

Computer Architecture  
Tutorial 07

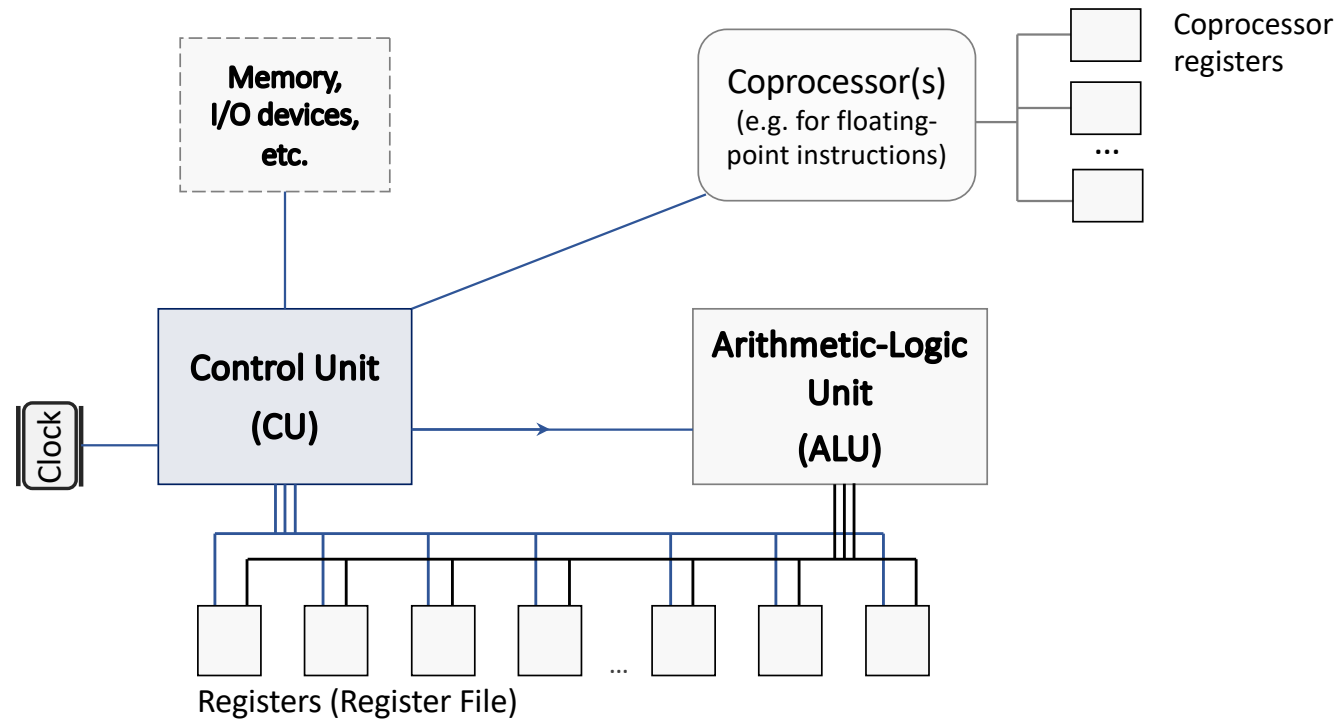
# **MIPS Instruction Set**

Artem Burmyakov, Alexander Tormasov

October 07, 2021

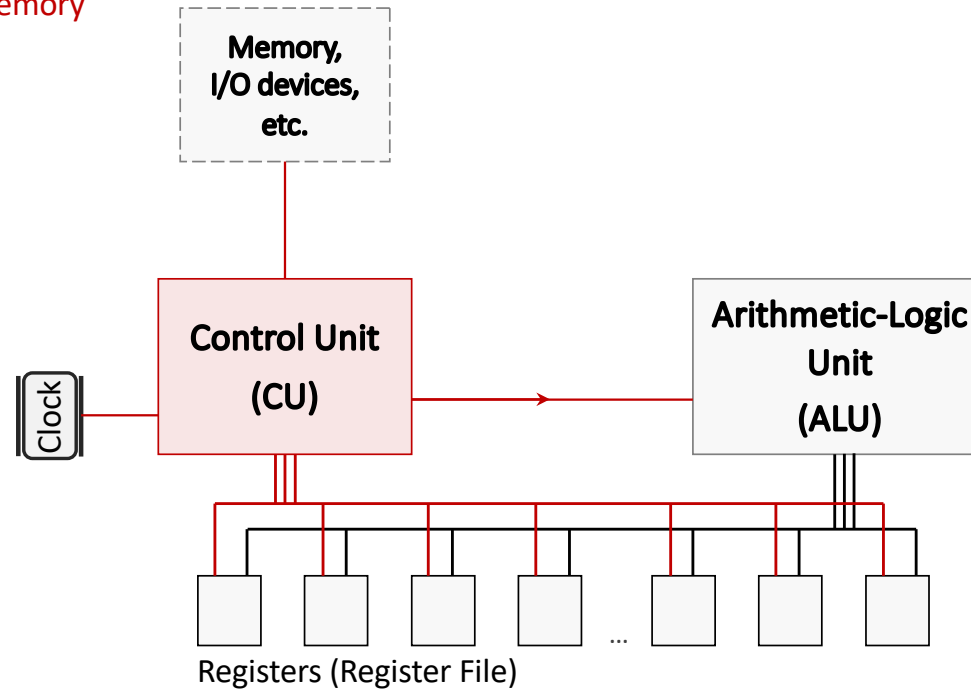


# MIPS Architecture Layout



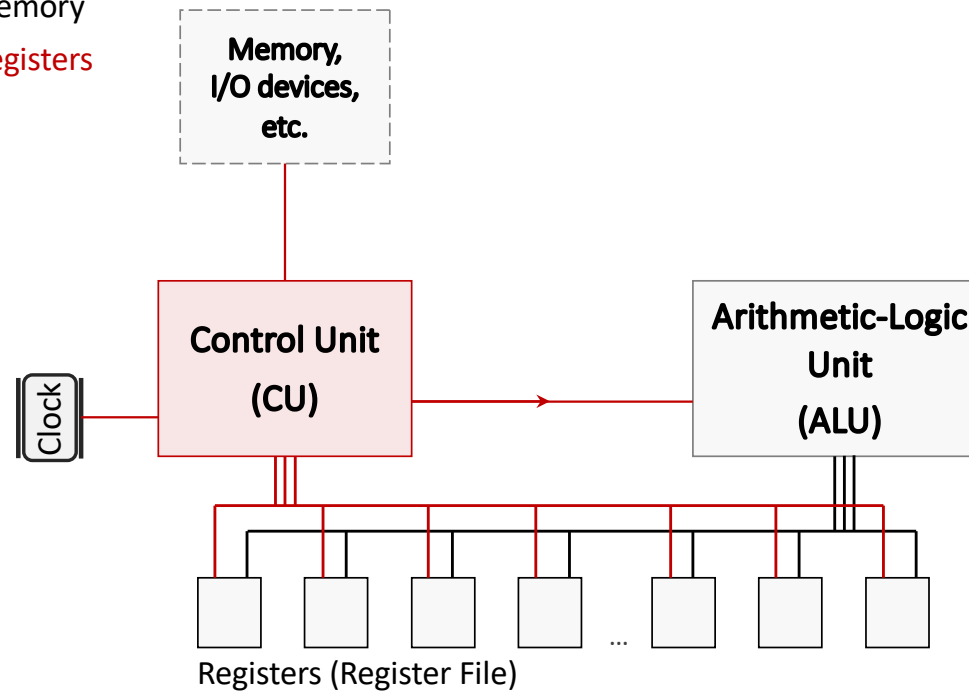
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- Fetches instructions from memory



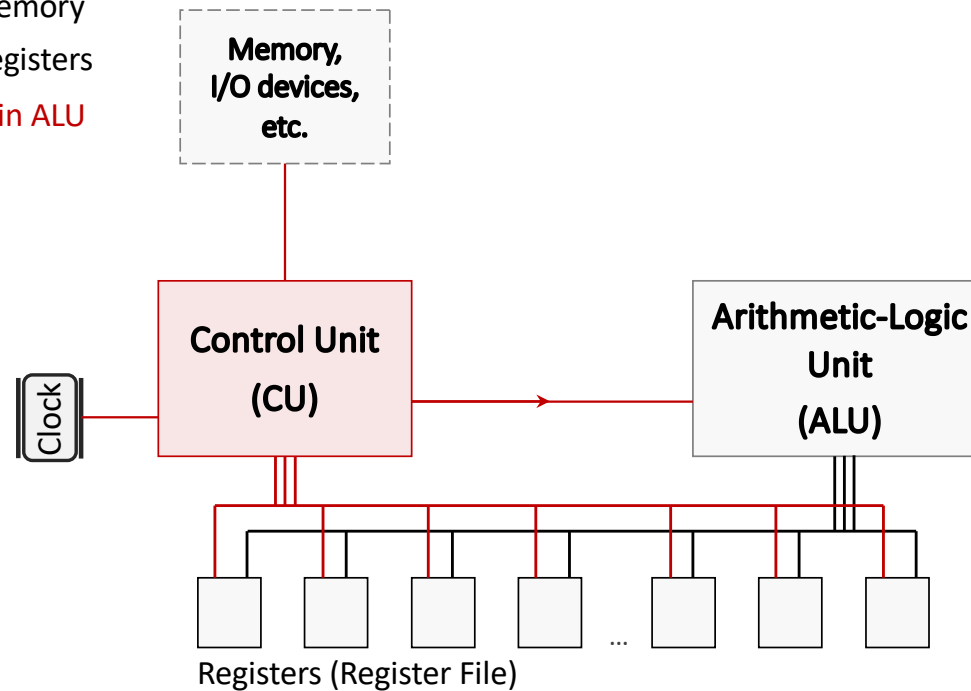
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- **Decodes instructions over registers**



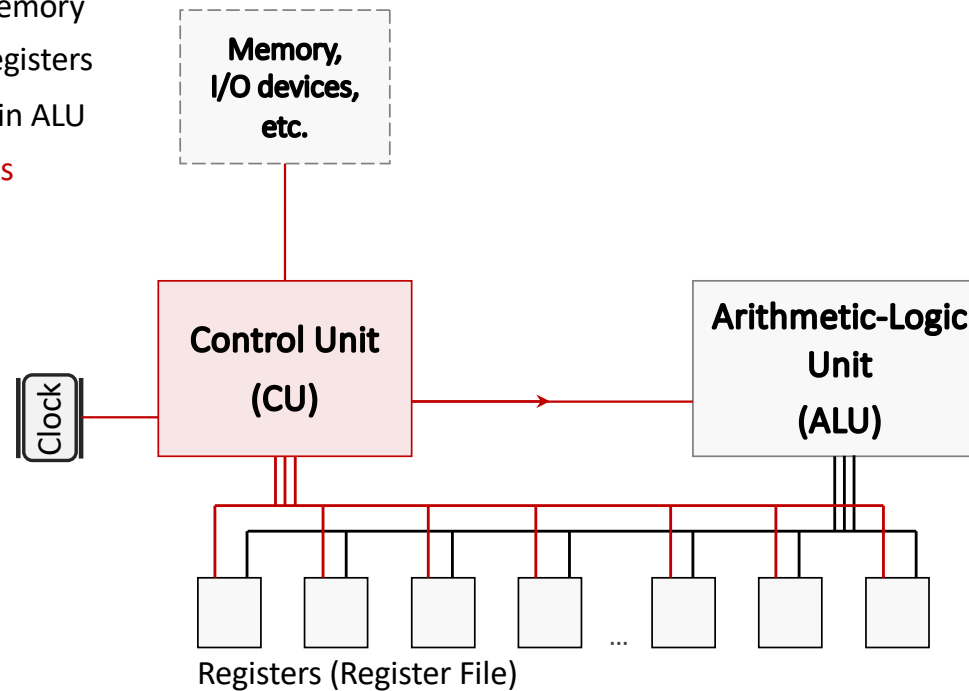
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- Fetches instructions from memory
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- Controls the execution flow in ALU



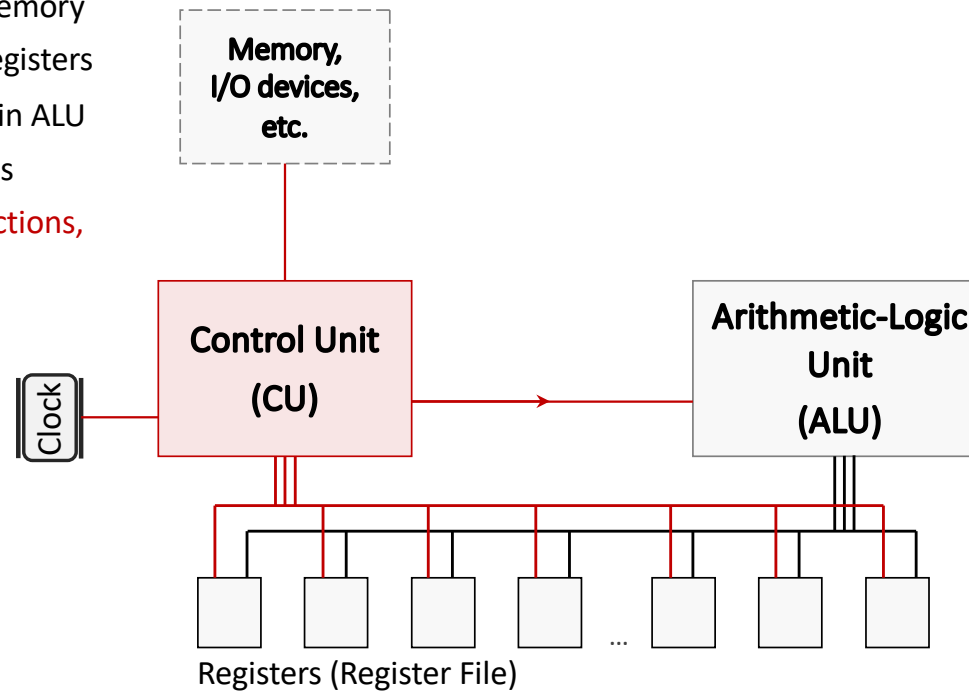
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- **Communicates to I/O devices**



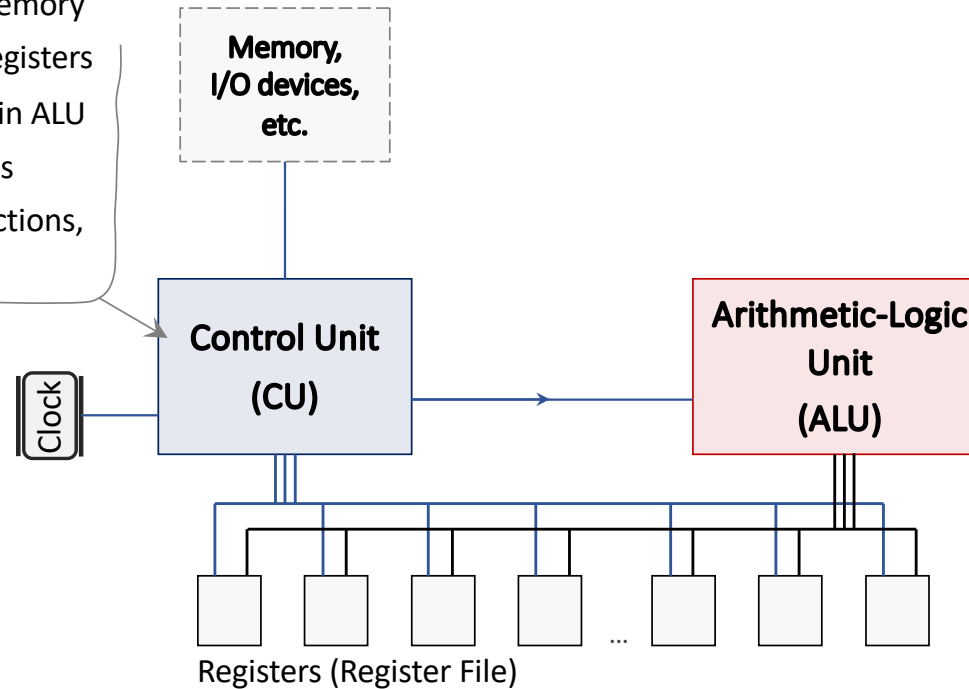
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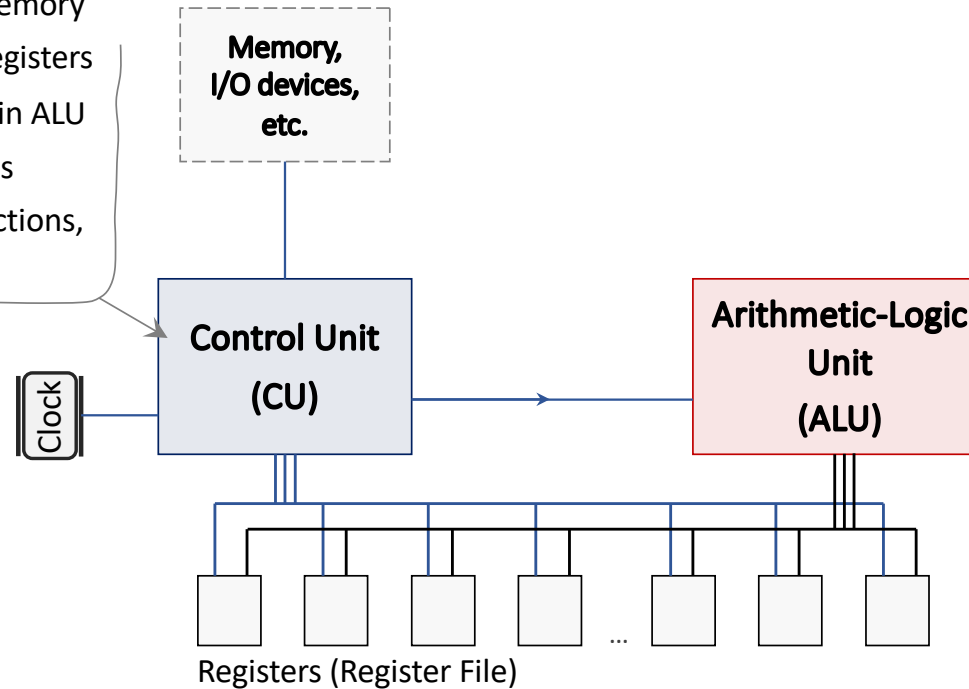


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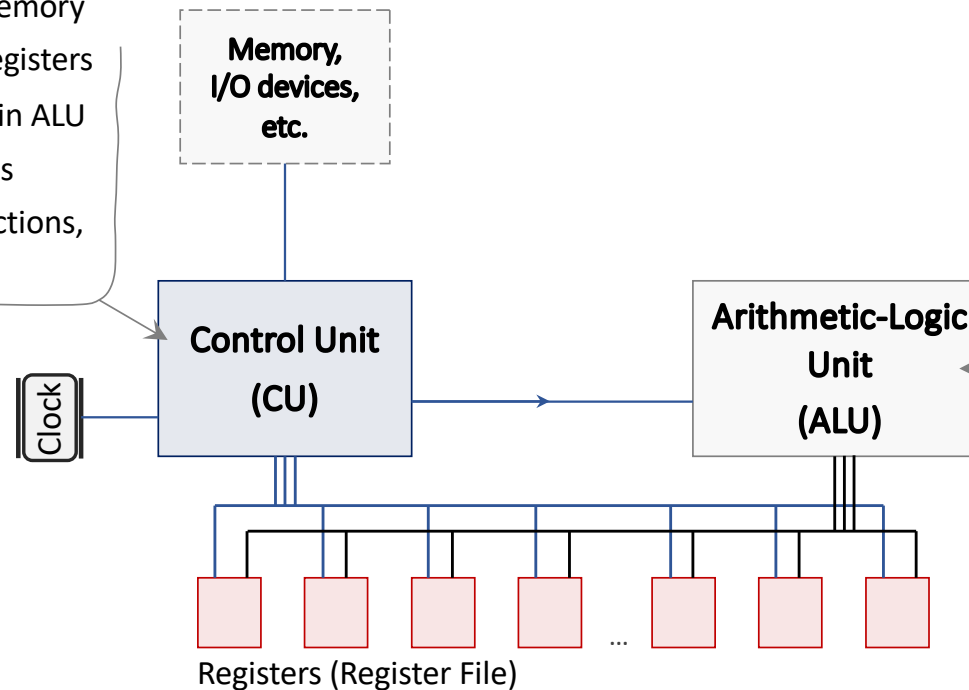
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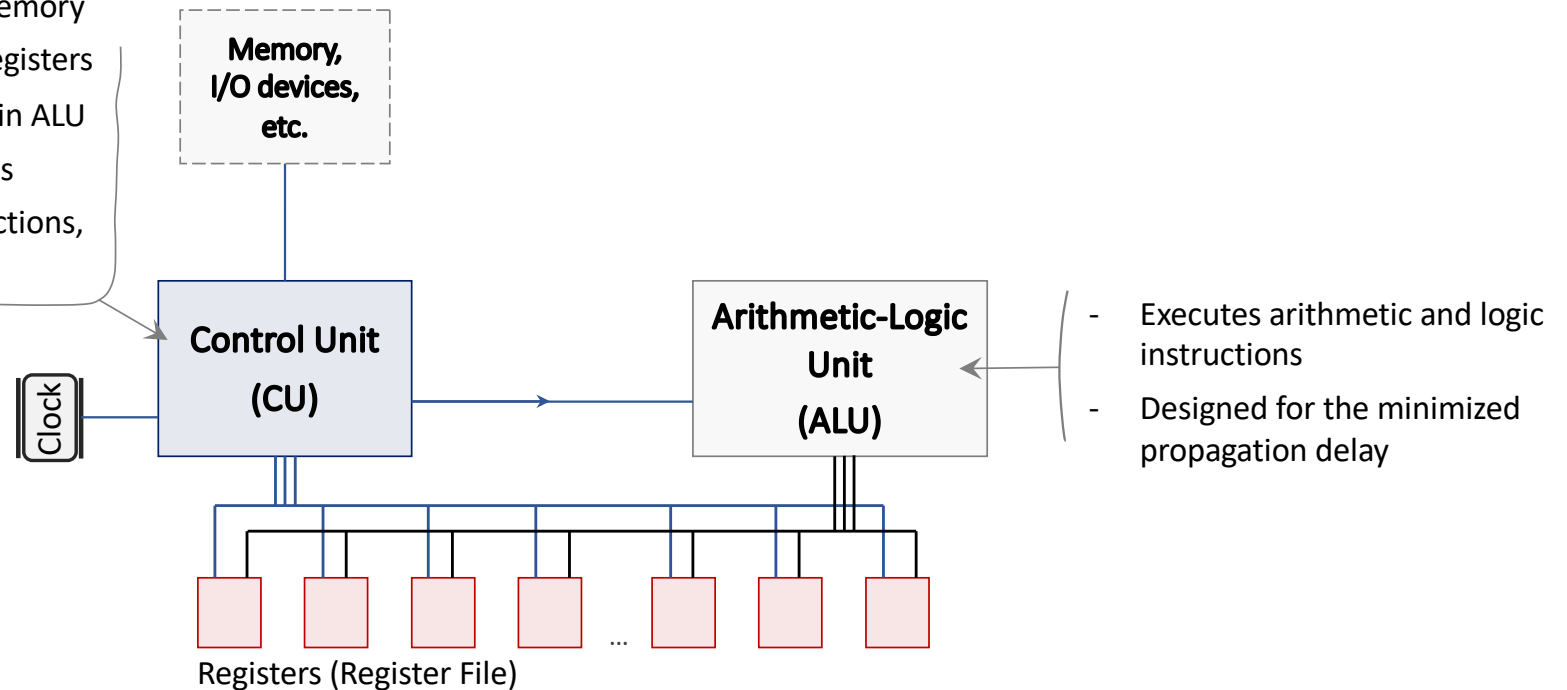


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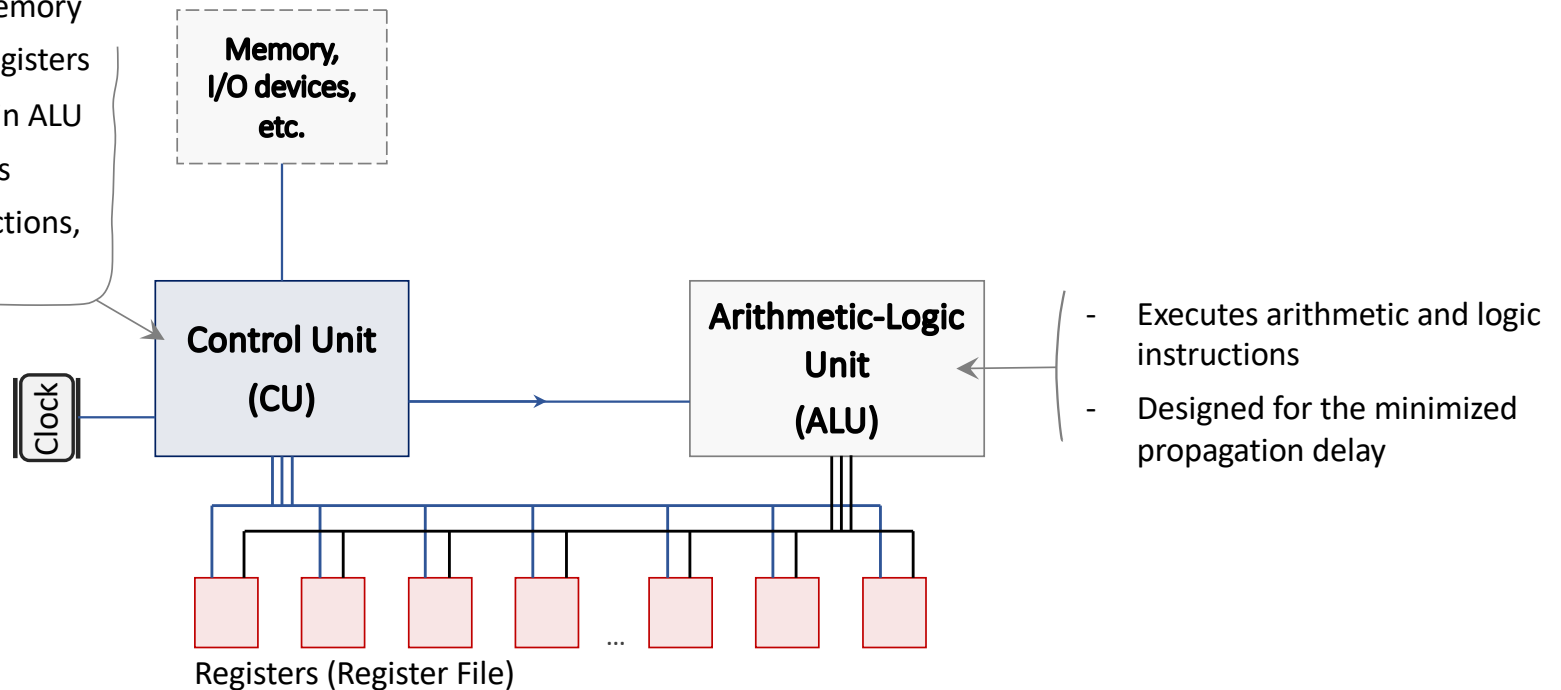
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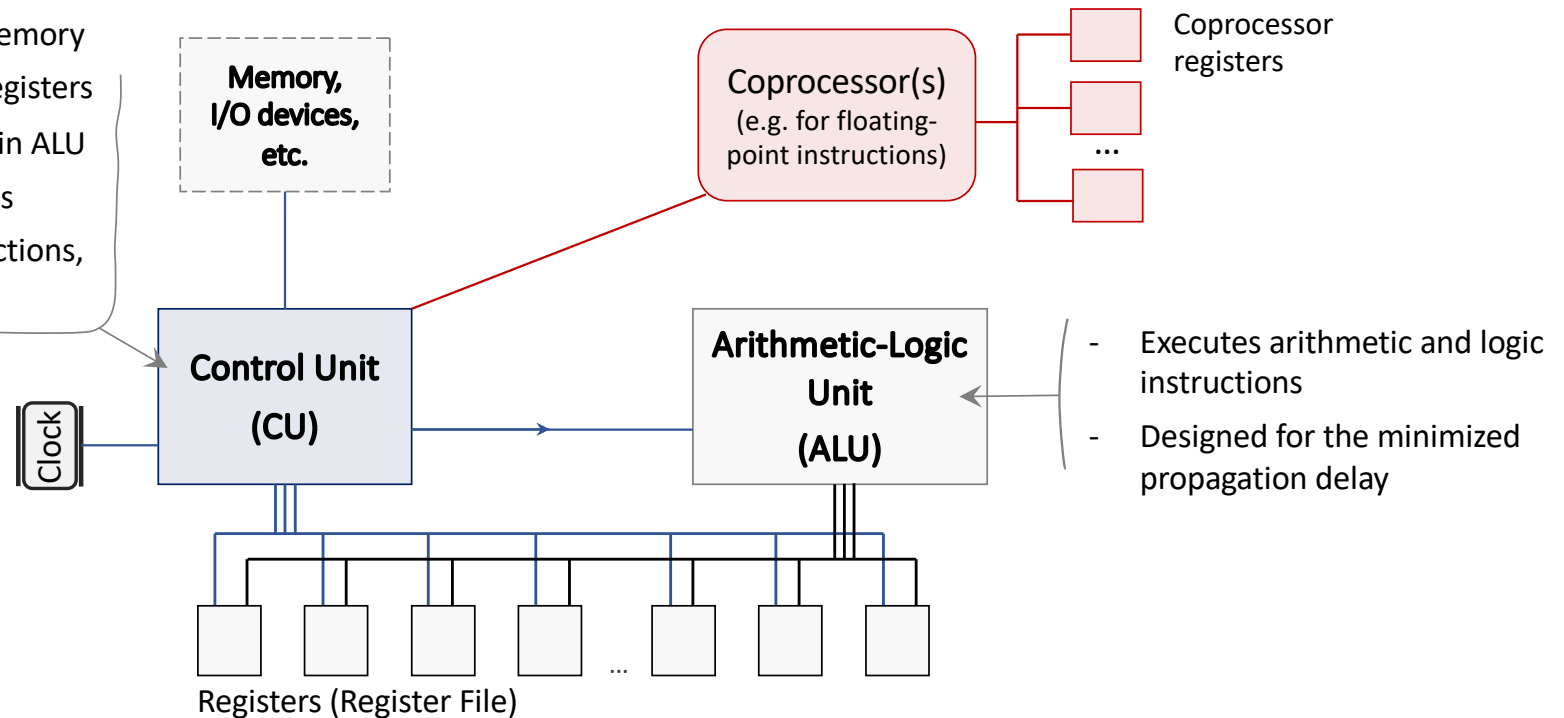
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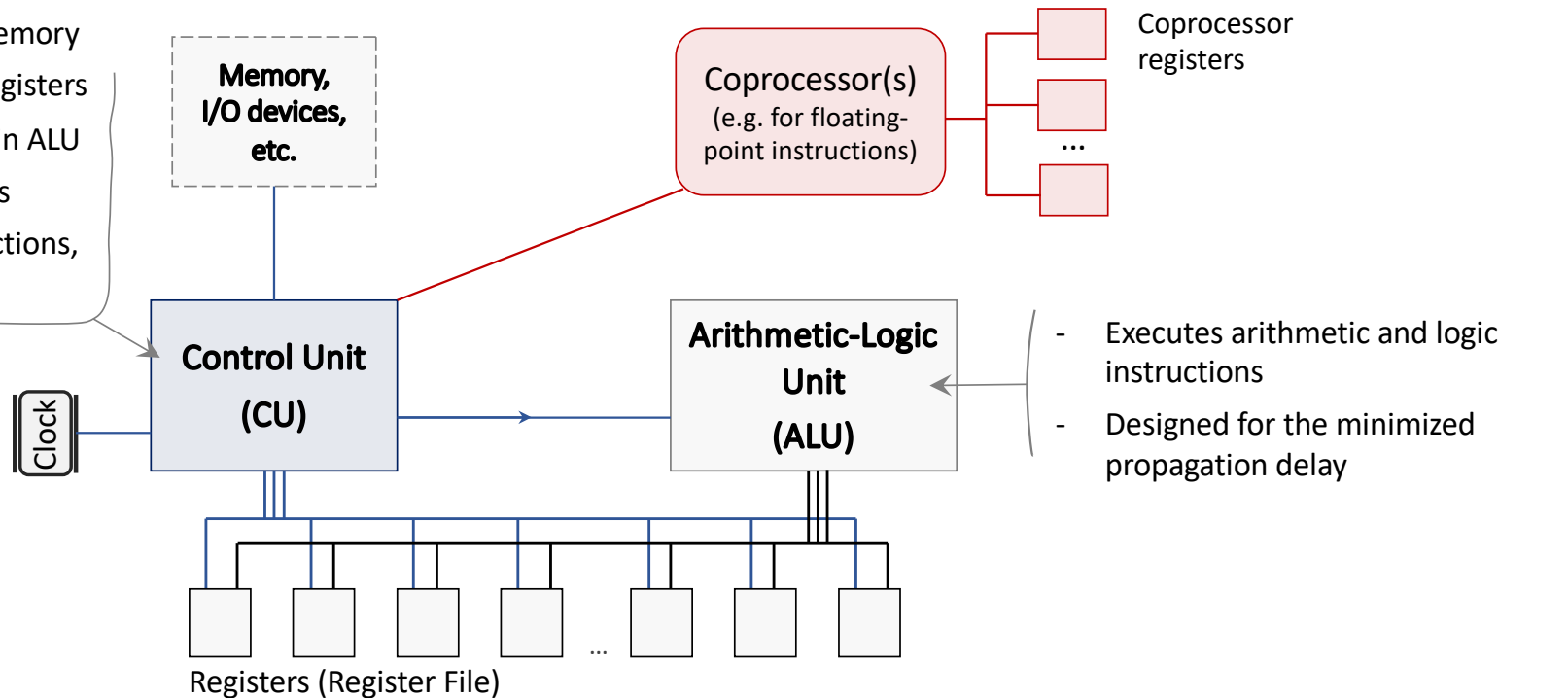


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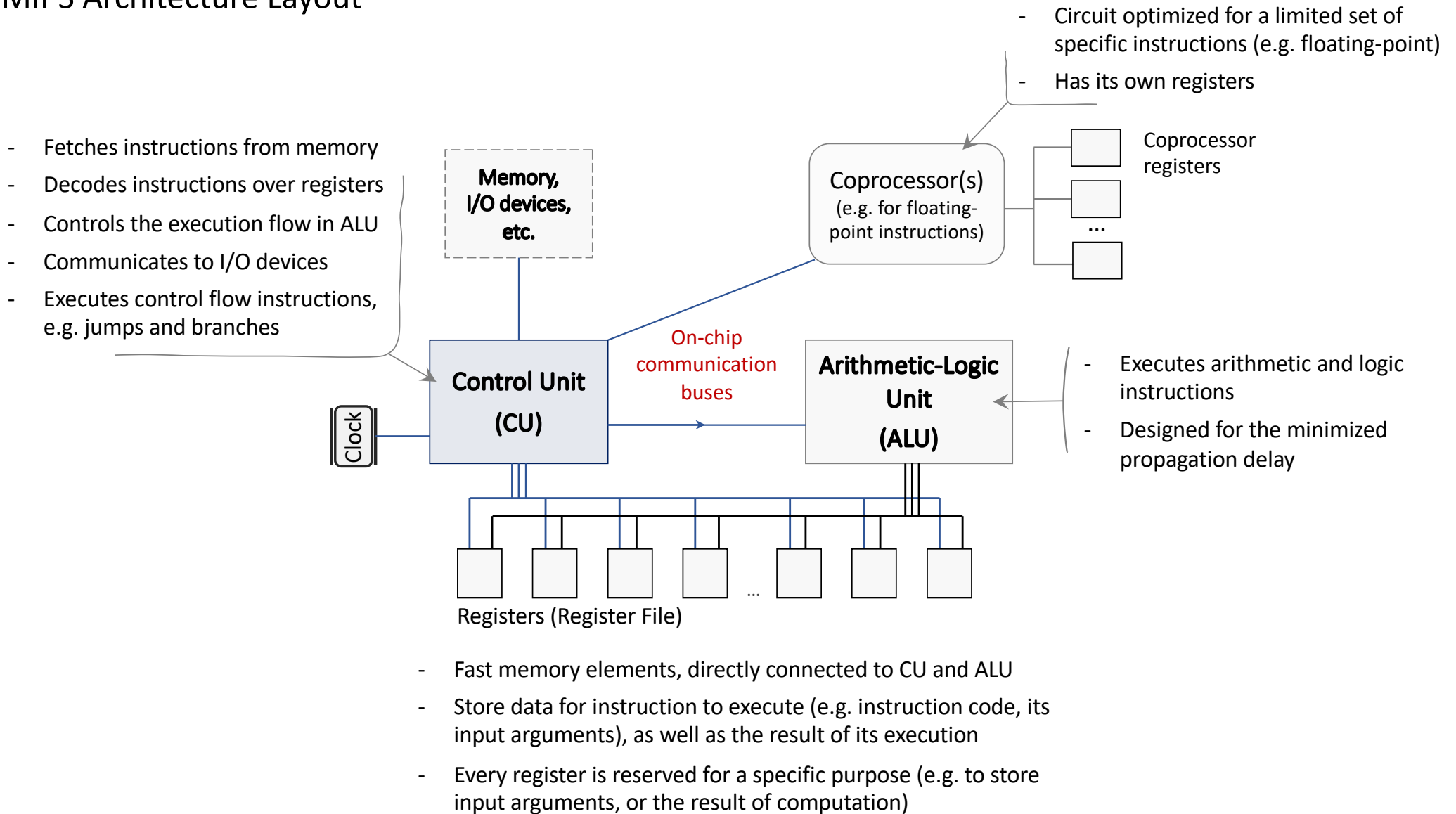
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# MIPS Architecture Layout



## Some Aspects Affecting the CPU Clock Frequency

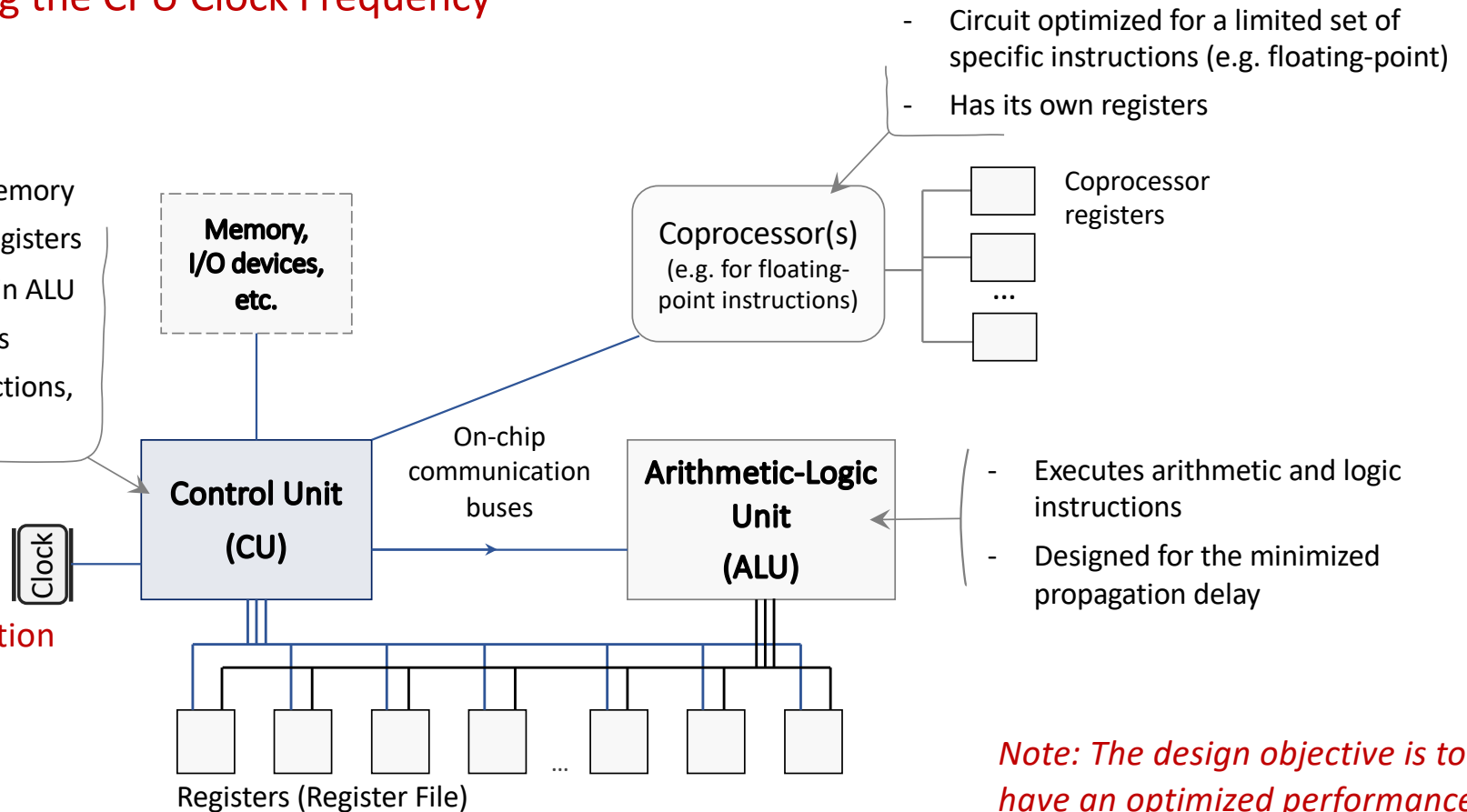
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The worst-case propagation delay of the slowest instruction drastically affects CPU clock frequency

The number of registers:

The worst-case propagation delay tends to increase for a larger number of registers

(due to longer wires, multiplexers with a larger number of inputs, etc.)

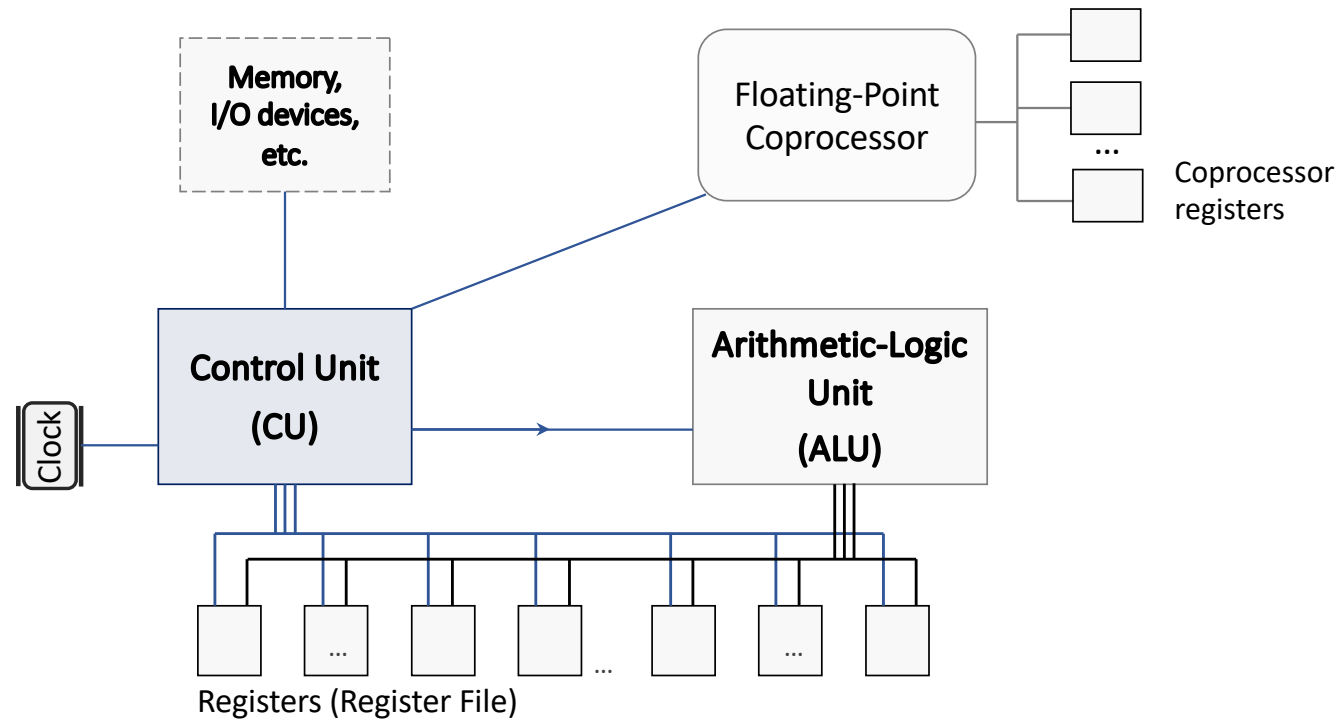


*Note: The design objective is to have an optimized performance in the average use case, and not to have a higher number of instructions supported (recall the difference between RISC and CISC)*



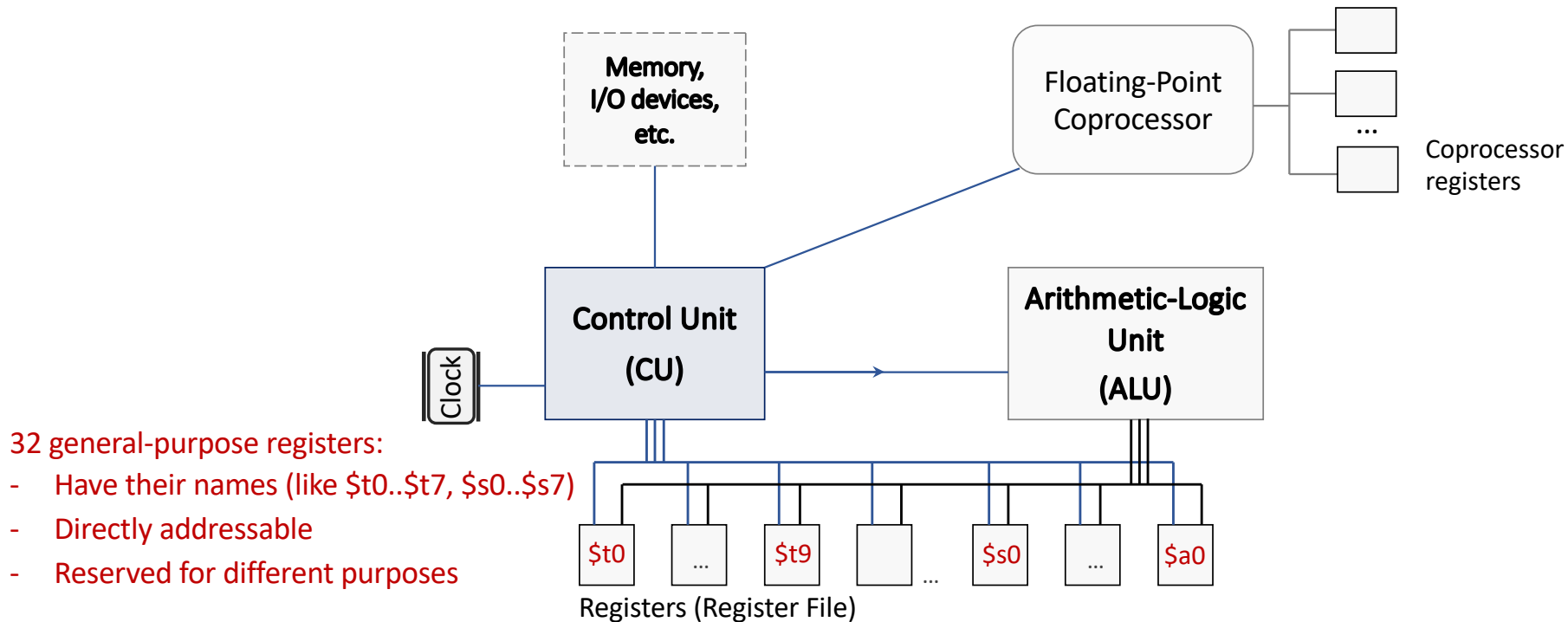
# MIPS Processor Architecture

MIPS is a RISC architecture



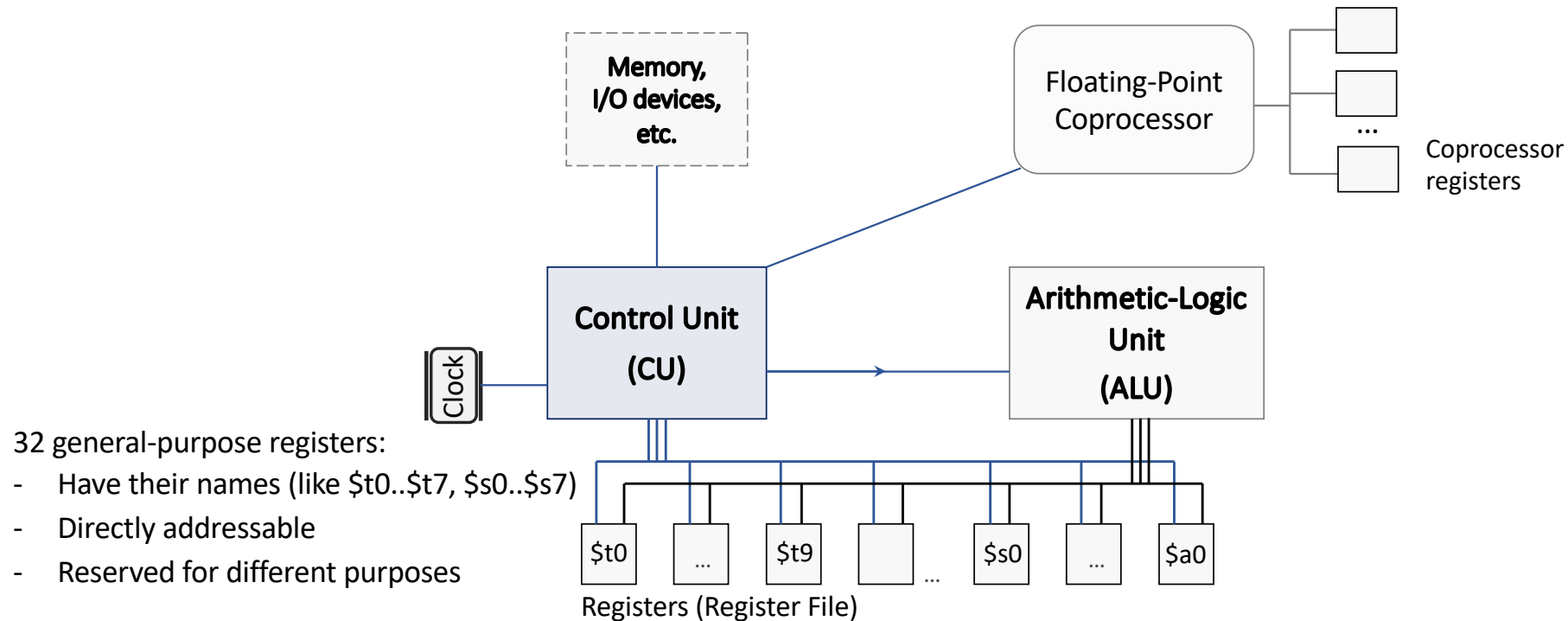
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“Register spilling”:

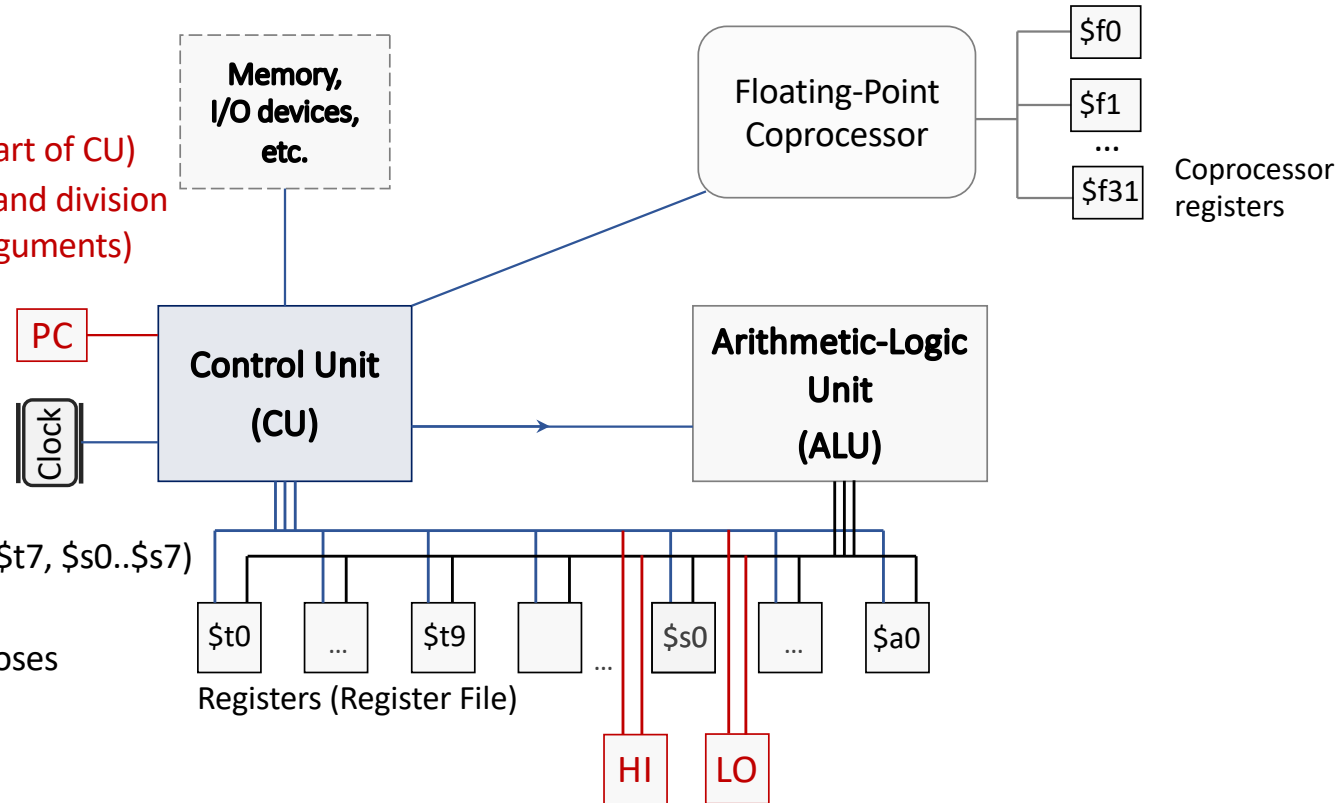
If the number of live variables exceeds the number of available registers, then the compiler spills some variables from registers into memory

# MIPS Processor Architecture

MIPS is a RISC architecture

3 special-purpose registers:

- PC – program counter (a part of CU)
- HI, LO – for multiplication and division instructions (for integer arguments)



32 general-purpose registers:

- Have their names (like \$t0..\$t7, \$s0..\$s7)
- Directly addressable
- Reserved for different purposes

*Data is retrieved from these registers by using special functions mfhi and mflo*

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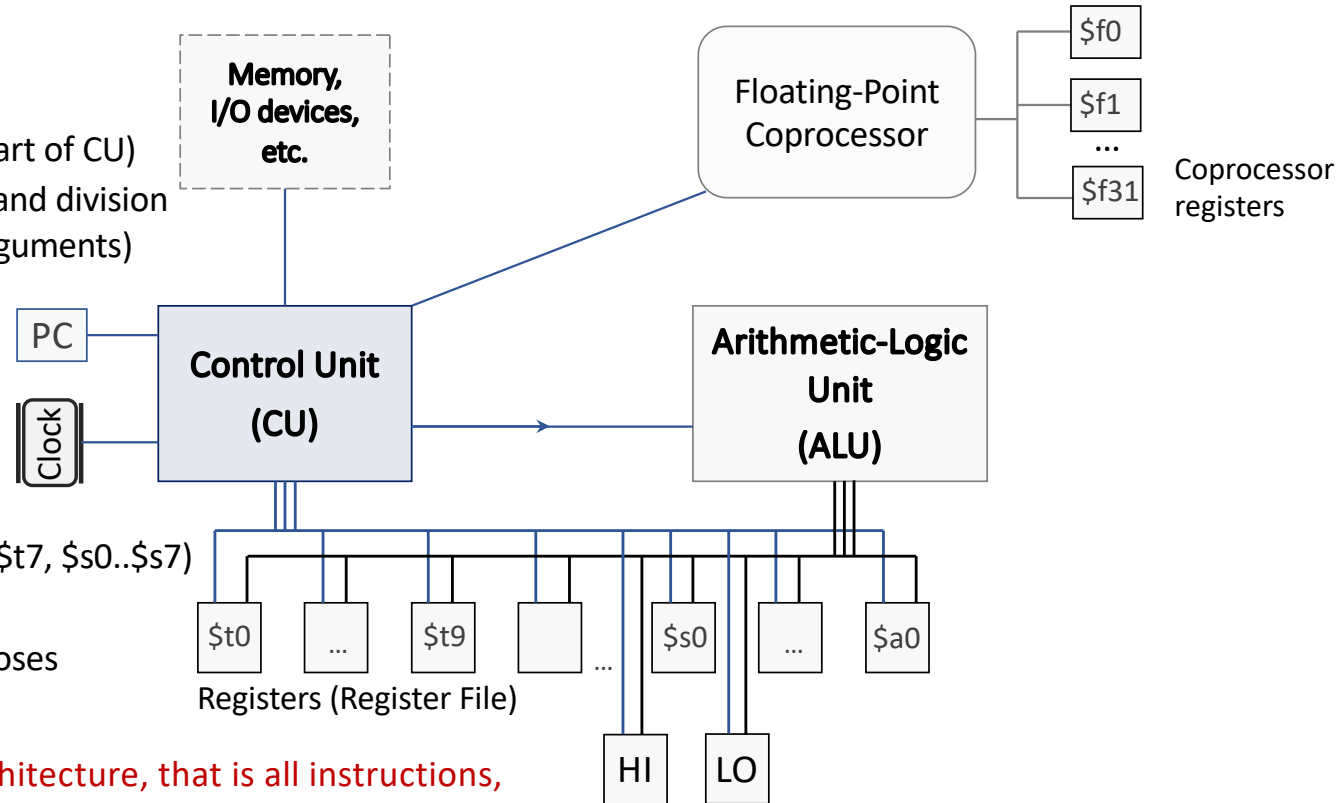
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32 registers for floating-point instructions:

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**MIPS is a load/store architecture, that is all instructions, except for memory access, operate on registers**

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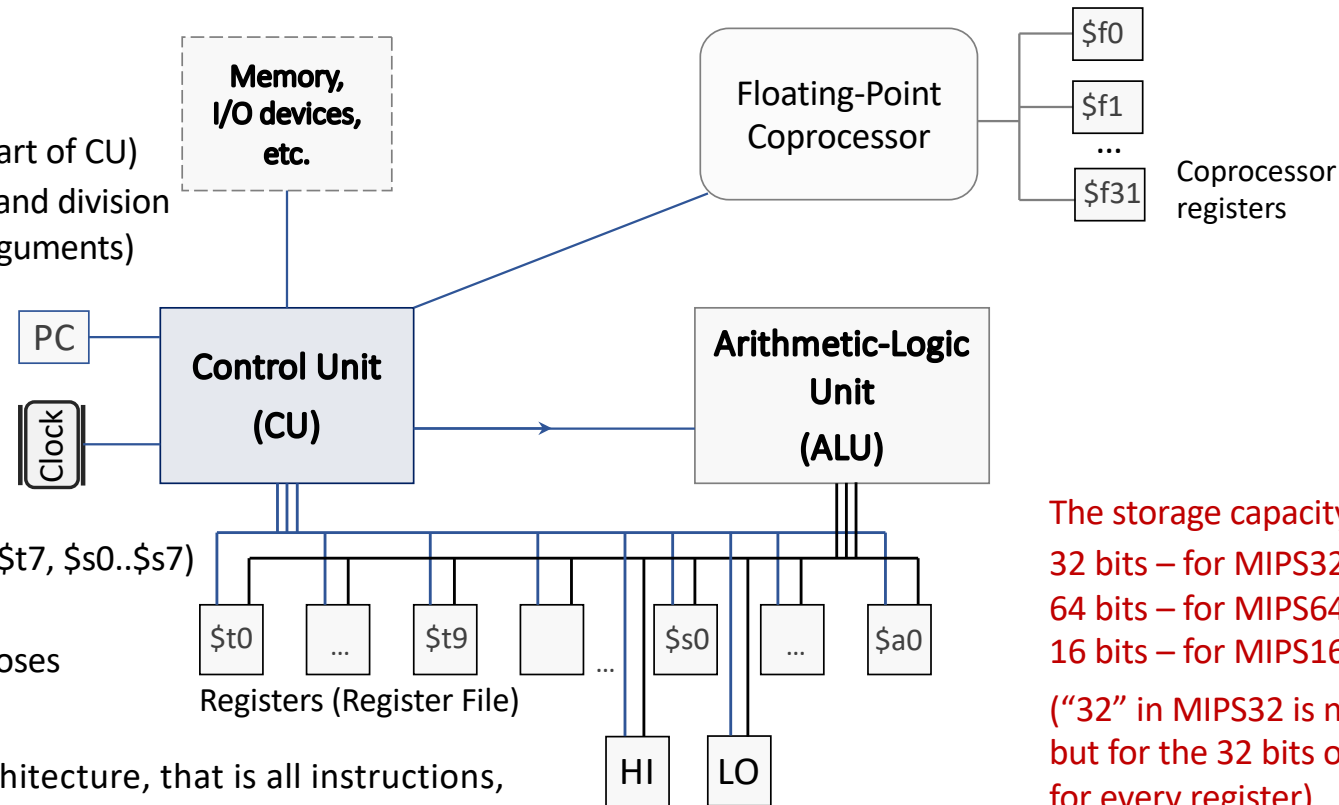
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The storage capacity of a register varies:

32 bits – for MIPS32;

64 bits – for MIPS64;

16 bits – for MIPS16

(“32” in MIPS32 is not for 32 registers, but for the 32 bits of storage capacity for every register)

*Data is retrieved from these registers by using special functions mfhi and mflo*

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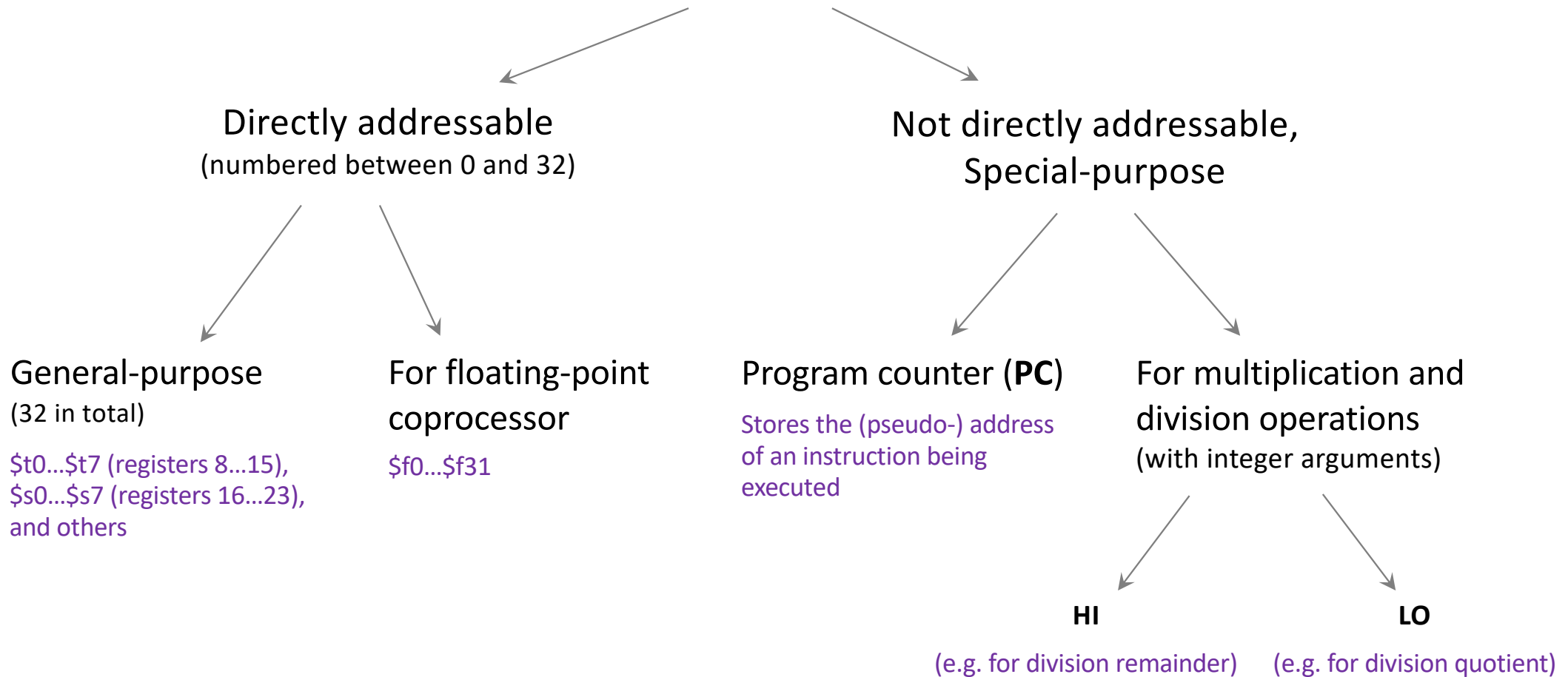
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To provide flow control  
in a program

# MIPS Registers



## Sample MIPS Assembly Program: Addition of Two Numbers

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**li** – “load immediate”, to load a constant value (number) into some register

**la** – “load argument”, to load a constant string into some register



## Sample MIPS Assembly Program: Addition of Two Numbers

1	<b>li \$t1, 5</b>	# load value "5" into register \$t1
2	<b>li \$t2, 7</b>	# load value "7" into register \$t1

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### Some available MIPS arithmetic and logic instructions:

Arithmetic	add	<b>add \$t0, \$t1, \$t2</b>	$\$t0 = \$t1 + \$t2$
	subtract	<b>sub \$t0, \$t1, \$t2</b>	$\$t0 = \$t1 - \$t2$
	add immediate	<b>addi \$t0, \$t1, 26</b>	$\$t0 = \$t1 + 26$
Logical (bitwise, that is bit by bit)	and	<b>and \$t0, \$t1, \$t2</b>	$\$t0 = \$t1 \& \$t2$
	or	<b>or \$t0, \$t1, \$t2</b>	$\$t0 = \$t1   \$t2$
	nor	<b>nor \$t0, \$t1, \$t2</b>	$\$t0 = \sim(\$t1   \$t2)$
	and immediate	<b>andi \$t0, \$t1, 17</b>	$\$t0 = \$t1 \& 17$
	or immediate	<b>ori \$t0, \$t1, 13</b>	$\$t0 = \$t1   13$
	shift left logical	<b>sll \$t0, \$t1, 4</b>	$\$t0 = \$t1 \ll 4$
	shift right logical	<b>srl \$t0, \$t1, 6</b>	$\$t0 = \$t1 \gg 6$

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	or	<b>or \$t0, \$t1, \$t2</b>	\$t0 = \$t1   \$t2
	nor	<b>nor \$t0, \$t1, \$t2</b>	\$t0 = ~( \$t1   \$t2 )
	and immediate	<b>andi \$t0, \$t1, 17</b>	\$t0 = \$t1 & 17
	or immediate	<b>ori \$t0, \$t1, 13</b>	\$t0 = \$t1   13
	shift left logical	<b>sll \$t0, \$t1, 4</b>	\$t0 = \$t1 << 4
	shift right logical	<b>srl \$t0, \$t1, 6</b>	\$t0 = \$t1 >> 6

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3	<b>add</b> \$t0, \$t1, \$t2	# \$t0 = \$t1 + \$t2

Some available MIPS arithmetic and logic instructions:

Arithmetic	<b>add</b>	<b>add \$t0, \$t1, \$t2</b>	<b>\$t0 = \$t1 + \$t2</b>
	subtract	<b>sub \$t0, \$t1, \$t2</b>	<b>\$t0 = \$t1 - \$t2</b>
	add immediate	<b>addi \$t0, \$t1, 26</b>	<b>\$t0 = \$t1 + 26</b>
Logical (bitwise, that is bit by bit)	and	<b>and \$t0, \$t1, \$t2</b>	<b>\$t0 = \$t1 &amp; \$t2</b>
	or	<b>or \$t0, \$t1, \$t2</b>	<b>\$t0 = \$t1   \$t2</b>
	nor	<b>nor \$t0, \$t1, \$t2</b>	<b>\$t0 = ~( \$t1   \$t2 )</b>
	and immediate	<b>andi \$t0, \$t1, 17</b>	<b>\$t0 = \$t1 &amp; 17</b>
	or immediate	<b>ori \$t0, \$t1, 13</b>	<b>\$t0 = \$t1   13</b>
	shift left logical	<b>sll \$t0, \$t1, 4</b>	<b>\$t0 = \$t1 &lt;&lt; 4</b>
	shift right logical	<b>srl \$t0, \$t1, 6</b>	<b>\$t0 = \$t1 &gt;&gt; 6</b>

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Next we need to show the computed result to a user. How?

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2		
3		
4		
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8		
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5	<b>li</b> \$v0, 1	# set code for syscall to “1” (to print)

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5	<b>li</b> \$v0, 1	# set code for syscall to “1” (to print)
6	<b>syscall</b>	# execute syscall with code in \$v0 and argument in \$a0

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5	<b>li</b> \$v0, 1	# set code for syscall to “1” (to print)
6	<b>syscall</b>	# execute syscall with code in \$v0 and argument in \$a0
7	<b>li</b> \$v0, 10	# set code for syscall to “10” (exit)

Code in \$v0	Purpose	Arguments/Return values
10	Exit program	None

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5	<b>li</b> \$v0, 1	# set code for syscall to “1” (to print)
6	<b>syscall</b>	# execute syscall with code in \$v0 and argument in \$a0
7	<b>li</b> \$v0, 10	# set code for syscall to “10” (exit)
8	<b>syscall</b>	# execute syscall with code “10”

## Another Example: Reading and Printing a String

1	<b>. data</b>
---	---------------

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Possible MIPS assembly directives:

.data

.text

.globl



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2	<b>msg:</b> <b>.asciiz "Enter your string: "</b> # message asking to input a string

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5	<b>main:</b>
6	li \$v0, 4 # syscall code to print message asking to input a string

Codes of system calls:

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8	<b>syscall</b>	# syscall invocation, to print message
9	li \$v0, 8	# syscall code to read string from user

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12	<b>syscall</b>	# syscall to read string; \$v0 now "contains" a user string



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16	<b>syscall</b>	# printing string

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16	<b>syscall</b>	# printing string
17	li \$v0, 10	# syscall code to terminate the program
18	<b>syscall</b>	# termination