CSCI 210: Computer Architecture Lecture 25: Datapath

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Slides from Cynthia Taylor

Announcements

Problem Set 8 due Friday

Lab 7 due Sunday (up tonight)

• Office Hours tomorrow 13:30 –14:30

The Processor: Datapath & Control

- We're ready to look at an implementation of MIPS simplified to contain only:
 - memory-reference instructions: lw, sw
 - arithmetic-logical instructions: add, sub, and, or, slt
 - control flow instructions: beq

Generic implementation

Fetch

- Use the program counter (PC) to supply instruction address
- Get the instruction from memory
- Update the program counter to the next instruction

Decode instruction

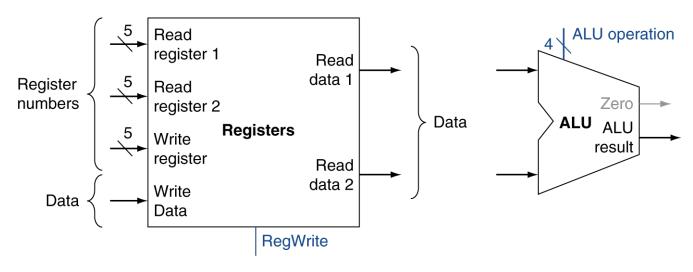
- Read registers
- Use the instruction to decide exactly what to do

Execute

- Perform necessary data manipulation
- Write to registers

R-Format Instructions

- Read two register operands
- Perform arithmetic/logical operation
- Write register result



a. Registers

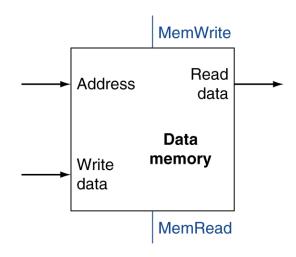
b. ALU

Which of these describes our interface for memory? What do we need for lw \$t2, 0(\$t3) or sw \$t4, 4(\$t5)

- A. One 32-bit data output, one 5-bit select input, one 32-bit data input, two 1-bit control inputs
- B. One 32-bit data output, two 5-bit select inputs, two 1-bit control inputs
- C. One 32-bit data output, one 32-bit select input, one 32-bit data input, two 1-bit control inputs
- D. One 32-bit data output, one 32-bit select input, two 1-bit control inputs
- E. None of the above

Data Memory

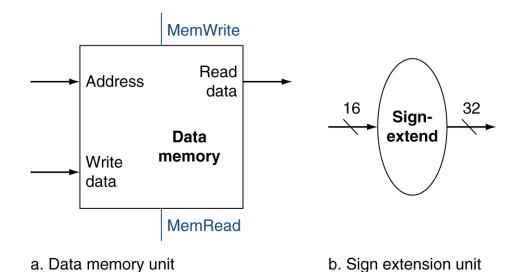
- 32-bit address input
- 32-bit data to write input
- 32-bit data output
- 1-bit MemWrite control
- 1-bit MemRead control



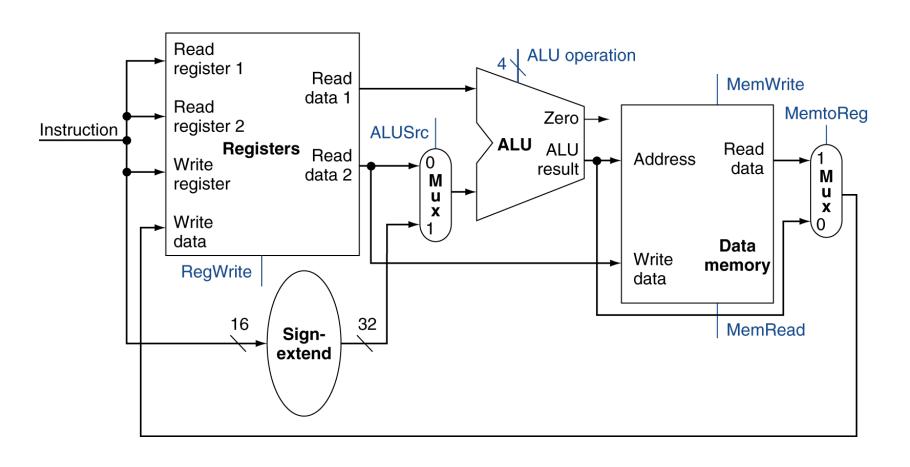
a. Data memory unit

Load/Store Instructions

- Read register operands
- Calculate address using 16-bit offset
 - Use ALU, but sign-extend offset
- Load: Read memory and update register
- Store: Write register value to memory

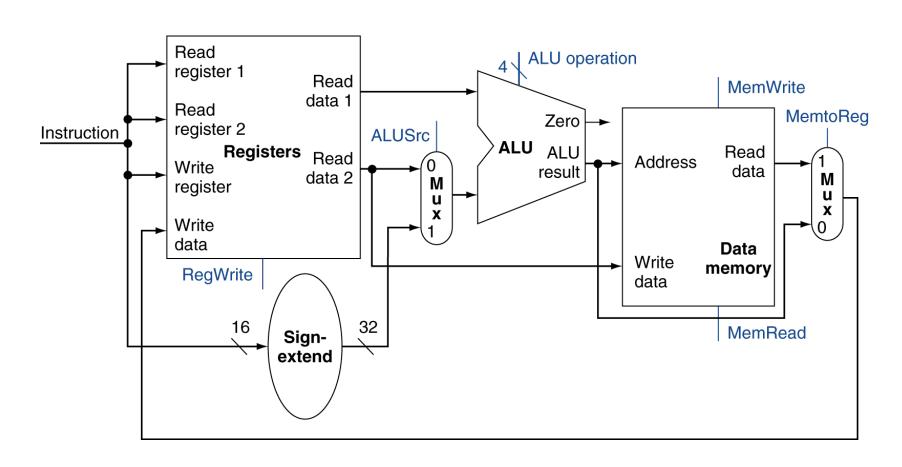


R-Type/Load/Store Datapath



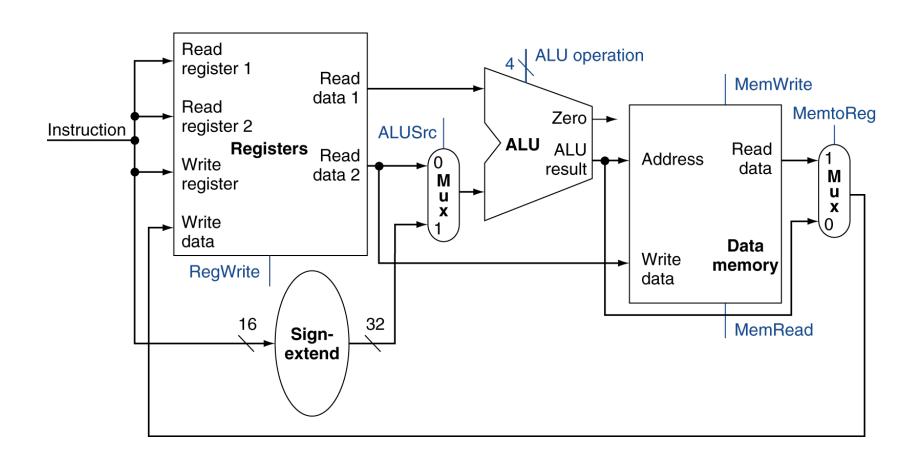
Add \$t0, \$t0, \$t1

\$t0 = 5 \$t1 = 6



lw \$t1, 4(\$t0)

\$t0 = 0x07AB8110 0x07AB8114 holds 12



Which is true about the ALU and the register file in MIPS?

- A. The ALU always performs an operation before accessing the register file
- B. The ALU *sometimes* performs an operation before accessing the register file
- C. The register file is *always* accessed before performing an ALU operation
- D. The register file is *sometimes* accessed before performing an ALU operation
- E. None of the above.

Conditional Branch Instructions Require

A. ALU

beq \$t2, \$t3, 0x4F35

B. Registers and an ALU

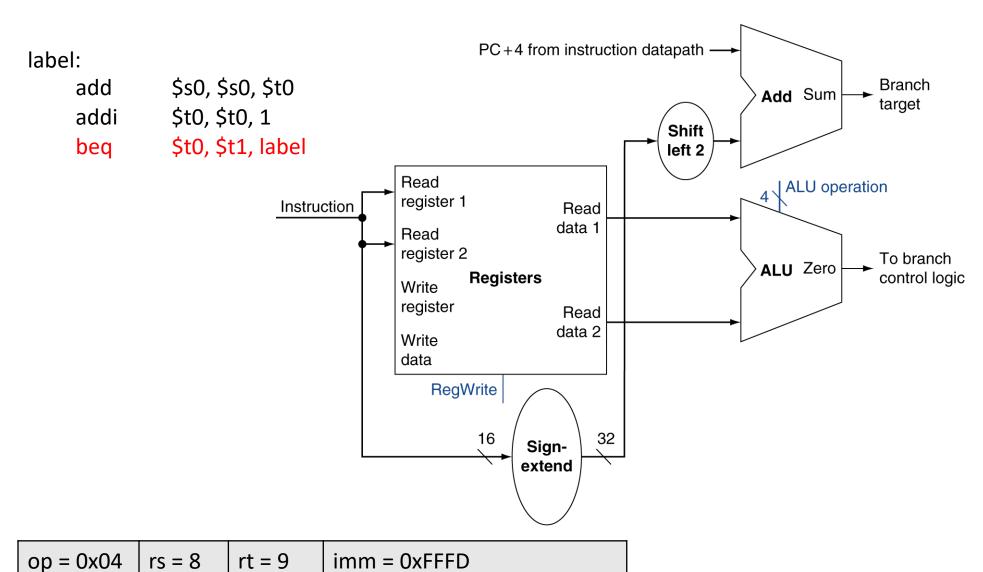
C. Registers, ALU and Memory

D. Registers, an ALU and an Adder

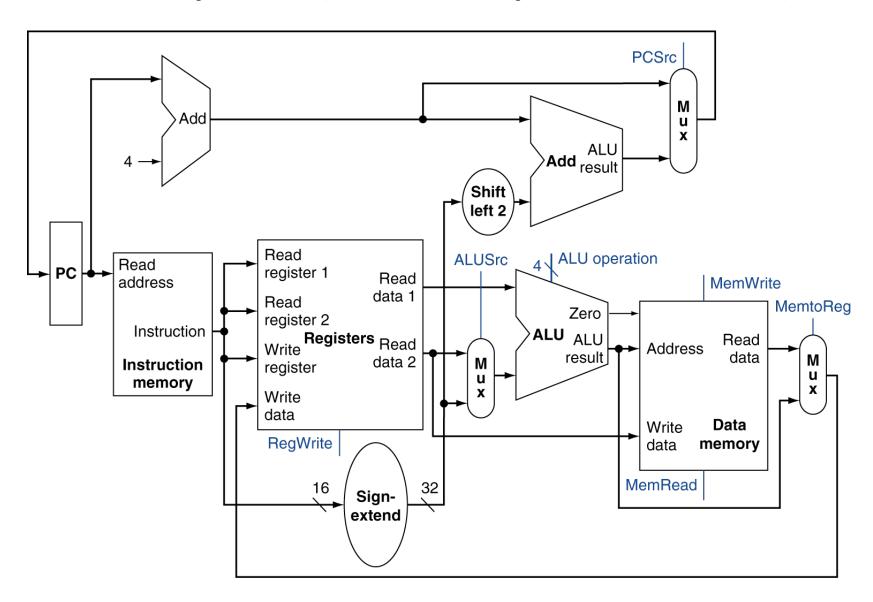
Branch Instructions

- Read register operands
- Compare operands
 - Use ALU, subtract and check Zero output
- Calculate target address
 - Sign-extend offset
 - Shift left 2 bits (word offset)
 - Add to PC + 4
 - Already calculated during instruction fetch

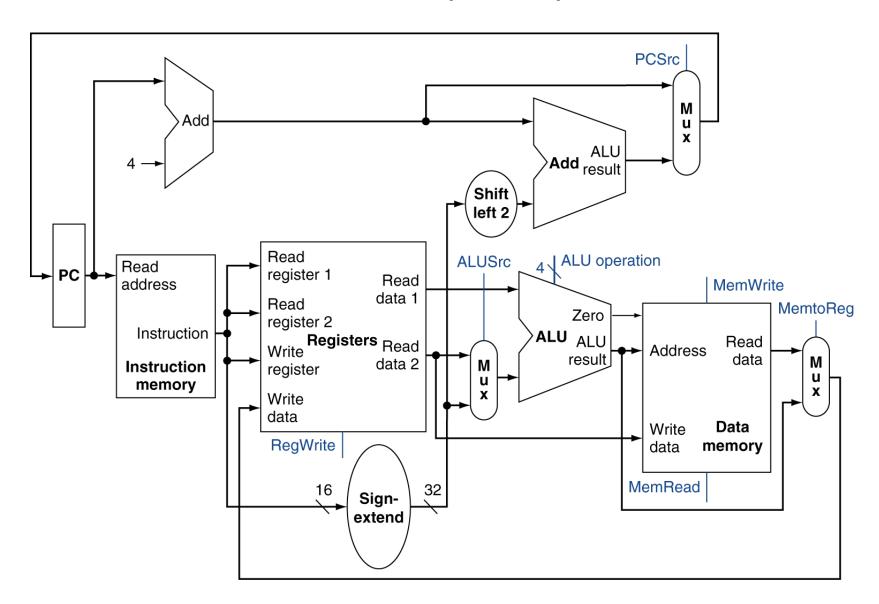
Branch Instructions



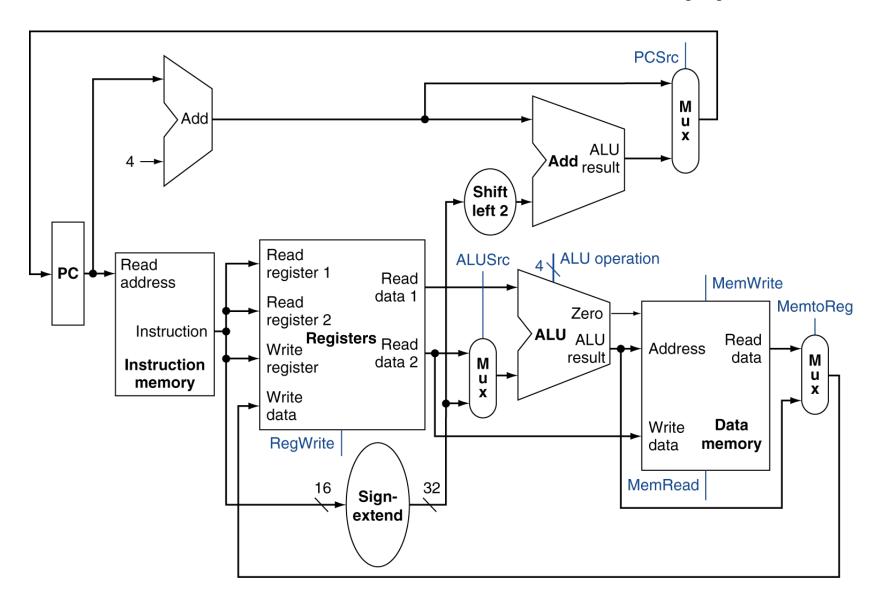
Datapath (still simplified a bit)



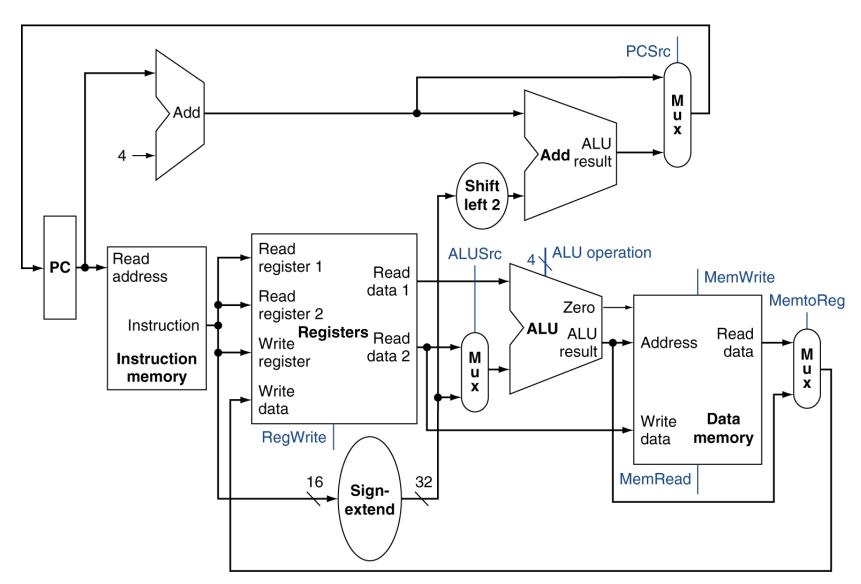
addi \$t1, \$t0, -1



What do we need to add to support ori?



sw \$1, 8(\$t0) \$t0 = 0x07AB8110\$t1 = 5



Composing the Elements

- First-cut data path does an instruction in one clock cycle
 - Each datapath element can only do one function at a time
 - Hence, we need separate instruction and data memories
- Use multiplexers where alternative data sources are used for different instructions

Key Points

- CPU is just a collection of state and combinational logic
- We just designed a very rich processor, at least in terms of functionality
- ET = IC * CPI * Cycle Time

Reading

- Next lecture: Control Path
 - Section 5.4

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