Instruction Set Architecture Part two

Chapter 2 – P & H

CPU Design Principles

- Simplicity favours regularity
- Smaller is faster
- Good design demands good compromises
- Make the common case fast

Control Flow

- We have: beq, bne, what about Branch-if-less-than?
- New instruction:

```
                          if  $s1 < $s2 then
                             $t0 = 1
slt $t0, $s1, $s2         else
                             $t0 = 0
```

- Can use this instruction to build `"blt $s1, $s2, Label"`
  — can now build general control structures
- Note that the assembler needs a register to do this,
  — there are policy of use conventions for registers

Constants

- Small constants are used quite frequently (50% of operands)
  e.g., A = A + 5;
  B = B + 1;
  C = C - 18;
- Design Principle: *Make the common case fast*
- Solutions? Why not:
  - put 'typical constants' in memory and load them?
  - create hard-wired registers (like $zero) for constants like one?

Constants

- MIPS provides instructions that use a register value and a constant (immediate) value
- MIPS Instructions:

```
addi $29, $29, 4
slti  $8, $18, 10
andi $29, $29, 6
ori  $29, $29, 4
```

- How do we make this work?

How about larger constants?

- We'd like to be able to load a 32 bit constant into a register
- Must use two instructions, new "load upper immediate" instruction

```
lui $t0, 1010101010101010
```

filled with zeros

1010101010101010	0000000000000000

- Then must get the lower order bits right, i.e.,

```
ori $t0, $t0, 1010101010101010
```

1010101010101010	0000000000000000
0000000000000000	1010101010101010
1010101010101010	1010101010101010

Policy of Use Conventions

Name	Register number	Usage
`$zero`	0	the constant value 0
`$at`	1	assembler temporary
`$v0-$v1`	2-3	values for results and expression evaluation
`$a0-$a3`	4-7	arguments
`$t0-$t7`	8-15	temporaries
`$s0-$s7`	16-23	saved
`$t8-$t9`	24-25	more temporaries
`$gp`	28	global pointer
`$sp`	29	stack pointer
`$fp`	30	frame pointer

Assembly Language vs. Machine Language

- Assembly provides convenient symbolic representation
  - much easier than writing down numbers
  - e.g., destination first
- Machine language is the underlying reality
  - e.g., destination is no longer first
- Assembly can provide 'pseudo instructions'
  - e.g., “move $t0, $t1” exists only in Assembly
  - would be implemented using “add $t0,$t1,$zero”
- When considering performance you should count real instructions

Addresses in Branches

- Instructions:

```
bne $t4,$t5,Label      Next instruction is at Label if $t4 != $t5
beq $t4,$t5,Label      Next instruction is at Label if $t4 == $t5
```

- Formats:

op	rs	rt	16 bit address

- Could specify a register (like lw and sw) and add it to address
  - use Instruction Address Register (PC = program counter)
  - most branches are local (principle of locality)
- Jump instructions just use high order bits of PC
  - address boundaries of 256 MB

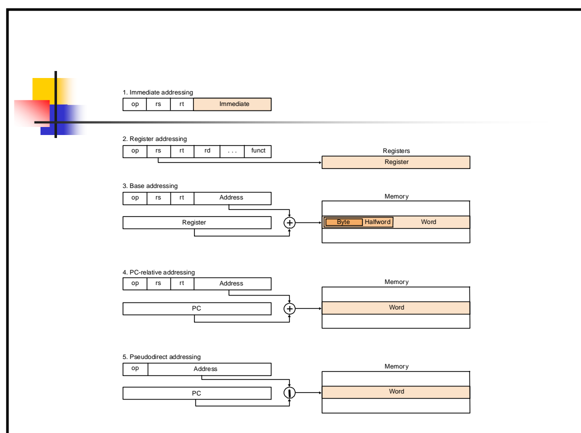
To summarize:

MIPS operands

Name	Example	Comments
32 registers	`$s0-$s7, $t0-$t9, $zero, $a0-$a3, $v0-$v1, $gp, $fp, $sp, $ra, $at`	Fast locations for data. In MIPS, data must be in registers to perform arithmetic. MIPS register $zero always equals 0. Register $at is reserved for the assembler to handle large constants.
2^{30} memory words	Memory[0], Memory[4], ..., Memory[4294967292]	Accessed only by data transfer instructions. MIPS uses byte addresses, so sequential words differ by 4. Memory holds data structures, such as arrays, and spilled registers, such as those saved on procedure calls.

MIPS assembly language

Category	Instruction	Example	Meaning	Comments
Arithmetic	add	`add $s1, $s2, $s3`	`$s1 = $s2 + $s3`	Three operands; data in registers
	subtract	`sub $s1, $s2, $s3`	`$s1 = $s2 - $s3`	Three operands; data in registers
	add immediate	`addi $s1, $s2, 100`	`$s1 = $s2 + 100`	Used to add constants
Data transfer	load word	`lw $s1, 100($s2)`	$s1 = Memory[$s2 + 100]	Word from memory to register
	store word	`sw $s1, 100($s2)`	Memory[$s2 + 100] = $s1	Word from register to memory
	load byte	`lb $s1, 100($s2)`	$s1 = Memory[$s2 + 100]	Byte from memory to register
	store byte	`sb $s1, 100($s2)`	Memory[$s2 + 100] = $s1	Byte from register to memory
	load upper immediate	`lui $s1, 100`	$s1 = 100 * 2^{16}	Loads constant in upper 16 bits
Conditional branch	branch on equal	`beq $s1, $s2, 25`	if ($s1 == $s2) go to PC + 4 + 100	Equal test; PC-relative branch
	branch on not equal	`bne $s1, $s2, 25`	if ($s1 != $s2) go to PC + 4 + 100	Not equal test; PC-relative
	set on less than	`slt $s1, $s2, $s3`	if ($s2 < $s3) $s1 = 1; else $s1 = 0	Compare less than; for beq, bne
	set less than immediate	`slti $s1, $s2, 100`	if ($s2 < 100) $s1 = 1; else $s1 = 0	Compare less than constant
Unconditional jump	jump	`j 2500`	go to 10000	Jump to target address
	jump register	`jr $ra`	go to $ra	For switch, procedure return
	jump and link	`jal 2500`	$ra = PC + 4; go to 10000	For procedure call



Alternative Architectures

- Design alternative:
  - goal is to reduce number of instructions executed
  - provide more powerful operations
  - danger is a slower cycle time and/or a higher CPI
- Sometimes referred to as "RISC vs. CISC"
  - virtually all new instruction sets since 1982 have been RISC
  - VAX: minimize code size, make assembly language easy

    instructions from 1 to 54 bytes long!
- We'll look at PowerPC and 80x86

PowerPC

- Indexed addressing
  - example: `lw $t1,$a0+$s3   #$t1=Memory[$a0+$s3]`
  - What do we have to do in MIPS?
- Update addressing
  - update a register as part of load (for marching through arrays)
  - example: `lwu $t0,4($s3)`
    `#$t0=Memory[$s3+4];$s3=$s3+4`
  - What do we have to do in MIPS?
- Others:
  - load multiple/store multiple
  - a special counter register "`bc Loop`"

    decrement counter, if not 0 goto loop

80x86

- 1978: The Intel 8086 is announced (16 bit architecture)
- 1980: The 8087 floating point coprocessor is added
- 1982: The 80286 increases address space to 24 bits, +instructions
- 1985: The 80386 extends to 32 bits, new addressing modes
- 1989-1995: The 80486, Pentium, Pentium Pro add a few instructions
  (mostly designed for higher performance)
- 1997: MMX is added

"This history illustrates the impact of the "golden handcuffs" of compatibility

"adding new features as someone might add clothing to a packed bag"

"an architecture that is difficult to explain and impossible to love"

A dominant architecture: 80x86

- See your textbook for a more detailed description
- Complexity:
  - Instructions from 1 to 17 bytes long
  - one operand must act as both a source and destination
  - one operand can come from memory
  - complex addressing modes
    e.g., "base or scaled index with 8 or 32 bit displacement"
- Saving grace:
  - the most frequently used instructions are not too difficult to build
  - compilers avoid the portions of the architecture that are slow

"what the 80x86 lacks in style is made up in quantity, making it beautiful from the right perspective"

Summary

- Four MIPS design principles
  - Simplicity favours regularity
  - Smaller is faster
  - Good design demands good compromises
  - Make the common case fast