

Chapter 2

Instructions: Language of the Computer

Instruction Set

- The repertoire of instructions of a computer
- Different computers have different instruction sets
 - But with many aspects in common
- Early computers had very simple instruction sets
 - Simplified implementation
- Many modern computers also have simple instruction sets

The MIPS Instruction Set

- Used as the example throughout the book
- Stanford MIPS commercialized by MIPS Technologies (www.mips.com)
- Large share of embedded core market
 - Applications in consumer electronics, network/storage equipment, cameras, printers, ...
- Typical of many modern ISAs
 - See MIPS Reference Data, and Appendixes B and E

MIPS Instruction Set

■ MIPS Instruction Types

- Arithmetic
- Logical operation
- Data transfer
- Flow control

■ Design Principles

- Design Principle 1: Simplicity favors regularity.
- Design Principle 2: Smaller is faster.
- Design Principle 3: Good design demands a compromise
- Design Principle 4: Make common case fast.

Arithmetic Operations

- Add and subtract, three operands
 - Two sources and one destination

add a, b, c # a gets b + c
- All arithmetic operations have this form
- *Design Principle 1: Simplicity favors regularity*
 - The natural number of operands for an operation like addition is three ... requiring every instruction to have exactly three operands will keep the hardware simple.
 - Regularity makes implementation simpler
 - Simplicity enables higher performance at lower cost



Arithmetic Example

- C code:

$f = (g + h) - (i + j);$

- Compiled MIPS code:

```
add t0, g, h    # temp t0 = g + h
add t1, i, j    # temp t1 = i + j
sub f, t0, t1   # f = t0 - t1
```

Register Operands

- Arithmetic instructions use register operands
- MIPS has a 32×32 -bit register file
 - Use for frequently accessed data
 - Numbered 0 to 31
 - 32-bit data called a “word”
- Assembler names
 - \$t0, \$t1, ..., \$t9 for temporary values
 - \$s0, \$s1, ..., \$s7 for saved variables
- *Design Principle 2: Smaller is faster*
 - c.f. main memory: millions of locations



Register Operand Example

- C code:

$f = (g + h) - (i + j);$

- g, \dots, j in $\$s1, \dots, \$s4$

← moved from memory to registers by data transfer instructions.

- Compiled MIPS code:

add \$t0, \$s1, \$s2

add \$t1, \$s3, \$s4

sub \$s0, \$t0, \$t1

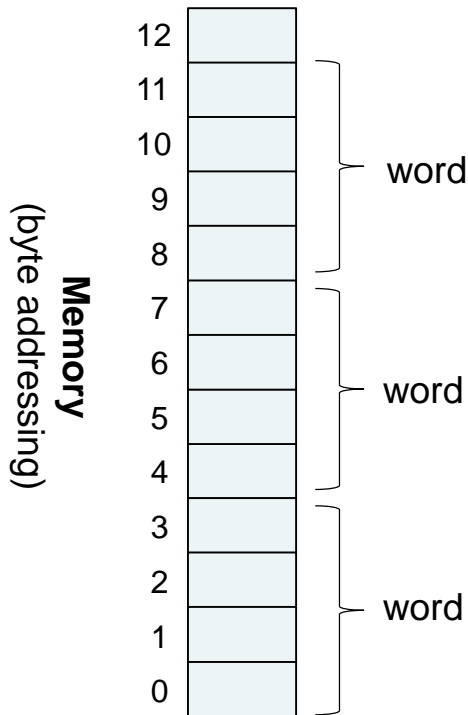
Memory Operands

- Main memory used for composite data
 - Arrays, structures, dynamic data
- To apply arithmetic operations
 - Load values from memory into registers
 - Store result from register to memory
- Memory is byte addressed
 - Each address identifies an 8-bit byte
- Words are **aligned** in memory
 - Address must be a multiple of 4
- MIPS is **Big Endian**
 - Most-significant byte at least address of a word
 - *c.f.* Little Endian: least-significant byte at least address

Memory Operands

Word alignment

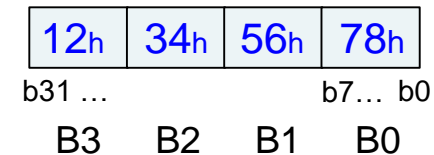
- Word address must be a multiple of 4



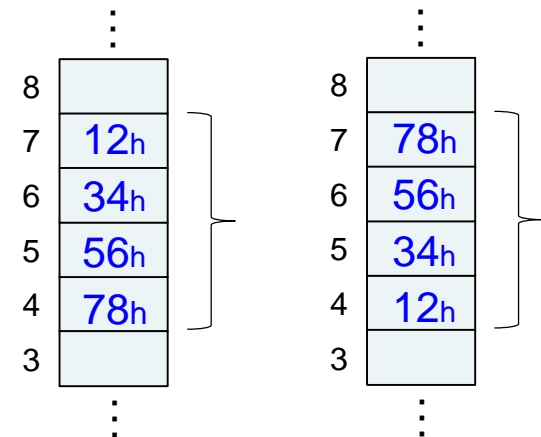
To store a word (32 bits)

0x12345678

In register →
(32 bits)



In memory →



Big Endian
(MIPS)

Little Endian

Data Transfer Operations

- C code:

`g = h + A[8];` // g, h, A[] are type of int (4 bytes)

- g in \$s1, h in \$s2, base address of A in \$s3

- Compiled MIPS code:

- Index 8 requires offset of 32

- 4 bytes per word

```
lw    $t0, 32($s3)    # load word
add   $s1, $s2, $t0
```

offset

base register

Data Transfer Operations

- C code:

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

- `h` in `$s2`, base address of `A` in `$s3`

- Compiled MIPS code:

- Index 8 requires offset of 32

```
lw    $t0, 32($s3)    # load word
```

```
add   $t0, $s2, $t0
```

```
sw    $t0, 48($s3)    # store word
```

Registers vs. Memory

- Registers are faster to access than memory
- Operating on memory data requires loads and stores
 - More instructions to be executed
- Compiler must use registers for variables as much as possible
 - Only spill to memory for less frequently used variables
 - Register optimization is important!

Immediate Operands

- Constant data specified in an instruction
`addi $s3, $s3, 4`
- No subtract immediate instruction
 - Just use a negative constant
`addi $s2, $s1, -1`
- *Design Principle 3: Make the common case fast*
 - Small constants are common
 - Immediate operand avoids a load instruction

The Constant Zero

- MIPS register 0 (\$zero) is the constant 0
 - Cannot be overwritten
- Useful for common operations
 - E.g., move between registers
`add $t2, $s1, $zero`

Unsigned Binary Integers

- Given an n-bit number

$$x = x_{n-1}2^{n-1} + x_{n-2}2^{n-2} + \dots + x_12^1 + x_02^0$$

- Range: 0 to $+2^n - 1$
- Using 32 bits
 - 0 to +4,294,967,295
- Example

- $0000\ 0000\ 0000\ 0000\ 0000\ 0000\ 0000\ 1011_2$
 $= 0 + \dots + 1 \times 2^3 + 0 \times 2^2 + 1 \times 2^1 + 1 \times 2^0$
 $= 0 + \dots + 8 + 0 + 2 + 1 = 11_{10}$

2's-Complement Signed Integers

- Given an n-bit number

$$x = -x_{n-1}2^{n-1} + x_{n-2}2^{n-2} + \dots + x_12^1 + x_02^0$$

- Range: -2^{n-1} to $+2^{n-1} - 1$
- Using 32 bits ($n=32$)
 - $-2,147,483,648$ to $+2,147,483,647$
- Example

- $1111\ 1111\ 1111\ 1111\ 1111\ 1111\ 1111\ 1100_2$
 $= -1 \times 2^{31} + 1 \times 2^{30} + \dots + 1 \times 2^2 + 0 \times 2^1 + 0 \times 2^0$
 $= -2,147,483,648 + 2,147,483,644 = -4_{10}$

Signed v.s. Unsigned

4 bits

3 bits

| (10-based) | (Binary) | (10-based) |
|------------|----------|------------|
| 0 | 0 0 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 0 0 1 | 1 |
| 2 | 0 1 0 | 2 |
| 3 | 0 1 1 | 3 |
| -4 | 1 0 0 | 4 |
| -3 | 1 0 1 | 5 |
| -2 | 1 1 0 | 6 |
| -1 | 1 1 1 | 7 |


**Signed binary
(2's complement)**

Unsigned binary


(10-based)

(Binary)

(10-based)

| | | |
|----|---------|----|
| 0 | 0 0 0 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 0 0 0 1 | 1 |
| 2 | 0 0 1 0 | 2 |
| 3 | 0 0 1 1 | 3 |
| 4 | 0 1 0 0 | 4 |
| 5 | 0 1 0 1 | 5 |
| 6 | 0 1 1 0 | 6 |
| 7 | 0 1 1 1 | 7 |
| -8 | 1 0 0 0 | 8 |
| -7 | 1 0 0 1 | 9 |
| -6 | 1 0 1 0 | 10 |
| -5 | 1 0 1 1 | 11 |
| -4 | 1 1 0 0 | 12 |
| -3 | 1 1 0 1 | 13 |
| -2 | 1 1 1 0 | 14 |
| -1 | 1 1 1 1 | 15 |


**Signed binary
(2's complement)**

Unsigned binary


2's-Complement Signed Integers

- Bit 31 is sign bit
 - 1 for negative numbers
 - 0 for non-negative numbers
- Some specific numbers
 - Most-negative: 1000 0000 ... 0000
 - Most-positive: 0111 1111 ... 1111
 - 0: 0000 0000 ... 0000
 - -1: 1111 1111 ... 1111

$$\begin{array}{r} 011111111111111 \\ + 1 \\ \hline 100000000000000 \end{array}$$

- Positive numbers have the same unsigned and 2s-complement representation

Signed Negation

- Negate a signed integer: *Complement and add 1*
 - **Complement** means $1 \rightarrow 0, 0 \rightarrow 1$

$$x + \bar{x} = 1111 \dots 111_2 = -1$$
$$-x = \bar{x} + 1$$

Ex3

How to represent -11 in 5-bit binary?

+11 binary \rightarrow **01011**₂

Negation \rightarrow **10101**₂

- Ex1: To negate +2
 - +2 = 0000 0000 ... 0010₂
 - -2 = 1111 1111 ... 1101₂ + 1
= 1111 1111 ... 1110₂
- Ex2: To negate -2

Sign Extension

- Purpose: Representing a number using more bits, but preserve the numeric value
- How: Replicate the sign bit to the left
 - c.f. unsigned values: extend with 0s
 - Examples: 8-bit to 16-bit
 - +2: 0000 0010 => 0000 0000 0000 0010
 - -2: 1111 1110 => 1111 1111 1111 1110
- In MIPS instruction set, sign extension is needed.
 - Example:
 - addi: extend immediate value
 - lb, lh: extend loaded byte/halfword
 - beq, bne: extend the displacement

Representing Instructions

- Instructions are encoded in binary
 - Called machine code
- MIPS instructions
 - Encoded as 32-bit instruction words
 - Small number of formats encoding operation code (opcode), register numbers, ...
 - Regularity!
- Register numbers
 - \$t0 – \$t7 are reg's 8 – 15
 - \$t8 – \$t9 are reg's 24 – 25
 - \$s0 – \$s7 are reg's 16 – 23



MIPS R-format Instructions



■ Instruction fields

- op: operation code (opcode)
- rs: first source register number
- rt: second source register number
- rd: destination register number
- shamt: shift amount (00000 for now)
- funct: function code (extends opcode)

R-format Example

| op | rs | rt | rd | shamt | funct |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 6 bits | 5 bits | 5 bits | 5 bits | 5 bits | 6 bits |

add \$t0, \$s1, \$s2



| | | | | | |
|---------|------|------|------|---|-----|
| special | \$s1 | \$s2 | \$t0 | 0 | add |
|---------|------|------|------|---|-----|

| | | | | | |
|---|----|----|---|---|----|
| 0 | 17 | 18 | 8 | 0 | 32 |
|---|----|----|---|---|----|

| | | | | | |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| 000000 | 10001 | 10010 | 01000 | 00000 | 100000 |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|

$00000010001100100100000000100000_2 = 02324020_{16}$

Hexadecimal

- Base 16
 - Compact representation of bit strings
 - 4 bits per hex digit

| | | | | | | | |
|---|------|---|------|---|------|---|------|
| 0 | 0000 | 4 | 0100 | 8 | 1000 | c | 1100 |
| 1 | 0001 | 5 | 0101 | 9 | 1001 | d | 1101 |
| 2 | 0010 | 6 | 0110 | a | 1010 | e | 1110 |
| 3 | 0011 | 7 | 0111 | b | 1011 | f | 1111 |

- Example: eca8 6420
 - 1110 1100 1010 1000 0110 0100 0010 0000

MIPS I-format Instructions



- Immediate arithmetic and load/store instructions
 - rt: destination reg (I-type) or source reg (R-type)
 - Constant: -2^{15} to $+2^{15} - 1$
 - Address: **offset** added to **base address in rs**
- *Design Principle 4: Good design demands good compromises*
 - Different formats complicate decoding, but allow 32-bit instructions uniformly
 - Keep formats as similar as possible

R-format v.s. I-format

R-type:

| | | | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| op | rs | rt | rd | shamt | funct |
| 6 bits | 5 bits | 5 bits | 5 bits | 5 bits | 6 bits |

I-type:

| | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|---------------------|
| op | rs | rt | constant or address |
| 6 bits | 5 bits | 5 bits | 16 bits |

Example:

C code : `A[300] = h + A[300];`

Assembly code: `lw $t0, 1200($t1) rs`

`add $t0, $s2, $t0`

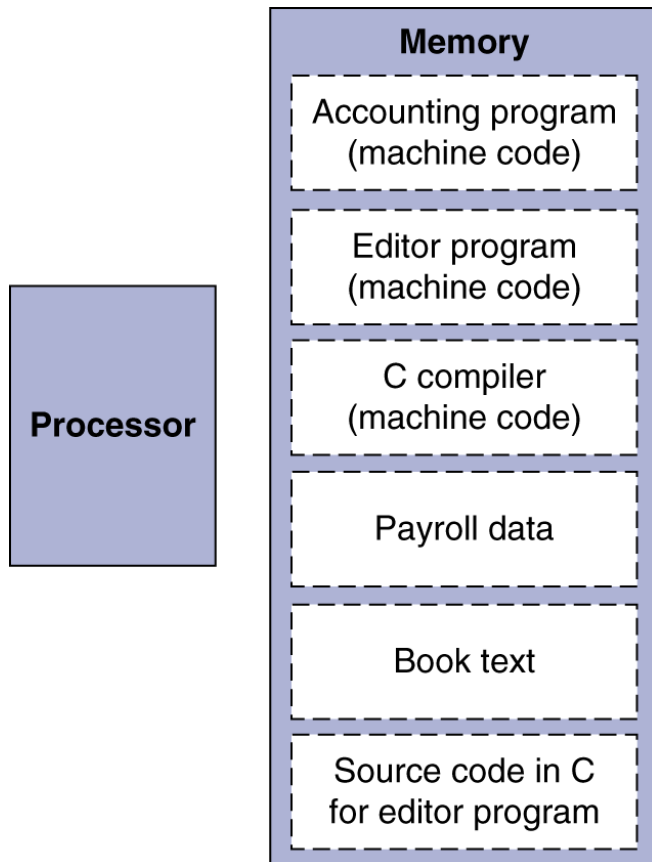
`sw $t0, 1200($t1) rs`

Machine code:

| op | rs | rt | rd | Addr/ shamt | funct |
|----|----|----|------|-------------|-------|
| 35 | 9 | 8 | 1200 | | |
| 0 | 18 | 8 | 8 | 0 | 32 |
| 45 | 9 | 8 | 1200 | | |

Stored Program Computers

The BIG Picture



- Instructions represented in binary, just like data
- Instructions and data stored in memory
- Programs can operate on programs
 - e.g., compilers, linkers, ...
- Binary compatibility allows compiled programs to work on different computers
 - Standardized ISAs

Logical Operations

■ Instructions for bitwise manipulation

| Operation | C | Java | MIPS |
|-------------|----|------|-----------|
| Shift left | << | << | sll |
| Shift right | >> | >> | srl |
| Bitwise AND | & | & | and, andi |
| Bitwise OR | | | or, ori |
| Bitwise NOT | ~ | ~ | nor |

= NOT OR

■ Useful for extracting and inserting groups of bits in a word

If one operand of NOR is zero, then it is equivalent to NOT

Shift Operations

R-type:

| op | rs | rt | rd | shamt | funct |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 6 bits | 5 bits | 5 bits | 5 bits | 5 bits | 6 bits |

- shamt: how many positions to shift
- Shift left logical (sll)
 - Shift left and fill with 0 bits
 - sll by i bits multiplies by 2^i
- Shift right logical (srl)
 - Shift right and fill with 0 bits
 - srl by i bits divides by 2^i (unsigned only)

- sll \$t2, \$s0, 4
 - srl \$t2, \$s0, 6
- rt

| op | rs | rt | rd | shamt | funct |
|----|----|----|----|-------|-------|
| 0 | 0 | 16 | 10 | 4 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 16 | 10 | 6 | 2 |

AND Operations

- Useful to mask bits in a word
 - Select some bits, clear others to 0

and \$t0, \$t1, \$t2

| | |
|------|---|
| \$t2 | 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 1101 1100 0000 |
| \$t1 | 0000 0000 0000 0000 0011 1100 0000 0000 |
| \$t0 | 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 1100 0000 0000 |

OR Operations

- Useful to include bits in a word
 - Set some bits to 1, leave others unchanged
- or \$t0, \$t1, \$t2

\$t2 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 1101 1100 0000

\$t1 0000 0000 0000 0000 0011 1100 0000 0000

\$t0 0000 0000 0000 0000 0011 1101 1100 0000

NOT Operations

- Useful to invert bits in a word
 - Change 0 to 1, and 1 to 0
- MIPS has NOR 3-operand instruction
 - $a \text{ NOR } b == \text{NOT } (a \text{ OR } b)$

`nor $t0, $t1, $zero` ←
(use NOR to perform NOT)

Register 0: always
read as zero

\$t1 0000 0000 0000 0000 0011 1100 0000 0000

\$t0 1111 1111 1111 1111 1100 0011 1111 1111

| Category | Instr | Example | Meaning | Comments |
|----------|-------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Logical | and | and \$s1, \$s2, \$s3 | \$s1 = \$s2 & \$s3 | bit-by-bit AND |
| | or | or \$s1, \$s2, \$s3 | \$s1 = \$s2 \$s3 | bit-by-bit OR |
| | nor | nor \$s1, \$s2, \$s3 | \$s1 = ~(\$s2 \$s3) | bit-by-bit NOR |
| | andi | andi \$s1, \$s2, 100 | \$s1 = \$s2 & 100 | AND with const |
| | ori | ori \$s1, \$s2, 100 | \$s1 = \$s2 100 | OR with const. |
| | sll | sll \$s1, \$s2, 10 | \$s1 = \$s2 << 10 | shift left by const |
| | srl | srl \$s1, \$s2, 10 | \$s1 = \$s2 >> 10 | shift right by const |

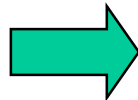


Assembly code

MIPS

Logical Instruction

Machine code



| Name | Format | op | rs | rt | rd | shamt | func |
|------|--------|----|----|----|-----|-------|------|
| and | R | 0 | 18 | 19 | 17 | 0 | 36 |
| or | R | 0 | 18 | 19 | 17 | 0 | 37 |
| nor | R | 0 | 18 | 19 | 17 | 0 | 39 |
| andi | I | 12 | 18 | 17 | 100 | | |
| ori | I | 13 | 18 | 17 | 100 | | |
| sll | R | 0 | 0 | 18 | 17 | 10 | 0 |
| srl | R | 0 | 0 | 18 | 17 | 10 | 2 |



Flow Control Operations

- Branch to a labeled instruction if a condition is true
 - Otherwise, continue sequentially
- `beq rs, rt, L1`
 - if (`rs == rt`) branch to instruction labeled L1;
- `bne rs, rt, L1`
 - if (`rs != rt`) branch to instruction labeled L1;
- `j L1`
 - unconditional jump to instruction labeled L1



Compiling If Statements

- C code:

```
if (i==j) f = g+h;  
else f = g-h;
```

- f, g, ... in \$s0, \$s1, ...

- Compiled MIPS code:

```
bne $s3, $s4, Else
```

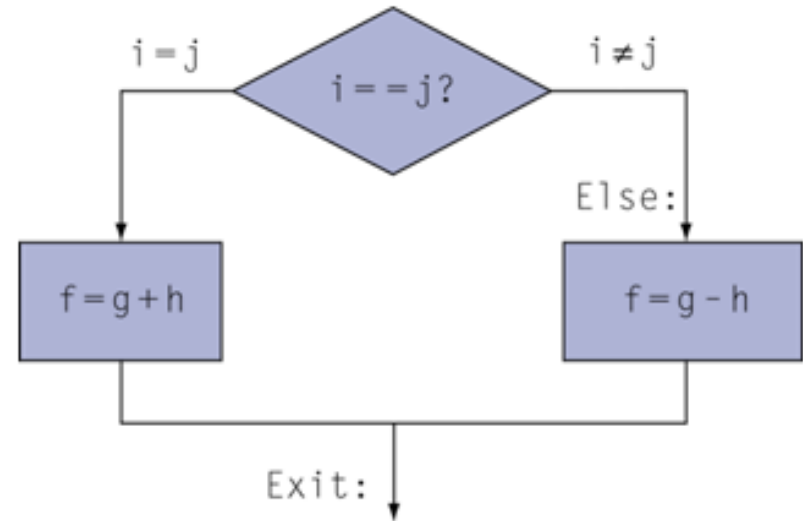
```
add $s0, $s1, $s2
```

```
j Exit
```

```
Else: sub $s0, $s1, $s2
```

```
Exit: ...
```

Assembler calculates addresses



Compiling Loop Statements

- C code:

```
while (save[i] == k) i += 1;
```

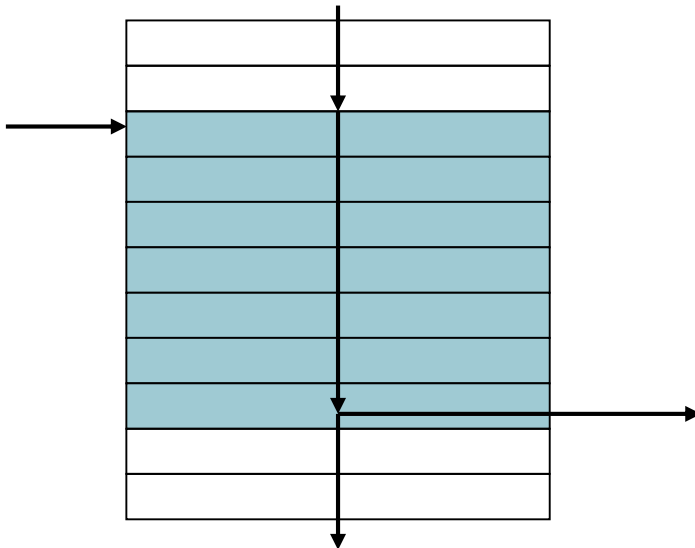
- i in \$s3, k in \$s5, address of save in \$s6

- MIPS code:

```
Loop:  sll    $t1, $s3, 2
        add   $t1, $t1, $s6
        lw    $t0, 0($t1)
        bne   $t0, $s5, Exit
        addi   $s3, $s3, 1
        j     Loop
Exit:  ...
```

Basic Blocks

- A basic block is a sequence of instructions with
 - No embedded branches (except at end)
 - No branch targets (except at beginning)



- A compiler identifies basic blocks for optimization
- An advanced processor can accelerate execution of basic blocks

Critical thinking...

- We have used beq/bne for structures below

```
if (i==j) f = g+h;  
else f = g-h;
```

```
while (save[i] == k) i += 1;
```

- How about following structures?

```
if (i<j) f = g+h;  
else f = g-h;
```

```
while (save[i] >= k) i += 1;
```

More Conditional Operations

- Set result to 1 if a condition is true
 - Otherwise, set to 0
- `slt rd, rs, rt`
 - if ($rs < rt$) $rd = 1$; else $rd = 0$;
- `slti rt, rs, constant`
 - if ($rs < \text{constant}$) $rt = 1$; else $rt = 0$;
- Use in combination with `beq`, `bne`

```
slt $t0, $s1, $s2  
bne $t0, $zero, L
```

if ($\$s1 < \$s2$)
branch to L

(b1t)

Branch Instruction Design

- Why not `b1t`, `bgt`, etc?
- Hardware for `<`, `≥`, ... slower than `=`, `≠`
 - Combining with branch involves more work per instruction, requiring a slower clock
 - All instructions penalized!
- `beq` and `bne` are the common case
- This is a good design compromise

Critical thinking ...

```
slt $t0, $s1, $s2  
bne $t0, $zero, L
```

if ($\$s1 < \$s2$)
branch to L
(b1t)

if ($\$s1 > \$s2$)
branch to L
(bgt)

if ($\$s1 \leq \$s2$)
branch to L
(b1e)

if ($\$s1 \geq \$s2$)
branch to L
(bge)

?

?

?

Signed vs. Unsigned

- Signed comparison: `slt`, `slti`
- Unsigned comparison: `sltu`, `sltui`
- Example
 - `$s0 = 1111 1111 1111 1111 1111 1111 1111 1111`
 - `$s1 = 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0001`
 - `slt $t0, $s0, $s1 # signed`
 - $-1 < +1 \Rightarrow \text{\textcolor{blue}{\$t0}} = 1$
 - `sltu $t0, $s0, $s1 # unsigned`
 - $+4,294,967,295 > +1 \Rightarrow \text{\textcolor{blue}{\$t0}} = 0$

Procedure Calling

- Steps required
 1. Place parameters in registers
 2. Transfer control to procedure
 3. Acquire storage for procedure
 4. Perform procedure's operations
 5. Place result in register for caller
 6. Return to place of call

Register Usage

- \$a0 – \$a3: arguments (reg's 4 – 7)
- \$v0, \$v1: result values (reg's 2 and 3)
- \$t0 – \$t9: temporaries
 - Can be overwritten by callee
- \$s0 – \$s7: saved
 - Must be saved/restored by callee
- \$gp: global pointer for static data (reg 28)
- \$sp: stack pointer (reg 29)
- \$fp: frame pointer (reg 30)
- \$ra: return address (reg 31)

Register 1 (\$at) reserved for assembler, 26-27 for operating system

Procedure Call Instructions

- **Procedure call:** jump and link
`jal ProcedureLabel`
 - Address of following instruction put in `$ra`
 - Jumps to target address
- **Procedure return:** jump register
`jr $ra`
 - Copies `$ra` to program counter
 - Can also be used for computed jumps
 - e.g., for case/switch statements

```
...  
jal Proc1  
xxx
```

```
Proc1:  
...  
jr $ra
```

Leaf Procedure Example

■ C code:

```
int leaf_example (int g, h, i, j)
{ int f;
  f = (g + h) - (i + j);
  return f;
}
```

- Arguments g, ..., j in \$a0, ..., \$a3
- f in \$s0 (hence, need to save \$s0 on stack)
- Result in \$v0

Leaf Procedure Example

■ MIPS code:

leaf_example:

```
addi $sp, $sp, -4  
sw   $s0, 0($sp)
```

Save \$s0 on stack

```
add  $t0, $a0, $a1  
add  $t1, $a2, $a3  
sub  $s0, $t0, $t1  
add  $v0, $s0, $zero
```

Procedure body

```
lw   $s0, 0($sp)  
addi $sp, $sp, 4
```

Restore \$s0

```
jr   $ra
```

Return

Non-Leaf Procedures

- Procedures that call other procedures
- For nested call, caller needs to save on the stack:
 - Its return address
 - Any arguments and temporaries needed after the call
- Restore from the stack after the call

Non-Leaf Procedure Example

- **C code:**

```
int fact (int n)
{
    if (n < 1) return 1;
    else return n * fact(n - 1);
}
```

- Argument n in \$a0
- Result in \$v0

Non-Leaf Procedure Example

MIPS code:

| | | |
|-------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| fact: | | |
| addi | \$sp, \$sp, -8 | # adjust stack for 2 items |
| sw | \$ra, 4(\$sp) | # save return address |
| sw | \$a0, 0(\$sp) | # save argument |
| slti | \$t0, \$a0, 1 | # test for n < 1 |
| beq | \$t0, \$zero, L1 | # branch if n >= 1 |
| addi | \$v0, \$zero, 1 | # if so, result is 1 |
| addi | \$sp, \$sp, 8 | # pop 2 items from stack |
| jr | \$ra | # and return |
| L1: | addi \$a0, \$a0, -1 | # else decrement n |
| | jal fact | # recursive call |
| lw | \$a0, 0(\$sp) | # restore original n |
| lw | \$ra, 4(\$sp) | # and return address |
| addi | \$sp, \$sp, 8 | # pop 2 items from stack |
| mul | \$v0, \$a0, \$v0 | # multiply to get result |
| jr | \$ra | # and return |

Non-Leaf Pro

MIPS code:

fact:

```

addi $sp, $sp, -8
sw    $ra, 4($sp)
sw    $a0, 0($sp)
slti  $t0, $a0, 1
beq   $t0, $zero, L1
addi  $v0, $zero, 1
addi  $sp, $sp, 8
jr    $ra
L1:   addi $a0, $a0, -1
      jal  fact
      lw   $a0, 0($sp)
      lw   $ra, 4($sp)
      addi $sp, $sp, 8
      mul  $v0, $a0, $v0
      jr   $ra
  
```

M →

a0 = 3

jal (ra = jal+4 in main)

fact

...

a0 = 2

jal (ra = M)

fact

...

a0 = 1

jal (ra = M)

fact

...

a0 = 0

jal (ra = M)

fact

v0=1 pop stack

pop stack (a0=1, ra=M)

v0= 1x1 = 1

pop stack (a0=2, ra=M)

v0= 2x1 = 2

pop stack (a0=3, ra:in main)

v0= 3x2 = 6

ra (in main)

a0 = 3

ra (M)

a0 = 2

ra (M)

a0 = 1

ra (M)

a0 = 0

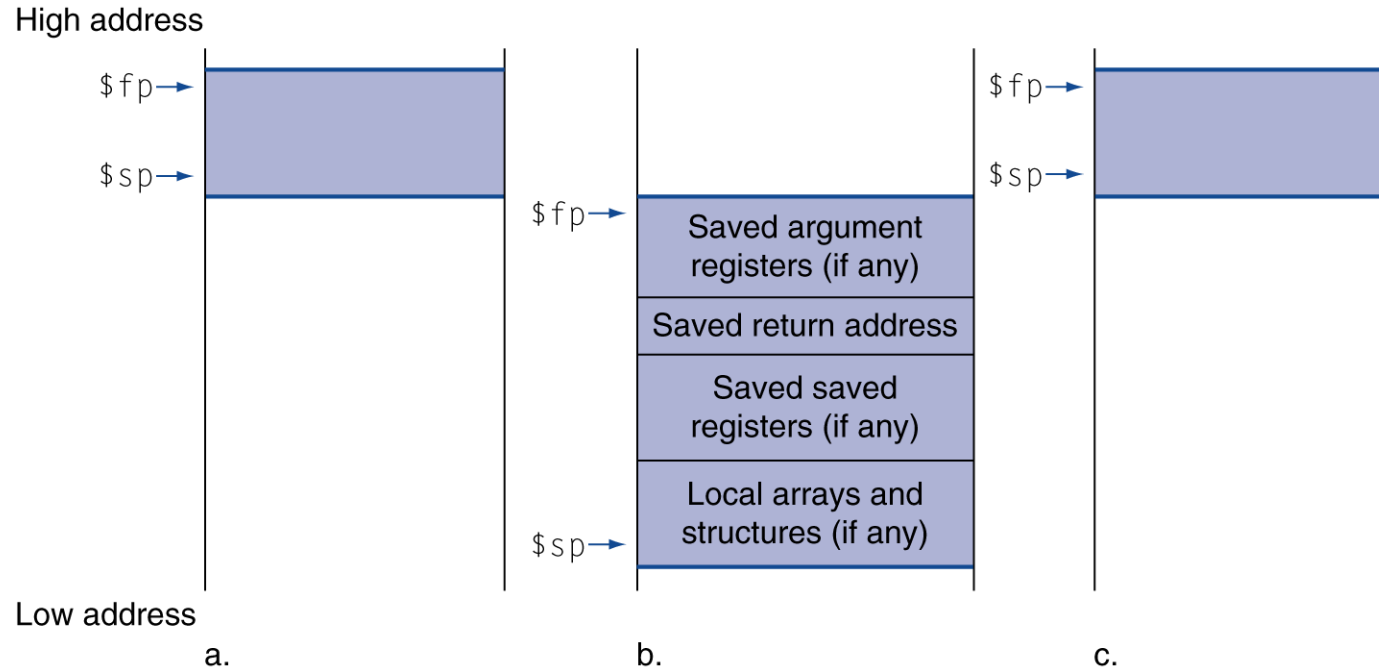
Procedure – cont.

- Data preservation in MIPS
 - To avoid saving and restoring a register whose value is never used, MIPS registers are separated to two groups.

| Preserved | Not preserved |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Saved registers: \$s0 - \$s7 | Temporary registers: \$t0 - \$t9 |
| Stack pointer register: \$sp | Argument registers: \$a0 - \$a3 |
| Return address register: \$ra | Return value registers: \$v0 - \$v1 |
| Stack above the stack pointer | Stack below the stack pointer |

- Preserved: The caller assumes them will be preserved on a procedure call. If they are used in the procedure, the callee must save and restore them.
 - In leave procedure, we need to save and restore \$s0

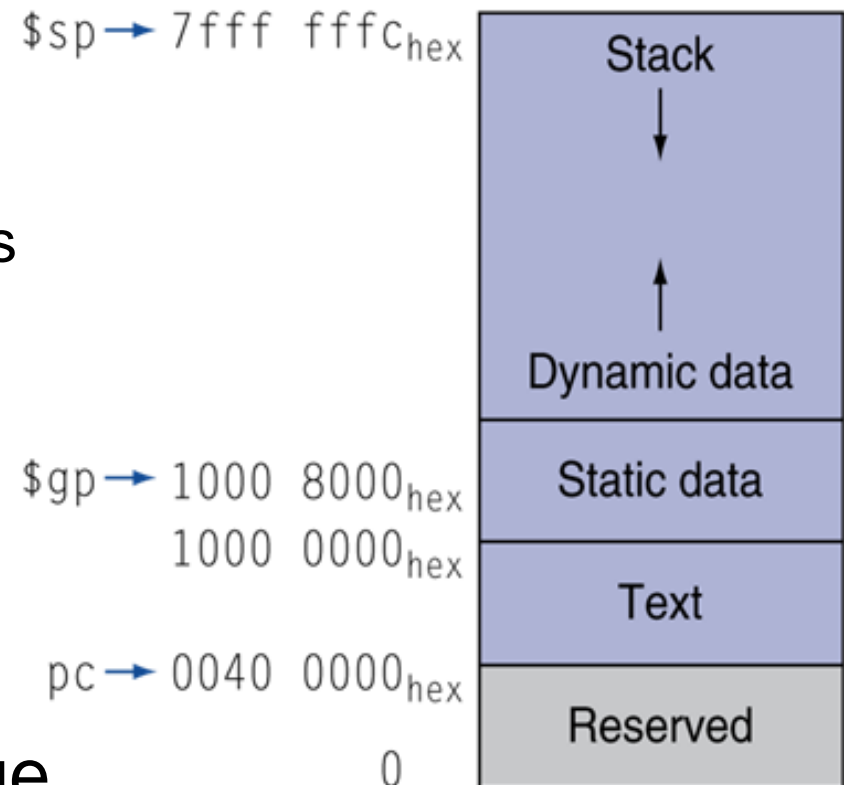
Local Data on the Stack



- Local data allocated by callee
 - e.g., C automatic variables
- Procedure frame (activation record)
 - Used by some compilers to manage stack storage

Memory Layout

- Text: program code
- Static data: global variables
 - e.g., static variables in C, constant arrays and strings
 - \$gp initialized to address allowing \pm offsets into this segment
- Dynamic data: heap
 - E.g., malloc in C, new in Java
- Stack: automatic storage



Character Data

- Byte-encoded character sets
 - ASCII: 128 characters
 - 95 graphic, 33 control
 - Latin-1: 256 characters
 - ASCII, +96 more graphic characters
- Unicode: 32-bit character set
 - Used in Java, C++ wide characters, ...
 - Most of the world's alphabets, plus symbols
 - UTF-8, UTF-16: variable-length encodings

Byte/Halfword Operations

- MIPS byte/halfword load/store
 - String processing is a common case
 - Sign extend to 32 bits in rt
 - `lb rt, offset(rs)`
 - `lh rt, offset(rs)`
 - Zero extend to 32 bits in rt
 - `lbu rt, offset(rs)`
 - `lhu rt, offset(rs)`
 - Store just rightmost byte/halfword
 - `sb rt, offset(rs)`
 - `sh rt, offset(rs)`

String Copy Example

- C code (naïve):

- Null-terminated string

```
void strcpy (char x[], char y[])  
{  
    int i=0;  
    while ((x[i]=y[i])!='\0')  
        i += 1;  
}
```

- Addresses of x, y in \$a0, \$a1
 - i in \$s0

String Copy Example

- MIPS code:

| | | |
|---------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| strcpy: | | |
| addi | \$sp, \$sp, -4 | # adjust stack for 1 item |
| sw | \$s0, 0(\$sp) | # save \$s0 |
| add | \$s0, \$zero, \$zero | # i = 0 |
| L1: | add \$t1, \$s0, \$a1 | # addr of y[i] in \$t1 |
| lbu | \$t2, 0(\$t1) | # \$t2 = y[i] |
| add | \$t3, \$s0, \$a0 | # addr of x[i] in \$t3 |
| sb | \$t2, 0(\$t3) | # x[i] = y[i] |
| beq | \$t2, \$zero, L2 | # exit loop if y[i] == 0 |
| addi | \$s0, \$s0, 1 | # i = i + 1 |
| j | L1 | # next iteration of loop |
| L2: | lw \$s0, 0(\$sp) | # restore saved \$s0 |
| addi | \$sp, \$sp, 4 | # pop 1 item from stack |
| jr | \$ra | # and return |

32-bit Constants

- How to load the 32-bit constant below into register \$s0 using MIPS assembly code?
- 0000 0000 0011 1101 0000 1001 0000 0000₂

lw \$t0, 0(\$t1)

address of the constant

How to move the address to the reg?

32-bit Constants

- Most constants are small
 - 16-bit immediate is sufficient
- For the occasional 32-bit constant
 - Copies 16-bit constant to left 16 bits of `rt`
 - Clears right 16 bits of `rt` to 0

$61 = 0000\ 0000\ 0011\ 1101_2$

`lui $s0, 61`

| | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 0000 0000 0011 1101 | 0000 0000 0000 0000 |
|---------------------|---------------------|

`ori $s0, $s0, 2304`

| | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 0000 0000 0011 1101 | 0000 1001 0000 0000 |
|---------------------|---------------------|

$2304 = 0000\ 1001\ 0000\ 0000_2$



32-bit Constants

- How to load the 32-bit constant below into register \$s0 using MIPS assembly code?

0000 0000 0011 1101 0000 1001 0000 0000

```
lui $s0, 0000000000111101b
```

```
ori $s0, $s0, 0000100100000000b
```

| | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 0000 0000 0011 1101 | 0000 1001 0000 0000 |
|---------------------|---------------------|

Branch Addressing

- Branch instructions specify
 - Opcode, two registers, target address
- Most branch targets are near branch
 - Forward or backward

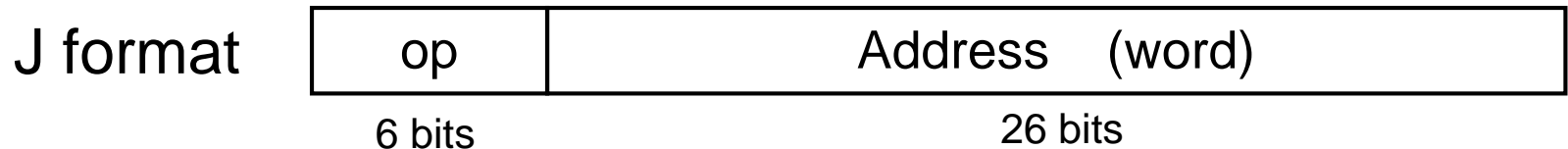
I format



- **PC-relative addressing**
 - Target address = PC + offset \times 4
 - PC already incremented by 4 by this time

Jump Addressing

- Jump targets could be anywhere in text segment
 - Encode full address in instruction



Direct addressing

- Target address = $PC_{31...28} : (\text{address} \times 4)$

(十進位)

10000 L: ...

...

J L

jal L

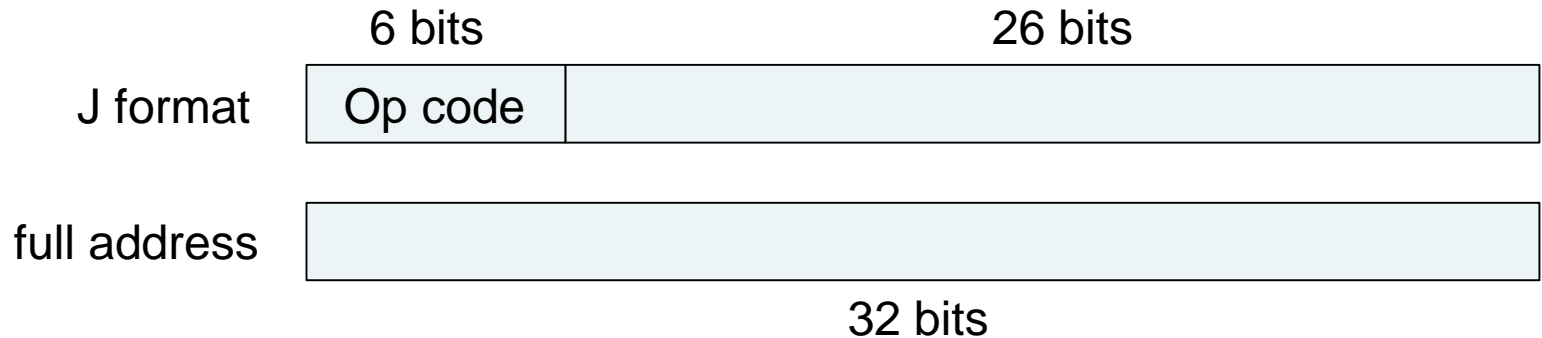
Jr \$ra

| | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | 2500 (word address) | | | | | Go to 2500 (word) |
| 3 | 2500 (word address) | | | | | \$ra = PC (cur+4); go to 2500 (word) |
| 0 | 31 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | Go to \$ra |



Jump Addressing

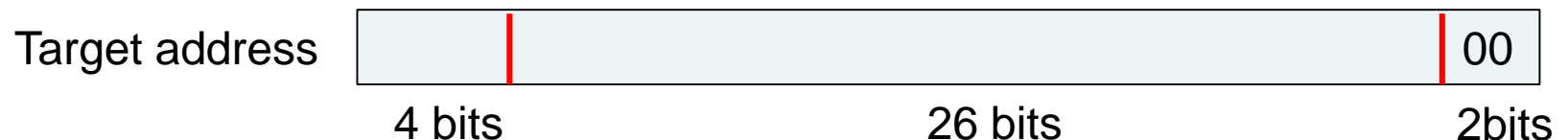
1. Why the jump addressing is so complex as to concatenate the 26 bits in the instruction and 4 bits from PC?



The space is insufficient to store a full address.

2. Why only needs 4 bits from PC?

Instr. are word alignment \rightarrow target address is a multiple of 4
 \rightarrow rightmost two bits are 00 $\rightarrow 32 - (26+2) = 4$



Jump Addressing

3. How to make sure that the first 4 bits of the target address is the same to the first 4 bits of PC?

To limit the range that j instruction can reach.

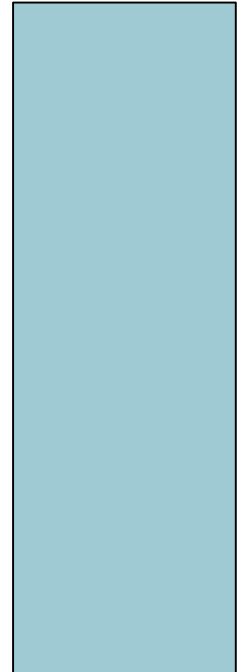
4. What if we need to go to the address with the first 4 bits different from the first 4 bits of PC?

With the help of beq

0x2FFFFFFC

PC → 0x22334455

0x20000000



Target Addressing Example

- Loop code from earlier example
 - Assume Loop at location 80000

```
while (save[i] == k)
    i += 1;
```

(十進位)

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|------------------|-------|----|-------|----|---|---|----|
| Loop: sll | \$t1, \$s3, 2 | 80000 | 0 | 0 | 19 | 9 | 2 | 0 |
| add | \$t1, \$t1, \$s6 | 80004 | 0 | 9 | 22 | 9 | 0 | 32 |
| lw | \$t0, 0(\$t1) | 80008 | 35 | 9 | 8 | 0 | | |
| bne | \$t0, \$s5, Exit | 80012 | 5 | 8 | 21 | 2 | | |
| addi | \$s3, \$s3, 1 | 80016 | 8 | 19 | 19 | 1 | | |
| j | Loop | 80020 | 2 | 20000 | | | | |
| Exit: ... | | 80024 | | | | | | |

Branching Far Away

- What is the range that *beq* can reach?
 - $\pm 2^{15}$ (word) = $\pm 2^{17}$ (bytes) = $\pm 128k$ (PC relative)
- What is the range that *j* can reach?
 - 2^{26} (word) = 2^{28} (bytes) = 2^8 MB = 256MB address where the PC supplies the upper 4bits
- If branch target is too far to encode with 16-bit offset, assembler rewrites the code

```
beq $s0,$s1, L1
```



```
bne $s0,$s1, L2
```

```
j L1
```

```
L2: ...
```

Overview of Instruction Formats

- MIPS instr formats:
 - Simple instructions all 32 bits wide
 - Very structured, no unnecessary baggage
 - Three instruction formats:

| Name | Fields | | | | | | Comments |
|------------|--------|----------------|--------|-------------------|--------|--------|--------------------------------|
| Field size | 6 bits | 5 bits | 5 bits | 5 bits | 5 bits | 6 bits | All MIPS instructions 32 bits |
| R-format | op | rs | rt | rd | shamt | funct | Arithmetic instructions format |
| I-format | op | rs | rt | address/immediate | | | Transfer, branch, imm. format |
| J-format | op | target address | | | | | Jump instruction format |

Addressing Mode Summary

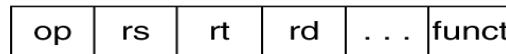
1. **Immediate addressing**
 - the operand is a constant inside the instr.
2. **Register addressing**
 - the operand is a register
3. **Base or displacement addressing**
 - the operand is at the memory location whose addr. is the sum of a reg and a constant inside instr. (lw/sw/lh/sh/lb/sb)
4. **PC-relative addressing**
 - the address is a 16-bit constant in instr., shifted left 2 bits (word to byte), and then added to (PC+4). (i.e., next instr.)
5. **Pseudodirect addressing**
 - the address is a 26-bit constant in instruction, shifted left 2 bits (word to byte), and then concatenated with the 4 upper bits of PC. Address boundary: $2^{28} = 256\text{MB}$.

Addressing Mode Summary

1. Immediate addressing



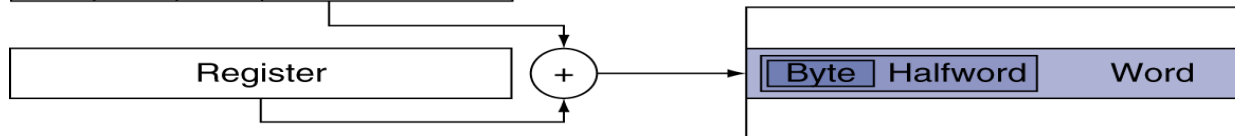
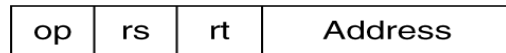
2. Register addressing



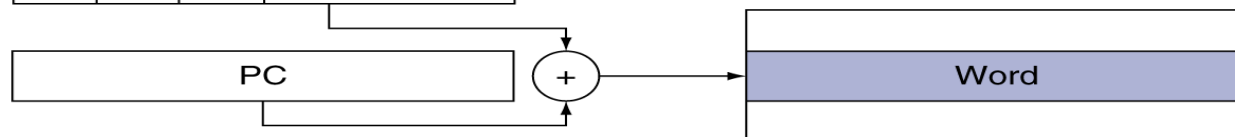
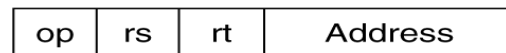
Registers

Register

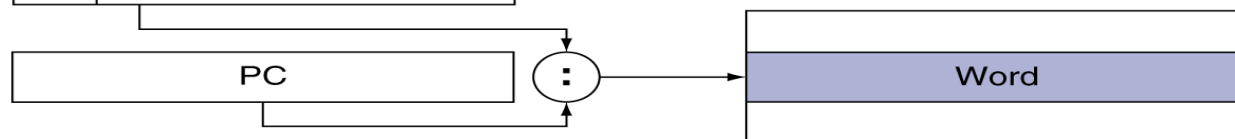
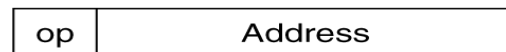
3. Base addressing



4. PC-relative addressing



5. Pseudodirect addressing



Put it all together – Sort

- Illustrates use of assembly instructions for a C bubble sort function
- Swap procedure (leaf)

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

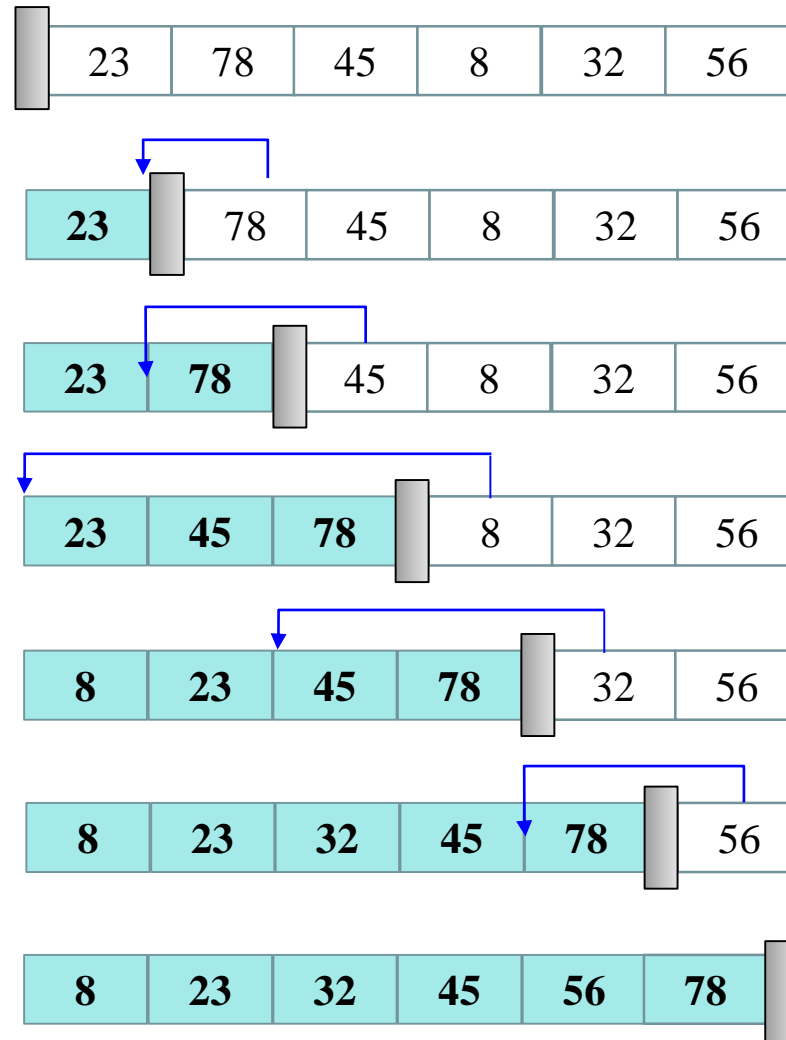
- v in \$a0, k in \$a1, temp in \$t0



The Procedure Swap

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| swap: sll \$t1, \$a1, 2 | # \$t1 = k * 4 |
| add \$t1, \$a0, \$t1 | # \$t1 = v+(k*4) |
| | # (address of v[k]) |
| lw \$t0, 0(\$t1) | # \$t0 (temp) = v[k] |
| lw \$t2, 4(\$t1) | # \$t2 = v[k+1] |
| sw \$t2, 0(\$t1) | # v[k] = \$t2 (v[k+1]) |
| sw \$t0, 4(\$t1) | # v[k+1] = \$t0 (temp) |
| jr \$ra | # return to calling routine |

The Insertion Sort Algorithm



The Sort Procedure in C

- Non-leaf (calls swap)

```
void sort (int v[], int n)
{
    int i, j;
    for (i = 0; i < n; i += 1){
        for(j = i-1; j>=0 && v[j]>v[j+1];j -= 1) {
            swap(v,j);
        }
    }
}
```

- v in \$a0, k in \$a1, i in \$s0, j in \$s1

The Procedure Body

| | | | |
|----------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| | move \$s2, \$a0 | # save \$a0 into \$s2 | Move params |
| | move \$s3, \$a1 | # save \$a1 into \$s3 | |
| | move \$s0, \$zero | # i = 0 | |
| for1tst: | slt \$t0, \$s0, \$s3 | # \$t0 = 0 if \$s0 ≥ \$s3 (i ≥ n) | Outer loop |
| | beq \$t0, \$zero, exit1 | # go to exit1 if \$s0 ≥ \$s3 (i ≥ n) | |
| | addi \$s1, \$s0, -1 | # j = i - 1 | |
| for2tst: | slti \$t0, \$s1, 0 | # \$t0 = 1 if \$s1 < 0 (j < 0) | |
| | bne \$t0, \$zero, exit2 | # go to exit2 if \$s1 < 0 (j < 0) | |
| | sll \$t1, \$s1, 2 | # \$t1 = j * 4 | Inner loop |
| | add \$t2, \$s2, \$t1 | # \$t2 = v + (j * 4) | |
| | lw \$t3, 0(\$t2) | # \$t3 = v[j] | |
| | lw \$t4, 4(\$t2) | # \$t4 = v[j + 1] | |
| | slt \$t0, \$t4, \$t3 | # \$t0 = 0 if \$t4 ≥ \$t3 | |
| | beq \$t0, \$zero, exit2 | # go to exit2 if \$t4 ≥ \$t3 | |
| | move \$a0, \$s2 | # 1st param of swap is v (old \$a0) | Pass params & call |
| | move \$a1, \$s1 | # 2nd param of swap is j | |
| | jal swap | # call swap procedure | |
| | addi \$s1, \$s1, -1 | # j -= 1 | |
| | j for2tst | # jump to test of inner loop | Inner loop |
| exit2: | addi \$s0, \$s0, 1 | # i += 1 | |
| | j for1tst | # jump to test of outer loop | Outer loop |

The Full Procedure

| | | |
|--------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| sort: | addi \$sp,\$sp, -20 | # make room on stack for 5 registers |
| | sw \$ra, 16(\$sp) | # save \$ra on stack |
| | sw \$s3,12(\$sp) | # save \$s3 on stack |
| | sw \$s2, 8(\$sp) | # save \$s2 on stack |
| | sw \$s1, 4(\$sp) | # save \$s1 on stack |
| | sw \$s0, 0(\$sp) | # save \$s0 on stack |
| | ... | # procedure body |
| | ... | |
| exit1: | lw \$s0, 0(\$sp) | # restore \$s0 from stack |
| | lw \$s1, 4(\$sp) | # restore \$s1 from stack |
| | lw \$s2, 8(\$sp) | # restore \$s2 from stack |
| | lw \$s3,12(\$sp) | # restore \$s3 from stack |
| | lw \$ra,16(\$sp) | # restore \$ra from stack |
| | addi \$sp,\$sp, 20 | # restore stack pointer |
| | jr \$ra | # return to calling routine |

Put it all together — Arrays vs. Pointers

- Array indexing involves
 - Multiplying index by element size
 - Adding to array base address
- Pointers correspond directly to memory addresses
 - Can avoid indexing complexity



Example: Clearing an Array

```
clear1(int array[], int size) {  
    int i;  
    for (i = 0; i < size; i += 1)  
        array[i] = 0;  
}
```

```
loop1: move $t0,$zero    #i = 0  
      sll $t1,$t0,2      # $t1 = i * 4  
      add $t2,$a0,$t1    # $t2 =  
                        # &array[i]  
      sw $zero, 0($t2)   # array[i]=0  
      addi $t0,$t0,1     # i = i + 1  
      slt $t3,$t0,$a1    # $t3 = (i < size)  
      bne $t3,$zero,loop1  
                        # if(...) goto loop1
```

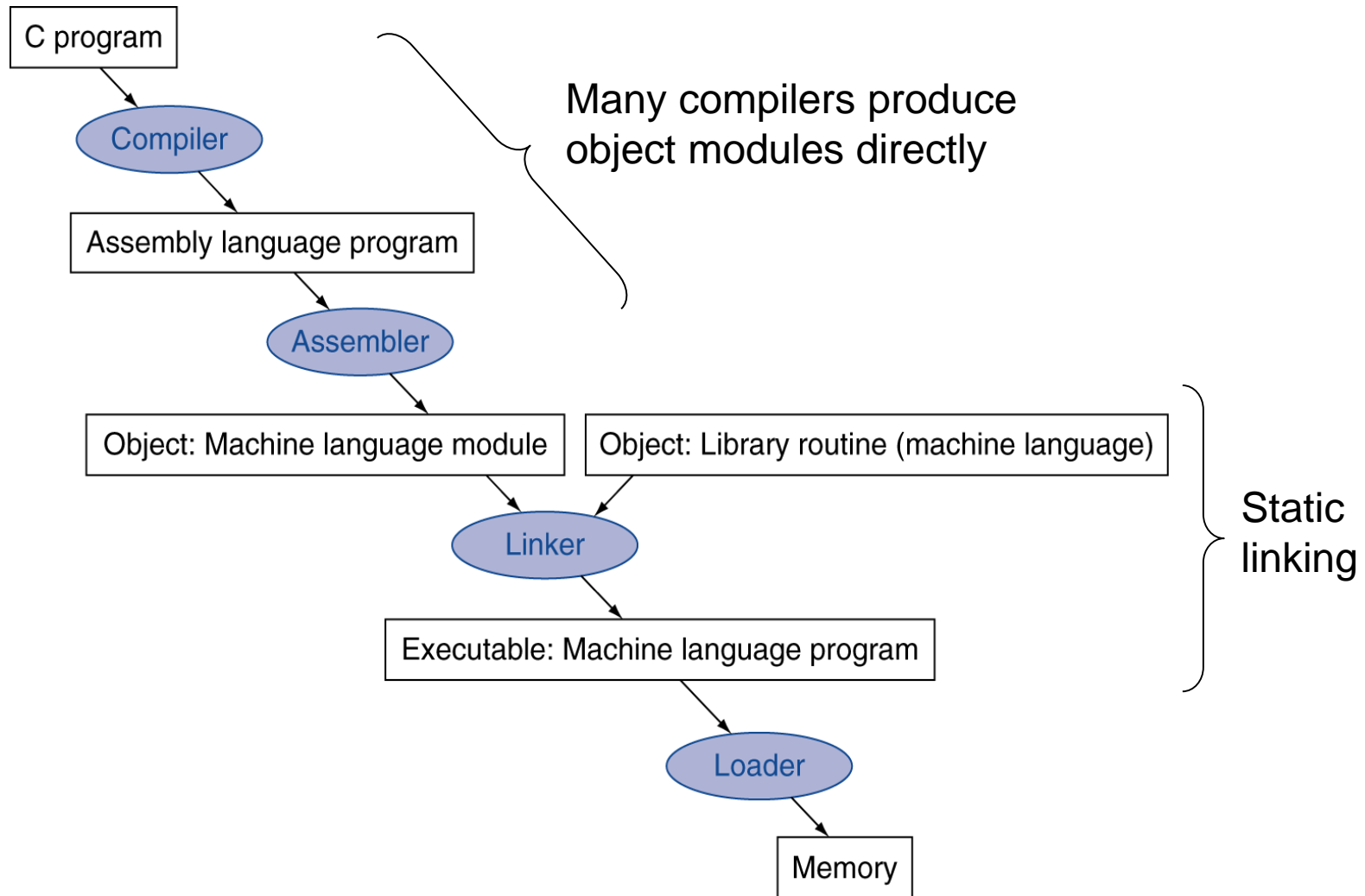
```
clear2(int *array, int size) {  
    int *p;  
    for (p = &array[0]; p < &array[size];  
        p = p + 1)  
        *p = 0;  
}
```

```
      move $t0,$a0      # p=&array[0]  
      sll $t1,$a1,2      # $t1 = size*4  
      add $t2,$a0,$t1    # $t2 =  
                        # &array[size]  
loop2: sw $zero,0($t0)   # Memory[p] = 0  
      addi $t0,$t0,4     # p = p + 4  
      slt $t3,$t0,$t2    # $t3=(p<&array[size])  
      bne $t3,$zero,loop2  
                        # if(...) goto loop2
```

Comparison of Array vs. Ptr

- Multiply “strength reduced” to shift
- Array version requires shift to be inside loop
 - Part of index calculation for incremented i
 - c.f. incrementing pointer
- Compiler can achieve same effect as manual use of pointers
 - Induction variable elimination
 - Better to make program clearer and safer

Translation and Startup



Assembler Pseudoinstructions

- Most assembler instructions represent machine instructions one-to-one
- Pseudoinstructions: figments of the assembler's imagination

`move $t0, $t1` \rightarrow `add $t0, $zero, $t1`

`blt $t0, $t1, L` \rightarrow `slt $at, $t0, $t1`
 `bne $at, $zero, L`

- `$at` (register 1): assembler temporary

Producing an Object Module

- Assembler (or compiler) translates program into machine instructions
- Provides information for building a complete program from the pieces
 - Header: described contents of object module
 - Text segment: translated instructions
 - Static data segment: data allocated for the life of the program
 - Relocation info: for contents that depend on absolute location of loaded program
 - Symbol table: global definitions and external refs
 - Debug info: for associating with source code

Linking Object Modules

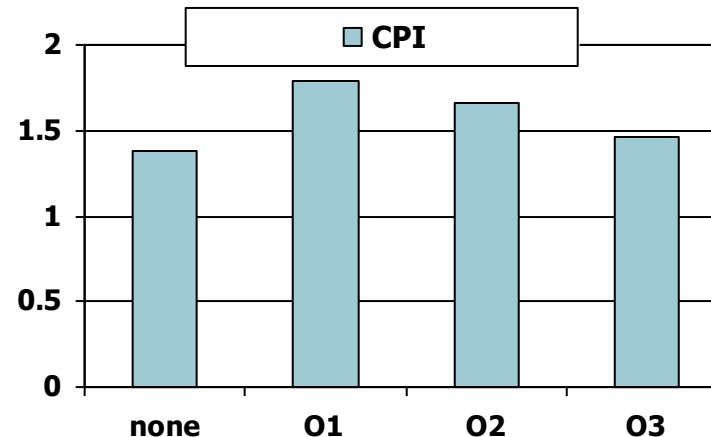
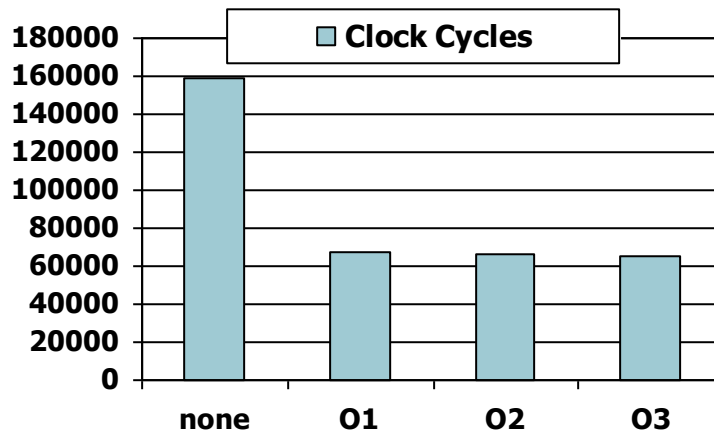
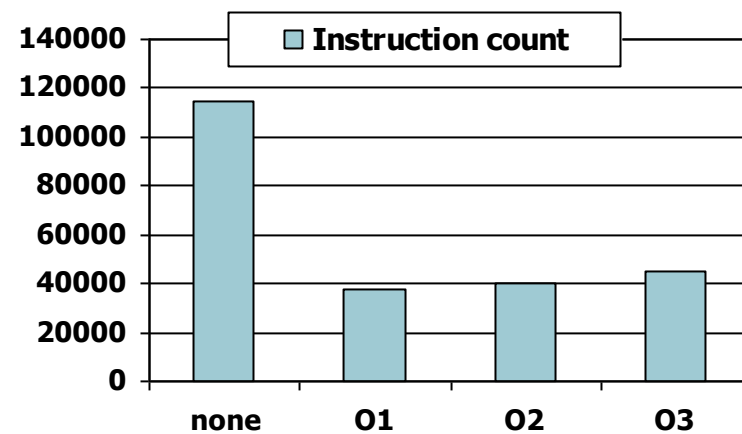
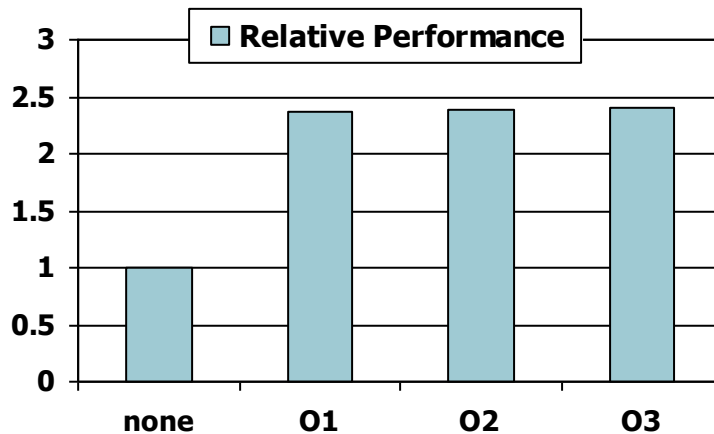
- Produces an executable image
 1. Merges segments
 2. Resolve labels (determine their addresses)
 3. Patch location-dependent and external refs
- Could leave location dependencies for fixing by a relocating loader
 - But with virtual memory, no need to do this
 - Program can be loaded into absolute location in virtual memory space

Loading a Program

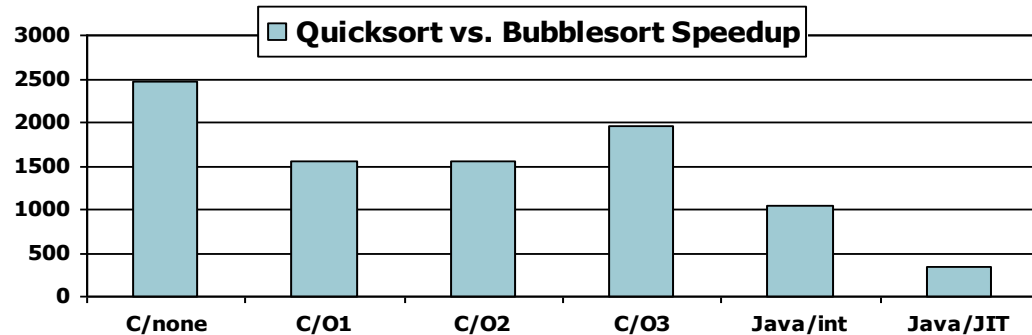
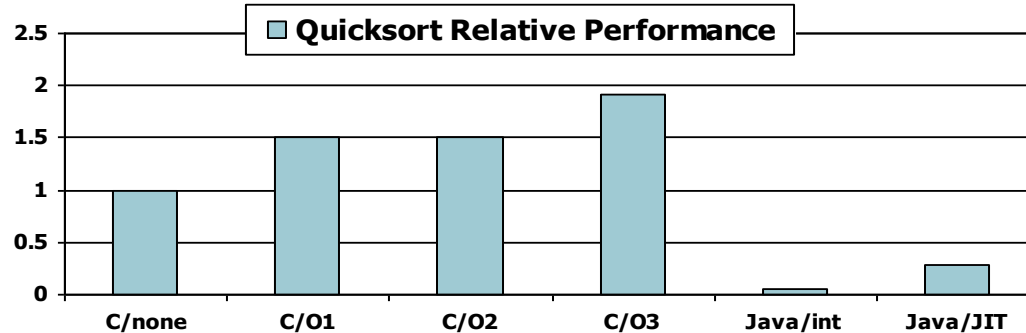
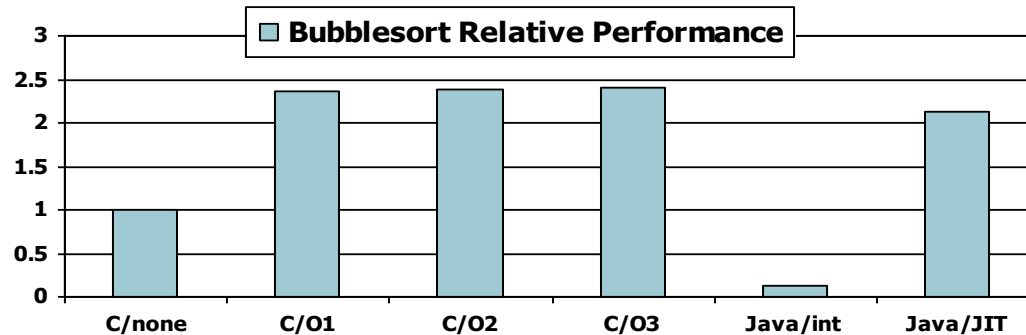
- Load from image file on disk into memory
 1. Read header to determine segment sizes
 2. Create virtual address space
 3. Copy text and initialized data into memory
 - Or set page table entries so they can be faulted in
 4. Set up arguments on stack
 5. Initialize registers (including \$sp, \$fp, \$gp)
 6. Jump to startup routine
 - Copies arguments to \$a0, ... and calls main
 - When main returns, do exit syscall

Effect of Compiler Optimization

Compiled with gcc for Pentium 4 under Linux



Effect of Language and Algorithm



Lessons Learnt

- Instruction count and CPI are not good performance indicators in isolation
- Compiler optimizations are sensitive to the algorithm
- Java/JIT compiled code is significantly faster than JVM interpreted
 - Comparable to optimized C in some cases
- Nothing can fix a dumb algorithm!

ARM & MIPS Similarities

- ARM: the most popular embedded core
- Similar basic set of instructions to MIPS

| | ARM | MIPS |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Date announced | 1985 | 1985 |
| Instruction size | 32 bits | 32 bits |
| Address space | 32-bit flat | 32-bit flat |
| Data alignment | Aligned | Aligned |
| Data addressing modes | 9 | 3 |
| Registers | 15 × 32-bit | 31 × 32-bit |
| Input/output | Memory mapped | Memory mapped |

Implementing IA-32

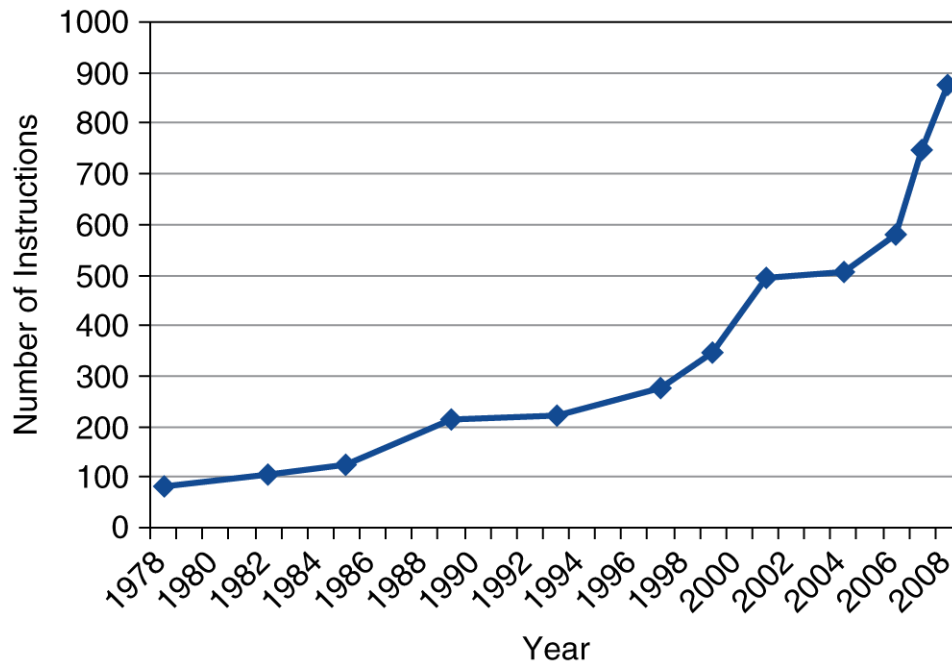
- Complex instruction set makes implementation difficult
 - Hardware translates instructions to simpler microoperations
 - Simple instructions: 1–1
 - Complex instructions: 1–many
 - Microengine similar to RISC
 - Market share makes this economically viable
- Comparable performance to RISC
 - Compilers avoid complex instructions

Fallacies

- Powerful instruction \Rightarrow higher performance
 - Fewer instructions required
 - But complex instructions are hard to implement
 - May slow down all instructions, including simple ones
 - Compilers are good at making fast code from simple instructions
- Use assembly code for high performance
 - But modern compilers are better at dealing with modern processors
 - More lines of code \Rightarrow more errors and less productivity

Fallacies

- Backward compatibility \Rightarrow instruction set doesn't change
 - But they do accrete more instructions



x86 instruction set

Pitfalls

- Sequential words are not at sequential addresses
 - Increment by 4, not by 1!
- Keeping a pointer to an automatic variable after procedure returns
 - e.g., passing pointer back via an argument
 - Pointer becomes invalid when stack popped

Concluding Remarks

- Design principles
 1. Simplicity favors regularity
 2. Smaller is faster
 3. Make the common case fast
 4. Good design demands good compromises
- Layers of software/hardware
 - Compiler, assembler, hardware
- MIPS: typical of RISC ISAs
 - c.f. x86

Concluding Remarks

- Measure MIPS instruction executions in benchmark programs
 - Consider making the common case fast
 - Consider compromises

| Instruction class | MIPS examples | SPEC2006 Int | SPEC2006 FP |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Arithmetic | add, sub, addi | 16% | 48% |
| Data transfer | lw, sw, lb, lbu, lh, lhu, sb, lui | 35% | 36% |
| Logical | and, or, nor, andi, ori, sll, srl | 12% | 4% |
| Cond. Branch | beq, bne, slt, slti, sltiu | 34% | 8% |
| Jump | j, jr, jal | 2% | 0% |