

# **CSCE 5610**

# **Computer System Architecture**

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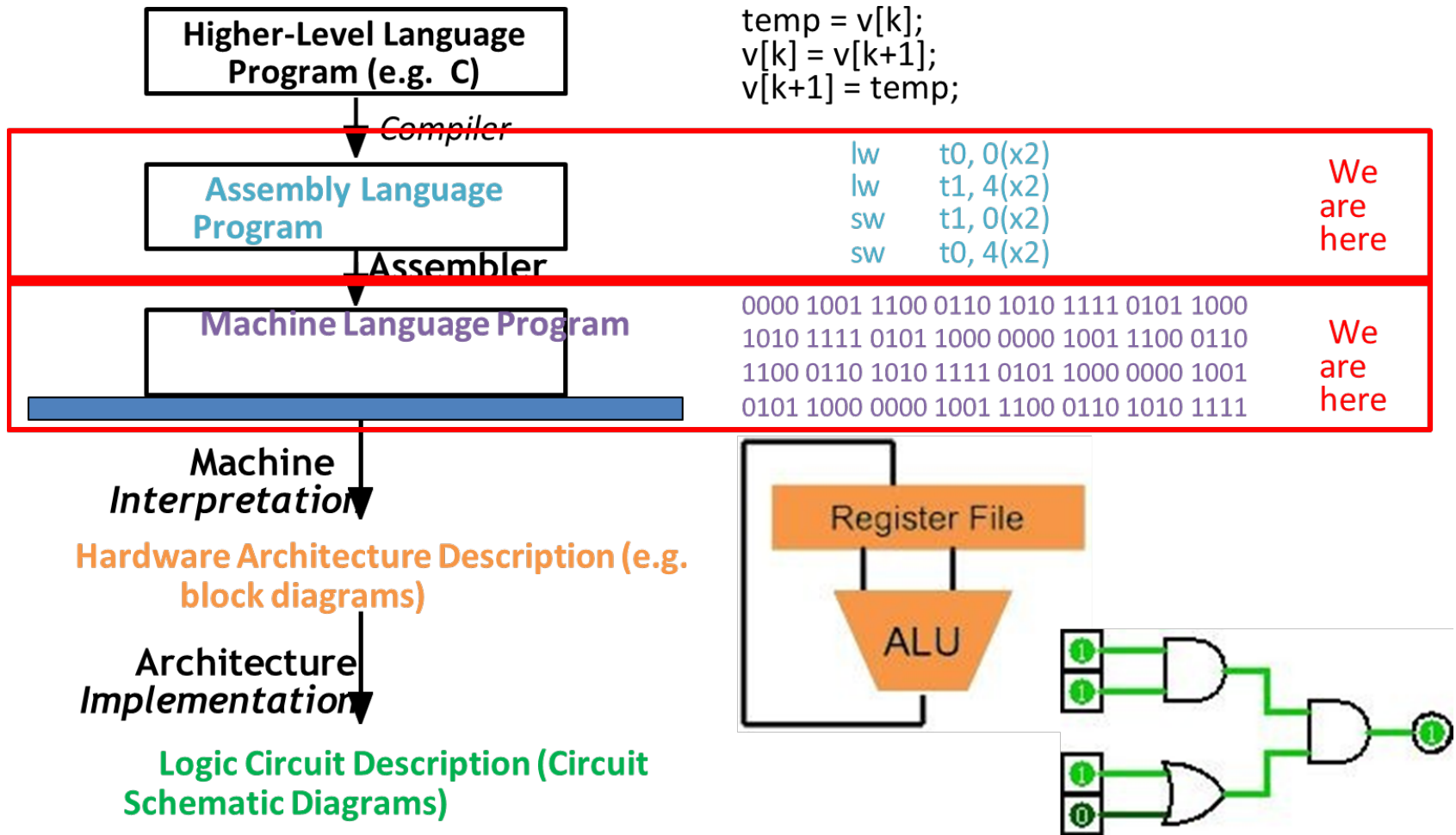
Machine Organization and Assembly Language

# Content

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- Assembly Language
- Machine Language

# Great Idea #1: Abstraction



# Machine language

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- **Machine language**, the binary representation for instructions.
  - We'll see how it is **designed for the common case**
    - Fixed-sized (32-bit) instructions
    - Only 3 instruction formats
    - Limited-sized immediate fields

# Assembly vs. machine language

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- So far we've been using **assembly language**.
  - We assign names to operations (e.g., **add**) and operands (e.g., **\$t0**).
  - Branches and jumps use labels instead of actual addresses.
  - Assemblers support many pseudo-instructions.
- Programs must eventually be translated into **machine language**, a binary format that can be stored in memory and decoded by the CPU.
- MIPS machine language is designed to be easy to decode.
  - Each MIPS instruction is the same length, **32 bits**.
  - There are only **three different instruction formats**, which are very similar to each other.

# Three instruction formats

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- R-type format
- I-type format
- J-type format

# R-type format

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- Register-to-register arithmetic instructions use the **R-type** format.

op	rs	rt	rd	shamt	func
6 bits	5 bits	5 bits	5 bits	5 bits	6 bits

- This format includes six different fields.
  - **op** is an **operation code** or **opcode** that selects a specific operation.
  - **rs** and **rt** are the first and second source registers.
  - **rd** is the destination register.
  - **shamt** is only used for shift instructions.
  - **func** is used together with **op** to select an arithmetic instruction.

# About the registers

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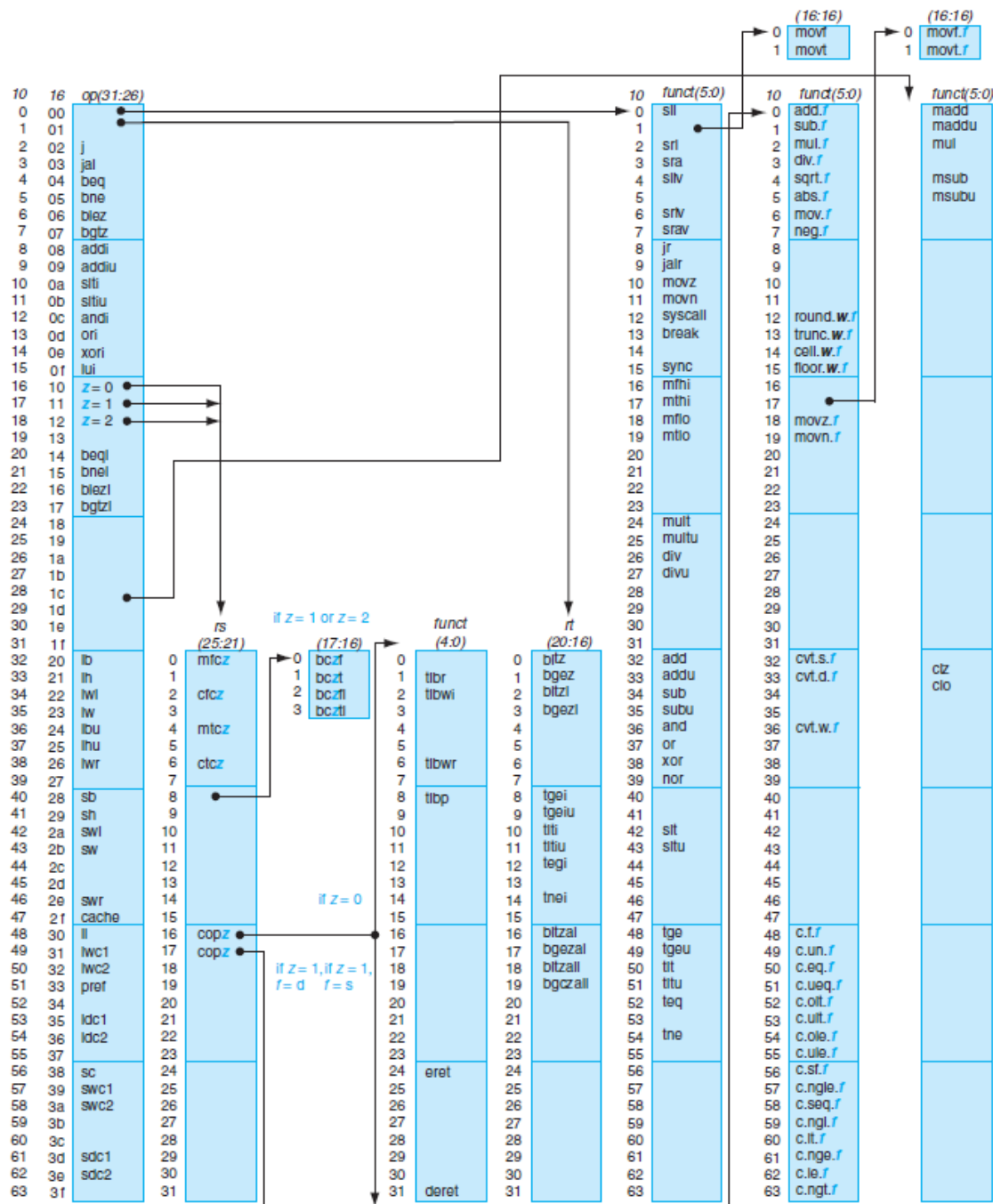
- We have to encode register names as 5-bit numbers from 00000 to 11111.
  - For example, `$t8` is register \$24, which is represented as `11000`.
- The number of registers available affects the instruction length.
  - Each R-type instruction references 3 registers, which requires a total of 15 bits in the instruction word.
  - We can't add more registers without either making instructions longer than 32 bits, or shortening other fields like `op` and possibly reducing the number of available operations.



# Register Correspondences

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▪ \$zero	\$0	Zero
▪ \$at	\$1	Assembler temp
▪ \$v0-\$v1	\$2-3	Value (return from function)
▪ \$a0-\$a3	\$4-7	Argument (to function)
▪ \$t0-\$t7	\$8-15	Temporaries
▪ \$s0-\$s7	\$16-23	Saved Temporaries Saved
▪ \$t8-\$t9	\$24-25	Temporaries
▪ \$k0-\$k1	\$26-27	Kernel (OS) Registers
▪ \$gp	\$28	Global Pointer Saved
▪ \$sp	\$29	Stack Pointer Saved
▪ \$fp	\$30	Frame Pointer Saved
▪ \$ra	\$31	Return Address Saved



# Exercise

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- What should be the corresponding machine code for the following MIPS assembly code:

- `add $t1, $t1, $zero`

Breaking Down `add $t1, $t1, $zero`:

**opcode:** 000000 (indicating an R-type instruction).

**rs:** `$t1` is the source register for the first operand, which corresponds to register `$t1` (register 9). So, `rs = 01001`.

**rt:** `$zero` is the second operand, which corresponds to register `$zero` (register 0). So, `rt = 00000`.

**rd:** The destination register is `$t1` (register 9). So, `rd = 01001`.

**shamt:** No shift is being performed, so `shamt = 00000`.

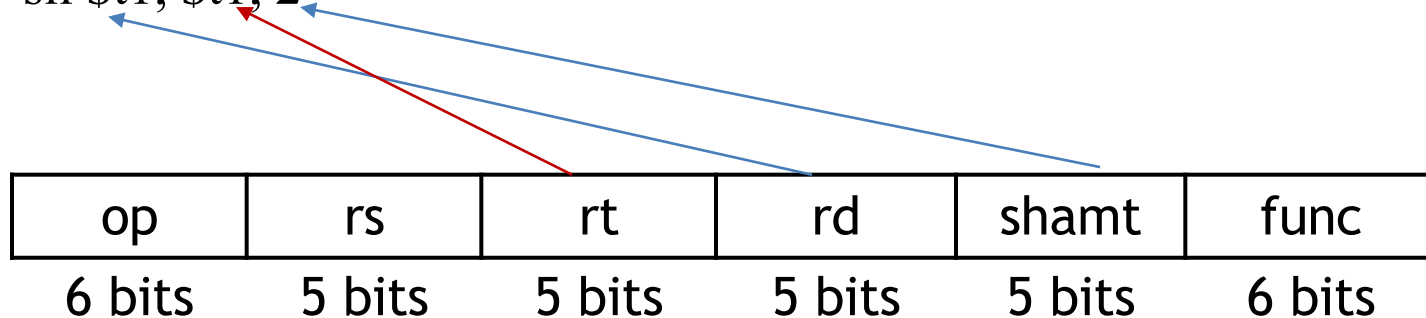
**funct:** For the `add` operation, the funct code is 100000.

opcode	rs	rt	rd	shamt	funct
000000	01001	00000	01001	00000	100000

# Exercise

- What should be the corresponding machine code for the following MIPS assembly code:

- sll \$t1, \$t1, 2



opcode | rs | rt | rd | shamt | funct  
000000 | 00000 | 01001 | 01001 | 00010 | 000000

**Why rs is Not Used in sll:**

The sll instruction only requires two things:

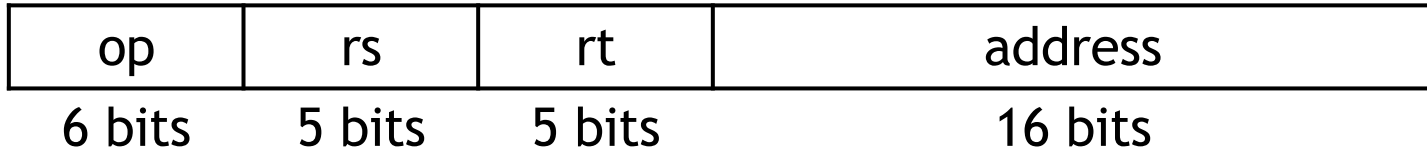
The value to be shifted (which is in the rt register).

The amount to shift (which is provided by the shamt field in the instruction).

# I-type format

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- Load, store, branch and immediate instructions all use the I-type format.



- For uniformity, **op**, **rs** and **rt** are in the same positions as in the R-format.
- The meaning of the register fields depends on the exact instruction.
  - **rs** is a source register—**an address for loads and stores**, or an operand for branch and immediate arithmetic instructions.
  - **rt** is a **source register for branches**, but a **destination register for the other I-type instructions**.
- The **address** is a 16-bit signed two's-complement value.
  - It can range from -32,768 to +32,767.
  - But that's not always enough!

# Exercise

- What should be the corresponding machine code for the following MIPS assembly code:

- lw \$t1, 0(\$sp)
- sw \$t1, 0(\$sp)

Where:

opcode: 6 bits for the operation code. For lw, the opcode is 100011.

rs: 5 bits for the base register (the register holding the address).

rt: 5 bits for the target register (where the loaded word will be stored).

immediate: 16 bits for the offset.

Breaking Down lw \$t1, 0(\$sp):

opcode: The opcode for lw is 100011 (binary).

rs: The base register is \$sp (stack pointer), which corresponds to register 29. In binary, \$sp = 11101.

rt: The target register is \$t1, which corresponds to register 9. In binary, \$t1 = 01001.

immediate: The offset is 0, so in 16-bit binary, this is 0000000000000000.

opcode	rs	rt	immediate
100011	11101	01001	0000000000000000

Breaking Down lw \$t1, 4(\$sp):

opcode: The opcode for lw is 100011 (binary).

rs: The base register is \$sp, which corresponds to register 29. In binary, \$sp = 11101.

rt: The target register is \$t1, which corresponds to register 9. In binary, \$t1 = 01001.

immediate: The offset is 4. The binary representation of 4 in 16 bits is 0000000000000100.

Final Machine Code:

Now, putting everything together:

Copy code

opcode	rs	rt	immediate
100011	11101	01001	0000000000000100

Where:

opcode: 6 bits for the operation code. For sw, the opcode is 101011.

rs: 5 bits for the base register, which holds the base address. In this case, \$sp (stack pointer), which corresponds to register 29.

rt: 5 bits for the source register, which contains the value to be stored. In this case, \$t1, which corresponds to register 9.

immediate: 16 bits for the offset. In this case, the offset is 0.

Breaking Down sw \$t1, 0(\$sp):

opcode: The opcode for sw is 101011 (binary).

rs: The base register is \$sp (stack pointer), which corresponds to register 29. In binary, \$sp = 11101.

rt: The source register is \$t1, which corresponds to register 9. In binary, \$t1 = 01001.

immediate: The offset is 0. The binary representation of 0 in 16 bits is 0000000000000000.

Final Machine Code:

Now, let's put everything together into the 32-bit machine code for sw \$t1, 0(\$sp):

opcode	rs	rt	immediate
101011	11101	01001	0000000000000000

# Two Complement

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- **Easy to do in HW:**
  - Most significant bit tells sign (sign bit)
  - Addition can be done without anything special
- **How?**
  - Invert all bits and add one.

0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	=	127
0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	=	2
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	=	1
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	=	0
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	=	-1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	=	-2
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	=	-127
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	=	-128

8-bit two's-complement integers

# Branches

- For branch instructions, the constant field is not an address, but an *offset* from the current program counter (PC) to the target address.

```
        beq  $a1, $0, L
        add  $v1, $v0, $0
        add  $v1, $v1, $v1
        j    Somewhere
L:      add  $v1, $v0, $v0
```

- Since the branch target **L** is three *instructions* past the **beq**, the address field would contain 3. The whole **beq** instruction would be stored as:

000100	00001	00000	0000 0000 0000 0011
op	rs	rt	address



# Larger branch constants

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- Empirical studies of real programs show that most branches go to targets less than 32,767 instructions away—branches are mostly used in loops and conditionals, and programmers are taught to make code bodies short.
- If you do need to branch further, you can use a jump with a branch. For example, if “Far” is very far away, then the effect of:

```
beq    $s0, $s1, Far  
...
```

can be simulated with the following actual code.

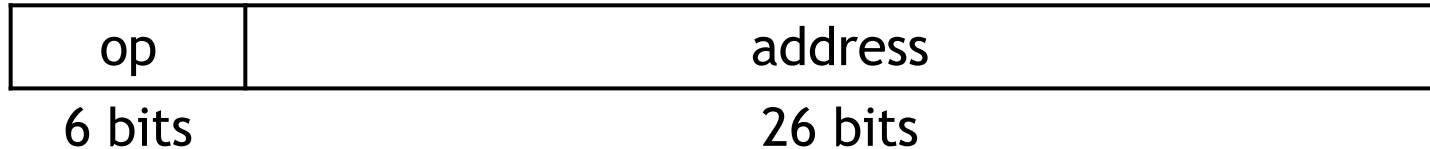
```
        bne    $s0, $s1, Next  
        j      Far  
Next:    ...
```

- Again, the MIPS designers have taken care of the common case first.

# J-type format

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- Finally, the jump instruction uses the **J-type** instruction format.



- The jump instruction contains a *word* address, **not an offset**
  - Remember that each MIPS instruction is one word long, and word addresses must be divisible by four.
  - So instead of saying “jump to address 4000,” it’s enough to just say “jump to instruction 1000.”
  - A 26-bit address field lets you jump to any address from 0 to  $2^{28}$ .
- For even longer jumps, the jump register, or **jr**, instruction can be used.

**jr**    \$ra            # Jump to 32-bit address in register \$ra

# Summary of Machine Language

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- Machine language is the binary representation of instructions:
  - The format in which the machine actually executes them
- MIPS machine language is designed to simplify processor implementation
  - Fixed length instructions
  - 3 instruction encodings: R-type, I-type, and J-type
  - Common operations fit in 1 instruction
    - Uncommon (e.g., long immediates) require more than one

R	opcode	rs	rt	rd	shamt	funct
I	opcode	rs	rt	immediate		
J	opcode	target address				

# Decoding Machine Language

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How do we convert 1s and 0s to assembly language and to C code?

Machine language --> assembly --> C?

For each 32 bits:

1. Look at opcode to distinguish between R- Format, J-Format, and I-Format
2. Use instruction format to determine which fields exist
3. Write out MIPS assembly code, converting each field to name, register number/name, or decimal/hex number
4. Logically convert this MIPS code into valid C code. Always possible?  
Unique?

# Decoding (1/7)

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- Here are six machine language instructions in hexadecimal:

00001025<sub>hex</sub>

0005402A<sub>hex</sub>

11000003<sub>hex</sub>

00441020<sub>hex</sub>

20A5FFFF<sub>hex</sub>

08100001<sub>hex</sub>

- Let the first instruction be at address 4,194,304<sub>ten</sub>  
(0x00400000<sub>hex</sub>)
- Next step: convert hex to binary

# Decoding (2/7)

- The six machine language instructions in binary:

0000000000000000000000001000000100101

000000000000000010101000000000101010

00010001000000000000000000000000011

00000000010001000001000000100000

00100000101001011111111111111111

0000100000010000000000000000000001

- Next step: identify opcode and format

R	0	rs	rt	rd	shamt	funct
I	1, 4-62	rs	rt	immediate		
J	2 or 3	target address				

# Decoding (3/7)

- Select the opcode (first 6 bits) to determine the format:

000000 00000 00000 00010 00000 100101

000000 00000 00101 01000 00000 101010

000100 01000 00000 00000 00000 000011

000000 00010 00100 00010 00000 100000

001000 00101 00101 11111 11111 111111

000010 00000 10000 00000 00000 000001

- Look at opcode: 0 means R-Format, 2 or 3 mean J-Format, otherwise I-Format
- Next step: separation of fields R R I R I J Format:

R	0	rs	rt	rd	shamt	funct
I	1, 4-62	rs	rt	immediate		
J	2 or 3	target address				

# Decoding (4/7)

- Fields separated based on format/opcode:

**Format:**

R	0	0	0	2	0	37
R	0	0	5	8	0	42
I	4	8	0	+3		
R	0	2	4	2	0	32
I	8	5	5	-1		
J	2	1,048,577				

- Next step: translate (“disassemble”) MIPS assembly instructions R R I R I J Format:



# Decoding (5/7)

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- MIPS Assembly (Part 1):

- Address: Assembly instructions:

0x00400000	or	\$2,\$0,\$0
0x00400004	slt	\$8,\$0,\$5
0x00400008	beq	\$8,\$0,3
0x0040000c	add	\$2,\$2,\$4
0x00400010	addi	\$5,\$5,-1
0x00400014	j	0x100001

- Better solution: translate to more meaningful MIPS instructions (fix the branch/jump and add labels, registers)

# Decoding (6/7)

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- MIPS Assembly (Part 2):

```
                                or    $v0,$0,$0
Loop:                          slt    $t0,$0,$a1
                                beq    $t0,$0,Exit
                                add    $v0,$v0,$a0
                                addi   $a1,$a1,-1
                                j      Loop
```

Exit:

- Next step: translate to C code (must be creative!)

# Decoding (7/7)

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- Possible C code:

```
v0 = 0;
while (a1 > 0) {
    v0 += a0;
    a1 -= 1;
}
```

	or	\$v0,\$0,\$0
Loop:	<u>slt</u>	\$t0,\$0,\$a1
	beq	\$t0,\$0,Exit
	add	\$v0,\$v0,\$a0
	addi	\$a1,\$a1,-1
	j	Loop
Exit:		