

COMP1521 23T3 — MIPS Control

<https://www.cse.unsw.edu.au/~cs1521/23T3/>

Jump Instructions

assembler	meaning	bit pattern
j <i>label</i>	$pc = pc \& 0xF0000000 (X \ll 2)$	00001XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
jal <i>label</i>	$ra = pc + 4;$ $pc = pc \& 0xF0000000 (X \ll 2)$	000011XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
jr <i>r_s</i>	$pc = r_s$	000000sssss0000000000000000001000
jalr <i>r_s</i>	$ra = pc + 4;$ $pc = r_s$	000000sssss00000000000000000000001001

- jump instructions **unconditionally** transfer execution to a new location
 - in other word, jump instructions change the pc (program counter)
- for **j** *label* and **jal** *label* mipsy calculates correct value for X from location of ***label* in code
- **jal** & **jalr** set \$ra (\$31) to address of the next instruction
 - call to function *f* implemented by **jal** *f*
 - return can then be implemented with **jr** \$ra
- **jr** & **jalr** can be used with any register
 - used to implement function pointer dereferencing in C, and methods in object-oriented languages

Branch Instructions

b <i>label</i>	$pc += I \ll 2$	pseudo-instruction
beq $r_s, r_t, label$	if ($r_s == r_t$) $pc += I \ll 2$	000100sssssttttIIIIIIIIIIIIIIII
bne $r_s, r_t, label$	if ($r_s != r_t$) $pc += I \ll 2$	000101sssssttttIIIIIIIIIIIIIIII
ble $r_s, r_t, label$	if ($r_s <= r_t$) $pc += I \ll 2$	pseudo-instruction
bgt $r_s, r_t, label$	if ($r_s > r_t$) $pc += I \ll 2$	pseudo-instruction
blt $r_s, r_t, label$	if ($r_s < r_t$) $pc += I \ll 2$	pseudo-instruction
bge $r_s, r_t, label$	if ($r_s >= r_t$) $pc += I \ll 2$	pseudo-instruction
blez $r_s, label$	if ($r_s <= 0$) $pc += I \ll 2$	000110ssss00000IIIIIIIIIIIIII
bgtz $r_s, label$	if ($r_s > 0$) $pc += I \ll 2$	000111ssss00000IIIIIIIIIIIIII
bltz $r_s, label$	if ($r_s < 0$) $pc += I \ll 2$	000001ssss00000IIIIIIIIIIIIII
bgez $r_s, label$	if ($r_s >= 0$) $pc += I \ll 2$	000001ssss00001IIIIIIIIIIIIII
bnez $r_s, label$	if ($r_s != 0$) $pc += I \ll 2$	pseudo-instruction
beqz $r_s, label$	if ($r_s == 0$) $pc += I \ll 2$	pseudo-instruction

- branch instruction **conditionally** transfer execution to a new location (except **b** is unconditional)
- **mipsy** will calculate correct value for *I* from location of *label* in code
- **mipsy** allows second operand (r_t) to be replaced by a constant (fine to use in COMP1521)

Example Translation of Branch Pseudo-instructions

Pseudo-Instructions

bge \$t1, \$t2, label

blt \$t1, 42, label

beqz \$t3, label

bnez \$t4, label

b label

Real Instructions

slt \$at, \$t1, \$t2
beq \$at, \$0, label

addi \$at, \$zero, 42
slt \$at, \$t1, \$at
bne \$at, \$0, label

beq \$t3, \$0, label

bne \$t4, \$0, label

beq \$0, \$0, label

- jump instructions are unconditional
- branch instructions are conditional and can implement if and while
 - except **b** *label* which has same effect as **j** *label*
 - you can use either
- **jal** and **jr** instructions provides a simple function call & return implementations
 - no equivalent branch instructions
- branch instruction encode a 16-bit relative offset
 - target (label) must be within -32768..32767 instructions
 - not a problem in COMP1521 - we write small programs
- jump instruction encode a 28-bit value
 - allows jumps to be used for targets (labels) further away

goto in C

The `goto` statement allows transfer of control to any labelled point with a function. For example, this code:

```
for (int i = 1; i <= 10; i++) {  
    printf("%d\n", i);  
}
```

can be written as:

```
int i = 1;  
loop:  
    if (i > 10) goto end;  
    i++;  
    printf("%d", i);  
    printf("\n");  
    goto loop;  
end:
```

- **goto** statements can result in very difficult to read programs.
- **goto** statements can also result in slower programs.
- In general, use of **goto** is considered **bad** programming style.
- Do not use **goto** without very good reason.
- kernel & embedded programmers sometimes use goto.

Writing correct assembler directly is hard.

Recommended strategy:

- develop a solution in C
- map down to “simplified” C
- translate simplified C statements to MIPS instructions

Simplified C

- does *not* have **while**, compound **if**, complex expressions
- *does* have simple **if**, **goto**, one-operator expressions

Simplified C makes extensive use of

- *labels* ... symbolic name for C statement
- *goto* ... transfer control to labelled statement

Things to do:

- allocate variables to registers/memory
- place literals in data segment
- transform C program to:
 - break expression evaluation into steps
 - replace most control structures by **goto**

Conditionals – if from C to Simplified C

Standard C

```
if (i < 0) {  
    n = n - i;  
  
} else {  
    n = n + i;  
}
```

Simplified C

```
if (i >= 0) goto else1;  
n = n - i;  
goto end1;  
else1:  
    n = n + i;  
end1:
```

note: else is not a valid label name in C

Conditionals – if from Simplified C to MIPS

Simplified C

```
if (i >= 0) goto else1;  
n = n - i;  
goto end1;  
else1:  
    n = n + i;  
end1:
```

MIPS

```
# assuming i in $t0,  
# assuming n in $t1...  
  
bge $t0, 0, else1  
sub $t1, $t1, $t0  
goto end1  
  
else1:  
    add $t1, $t1, $t0  
end1:
```

Print If Even: C to simplified C

C

```
int main(void) {
    int n;
    printf("Enter a number: ");
    scanf("%d", &n);
    if (n % 2 == 0) {
        printf("even\n");
    }
    return 0;
}
```

source code for print_if_even.c

Simplified C

```
int main(void) {
    int n;
    printf("Enter a number: ");
    scanf("%d", &n);
    if (n % 2 != 0) goto epilogue;
        printf("even\n");
epilogue:
    return 0;
}
```

source code for print_if_even.simple.c

Print If Even: MIPS

```
# Print a message only if a number is even.  
# Written by: Abiram Nadarajah <abiramn@cse.unsw.edu.au>  
# Written as a COMP1521 lecture example  
.text  
main:  
    # Locals:  
    # - $t0: int n  
    # - $t1: n % 2  
    li  $v0, 4          # syscall 4: print_string  
    la  $a0, prompt_msg #  
    syscall            # printf("Enter a number: ");  
    li  $v0, 5          # syscall 5: read_int  
    syscall            #  
    move   $t0, $v0      # scanf("%d", &n);  
    rem   $t1, $t0, 2    # if ((n % 2)  
    bnez  $t1, epilogue #     != 0) goto epilogue;
```

Print If Even: MIPS

```
rem $t1, $t0, 2      # if ((n % 2)
bnez    $t1, epilogue  #      != 0) goto epilogue;
li  $v0, 4           # syscall 4: print_string
la  $a0, even_msg    #
syscall            # printf("even\n");

epilogue:
li  $v0, 0           #
jr  $ra              # return 0;

.data

prompt_msg:
.asciiiz "Enter a number: "

even_msg:
.asciiiz "even\n"
```

source code for print_if_even.s

Odd or Even: C to simplified C

C

```
int main(void) {
    int n;
    printf("Enter a number: ");
    scanf("%d", &n);
    if (n % 2 == 0) {
        printf("even\n");
    } else {
        printf("odd\n");
    }
    return 0;
}
```

source code for odd_even.c

Simplified C

```
int main(void) {
    int n;
    printf("Enter a number: ");
    scanf("%d", &n);
    if (n % 2 != 0) goto n_mod_2_ne_0;
    printf("even\n");
    goto epilogue;
n_mod_2_ne_0:
    printf("odd\n");
epilogue:
    return 0;
}
```

source code for odd_even.simple.c

Odd or Even: MIPS

```
# Print out whether a value is odd or even.  
# Written by: Abiram Nadarajah <abiramn@cse.unsw.edu.au>  
# Written as a COMP1521 lecture example  
.text  
main:  
    # Locals:  
    # - $t0: int n  
    # - $t1: n % 2  
    li  $v0, 4          # syscall 4: print_string  
    la  $a0, prompt_msg #  
    syscall            # printf("Enter a number: ");  
    li  $v0, 5          # syscall 5: read_int  
    syscall            #  
    move   $t0, $v0      # scanf("%d", &n);  
    rem   $t1, $t0, 2    # if ((n % 2)  
    bnez  $t1, n_mod_2_ne_0 #     != 0) goto n_mod_2_ne_0;
```

Odd or Even: MIPS

```
li  $v0, 4          # syscall 4: print_string
la  $a0, even_msg    #
syscall           # printf("even\n");
b   epilogue        # goto epilogue;

n_mod_2_ne_0:
li  $v0, 4          # syscall 4: print_string
la  $a0, odd_msg     #
syscall           # printf("odd\n");

epilogue:
li  $v0, 0          #
jr  $ra             # return 0;
.data

prompt_msg:
.asciiiz "Enter a number: "
even_msg:
.asciiiz "even\n"
odd_msg:
.asciiiz "odd\n"
```

source code for odd_even.s

Loops – while from C to Simplified C

Standard C

```
i = 0;  
n = 0;  
while (i < 5) {  
  
    n = n + i;  
    i++;  
}
```

Simplified C

```
i = 0;  
n = 0;  
loop:  
    if (i >= 5) goto end;  
    n = n + i;  
    i++;  
    goto loop;  
end:
```

Loops – while from Simplified C to MIPS

Simplified C

```
i = 0;  
n = 0;  
loop:  
    if (i >= 5) goto end;  
    n = n + i;  
    i++;  
    goto loop;  
end:
```

MIPS

```
li    $t0, 0  # i in $t0  
li    $t1, 0  # n in $t1  
loop:  
    bge  $t0, 5, end  
    add   $t1, $t1, $t0  
    addi  $t0, $t0, 1  
    j     loop  
end:
```

Printing First 10 Integers: C to simplified C

C

```
for (int i = 1; i <= 10; i++) {  
    printf("%d\n", i);  
}
```

source code for print10.c

Simplified C

```
int i;  
i = 1;  
loop:  
    if (i > 10) goto end;  
    printf("%d", i);  
    printf("\n");  
    i++;  
    goto loop;  
end:
```

source code for print10.simple.c

Printing First 10 Integers: MIPS

```
# print integers 1..10 one per line
main:           # int main(void) {
                # int i; // in register $t0
    li    $t0, 1      # i = 1;
loop:          # loop:
    bgt  $t0, 10, end # if (i > 10) goto end;
    move $a0, $t0      # printf("%d" i);
    li    $v0, 1
    syscall
    li    $a0, '\n'    # printf("%c", '\n');
    li    $v0, 11
    syscall
    addi $t0, $t0, 1   # i++;
    b    loop         # goto loop;
end:
    li    $v0, 0        # return 0
    jr    $ra
```

Sum 100 Squares: C to simplified C

C

```
int main(void) {
    int sum = 0;
    for (int i = 1; i <= 100; i++) {
        sum += i * i;
    }
    printf("%d\n", sum);
    return 0;
}
```

source code for sum_100_squares.c

Simplified C

```
int main(void) {
    int sum = 0;
loop_i_to_100__init:
    int i = 0;
loop_i_to_100__cond:
    if (i > UPPER_BOUND) goto loop_i_to_100__end;
loop_i_to_100__body:
    sum += i * i;
loop_i_to_100__step:
    i++;
    goto loop_i_to_100__cond;
loop_i_to_100__end:
    printf("%d", sum);
    putchar('\n');
    return 0;
}
```

Sum 100 Squares: MIPS

```
# Calculate 1*1 + 2*2 + ... + 99*99 + 100*100
# Written by: Abiram Nadarajah <abiramn@cse.unsw.edu.au>
# Written as a COMP1521 lecture example
UPPER_BOUND = 100

.text
main:
    # Locals:
    # - $t0: int sum
    # - $t1: int i
    # - $t2: temporary value
    li $t0, 0                      # int sum = 0;
loop_i_to_100__init:
    li $t1, 1                      # int i = 0;
loop_i_to_100__cond:
    bgt $t1, UPPER_BOUND, loop_i_to_100__end    # while (i < UPPER_BOUND) {
loop_i_to_100__body:
```

Sum 100 Squares: MIPS

```
loop_i_to_100__body:  
    mul $t2, $t1, $t1          #      sum = (i * i) +  
    add $t0, $t0, $t2          #              sum;  
  
loop_i_to_100__step:  
    addi   $t0, $t0, 1          #      i++;  
    b     loop_i_to_100__cond  # }  
  
loop_i_to_100__end:  
    li   $v0, 1                # syscall 1: print_int  
    move  $a0, $t0              #  
    syscall                   # printf("%d", sum);  
    li   $v0, 11               # syscall 11: print_char  
    li   $a0, '\n'             #  
    syscall                   # putchar('\n');  
    li   $v0, 0  
    jr   $ra                  # return 0;
```

source code for sum_100_squares.s

Conditionals – if and &&: from C to Simplified C

Standard C

```
if (i < 0 && n >= 42) {  
  
    n = n - i;  
  
} else {  
    n = n + i;  
}
```

Simplified C

```
if (i >= 0) goto else1;  
if (n < 42) goto else1;  
n = n - i;  
goto end1;  
else1:  
    n = n + i;  
end1:
```

Conditionals – if and &&: from Simplified C to MIPS

Simplified C

```
if (i >= 0) goto else1;
if (n < 42) goto else1;
n = n - i;
goto end1;
else1:
    n = n + i;
end1:
```

MIPS

```
# assume i in $t0
# assume n in $t1

bge $t0, 0, else1
blt $t1, 42, else1
sub $t1, $t1, $t0
j    end1
else1:
    add $t1, $t1, $t0
end1:
```

Conditionals – if and ||: from C to Simplified C

Standard C

```
if (i < 0 || n >= 42) {  
  
    n = n - i;  
  
} else {  
    n = n + i;  
}
```

Simplified C

```
if (i < 0)    goto then1;  
if (n >= 42) goto then1;  
goto else1;  
  
then1:  
    n = n - i;  
    goto end1;  
  
else1:  
    n = n + i;  
end1:
```

Conditionals – if and ||: from Simplified C to MIPS

Simplified C

```
if (i < 0)    goto then1;  
if (n >= 42) goto then1;  
goto else1;  
  
then1:  
    n = n - i;  
    goto end1;  
  
else1:  
    n = n + i;  
  
end1:
```

MIPS

```
# assume i in $t0  
# assume n in $t1  
  
blt $t0, 0, else1  
bge $t1, 42, else1  
sub $t1, $t1, $t0  
j end1  
  
else1:  
    add $t1, $t1, $t0  
end1:
```

The `break` statement

Sometimes it is useful to exit from the middle of a loop

- `break` allows you to check a condition mid-loop and quit

```
// read up to 100 characters
// stop if the next character is '!'
while (i <= 100) {
    int ch = getchar();
    if (ch == '!') break;
    putchar(ch);
}
```

The `continue` statement

Sometimes it is useful to go to next iteration and skip rest of loop

- `continue` allows you to go to next iteration from mid-loop

```
// iterate over integers 1..100
// skip every multiple of three
for (i = 1; i <= 100; i++) {
    if (i % 3 == 0) continue;
    printf("%d\n", i);
}
```

continue can simplify loops

... columns ... column

```
while (Condition) {  
    some_code_1  
    if (Condition1) {  
        some_code_2  
        if (Condition2) {  
            some_code_3  
        }  
    }  
}
```

... column

```
while (_Condition_) {  
    some_code_1  
    if (! Condition1) continue;  
    some_code_2  
    if (! Condition2) continue;
```

Side Topic: C do/while

C has a different while loop - do/while (post-test).

- loop condition checked at bottom of loop - always executed once
- many programmers do not use it

```
do {  
    printf("%d\n", i);  
    i++;  
} while (i < 10);
```

can be written as:

```
int i = 1;  
loop:  
    printf("%d", i);  
    printf("\n");  
    i++;  
    if (i < 10) goto loop;
```