

CSE 31

Computer Organization

Lecture 9 – MIPS: Conditionals



Announcement

- ▶ Lab #4 this week
 - Due next week
- ▶ Project #1
 - Due Monday (10/22)
 - Don't start late, you won't have time!
- ▶ Midterm exam Wednesday (10/3, postponed)
 - Lectures 1 – 7
 - HW #1 and #2
 - Closed book
 - 1 sheet of note (8.5" x 11")
 - Sample exam online
- ▶ Reading assignment
 - Chapter 2.1 – 2.9 of zyBooks (Reading Assignment #2)
 - Make sure to do the Participation Activities
 - Due Wednesday (9/26)

So Far...

- ▶ All instructions so far only manipulate data...we've built a **calculator** of sorts.
- ▶ In order to build a **computer**, we need ability to make decisions...
- ▶ C (and MIPS) provide labels to support “**goto**” jumps to places in code.
 - C: Horrible style;
 - **MIPS: Necessary!**

C Decisions: `if` Statements

- ▶ 2 kinds of if statements in C

`if (condition) clause`

`if (condition) clause1 else clause2`

- ▶ Rearrange 2nd if into following:

`if (condition) goto L1;`

`clause2;`

`goto L2;`

`L1: clause1;`

`L2:`

- ▶ Not as elegant as if-else, but same meaning

MIPS Decision Instructions

- ▶ Decision instruction in MIPS:

```
beq    register1, register2, L1
```

beq is “Branch if (registers are) equal”

Same meaning as (using C):

```
if (register1==register2) goto L1
```

- ▶ Complementary MIPS decision instruction

```
bne    register1, register2, L1
```

bne is “Branch if (registers are) not equal”

Same meaning as (using C):

```
if (register1!=register2) goto L1
```

- ▶ Called conditional branches

MIPS Goto Instruction

- ▶ In addition to conditional branches, MIPS has an unconditional branch:

`j label`

- ▶ Called a Jump Instruction: jump (or branch) directly to the given label without needing to satisfy any condition
- ▶ Same meaning as (using C): `goto label`
- ▶ Technically, it's the same effect as:
`beq $0, $0, label`
since it always satisfies the condition.

Compiling C `if` into MIPS (1/2)

- Compile by hand

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

- Use this mapping:

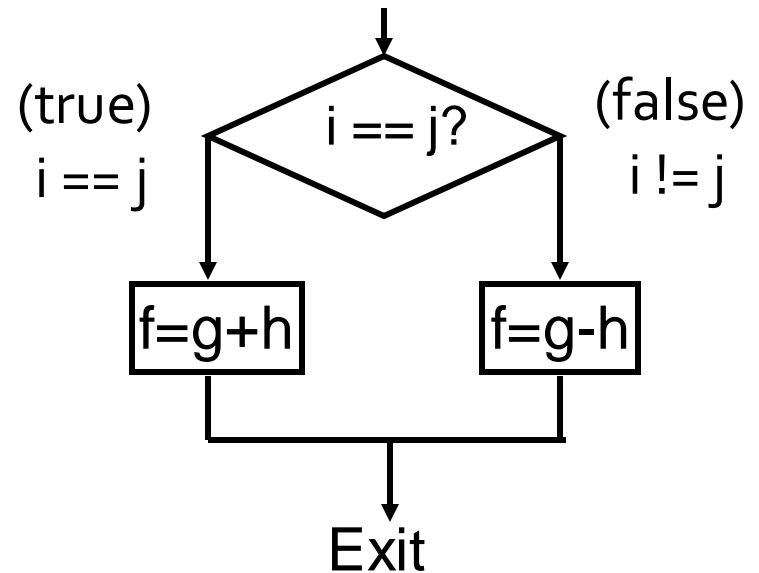
`f: $s0`

`g: $s1`

`h: $s2`

`i: $s3`

`j: $s4`



Compiling C `if` into MIPS (2/2)

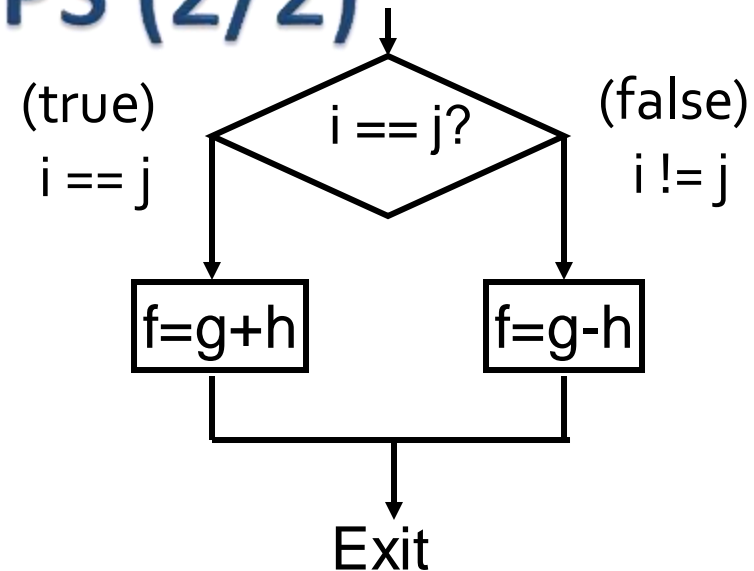
- Compile by hand

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

f: \$s0, g: \$s1, h: \$s2, i: \$s3, j: \$s4

► Final compiled MIPS code:

```
        beq $s3,$s4,True    # branch i==j  
        sub $s0,$s1,$s2     # f=g-h (false)  
        j    Fin            # goto Fin  
True:   add $s0,$s1,$s2     # f=g+h (true)  
Fin:
```



Note: Compiler automatically creates labels to handle decisions (branches). Generally not found in HLL code.

Loading, Storing bytes 1/2

- ▶ In addition to word data transfers (**lw**, **sw**), MIPS has **byte** data transfers:
 - load byte: **lb**
 - store byte: **sb**
- ▶ Same format as **lw**, **sw**
- ▶ E.g., **lb \$s0, 3(\$s1)**
 - contents of memory location with address = sum of “3” + contents of register **s1** is copied to the **low byte position** of register **s0**.

Loading, Storing bytes 2/2

- ▶ What to do with other 24 bits in the 32 bit register?
 - lb: **sign extends** to fill upper 24 bits

XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX



...is copied to “sign-extend”

X Z Z Z Z Z Z Z



byte
loaded

This bit

- ▶ Normally don't want to sign extend chars
- ▶ MIPS instruction that doesn't sign extend when loading bytes:
 - load byte unsigned: **lbu**

Overflow in Arithmetic (1/2)

- ▶ Reminder: Overflow occurs when there is a mistake in arithmetic due to the limited precision in computers.
- ▶ Example (4-bit unsigned numbers):

15

+ 3

18

1111

+ 0011

10010

- But we don't have room for 5-bit solution, so the solution would be **0010**, which is **+2**, and wrong.

Overflow in Arithmetic (2/2)

- ▶ Some languages detect overflow (Ada), some don't (C)
- ▶ MIPS solution is 2 kinds of arithmetic instructions:
 - These cause overflow to be detected
 - add (**add**)
 - add immediate (**addi**)
 - subtract (**sub**)
 - These do not cause overflow detection
 - add unsigned (**addu**)
 - add immediate unsigned (**addiu**)
 - subtract unsigned (**subu**)
- ▶ Compiler selects appropriate arithmetic
 - MIPS C compilers produce **addu, addiu, subu**

Two “Logic” Instructions

- ▶ Here are 2 more new instructions
- ▶ Shift Left: `sll $s1,$s2,2 #s1=s2<<2`
 - Store in `$s1` the value from `$s2` shifted 2 bits to the left (they fall off end), inserting 0's on right; `<<` in C.
 - Before: `0000 0002hex`
`0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0010two`
 - After: `0000 0008hex`
`0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 1000two`
 - What arithmetic effect does shift left have?
 - $n \times 2^i$
- ▶ Shift Right: `srl` is opposite shift; `>>`

Loops in C/Assembly (1/3)

- ▶ Simple loop in C; **A[]** is an array of `int`

```
do {    g = g + A[i];  
      i = i + j;  
} while (i != h);
```

How to write this in MIPS using
what we have learned so far?

- ▶ Rewrite this as:

```
Loop:  g = g + A[i];  
      i = i + j;  
      if (i != h) goto Loop;
```

- ▶ Use this mapping:

g ,	h ,	i ,	j ,	base of A
\$s1 ,	\$s2 ,	\$s3 ,	\$s4 ,	\$s5

Loops in C/Assembly (2/3)

- ▶ Final compiled MIPS code:

```
Loop: sll    $t1, $s3, 2      # $t1 = 4*i
      addu   $t1, $t1, $s5    # $t1 = addr A+4i
      lw     $t1, 0($t1)      # $t1 = A[i]
      addu   $s1, $s1, $t1    # g = g + A[i]
      addu   $s3, $s3, $s4    # i = i + j
      bne    $s3, $s2, Loop   # goto Loop
                                # if i != h
```

Why???

- ▶ Original code:

```
Loop:  g = g + A[i];
       i = i + j;
       if (i != h) goto Loop;
```

g, h, i, j, base of A
\$s1, \$s2, \$s3, \$s4, \$s5

Loops in C/Assembly (3/3)

- ▶ There are three types of loops in C:
 - `while`
 - `do... while`
 - `for`
- ▶ Each can be rewritten as either of the other two, so the method used in the previous example can be applied to these loops as well.
- ▶ Key Concept: Though there are multiple ways of writing a loop in MIPS, the key to decision-making is ***conditional branch***

Inequalities in MIPS (1/4)

- ▶ Until now, we've only tested equalities (`==` and `!=` in C). General programs need to test `<` and `>` as well.
- ▶ Introduce MIPS Inequality Instruction:
 - “Set on Less Than”
 - Syntax: `slt reg1, reg2, reg3`
 - Meaning: `reg1 = (reg2 < reg3);`

```
if (reg2 < reg3)
    reg1 = 1;
else reg1 = 0;
```

Same thing...

“set” means “change to 1”,
“reset” means “change to 0”.

Inequalities in MIPS (2/4)

- ▶ How do we use this? Compile by hand:

```
if (g < h) goto Less; #g:$s0, h:$s1
```

- ▶ Answer: compiled MIPS code...

```
slt $t5,$s0,$s1 # $t0 = 1 if g<h  
bne $t5,$0,Less # goto Less  
# if $t0!=0  
# (if (g<h)) Less:
```

- ▶ Register \$0 always contains the value 0, so **bne** and **beq** often use it for comparison after an **slt** instruction.
- ▶ A **slt** → **bne** pair means **if (... < ...) goto...**

Inequalities in MIPS (3/4)

- ▶ Now we can implement $<$,
but how do we implement $>$, \leq and \geq ?
- ▶ We could add 3 more instructions, but:
 - MIPS goal: **Simpler is Better**
- ▶ Can we implement \leq in one or more instructions
using just **slt** and **branches**?
 - What about $>$?
 - What about \geq ?

Inequalities in MIPS (4/4)

```
# a:$s0, b:$s1
slt $t0,$s0,$s1 # $t0 = 1 if a<b
beq $t0,$0,skip # skip if a >= b
    <stuff>      # do if a<b
skip:
```

How about **>** and **<=**?

Two independent variations possible:

Use `slt $t0,$s1,$s0` instead of

`slt $t0,$s0,$s1`

Use `bne` instead of `beq`

Immediates in Inequalities

- ▶ There is also an immediate version of **slt** to test against constants: **slti**
 - Helpful in **for** loops

C **if** (g >= 1) goto Loop

M **Loop:** . . .
| **slti** \$t0,\$s0,1 # \$t0 = 1 if
| # \$s0<1 (g<1)
P **beq** \$t0,\$0,**Loop** # goto Loop
S # if \$t0==0
 # (if (g>=1))

An **slt** → **beq** pair means **if** (... ≥ ...) **goto**...

What about unsigned numbers?

- ▶ Also **unsigned** inequality instructions:

sltu, sltiu

...which sets result to 1 or 0 depending on unsigned comparisons

- ▶ What is value of \$t0, \$t1?

- ▶ (\$s0 = FFFF FFFA_{hex}, \$s1 = 0000 FFFA_{hex})

slt \$t0, \$s0, \$s1 **1**

sltu \$t1, \$s0, \$s1 **0**

MIPS Signed vs. Unsigned – diff meanings!

- ▶ MIPS terms Signed/Unsigned “overloaded”:
 - Do/Don't sign extend
 - `(lb, lbu)`
 - Do/Don't overflow
 - `(add, addi, sub, mult, div)`
 - `(addu, addiu, subu, multu, divu)`
 - Do signed/unsigned compare
 - `(slt, slti/sltu, sltiu)`

Example: The C Switch Statement (1/3)

- ▶ Choose among four alternatives depending on whether `k` has the value 0, 1, 2 or 3. Compile this C code:

```
switch (k) {  
    case 0: f=i+j; break; /* k=0 */  
    case 1: f=g+h; break; /* k=1 */  
    case 2: f=g-h; break; /* k=2 */  
    case 3: f=i-j; break; /* k=3 */  
}
```


Example: The C Switch Statement (2/3)

- ▶ This is complicated, so **simplify**.
- ▶ Rewrite it as a chain of if-else statements, which we already know how to compile:

```
if(k==0) f=i+j;  
    else if(k==1) f=g+h;  
        else if(k==2) f=g-h;  
            else if(k==3) f=i-j;
```

- ▶ Use this mapping:
 f:\$s0, g:\$s1, h:\$s2,
 i:\$s3, j:\$s4, k:\$s5

Example: The C Switch Statement (3/3)

► Final compiled MIPS code:

```
    bne $s5,$0,L1      # branch k!=0
    add $s0,$s3,$s4    # k==0 so f=i+j
    j   Exit           # end of case so Exit
L1:  addi $t0,$s5,-1    # $t0=k-1
    bne $t0,$0,L2      # branch k!=1
    add $s0,$s1,$s2    # k==1 so f=g+h
    j   Exit           # end of case so Exit
L2:  addi $t0,$s5,-2    # $t0=k-2
    bne $t0,$0,L3      # branch k!=2
    sub $s0,$s1,$s2    # k==2 so f=g-h
    j   Exit           # end of case so Exit
L3:  addi $t0,$s5,-3    # $t0=k-3
    bne $t0,$0,Exit    # branch k!=3
    sub $s0,$s3,$s4    # k==3 so f=i-j
Exit:
```

Always compared with \$0!

Quiz

```
Loop: addi $s0, $s0, -1    # i = i - 1
      slti $t0, $s1, 2    # $t0 = (j < 2)
      beq  $t0, $0, Loop  # goto Loop if $t0 == 0
      slt  $t0, $s1, $s0  # $t0 = (j < i)
      bne  $t0, $0, Loop  # goto Loop if $t0 != 0
```

($\$s0=i$, $\$s1=j$)

What C code properly fills in the blank in loop below?

do {i--;} while(___);

- | | | | |
|-----|------------|--------|------------|
| 1) | $j < 2$ | $\&\&$ | $j < i$ |
| 2) | $j \geq 2$ | $\&\&$ | $j < i$ |
| 3) | $j < 2$ | $\&\&$ | $j \geq i$ |
| 4) | $j \geq 2$ | $\&\&$ | $j \geq i$ |
| 5) | $j > 2$ | $\&\&$ | $j < i$ |
| 6) | $j < 2$ | $ $ | $j < i$ |
| 7) | $j \geq 2$ | $ $ | $j < i$ |
| 8) | $j < 2$ | $ $ | $j \geq i$ |
| 9) | $j \geq 2$ | $ $ | $j \geq i$ |
| 10) | $j > 2$ | $ $ | $j < i$ |

Quiz

```
Loop: addi $s0, $s0, -1    # i = i - 1
      slti $t0, $s1, 2    # $t0 = (j < 2)
      beq  $t0, $0, Loop   # goto Loop if $t0 == 0
      slt  $t0, $s1, $s0   # $t0 = (j < i)
      bne  $t0, $0, Loop   # goto Loop if $t0 != 0
```

($\$s0=i$, $\$s1=j$)

What C code properly fills in the blank in loop below?

do {i--;} while(___);

- | | | | |
|-----|------------|--------|------------|
| 1) | $j < 2$ | $\&\&$ | $j < i$ |
| 2) | $j \geq 2$ | $\&\&$ | $j < i$ |
| 3) | $j < 2$ | $\&\&$ | $j \geq i$ |
| 4) | $j \geq 2$ | $\&\&$ | $j \geq i$ |
| 5) | $j > 2$ | $\&\&$ | $j < i$ |
| 6) | $j < 2$ | $ $ | $j < i$ |
| 7) | $j \geq 2$ | $ $ | $j < i$ |
| 8) | $j < 2$ | $ $ | $j \geq i$ |
| 9) | $j \geq 2$ | $ $ | $j \geq i$ |
| 10) | $j > 2$ | $ $ | $j < i$ |

Summary

- ▶ To help the **conditional branches** make decisions concerning inequalities, we introduce: “Set on Less Than” called

slt, slti, sltu, sltiu

- ▶ One can store and load (signed and unsigned) **bytes** as well as words with **lb, lbu**
- ▶ Unsigned add/sub **don't cause overflow**
- ▶ New MIPS Instructions:

sll, srl, lb, lbu

slt, slti, sltu, sltiu

addu, addiu, subu

C functions

```
main() {  
    int i,j,k,m;  
    ...  
    i = mult(j,k); ...  
    m = mult(i,i); ...  
}
```

What information must
compiler/programmer
keep track of?

```
/* really dumb mult function */  
int mult (int mcand, int mlier){  
    int product = 0;  
    while (mlier > 0) {  
        product = product + mcand;  
        mlier = mlier -1; }  
    return product;  
}
```

What instructions can
accomplish this?

Function Call Bookkeeping

- ▶ Registers play a major role in keeping track of information for function calls.
- ▶ Register conventions:
 - Return address `$ra`
 - Arguments `$a0, $a1, $a2, $a3`
 - Return value `$v0, $v1`
 - Local variables `$s0, $s1, ... , $s7`
- ▶ The stack is also used; more later.

Instruction Support for Functions (1/6)

```
... sum(a,b) ; ...    /* a,b:$s0,$s1 */
```

C

```
int sum(int x, int y) {  
    return x+y;  
}
```

address (shown in Hexadecimal)

1000

1004

1008

100c

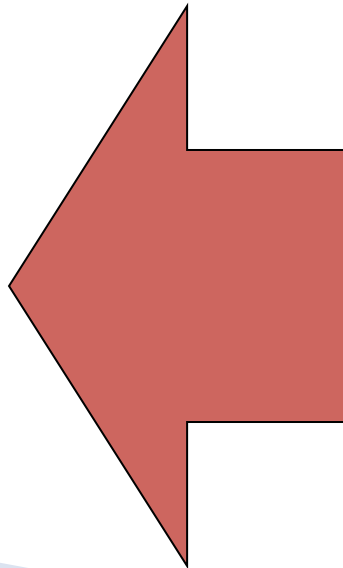
1010

...

2000

2004

M
I
P
S



In MIPS, all instructions are 4 bytes, and stored in memory just like data. So here we show the addresses of where the programs are stored.

Instruction Support for Functions (2/6)

```
... sum(a,b) ;...    /* a,b:$s0,$s1 */  
}
```

C

```
int sum(int x, int y) {  
    return x+y;  
}
```

address (shown in hexadecimal)

M
I
P
S

1000	add	\$a0,\$s0,\$zero	# x = a
1004	add	\$a1,\$s1,\$zero	# y = b
1008	addi	\$ra,\$zero,1010	#\$ra=1010
100c	j	sum	#jump to sum
1010			
...			
2000	sum:	add \$v0,\$a0,\$a1	
2004	jr	\$ra	# new instruction

Instruction Support for Functions (3/6)


```
... sum(a,b) ;...    /* a,b:$s0,$s1 */  
}
```

C

```
int sum(int x, int y) {  
    return x+y;  
}
```

- Question: Why use `jr` here? Why not use `j`?
- Answer: `sum` might be called by many places, so we can't return to a fixed place. The calling proc to `sum` must be able to say "return here" somehow.

M
I
P
S



```
2000 sum: add $v0,$a0,$a1  
2004 jr     $ra           # new instruction
```

Instruction Support for Functions (4/6)

- ▶ Single instruction to jump and save return address: jump and link (**j****a****l**)

- ▶ Before:

```
1008 addi $ra,$zero,1010 #$ra=1010  
100c j  sum #goto sum
```

- ▶ After:

```
100c jal sum # $ra=1010,goto sum
```

- ▶ Why have a **j****a****l**?

- Make the common case fast: function calls very common.
- Don't have to know where code is in memory with **j****a****l**!

Instruction Support for Functions (5/6)

- ▶ Syntax for **jal** (jump and link) is same as for **j** (jump):

jal label

- ▶ **jal** should really be called **laj** for “link and jump”:
 - Step 1 (link): Save address of next instruction into `$ra`
 - Why next instruction? Why not current one?
 - Step 2 (jump): Jump to the given label

Instruction Support for Functions (6/6)

- ▶ Syntax for `jr` (jump register):

`jr register`

- ▶ Instead of providing a label to jump to, the `jr` instruction provides a register which contains an address to jump to.
- ▶ Very useful for function calls:
 - `jal` stores return address in register (`$ra`)
 - `jr $ra` jumps back to that address