

Johns Hopkins Engineering

Module 4: MIPS Control Structures

EN605.204: Computer Organization



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Base/Base-offset Addressing

opcode (6)	rs (5)	rt (5)	immediate (16)
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- Address of second operand is found at \$rs (base) + offset
- **lw \$t0, \$t1(16)** -> \$t0 = address inside of \$t1 + 16 bytes
 - 'lw' is a "load" instruction
 - moves a value from memory into a register
 - Immediate value is 16-bit two's complement
 - Ex: if \$t1 contains the address 0x0010, the instruction above adds the value in \$t0 to the value at 0x0020

'lw' Using Base-offset Addressing

MIPS Code	Binary/Hex	Memory Locations
	00	0x0013
	00	0x0012
	00	0x0011
\$t0 = 0x03	03	0x0010
	
lw \$t0, \$t1(16)	0x8D	0x0003
\$t1 = 0x0000	0x28	0x0002
	0x00	0x0001
	0x10	0x0000

PC-relative Addressing

opcode (6)	rs (5)	rt (5)	immediate (16)
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- Offset in immediate field is offset of Program Counter (PC)
 - beq \$t0, \$zero, 0xFFFC -> go to PC-4 if \$t0 = 0
 - 'beq' is a conditional branch (if equal) Branch target is "near" the PC
 - Within $2^{15} - 1$ bytes to be exact
 - Can be used to implement "if", for/while loops

PC-relative Addressing


Let's assume $\$t0 = 5$, how many times does this loop repeat?

PC				
0x00000000	loop: addi	$\\$t0$	$\\$t0$	0xFFFF
...
0x00000008	bne	$\\$t0$	$\\$zero$	0xFFF4 (loop)
0x0000000C

Why 0xFFF4? PC points to next instruction!

(Pseudo-) Direct Addressing

opcode (6)	offset (26)
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- Address resides in the 26-bit offset field: **j 0x1234**
 - $0x1234 = 00\ 0000\ 0000\ 0001\ 0002\ 0003\ 0004$ (26 bits)
 - MIPS programs loaded into 1 of 16 256MB "blocks"
 - 16 blocks: leading 4 bits go from [0000], [0001], ... , [1111]
 - Leading 4 bits of PC will always be one of these blocks
 - If offset is only 26 bits, how do we address a block with 2^{32} addresses?
 - Shift left 2 bits: $00\ 0000\ 0000\ 0100\ 0200\ 0300\ 0400$
 - Offset in words, but we need bytes (same as multiplying by 4)
 - Fill in top 4 bits with 4 MSB's (block address) from PC
 - This gives us a full 32-bits of accessible memory locations!
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Read: https://www.eecs.yorku.ca/course_archive/2004-05/F/2021/notes/UnderstandingTheJumpInstruction.pdf

Conditional Operators

Conditional Operator	MIPS Instruction
$x == y$	beq \$t0, \$t1, <LABEL>
$x != y$	bne \$t0, \$t1, <LABEL>
$x < y$	blt \$t0, \$t1, <LABEL>
$x > y$	bgt \$t0, \$t1, <LABEL>
$x \leq y$	ble \$t0, \$t1, <LABEL>
$x \geq y$	bge \$t0, \$t1, <LABEL>
$x == 0$	beqz \$t0, <LABEL>

Control Structures

'for' loop	'while' Loop
<pre># for i from 0 to 5 addi \$t0, \$zero, 5 addi \$t1, \$zero, 0 loop: beq \$t1, \$t0, end ... addi \$t1, \$t1, 1 j loop end: ...</pre>	<pre># loop while \$t0 <= 10 while: ... bgt \$t0, 10, end j while end: ...</pre>