In-Class Activity 02-2

1 Activity 1 - Sight Reading MIPS

We’re going to be learning MIPS assembly! We’re going to start by reading a little bit of it - because I bet you can figure out a lot about MIPS just by making educated guesses.

Some basic hints about MIPS:

• Almost all MIPS operations take 32-bit inputs and produce 32-bit outputs. (There are exceptions, but they are very rare!)

• Names that start with dollar signs, like $s0, are registers - basically, 32-bit variables inside the CPU.
  The sX and tX registers ($s0, $t0, etc.) are general purpose registers, and can be used by the program for any purpose. The rest of the registers have special meanings, which we’ll describe as we go.

• If a MIPS instruction writes to a register, the register it writes to is (almost always) the one on the left.

Do your best to figure out the following code snippets. If you can’t figure it out, don’t worry - but figure out as much as you can!

Snippet 1

```
add $s0, $s1,$s2
```

Snippet 2

```
addi $s0, $s1,123
```

Snippet 3

```
add $t3, $s7,$zero
```

Snippet 4

```
addi $t3, $t3,-1
```
Snippet 5
add $t0, $s0,$s1
add $t1, $s2,$s3
sub $s4, $t0,$t1

Snippet 6
andi $t0, $s0,0x1

Snippet 7
sub $s3, $zero,$s3

Snippet 8
# HINT: L is for "load"
la $s0, my_variable
lw $s1, 0($s0)

Snippet 9
# HINT: SW breaks one of the rules I told you about
la $s0, counter
lw $s1, 0($s0)
addi $s1, $s1,1
sw $s1, 0($s0)

Snippet 10
addi $v0, $zero,1  # 1 = print_int
add $a0, $s0,$zero  # parameter
syscall
Bonus Snippet 1

```c
# if (x == y)
#   printf("%d", x);
#
# -- Can you determine what each instruction does???
bne $s0,$s1, AFTER
addi $v0, $zero,1
add $a0, $s0,$zero
syscall

AFTER:
```

Bonus Snippet 2

```c
# if (foo < bar)
#   foo++;
# else
#   bar++;
#
# -- Can you determine what each instruction does???
slt $t0, $s0,$s1
beq $t0,$zero, FALSE
addi $s0, $s0,1

j AFTER

FALSE:
  addi $s1, $s1,1
AFTER:
```

Bonus Snippet 3

```c
addi $v0, $zero,4    # what do you think 4 means???
la $a0, HELLO_WORLD_MSG
syscall

# further down in the file, somewhere...
.data
HELLO_WORLD_MSG:
  .string  "Hello world!\n"
```
2 Activity 2 - Writing MIPS

It’s time to write some basic MIPS instructions. (Do this Activity after I’ve introduced MIPS to the class!)

Assume that the following variables are in the following registers:

- alpha $s0
- bravo $s1
- charlie $s2

Write a series of instructions which will perform the following calculations. You may modify any $tX registers, but do not modify any $sX registers (except the one you’re required to modify).

- $s3 = alpha + bravo + charlie
- $s4 = -bravo - charlie
- $s5 = charlie - (alpha + bravo)
- $s6 = bravo*2 + charlie*3