

101

Assembly

ENGR 3410 - Computer Architecture
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Fall 2008

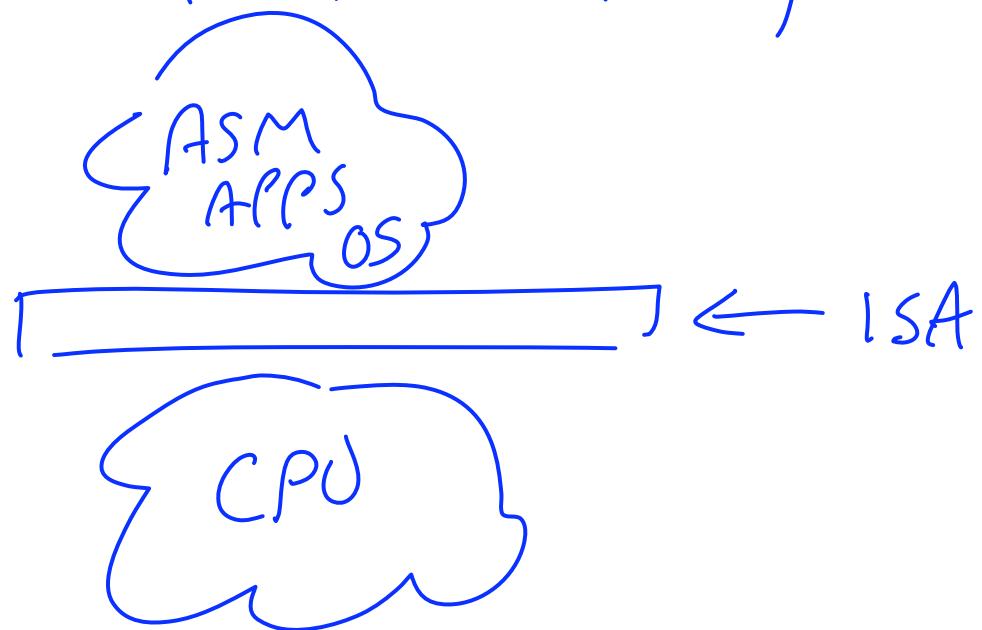
What is assembly?

Bluc

- SCARY
- Basic machine level code
- Generally, don't use
- Eye opening
- Shouty
- Easy to compile

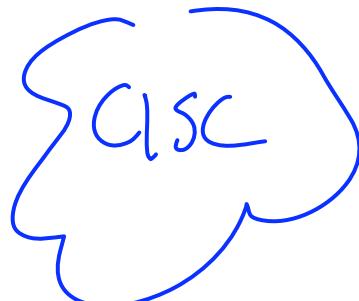
Why are we learning assembly **now**?

- Framework
- "Big picture" for our processor
- Way to state all functionality



Assembly Language

- Readings: Chapter 2 (2.1-2.6, 2.8, 2.9, 2.13, 2.15), Appendix A.10
- Assembly language
 - Simple, regular instructions - building blocks of C & other languages
 - Typically one-to-one mapping to machine language
- Our goal
 - Understand the basics of assembly language
 - Help figure out what the processor needs to be able to do
- Not our goal to teach complete assembly/machine language programming
 - Floating point
 - Procedure calls
 - Stacks & local variables



MIPS Assembly Language

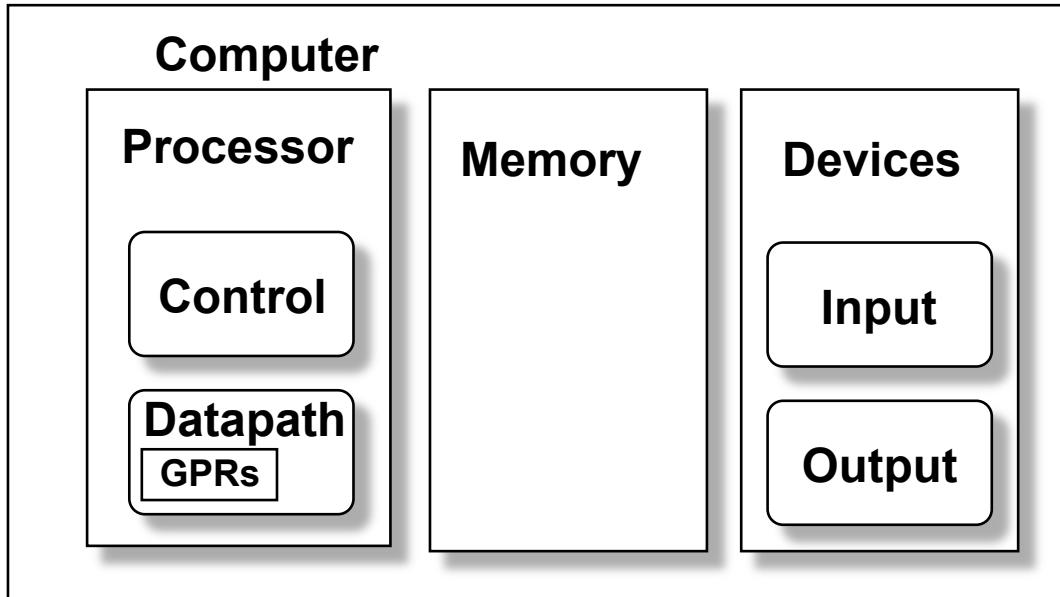
- The basic instructions have four components:
 - Operator name
 - Destination
 - 1st operand
 - 2nd operand

```
add <dst>, <src1>, <src2>      # <dst> = <src1> + <src2>
sub <dst>, <src1>, <src2>      # <dst> = <src1> - <src2>
```

- Simple format: easy to implement in hardware
- More complex: A = B + C + D - E

Operands & Storage

- For speed, CPU has 32 general-purpose registers for storing most operands
- For capacity, computer has large memory (64MB+)



- Load/store operation moves information between registers and main memory
- All other operations work on registers

Registers

- 32 registers for operands

Register	Name	Function	Comment
\$0	\$zero	Always 0	No-op on write
\$1	\$at	Reserved for assembler	Don't use it!
\$2-3	\$v0-v1	Function return	
\$4-7	\$a0-a3	Function call parameters	
\$8-15	\$t0-t7	Volatile temporaries	Not saved on call
\$16-23	\$s0-s7	Temporaries (saved across calls)	Saved on call
\$24-25	\$t8-t9	Volatile temporaries	Not saved on call
\$26-27	\$k0-k1	Reserved kernel/OS	Don't use them
\$28	\$gp	Pointer to global data area	
\$29	\$sp	Stack pointer	
\$30	\$fp	Frame pointer	
\$31	\$ra	Function return address	

Basic Operations

(Note: just subset of all instructions)

Mathematic: add, sub, mult, div

add \$t0, \$t1, \$t2 # $t_0 = t_1 + t_2$

Unsigned (changes overflow condition)
 $t_1 + t_2$

addu \$t0, \$t1, \$t2 # $t_0 =$

Immediate (one input a constant)
 $t_1 + 100$

addi \$t0, \$t1, 100 # $t_0 =$

Logical: and, or, nor, xor

and \$t0, \$t1, \$t2 # $t_0 = t_1 \& t_2$

Immediate

andi \$t0, \$t1, 7 # $t_0 = t_1 \& b0111$

Shift: left & right logical, arithmetic

sllv \$t0, \$t1, \$t2 # $t_0 =$

$t_1 \ll t_2$

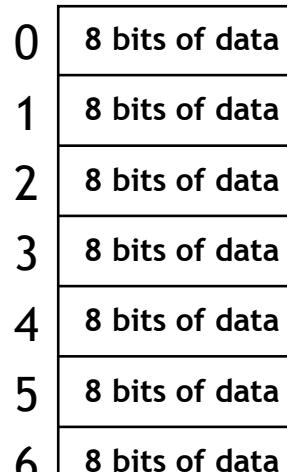
Immediate

sll \$t0, \$t1, 6 # $t_0 = t_1 \ll 6$

Example: Take bits 6-4 of \$t0 and make them bits 2-0 of \$t1, zeros otherwise:

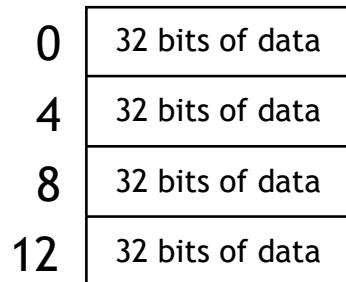
Memory Organization

- Viewed as a large, single-dimension array, with an address.
- A memory address is an index into the array
- "Byte addressing" means that the index points to a byte of memory.



Memory Organization (cont.)

- Bytes are nice, but most data items use larger "words"
- For MIPS, a word is 32 bits or 4 bytes.



Our registers hold 32 bits of data

- 2^{32} bytes with byte addresses from 0 to $2^{32}-1$
- 2^{30} words with byte addresses 0, 4, 8, ... $2^{32}-4$
- Words are aligned
i.e., what are the least 2 significant bits of a word address?

Endianness

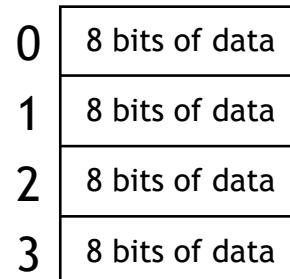
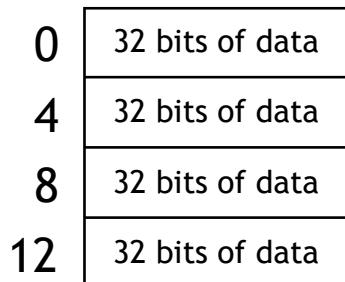
- How do we write numbers?

1 5 10

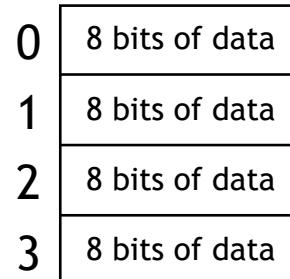
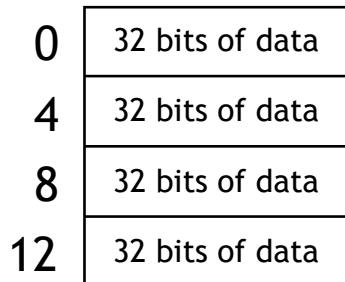
Must establish a convention for the order of digits to represent numbers

Endianness

- In memory, what is the order of a 32-bit word?



Store the 32-bit word: 0xDEADBEEF



Big and Little Endian

- BigEndian - “Big End” in (first)
 - Motorola 68000
 - Sun SPARC
 - PowerPC G5
 - *Networks*
- LittleEndian - “Little End” in (first)
 - Intel x86
 - MOS Tech 6502
 - Atari 2600, Apple][, Commodore 64, NES
- Bi-Endian - switchable endianness
 - ARM, IBM PowerPC (most)
- Middle-Endian
 - PDP-11

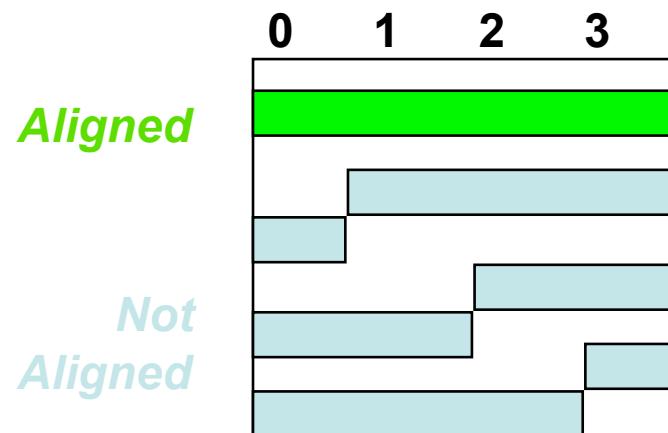
0	DE
1	AD
2	BE
3	EF

0	EF
1	BE
2	AD
3	DE

0	AD
1	DE
2	BE
3	EF

Word Alignment

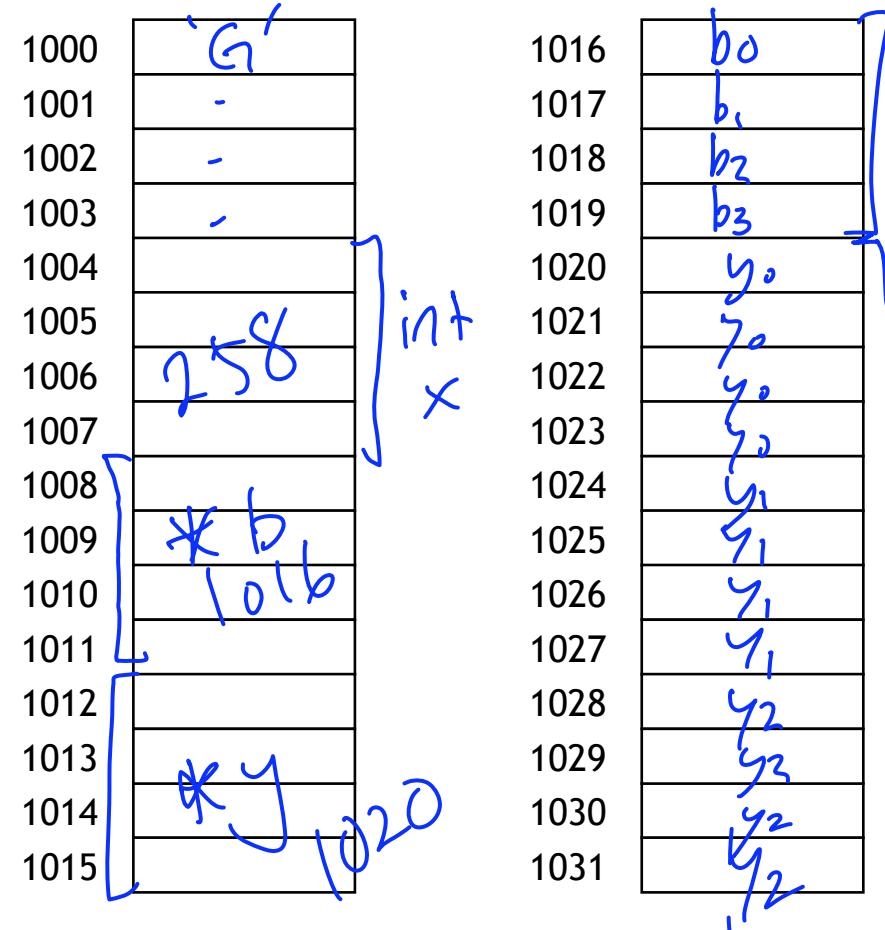
- Require that objects fall on an address that is a multiple of their size



Data Storage

- Characters: 8 bits (byte)
- Integers: 32 bits (word)
- Array: Sequence of locations
- Pointer: Address

```
char a = 'G';
int x = 258;
char *b;
int *y;
b = new char[4];
y = new int[10];
```

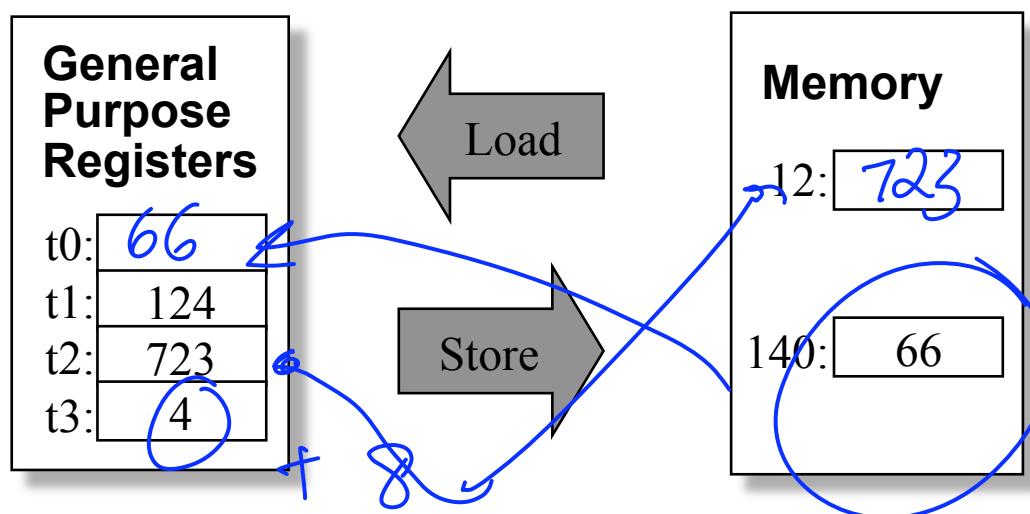


Loads & Stores

- Loads & Stores move data between memory and registers
 - All operations on registers, but too small to hold all data

lw \$t0, 16(\$t1) # \$t0 = Memory[\$t1+16]

sw \$t2, 8(\$t3) # Memory[\$t3+8] = \$t2



- Note: lbu & sb load & store bytes

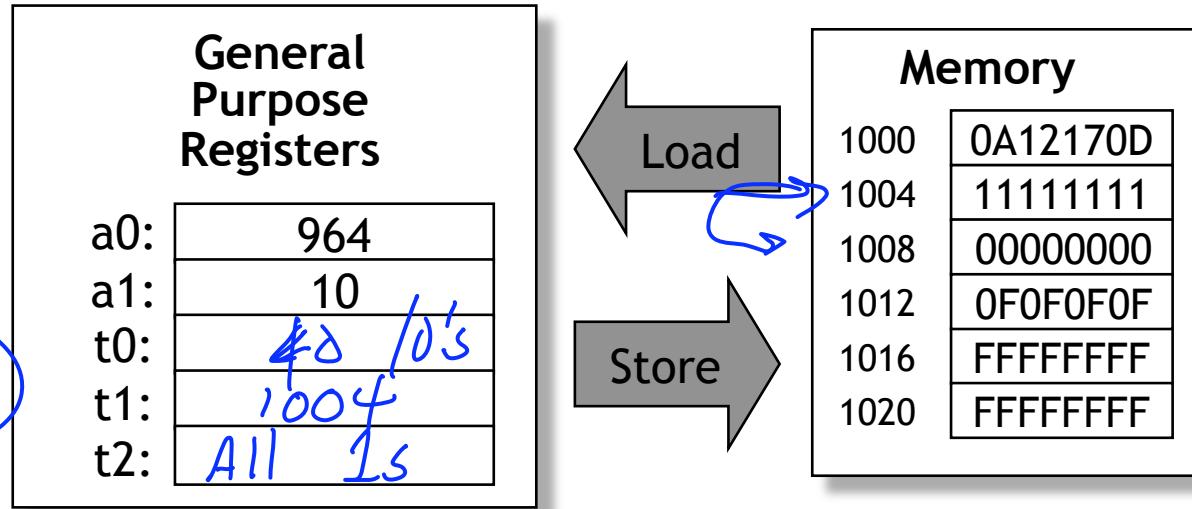
Array Example

```

/* Swap the kth and (k+1)th element of an array */
swap(int v[], int k)
{
    int temp = v[k];
    v[k] = v[k+1];
    v[k+1] = temp;
}

# Assume v in $a0,
# k in $a1

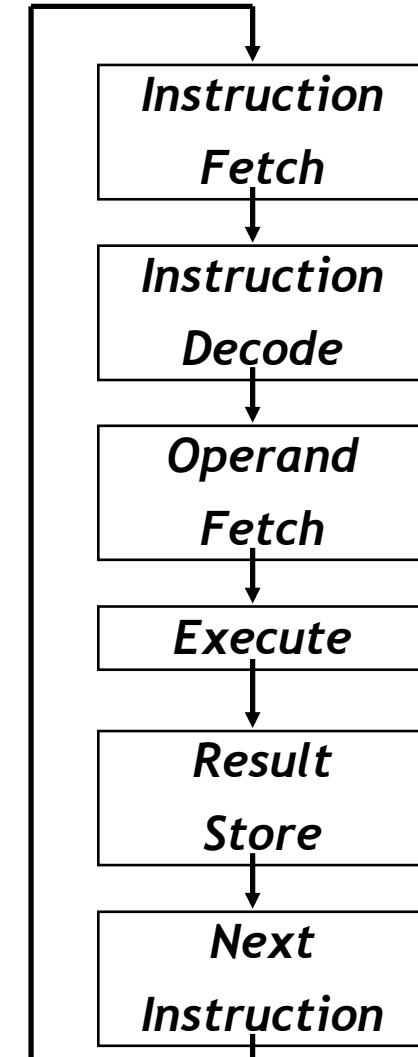
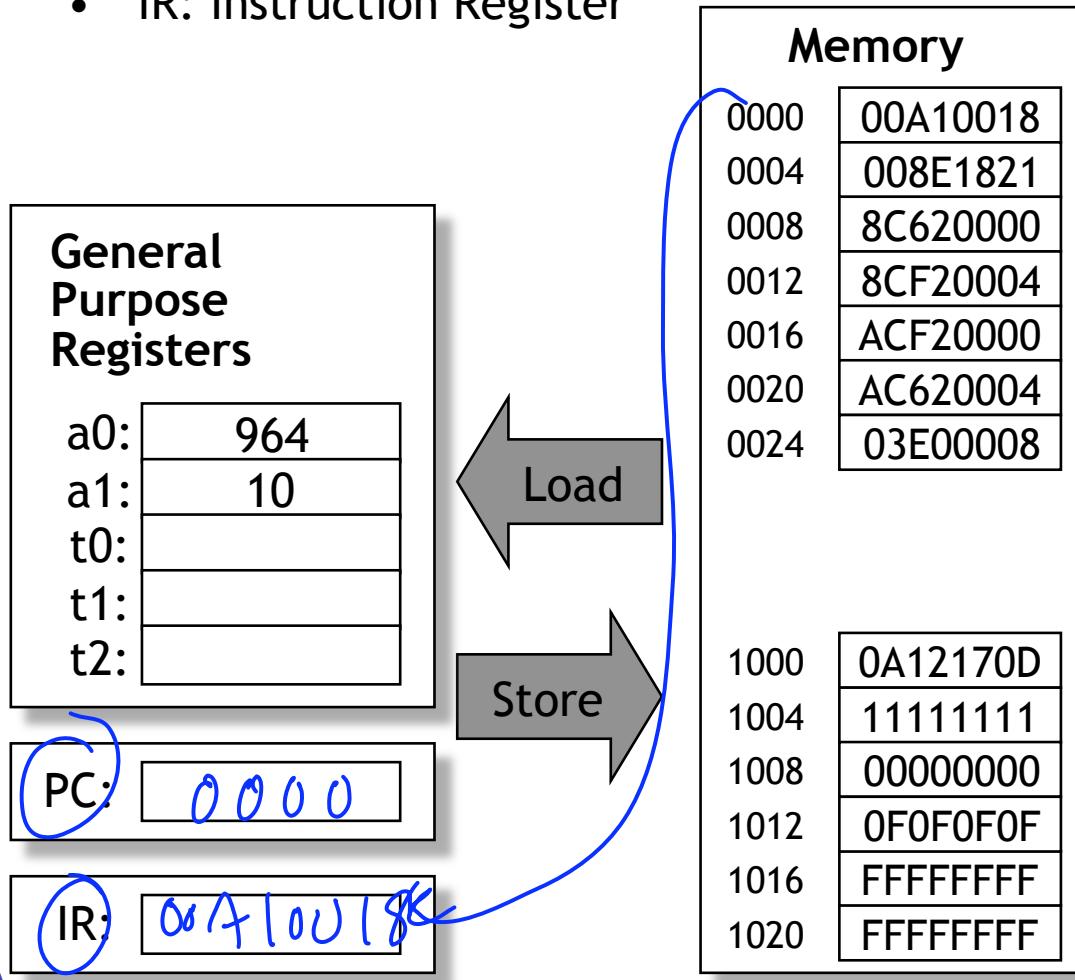
```



sll \$t0, \$a1, 2 (multiplied by 4)
 add \$t1, \$t0, \$a0 sw \$t2, 4(\$t1)
 lw \$t2, 0(\$t1)
 lw \$t0, 4(\$t1)
 sw \$t0, 0(\$t1)

Execution Cycle Example

- PC: Program Counter
- IR: Instruction Register



Control Flow

- Jumps - GOTO different next instruction

```
j 25          # go to 100: PC = 25*4 (instructions are 32-bit)
jr $ra        # go to address in $ra: PC = value of $ra
```

- Branches - GOTO different next instruction if condition is true

2 register: beq (==), bne (!=)

```
beq $t0, $t1, FOO    # if $t0 == $t1 GOTO FOO: PC = FOO
```

1 register: bgez (>=0), bgtz (>0), blez (<=0), bltz (<0)

```
bgez $t0, FOO      # if $t0 >= 0 GOTO FOO: PC = FOO
```

```
if (a == b)          # $a0 = a, $a1 = b, $a2 = c
    a = a + 3;
else
    b = b + 7;
c = a + b;           bne $a0, $a1, ELSEIF          # branch if
                     a!=b
                     addi $a0, $a0, 3;          # a = a + 3
                     j DONE;            # avoid else
ELSEIF:             addi $a1, $a1, 7;          # b = b + 7
DONE:               add $a2, $a0, $a1;          # c = a + b
```

Loop Example

- Compute the sum of the values 1...N-1

```
int sum = 0;  
for (int I = 0; I != N; I++) {  
    sum += I;  
}
```

\$t0 = N, \$t1 = sum, \$t2 = I
add \$t1,\$zero,\$zero # sum = 0
add \$t2,\$zero,\$zero # I = 0

TOP:

beq \$t2,\$t0,END # stop if I == N
add \$t1,\$t1,\$t2 # sum = sum + I
addi \$t2,\$t2,1 # I++
j TOP

END: j END

Comparison Operators

- For logic, want to set a register TRUE (1) / FALSE(0) based on condition

```
slt $t0, $t1, $t2      # if ($t1 < $t2) $t0 = 1 else $t0 = 0;  
if (a >= b)  
    c = a + b;  
a = a + c;  
a < b  
= < a  
# $t0 = a, $t1 = b, $t2 = c  
slt $t3, $t0, $t1 # a < b  
bne $t3, $zero, DONE  
add $t2, $t0, $t1  
  
DONE:  
add $t0, $t0, $t2
```

String toUpper

- Convert a string to all upper case

```
char *index = string;
while (*index != 0) { /* C strings end in 0 */
    if (*index >= 'a' && *index <= 'z')
        *index = *index + ('A' - 'a');
    index++;
}

# $t0=index, $t2='a', $t3='z', $t4='A'-'a', Memory[100]=string
```

Machine Language vs. Assembly Language

- Assembly Language
 - mnemonics for easy reading
 - labels instead of fixed addresses
 - easier for programmers
 - almost 1-to-1 with machine language
- Machine language
 - Completely numeric representation
 - format CPU actually uses

SWAP:

```
sll $2, $5, 2
add $2, $4, $2      // Compute address of
v[k]
lw $15, 0($2)       // get v[k]
lw $16, 4($2)       // get v[k+1]
sw $16, 0($2)       // save new value to v[k]
sw $15, 4($2)       // save new value to v[
k+1]
jr $31   // return from subroutine
```

```
000000 00000 00101 00010 00010 000000
000000 00100 00010 00010 00000 100000
100011 00010 01111 00000 00000 000000
100011 00010 10000 00000 00000 000100
101011 00010 10000 00000 00000 000000
101011 00010 01111 00000 00000 000100
000000 11111 00000 00000 00000 001000
```

Labels

- Labels specify the address of the corresponding instruction
 - Programmer doesn't have to count line numbers
 - Insertion of instructions doesn't require changing entire code

```
# $t0 = N, $t1 = sum, $t2 = I
add      $t1, $zero, $zero    # sum = 0
add      $t2, $zero, $zero    # I = 0

TOP:
bne      $t0, $t2, END       # I != N
add      $t1, $t1, $t2        # sum += I
addi     $t2, $t2, 1          # I++
j       TOP                  # next iteration

END:
```

- Notes:
 - Jumps are pseudo-absolute:
 - $\text{PC} = \{ \text{PC}[31:26], 26\text{-bit unsigned-Address}, "00" \}$
 - Branches are PC-relative:
 - $\text{PC} = \text{PC} + 4 + 4 * (\text{16-bit signed Address})$

Instruction Types

- Can group instructions by # of operands

3-register

2-register

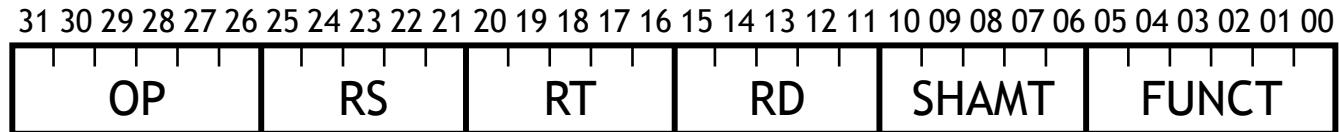
1-register

0-register

```
add    $t0, $t1, $t2      # t0 = t1+t2
addi   $t0, $t1, 100       # t0 = t1+100
and    $t0, $t1, $t2       # t0 = t1&t2
andi   $t0, $t1, 7         # t0 = t1&b0111
sllv   $t0, $t1, $t2       # t0 = t1<<t2
sll    $t0, $t1, 6         # t0 = t1<<6
lw     $t0, 12($t1)        # $t0 = Memory[$t1+10]
sw     $t2, 8($t3)         # Memory[$t3+10] = $t2
j      25                  # go to 100 - PC = 25*4 (instr are 32-bit)
jr     $ra                  # go to address in $ra - PC = value of $ra
beq    $t0, $t1, FOO        # if $t0 == $t1 GOTO FOO - PC = FOO
bgez   $t0, FOO             # if $t0 >= 0 GOTO FOO - PC = FOO
slt    $t0, $t1, $t2        # if ($t1 < $t2) $t0 = 1 else $t0 = 0;
```

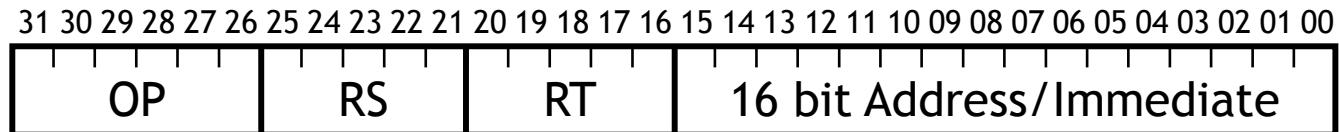
Instruction Formats

- All instructions encoded in 32 bits (operation + operands/immediates)
- Register (R-type) instructions



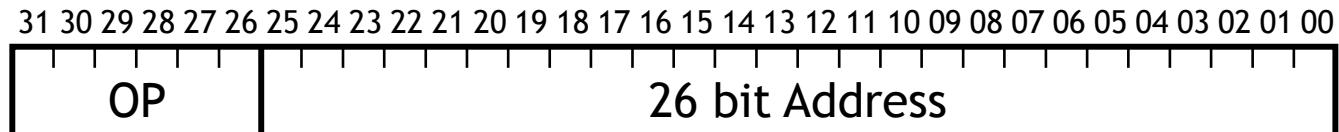
(OP = 0,16-20)

- Immediate (I-type) instructions



(OP = any but 0,2,3,16-20)

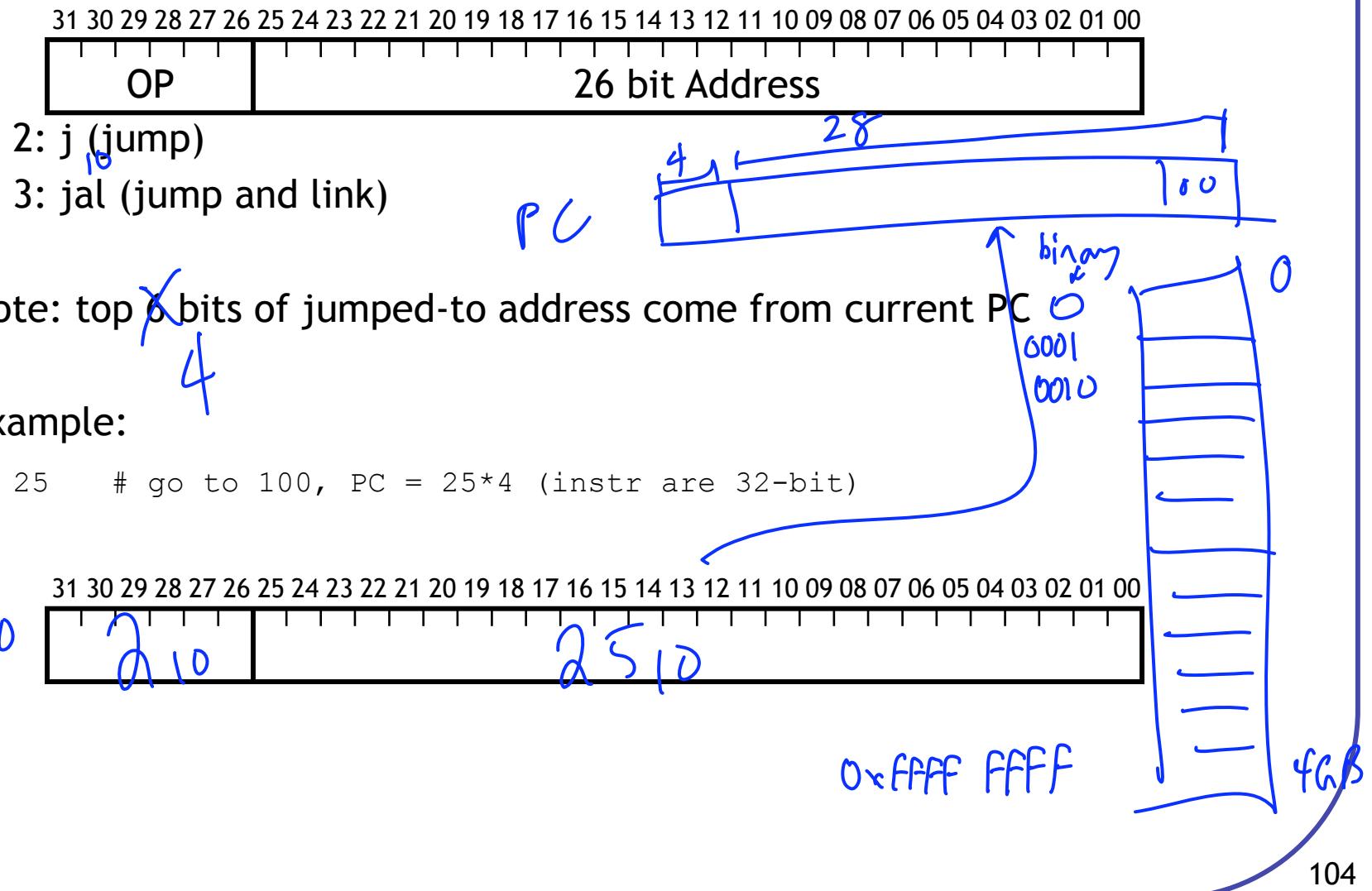
- Jump (J-type) instructions



(OP = 2,3)

J-Type

- Used for unconditional jumps



I-Type

- Used for operations with immediate (constant) operand

31 30 29 28 27 26 25 24 23 22 21 20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 09 08 07 06 05 04 03 02 01 00



04: beq Op1,
 L/S addr

05: bne

06: blez addi \$8, \$9, 100 # \$8 = \$9+100

07: bgtz

31 30 29 28 27 26 25 24 23 22 21 20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 09 08 07 06 05 04 03 02 01 00

08: addi

09: addiu

10: slti

11: sltiu

beq \$8, \$9, -11 # if \$8 == \$9 GOTO (PC+4+FOO*4)

12: andi

13: ori

14: xori

32: lb

35: lw

31 30 29 28 27 26 25 24 23 22 21 20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 09 08 07 06 05 04 03 02 01 00

4 8 9 -11

40: sb

43: sw

lw \$8, 12(\$9) # \$8 = Memory[\$9+12]

31 30 29 28 27 26 25 24 23 22 21 20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 09 08 07 06 05 04 03 02 01 00

35 9 8 12

R-Type

- Used for 3 register ALU operations

	31 30 29 28 27 26 25 24 23 22 21 20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 09 08 07 06 05 04 03 02 01 00	OP	RS	RT	RD	SHAMT	FUNCT	
		00	Op1	Op2	Dest	Shift amount (0 for non-shift)		00: sll
		(10-13 for FP)						02: srl
								03: sra
								04: sllv
add	\$8, \$9, \$10	# \$8 = \$9+\$10						06: srlv
	31 30 29 28 27 26 25 24 23 22 21 20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 09 08 07 06 05 04 03 02 01 00	00	9	10	8	0	32	07: srav
sll	\$8, \$9, 6	# \$8 = \$9<<6						08: jr
	31 30 29 28 27 26 25 24 23 22 21 20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 09 08 07 06 05 04 03 02 01 00	00	X	9	8	6	00	24: mult
								26: div
								32: add
								33: addu
								34: sub
								35: subu
								36: and
								37: or
								38: xor
								39: nor
sllv	\$8, \$9, \$10	# \$8 = \$9<<\$10						42: slt
	31 30 29 28 27 26 25 24 23 22 21 20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 09 08 07 06 05 04 03 02 01 00	00	10	9	8	0	04	

Conversion example

- Compute the sum of the values 0...N-1

$$\text{TARG} = \text{PC} + 4 + \text{imm16} \times 4$$

$$28 = 12 + 4 + \text{imm16} \times 4$$

↓

004	add	\$9, \$0, \$0	00	0	0	9	0	32
008	add	\$10, \$0, \$0	00	0	0	10	0	32
TOP:								
012	bne	\$8, \$10, END	5	8	10	(imm16)	3	
016	add	\$9, \$9, \$10	00	9	10	9	0	32
020	addi	\$10, \$10, 1	8	10	10		1	
024	j	TOP	02			3		
END:								
028								

(jump branch) pseudo-absolute
 PC-relative

Assembly & Machine Language

- Assembly

Human
Text

Easy
Fun!

- Machine Language

Machine
Binary

Hard
Funner!