EEE304 – Digital Design with HDL (II)

Lectures 3-4

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In This Session

- Instructions: Language of the Computer

Instruction Set

§ 2.1 Introduction

- 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 tear-out card, and Appendixes B and E

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 favours regularity
  - Regularity makes implementation simpler
  - Hardware for a variable number of operands is more complicated than hardware for a fixed number.

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

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
```

Register Operand Example

- C code:

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

  – f, …, j in $s0, …, $s4

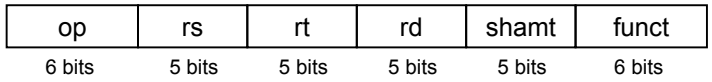
- Compiled MIPS code:

```
add $t0, $s1, $s2
add $t1, $s3, $s4
sub $s0, $t0, $t1
```


Representing Instructions

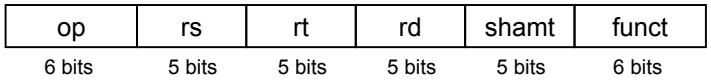
- Instructions are encoded in binary
  – Called machine code
- MIPS instructions
  – Encoded as 32-bit instruction words
  – Small number of formats encoding operation code (opcode), register numbers, …
  – Regularity!
- Register numbers
  – $t0 – $t7 are reg's 8 – 15
  – $t8 – $t9 are reg's 24 – 25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




```
add $t0, $s1, $s2
```

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

$0000001000110010010000000100000_2 = 02324020_{16}$

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`

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

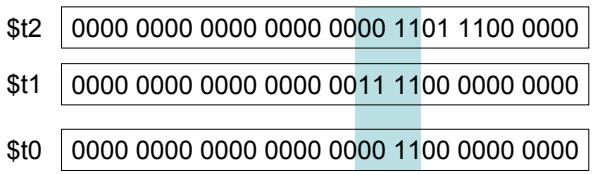
Shift Operations

- rs: 0, rt: source register, rd: destination register
- shamt: how many positions to shift
- Shift left logical
  - Shift left and fill with 0 bits
  - `sll` by *i* bits multiplies by 2^i
- Shift right logical
  - Shift right and fill with 0 bits
  - `srl` by *i* bits divides by 2^i (unsigned only)

AND Operations

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

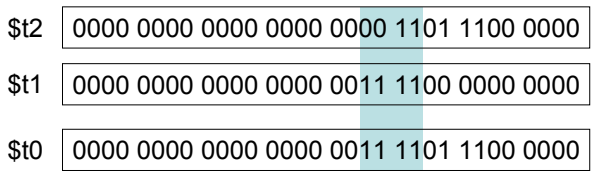
```
and $t0, $t1, $t2
```



OR Operations

- Useful to set bits in a word
  - Set some bits to 1, leave others unchanged

```
or $t0, $t1, $t2
```



NOT Operations

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

```
nor $t0, $t1, $zero
```

Register 0: always read as zero

$t1	0000 0000 0000 0000 0011 1100 0000 0000
$t0	1111 1111 1111 1111 1100 0011 1111 1111

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 Operand Example 1

- C code:

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

  - 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

Memory Operand Example 2

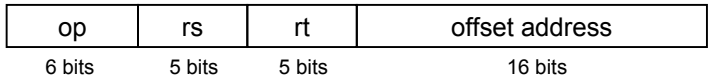
- C code:

```
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
```

MIPS I-format Instructions



- load/store instructions
  - rs: base address
  - rt: source register (store) or destination register (load)
  - offset address
  - memory address = base address + offset address
- Sign extension (offset address)
  - replicate the sign bit to the left, e.g. 8-bit to 16-bit
  - +2: 0000 0010 => 0000 0000 0000 0010
  - –2: 1111 1110 => 1111 1111 1111 1110

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

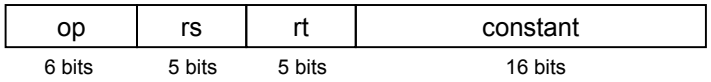
```
addi $s3, $s3, 4
```

- 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

MIPS I-format Instructions



- Immediate arithmetic instructions
  - rs: source register
  - rt: destination register
  - Constant: -2^{15} to $+2^{15} - 1$
- *Design Principle 4:* Good design demands good compromises
  - Different formats complicate decoding, but allow 32-bit instructions uniformly
  - Keep formats as similar as possible