

Summary of the MARIE Assembly Language

A simple MARIE program can be written to perform the high-level language statements:

The lines at address 6 to 9 are *assembler directives* (directions to the assembler) to initialize the memory location associated with X (address 6) to DECimal 10, the memory location associated with Y (address 7) to 20, etc. Lines at address 0 to 5 are the actual machine-language MARIE program. If the PC = 0 (program counter), the program execution would start at address 0 which contains 1006₁₆. This instruction would be fetched into the CPUs IR (instruction register), bits 15-12 contain the operations code of 1_{16} would be decoded to determine that it is a LOAD instruction. Execution of the LOAD causes the specified memory

address's (006_{16} in bits 11-0) content to be loaded into the accumulator (AC) register (i.e., the value 10_{10} would be loaded into the AC). During the fetch-decode-execute cycle, the PC would get incremented to the next instruction. The program instructions are executed sequentially until the HALT instruction which stops the program.

The branch instructions, JUMP and SKIPCOND, potentially cause the PC to "jump" (i.e., alter the *flow of control* in the program). These instructions are useful for implementing high-level language selection (IF, IF-THEN-ELSE, SWITCH, etc.) and looping statements (FOR, WHILE, REPEAT, etc.). For example, consider the following IF-THEN-ELSE statement and corresponding flow-chart:

If $X < Y$ is True, then the value of $(X-Y)$ in the AC is negative. The "SKIPCOND 000" cause the JUMP ELSE instruction to be jumped over if the AC is negative. Since the then-part code follows the JUMP ELSE instruction, it is only executed if $X \le Y$. After the then-part code is executed, the JUMP END IF causes the else-body to be skipped. If $X < Y$ is False, then the value of $(X - Y)$ in the AC will not be negative the SKIPCOND 000 instruction will not jump over the JUMP ELSE instruction.

For a loop example, consider the following FOR-loop and corresponding flow-chart:

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If $I \le 10$ is False, then (I - 10) is positive, so the SKIPCOND 800 skips to JUMP END_FOR. Thus, dropping out of the FOR loop. Otherwise, the JUMP FOR_BODY is not skipped. After the for-body executes and the loop-control variable I is incremented, the JUMP FOR_COND loops back to recheck the loop control variable.

The simplicity of the MARIE instruction set make writing assembly-language programs difficult. So, we'll only write small toy programs in MARIE, and later learn to write realistic assembly-language programs in the slightly more complex MIPS instruction set. However, the simplicity of the MARIE architecture is a huge benefit as we turn our attention to the hardware of implementing the CPU datapath and control unit.

MARIE Registers and Buses:

The revised Figure 4.9 (below) has moved the Memory from the CPU chip and hence the internal CPU Datapath. Thus, memory can only be accessed via the MAR (Memory-Address Register) and the MBR (Memory-Buffer Register) which is much more realistic. This has some impact on the microoperations that access memory. For example, fetching the instruction pointed at by the PC into the IR would require the following microoperations:

$MAR \leftarrow PC$

MBR \leftarrow M[MAR] (read from memory into the MBR instead of directly into the IR as descibed on page 199) $IR \leftarrow MBR$

However, the authors seem to understand this since their microoperations to execute the Load X (on page 196) use the MBR correctly:

MAR \leftarrow X (X is the address part of the IR, so this should technically be MAR \leftarrow IR₁₁₋₀) $MBR \leftarrow M[MAR]$ (read from memory into the MBR instead of directly into the AC) $AC \leftarrow MBR$

Revised Figure 4.9 Datapath in MARIE

The text discusses the microoperations of the fetch-decode-execute machine cycle in the execution of the "Simple Program" below that calculates $RESULT = X + Y$.

Revised Figure 4.14 (a) LOAD X (110416 in ML)

Revised Figure 4.14 (b) ADD Y (310516 in ML)

Revised Figure 4.14 (c) STORE RESULT (210616 in ML) (YOU COMPLETE THIS AS PART OF LECTURE)

***** "Get Operand" step is not necessary for STORE instructions

Advanced MARIE Assembly Language Example: Print null terminated string to output

HLL: index = 0

while str[index] $!= 0$ do output str[index] $index = index + 1$ end while

