

CSCI 4350: Computer Architecture

Project 2: Implementing a Simple MIPS Function II

Due: Nov/5 (Fri) 11:59pm (10 points)

1. Overview

In this project, you will implement a simple MIPS assembly function. You will need to use MIPS simulator, Mars 4.5, for this project. You can find detail information about Mars 4.5 from the link:

<http://courses.missouristate.edu/KenVollmar/mars/>. In this lab, you will learn about implementing and calling functions with the MIPS assembly language.

2. Function Details

You will implement a simple function, `generate_random (int arr[], int cnt)`. The function generates non-duplicated random numbers and stores them to the array address (`arr`). The second argument (`cnt`) indicates how many numbers need to be generated. You can assume that the generated random numbers are between 1 ~ 9 and `cnt` is the size of array (less than 10).

For function call, `generate_random (arr, 6)`

<code>arr[] = {5, 2, 1, 4, 6, 3}</code>	→ valid
<code>arr[] = {1, 3, 4, 2, 5, 7}</code>	→ valid
<code>arr[] = {9, 5, 2, 3, 1, 5}</code>	→ invalid ('5' is duplicated)
<code>arr[] = {9, 5, 2, 3, 1}</code>	→ invalid (generated numbers is 7)
<code>arr[] = {9, 5, 2, 3, 1, 4, 6}</code>	→ invalid (generated numbers is 5)

The main function will call `generate_random()` to generate non-duplicated numbers.

3. Implementation Details

You will need to use Mars 4.5 system calls (**41 or 42**) to generate random numbers. Please take a look at the page below to see how you can use the system calls.

<https://courses.missouristate.edu/KenVollmar/MARS/Help/SyscallHelp.html>

You will need to use MIPS instructions below (but not limited to) to implement the `generate_random` function. You can use any other MIPS instructions to complete the function.

Instruction	Example	Description
li	li \$t0, 1	An integer value is loaded into a register (\$t0) with 1
la	la \$t0, sym	An address is loaded into \$t0 with the address 'sym'
lw	lw \$t0, offset(\$t1)	A word is loaded into \$t0 from the specified address (offset + \$t1)
sw	sw \$t0, offset(\$t1)	The contents of \$t0 is stored at the specified address (offset + \$t1)
add	add \$t0, \$t1, \$t2	Adds \$t1 and \$t2 and stores the result in \$t0
addi	addi \$t0, \$t1, 1	Adds \$t1 and a sign-extended immediate value (1) and stores the result in \$t0
sll	sll \$t0, \$t1, 4	Shifts \$t1 value left by the shift amount (4) and places the result in \$t0. Zeroes are shifted in
mul	mul \$t0, \$t1, \$t2	Multiply \$t1 and \$t2 and stores the result in \$t0
jal	jal target	Jumps to the calculated address and stores the return address in \$ra (\$31)
j	j target	Jumps to the calculated address
beq	beq \$t0, \$t1, target	Branches to target if \$t0 and \$t1 are equal
blt	blt \$t0, \$t1, target	Branches to target if \$t0 is less than \$t1
slt	slt \$t0, \$t1, \$t2	If \$t1 is less than \$t2, \$t0 is set to 1, 0 otherwise

You must show (display) the numbers generated after the function call. **To avoid duplicated numbers in the array, you must use the `lookup` function you implemented in the first project.**

For function calls, **you must use 1) a stack to store and load values of registers and 2) a pair of JAL and JR instructions. In addition, the \$v0 register must be used for a return value.** You will lose points if you did not implement your program as requested above, even if your program works well.

You may want to implement `generate_random` in C first to understand how the function works clearly. You can take a look at any other MIPS code or references from Internet or book. You can discuss with your classmates for this project to get some hints. **But it is not allowed to share the solution with your classmates. I will use a tool to detect cheating.**

3. Testcase

A skeleton code (**prj2.asm**) will be provided. The code includes a main function and some other code for initialization. The array is hard-coded in .data section in the code,

```
arr: .word 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0 (up to 9 numbers)
```

If you call `generate_random(arr, 9)`, the array (`arr`) will include all numbers from 1 to 9.

You will also need to change the second parameter (`cnt`) to test your code.

4. Deliverables

- a. Document describing how your assembly code works. Not to exceed 1 page.
- b. MIPS source code