

You are developing a new App where you can record the movement of a ball in a real-life shuffle board game and then convert it into movements of a blinking ball in a grid on the screen. Unfortunately the trajectory-capturing software records the movement of the real ball into a binary representation and the image-rendering library that you are using was written in JavaScript and expects a string of word commands. An important mobile device in the target market is based on a MIPS microcontroller that uses MIPS assembly, but there is no compiler available for this controller yet. Thus you will have to write MIPS assembly routines to do this conversion. To make the task easier, you have divided the functionality that you need into two separate routines.

Question 4 (20 points): In this question you will write `concatenate`, a subroutine that receives two pointers to null-terminated strings: `$a0` receives the `_to` pointer, which is the address of the string that will be grown by the concatenation; `$a1` receives the `_from` pointer, which is the address of the string that is to be concatenated into the string pointed by `_to`. Figure 1 illustrates the effect of one call to the subroutine `concatenate`. You can assume that there is enough memory allocated for the `_to` string to enable the concatenation of the `_from` string without overwriting to other data structures in the program. You must follow all the subroutine invocation conventions of MIPS.

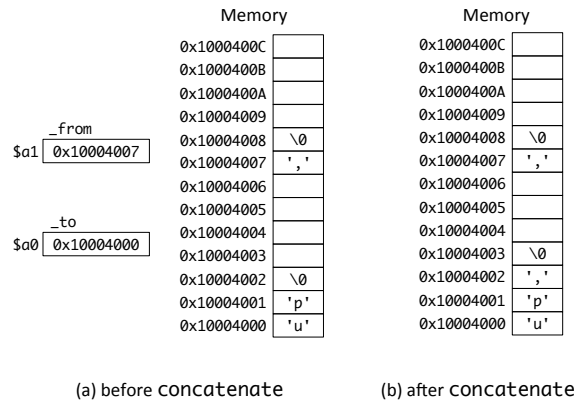


Figure 1: Example of execution of a concatenate function.

Code for concatenate
