

CSE 520 Computer Architecture II

Term: Spring 2026

Lead Instructor: **Prof. Michel A. Kinsky**



Review Problem Set 1

Posted Jan. 27th, 2026

<http://ascslab.org/courses/cse520/index.html>

This problem set is designed to give you practice and help you identify and address any gaps in your understanding.

Problem 1

The ***NOR*** instruction is not part of the RISC-V instruction set because the same functionality can be implemented using existing instructions. Write a short assembly code snippet that has the following functionality: $s3 = s4 \text{ } NOR \text{ } s5$. Use as few instructions as possible.

Problem 2

Convert the following high-level code snippet into RISC-V assembly. Assume that the base address of *array1* and *array2* are held in *t1* and *t2* and that the *array2* array is initialized before it is used. Use as few instructions as possible. Clearly comment your code.

```
int i;
int array1[100]; int array2[100];
...
for (i = 0; i < 100; i = i + 1) array1[i] = array2[i];
```

Problem 3

Convert the following RISC-V assembly code into machine language. Write the instructions in hexadecimal.

```
add s7, s8, s9
srai t0, t1, 0xC
oti s3, s1, 0xABCD
lw s4, 0x5C(t3)
```

Problem 4

Consider the RISC-V machine code snippet below.

- a. Convert the machine code snippet into RISC-V assembly language.
- b. Reverse engineer a high-level program that would compile into this assembly language routine and write it.
- c. Explain in words what the program does. **a0** and **a1** are the inputs. a0 contains a 32-bit number and **a1** is the address of a 32-element array of characters.

0x01F00393
0x00755E33
0x001E7E13
0x01C580A3
0x00158593

0xFFFF38393
0xFE03D6E3
0x00008067

Problem 5

Consider the following C code snippet.

```
// C code
void setArray(int num) {
    int i;
    int array[10];
    for (i = 0; i < 10; i = i + 1)
        array[i] = compare(num, i);
}

int compare(int a, int b) {
    if (sub(a, b) >= 0)
        return 1;
    else
        return 0;
}

int sub(int a, int b) {
    return a - b;
}
```

- Implement the C code snippet in RISC-V assembly language. Use **s4** to hold the variable *i*. Be sure to handle the stack pointer appropriately. The array is stored on the stack of the **setArray** function. Clearly comment your code.
- Assume **setArray** is the first function called. Draw the status of the stack before calling **setArray** and during each function call. Indicate stack addresses and the names of registers and variables stored on the stack; mark the location of **sp**; and clearly mark each stack frame. Assume that **sp** starts at **0x8000**.

Problem 6

What is the maximum number of instructions that a branch instruction (like **beq**) can branch backward (i.e., to lower instruction addresses)?

Problem 7

Consider how far **jal** instructions can jump.

- How many instructions can a **jal** instruction jump forward (i.e., to higher addresses)?
- How many instructions can a **jal** instruction jump backward (i.e., to lower addresses)?

Problem 8

Processor Control-Signal Assignment

For each of the five RISC-V instructions listed below, fill in the control-signal values for the single-cycle RISC-V.

Use the following control signals a canonical single-cycle CPU (Figure below):

- PCSrc
- Branch
- MemRead
- MemWrite
- ALUSrc
- ALUOp (2 bits)
- RegWrite
- MemtoReg
- ImmGen Type (I, S, B, U, J, don't-care if unused)

Instructions to Analyze

1. add x5, x6, x7
2. lw x10, 12(x3)
3. sw x4, 8(x2)
4. beq x1, x2, Loop
5. ori x8, x9, 0xFF

Main Control Signals Table

Instruction	PCSrc	Branch	MemRead	MemWrite	ALUSrc	ALUOp	RegWrite	MemtoReg	ImmGen Type
add x5, x6, x7									
lw x10, 12(x3)									
sw x4, 8(x2)									
beq x1, x2, Loop									
ori x8, x9, 0xFF									

ALU Control Signals Table

Instruction	ALUOp	Funct3	Funct7	ALU Control
add x5, x6, x7				
lw x10, 12(x3)				
sw x4, 8(x2)				
beq x1, x2, Loop				
ori x8, x9, 0xFF				

