



**University of
Nottingham**

UK | CHINA | MALAYSIA

MIPS Instruction Sets

Dr. Heng Yu

**AY2022-23, Spring Semester
COMP1047: Systems and Architecture
Week 5**



Learning Objectives

- Understand MIPS instruction set and design principle
- Translate a MIPS instruction into machine code

MIPS ISA

- ✓ We introduced the MIPS architecture.
 - Developed by John Hennessy and his colleagues at Stanford and in the 1980's.
 - Used in many commercial systems, including Silicon Graphics, Nintendo, and Cisco.
- ✓ RISC ISA: Reduced instruction set computing
 - As opposed to CISC (e.g. x86)
- ✓ Simple, elegant, easy to implement
 - That's why we choose it in COMP1047.
 - Once you've learned one architecture, it's easy to learn others.
- ✓ Designed with decades of continuous ISA design efforts
 - The prototype of a lot of modern ISAs



Think about it:

What's the relationship
between von Neumann
Architecture and MIPS ISA?

Instruction Set Architecture

- ❖ Defines the set of operations that a computer/processor can execute
- ❖ The contract between the hardware and software
 - ➡ “Contract”: given an ISA, your sw and hw must be designed for the ISA! A glue for high and low levels of the system!
- ❖ Example ISAs:
 - ➡ x86: intel Xeon, intel Core i7/i5/i3, intel atom, AMD Athlon/Opteron, AMD FX, AMD A-series
 - ➡ ARM: Apple A-Series, Qualcomm Snapdragon, TIOMAP, NVidia Tegra
 - ➡ MIPS: Sony/Toshiba Emotion Engine, MIPS R-4000(PSP)
 - ➡ DEC Alpha, PowerPC, IA-64, SPARC and many more ...



Assembly Language vs Machine Code

- We've been using assembly language
- Recall that an assembler is a program that translates a symbolic version of instructions into the binary versions
- MIPS32: Each machine instruction is 32-bit long and contains several fields

MIPS instruction	add \$s0, \$s1, \$s2
Hexadecimal (machine code)	0232 8020 ₁₆
Binary (machine code)	0000 0010 0011 0010 1000 0000 0010 0000 ₂



Instructions as numbers

- Currently we worked with words (32-bit blocks):
 - Each register is a word.
 - `lw` and `sw` both access memory one word at a time.
- So how do we represent instructions?
 - Design principle: Simplicity favors regularity
 - MIPS wants simplicity: since data is in words, make instructions be in words too...
 - Best case: define a single format for all types of instructions – too restrictive.
 - In practice: Defined 3 basic types of instruction formats: **R-format**, **I-format**, **J-format**.
- One instruction is in 32 bits
 - Divide the instruction word into “fields”.
 - Each “field” tells computer the info about the **operands** and **operations**.

3 Instruction Formats: all 32 bits wide

OP	\$rs	\$rt	\$rd	sa	funct
OP	\$rs	\$rt	immediate		
OP	jump target				



MIPS ISA as an Example

- ⦿ All instructions are 32 bits
- ⦿ 32 32-bit registers
 - ➔ \$zero is always 0
- ⦿ 50 opcodes
 - ➔ Arithmetic/Logic operations
 - ➔ Load/store operations
 - ➔ Branch/jump operations
- ⦿ 3 instruction formats
 - ➔ R-type: all operands are registers
 - ➔ I-type: one of the operands is an immediate value
 - ➔ J-type: non-conditional, nonrelative branches

3 Instruction Formats: all 32 bits wide

OP	\$rs	\$rt	\$rd	sa	funct
OP	\$rs	\$rt	immediate		
OP	jump target				

Simplicity favors regularity

R-format instructions

- ✓ Define the following fields:

6	5	5	5	5	6
opcode	rs	rt	rd	shamt	funct

- **opcode**: partially specifies what instruction it is
(Note: '0' for all R-Format instructions)
- **funct**: combined with **opcode** to specify the instruction
 - E.g. add: op(0), funct(32). sub: op(0), funct(34).
- **rs** (Source Register): used to specify register containing first operand
- **rt** (S-next Register): used to specify register containing second operand
- **rd** (Destination Register): used to specify register which will receive result of calculation
- **shamt** (shift amount): contains the amount a shift instruction will shift by. Set to zero in other cases.

Think about it:

Why are only 5 bits needed for **rs**, **rt**, or **rd**?

Why 5 for **shamt**?





Example

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

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

R	\$s1	\$s2	\$t0	0	add
0	17	18	8	0	32
000000	10001	10010	01000	00000	100000

$00000010001100100100000000100000_2 = 02324020_{16}$



MIPS Instructions

Table B.1 Instructions, sorted by opcode

Opcode	Name	Description	Operation
000000 (0)	R-type	all R-type instructions	see Table B.2
000001 (1) (rt = 0/1)	bltz/bgez	branch less than zero/ branch greater than or equal to zero	if ($[rs] < 0$) PC = BTA/ if ($[rs] \geq 0$) PC = BTA
000010 (2)	j	jump	PC = JTA
000011 (3)	jal	jump and link	\$ra = PC+4, PC = JTA
000100 (4)	beq	branch if equal	if ($[rs] == [rt]$) PC = BTA
000101 (5)	bne	branch if not equal	if ($[rs] != [rt]$) PC = BTA
000110 (6)	blez	branch if less than or equal to zero	if ($[rs] \leq 0$) PC = BTA
000111 (7)	bgtz	branch if greater than zero	if ($[rs] > 0$) PC = BTA
001000 (8)	addi	add immediate	$[rt] = [rs] + \text{SignImm}$
001001 (9)	addiu	add immediate unsigned	$[rt] = [rs] + \text{SignImm}$
001010 (10)	slti	set less than immediate	$[rs] < \text{SignImm} ? [rt]=1 : [rt]=0$

Table B.1 in Appendix B, in the Harris & Harris Book



MIPS Instructions

Table B.2 R-type instructions, sorted by funct field—Cont'd

Funct	Name	Description	Operation
011011 (27)	divu	divide unsigned	$[lo] = [rs] / [rt],$ $[hi] = [rs] \% [rt]$
100000 (32)	add	add	$[rd] = [rs] + [rt]$
100001 (33)	addu	add unsigned	$[rd] = [rs] + [rt]$
100010 (34)	sub	subtract	$[rd] = [rs] - [rt]$
100011 (35)	subu	subtract unsigned	$[rd] = [rs] - [rt]$
100100 (36)	and	and	$[rd] = [rs] \& [rt]$
100101 (37)	or	or	$[rd] = [rs] [rt]$
100110 (38)	xor	xor	$[rd] = [rs] \wedge [rt]$
100111 (39)	nor	nor	$[rd] = \sim([rs] [rt])$
101010 (42)	slt	set less than	$[rs] < [rt] ? [rd] = 1 : [rd] = 0$
101011 (43)	sltu	set less than unsigned	$[rs] < [rt] ? [rd] = 1 : [rd] = 0$

Table B.2 in Appendix B, in the Harris & Harris Book



Question: translate the following instruction into machine code (in Hex format)

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



Question: translate the following instruction into machine code (in Hex format)

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

op	rs	rt	rd	shamt	funct
000000	10001	10010	10000	00000	100010
sub	\$s1	\$s2	\$s0		

- **Machine code in hexadecimal: 02328022_{16}**

I-format instructions

- ✓ Define the following fields:

6	5	5	16
opcode	rs	rt	immediate

- **opcode**: *uniquely* specifies an I-format instruction
- **rs**: specifies the *only* register operand
- **rt**: specifies the register which receives the result of calculation (*target register*)
- **immediate**: 16-bit signed integer, can represent up to 2^{16} different immediate values.

Think about it:

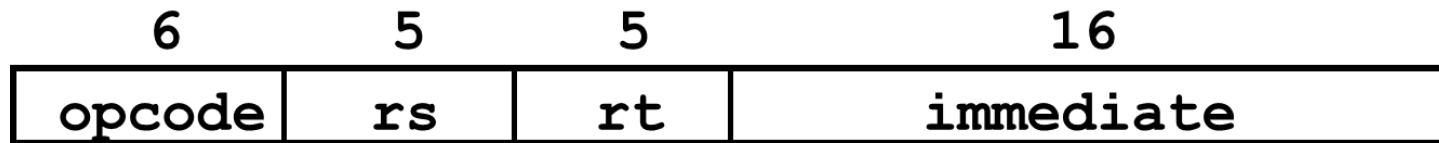
How many different *I-format* instructions can be represented?

What is the maximum number that the *immediate* field can carry?





Example

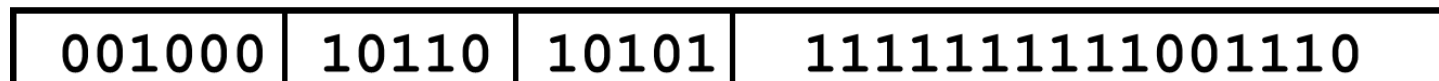


addi \$21, \$22, -50

decimal representation:



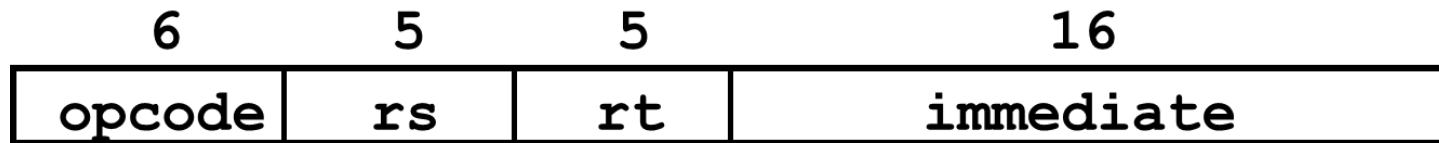
binary representation:



look up opcode for 'addi' in Table B.1 in Appendix B, in the Harris & Harris Book



Example

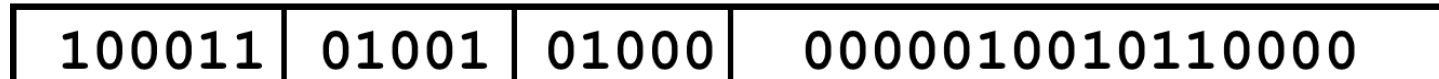


lw \$t0, 1200(\$t1)

decimal representation:



binary representation:



look up opcode for 'lw' in Table B.1 in Appendix B, in the Harris & Harris Book



Question: translate the following instruction into machine code (in Hex format)

```
addi $t0, $t1, 100
```



Question: translate the following instruction into machine code (in Hex format)

```
addi $t0, $t1, 100
```

op	rs	rd	imm
001000	01001	01000	0000 0000 0110 0100
addi	\$t1	\$t0	100

- **Machine code in hexadecimal: 21280064_{16}**



Question: translate the following instruction into machine code (in Hex format)

```
addi $21, $22, -50
```



Question: translate the following instruction into machine code (in Hex format)

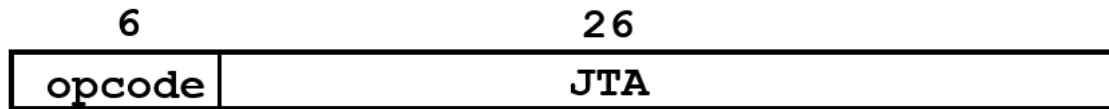
```
addi $21, $22, -50
```

op	rs	rd	imm
001000	10110	10101	1111 1111 1100 1110
addi	\$22	\$21	-50

- **Machine code in hexadecimal: $22d5ffce_{16}$**

J-format instructions

- ✓ Define the following fields:



- **opcode**: *uniquely* specifies an J-format instruction, so far, we've learnt **j** and **jal**
- **JTA**: 26-bit jump target address, jump relative to the current PC value, jump in words not in bytes.

Think about it:

What is the range of the jump?





- MIPS instruction set
- {R, I, J}-type instructions



University of
Nottingham

UK | CHINA | MALAYSIA

Stay Tuned.