- 1. **Instruction set:** The vocabulary of commands understood by a given architecture.
- 2. **Stored-program concept:** The idea that instructions and data of many types can be stored in memory as numbers and thus be easy to change, leading to the stored-program computer.
- 3. **Doubleword:** Another natural unit of access in a computer, usually a group of 64 bits; corresponds to the size of a register in the RISC-V architecture.
- 4. Word: A natural unit of access in a computer, usually a group of 32 bits.
- 5. **Data transfer instruction:** A command that moves data between memory and registers.
- 6. **Address:** A value used to delineate the location of a specific data element within a memory array.
- 7. **Alignment restriction:** A requirement that data be aligned in memory on natural boundaries.
- 8. **Binary digit:** Also called bit. One of the two numbers in base 2, 0 or 1, that are the components of information.
- 9. Least significant bit: The rightmost bit in an RISC-V doubleword.
- 10. Most significant bit: The leftmost bit in an RISC-V doubleword.
- 11. **One's complement:** A notation that represents the most negative value by  $10 \cdots 000_2$  and the most positive value by  $01 \cdots 11_2$ , leaving an equal number of negatives and positives but ending up with two zeros, one positive  $(00 \cdots 00_2)$  and one negative  $(11 \cdots 11_2)$ . The term is also used to mean the inversion of every bit in a pattern: 0 to 1 and 1 to 0.
- 12. **Biased notation:** A notation that represents the most negative value by  $00 \cdots 000_2$  and the most positive value by  $11 \cdots 11_2$ , with 0 typically having the value  $10 \cdots 00_2$ , thereby biasing the number such that the number plus the bias has a non-negative representation.
- 13. **Instruction format:** A form of representation of an instruction composed of fields of binary numbers.
- 14. **Machine language:** Binary representation used for communication within a computer system.
- 15. **Hexadecimal:** Numbers in base 16.
- 16. Opcode: The field that denotes the operation and format of an instruction.

- 17. **Basic block:** A sequence of instructions without branches (except possibly at the end) and without branch targets or branch labels (except possibly at the beginning).
- 18. **Branch address table:** Also called branch table. A table of addresses of alternative instruction sequences.
- 19. **Procedure:** A stored subroutine that performs a specific task based on the parameters with which it is provided.
- 20. **Jump-and-link instruction:** An instruction that branches to an address and simultaneously saves the address of the following instruction in a register (usually x1 in RISC-V).
- 21. **Return address:** A link to the calling site that allows a procedure to return to the proper address; in RISC-V it is stored in register x1.
- 22. Caller: The program that instigates a procedure and provides the necessary parameter values.
- 23. Callee: A procedure that executes a series of stored instructions based on parameters provided by the caller and then returns control to the caller.
- 24. **Program counter (PC):** The register containing the address of the instruction in the program being executed.
- 25. **Stack:** A data structure for spilling registers organized as a last-in-first-out queue.
- 26. **Stack pointer:** A value denoting the most recently allocated address in a stack that shows where registers should be spilled or where old register values can be found. In RISC-V, it is register sp, or x2.
- 27. Global pointer: The register that is reserved to point to the static area.
- 28. **Procedure frame:** Also called activation record. The segment of the stack containing a procedure's saved registers and local variables.
- 29. **Frame pointer:** A value denoting the location of the saved registers and local variables for a given procedure.
- 30. **Text segment:** The segment of a UNIX object file that contains the machine language code for routines in the source file.
- 31. **PC-relative addressing:** An addressing regime in which the address is the sum of the program counter (PC) and a constant in the instruction.
- 32. Addressing mode: One of several addressing regimes delimited by their varied use of operands and/or addresses.

- 33. **Data race:** Two memory accesses form a data race if they are from different threads to the same location, at least one is a write, and they occur one after another.
- 34. **Assembly language:** A symbolic language that can be translated into binary machine language.
- 35. **Pseudoinstruction:** A common variation of assembly language instructions often treated as if it were an instruction in its own right.
- 36. **Symbol table:** A table that matches names of labels to the addresses of the memory words that instructions occupy.
- 37. **Linker:** Also called link editor. A systems program that combines independently assembled machine language programs and resolves all undefined labels into an executable file.
- 38. Executable file: A functional program in the format of an object file that contains no unresolved references. It can contain symbol tables and debugging information. A "stripped executable" does not contain that information. Relocation information may be included for the loader.
- 39. **Loader:** A systems program that places an object program in main memory so that it is ready to execute.
- 40. **Dynamically linked libraries (DLLs):** Library routines that are linked to a program during execution.
- 41. **Java bytecode:** Instruction from an instruction set designed to interpret Java programs.
- 42. Java Virtual Machine (JVM): The program that interprets Java byte-codes.
- 43. **Just In Time compiler (JIT):** The name commonly given to a compiler that operates at runtime, translating the interpreted code segments into the native code of the computer.