

Assembler Arithmetic

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Overview

- Variables in Assembly
- Addition and Subtraction in Assembly
- Memory Access in A

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Below Your Program

- High-level language program (in C)

```
swap (int v[], int k) {  
    int temp = v[k];  
    v[k] = v[k+1];  
    v[k+1] = temp;  
}
```

- Assembly language program

```
swap:  sll  
       add $2, $4, $2  
       lw  $15, 0($2)  
       lw  $16, 4($2)  
       sw  $16, 0($2)  
       sw  $15, 4($2)  
       jr  $31
```

- Machine (object) code (for MIPS)

```
000000 00000 00101 0001000010000000  
000000 00100 00010 0001000000100000  
... .
```

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C compiler

assembler

Operators / Operands in High-level Languages

Operators: +, -, *, /, % ;

- $7/4==1$, $7\%4==3$

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Operands:

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- Variables: fahr, celsius
- Constants: 0, 1000, -17, 15.4

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Statement: Variable = Expression ;

- $\text{celsius} = 5 * (\text{fahr} - 32) / 9;$
- $a = b + c + d - e;$

Assembly Design: Key Concepts

- **Assembly language** is directly supported in hardware
- It is kept very simple!
 - Limit on the type of
 - Limit the set of **oper**

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The MIPS Instruction Set



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- Microprocessor without Interlocked Pipelined Stages (MIPS) example in this course ([Quickguide](#))

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**MARS: Free MIPS
Simulator**

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- Download the [_____](#)
- Run the software `java -jar pMARS.jar`

**How do I learn
MIPS assembly?**

- Try it out with MARS!

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Assem <https://eduassistpro.github.io/> **Register**

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Assembly Variables: Registers

C and Java

- Operands are **variables** and **constants**
- Declare as many as you

MIPS

- Variables are replaced by **registers**
- Instructions can only be performed on these!
- Number built directly into the hardware

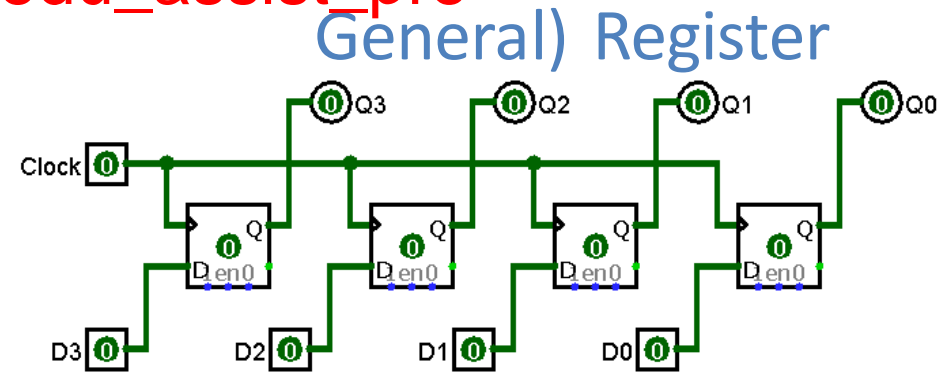
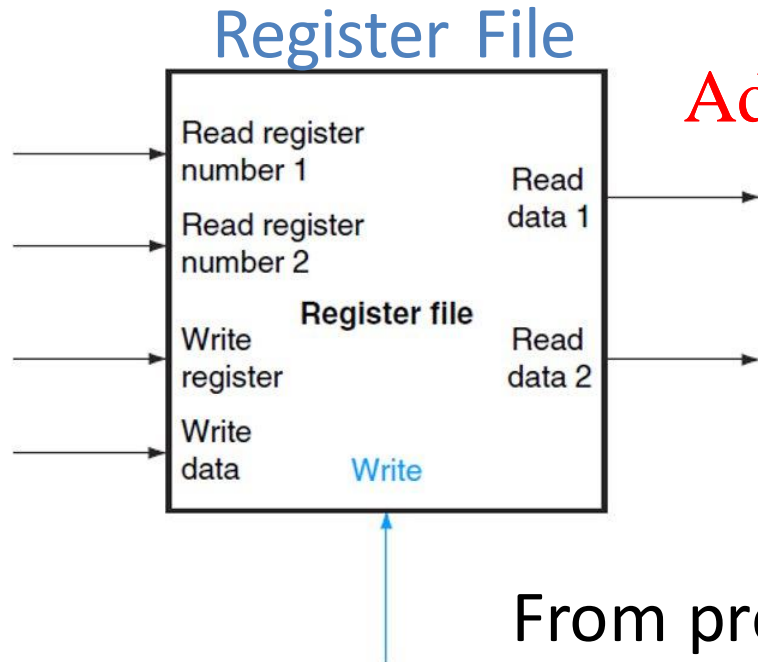
Why? Keep the Hardware Simple!

Assembly Variables: Registers

- MIPS has a register file of 32 registers
- Why 32? Smaller is faster
- Each MIPS register is 32 bits = 4 bytes = a word

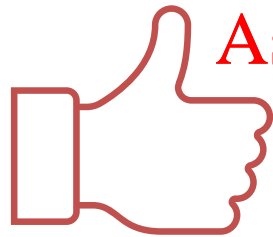
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From previous lecture on "Register and Memory"

Assembly Variables: Registers



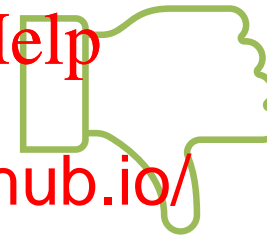
Good

Register file is small and inside of the core, so they are very fast

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Bad

Since registers are implemented in the hardware, there are a predetermined number of them
MIPS code must be very carefully put together to efficiently use registers

Assembly Variables: Registers

- Registers are numbered from 0 to 31

$\$0, \$1, \$2, \dots, \$30, \$31$

- Each register also has a **name** to make it easier to code:

$\$16 - \$23 \rightarrow \text{https://eduassistpro.github.io/}$

(s correspond to saved temporar

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$\$8 - \$15 \rightarrow \$t0 - \$t7$

(t correspond to temporary variables)

We will come back to s and t when we talk about "procedure"

In general, **use register names** to make your code more readable

Assembly Variables: Registers

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\$1, \$26, \$27 are reserved for assembler and operation system

Comments

Assembly code is hard to read!

Another way to **make your code more readable**: comments!

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C and Java <https://eduassistpro.github.io/> MIPS

`/* comment can span many lines */`
`// comment, to the end of a line`

`# hash mark to end
of line is a comment and will be
ignored`

Assembly Instructions

C and Java

Each statement could perform multiple operations

```
a = b + c - d ;
```

Is equivalent to two small operations

```
a = b + c ;
```

```
a = a - d ;
```

MIPS

Each instruction (one of a short list of simple commands), executes

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Addition and Subtraction

- **Syntax of Instructions:**

Operation Destination, Source1, Source2

Operation: by name (

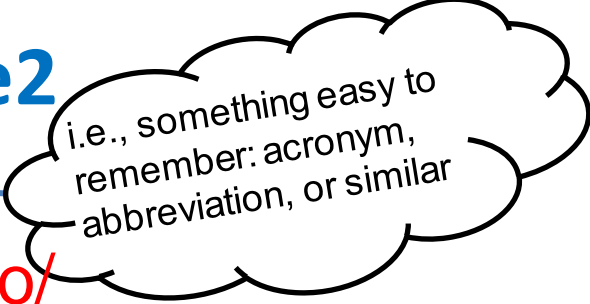
Destination: operand <https://eduassistpro.github.io/>

Source1: 1st operand for operation

Source2: 2nd operand for operation

- **Syntax is rigid:**

- Most of them use 1 operator + 3 operands (*commas are optional*)
- Why? Keep Hardware simple via regularity



i.e., something easy to remember: acronym, abbreviation, or similar

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Try with Mars

Addition and Subtraction

Addition

```
// C and Java
```

```
a = b + c ;
```

```
# MIPS
```

```
add $s0, $s1, $s2
```

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Subtraction

```
// C and Java
```

```
d = e - f ;
```

```
# MIPS
```

```
sub $s3, $s4, $s5
```

registers \$s3, \$s4, \$s5 are associated with variables d, e, f

Addition and Subtraction

Each **Instruction**, executes exactly one simple commands

C and Java

```
a = b + c + d -
```

Break into
multiple instructions

MIPS

```
s0, $s1, $s2
```

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```
, $s0, $s3
```

```
# a = a + d
```

```
sub $s0, $s0, $s4
```

```
# a = a - e
```

A single line of C may break up into several lines of MIPS.

Immediates

- **Immediates** are numerical constants.
- Special instructions for immediates: `addi`
- Syntax is similar to a `add` instruction, but that ***last*** argument is a number (decimal) instead of a register.

// C and Java

```
f = g + 10 ;
```

```
addi $s0 $s1 10
addi $s0 $s1 -10
```

- There is no `subi` (use a negative immediate instead)

Register Zero

- MIPS defines **register zero** (`$0` or `$zero`) *always* be 0.
- The number zero appears very often in code.
- Use this register, it'

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```
add    $6 $0 $5          5 to $6
addi   $6 $0 77          # copy 77 to $6
```

- Register zero cannot be overwritten

```
addi   $0 $0 5           # will do nothing
```

Register Zero

- What if you want to negate a number?

```
sub $6, $0, $5
```

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Data Transfer Instructions

- MIPS arithmetic instructions only operate on **registers**
- What about large data structures like arrays? **Memory!**
 - Add two numbers in
 - Load values from memory
 - Store result from register to memory
- Use **Data transfer instructions** to transfer data between registers and memory. We need to specify
 - Register: specify this by number (0 - 31)
 - Memory address: more difficult

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Memory Address

Memory is a linear array of byte

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We can access the content by supplying the memory address

The processor can read or write the content of the memory

Memory Address

- **Memory Address Syntax: Offset(**AddrReg**)**
 - **AddrReg**: A register which contains a pointer to a memory location
 - **Offset**: A numerical offset in bytes (optional)

8 (\$t0)

specifies the memory address 0 plus 8 bytes

- We might access a location with an offset from a base pointer
- The resulting memory address is the sum of these two values

Memory Address

4-bit address example

```
// An array of 8 integers in C/Java
```

```
int arr[8]={56, 26, 88, 45, -45, 77, 98, 13} ;
```

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```
# Assume $s0 has the address 0x1000
```

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```
0($s0) # 0x1000, to access arr[0]
```

```
4($s0) # 0x1004, to access arr[1]
```

| Address | Content |
|---------|---------|
| | ... |
| 0x1000 | 56 |
| 0x1004 | 26 |
| 0x1008 | 88 |
| 0x100C | 45 |
| 0x1010 | -45 |
| 0x1014 | 77 |
| 0x1018 | 98 |
| 0x101C | 13 |
| | ... |

Data Transfer: Memory to Register

- **Load Instruction Syntax:** **lw** **DstReg**, Offset(**AddrReg**)

- **lw**: Load a **Word**

- **DstReg**: register tha

- **Offset**: numerical of

- **AddrReg**: register containing poin

```
lw $t0, 8($s0)
```

```
# load one word from memory at  
address stored in $s0 with an offset 8 and  
store the content in $t0
```

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| Address | Content |
|---------|---------|
| | ... |
| 0x1000 | 56 |
| 0x1004 | 26 |
| 0x1008 | 88 |
| 0x100C | 45 |
| 0x1010 | -45 |
| 0x1014 | 77 |
| 0x1018 | 98 |
| 0x101C | 13 |
| | ... |

Data Transfer: Register to Memory

- Store instruction syntax: **sw** **DataReg**, Offset(**AddrReg**)
 - **sw**: Store a **word**
 - **DstReg**: register
 - **Offset**: numerical
 - **AddrReg**: register containing

```
sw $t0, 4($s0)
```

```
# Store one word (32 bits) to memory  
address $s0 + 4
```

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| Address | Content |
|---------|---------|
| | ... |
| 0x1000 | 56 |
| 0x1004 | 26 |
| 0x1008 | 88 |
| 0x100C | 45 |
| 0x1010 | -45 |
| 0x1014 | 77 |
| 0x1018 | 98 |
| 0x101C | 13 |
| | ... |

Byte vs. word

- Machines address memory as **bytes**
- Both **lw** and **sw** access one word at a time
- The sum of the base address and the offset **must be a word aligned**

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```
sw $t0, 0
sw $t0, 4($s0)
sw $t0, 8($s0)
.
.
```

| Address | Content |
|---------|---------|
| | ... |
| 0x1000 | 56 |
| 0x1004 | 26 |
| 0x1008 | 88 |
| 0x100C | 45 |
| 0x1010 | -45 |
| 0x1014 | 77 |
| 0x1018 | 98 |
| 0x101C | 13 |
| | ... |

Byte vs. word



Try with Mars

// C and Java

```
A[12] = h + A[8] ;
```

Index 8 requires offset of 32

Index 12 requires offset of 48

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MIPS

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assume h is stored in \$s0 and the address of A is in \$s1

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```
lw    $s2 32($s1)    # load A[8] to $s2
```

```
add   $s3 $s0, $s2    # $s3 = $s0 + $s2
```

```
sw    $s3 48($s1)    # store result to A[12]
```

Register vs. Memory



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- MIPS arithmetic instructions can read 2 registers, operate on them, and write 1 per instruction

write 1 operand per instruction, and no operation

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Why not keep all
variables in memory?

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- Smaller is faster

What if more variables
than registers?

- Compiler tries to keep most frequently used variable in registers
- Writing less common to memory: **spilling**

Pointers vs. Values

- A register can **hold any 32-bit value.**
 - a (signed) `int`,
 - an unsigned `int`
 - a pointer (memory address)
 - etc.

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```
lw $t2, 0($t0) # $t0 must contain?
```

```
add $t3, $t4, $t5 # what can you say about $t4 and $t5?
```


Review and Information

Registers:

- The variables in assembly
- Saved Temporary Variables, Temporary Variables, Register Zero

Instructions:

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- Addition and Subtraction: add, andi, sub
- Data Transfer: lw, sw

References

- Textbook: 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, A.10
- [MARS Tutorial](#)