MARS 4.5 Quick Start

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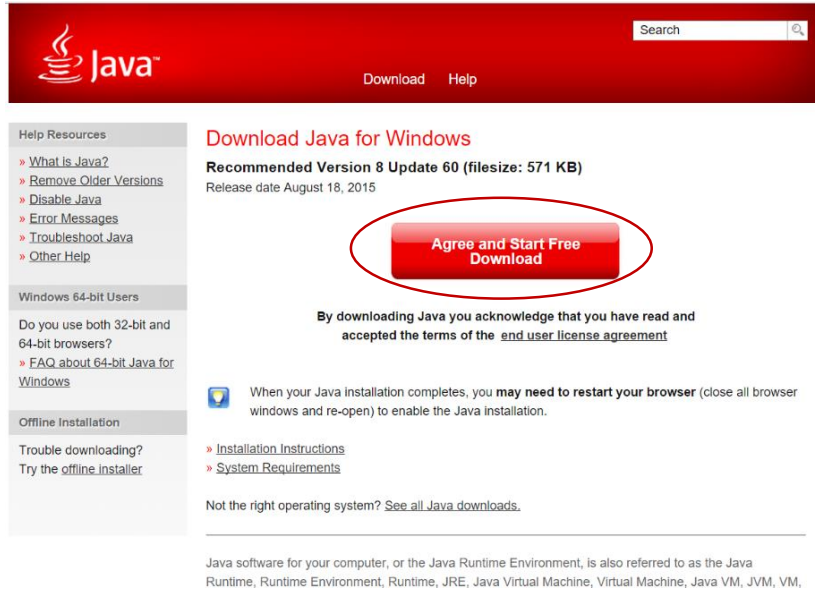
About MARS

- **M**IPS **A**ssembler and **R**untime **S**imulator
  - Maintained by Missouri State University
  - Based on Java
- You can develop your MIPS assembly and do simulation in MARS
- Featuring useful tools that help you analyze and trace your assembly
- For more information, you can visit: http://courses.missouristate.edu/kenvollmar/mars/

Pre-requisite: Java Runtime Environment (JRE) for Windows

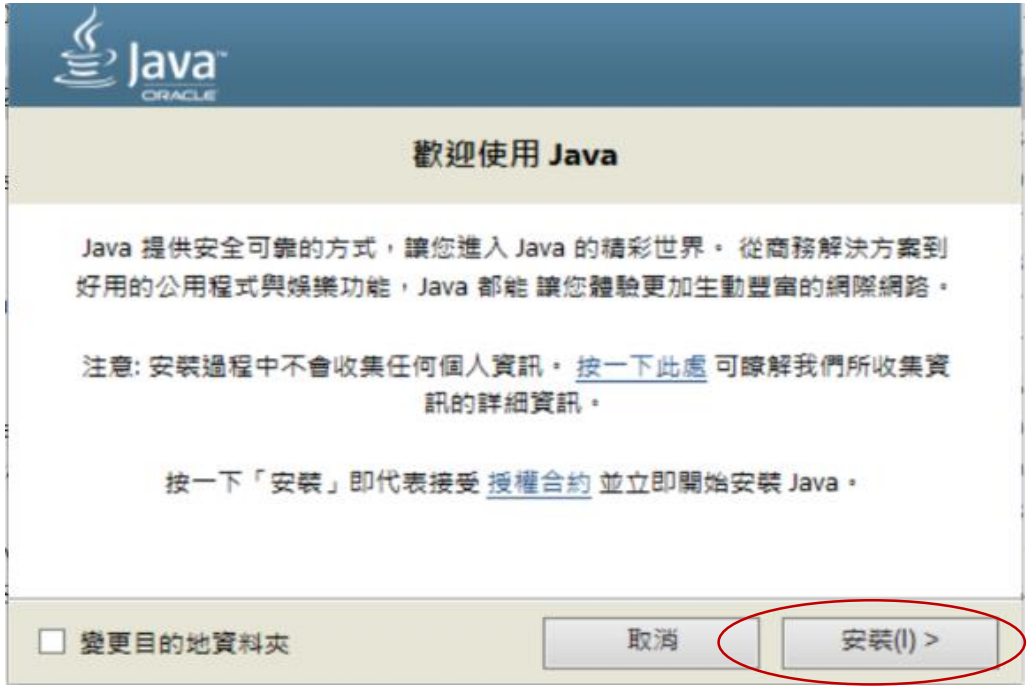
- Follow this page to make sure you have Java installed:
  https://www.java.com/zh_TW/download/help/version_manual.xml
- If not installed yet, go to https://java.com/zh_TW/download/
  Download and install java

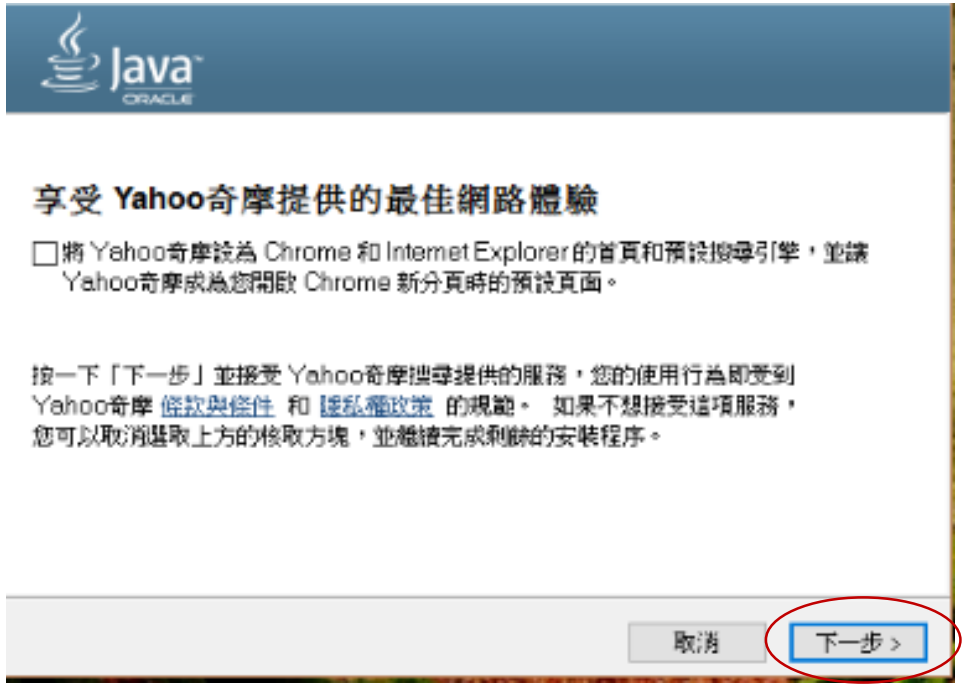


Carefully choose the link that matches your OS.

Access more information if you fail during installation

Windows installation



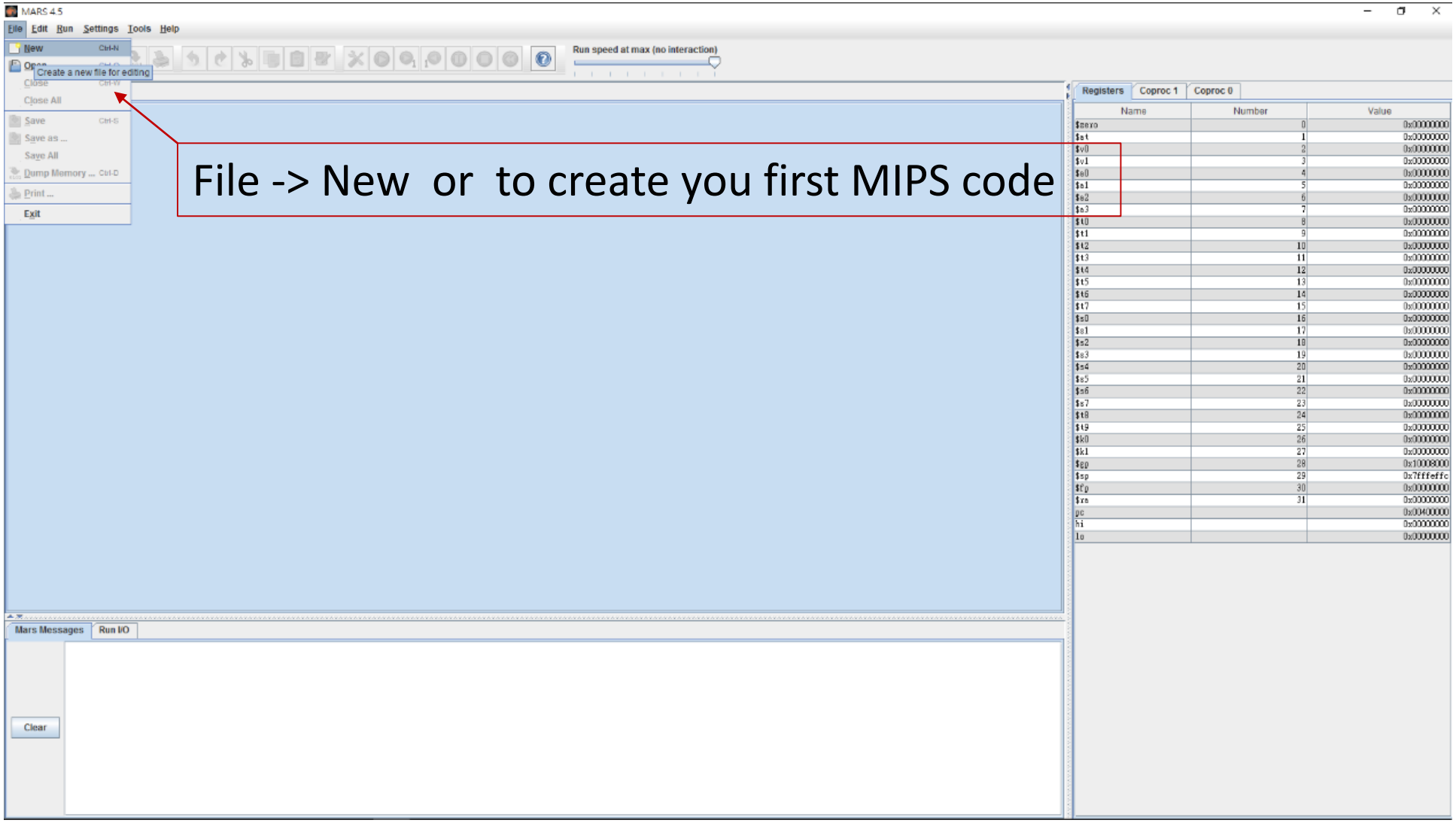


- After installation, open Mars by double clicks Mars4_5

JRE for linux

- Use the command:
  $ java --version
- If not installed yet:
  - Debian based distribution (Ubuntu, Mint, etc…) users can open package manager:
    $ sudo apt-get install default-jre
  - Or follow this page:
    https://java.com/zh_TW/download/help/linux_x64rpm_install.xml
- After installation, open MARS by the command:
  $ java -jar Mars4_5.jar

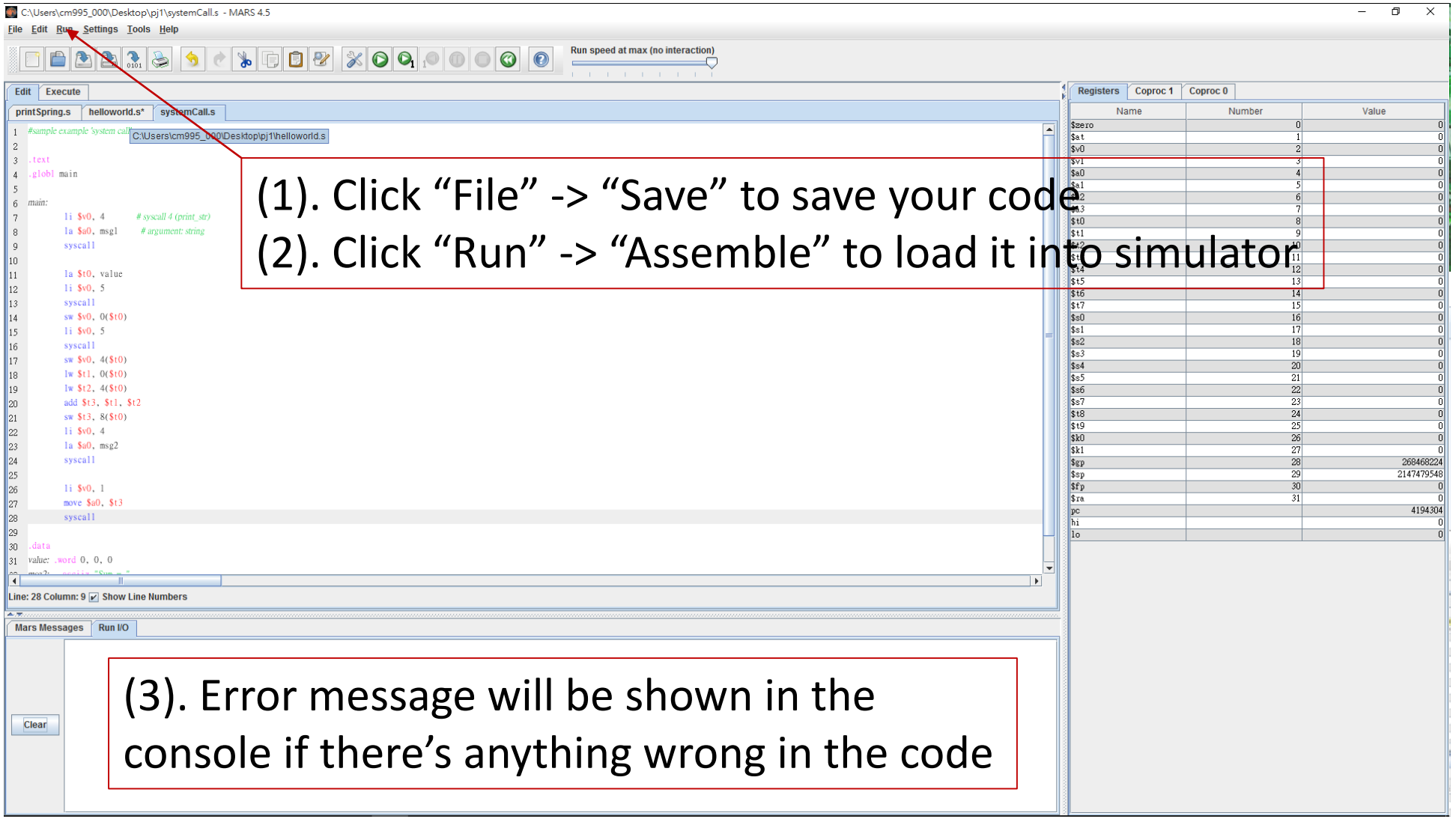
First glance on MARS



Sample code: add.asm

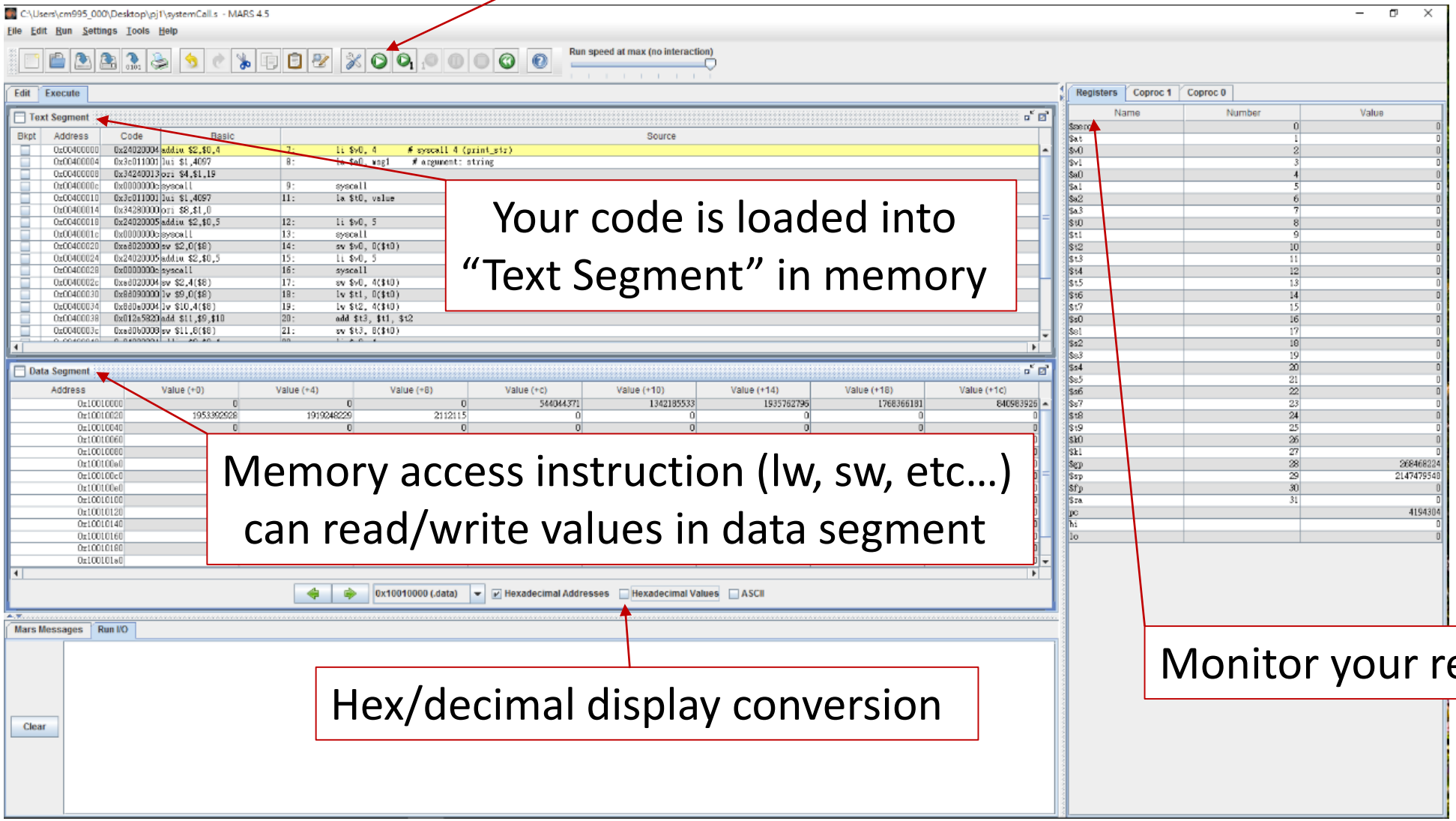
```
.text
.globl main
main:
	li $v0, 4		# prepare syscall 4 (print string)
	la $a0, msg1	# argument: msg1
	syscall
	la $t0, value	# get address of ‘value seg’ and we will store integers into value[0~2] later
	li $v0, 5		# prepare syscall 5 (get int)
	syscall
	sw $v0, 0($t0) # store first int from syscall to value[0]
	li $v0, 5		# prepare syscall 5 (get int)
	syscall
	sw $v0, 4($t0)	# store second int from syscall to value[1]
	lw $t1, 0($t0)		# load first int back
	lw $t2, 4($t0)		# laod second int back
add $t3, $t1, $t2	# put sum to $t3
	sw $t3, 8($t0)		# store sum to value[2]
	li $v0, 4		# prepare syscall 4 (print string)
	la $a0, msg2		# argument: msg2
	syscall
	li $v0, 1		# prepare syscall 1 (print int)
	move $a0, $t3		# argument: sum
	syscall
 exit:
	li	$v0, 10		# terminate program run and
	syscall		# Exit
.data
value: .word 0, 0, 0
msg2:  .asciiz "Sum = "
msg1:   .asciiz "Please give 2 integers separated by enter:\n "
```

Development Environment



After assemble

Click run button to start simulation



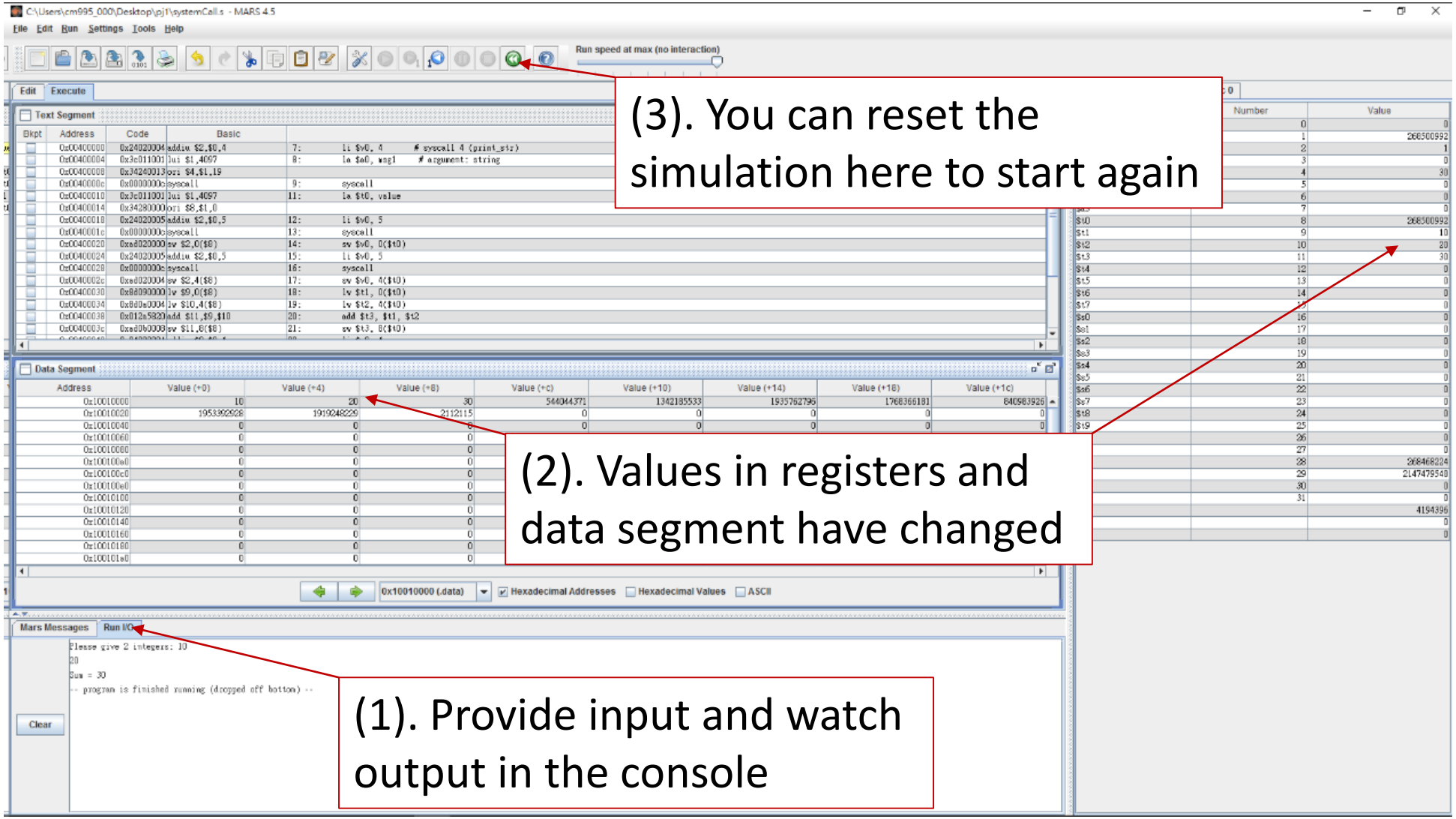
Your code is loaded into “Text Segment” in memory

Memory access instruction (lw, sw, etc…) can read/write values in data segment

Hex/decimal display conversion

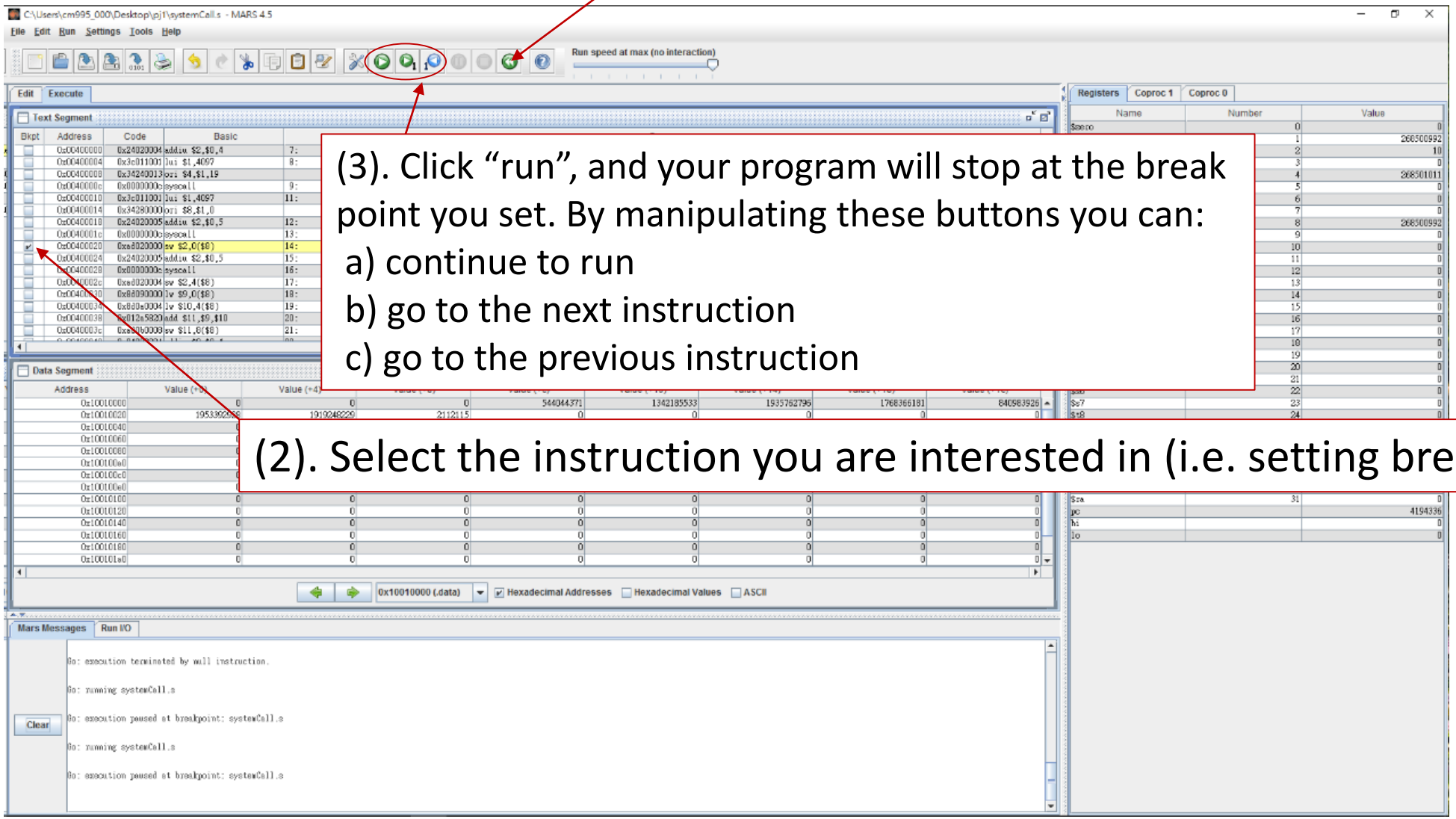
Monitor your register file here

After simulation started



Trace your code

(1). Click “reset”



(3). Click “run”, and your program will stop at the break point you set. By manipulating these buttons you can:

a) continue to run

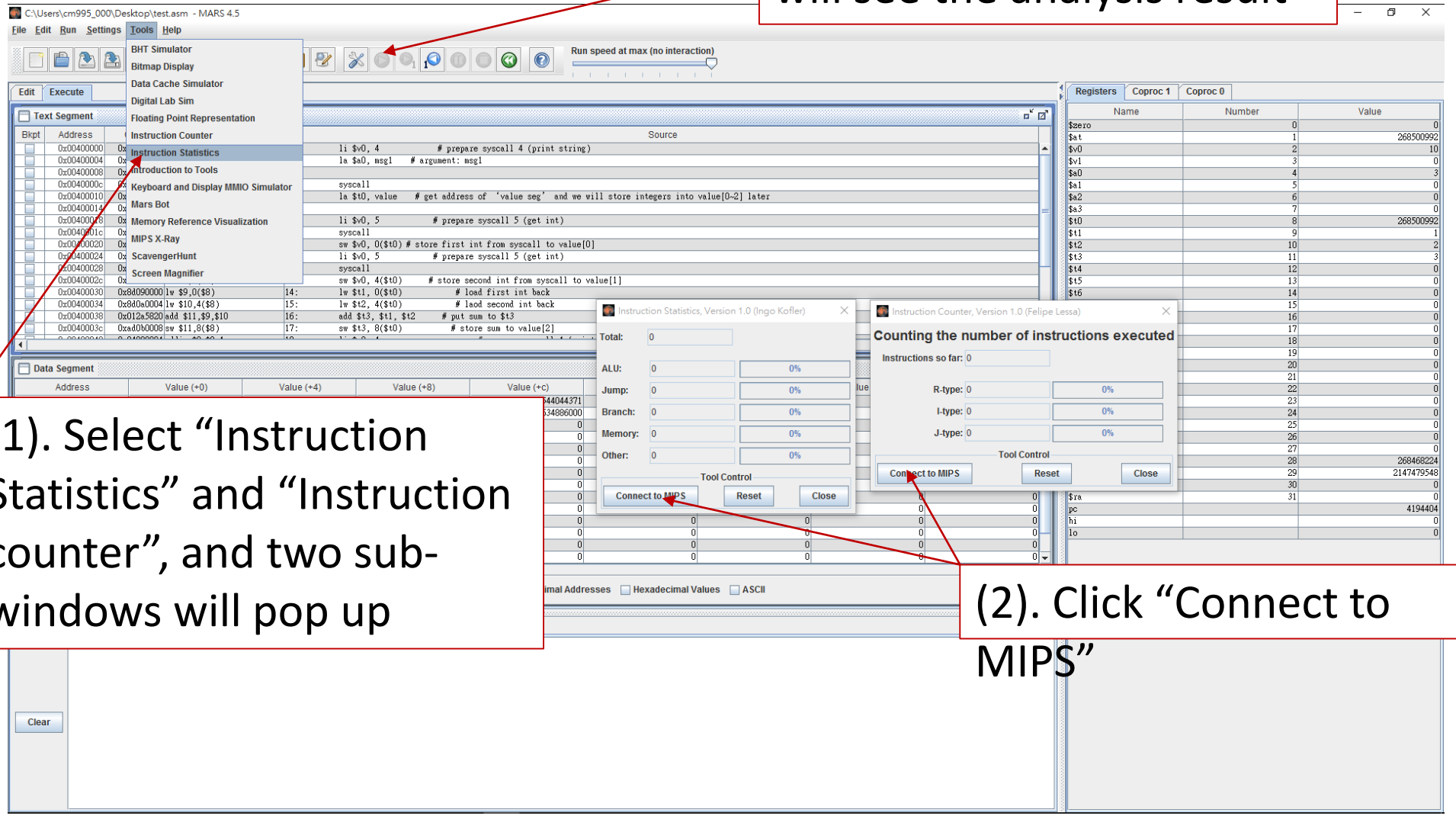
b) go to the next instruction

c) go to the previous instruction

(2). Select the instruction you are interested in (i.e. setting break point)

Analyze your code

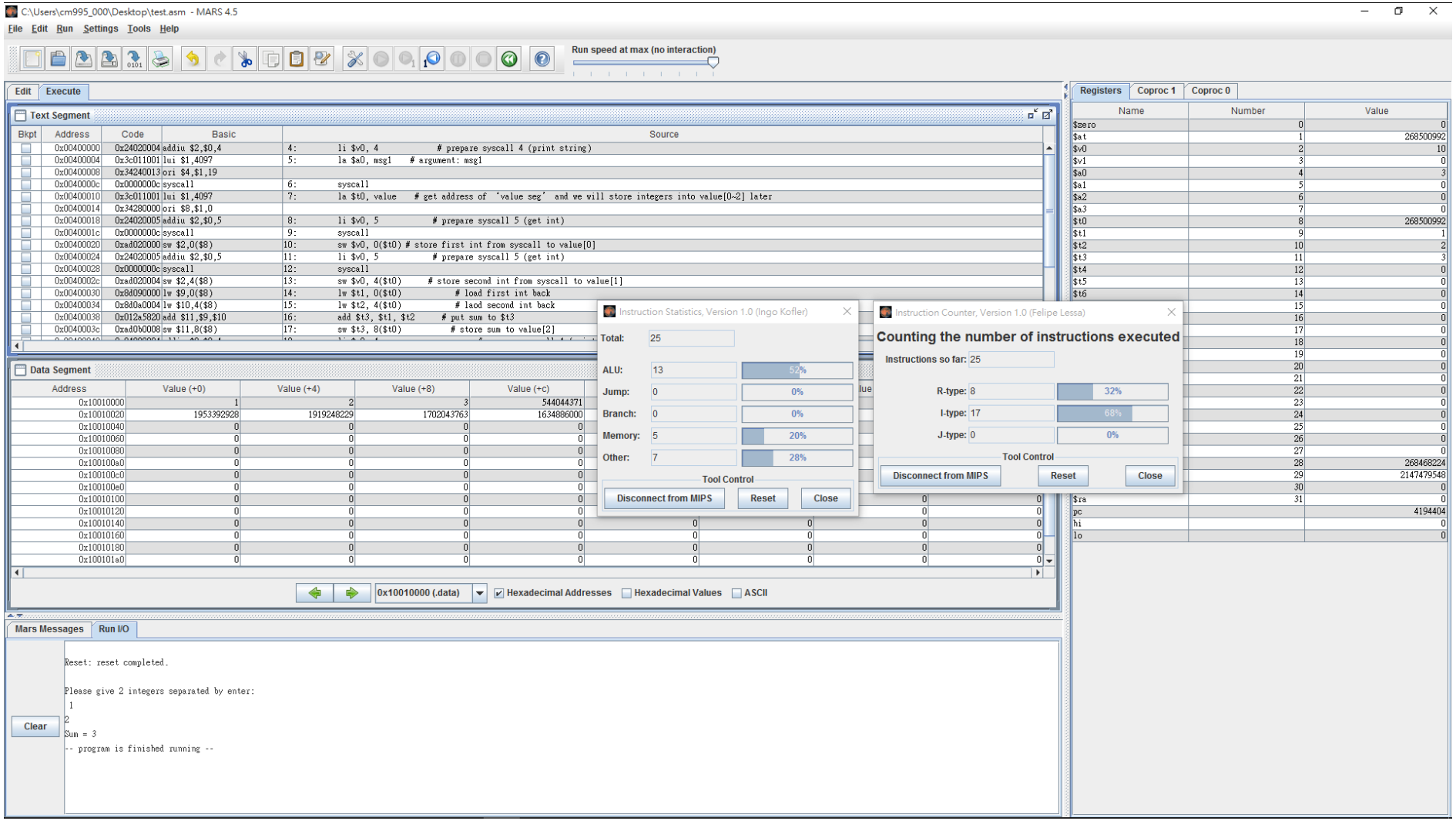
(3). Click “RUN” and you will see the analysis result



(1). Select “Instruction Statistics” and “Instruction counter”, and two sub-windows will pop up

(2). Click “Connect to MIPS”

Analysis results (if terminated normally)



Hints

- Program needs to call “exit” at the end of execution, otherwise unexpected error might occurs.
- You must write comments to explain your code very carefully.
- You might try other features in MARS to enrich your report and get bonus.
- Any one copying codes from the internet or classmates will get 0.