CISC AND RISC

Here's a simplified comparison between CISC and RISC architectures:

1. CISC (Complex Instruction Set Computer):

- o Large, complex instruction set.
- o Instructions vary in size.
- Needs a microcode interpreter to translate instructions.
- Instructions are broken down into smaller steps (micro-operations).
- o Example: Intel x86 family.

2. RISC (Reduced Instruction Set Computer):

- o Small, simple instruction set.
- o All instructions are the same size.
- o Instructions are simpler and easier to decode.
- o Executed directly by hardware.
- o Examples: ARM, MIPS, PowerPC, SPARC.

Width of buses in MIPS:

In **MIPS** architecture, the **bus width** typically depends on the specific implementation of MIPS, but in general:

- For **32-bit MIPS processors**, the bus width is **32 bits**. This means the data, addresses, and instructions are transferred in 32-bit chunks.
- For **64-bit MIPS processors**, the bus width is **64 bits**, allowing larger data transfers and handling of 64-bit addresses.

Components of MIPS:

In the MIPS architecture, the following are the key components and their roles:

- 1. Program Counter (PC): Holds the address of the next instruction to be executed.
- 2. Memory: Stores instructions and data.
- 3. Instruction Register (IR): Holds the current instruction fetched from memory.
- 4. **Register File**: A collection of registers that store temporary data for fast access by the processor.
- 5. **Arithmetic and Logic Unit (ALU)**: Performs arithmetic operations (addition, subtraction) and logical operations (AND, OR).
- 6. Control Unit (CU): Manages the execution of instructions by directing other components.
- 7. **Buses**: These are the pathways that interconnect all components except the Control Unit, allowing data and instructions to flow between them.

MIPS assembly programming:

1. **Data Types and Literals**: In MIPS, data types represent how data is stored (e.g., integers, characters). Literals are constant values (like numbers or characters) directly used in

instructions.

- 2. **Registers**: MIPS has 32 general-purpose registers (e.g., \$t0, \$s1, etc.), each holding 32-bit data for quick access during operations.
- 3. **Program Structure**: MIPS programs consist of sections like:
 - o .data: To declare data (variables, strings).
 - o .text: Contains the instructions (code) for execution.
- 4. **Data Declarations**: In the .data section, data is declared using labels. For example:
 - o myVar: .word 5 declares a word (32-bit) variable myVar initialized to 5.
- 5. **Arithmetic Instructions**: Basic operations like addition, subtraction, and multiplication:
 - o add \$t0, \$t1, \$t2: Adds values in \$t1 and \$t2 and stores the result in \$t0.
- 6. Load/Store Instructions: MIPS uses load/store architecture:
 - o lw \$t0, 0(\$s0): Loads a word from memory address in \$s0 into \$t0.
 - sw \$t0, 4(\$s1): Stores the value in \$t0 into memory at the address in \$s1 with an offset of 4.

7. Indirect and Based Addressing:

- o **Indirect Addressing**: Uses a register to point to a memory location, like lw \$t0, 0(\$t1) where the address is stored in \$t1.
- **Based Addressing**: Adds an offset to the base register address to calculate the effective address. Example: lw \$t0, 4(\$s1) adds 4 to the address in \$s1.