

Lab 2

MIPS Variables

.data

x: .word 4

name type initial value

Type of variable:

- word (4 Bytes)
- half (2 Bytes)
- byte (1 Byte)

Load and Store Instructions

- **Load** : Memory -> Register
- **Store**: Register -> Memory

Load

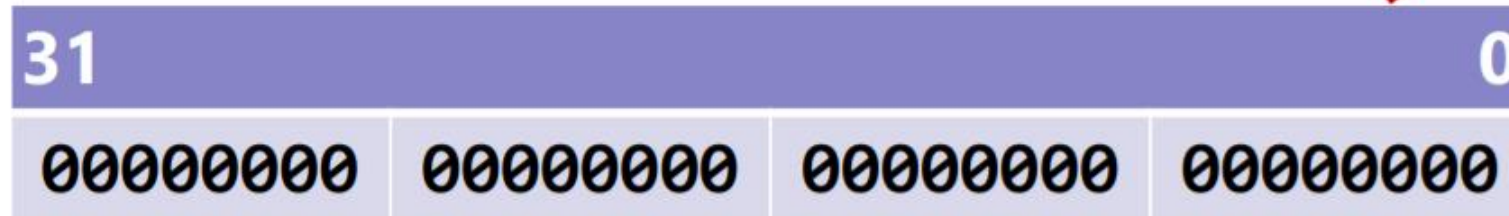
- `lw`
 - copy word (4 bytes) at source memory address to destination register

```
a:    .word 0  
lw t0, a
```

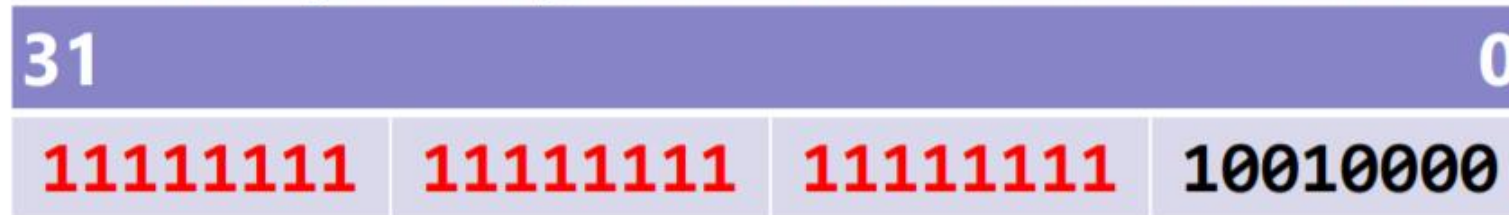
- `lw` can be replaced with `lb` or `lh` depending on the type of variable that is being loaded
 - `lb` or `lbu` if variable is of type *byte* (1 Byte)
 - `lh` or `lhu` if variable is of type *half* (or half word = 2 Bytes)

EXPAND VALUE

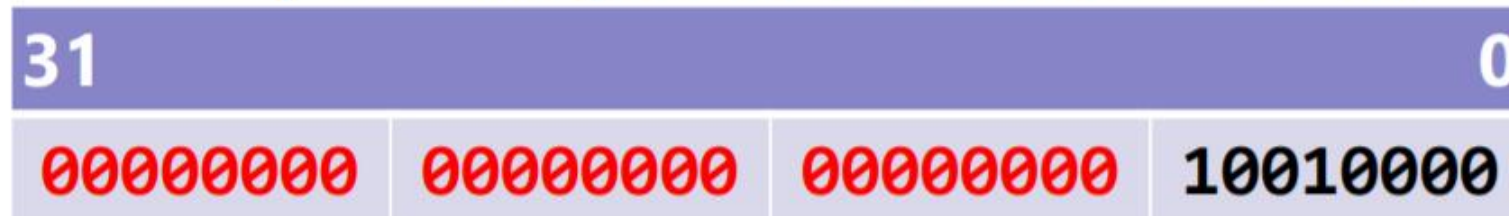
- if you load a **byte**...



If the byte is **signed**... what *should* it become?



If the byte is **unsigned**... what *should* it become?



1b does
sign extension.

1bu does
zero extension.

Load address

- `la t0, var1`
 - Copy memory address of `var1` (a variable defined in the program) into register `t0`
- Indirect Addressing
 - `lw t2, (t0)`
 - load word at memory address contained in `t0` into `t2`
 - `sw t2, (t0)`
 - store word in register `t2` into memory at address contained in `t0`

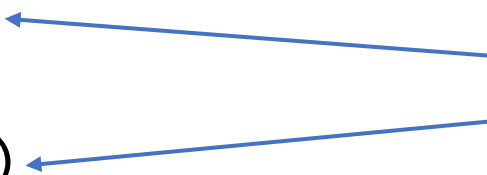
Exercise

- If memory address of variable x is 0x10010001,

```
la t0, x
```

```
lw t1, 16(t0)
```

```
lw t1, -12(t0)
```



t1 stores the value at
which memory
address?

Effective address = value of register_address + offset

Load Immediate

- `li register_destination, value`
 - Loads immediate value in destination register

Store Instructions

sw s0, x # stores *from* t1 into variable x

sb t0, tiny # stores a byte into tiny

sh t0, small # stores a half-word into tiny

Lab Overview