
MIPS Introduction

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HW3 due Friday 9/27

Midterm - Friday 10/4

- review materials

soon

- covers digital logic,

SCRAM, 6502

(not MIPS)

History



MIPS
TECHNOLOGIES

RISC

- Developed by MIPS Technologies in 1984, first product in 1986
- Used in
 - Silicon Graphics (SGI) Unix workstations
 - Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC) Unix workstation
 - Nintendo 64
 - Sony PlayStation
- Inspiration for ARM (esp. v8)

Overview



2

- 32 bit architecture (registers, memory addresses)

$$2^{32} = 4G$$

- 32 registers
- Similar types of instructions to 6502
- Multiply and divide instructions
- Floating point numbers

Example: Addition



- Mathematical view of addition

$$a = b + c$$

Example: Addition



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- Mathematical view of addition

$$a = b + c$$

- MIPS instruction

add a,b,c

*maybe
same*



*could be
same*

a, b, c are registers

6502: A, X, Y

32 Registers



- Some are special

0 \$zero always has the value 0
31 \$ra contains return address

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1 \$at reserved for pseudo-instructions
2-3 \$v0-\$v1 return values of a function call
4-7 \$a0-\$a3 arguments for a function call

32 Registers



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0 \$zero always has the value 0
31 \$ra contains return address

"caller saved"

- Some have usage conventions

1	\$at	reserved for pseudo-instructions
2-3	\$v0-\$v1	return values of a function call
4-7	\$a0-\$a3	arguments for a function call
8-15, 24, 25	\$t0-\$t9	temporaries, can be overwritten by function
16-23	\$s0-\$s7	saved, have to be preserved by function

"callee-saved"

32 Registers

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 31 \$ra contains return address

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1	\$at	reserved for pseudo-instructions
2-3	\$v0-\$v1	return values of a function call
4-7	\$a0-\$a3	arguments for a function call
8-15, 24, 25	\$t0-\$t9	temporaries, can be overwritten by function
16-23	\$s0-\$s7	saved, have to be preserved by function
26-27	\$k0-\$k1	reserved for kernel
28	\$gp	global area pointer
29	\$sp	stack pointer
30	\$fp	frame pointer

- access to heap

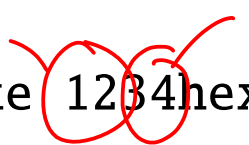
points to current stack frame

Endianness



- How are 16 bit numbers like 1234hex stored in memory?

Endianness

MSB  LSB

- How are 16 bit numbers like 1234hex stored in memory?

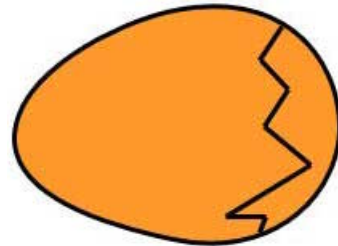
Address	Little Endian	Big Endian
0000	34	12
0001	12	34

Endianness

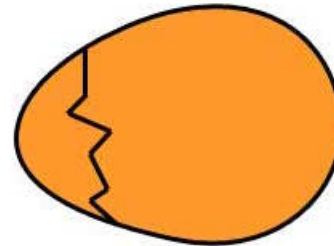
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Address	Little Endian	Big Endian
0000	34	12
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- From Jonathan Swift's "Gulliver's Travels" (1726):
War over how to crack an egg:



Big Endian
People's tradition



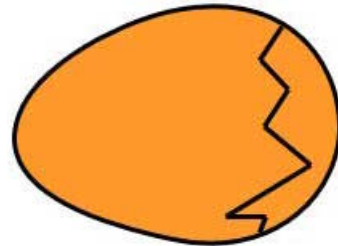
Little Endian
King's order

Endianness

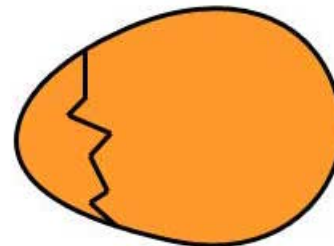
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Big Endian
People's tradition



Little Endian
King's order

- Little Endian: 6502, x86
- Big Endian: MIPS, Internet transfer protocols

instruction formats

Instruction Format (R Type)



- All instructions are encoded in 4 bytes --- 32 bits
- Instruction format (register type)
 - 6 bits: op: operation code
 - 5 bits: rs: first source operand register
 - 5 bits: rt: second source operand register
 - 5 bits: rd: return operand register
 - 5 bits: shamt: shift amount (for shift instructions)
 - 6 bits: funct: function code, indicates variant of operation
- Examples
 - add: operation code 0, function code 32
 - sub: operation code 0, function code 34

$$2^5 = 32$$

6502: lda#\$10 Instruction Format (I Type)



- Some operations may directly use 16 bit values
- Example: `addi $s1, $s2, 100`
(adds value of register \$s2 and 100, stores result in register \$s1)
- Instruction format (immediate type)
 - 6 bits: op: operation code
 - 5 bits: rd: return operand register
 - 5 bits: rs: source operand register
 - 16 bits: constant or address

not 32!

32 Bit Values



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- Registers can hold 32 bit values
- How can we load 32 bit values into a register?

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```
lui $s0, 0061h
```

32 Bit Values

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- Registers can hold 32 bit values
- How can we load 32 bit values into a register?

⇒ Solution: 2 instructions

- First load upper order 16 bits (load upper immEDIATE)

```
lui $s0, 0061h
```

- Then combine with lower order 16 bits (or immEDIATE)

```
ori $s0, $s0, 2304h
```

- Stored value: 00612304h

Addressing in Jumps

- Jump instruction uses J Type format
 - 6 bits: operation code
 - 26 bits: address (relative) *effectively x 4*
- 26 bits, 4 byte increments → 256 MB address space
- There is also a "jump register" instruction



instructions

Instruction Types

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- Arithmetic: add, sub, mult, div
HW
- Memory access: lb, sb
- Logic: and, or, not, xor
- Comparison: slt
- Branch: beq, bne
- Jumps: j, jal

Data Types

- Instructions operate on varying data types
- 8 bits = 1 byte
- 16 bits = 2 bytes = 1 half word
- 32 bits = 4 bytes = 1 word
- 64 bits = 8 bytes = 2 words = 1 double word

Arithmetic

- Load immediately one number ($s0 = 2$)

`li $s0, 2`
pseudo instruction! \Rightarrow `ori`

- Add 4 ($s1 = s0 + 4$)

`addi $s1, $s0, 4`
immediate

- Subtract 3 ($s2 = s1 - 3$)

`addi $s2, $s1, -3`

`add $s3, $s2, $s1`
regs

Memory Access



- So far, assign absolute value to register

```
li $s0, 2
```

Memory Access

- So far, assign absolute value to register

```
li $s0, 2
```

- Load value from memory address stored in register

```
lw $s0, 0($s1)
```

- lw = load word (4 bytes)
- \$s1 contains memory address
- 0(...) = offset 0

pointer is \$s1

Memory Access

- So far, assign absolute value to register

```
li $s0, 2
```

- Load value from memory address stored in register

```
lw $s0, 0($s1)
```

- lw = load word (4 bytes)
- \$s1 contains memory address
- 0(...) = offset 0

- Bigger offset example:

```
lw $s0, 8($s1)
```

- word takes 4 bytes
- offset 8

→ ~~32 memory positions added~~

no

5(\$s1) useful?

Direct Memory Access?



- Cannot specify address directly
 - address takes 32 bits
 - instruction size is 32 bits

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- Workaround: store address in register first

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- 2 instructions needed:

```
lui $s1, 3264h
ori $s1, $s1, 8278h
```

- address: 32648278h
- first load upper memory address halfword (lui)
- combine with lower memory address halfword (ori)

Direct Memory Access?

- Cannot specify address directly
 - address takes 32 bits
 - instruction size is 32 bits
- Workaround: store address in register first

- 2 instructions needed:

```
lui $s1, 3264h
ori $s1, $s1, 8278h
```

- address: 32648278h
 - first load upper memory address halfword (lui)
 - combine with lower memory address halfword (ori)
- Now retrieve value from that memory address

```
lw $s0, 0($s1)
```

Boolean Logic

- We already encountered Boolean OR:

```
ori $s1, $s1, 8278h
```

- Register only version ($s1 = s2 \text{ OR } s3$)

```
or $s1, $s2, $s3
```

- Note: bitwise operation

```
01010101 OR 11110000 → 11110101
```

Other Boolean Operators

- AND

```
and $s1, $s2, $s3
```

- NOT

```
not $s1, $s2
```

- NOR

```
nor $s1, $s2, $s3
```

- XOR

```
xor $s1, $s2, $s3
```

Shift

- Shift left logical

```
sll $s1, $s2, 4
```

- shifts all bits left by 4 positions *count*
- 0000 1001 → 1001 0000
- equivalent to multiplication with 2^4

- Corresponding command: shift right logical (srl)

Branches



- No flags!
- Branch includes test
- Example
 - `beq $s1, $s2, address`
 - beq = branch if equal
 - branches if registers \$s1 and \$s2 have same value
- Corresponding command: branch if not equal (bne)

Testing Inequality

- Another useful test: $\$s0 < \$s1$?

- Instruction: set on less than

```
slt  $\$s2$ ,  $\$s0$ ,  $\$s1$ 
```

- Result: $\$s0 < \$s1 \rightarrow \$s2 = 1$ (otherwise 0)

- Can be used in branching

```
slt  $\$s2$ ,  $\$s0$ ,  $\$s1$   
bne  $\$s2$ ,  $\$zero$ , address
```

test result

Addressing in Branches



- Comparison of register values

```
beq register1, register2, address
```

Addressing in Branches



- Comparison of register values

```
beq register1, register2, address
```

- Format: I Type → address has 16 bits
- Address relative to current program counter
- Branches are typically local: 16 bits typically enough
(also in 6502: 1 byte relative addressing)



spim

Simulator



- Available at `http://spimsimulator.sourceforge.net/`
 - versions for Windows, Linux, Mac, etc.
- Installed on CS machines
- We will use this for homeworks

Basic Usage



- Write assembly program as text file
- Start the spim simulator

```
% spim
```

```
SPIM Version 7.3. of August 28, 2006
```

```
Copyright 1990-2004 by James R. Larus (larus@cs.wisc.edu).
```

```
(spim)
```

- Load program and step through the program
- Useful instructions:
 - load "countdown.s"
 - step
 - print \$s0
 - reinitialize

Example Program

- Text file "countdown.s"

```
.text

main:
    li $s0, 10          # store 10 in register $s0

loop:
    addi $s0, $s0, -1   # decrement counter
    bne  $s0, $zero, loop # != 0 ? then loop

exit:
    jr   $ra           # return to callee
```

- Loops through numbers 10 ... 0 in register \$s0

Step through Example

- Ignore initial header code:

```
(spim) step
[0x00400000] 0x8fa40000 lw $4, 0($29) ; 175: lw $a0 0($sp) # argc
(spim)
[0x00400004] 0x27a50004 addiu $5, $29, 4 ; 176: addiu $a1 $sp 4 # argv
(spim)
[0x00400008] 0x24a60004 addiu $6, $5, 4 ; 177: addiu $a2 $a1 4 # envp
(spim)
[0x0040000c] 0x00041080 sll $2, $4, 2 ; 178: sll $v0 $a0 2
(spim)
[0x00400010] 0x00c23021 addu $6, $6, $2 ; 179: addu $a2 $a2 $v0
(spim)
[0x00400014] 0x0c100009 jal 0x00400024 [main] ; 180: jal main
```

- This handles parameters from the command line

Step through Example

- First instruction

(spim) step

```
[0x00400024] 0x3410000a ori $16, $0, 10 ; 4: li $s0, 10 # store 10 in register $s0
```

Step through Example

- First instruction

```
(spim) step  
[0x00400024] 0x3410000a ori $16, $0, 10 ; 4: li $s0, 10 # store 10 in register $s0
```

- Inspect value of register \$s0

```
(spim) print $s0  
Reg 16 = 0x0000000a (10)
```

Step through Example

- First instruction

```
(spim) step  
[0x00400024] 0x3410000a ori $16, $0, 10 ; 4: li $s0, 10 # store 10 in register $s0
```

- Inspect value of register \$s0

```
(spim) print $s0  
Reg 16 = 0x0000000a (10)
```

- Decrease loop index variable

```
(spim) step  
[0x00400028] 0x2210ffff addi $16, $16, -1 ; 7: addi $s0, $s0, -1 # decrement counter  
(spim) print $s0  
Reg 16 = 0x00000009 (9)
```


Step through Example



- Check loop termination condition

(spim) step

```
[0x0040002c] 0x1600ffff bne $16, $0, -4 [loop-0x0040002c]; 8: bne $s0, $zero,loop # != 0 ? then loop
```

Step through Example



- Check loop termination condition

```
(spim) step
[0x0040002c] 0x1600ffff bne $16, $0, -4 [loop-0x0040002c]; 8: bne $s0, $zero,loop # != 0 ? then loop
```

- Next iteration

```
(spim) step
[0x00400028] 0x2210ffff addi $16, $16, -1 ; 7: addi $s0, $s0, -1 # decrement counter
```

```
(spim) print $s0
Reg 16 = 0x00000008 (8)
```

[...]

```
(spim)
[0x00400028] 0x2210ffff addi $16, $16, -1 ; 7: addi $s0, $s0, -1 # decrement counter
```

```
(spim)
[0x0040002c] 0x1600ffff bne $16, $0, -4 [loop-0x0040002c]; 8: bne $s0, $zero,loop # != 0 ? then loop
```

```
(spim)
[0x00400030] 0x03e00008 jr $31 ; 11: jr $ra # return to callee
```

- Termination

Print on Screen

- Print value of register \$s0
- Place in loop:

```
move $a0, $s0      # value to print in $a0
li   $v0, 1        # print int
syscall
```

- Run in spim

```
(spim) reinitialize
(spim) load "countdown-and-print.s"
(spim) run
9876543210
```