CS61C Precheck: RISC-V Summer 2025 Discussion 4

1 RISC-V Instructions

RISC-V is an assembly language composed of simple instructions that each perform a single task such as addition of two numbers or storing data to memory. Below is a comparison between RISC-V code and its equivalent C code:

For your reference, here are some of the basic instructions for arithmetic/bitwise operations and memory access, which can also be found on the 61C <u>Reference Card</u>.

The below are abbreviations that will be used in the table:

- rs1: Argument register 1
- rs2: Argument register 2
- rd: Destination register
- imm: Immediate value (integer literal constant)
- R[register]: Value contained in register
- inst: One of the instructions in the table

Register-to-register operations (R-type): inst rd rs1 rs2		
add	Adds R[rs1] and R[rs2] and stores the result in rd	
xor	Exclusive ORs R[rs1] and R[rs2] and stores the result in rd	
mul	Multiplies R[rs1] by R[rs2] and stores the result in rd	
sll	Logical left shifts R[rs1] by R[rs2] and stores the result in rd	
srl	Logical right shifts R[rs1] by R[rs2] and stores the result in rd	
sra	Arithmetic right shifts R[rs1] by R[rs2] and stores the result in rd	
slt(u)	If R[rs1] < R[rs2], puts 1 in rd, else puts 0 (u compares unsigned)	

Memory operations				
sw rs2 rs1(imm)	Stores R[rs2] to the address R[rs1] + imm in memory			
lw rd rs1(imm)	Loads address R[rs1] + imm from memory into rs2			

	Branch operations (B-type): inst rs1 rs2 label
bne	If rs1 != rs2, jump to label

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	Branch operations (B-type): inst rs1 rs2 label
beq	If rs1 == rs2, jump to label

	Jump operations (J-type): inst rd label
jal	Stores the next instruction's address into rd and jumps to label

A RISC-V "immediate" is any numeric constant. For example, addi t0, t0, 20, sw a4, -8(sp), and lw a1, 0x44(t2) have immediates 20, -8, and 0x44 respectively. Note that there is a limit to the size (number of bits) of an immediate in any given instruction (depends on what type of instruction, more on this soon!).

You may also see that there is an "i" at the end of certain instructions, such as addi, slli, etc. This means that rs2 becomes an "immediate" or an integer instead of a register. There are immediates in instructions which use an offset such as sw and lw. When coding in RISC-V, always use the 61C reference card for the details of each instruction (the reference card is your friend)!