RISC, CISC, and ISA Variations

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CS 3410, Spring 2014
Computer Science
Cornell University

See P&H Appendix 2.16 – 2.18, and 2.21
Administrivia

There *is* a Lab Section this week, C-Lab2

Project1 (PA1) is due next Tuesday, March 11th

Prelim today week

Starts at 7:30pm sharp
Upson B17 [a-e]*, Olin 255[f-m]*, Philips 101 [n-z]*
Go based on netid
Administrivia

Prelim1 *today*:

- **Time:** We will start at **7:30pm sharp**, so come early
- **Loc:** Upson B17 [a-e]*, Olin 255[f-m]*, Philips 101 [n-z]*
- **Closed Book**
  - Cannot use electronic device or outside material
- **Practice prelims are online in CMS**
- **Material covered everything up to end of last week**
  - Everything up to and including data hazards
  - Appendix B (logic, gates, FSMs, memory, ALUs)
  - Chapter 4 (pipelined [and non] MIPS processor with hazards)
  - Chapters 2 (Numbers / Arithmetic, simple MIPS instructions)
  - Chapter 1 (Performance)
  - HW1, Lab0, Lab1, Lab2
Big Picture: Where are we now?
Big Picture: Where are we going?

C

compiler

MIPS
assembly

assembler

machine code

CPU

Circuits

Gates

Transistors

Silicon

int x = 10;
x = 2 * x + 15;

r0 = 0
r5 = r0 + 10
r5 = r5<<1 #r5 = r5 * 2
r5 = r15 + 15

addi r5, r0, 10
muli r5, r5, 2
addi r5, r5, 15

op = addi r0 r5

00100000000001010000000000001010
000000000000010100101010000000
00100000101001010000000000001111

op = addi r5 r5

op = r-type

r5 r5 shamt=1 func=sll

r5 = r15 + 15
Big Picture: Where are we going?

C

Compiler

MIPS

Assembly

Assembler

Machine Code

CPU

Circuits

Gates

Transistors

Silicon

int x = 10;
x = 2 * x + 15;

addi r5, r0, 10
muli r5, r5, 2
addi r5, r5, 15

00100000000000101010000000000001010
000000000000010101001001000001000000
001000010100101000000000000001111

Instruction Set Architecture (ISA)
Goals for Today

Instruction Set Architectures
• ISA Variations, and CISC vs RISC

Next Time
• Program Structure and Calling Conventions
Next Goal

Is MIPS the only possible instruction set architecture (ISA)?
What are the alternatives?
Instruction Set Architecture Variations

ISA defines the permissible instructions
Brief Historical Perspective on ISAs

Accumulators

- Early stored-program computers had one register!

- One register is two registers short of a MIPS instruction!

- Requires a memory-based operand-addressing mode
  - Example Instructions: add 200
    - Add the accumulator to the word in memory at address 200
    - Place the sum back in the accumulator
Brief Historical Perspective on ISAs

Next step, more registers...

• Dedicated registers
  – E.g. indices for array references in data transfer instructions, separate accumulators for multiply or divide instructions, top-of-stack pointer.

• Extended Accumulator
  – One operand may be in memory (like previous accumulators).
  – Or, all the operands may be registers (like MIPS).
Brief Historical Perspective on ISAs

Next step, more registers...

- General-purpose registers
  - Registers can be used for any purpose
  - E.g. MIPS, ARM, x86

- *Register-memory* architectures
  - One operand may be in memory (e.g. accumulators)
  - E.g. x86 (i.e. 80386 processors)

- *Register-register* architectures (aka load-store)
  - All operands **must** be in registers
  - E.g. MIPS, ARM
The number of available registers greatly influenced the instruction set architecture (ISA).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Machine</th>
<th>Num General Purpose Registers</th>
<th>Architectural Style</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDSAC</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Accumulator</td>
<td>1949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IBM 701</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Accumulator</td>
<td>1953</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDC 6600</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Load-Store</td>
<td>1963</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IBM 360</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Register-Memory</td>
<td>1964</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEC PDP-8</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Accumulator</td>
<td>1965</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEC PDP-11</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Register-Memory</td>
<td>1970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intel 8008</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Accumulator</td>
<td>1972</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motorola 6800</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Accumulator</td>
<td>1974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEC VAX</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Register-Memory, Memory-Memory</td>
<td>1977</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intel 8086</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Extended Accumulator</td>
<td>1978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motorola 6800</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Register-Memory</td>
<td>1980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intel 80386</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Register-Memory</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARM</td>
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<td>Load-Store</td>
<td>1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIPS</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Load-Store</td>
<td>1985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HP PA-RISC</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Load-Store</td>
<td>1986</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPARC</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Load-Store</td>
<td>1987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PowerPC</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Load-Store</td>
<td>1992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEC Alpha</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Load-Store</td>
<td>1992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HP/Intel IA-64</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>Load-Store</td>
<td>2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMD64 (EMT64)</td>
<td>16 (EMT64)</td>
<td>Register-Memory</td>
<td>2003</td>
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<td>Register-memory</td>
<td>2003</td>
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</table>
Next Goal

How to compute with limited resources?

i.e. how do you design your ISA if you have limited resources?
People programmed in assembly and machine code!
  • Needed as many addressing modes as possible
  • Memory was (and still is) slow

CPUs had relatively few registers
  • Register’s were more “expensive” than external mem
  • Large number of registers requires many bits to index

Memories were small
  • Encouraged highly encoded microcodes as instructions
  • Variable length instructions, load/store, conditions, etc
People programmed in assembly and machine code!
E.g. x86
- > 1000 instructions!
  - 1 to 15 bytes each
  - E.g. dozens of add instructions
- operands in dedicated registers, general purpose registers, memory, on stack, ...
  - can be 1, 2, 4, 8 bytes, signed or unsigned
- 10s of addressing modes
  - e.g. Mem[segment + reg + reg*scale + offset]

E.g. VAX
- Like x86, arithmetic on memory or registers, but also on strings, polynomial evaluation, stacks/queues, ...
Complex Instruction Set Computers (CISC)
Takeaway

The number of available registers greatly influenced the instruction set architecture (ISA)

*Complex Instruction Set Computers* were very complex

- Necessary to reduce the number of instructions required to fit a program into memory.
- However, also greatly increased the complexity of the ISA as well.
Next Goal

How do we reduce the complexity of the ISA while maintaining or increasing performance?
Reduced Instruction Set Computer (RISC)

John Cock

• IBM 801, 1980 (started in 1975)
• Name 801 came from the bldg that housed the project
• Idea: Possible to make a very small and very fast core
• Influences: Known as “the father of RISC Architecture”. Turing Award Recipient and National Medal of Science.
Reduced Instruction Set Computer (RISC)

Dave Patterson
- RISC Project, 1982
- UC Berkeley
- RISC-I: ½ transistors & 3x faster
- Influences: Sun SPARC, namesake of industry

John L. Hennessy
- MIPS, 1981
- Stanford
- Simple pipelining, keep full
- Influences: MIPS computer system, PlayStation, Nintendo
Reduced Instruction Set Computer (RISC)

MIPS Design Principles

Simplicity favors regularity
  • 32 bit instructions

Smaller is faster
  • Small register file

Make the common case fast
  • Include support for constants

Good design demands good compromises
  • Support for different type of interpretations/classes
Reduced Instruction Set Computer

MIPS = Reduced Instruction Set Computer (RISC)
- ≈ 200 instructions, 32 bits each, 3 formats
- all operands in registers
  - almost all are 32 bits each
- ≈ 1 addressing mode: Mem[reg + imm]

x86 = Complex Instruction Set Computer (CISC)
- > 1000 instructions, 1 to 15 bytes each
- operands in dedicated registers, general purpose registers, memory, on stack, ...
  - can be 1, 2, 4, 8 bytes, signed or unsigned
- 10s of addressing modes
  - e.g. Mem[segment + reg + reg*scale + offset]
**RISC vs CISC**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RISC Philosophy</th>
<th>CISC Rebuttal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regularity &amp; simplicity</td>
<td>Compilers can be smart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leaner means faster</td>
<td>Transistors are plentiful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optimize the common case</td>
<td>Legacy is important</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Code size counts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Micro-code!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Energy efficiency</th>
<th>Desktops/Servers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Embedded Systems</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phones/Tablets</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ARMDroid vs WinTel

- Android OS on ARM processor
- Windows OS on Intel (x86) processor
Takeaway

The number of available registers greatly influenced the instruction set architecture (ISA)

Complex Instruction Set Computers were very complex
- Necessary to reduce the number of instructions required to fit a program into memory.
- However, also greatly increased the complexity of the ISA as well.

Back in the day... CISC was necessary because everybody programmed in assembly and machine code! Today, CISC ISA’s are still dominant due to the prevalence of x86 ISA processors. However, RISC ISA’s today such as ARM have an ever increasing market share (of our everyday life!). ARM borrows a bit from both RISC and CISC.
Next Goal

How does MIPS and ARM compare to each other?
All MIPS instructions are 32 bits long, has 3 formats

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Format</th>
<th>op</th>
<th>rs</th>
<th>rt</th>
<th>rd</th>
<th>shamt</th>
<th>func</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R-type</td>
<td>6 bits</td>
<td>5 bits</td>
<td>5 bits</td>
<td>5 bits</td>
<td>5 bits</td>
<td>6 bits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I-type</td>
<td>6 bits</td>
<td>5 bits</td>
<td>5 bits</td>
<td>16 bits</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J-type</td>
<td>6 bits</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>26 bits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## ARMv7 Instruction Formats

All ARMv7 instructions are 32 bits long, has 3 formats:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Format</th>
<th>opx</th>
<th>op</th>
<th>rs</th>
<th>rd</th>
<th>opx</th>
<th>rt</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R-type</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 bits</td>
<td>8 bits</td>
<td>4 bits</td>
<td>4 bits</td>
<td>8 bits</td>
<td>4 bits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I-type</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>immediate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 bits</td>
<td>8 bits</td>
<td>4 bits</td>
<td>4 bits</td>
<td>12 bits</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J-type</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>immediate</td>
<td>(target address)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 bits</td>
<td>4 bits</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>24 bits</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ARMv7 Conditional Instructions

- while(i != j) {
  - if (i > j) { i -= j; }
  - else { j -= i; }
- }

Loop: BEQ Ri, Rj, End // if "NE" (not equal), then stay in loop
  SLT Rd, Rj, Ri // "GT" if (i > j),
  BNE Rd, R0, Else // ...
  SUB Ri, Ri, Rj // if "GT" (greater than), i = i-j;
  J Loop

Else: SUB Rj, Rj, Ri // or "LT" if (i < j)
  J Loop // if "LT" (less than), j = j-i;

End:

In MIPS, performance will be slow if code has a lot of branches.
ARMv7 Conditional Instructions

- while \((i \neq j)\) {
  - if \((i > j)\) 
    - \(i -= j;\)
  - else
    - \(j -= i;\)
- }

In ARM, can avoid delay due to Branches with conditional instructions

```
0 1 0 0
```

```
=\not<>
```

```
SUBGT Ri, Ri, Rj // if "GT" (greater than), \(i = i - j;\)
```

```
=\not<>
```

```
SUBLE Rj, Rj, Ri // if "LE" (less than or equal), \(j = j - i;\)
```

```
0 1 0 0
```

```
=\not<>
```

```
BNE loop // if "NE" (not equal), then loop
```
ARMv7: Other Cool operations

Shift one register (e.g. Rc) any amount
Add to another register (e.g. Rb)
Store result in a different register (e.g. Ra)

ADD Ra, Rb, Rc LSL #4
Ra = Rb + Rc<<4
Ra = Rb + Rc x 16
ARMv7 Instruction Set Architecture

All ARMv7 instructions are 32 bits long, has 3 formats

Reduced Instruction Set Computer (RISC) properties

- Only Load/Store instructions access memory
- Instructions operate on operands in processor registers
- 32 registers and r0 is always 0

**NO MORE** Complex Instruction Set Computer (CISC) properties

- NO Conditional execution
- NO Multiple words can be accessed from memory with a single instruction (SIMD: single instr multiple data)
ARMv8 (64-bit) Instruction Set Architecture
All ARMv8 instructions are 64 bits long, has 3 formats
Reduced Instruction Set Computer (RISC) properties
  • Only Load/Store instructions access memory
  • Instructions operate on operands in processor registers
  • 16 registers

Complex Instruction Set Computer (CISC) properties
  • Autoincrement, autodecrement, PC-relative addressing
  • Conditional execution
  • Multiple words can be accessed from memory with a single instruction (SIMD: single instr multiple data)
Instruction Set Architecture Variations

ISA defines the permissible instructions

- MIPS: load/store, arithmetic, control flow, ...
- ARMv7: similar to MIPS, but more shift, memory, & conditional ops
- ARMv8 (64-bit): even closer to MIPS, no conditional ops
- VAX: arithmetic on memory or registers, strings, polynomial evaluation, stacks/queues, ...
- Cray: vector operations, ...
- x86: a little of everything
Next time

How do we coordinate use of registers?
Calling Conventions!

PA1 due next Tuesday