

MIPS operands

Name	Example	Comments
32 registers	\$s0-\$s7, \$t0-\$t9, \$zero, \$a0-\$a3, \$v0-\$v1, \$gp, \$fp, \$sp, \$ra, \$at	Fast locations for data. In MIPS, data must be in registers to perform arithmetic, register \$zero always equals 0, and register \$at is reserved by the assembler to handle large constants.
2 ³⁰ memory words	Memory[0], Memory[4], ..., Memory[4294967292]	Accessed only by data transfer instructions. MIPS uses byte addresses, so sequential word addresses differ by 4. Memory holds data structures, arrays, and spilled registers.

MIPS assembly language

Category	Instruction	Example	Meaning	Comments
Arithmetic	add	add \$s1,\$s2,\$s3	\$s1 = \$s2 + \$s3	Three register operands
	subtract	sub \$s1,\$s2,\$s3	\$s1 = \$s2 - \$s3	Three register operands
	add immediate	addi \$s1,\$s2,20	\$s1 = \$s2 + 20	Used to add constants
Data transfer	load word	lw \$s1,20(\$s2)	\$s1 = Memory[\$s2 + 20]	Word from memory to register
	store word	sw \$s1,20(\$s2)	Memory[\$s2 + 20] = \$s1	Word from register to memory
	load half	lh \$s1,20(\$s2)	\$s1 = Memory[\$s2 + 20]	Halfword memory to register
	load half unsigned	lhu \$s1,20(\$s2)	\$s1 = Memory[\$s2 + 20]	Halfword memory to register
	store half	sh \$s1,20(\$s2)	Memory[\$s2 + 20] = \$s1	Halfword register to memory
	load byte	lb \$s1,20(\$s2)	\$s1 = Memory[\$s2 + 20]	Byte from memory to register
	load byte unsigned	lbu \$s1,20(\$s2)	\$s1 = Memory[\$s2 + 20]	Byte from memory to register
	store byte	sb \$s1,20(\$s2)	Memory[\$s2 + 20] = \$s1	Byte from register to memory
	load linked word	ll \$s1,20(\$s2)	\$s1 = Memory[\$s2 + 20]	Load word as 1st half of atomic swap
	store condition. word	sc \$s1,20(\$s2)	Memory[\$s2+20]=\$s1;\$s1=0 or 1	Store word as 2nd half of atomic swap
Logical	load upper immed.	lui \$s1,20	\$s1 = 20 * 2 ¹⁶	Loads constant in upper 16 bits
	and	and \$s1,\$s2,\$s3	\$s1 = \$s2 & \$s3	Three reg. operands; bit-by-bit AND
	or	or \$s1,\$s2,\$s3	\$s1 = \$s2 \$s3	Three reg. operands; bit-by-bit OR
	nor	nor \$s1,\$s2,\$s3	\$s1 = ~ (\$s2 \$s3)	Three reg. operands; bit-by-bit NOR
	and immediate	andi \$s1,\$s2,20	\$s1 = \$s2 & 20	Bit-by-bit AND reg with constant
	or immediate	ori \$s1,\$s2,20	\$s1 = \$s2 20	Bit-by-bit OR reg with constant
	shift left logical	sll \$s1,\$s2,10	\$s1 = \$s2 << 10	Shift left by constant
Conditional branch	shift right logical	srl \$s1,\$s2,10	\$s1 = \$s2 >> 10	Shift right by constant
	branch on equal	beq \$s1,\$s2,25	if (\$s1 == \$s2) go to PC + 4 + 100	Equal test; PC-relative branch
	branch on not equal	bne \$s1,\$s2,25	if (\$s1 != \$s2) go to PC + 4 + 100	Not equal test; PC-relative
	set on less than	slt \$s1,\$s2,\$s3	if (\$s2 < \$s3) \$s1 = 1; else \$s1 = 0	Compare less than; for beq, bne
	set on less than unsigned	sltu \$s1,\$s2,\$s3	if (\$s2 < \$s3) \$s1 = 1; else \$s1 = 0	Compare less than unsigned
	set less than immediate	slti \$s1,\$s2,20	if (\$s2 < 20) \$s1 = 1; else \$s1 = 0	Compare less than constant
Unconditional jump	set less than immediate unsigned	sltiu \$s1,\$s2,20	if (\$s2 < 20) \$s1 = 1; else \$s1 = 0	Compare less than constant unsigned
	jump	j 2500	go to 10000	Jump to target address
	jump register	jr \$ra	go to \$ra	For switch, procedure return
	jump and link	jal 2500	\$ra = PC + 4; go to 10000	For procedure call

FIGURE 2.1 MIPS assembly language revealed in this chapter. This information is also found in Column 1 of the MIPS Reference Data Card at the front of this book.