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CS61C : Machine Structures

Lecture 17 – Introduction to MIPS Instruction Representation III



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Digital film network ⇒

The UK is investing in 150 digital cinemas! Each will get a 100 GiB lossless digital copy of the film and show it on digital 2K (2048x1080) projectors. USA?!



news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/technology/4297865.stm

Clarification - IEEE Four Rounding Modes

- This is just an example in base 10 to show you the 4 modes.
- What really happens is...
 - 1) in **binary**, not decimal!
 - 2) at the lowest bit of the mantissa with the **guard bit(s)** as our extra bit(s), and you need to decide how these extra bit(s) affect the result if the guard bits are “**100...**”
 - 3) If so, you're half-way between the representable numbers.
E.g., 0.1010 is $5/8$, halfway between our representable $4/8$ [$1/2$] and $6/8$ [$3/4$]. Which number do we round to? 4 modes!



Outline

- **Disassembly**
- **Pseudoinstructions and “True” Assembly Language (TAL) v. “MIPS” Assembly Language (MAL)**



Decoding Machine Language

- How do we convert 1s and 0s to C code?

Machine language \Rightarrow C?

- For each 32 bits:

- Look at opcode: 0 means R-Format, 2 or 3 mean J-Format, otherwise I-Format.

- Use instruction type to determine which fields exist.

- Write out MIPS assembly code, converting each field to name, register number/name, or decimal/hex number.

- Logically convert this MIPS code into valid C code. Always possible? Unique?



Decoding Example (1/7)

- Here are six machine language instructions in hexadecimal:

00001025_{hex}
0005402A_{hex}
11000003_{hex}
00441020_{hex}
20A5FFFF_{hex}
08100001_{hex}

- Let the first instruction be at address 4,194,304_{ten} (0x00400000_{hex}).
- Next step: convert hex to binary



Decoding Example (2/7)

- The six machine language instructions in binary:

```
000000000000000000000000010000000100101
00000000000000010101000000000101010
0001000100000000000000000000000000011
000000000100010000010000001000000100000
0010000010100101111111111111111111111
00001000000100000000000000000000000001
```

- Next step: identify opcode and format

R	0	rs	rt	rd	shamt	funct
I	1, 4-31	rs	rt	immediate		
J	2 or 3	target address				



Decoding Example (3/7)

- Select the opcode (first 6 bits) to determine the format:

Format:

R	000000	00000000000000001000000100101
R	000000	00000001010100000000101010
I	000100	01000000000000000000000011
R	000000	000100010000010000001000000
I	001000	00101001011111111111111111
J	000010	000000100000000000000000001

- Look at opcode:
0 means R-Format,
2 or 3 mean J-Format,
otherwise I-Format.



• Next step: separation of fields

Decoding Example (4/7)

- Fields separated based on format/opcode:

Format:

R	0	0	0	2	0	37
R	0	0	5	8	0	42
I	4	8	0	+3		
R	0	2	4	2	0	32
I	8	5	5	-1		
J	2	1,048,577				

- Next step: translate (“disassemble”) to MIPS assembly instructions



Decoding Example (5/7)

- **MIPS Assembly (Part 1):**

Address:	Assembly instructions:
0x00400000	or \$2, \$0, \$0
0x00400004	slt \$8, \$0, \$5
0x00400008	beq \$8, \$0, 3
0x0040000c	add \$2, \$2, \$4
0x00400010	addi \$5, \$5, -1
0x00400014	j 0x100001

- **Better solution: translate to more meaningful MIPS instructions (fix the branch/jump and add labels, registers)**



Decoding Example (6/7)

- MIPS Assembly (Part 2):

```
Loop:      or      $v0, $0, $0
           slt    $t0, $0, $a1
           beq    $t0, $0, Exit
           add    $v0, $v0, $a0
           addi   $a1, $a1, -1
           j      Loop
Exit:
```

- Next step: translate to C code (be creative!)



Decoding Example (7/7)

Before Hex:

00001025_{hex}
0005402A_{hex}
11000003_{hex}
00441020_{hex}
20A5FFFF_{hex}
08100001_{hex}

• After C code (Mapping below)

\$v0: product
\$a0: multiplicand
\$a1: multiplier

```
product = 0;  
while (multiplier > 0) {  
    product += multiplicand;  
    multiplier -= 1;  
}
```

```
        or    $v0,$0,$0  
Loop:   slt   $t0,$0,$a1  
        beq   $t0,$0,Exit  
        add   $v0,$v0,$a0  
        addi  $a1,$a1,-1  
        j    Loop
```

Exit:

Demonstrated Big 61C
Idea: Instructions are just numbers, code is treated like data

Administrivia

- **Thanks to TAs who filled in last week**
- **SIGCSE 2005 was GREAT**
- **Your midterm is in 7 days!**



Review from before: `lui`

- So how does `lui` help us?

- Example:

```
addi    $t0, $t0, 0xABABCDCD
```

becomes:

```
lui     $at, 0xABAB
ori     $at, $at, 0xCDCD
add     $t0, $t0, $at
```

- Now each I-format instruction has only a 16-bit immediate.

- Wouldn't it be nice if the assembler would do this for us automatically?

- If number too big, then just automatically replace `addi` with `lui`, `ori`, `add`



True Assembly Language (1/3)

- **Pseudoinstruction**: A MIPS instruction that doesn't turn directly into a machine language instruction, but into other MIPS instructions
- **What happens with pseudoinstructions?**
 - They're broken up by the assembler into several "real" MIPS instructions.
 - But what is a "real" MIPS instruction?
Answer in a few slides
- **First some examples**



Example Pseudoinstructions

- **Register Move**

```
move    reg2, reg1
```

Expands to:

```
add     reg2, $zero, reg1
```

- **Load Immediate**

```
li      reg, value
```

If value fits in 16 bits:

```
addi    reg, $zero, value
```

else:

```
lui     reg, upper 16 bits of value
```

```
ori     reg, $zero, lower 16 bits
```



True Assembly Language (2/3)

- **Problem:**

- When breaking up a pseudoinstruction, the assembler may need to use an extra reg.
- If it uses any regular register, it'll overwrite whatever the program has put into it.

- **Solution:**

- Reserve a register (`$1`, called `$at` for “assembler temporary”) that assembler will use to break up pseudo-instructions.
- Since the assembler may use this at any time, it's not safe to code with it.



Example Pseudoinstructions

- **Rotate Right Instruction**

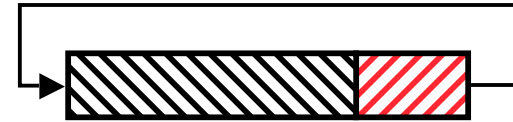
`ror reg, value`

Expands to:

`srl $at, reg, value`

`sll reg, reg, 32-value`

`or reg, reg, $at`



- **“No OPeration” instruction**

`nop`

Expands to instruction = 0_{ten} ,

`sll $0, $0, 0`



Example Pseudoinstructions

- **Wrong operation for operand**

```
addu    reg,reg,value # should be addiu
```

If value fits in 16 bits, addu is changed to:

```
addiu   reg,reg,value
```

else:

```
lui     $at,upper 16 bits of value
```

```
ori     $at,$at,lower 16 bits
```

```
addu    reg,reg,$at
```

- **How do we avoid confusion about whether we are talking about MIPS assembler with or without pseudoinstructions?**



True Assembly Language (3/3)

- **MAL** (MIPS Assembly Language): the set of instructions that a programmer may use to code in MIPS; this includes pseudoinstructions
- **TAL** (True Assembly Language): set of instructions that can actually get translated into a single machine language instruction (32-bit binary string)
- A program must be converted from MAL into TAL before translation into 1s & 0s.



Questions on Pseudoinstructions

- **Question:**
 - How does MIPS recognize pseudo-instructions?
- **Answer:**
 - It looks for officially defined pseudo-instructions, such as **ror** and **move**
 - It looks for special cases where the operand is incorrect for the operation and tries to handle it gracefully



Rewrite TAL as MAL

- **TAL:**

```
                                or      $v0, $0, $0
Loop:                          slt     $t0, $0, $a1
                                beq     $t0, $0, Exit
                                add     $v0, $v0, $a0
                                addi    $a1, $a1, -1
                                j       Loop
Exit:
```

- **This time convert to MAL**
- **It's OK for this exercise to make up MAL instructions**



Rewrite TAL as MAL (Answer)

• **TAL:**

```
Loop:    or      $v0, $0, $0
         slt    $t0, $0, $a1
         beq    $t0, $0, Exit
         add    $v0, $v0, $a0
         addi   $a1, $a1, -1
         j     Loop

Exit:
```

• **MAL:**

```
Loop:    li      $v0, 0
         bge    $zero, $a1, Exit
         add    $v0, $v0, $a0
         sub    $a1, $a1, 1
         j     Loop

Exit:
```



Peer Instruction

Which of the instructions below are **MAL** and which are TAL?

A. `addi $t0, $t1, 40000`

B. `beq $s0, 10, Exit`

C. `sub $t0, $t1, 1`

	ABC
1:	MMM
2:	MMT
3:	MTM
4:	MTT
5:	TMM
6:	TMT
7:	TTM
8:	TTT



In conclusion

- **Disassembly is simple and starts by decoding opcode field.**
 - **Be creative, efficient when authoring C**
- **Assembler expands real instruction set (TAL) with pseudoinstructions (MAL)**
 - **Only TAL can be converted to raw binary**
 - **Assembler's job to do conversion**
 - **Assembler uses reserved register `$at`**
 - **MAL makes it much easier to write MIPS**

