,&HDF:OUT&H3F,&HFF
```

Noise Generator control register:

The noise generator consists of a noise source that is a shift register with an exclusive OR feedback network. The feedback network has provisions to protect the shift register from being locked in the zero state. It also takes a single byte.

Format:

Write only								
Port	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
3Fh	1	1	1	0	-	FB	NF1	NF0

NF1~NF0: Shift rate control

00 = N/512

01 = N/1024

10 = N/2048

11 = Tone generator of channel 3

You can use the output of the tone generator 3 to do interesting effects. If you sweep the frequency of the sound of the voice generator 3, it will cause a nice sweeping effect on the noise.

In general, this mode is used to reduce tone generator 3 with only the noise output as source.

FB: Feedback control

0 = Periodic noise

1 = White noise

The periodic noise is interesting. Depending on the frequency, it can seem very tonal and smooth.

The volume works in the same manner as for other channels.

Registers accessible via access to an address

The MMM cartridge has registers accessible by reading or writing to assigned address. Access the registers in this way allows you to control the functions of the cartridge independently. For example, owners of two same cartridges may control one by one each sound chip.

Control Register of MMM:

The first writing to this register enables the sound chip. This produces a parasitic noise because SN76489AN registers can be initialized only by software. To avoid this, it's necessary to execute a routine to mute the volume of 4 voices immediately after the activation of SN76489AN. (See example at "Control Registers of volumes")

		Read / Write							
Address		7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
803Ch / 403Ch*		BA	SN	I/O	-	P3	P2	P1	P0

P0: Enable write protect bank 0000h~3FFFh.

P1: Enable write protect bank 4000h~7FFFh.

P2: Enable write protect bank 8000h~BFFFh.

P3: Enable write protect bank C000h~FFFFh.

Bit 4: Unused.

I/O: The bit 5 is used to disable access to the registers of the cartridge by the I/O ports. This allows to use the cartridge completely independent. This is useful in the case where an other same cartridge is inserted in another cartridge port. When this bit is set to 1, bit 7 also goes to 1 and remains in this state until the bit 5 is reseted. Access to internal registers are permanent at the addresses 803Ch and 80FCh ~ 80FFh but if P3 is set to 1, access to registers will be at the 403Ch and 40FCh~40FFh.

The I/O port 3Fh is not affected by the state of this bit, it will still be possible to enable or disable this port with bit 6.

SN: Enables 3Fh port to control the SN76489AN.

BA: Reset to disable access to records via access to an address.

* These addresses have mirrors each next 100h on the same bank memory of the cartridge slot.

Memory Mapper Registers of MMM:

These registers are used to manage the Memory Mapper MMM independently of other Memory Mapper via the following addresses.

		Read / Write							
Bank	Address	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
0000h~3FFFh	80FCh*	-	-						Page (0~31)
4000h~7FFFh	80FDh*	-	-						Page (0~31)
8000h~BFFFh	80FEh*	-	-						Page (0~31)
C000h~FFFFh	80FFh*	-	-						Page (0~31)

Bits 6 and 7 are ignored. They will be at 1 at reading.

* These addresses have mirrors each next 100h on same bank memory of the cartridge slot.

Programming

Auto-detection of MMM

This assembler routine will allow you to find the cartridge port (or slot) in which MMM is inserted. This routine is necessary to activate the sound chip or using precisely his memory.

```
; Name: mmm_srch
;
; Input:  H = 080h (or 040h) (Significant byte of the memory bank address)
;         B = 16 (Possible number of secondary Slot)
;
; Output: A = Slot Number in the form F000SSPP (0FFh if MMM is not found)
;         B = Remaining iterations number
;
; Modify: All registers
;
; Size: 65 Bytes
;
; Note: The routine can be called multiple times to complete research in all
;       slots until B is set to 0 or until A is set to 0FFh.
;
; Warning: The routine does not replace the original slot after the search.
;

mmm_srch: ld      1,0FFh      ; HL = Access address to Memory Mapper register

mmm_srch_loop:

        push    hl
        ld     a,b          ; The Slot it is extended?
        dec    a
        and    3

        ld     hl,mnrom
        add   a,l
        ld     l,a

        ld     a,b
        dec   a
        or    (hl)

        pop    hl

        jp     m,ext_slt    ; Jump if the slot is extended

        and   %00001111
        cp   4
        jr   nc,next_srch ; If not a value of primary slot

ext_slt: ld     c,a
        push  bc
        push  hl
        call enaslt       ; Select Slot to scrutinize
        pop   hl
        pop   bc

        di                    ; Start of test

        ld   a,080h
        out  (03Ch),a        ; Enables access to registers by addressing

        ld   a,(hl)         ; The value read in address 080FFh (or 040FFh)
        and  %00011111     ;
        inc  a              ; must be
        ;
        out  (0FFh),a      ; equal to the value
```

```

    or      %11000000    ;
    cp      (hl)         ; written to the port 0FFh

    ld      a,0
    out     (03Ch),a     ; Disables access to the registers by addressing
    out     (0FFh),a     ; Restore the page of system working area

    ei

    ld      a,c          ; Slot Number in the form F000SSPP
    jr      z,mmm_found

nxt_srch: djnz   mmm_srch_loop    ; Continues the search

    or      0FFh         ; MMM not found -> A = 0FFh R = bit Z à 0
    ret

mmm_found:
    dec     b            ; MMM found
    cp      a            ; Bit Z to 1
    ret

```

Example of calling the routine mmm_srch:

```

    org     0100h        ; Routine for MSX-DOS

ramad1:  equ     0F342h   ; Main-RAM Slot (04000h~07FFFh)
ramad2:  equ     0F343h   ; Main-RAM Slot (08000h~0BFFFh)
ramad3:  equ     0F344h   ; Main-RAM Slot (0C000h~0FFFFh)

mnrom:   equ     0FCC1h   ; Main-ROM Slot
slttbl:  equ     0FCC5h

example:
    ld     h,080h        ; 80h to search the bank 08000h~0BFFFh
    push  hl
    ld     b,16
    call  mmm_srch

    ld     (mmm_slt),a   ; Saving the number of slot found

    pop   hl            ; H=80h (or 40h)
    ld    a,(ramad2)
    call  enaslt        ; Restore the page of bank 08000h~0BFFFh
    ret

mmm_slt: db     0ffh

```

Note : In this example the ramad2 system variable is used. The variables ramad0 to ramad3 are available only when at least one disk is installed. In a diskless environment, it is necessary to find the Main-RAM with his own routine. For this, it is good to know that some MSX have not all their RAM in the same slot. This is the case of the Sony MSX2 HB-500 for example. The following routine you will probably be useful if your program runs in a diskless environment.

Get the current status of a Slot

This routine in assembler is used to obtain the number of the selected slot of the corresponding memory bank.

```
; Name:   mmm_gsln (get_slot_number)
;
; Input:  H = 0h, 040h, 080h ou 0C0h (Significant byte of the memory bank)
;
; Output: A = Slot Number in the form F000SSPP
;
; Modify: All registers
;
; Size:   61 bytes
;
; Detail: Returns the slot address number of the memory bank to H
;
; note:   Also works in MSX-DOS
;
```

```
mmm_gsln:
    push    hl           ; Address of the bank of memory.
    xor     a
    ld     iy,(mnrom)
    ld     ix,rslreg
    call   calslt       ; A = status of current primary slots
    pop    hl
    push   af
    ld     a,h
    and    %11000000
    rlca
    rlca
    rlca
    ld     b,a         ; Number of shift to be performed to
                        ; retrieve the primary slot number
    pop    af
    inc    b           ; B should not be 0
    rlca
    ld     c,b

gsln_0:  rrca
        djnz  gsln_0

        ld     b,c
        and    %00000011 ; Current primary slot number of
                        ; the memory bank given by H register
        ld     hl,exptbl
        ld     d,0
        ld     e,a
        add    hl,de
        bit   7,(hl)
        ret    z       ; Back if the slot is not extended in
                        ; secondary slot (A = 000000PP).

        ld     d,0
        ld     e,4
        add    hl,de
        ld     c,a
        ld     a,(hl)   ; Secondary slots status in the form
                        ; SS3SS2SS1SS0.

gsln_1:  rlca
        rrca
        djnz  gsln_1   ; Number of rotations...

        and    %00000011 ; Secondary slot Number
        rlca
        rlca
        or     %10000000
        or     c       ; A = Slot Number in the form F000SSPP
        ret
```

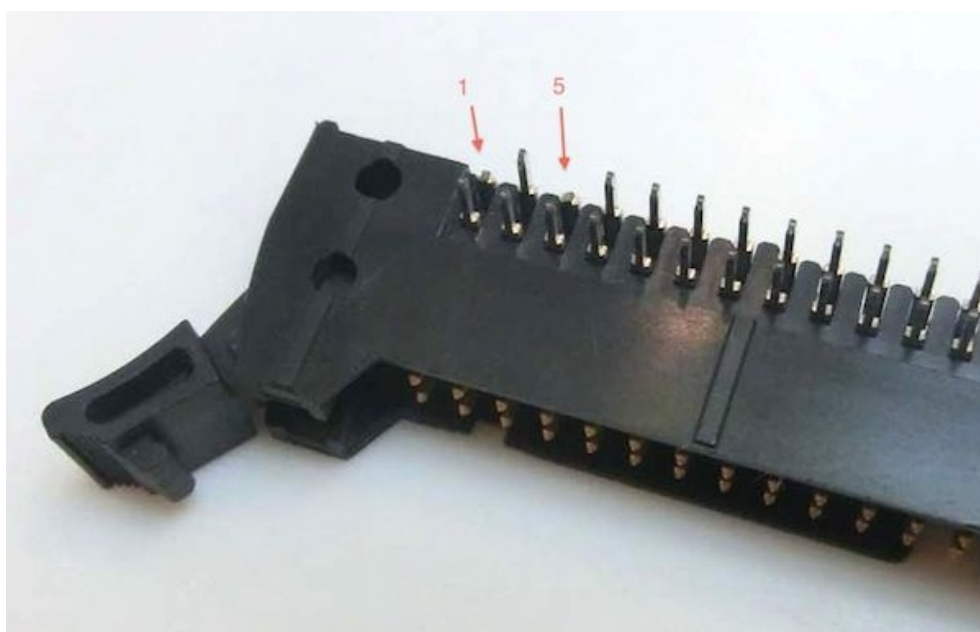
Additional Information

Connected directly the PCB to an expansion BUS

Musical Memory Mapper can connect directly to an MSX extension Bus with a ribbon cable by soldering a connector with the place as you can see in the following image.



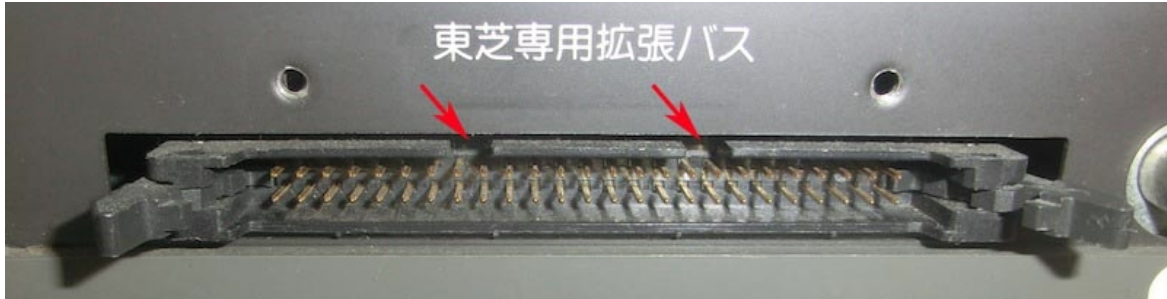
Use a narrow SCSI connector for ribbon cable. It will be necessary to cut the pins 1 and 5 because of the hole that keeps the PCB in the cartridge case.



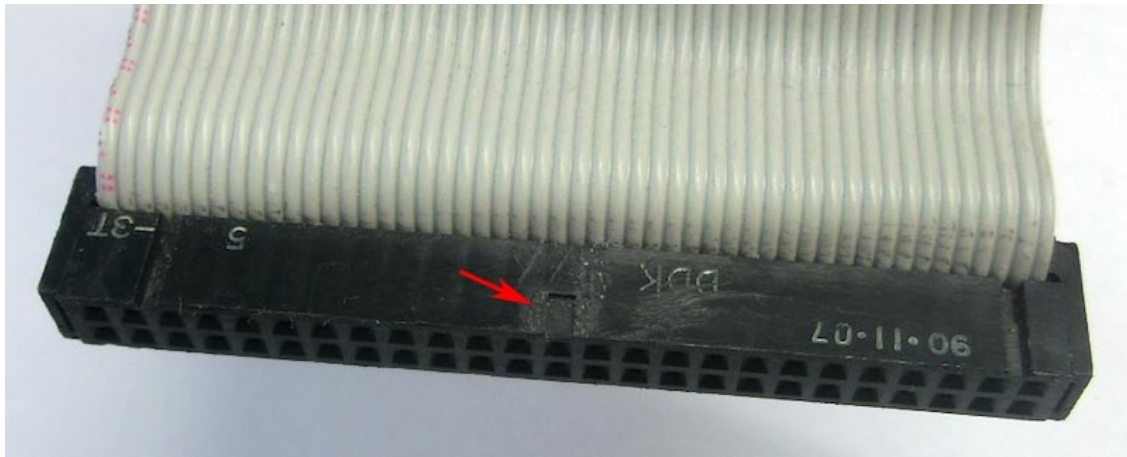
The ribbon cable must not exceed twenty centimeters.

Notes:

- It is also possible to order a ready made version in suitable case but be careful because some expansion Bus have the sound input pin unconnected. In this case, only the Memory Mapper will work. You will have no alternative but to order a cartridge without sound chip unless you are able to add this pin.
- Some MSX has two polarizer on the Bus extension plug instead of one.



The ribbon cables with two polarizer bars are hard to find. The easiest solution would probably be to file down the bar on the cable connector.



Compatibility list

Musical Memory Mapper cartridge was tested with the following MSX.

- MSX1 Canon V-20
- MSX1 Philips NMS-8020
- MSX1 National CF-2700
- MSX1 Sony HB-20P
- MSX1 Toshiba HX-10DP
- MSX1 Yashica YC-64
- MSX2 Mitsubishi ML-G1 (We must press the "DEL" key at startup when a memory expansion is inserted in this MSX.)
- MSX2 Philips NMS-8220
- MSX2 Philips NMS-8235
- MSX2 Philips NMS-8245
- MSX2 Philips MNS-8250/8255
- MSX2 Philips NMS-8280
- MSX2 Sony HB-F700P
- MSX2 Sony HB-G900
- MSX2 Yamaha YIS-503 III KYBT-2
- MSX2+ Panasonic A1-WX
- MSX Turbo R FS-A1ST (modes Z80 et R800)
- MSX Turbo R FS-A1GT (modes Z80 et R800)

List of tested disk interfaces.

- CF/IDE Interface Sunrise
- CF/IDE Interface by MM (cartridge derived from Sunrise)
- MegaFlashRom SCC+ SD
- **MMC/SD Drive v.4.01 by Yeongman Seo (The MSX-DOS2 does not start for an unknown reason)**

The incompatible hardware is listed in red.