

Lecture 10 – Introduction to MIPS Decisions II

There is one handout
today at the front and
back of the room!

2007-02-05



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Face Login? ⇒

NecSoft offers

windows users an alternative
way to log in – show your face
to your computer's webcam! Do
photos work too? Bad hair day?



crave.cnet.com/8301-1_105-9684222-1.html

Review

- Memory is **byte**-addressable, but `lw` and `sw` access one **word** at a time.
- A pointer (used by `lw` and `sw`) is just a memory address, so we can add to it or subtract from it (using offset).
- A Decision allows us to decide what to execute at run-time rather than compile-time.
- C Decisions are made using **conditional statements** within `if`, `while`, `do while`, `for`.
- MIPS Decision making instructions are the **conditional branches**: `beq` and `bne`.
- New Instructions:

`lw, sw, beq, bne, j`



From last time: Loading, Storing bytes 1/2

- In addition to word data transfers (`lw`, `sw`), MIPS has byte data transfers:
- load byte: `lb`
- store byte: `sb`
- same format as `lw`, `sw`

E.g., `lb $s0, 3($s1)`

contents of memory location with address = sum of “3” + contents of register s1 is copied to the low byte position of register s0.



Loading, Storing bytes 2/2

- What do with other 24 bits in the 32 bit register?

- **lb**: sign extends to fill upper 24 bits



- Normally don't want to sign extend chars
- MIPS instruction that doesn't sign extend when loading bytes:

load byte unsigned: **lbu**



Overflow in Arithmetic (1/2)

- **Reminder: Overflow occurs when there is a mistake in arithmetic due to the limited precision in computers.**
- **Example (4-bit unsigned numbers):**

$$\begin{array}{r} +15 \\ \underline{+3} \\ +18 \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{r} 1111 \\ \underline{0011} \\ 10010 \end{array}$$

- **But we don't have room for 5-bit solution, so the solution would be 0010, which is +2, and wrong.**



Overflow in Arithmetic (2/2)

- Some languages detect overflow (Ada), some don't (C)
- MIPS solution is 2 kinds of arithmetic instructions to recognize 2 choices:
 - add (add), add immediate (addi) and subtract (sub) cause overflow to be detected
 - add unsigned (addu), add immediate unsigned (addiu) and subtract unsigned (subu) do not cause overflow detection
- Compiler selects appropriate arithmetic
 - MIPS C compilers produce addu, addiu, subu



Two “Logic” Instructions

- Here are 2 more new instructions
- **Shift Left:** `sll $s1,$s2,2` #s1=s2<<2
 - Store in \$s1 the value from \$s2 shifted 2 bits to the left, **inserting 0's** on right; << in C
 - Before: 0000 0002_{hex}
0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0010_{two}
 - After: 0000 0008_{hex}
0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 1000_{two}
 - What arithmetic effect does shift left have?
- **Shift Right:** `srl` is opposite shift; >>



Loops in C/Assembly (1/3)

- Simple loop in C; `A[]` is an array of `ints`

```
do {  
    g = g + A[i];  
    i = i + j;  
} while (i != h);
```

- Rewrite this as:

```
Loop: g = g + A[i];  
      i = i + j;  
      if (i != h) goto Loop;
```

- Use this mapping:

`g`, `h`, `i`, `j`, `base of A`
`$s1`, `$s2`, `$s3`, `$s4`, `$s5`



Loops in C/Assembly (2/3)

- Final compiled MIPS code:

```
Loop:  sll  $t1, $s3, 2      # $t1 = 4*i
       add  $t1, $t1, $s5   # $t1 = addr A
       lw   $t1, 0($t1)    # $t1 = A[i]
       add  $s1, $s1, $t1   # g = g + A[i]
       add  $s3, $s3, $s4   # i = i + j
       bne  $s3, $s2, Loop  # goto Loop
                               # if i != h
```

- Original code:

```
Loop:  g = g + A[i];
       i = i + j;
       if (i != h) goto Loop;
```



Loops in C/Assembly (3/3)

- There are three types of loops in C:
 - `while`
 - `do... while`
 - `for`
- Each can be rewritten as either of the other two, so the method used in the previous example can be applied to `while` and `for` loops as well.
- **Key Concept:** Though there are multiple ways of writing a loop in MIPS, the key to decision making is **conditional branch**



Administrivia

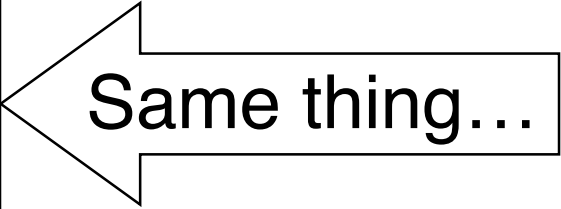
- **Project 1 due Friday!**
 - (ok, Sunday, but tell your brain it's Friday!)
- **Any other administrivia?**



Inequalities in MIPS (1/4)

- Until now, we've only tested equalities (== and != in C). General programs need to test < and > as well.
- Introduce MIPS Inequality Instruction:
 - “Set on Less Than”
 - Syntax: `slt reg1, reg2, reg3`
 - Meaning: `reg1 = (reg2 < reg3);`

```
if (reg2 < reg3)
    reg1 = 1;
else reg1 = 0;
```



Same thing...

“set” means “set to 1”,
“reset” means “set to 0”.



Inequalities in MIPS (2/4)

- How do we use this? Compile by hand:

```
if (g < h) goto Less; #g:$s0, h:$s1
```

- Answer: compiled MIPS code...

```
slt $t0, $s0, $s1 # $t0 = 1 if g<h
bne $t0, $0, Less # goto Less
# if $t0!=0
# (if (g<h)) Less:
```

- Register \$0 always contains the value 0, so bne and beq often use it for comparison after an slt instruction.
- A slt → bne pair means if (... < ...) goto...



Inequalities in MIPS (3/4)

- Now, we can implement $<$, but how do we implement $>$, \leq and \geq ?
- We could add 3 more instructions, but:
 - MIPS goal: **Simpler is Better**
- Can we implement \leq in one or more instructions using just `slt` and the branches?
- What about $>$?
- What about \geq ?



Inequalities in MIPS (4/4)

```
# a:$s0, b:$s1
slt $t0, $s0, $s1 # $t0 = 1 if a < b
beq $t0, $0, skip # skip if a >= b
    <stuff>      # do if a < b
```

skip:

Two independent variations possible:

Use `slt $t0, $s1, $s0` instead of

`slt $t0, $s0, $s1`

Use `bne` instead of `beq`



Immediates in Inequalities

- There is also an immediate version of `slt` to test against constants: `slti`
 - Helpful in `for` loops

C `if (g >= 1) goto Loop`

M `Loop: . . .`

I `slti $t0,$s0,1` *# \$t0 = 1 if*
P *# \$s0 < 1 (g < 1)*
S `beq $t0,$0,Loop` *# goto Loop*
if \$t0 == 0
(if (g >= 1))



An `slt` → `beq` pair means `if (... ≥ ...) goto...`

What about unsigned numbers?

- Also **unsigned** inequality instructions:

`sltu, sltiu`

...which sets result to 1 or 0 depending on unsigned comparisons

- What is value of `$t0`, `$t1`?

(`$s0 = FFFF FFFAhex`, `$s1 = 0000 FFFAhex`)

`slt $t0, $s0, $s1`

`sltu $t1, $s0, $s1`



MIPS Signed vs. Unsigned – diff meanings!

- MIPS terms *Signed/Unsigned* are “overloaded”:
 - Do/Don't sign extend
(lb, lbu)
 - Don't overflow
(addu, addiu, subu, multu, divu)
 - Do signed/unsigned compare
(slt, slti/sltu, sltiu)



Example: The C Switch Statement (1/3)

- Choose among four alternatives depending on whether `k` has the value 0, 1, 2 or 3.

Compile this C code:

```
switch (k) {  
    case 0: f=i+j; break; /* k=0 */  
    case 1: f=g+h; break; /* k=1 */  
    case 2: f=g-h; break; /* k=2 */  
    case 3: f=i-j; break; /* k=3 */  
}
```



Example: The C Switch Statement (2/3)

- This is complicated, so **simplify**.
- Rewrite it as a chain of if-else statements, which we already know how to compile:

```
if (k==0) f=i+j;
    else if (k==1) f=g+h;
        else if (k==2) f=g-h;
            else if (k==3) f=i-j;
```

- Use this mapping:

```
f:$s0, g:$s1, h:$s2,
i:$s3, j:$s4, k:$s5
```



Example: The C Switch Statement (3/3)

- Final compiled MIPS code:

```
    bne $s5, $0, L1      # branch k!=0
    add $s0, $s3, $s4    # k==0 so f=i+j
    j   Exit             # end of case so Exit
L1:  addi $t0, $s5, -1    # $t0=k-1
    bne $t0, $0, L2      # branch k!=1
    add $s0, $s1, $s2    # k==1 so f=g+h
    j   Exit             # end of case so Exit
L2:  addi $t0, $s5, -2    # $t0=k-2
    bne $t0, $0, L3      # branch k!=2
    sub $s0, $s1, $s2    # k==2 so f=g-h
    j   Exit             # end of case so Exit
L3:  addi $t0, $s5, -3    # $t0=k-3
    bne $t0, $0, Exit    # branch k!=3
    sub $s0, $s3, $s4    # k==3 so f=i-j
Exit:
```



Peer Instruction

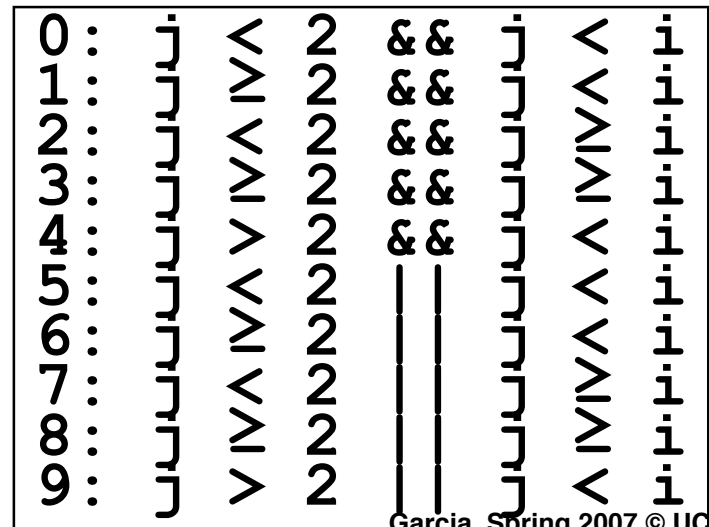
```

Loop: addi $s0, $s0, -1    # i = i - 1
      slti $t0, $s1, 2    # $t0 = (j < 2)
      beq  $t0, $0, Loop  # goto Loop if $t0 == 0
      slt  $t0, $s1, $s0  # $t0 = (j < i)
      bne  $t0, $0, Loop  # goto Loop if $t0 != 0

      ($s0=i, $s1=j)
  
```

What C code properly fills in the blank in loop below?

```
do {i--;} while(____);
```



“And in conclusion...”

- To help the **conditional branches** make decisions concerning inequalities, we introduce: “Set on Less Than” called `slt`, `slti`, `sltu`, `sltiu`
- One can store and load (signed and unsigned) **bytes** as well as words
- Unsigned add/sub **don't cause overflow**
- New MIPS Instructions:
`sll`, `srl`
`slt`, `slti`, `sltu`, `sltiu`
`addu`, `addiu`, `subu`

