

What Is Computer Architecture?

Computer architecture refers to the end-to-end structure of a computer system that determines how its components interact with each other in helping to execute the machine's purpose (i.e., processing data).

What Is Computer Architecture?

The science and art of designing, selecting, and interconnecting hardware components and designing the hardware/software interface to create a computing system that meets functional, performance, energy consumption, cost, and other specific goals.

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Components of a Computer System

Control

Processor

Datapath

Computer

Memory

В

U

S

Network

I/O Devices

Input

Output

Disk

- Processor
 - Datapath and Control
- Memory & Storage
 - Main Memory
 - Disk Storage
- Input / Output devices
 - User-interface devices
 - Network adapters
 - For communicating with other computers
- Bus: Interconnects processor to memory and I/O
- Essentially the same components for all kinds of computers



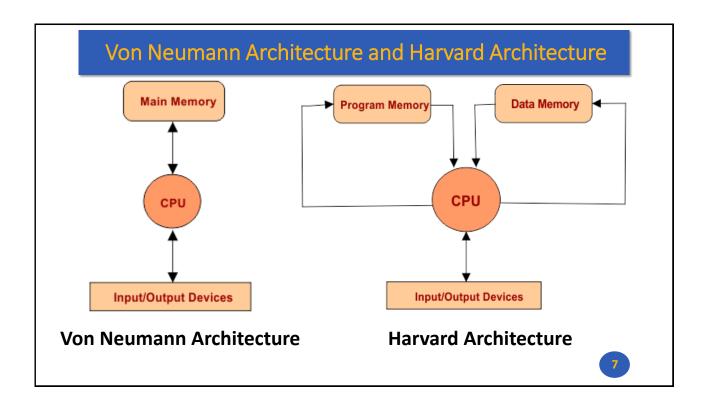
Classes of Computers

- Personal computers
 - General purpose, variety of software, subject to cost/performance
- Server computers
 - Network based, high capacity, performance, and reliability
 - Range from small servers to building sized
- Supercomputers
 - High-end scientific and engineering calculations
 - Highest capability but only a small fraction of the computer market
- Embedded computers
 - Hidden as components of systems
 - Stringent power/performance/cost constraints



Classes of Computers

- Personal Mobile Device (PMD)
 - Battery operated
 - Connects to the Internet
 - Low price: hundreds of dollars
 - Smart phones, tablets, electronic glasses
- Cloud Computing
 - Warehouse Scale Computers (WSC)
 - Software, Platform, and Infrastructure as a Service
 - However, security concerns of storing "sensitive data" in "the cloud"
 - Examples: Amazon and Google



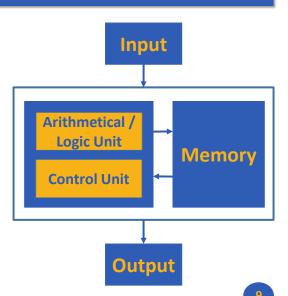
History: 0th Generation – Mechanical

- ■1834–71: Analytical Engine designed by Charles Babbage
- Mechanical gears, where each gear represented a discrete value (0-9)
- Programs provided as punched cards
- Never finished due to technological restrictions



History: 1st Generation - Vacuum Tubes

- ■1945–55: first machines were created (Atanasoff– Berry, Z3, Colossus, ENIAC)
- All programming in pure machine language
- Connecting boards and wires, punched cards (later)
- Stored program concept



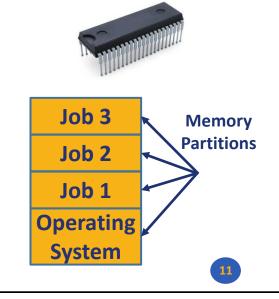
History: 2nd Generation - Transistors

- ■1955–65: era of mainframes (e.g. IBM 7094) used in large companies
- Programming in assembly language and FORTRAN
- Batch systems (IO was separated from calculations)
- Punched cards and magnetic tape
- Loaders (OS ancestors)



History: 3rd Generation – Integrated Circuits

- ■1965–1980: computer lines using the same instruction set architecture (e.g. IBM 360)
- First operating systems (e.g. OS/360, MULTICS)
- Multiprogramming and timesharing
- Computer as utility
- Programming languages and compilers (LISP, BASIC, C)



History: 4th Generation – VLSI and PC

- ■1980—Present: personal computers, laptops, servers (Apple, IBM, etc.)
- Architectures: x86-64, Itanium, ARM, MIPS, PowerPC, SPARC, RISC-V, etc.
- Operating systems: UNIX (System V and BSD), MINIX, Linux, MacOS, DOS, Windows (NT)
- ■ISA (CISC, RISC, VLIW), caches, pipelines, SIMD, vectors, hyperthreading, multicore







History: 5th Generation – Mobile devices

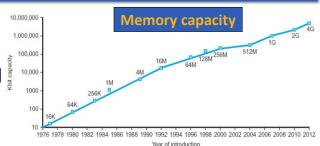
- ■1990—Present: mobile devices, embedded systems, IoT devices
- Custom processors and FPGAs
- Mobile operating systems: Symbian, iOS, Android, Windows Mobile
- Real-time operating systems



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Technology Trends

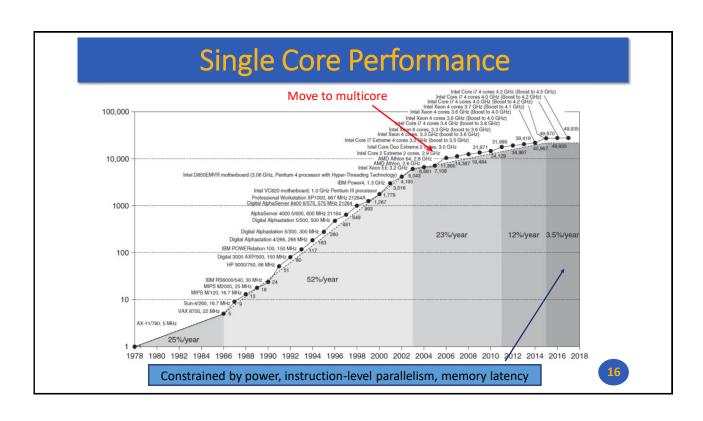
- Electronics technology continues to evolve
 - Increased capacity and general performance
 - Reduced cost

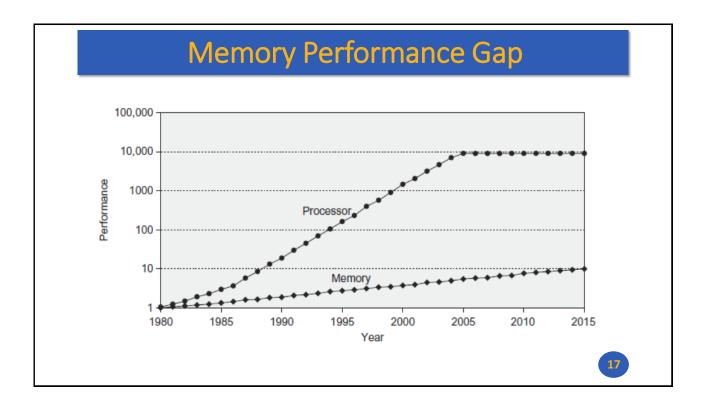


Year	Technology	Relative performance/cost
1951	Vacuum tube	1
1965	Transistor	35
1975	Integrated circuit (IC)	900
1995	Very large scale IC (VLSI)	2,400,000
2013	Ultra large scale IC	250,000,000,000

Moore's Law

- ■Gordon Moore (1929-...) cofounded Intel in 1968 with Robert Noyce
- •Moore's Law: number of transistors on a computer chip doubles every year (observed in 1965)
- Limited by power consumption
- Slowed down since 2010



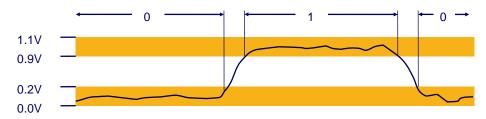


Current Challenges

- Single core performance improvement has ended
 - More powerful microprocessor might not help
- Memory-efficient programming
 - Temporal locality
 - Spatial locality
- Parallelism to improve performance
 - Data-level parallelism
 - Thread-level parallelism
 - Request-level parallelism
- Performance tuning require changes in the application

Everything is Bits

- Each bit is 0 or 1
- By encoding/interpreting sets of bits in various ways
 - Computers determine what to do (instructions)
 - ... and represent and manipulate numbers, sets, strings, etc...
- Why bits? Electronic implementation
 - Easy to store with bistable elements
 - Reliably transmitted on noisy and inaccurate wires



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Number Systems

Decimal numbers

$$5374_{10} = 5 \times 10^3 + 3 \times 10^2 + 7 \times 10^1 + 4 \times 10^0$$
five thousands hundreds tens ones

Binary numbers

Powers of Two

$$2^0 = 1$$

$$2^1 = 2$$

$$2^2 = 4$$

$$2^3 = 8$$

$$2^4 = 16$$

$$2^5 = 32$$

$$2^6 = 64$$

$$2^7 = 128$$

$$2^8 = 256$$

$$-29 = 512$$

$$2^{10} = 1024$$

$$2^{11} = 2048$$

$$2^{12} = 4096$$

$$2^{13} = 8192$$

$$2^{14} = 16384$$

$$2^{15} = 32768$$

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Number Conversion

- Decimal to binary conversion:
 - Convert 10011₂ to decimal
- Decimal to binary conversion:
 - Convert 47₁₀ to binary

Binary Values and Range

- *N*-digit decimal number
 - How many values? 10^N
 - -Range? [0, 10^N 1]
 - Example: 3-digit decimal number:
 - 10³ = 1000 possible values
 - Range: [0, 999]
- *N*-bit binary number
 - How many values? 2^N
 - Range: [0, 2^N 1]
 - Example: 3-digit binary number:
 - 2³ = 8 possible values
 - Range: [0, 7] = [000₂ to 111₂]

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Encoding Byte Values

- ■Byte = 8 bits
 - Binary 000000002 to 111111112
 - Decimal: 0₁₀ to 255₁₀
 - Hexadecimal 00₁₆ to FF₁₆
 - Base 16 number representation
 - Use characters '0' to '9' and 'A' to 'F'
 - Write FA1D37B₁₆ in C as
 - 0xFA1D37B
 - 0xfa1d37b

Bits, Bytes, Nibbles...

Bits

significant bit b

most

■Bytes & Nibbles

10010110

byte

10010110

least

significant

bit

Bytes

CEBF9AD7
most least
significant significant
byte byte

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Hexadecimal Numbers

- Base 16
- Shorthand for binary

Hex Digit	Decimal Equivalent	Binary Equivalent
0	0	0000
1	1	0001
2	2	0010
3	3	0011
4	4	0100
5	5	0101
6	6	0110
7	7	0111
8	8	1000
9	9	1001
Α	10	1010
В	11	1011
С	12	1100
D	13	1101
E	14	1110
F	15	1111

Hexadecimal to Binary Conversion

- Hexadecimal to binary conversion:
 - Convert 4AF₁₆ (also written 0x4AF) to binary
- Hexadecimal to decimal conversion:
 - Convert 4AF₁₆ to decimal

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ASCII Code

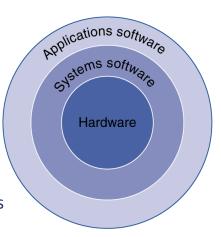
```
Dec Hx Oct Char
                                                                                                                                     Dec Hx Oct Html Chr
                                                                 Dec Hx Oct Html Chr
                                                                                                    Dec Hx Oct Html Chr
       0 000 NUL (null)
                                                                 32 20 040   Space
                                                                                                          40
                                                                                                              100 4#64;
                                                                                                                                          60 140
       1 001 SOH
2 002 STX
                       (start of heading)
(start of text)
                                                                                                                                          61 141
62 142
                                                                     21 041
                                                                                 6#33;
                                                                                                     65 41 101
                                                                                                                     &#65:
                                                                                                                                                      a#97;
                                                                          042
                                                                                                     66
                                                                                                          42
                                                                                                               102
                                                                                                     67 43 103 4#67;
68 44 104 4#68;
69 45 105 4#69;
                                                                                                                                                      6#99;
6#100;
6#101;
                        (end of text)
(end of transmission)
                                                                     23 043 4#35;
24 044 4#36;
                                                                                 6#35;
                                                                                                                                    99 63 143
100 64 144
       5 005 ENQ
                                                                     25 045
                                                                                 6#37;
                       (enquiry)
                                                                                                                                    101 65 145
       6 006 ACK
7 007 BEL
                                                                     26 046 6#38;
27 047 6#39;
                                                                                                     70 46 106 6#70;
71 47 107 6#71;
                                                                                                                                                      f
g
                        (acknowledge)
                                                                                                                                    102
                                                                                                                                          66 146
                                                                 39
                                                                                                                                          67 147
                        (bell)
                                                                                                                                    103
         010 BS
011 TAB
                                                                     28 050 6#40;
29 051 6#41;
                                                                                                     72
73
                                                                                                         48 110 6#72;
49 111 6#73;
                                                                                                                                    104
105
                                                                                                                                          68 150
69 151
                                                                                                                                                      6#104;
6#105;
                        (horizontal tab)
                                                                 41
      A 012 LF
B 013 VT
C 014 FF
D 015 CR
                                                                                                     74 4A 112
75 4B 113
76 4C 114
77 4D 115
                        (NL line feed, new line)
(vertical tab)
                                                                42
43
                                                                     2A 052
2B 053
                                                                                                                     6#74;
6#75;
                                                                                                                                    106
107
                                                                                                                                          6A 152
6B 153
                                                                                                                                                      j
k
                       (NP form feed, new page)
(carriage return)
                                                                                 6#44;
                                                                                                                                          6C 154
6D 155
                                                                     2C 054
                                                                                                                                    108
                                                                                                                                                      a#108;
                                                                                                                                    109
      E 016 S0
F 017 SI
                        (shift out)
(shift in)
                                                                                                     78 4E 116
79 4F 117
                                                                     2E 056 4#46;
                                                                                                                                    110 6E 156
                                                                                                                                                      e#110:
                                                                                                                                          6F 157
                                                                                                                                    111
                                                                                                                                          70 160
71 161
72 162
73 163
74 164
75 165
76 166
77 167
78 170
                                                                          060 0
061 1
                                                                                                     80 50 120 4#80;
81 51 121 4#81;
                                                                                                                                    112
113
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
     10 020 DLE
                        (data link escape)
                                                                     30 060
                                                                                                                                                      &#112:
                       (device control 1)
(device control 2)
     11 021 DC1
    12 022 DC2
13 023 DC3
                                                                                                     82 52 122
83 53 123
                                                                                                                                   114
115
                                                                 50
                                                                     32 062 4#50;
                                                                                                                     6#82;
                                                                                                                                                      6#114:
                        (device control
    14 024 DC4
15 025 NAK
16 026 SYN
17 027 ETB
                       (device control 4)
(negative acknowledge)
                                                                 52
53
                                                                     34 064 4#52;
35 065 4#53;
                                                                                                     84 54 124
85 55 125
                                                                                                                     6#84:
                                                                                                                                    116
117
                                                                                                                                                      a#116;
                        (synchronous idle)
(end of trans. block)
                                                                 54 36 066 «#54;
55 37 067 «#55;
                                                                                                     86 56 126
87 57 127
                                                                                                                     6#86;
                                                                                                                                    118
                                                                                                                                                      v
                                                                                                                     a#87;
                                                                                                                                    119
                                                                                                                                                      w
     18 030
                                                                 56
                                                                                 a#56;
                                                                                                     88 58
                                                                                                                     6#88;
                                                                                                                                    120
                                                                                                                                                      a#120;
                        (cancel)
                                                                     38 070
                                                                                                               130
                                                                     39 071 6#57;
3A 072 6#58;
                                                                                                     89 59 131
90 5A 132
                                                                                                                                          79 171
7A 172
     19 031 EM
                        (end of medium)
                                                                                                                     6#89;
                                                                                                                                    121
                                                                                                                                                      y
     1A 032 SUB
                                                                                                                     6#90;
                                                                 58
                                                                                                                                   122
                                                                                                                                                      a#122;
                        (substitute)
    1B 033 ESC
1C 034 FS
                                                                     3B 073 4#59;
3C 074 4#60;
                                                                                                     91 5B
92 5C
                                                                                                              133 6#91;
134 6#92;
                                                                                                                                          7B 173
7C 174
                                                                                                                                                      6#123;
6#124;
                        (escape)
                                                                                                                                   123
                                                                 60
                                                                                                                                   124
                        (file separator)
                                                                                                                                   125 7D 175 6#125; )
126 7E 176 6#126; ~
127 7F 177 6#127; DEL
29 1D 035 GS
30 1E 036 RS
                        (group separator)
(record separator)
                                                                 61 3D 075 4#61;
62 3E 076 4#62;
                                                                                                     93 5D 135 4#93;
94 5E 136 4#94;
```

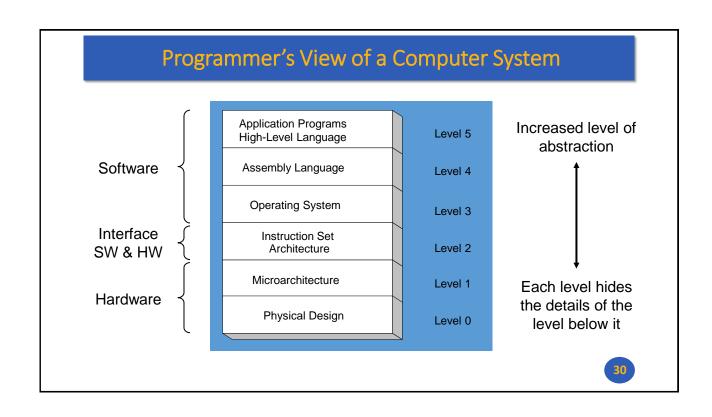
Below Your Program

- Application software
 - Written in high-level language
- System software
 - Compiler: translates high-level language code to machine code
 - Operating System: service code
 - Handling input/output
 - Managing memory and storage
 - Scheduling tasks & sharing resources



CPU, memory, I/O controllers





Programmer's View of a Computer System

Application Programs (Level 5)

- Written in high-level programming languages
- Such as Java, C++, Pascal, Visual Basic . . .
- Programs compile into assembly language level (Level 4)

Assembly Language (Level 4)

- Instruction mnemonics (symbols) are used
- Have one-to-one correspondence to machine language
- Calls functions written at the operating system level (Level 3)
- Programs are translated into machine language (Level 2)

Operating System (Level 3)

- Provides services to level 4 and 5 programs
- Translated to run at the machine instruction level (Level 2)

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Programmer's View of a Computer System

Instruction Set Architecture (Level 2)

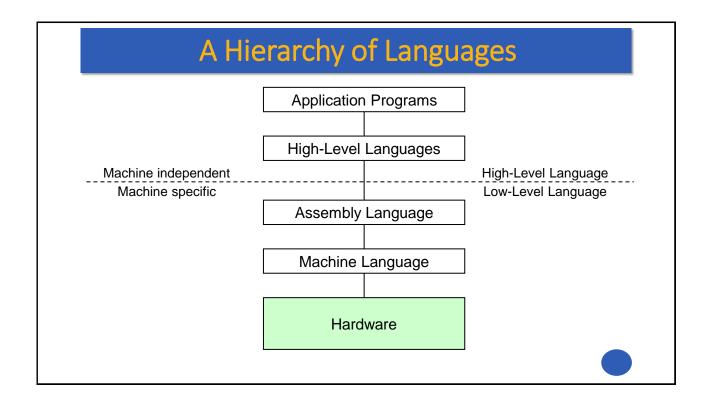
- Interface between software and hardware
- Specifies how a processor functions
- Machine instructions, registers, and memory are exposed
- Machine language is executed by Level 1 (microarchitecture)

Microarchitecture (Level 1)

- Controls the execution of machine instructions (Level 2)
- Implemented by digital logic

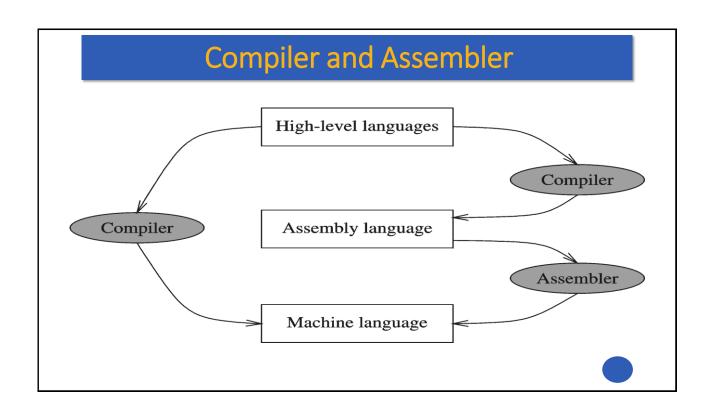
Physical Design (Level 0)

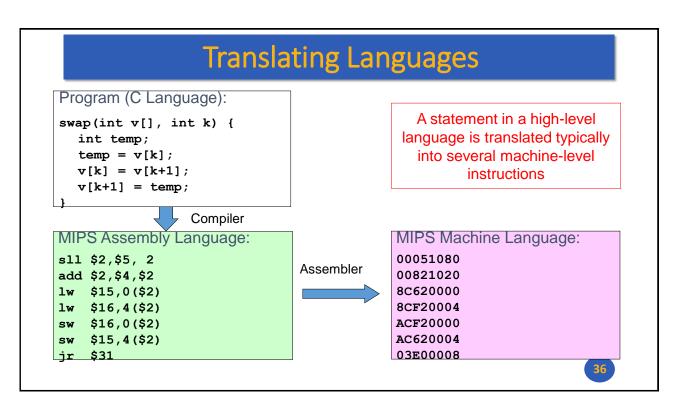
- Implements the microarchitecture at the transistor-level
- Physical layout of circuits on a chip



Assembly and Machine Language

- High-level language
 - Level of abstraction closer to problem domain
 - Provides productivity and portability
- Machine language
 - Native to a processor: executed directly by hardware
 - Instructions consist of binary code: 1s and 0s
- Assembly language
 - Slightly higher-level language
 - Readability of instructions is better than machine language
 - One-to-one correspondence with machine language instructions
- Assemblers translate assembly to machine code
- Compilers translate high-level programs to machine code
 - Either directly, or
 - Indirectly via an assembler





Advantages of High-Level Languages

- Program development is faster
 - High-level statements: fewer instructions to code
- Program maintenance is easier
 - For the same above reasons
- Programs are portable
 - Contain few machine-dependent details
 - Can be used with little or no modifications on different machines
 - Compiler translates to the target machine language
 - However, Assembly language programs are not portable

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Why Learn Assembly Language?

- Many reasons:
 - Accessibility to system hardware
 - Space and time efficiency
 - Writing a compiler for a high-level language
- Accessibility to system hardware
 - Assembly Language is useful for implementing system software
 - Also useful for small embedded system applications
- Programming in Assembly Language is harder
 - Requires deep understanding of the processor architecture
 - However, it is very rewarding to system software designers
 - Adds a new perspective on how programs run on real processors

Assembly Language Programming Tools

Editor

Allows you to create and edit assembly language source files

Assembler

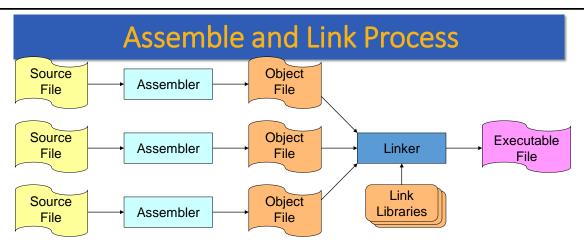
- Converts assembly language programs into object files
- Object files contain the machine instructions

Linker

- Combines object files created by the assembler with link libraries
- Produces a single executable program

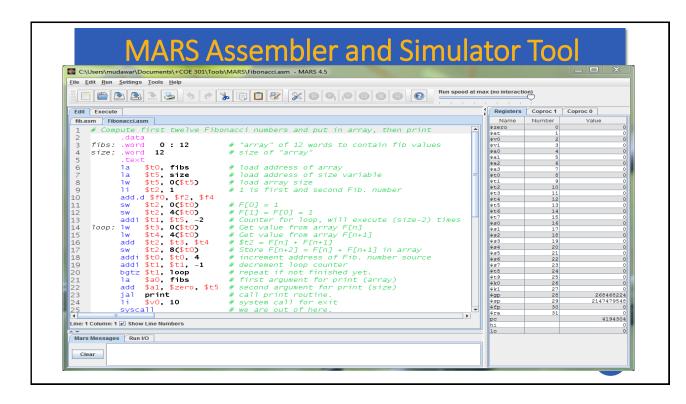
Debugger

- Allows you to trace the execution of a program
- Allows you to view machine instructions, memory, and registers



- A program may consist of multiple source files
- Assembler translates each source file into an object file
- Linker links all object files together and with link libraries
- The result executable file can run directly on the processor





MARS Assembler and Simulator Tool

- Simulates the execution of a MIPS program
 - ♦ No direct execution on the underlying Intel processor
- Editor with color-coded assembly syntax
 - Allows you to create and edit assembly language source files
- Assembler
 - ♦ Converts MIPS assembly language programs into object files
- Console and file input/output using system calls
- Debugger
 - ♦ Allows you to trace the execution of a program and set breakpoints
 - Allows you to view machine instructions, edit registers and memory
- Easy to use and learn assembly language programming