

HW1

Homework 1

Due: Fri, 21 Jan 2022 17:30:00 (approximately 2 days from the time this page was loaded)  
[20 points possible] [20 penalties possible] [0 penalties graded so far]  
Weight = 1.00

The first part of this homework consists of some simple thought questions for which you can (mostly) look up the answers in the reference manuals or the lecture notes. It's best if you can use the reference manuals. The second part of the homework involves modifying an existing assembly language program to do what we're asking. You can use either the simulator or the actual microcontroller with System Workbench to do this exercise. We will evaluate your work with the simulator so be sure to adhere to the limitations imposed by its wimpy parser:

- If you write comments, use only `"/"`.
- Type all instructions and registers with lowercase letters.

Academic Honesty Statement [0 ... -20 points]

By typing my name, below, I hereby certify that the work on this homework is my own and that I have not copied the work of any other student (past or present) while completing it. I understand that if I fail to honor this agreement, I will receive a score of zero for the assignment, a one letter drop in my final course grade, and be subject to possible disciplinary action.

Tzu Yu Chen

Save

Question 1 [1 point]

For the form of assembly language we use for this class, if you want the assembler to create an instruction that adds the contents of two registers and stores the result in a third register like this:

`r6 = r5 + r0`

as well as set the flags, how would you write that instruction so that the assembler would produce the right thing? Are you sure? Did you try it? There's no partial credit for being close. The assembler program will never say "Oh, that's an error, but I'll just forgive you for it." It is important to type exactly the right thing.

adds r6,r5,r0

Save

adds r6, r5, r0  
↑  
if not then update the flag  
no update flag

Question 2 [1 point]

For the form of assembly language we use for this class, if you want the assembler to create an instruction that adds the contents of two registers and stores the result in a third register like this:

`r1 = r1 + r2`

but **not** change any flags, how would you write that instruction so that the assembler would produce the right thing?

add r1,r2

Save

add  
no & so does not change flag

Question 3 [1 point]

For either form of the add (immediate) instruction described in section A6.7.2 of the Architecture Reference Manual, what registers can be used for the source and destination? Express your answer as a comma-separated list of registers.

r0,r1,r2,r3,r4,r5,r6

Save

because only 3 bits so max # is 4+2+1=7

Question 4 [1 point]

Suppose you want to write an instruction that takes the value stored in register `r5`, add an immediate value to it and store it in `r2`. What is the largest immediate value you can use? Express your answer as a positive decimal number. (Hint: See A6.7.2. Should you use instruction encoding T1 or T2? How do you decide?) Be sure to check your answer. Try setting the immediate value to one larger than what you think the largest answer should be and make sure it produces an error.

7

Save

should use > r2 = r5 + #7  
avoiding T1 <imm> > so max value for constant is 7

Question 5 [1 point]

List the flags that may be affected by the instruction

`adds r1,r6,r3`

Express your answer as an unpunctuated list of flags in the order they appear in the xPSR. (xPSR means any of the three forms of the Processor Status Register. The top four bits are the ALU flags.) Read the documentation carefully, and try examples in the simulator. If you cannot think of a way to change the value of a flag, maybe it cannot be changed. (Write "none" if the instruction never changes any flags.)

Z

Save

Question 6 [1 point]

List the flags that may be affected by the instruction

`mov r3,r4`

Express your answer as an unpunctuated list of flags in the order they appear in the xPSR. (Write "none" if the instruction never changes any flags.) Read the documentation carefully, and try examples in the simulator.

Z

Save

Question 7 [1 point]

List the flags that may be affected by the instruction

`mova r6,r5`

Express your answer as an unpunctuated list of flags in the order they appear in the xPSR. (Write "none" if the instruction never changes any flags.)

Z

Save

Question 8 [1 point]

Is the following a valid ARM Cortex-M0 instruction?

`mov r4,#191`

mov is only for registers

No

Save

Question 9 [1 point]

Is the following a valid ARM Cortex-M0 instruction?

`mova r3,#267`

mov is only for registers

No

Save

Question 10 [1 point]

For the conditional branch instruction, **a**, what 4-bit value in the "cond" field should be used to implement the "Signed less than or equal" branch comparison? For instance, the "branch if equal" instruction would have a "cond" field of 0000. Look at lecture 03 to understand how the conditional branch instruction works. Look at the instruction encoding in A6.7.10, and see the branch condition field encodings on pages A6-98 and A6-99. (Express your answer in four sequential digits that are one or zero.)

1011

Save

signed less than or equal cond = 1101  
Flags: Z=1 or N!=V

Question 11 [1 point]

For the branch described in the previous question, what three-letter instruction mnemonic would be used in an assembly language program to produce the instruction? For instance, if you wanted to "branch if equal", the mnemonic would be "BEQ".

BLE

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Question 12 [1 point]

What is the *stated* range, in bytes, for the *permitted* offset of a conditional branch? For instance:

```
start: beq dest
      adds r0,#1
      subs r1,#2
      ...
dest:  muls r0,r1
```

permitted offsets are even numbers in range -256 to 254 for encoding T1

How far apart, in bytes, can the "start" label be from the "dest" label? This may not be quite an accurate way to specify the problem. What we really want you to do is look up the *state* range. Express your answer as a range of negative to positive values like: "-abc to xyz" (Hint: See A6.7.10 instruction encoding T1. It states it right there.)

-256 to 254

Save

Question 13 [1 point]

What is the *stated* range, in bytes, for the permitted offset of an **unconditional** branch? For instance:

**b** target

Express your answer as a range of negative to positive values in a similar manner as the previous question. (Hint: See A6.7.10 instruction encoding T2.)

-2048 to 2046

Save

Question 14 [1 point]

Write the full instruction that *compares* values in the registers, `r3` and `r0`, by subtracting them like `(r3 - r0)`, and sets the flags according to the result of the instruction (and throws away the 32-bit result without updating any of the general-purpose registers). Did you try this? Are you certain you expressed it correctly?

cmp r3,r0

Save

Question 15 [1 point]

What single instruction (that involves an assembler trick described in lecture) can you use to set register `r2` to the value `0xd9b3983c`?

ldr r2,=0xd9b3983c

Save

Question 16 [1 point]

Write a single (logical) instruction that clears all bits in `r2` that are set in `r1` regardless of whether they were previously set in `r2` or not. For instance, if the initial register values are

```
r2 = 0x00000000
r1 = 0x00008421
```

R2 = R2 & ~R1

the resulting value in `r2` after execution of the instruction should be 0. If, however, the initial register values are

```
r2 = 0xffffffff
r1 = 0x00008421
```

then the resulting value in `r2` after execution of the instruction should be `0xffff7bde`.

bics r2,r1

Save

Question 17 [1 point]

Write a single (logical) instruction that sets the bits in `r2` that are also set in `r7` regardless of whether those bits were previously set in `r2` or not. For instance, if the initial register values are

```
r2 = 0x44444444
r7 = 0x00008210
```

r2 = r2 | r7 = 4444 c 6 5 4

the resulting value of `r2` after execution of the instruction should be `0x4444C654`. If, however, the initial register values were

```
r2 = 0x44444444
r7 = 0x00000040
```

then the resulting value of `r2` after execution of the instruction should be `0x44444444`.

Try writing code in the simulator to set up the initial register values and the instruction you choose. Make sure it works.

orrs r2,r7

Save

Question 18 [1 point]

Write a single (logical) instruction such that, given the following initial register values:

```
r2 = 0x12345678
r7 = 0xffffffff
```

the instruction would write the result `0xedcba987` to `r2`. And for the following initial register values:

```
r2 = 0x11111111
r7 = 0xffffffff
```

the instruction would write the result `0xeeeeeeee` to `r2`. (Hint: Look at the values `0x12345678` and `0xedcba987` as binary values. How are they related?)

mvns r2,r7

Save

Program Modification [2 points]

Consider the code below that has many typographical errors:

```
.cpu cortex-m0
.thumb2
.syntax unify
.fpu softfp

.global main

main:
    movs    r0, #6
    move    r1, #20
    mov     r2, #0 // This is a loop counter
    mov     r3, #0 // This stores a sum.
loop:
    nop     // nop 1
    nop     // nop 2
    nop     // nop 3
    nop     // nop 4
    nop     // nop 5
done:
    bkpt    // Stop the debugger (breakpoint)
    b done
```

Modify this code, one step at a time. You can type it into [the simulator](#) and try it.

- First, fix the syntax errors! And don't laugh. These are the kind of errors you will make someday, so get used to finding and correcting them.
- Replace the first "nop" with an instruction that compares the values of registers `R2` and `R0`. (i.e., it should set the flags as if it subtracted `R0` from `R2`: (`R2-R0`))
- Replace the second "nop" with an instruction that redirects execution to the instruction following the "done:" label if and only if the result of the comparison in the previous instruction is greater than zero.
- Replace the third "nop" with an instruction that adds the value of register `R1` to `R3` and stores the result in `R3`.
- Replace the fourth "nop" with an instruction that increments the value of `r2` by 1.
- Replace the fifth "nop" with an instruction that will send execution back to the instruction at the "loop:" label.

When the program reaches the

**bkpt**

instruction, the value of the `R3` register should be `0x00000008` (decimal 140).

**Important note:** You should actually type in, run, and test this program. Then you should copy the whole thing (including the `.cpu`, `.thumb`, `.syntax`, and `.fpu` directives) from System Workbench or the simulator, and paste into the box below. There is a link below the text box that will invoke whatever you submit in the simulator. (Be sure to save it first.) That's what we will use to grade your work. If we can't assemble it, and see it run as specified, you don't get partial credit. It either works or it doesn't.

If you make updates in the simulator, remember to copy it back into the box below.

```
.cpu cortex-m0
.thumb2
.syntax unify
.fpu softfp

.global main

main:
    movs    r0, #6
    move    r1, #20
    mov     r2, #0 // This is a loop counter
    mov     r3, #0 // This stores a sum.
loop:
    cmp     r2, r0 // nop 1
    bgt     done // nop 2
    adds    r3, r3, r1 // nop 3
    adds    r2, #1 // nop 4
    b       loop // nop 5
done:
    bkpt    // Stop the debugger (breakpoint)
    b done
```

Save

[Click here to try it in the simulator](#)

main.s	startup.s	Register	Value
1 .cpu cortex-m0		R0	0x00000006
2 .thumb2		R1	0x00000014
3 .syntax unified		R2	0x00000007
4 .fpu softfp		R3	0x0000008c
5		R4	0x00000000
6 .text		R5	0x00000000
7 .global main		R6	0x00000000
8		R7	0x00000000
9 main:		R8	0x00000000
10 movs r0, #6		R9	0x00000000
11 move r1, #20		R10	0x00000000
12 movs r2, #0 // This is a loop counter		R11	0x00000000
13 movs r3, #0 // This stores a sum.		R12	0x00000000
14 loop:		SP	0x20008000
15 cmp r2, r0 // nop 1		LR	0x08000005
16 bgt done // nop 2		PC	0x0800001a
17 adds r3, r3, r1 // nop 3			
18 adds r2, #1 // nop 4			
19 b loop // nop 5			
20 done:			
21 bkpt // Stop the debugger (breakpoint)			