$\begin{array}{c} {\rm CS61C} \\ {\rm Spring} \ 2025 \end{array}$

RISC-V Calling Convention

Discussion 4

1 Review: RISC-V Memory Access

Using the given instructions and the sample memory array, what will happen when the RISC-V code is executed? For load instructions (1w, 1b, 1h), write out what each register will store. For store instructions (sw, sh, sb), update the memory array accordingly. Recall that RISC-V is little-endian and byte addressable. For any unknown instructions, use the CS 61C reference card!

1	1
ı	1

. 1			
1	li t0 0x00FF0000	OxFFFFFFF	
	lw t1 0(t0)		
3	addi t0 t0 4	0x00FF0004	0x000C561C
4 5	lh t2 2(t0) lw s0 0(t1)	0x00FF0000	36
	lb s1 3(t2)		
		0x00000036	OxFDFDFDFD
			• • •
		0x00000024	OxDEADB33F
			• • •
		0x000000C	0xC5161C00
			• • •
		0x0000000	

What value does each register hold after the code is executed?

t0:

t1:

t2:

s0:

s1:

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1.2 Update the memory array with its new values after the code is executed. Assume each byte in the memory array is initialized to zero.

1	li tO OxABADCAF8	OxFFFFFFF	0x00000000
2	li t1 0xF9120504		• • •
3	li t2 OxBEEFDABO	0xF9120504	
4	sw t0 0(t1)	0XF9120304	
5	addi t0 t0 4		• • •
6	sh t1 2(t0)	Oxabadcafc	
7	sh t2 0(t0)	OxABADCAF8	
8	lw t3 O(t1)		
9	sb t1 1(t3)		• • •
10	sb t2 3(t3)	0x00000000	0x00000000

2 RISC-V Calling Convention

2.1 Consider the following blocks of code:

```
1 main:
                                         1 foo:
                                         2 # Prologue
2 # Prologue
3 # Saves ra
                                         3 # Saves s0
                                         4
5 # Code omitted
                                         5 # Code Omitted
6 addi s0 x0 5
                                         6 addi s0 x0 4
7 # Breakpoint 1
                                         7 # Breakpoint 2
8 jal ra foo
                                         8
9 # Breakpoint 3
                                         9 # Epilogue
10 mul a0 a0 s0
                                        10 # Restores s0
11 # Code omitted
                                        11 jr ra
12
13 # Epilogue
14 # Restores ra
15 j exit
```

- a) Does main always behave as expected, as long as **foo** follows calling convention?
- b) What does s0 store at breakpoint 1? Breakpoint 2? Breakpoint 3?
- c) Now suppose that **foo** didn't have a prologue or epilogue. What would **s0** store at each of the breakpoints? Would this cause errors in our code?

In part (c) above, we see one way how not following calling convention could make our code misbehave. Other things to watch out for are: assuming that a or t registers will be the same after calling a function, and forgetting to save ra before calling a function.

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- 2.2 Function myfunc takes in two arguments: a0, a1. The return value is stored in a0. In myfunc, generate_random is called. It takes in 0 arguments and stores its return value in a0.

```
1 myfunc:
2 # Prologue (omitted)
3
4 addi t0 x0 1
5 slli t1 t0 2
6 add t1 a0 t1
7 add s0 a1 x0
8
9 jal generate_random
10
11 add t1 t1 a0
12 add a0 t1 s0
13
14 # Epilogue (omitted)
15 ret
```

- a) Which registers, if any, need to be saved on the stack in the prologue?
- b) Which registers, if any, need to be saved on the stack before calling generate_random?
- c) Which registers, if any, restored from the stack in the epilogue before returning?

3 Recursive Calling Convention

Write a function sum_squares in RISC-V that, when given an integer n and a constant m, returns the summation below. If n is not positive, then the function returns 0.

$$m + n^2 + (n-1)^2 + (n-2)^2 + \dots + 1^2$$

To implement this, we will use a tail-recursive algorithm that uses the **a1** register to help with recursion.

sum_squares_recursive: Return the value $m+n^2+(n-1)^2++1^2$		
a0	A 32-bit number n . You may assume $n \leq 10000$.	
a1	A 32-bit number m .	
a0	$m + n^2 + (n-1)^2 + (n-2)^2 + \dots + 1^2$. If $n \le 0$, return	
	a0 a1	

For this problem, you are given a RISC-V function called **square** that takes in a single integer and returns its square.

square: Squares a number			
Arguments	a0	n	
Return value	a0	n^2	

3.1 Since this a recursive function, let's implement the base case of our recursion:

sum_squares:

To be implemented in the next question

zero_case:
-----jr ra

3.2 Next, implement the recursive logic. *Hint: if you let* $m' = m + n^2$, *then*

$$m+n^2+(n-1)^2+\ldots+1^2=m'+(n-1)^2+\ldots+1^2$$

sum_squares:

Handle zero case (previous question)

_____zero_case

mv t0 a0 jal ra _____

add a1 a0 a1

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```
addi a0 t0 -1

jal ra _____
jr ra

zero_case:
  # Handle zero case (previous question)
jr ra
```

- 3.3 Now, think about calling convention from the caller perspective. After the call to **square**, what is in **a0** and **a1**? Which one of the registers will cause a calling convention violation?
- 3.4 What about the recursive call? What will be in a0 and a1 after the call to sum_squares?

3.5 Now, go back and fix the calling convention issues you identified. Note that not all blank lines may be used. There may also be another caller saved register that you need to save as well!

<pre>sum_squares:</pre>
Handle zero case (previous question)
mv t0 a0
(provious question)
(previous question)
jal ra
add a1 a0 a1
addi a0 t0 -1
(previous question)
jal ra
jr ra
zero_case:
Handle zero case (previous question)
ir ra

3.6 Now, from a callee perspective, do we have to save any registers in the prologue and epilogue? If yes, what registers do we have to save, and where do we place the prologue and epilogue? If no, briefly explain why.