# **GLYPH-X**

## a super regular RISC architecture

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## 1.1. Introduction

this section gives a brief introduction to RISC architectures.

A RISC<sup>1</sup> machine is a type of general-purpose computer with the characteristic that it has a reduced set of instructions in contrast to a CISC<sup>2</sup> machine. A RISC machine is Turing complete meaning it can perform any computation that a Turing machine can, given enough time and memory. a Turing machine<sup>3</sup> is a theoretical model of computation.

a RISC machine has a set of instructions which comprise basic operations such as: *load-from-memory*, *store-to-memory*, *add*, *subtract*, *compare*, plus *conditional branch* and *unconditional branch* instructions et cetera; which one can imagine as a list of instructions on a paper tape. each instruction has an *opcode*, which is a unique binary pattern that identifies the *operation*, plus several *operands*, which are arguments to the instruction.

some instructions have operands that point to values inside of *registers* in a *register-file* which is like a close filing cabinet containing cards with numbers on them, and some of these numbers are addresses that point to values in *main-memory* which is like a larger but slower filing cabinet. some of these values are *immediate* values which are small numbers listed inside of the instructions on the paper tape.

the paper tape is just a way conceptualize a list of instructions stored in *main-memory*. there is a special register called *PC* short for *program counter*, which points to the current position on the tape. after each instruction executes the tape is advanced to the next instruction and the *program counter* is incremented, until it encounters a *branch* instruction which causes it to move forwards or backwards to a different position on the tape. branch instructions can be *conditional* or *unconditional*. conditional branches are selectively executed based on the results of a comparison instruction.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Reduced Instruction Set Computer

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Complex Instruction Set Computer

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Alan M. Turing, Proceedings of the London Mathematical Society, Series 2, Volume 42, pp. 230–265.

#### 1.1.1. load-store

a *load-store* architecture is a way to characterize RISC architectures where most instructions have simple operands that point to values held in registers, plus *load* and *store* instructions to retrieve and commit values to main memory. a *load-store* architecture alleviates the need to add complex addressing modes, plus intput-output to peripherals and secondary storage use *MMIO*<sup>4</sup> to avoid needing special *Input/Output* instructions.

## 1.1.2. registers

registers are temporary storage used to fill input and output operands for the  $ALU^5$  before and after execution of instructions. registers are organized as a word-addressable store where each register number refers to  $XLEN \in \{64, 128\}$  bits of data. XLEN is a parameter that specifiess the width of registers in bits.

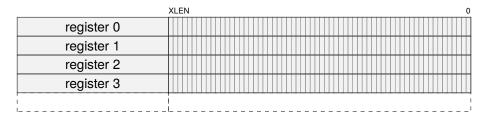


Figure 1.1.: organization of register storage.

## 1.1.3. memory

main memory is primary storage which in modern computers is most likely *DRAM*<sup>6</sup>. main memory is organized as a byte-addressable store where each address refers to a byte which is 8-bits of data. *ALEN* is a parameter that specifies the width of addresses in bits.

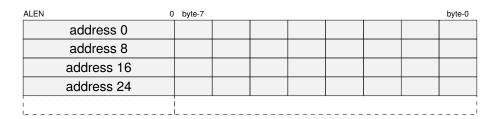


Figure 1.2.: organization of main-memory storage.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>*MMIO* - Memory-mapped I/O.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>*ALU* – Arithmetic logic unit.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>DRAM – Dynamic random-access memory.

## 1.1.4. instructions

instruction memory is a memory region dedicated to instructions. it is organized as a word-addressable store like main-memory, but is read-only and restricted to instructions.

instruction memory is addressed with displacements from the *program counter* called *pc-relative* addresses which are stored inside instruction immediate values or stored indirectly inside constants accessed using *ib-relative* addresses. section 1.4 provides details on *ib-relative* addresses.

instruction words contain packets of 16-bits which are composed of size, opcode, and operand fields. instruction packets can be appended together to form larger instruction words with larger opcode and operand fields. section 1.3 provides details on the instruction template and instruction forms.

15	7	6	2	1	0
operand <sub>[8:0]</sub>		opcode	[4:0]	$sz_{[}$	1:0]

Figure 1.3.: 16-bit instruction containing one packet.

15	7	6	2	1	0
operand <sub>[8:0]</sub>		opcode <sub>[4:0]</sub>		sz[	1:0]
operand <sub>[17:9]</sub>		opcode <sub>[9:5]</sub>		sz[:	3:2]

Figure 1.4.: 32-bit instruction containing two packets.

instruction words are packed together into instruction blocks containing instruction size information that is used to fuse them together to compose variable-length instructions. instruction words can begin on any 16-bit aligned address.

	pcrel(3)		pcrel(0)
instrucion 0–3			
instrucion 4–7			
		 	i 

Figure 1.5.: organization of instruction-memory with 16-bit instructions.

	pcrel(3)		pcrel(0)
instrucion 0–3			
instrucion 4–7			

Figure 1.6.: organization of instruction-memory with 16-bit and 32-bit instructions.

## 1.1.5. constants

constant memory is a memory region dedicated to constant. it is organized as a word-addressable store like main-memory, but is read-only and restricted to constants.

constant memory is addressed with displacements from the *immediate base* register called *ib-relative* addresses which are stored inside instruction register slots, are sized, scaled and aligned addresses computed relative to the *immediate base* register, which is like a program counter for constants. these diagrams show ib8(n) through ib64(n) *ib-relative* addresses for access to 8-bit through to 64-bit constants respectively: *note: ib-relative addresses alias a single constant storage space containing all types.* 

	ib8(7)				ib8(0)
constant 0-7					
constant 8-15					
					i I

Figure 1.7.: organization of *ib8* constant-memory storage.

	ib16(3)		ib16(0)
constant 0-3			
constant 4-7			

Figure 1.8.: organization of *ib16* constant-memory storage.

	ib32(1)	ib32(0)
constant 0-1		
constant 2-3		

Figure 1.9.: organization of *ib32* constant-memory storage.

	ib64(0)
constant 0	
constant 1	

Figure 1.10.: organization of *ib64* constant-memory storage.

## 1.2. Overview

glyph is a super regular RISC architecture that encodes constants in a secondary stream accessed via an *immediate base* register that points at immediate blocks containing constants accessed via a constant address mode. the *immediate base* register branches like the *program counter*, and procedure calls and returns set and restore (*pc*,*ib*) together.

glyph uses relative address vectors in its link register which is different to typical RISC architectures. glyph does this so that the branch instructions can fit (pc,ib) into the a single link register for compatibility with traditional RISC architectures. glyph achieves this by packing two relative (pc,ib) displacements into a relative address vector<sup>7</sup>.

immediate blocks can be switched using the immediate block branch instruction. immediate blocks, unlike typical RISC architectures, mean that most relocations are word sized like CISC architectures, and can use C-style structure packing and alignment rules.

this list outlines some differentiating elements of the super regular RISC architecture:

- variable length instruction format supporting 16, 32, 64, and 128-bit instructions.
- 16-bit compressed instruction packets can access 8 registers.
- (pc,ib) is a program counter and immediate base register address vector.
- link register contains a packed relative (pc,ib) address vector to function entry.
- ibj immediate-block-jump adds a relative address to the immediate base register.
- movib *move-immediate-block* uses an unsigned displacement to access constants.
- jalib *jump-and-link-immediate-block* or *call* links address vector and adds constants to (*pc,ib*) and is used to branch the *program counter* and *immediate base* register at the same time for calling procedures.
- jtlib jump-to-link-immediate-block or ret subtracts link vector from and adds constants to (pc,ib) and is used to branch the program counter and immediate base register at the same time for returning from called procedures.
- pin *pack-indirect* packs two absolute addresses as relative address vector from (*pc,ib*) and is used for calling absolute addresses such as virtual functions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>the architecture defines two parameters: *ALEN* and *XLEN*, which respectively to refer to width of addresses and width of general purpose registers in bits. when  $XLEN \ge ALEN \times 2$  it is possible to pack absolute addresses instead of relative addresses, as would be the case where ALEN=64 and XLEN=128.

## 1.3. Instruction format

instructions use a variable length format with a 16-bit packet that supports 16, 32, 64, and 128-bit instruction words. the instruction packet has been designed to use a *super regular* scheme, whereby successive instruction packets extend the fields in the previous packet. instruction words can begin on any 16-bit aligned address.

## 1.3.1. instruction templates

the variable length instruction format has a single base format where fields in the template instruction form are extended by successive instruction packets.



Figure 1.11.: instruction template — 16-bit.

15 7	6	2	1	0	
$operand_{\llbracket 8:0  bracket}$	opcode <sub>[4:0]</sub>		$sz_{[}$	1:0]	
$operand_{[17:9]}$	opcode <sub>[9:5]</sub>		sz[3	3:2]	

Figure 1.12.: instruction template — 32-bit.

15	7	6 2	1 0
operand <sub>[8:0]</sub>		$opcode_{[4:0]}$	<i>sz</i> [1:0]
operand <sub>[17:9]</sub>		opcode <sub>[9:5]</sub>	sz[3:2]
operand <sub>[26:18]</sub>		opcode[14:10]	SZ[5:4]
$operand_{[35:27]}$		opcode[19:15]	sz <sub>[7:6]</sub>

Figure 1.13.: instruction template — 64-bit.

15	7	6 2	1 0
operand <sub>[8:0]</sub>		$opcode_{[4:0]}$	sz[1:0]
operand <sub>[17:9]</sub>		opcode <sub>[9:5]</sub>	sz[3:2]
operand <sub>[26:18]</sub>		$opcode_{[14:10]}$	\$2[5:4]
operand <sub>[35:27]</sub>		opcode[19:15]	<i>sz</i> [7:6]
operand <sub>[44:36]</sub>		opcode <sub>[24:20]</sub>	SZ[9:8]
operand <sub>[53:45]</sub>		opcode <sub>[29:25]</sub>	sz <sub>[11:10]</sub>
operand <sub>[62:54]</sub>		opcode[34:30]	sz <sub>[13:12]</sub>
operand <sub>[71:63]</sub>		opcode <sub>[39:35]</sub>	sz <sub>[15:14]</sub>

Figure 1.14.: instruction template — 128-bit.

#### 1.3.2. instruction sizes

the variable length instruction format has a *2-bit* size field in a fixed position in every 16-bit instruction packet, to reduce the complexity of size-decoding for variable length instructions. this table shows the size fields for the different instruction sizes:

Instruction size	Size vector
16-bit	{00}
32-bit	{01,11}
64-bit	{10,11,11,11}
128-bit	{11,11,11,11,11,11,11,11}

Table 1.1.: variable-length instruction size fields

#### 1.3.3. instruction forms

the instructions forms are super regular in that operand and opcode bits do not overlap and the number and complexity of the formats is reduced so that vectorized instruction decoding is simple in both hardware and software. the scheme is designed so that *1-bit* of coding space in the larger packet can be used to extend register sizes.

#### 16-bit instruction forms

this section details the layout of the 16-bit instruction forms:



Figure 1.15.: 16-bit large immediate.

ĺ	15 13	12 7	6 2	1 0	
	$rc_{[2:0]}$	imm <sub>[5:0]</sub>	opcode <sub>[4:0]</sub>	00	

Figure 1.16.: 16-bit one operand with immediate.

15	13	12	10	9	7	6		2	1	0
rc[	[2:0]	$rb_{[:]}$	2:0]	imi	$m_{[2:0]}$		$opcode_{[4:0]}$		0	0

Figure 1.17.: 16-bit two operand with immediate.

15	13	12	10	9	7	6		2	1	0	
rc[2	2:0]	$rb_{[}$	2:0]	ra	[2:0]		$opcode_{[4:0]}$		0	0	

Figure 1.18.: 16-bit three operand.

## 32-bit instruction forms

this section details the layout of the 32-bit instruction forms:

15 7	6	2	1	0
$imm_{[8:0]}$	$opcode_{[4:0]}$		0	1
imm <sub>[17:9]</sub>	opcode[9:5]		1	1

Figure 1.19.: 32-bit large immediate.

15 13	12 7	6 2	1 0	
$rc_{[2:0]}$	$imm_{[5:0]}$	$opcode_{[4:0]}$	01	
$rc_{[5:3]}$	$imm_{[11:6]}$	opcode <sub>[9:5]</sub>	11	

Figure 1.20.: 32-bit one operand with immediate.

15 13	12 10	9 7	6 2	1 0
$rc_{[2:0]}$	$rb_{[2:0]}$	$imm_{[2:0]}$	$opcode_{[4:0]}$	01
rc <sub>[5:3]</sub>	$rb_{[5:3]}$	imm <sub>[5:3]</sub>	opcode <sub>[9:5]</sub>	11

Figure 1.21.: 32-bit two operand with immediate.

15 13	12 10	9 7	6 2	1 0
$rc_{[2:0]}$	$rb_{[2:0]}$	$ra_{[2:0]}$	opcode <sub>[4:0]</sub>	01
$rc_{[5:3]}$	$rb_{[5:3]}$	ra <sub>[5:3]</sub>	opcode <sub>[9:5]</sub>	11

Figure 1.22.: 32-bit three operand.

## 1.3.4. instruction decoding

the instruction size encoding and field extension scheme has been designed to minimize complexity for parallel decoding in hardware and software. the following table shows the instruction width combinations for various width parallel instruction decoders.

Packets	Bits	Bytes	Combinations
1-wide	16-bit	2	1
2-wide	2-wide 32-bit		16
4-wide	64-bit	8	58
8-wide	128-bit	16	574
16-wide	256-bit	32	51904

Table 1.2.: instruction decode combinations

## 1.4. Constant stream

glyph seperates the instruction stream into two streams, one with instructions and one with constants. the instruction stream is addressed with the *program counter* (*pc*) and the constant stream is addressed with the *immediate base* (*ib*) register.

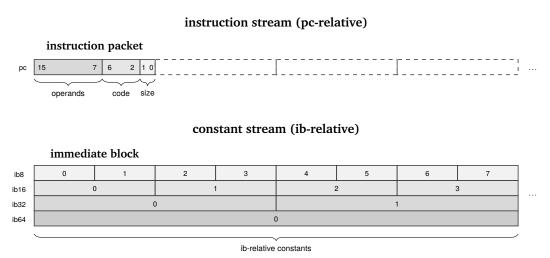


Figure 1.23.: program counter and immediate base register.

instruction blocks are aligned memory blocks addressed by the *program counter*. instruction memory is addressed with *pc-relative* addresses in instruction immediate values or indirectly with constants accessed using *ib-relative* addresses stored inside instruction register slots.

immediate blocks are aligned memory blocks addressed by the *immediate base* register. constant memory is addressed with *ib-relative* addresses stored inside instruction register slots, which are sized, scaled, and aligned relative to the *immediate base* register.

the constant stream branches independently using the *immediate-block-jump* instruction to update the *immediate base* register, or together with the *program counter* in procedure call and return instructions that branch instruction and constants at the same time; *jump-and-link-immediate-block* and *jump-to-link-immediate-block* add and subtract address vectors to (*pc,ib*). the *pack-indirect* instruction allows absolute (*pc,ib*) addresses to be packed into an address vector for indirect calls.

the instruction forms use bonded register slots for immediate operands and operand bits do not overlap opcode bits. the use of immediate blocks means large immediate constants can all be accessed using short references encoded inside of register slots for instructions that use an immediate block relative addressing mode.

## 1.5. Register file

the glyph register file is extensible due to the variable length instruction format and supports a different number of registers depending on the instruction size.

- 16-bit instruction packet can access 8 registers with up to 3 operands.
- 32-bit instruction packet can access 64 registers with up to 3 operands.
- 64-bit instruction packet can access 64 registers with up to 6 operands.

the register state accessible by the 16-bit instruction packet is comprised of:

- program counter register (aligned to 2 bytes).
- immediate base register (aligned to 64 bytes).
- 8  $\times$  general purpose registers (r0 through r7).
- 1 × predicate register (*flag*).

the following diagram shows the register state accessible by the 16-bit instruction packet:

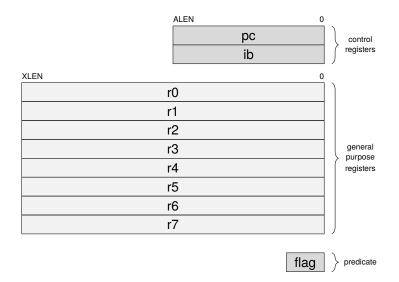


Figure 1.24.: register state accessible by 16-bit instruction packet.

the use of *ALEN*<sup>8</sup> and *XLEN*<sup>9</sup> parameters is to indicate that the width of addresses can be less than the width of the general purpose registers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>ALEN refers to the width of addresses in bits.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>XLEN refers to the width of general purpose registers in bits.

## 1.6. Example pipeline

an illustrative micro-architecture is proposed based on the classic 5-stage RISC micro-architecture with the addition of an *operand fetch* stage and a *constant memory* port. this revised 6-stage micro-architecture is composed of the following pipeline stages:

- IF *instruction fetch*: reads instructions from memory into a fetch buffer.
- ID *instruction decode*: decodes instruction length, opcode, and operands.
- OF operand fetch: reads operands from register file and constant memory.
- EX *execute*: performs logical operations or arithmetic on the operands.
- MA memory access: loads data from or stores data to memory.
- WB writeback: writes results back to the register file.

a simplified micro-architecture using those pipeline stages might look like this: this example omits hazard detection and forwarding logic for the sake of simplicity.

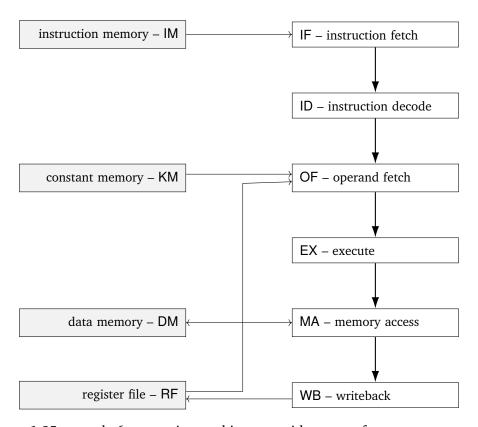


Figure 1.25.: sample 6-stage micro-architecture with support for constant memory.

## 2.1. Instruction listing — 16-bit

## 2.1.1. break

15 7	6	2	1	0	_
imm9		opcode	s	ize	
uimm		00000		00	br

break uimm9

the *break* instruction causes a debugger trap. *program counter* and trap cause are saved to privileged registers for the operating system to dispatch to a debugger and the *program counter* is set to a trap vector address.

## 2.1.2. j

15	7	6		2	1	0
imm9			opcode		si	ze
simm			00001		0	0

the *j* or *jump* instruction is an unconditional branch instruction that adds a relative immediate address to the *program counter*. the resulting *program counter* address is  $[pc+simm9 \times 2+2]$ .

$$pc = pc + simm9 * 2 + 2$$

#### 2.1.3. b

15	7	6	2	1	0
imm9		opcode		si	ze
simm		00010		0	0

 $\mathbf{b}$  simm $9 \times 2$ 

 $jsimm9 \times 2$ 

the *b* or *branch* instruction is a conditional branch instruction that adds a relative immediate address to the *program counter*. if the *flag* register has been set by a compare instruction, the resulting *program counter* address is  $[pc + simm9 \times 2 + 2]$ , otherwise the *program counter* is advanced normally.

## 2.1.4. ibj

15	7	6	2	1	0
imm9		opcode		si	ze
simm		00011		0	0

ibj  $simm9 \times 64$ 

the *ibj* or *immediate-block-jump* instruction adds a 64-bit relative address to the *immediate* base register. the resulting *immediate base* address is  $[ib + simm9 \times 64]$ .

$$ib = ib + simm9 * 64$$

## 2.1.5. jalib

15	13	12	7	6	2	1	0
ro	2	imm6		орс	ode	si	ze
ro	2	uimm		00	100	0	0

**jalib.i64** rc, ib64(uimm6)

the *jalib* or *jump-and-link-immediate-block* instruction loads a 64-bit constant addressed by  $[ib+uimm6 \times 8]$  containing a i32x2 relative address vector, which it adds it to (pc,ib), then saves the relative address vector in the rc register.

## 2.1.6. jtlib

15	13	12		7	6		2	1	0
rc			imm6			opcode		si	ze
rc			uimm		00101			0	0

**jtlib.i64** rc, ib64(uimm6)

the *jtlib* or *jump-to-link-immediate-block* instruction loads a 64-bit constant addressed by  $[ib + uimm6 \times 8]$  containing a i32x2 relative address vector, then subtracts the i32x2 relative address vector in the rc register from it, and adds the result to (pc,ib).

## 2.1.7. movib

15	13	12	7	6	2	1	0	
rc		imm6	,	opcode		siz	se .	
rc		uimm	1	00110		0	0	

**movib.i64** *rc*, *ib*64(*uimm*6)

the *movib* or *move-immediate-block* instruction loads a 64-bit constant addressed by  $[ib + uimm6 \times 8]$  then saves it to the rc register.

$$r[rc] = m[ib + uimm6 * 8]$$

## 2.1.8. movi

15	13	12		7	6		2	1	0
rc		in	nm6			opcode		siz	ze
rc		si	mm			00111		0	0

movi.i64 rc, simm6

the *movi* or *move-immediate* instruction sign-extends the immediate value in *simm6* then saves the result in the *rc* register.

$$r[rc] = simm6$$

## 2.1.9. addi

15		13	12		7	6		2	1	0
	rc			imm6			opcode		si	ze
	rc			simm			01000		0	0

addi.i64 rc simm6

the *addi* or *add-immediate* instruction sign-extends the immediate value in *simm6* then adds it to the *rc* register.

$$r[rc] = r[rc] + simm6$$

## 2.1.10. srli

rc			uimm			01001		0	0
rc			imm6			opcode		si	ze
15	13	12		7	6		2	1	0

**srli.i64** rc, uimm6

the *srli* or *shift-right-logical-immediate* instruction performs a logical right shift by *uimm6* bits of the value in the *rc* register. zeros are copied into the left most bits.

$$r[rc] = r < u64 > [rc] >> uimm6$$

## 2.1.11. srai

rc			uimm			01010		0	0
rc			imm6			opcode		si	ze
15	13	12		7	6		2	1	0

**srai.i64** *rc*, *uimm*6

the *srai* or *shift-right-arithmetic-immediate* instruction performs an arithmetic right shift by *uimm6* bits of the value in the *rc* register. the sign is copied into the left most bits.

$$r[rc] = r[rc] >> uimm6$$

## 2.1.12. slli

15	13	12		7	6		2	1	0
rc			imm6			opcode		si	ze
rc			uimm			01011		0	0

 ${\bf slli.i64}\ rc, uimm6$ 

the *slli* or *shift-left-logical-immediate* instruction performs a logical left shift by *uimm6* bits of the value in the *rc* register. zeros are copied into the right most bits.

$$r[rc] = r[rc] \ll uimm6$$

#### 2.1.13. addib

15	13	12		7	6		2	1	0
rc			imm6			opcode		si	ze
rc			uimm			01100		0	0

**addib.i64** rc. ib32(uimm6)

the *addib* or *add-immediate-block-constant* instruction loads a 32-bit constant addressed by  $[ib + uimm6 \times 4]$ , which it sign-extends to 64-bits, then adds to the *rc* register.

$$r[rc] = r[rc] + m[ib + uimm6 * 4]$$

## 2.1.14. leapc

rc		uimm		01	101	0	0
rc		imm6		орс	ode	si	ze
15	13	12	7	6	2	1	0

**leapc.i64** rc, ib32(uimm6)(pc)

the *leapc* or *load-effective-address-pc* instruction loads a 32-bit constant addressed by  $[ib + uimm6 \times 4]$ , which it sign-extends to 64-bits, adds it to the *program counter*, and saves the result in the *rc* register.

$$r[rc] = pc + m[ib + uimm6 * 4]$$

## 2.1.15. loadpc

15 1	3	12	!	7	6		2	1	0
rc			imm6			opcode		si	ze
rc			uimm			01110		0	0

**loadpc.i64** rc, ib32(uimm6)(pc)

the *loadpc* instruction loads a 32-bit constant addressed by  $[ib + uimm6 \times 4]$  which it signextends to 64-bit, adds it to the *program counter* to form an address, then loads a 64-bit value from memory at that address and saves the result in the rc register.

$$r[rc] = m[pc + m[ib + uimm6 * 4]]$$

## 2.1.16. storepc

15 13	12 7	6 2	1 0
rc	imm6	opcode	size
rc	uimm	01111	00

storepc.i64 rc, ib32(uimm6)(pc)

the *storepc* instruction loads a 32-bit constant addressed by  $[ib + uimm6 \times 4]$  which it signextends to 64-bit, adds it to the *program counter* to form an address, then stores to memory at that address a 64-bit value from the rc register.

$$m[pc + m[ib + uimm6 * 4]] = r[rc]$$

#### 2.1.17. load

15	13	12	10	9	7	6		2	1	0
rc			rb	im	ım3		opcode		si	ze
rc	:		rb	ui	mm		10000		0	0

**load.i64** rc,  $(uimm3 \times 8)(rb)$ 

the *load* instruction computes the address [ $rb + uimm3 \times 8$ ] then loads a 64-bit value from memory at that address and saves the result in the rc register.

$$r[rc] = m[r[rb] + uimm3 * 8]$$

#### 2.1.18. store

15	13	12	10	9	7	6		2	1	0
r	c	r	b	im	ım3		opcode		si.	ze
rc		r	b	ui	mm		10001		0	0

store.i64 rc, ( $uimm3 \times 8$ )(rb)

the *store* instruction computes the address  $[rb + uimm3 \times 8]$  then stores a 64-bit value to memory at that address containing a 64-bit value from the rc register.

$$m[r[rb] + uimm3 * 8] = r[rc]$$

## 2.1.19. compare

15	13	12	10	9	7	6		2	1	0
r	с	r	b	im	т3		opcode		si	ze
r	С	rl	b	uir	nm		10010		0	0

cmp.i64 rc, rb, fun3

the *compare* instruction performs a comparison between the value in rb and rc then saves the result in the flag register. the *compare* opcode is also used to perform conditional move whereby the rb register is copied into the rc if the flag register is set. the type of comparsion in fun3 can be one of:  $0 \rightarrow less$  than (signed),  $1 \rightarrow greather$  or equal (signed),  $2 \rightarrow equal$ ,  $3 \rightarrow not$  equal,  $4 \rightarrow less$  than (unsigned),  $5 \rightarrow greater$  or equal (unsigned),  $6 \rightarrow conditional$  move, or  $7 \rightarrow negated$  conditional move.

```
match fun3
| lt
        -> flag = (i64)r[rc] < (i64)r[rb]
        -> flag = (i64)r[rc] >= (i64)r[rb]
| ge
        -> flag =
                       r[rc] =
l eq
        -> flag =
                       r[rc] !=
                                     r[rb]
| ne
        -> flag = (u64)r[rc] < (u64)r[rb]
| ltu
       -> flag = (u64)r[rc] >= (u64)r[rb]
geu
| cmov -> if flag:
               r[rc] = r[rb]
| ncmov -> if not flag:
               r[rc] = r[rb]
```

## 2.1.20. logic

15	13	12	10	9	7	6		2	1	0
rc			rb	imn	n3		opcode		si	ze
rc			rb	uim	m		10011		0	0

logic.i64 rc, rb, fun3

the *logic* instruction performs a logic operation on the value in the *rb* register then stores the result in the *rc* register. the type of logic operations in *fun3* can be one of:  $0 \rightarrow move$ ,  $1 \rightarrow logical\ not$ ,  $2 \rightarrow negate$ ,  $3 \rightarrow bswap$ ,  $4 \rightarrow count\ trailing\ zeros$ ,  $5 \rightarrow count\ leading\ zeros$ ,  $6 \rightarrow count\ population$ , or  $7 \rightarrow sign\ extend$ .

## 2.1.21. pin

15	13	12	10	9		7	6		2	1	0
ro	;	r	·b		ra			opcode		si	ze
ro	:	1	rb		ra			10100		0	0

the *pin* or *pack-indirect* instruction packs two absolute addresses as an i32x2 (pc,ib) relative address vector. the register ra is subtracted from the *program counter* +2, and the register rb is subtracted from the *immediate base* register, and the results are packed into an i32x2 relative address vector and saved to the register rc.

## 2.1.22. and

15	13	12	10	9		7	6		2	1	0
r	С		rb		ra			opcode		si	ze
rc			rb		ra			10101		0	0

the *and* instruction performs a *logical-and* of the register rb and the register ra and saves the result in the register rc.

$$r[rc] = r[rb] & r[ra]$$

## 2.1.23. or

_	15	13	12	10	9		7	6		2	1	0
	rc		r	b		ra			opcode		si	ze
Г	rc		r	b		ra			10110		0	

the or instruction performs a logical-or of the register rb and the register ra and saves the result in the register rc.

$$r[rc] = r[rb] | r[ra]$$

## 2.1.24. xor

15	13	12	10	9		7	6		2	1	0
r	с		rb		ra			opcode		si	ze
r	С		rb		ra			10111		0	0

$$xor.i64$$
  $rc, rb, ra$ 

the *xor* instruction performs a *logical-exclusive-or* of the register *rb* and the register *ra* and saves the result in the register *rc*.

$$r[rc] = r[rb] ^ r[ra]$$

## 2.1.25. add

15	13	12	10	9		7	6		2	1	0
rc			rb		ra			opcode		si	ze
rc			rb		ra			11000		0	0

the *add* instruction adds the *rb* register to the *ra* register and saves the result in the *rc* register.

$$r[rc] = r[rb] + r[ra]$$

#### 2.1.26. srl

	15	13	12	10	9	7	, 	6		2	1	0
	rc		rl	5		ra			opcode		si	ze
Γ	rc		rl	)		ra			11001		0	0

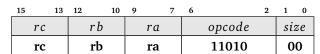
**srl.i64** rc, rb, ra

**add.i64** rc, rb, ra

the srl or shift-right-logical instruction performs a logical right shift of the value in the rb register by the number of bits in register ra then saves the result in the rc register. zeros are copied into the right most bits.

$$r[rc] = r[rb] >> r[ra]$$

#### 2.1.27. sra



**sra.i64** rc, rb, ra

the *sra* or *shift-right-arithmetic* instruction performs an arithmetic right shift of the value in the *rb* register by the number of bits in register *ra* then saves the result in the *rc* register. sign is copied into the right most bits.

$$r[rc] = r[rb] >> r[ra]$$

## 2.1.28. sll

15	1	13	12		10	9		7	6		2	1	0
r	c			rb			ra			opcode		si	ze
r	c			rb			ra			11011		0	0

**sll.i64** rc, rb, ra

the *sll* or *shift-left-logical* instruction performs a logical left shift of the value in the *rb* register by the number of bits in register *ra* then saves the result in the *rc* register.

$$r[rc] = r[rb] \ll r[ra]$$

## 2.1.29. sub

15	13	12	10	9		7	6		2	1	0	
rc			rb		ra			opcode		si	ze	
rc			rb		ra			11100		0	0	8

**sub.i64** *rc*, *rb*, *ra* 

the *sub* instruction subtracts the *ra* register from the *rb* register and saves the result in the *rc* register.

$$r[rc] = r[rb] - r[ra]$$

## 2.1.30. mul

15		13	12		10	9		7	6		2	1	0
	rc			rb			ra			opcode		si	ze
	rc			rb			ra			11101		0	0

**mul.i64** rc, rb, ra

the mul instruction performs signed multiplication of the rb register with the ra register and saves the result in the rc register.

$$r[rc] = r[rb] * r[ra]$$

#### 2.1.31. div

15		13	12		10	9		7	6		2	1	0
	rc			rb			ra			opcode		si	ze
	rc			rb			ra			11110		0	0

div.i64 rc, rb, ra

the div instruction performs signed division of the rb register by the ra register and saves the result in the rc register. division by zero causes the flag to be set and zero to be stored in the rc register. a subsequent branch can handle the division by zero.

## 2.1.32. illegal

15	7	6		2	1	0
imm9			opcode		si	ze
uimm			11111		0	0

illegal uimm9

the *illegal* instruction causes an illegal instruction trap. *program counter* and trap cause are saved to privileged registers for the operating system to dispatch to an illegal instruction handler and the *program counter* is set to a trap vector address.

## 3. Assembler

## 3.1. Introduction

this glyph assembly language reference begins with an introduction to assembler and linker concepts, followed by sections describing the glyph assembler directives, and pseudo-instruction aliases. section 2 contains a complete listing of instruction.

## 3.2. Concepts

this section covers assembler high level concepts required to understand the concepts involved in assembling and linking executable code from source files.

## 3.2.1. assembly file

an assembly file contains assembly language directives, macros and instructions. it can be emitted by a compiler or it can be handwritten. an assembly file is the input file to the assembler. the extensions for assembly files are .s.

## 3.2.2. relocatable object file

relocatable object files contain compiled object code and data emitted by the assembler. an object file cannot be run, rather it is used as input to the linker as a step towards producing an executable file. the extension for object files is . o.

## 3.2.3. file header

an assembler file has a file header that contains magic to indicate how the file is formatted, the architecture of the binary, the endianness of the binary; *little-endian* in the case of glyph, the file type (relocatable object, executable, shared library), the number of program headers and their offsets in the file, the number of section headers and their offsets in the file, plus fields indicating the file format version and various other details.

## 3.2.4. program header

program headers provide size and offsets of loadable segments within an executable or shared library along with protection attributes used by the operating system (*read*, *write and exec*). program headers are not present in relocatable object files and are primarily for use by the operating system to and dynamic linker to map code and data into memory.

#### 3.2.5. section header

section headers provide size, offset, type, alignment and flags for the sections contained within the binary file. section headers are not required to execute a static binary but are necessary for dynamic linking and program linking. various section types refer to the location of the symbol table, relocations and dynamic symbols in the binary file.

#### 3.2.6. sections

an object file is made up of multiple sections, with each section corresponding to distinct types of executable code or data. there are a variety of different section types. this list contains the four most common sections:

- text is a read-only section containing executable code
- . const is a read-only section containing immediate blocks
- .data is a read-write section containing global or static variables
- .rodata is a read-only section containing read-only variables
- .bss is a read-write section containing uninitialized data

## 3.2.7. program linking

program linking is the process of reading multiple relocatable object files, merging the sections from each of the source files, calculating the new addresses for symbols and applying relocation fixups to text or data that is pointed to in relocation entries.

## 3.2.8. linker script

linker scripts are text source files that are optionally input to the linker containing rules for the linker to use when calculating the load address and alignment of the various sections when creating an executable output file. the extension for linker scripts is .1d.

## 3.3. Directives

the assembler implements a number of directives that control the assembly of instructions into object files. these directives give the ability to include arbitrary data, align data, export symbols, switch sections, define constants and emit metadata.

the following table lists glyph assembler directives:

Directive	Arguments	Description					
Data directi	ves						
.byte	expression-list	8-bit comma separated words					
.short	expression-list	16-bit comma separated words					
.long	expression-list	32-bit comma separated words					
.quad	expression-list	64-bit comma separated words					
.octa	expression-list	128-bit comma separated words					
.string	"string"	emit string					
.zero	integer	emit zeroes					
Alignment o	lirectives						
.align	pow2 [,pad_val=0] [,max]	align to power of 2					
.balign	bytes [,pad_val=0]	byte align					
Symbol dire	Symbol directives						
.globl	symbol_name,const_name	emit symbol (global scope)					
.local	symbol_name,const_name	emit symbol (local scope)					
Section dire	ectives						
.text		emit .text section or make current					
.const		emit .const section or make current					
.data		emit .data section or make current					
.rodata		emit .rodata section or make current					
.bss		emit .bss section or make current					
.common	symbol_name,size,align	emit common object to .bss section					
.section	section_name	emit section (default .text) or make current					
Miscellaneo	ous directives						
.equ	name, value	constant definition					
.file	"filename"	emit filename symbol					
.ident	"string"	emit identification string					
.size	symbol,symbol	emit symbol size					
.type	symbol,@function	emit symbol type					

Table 3.1.: Assembler directives

## 3.4. Pseudo-instructions

the assembler implements a number of convenience psuedo-instruction aliases that are formed from regular instructions, but have implicit or deduced arguments.

the following table lists glyph assembler pseudo instruction aliases:

Pseudo-instruction	Expansion	Description
nop	or.i64 r0,r0,r0	no-operation
li rc, expression	(several expansions)	load immediate
la rc, symbol	(several expansions)	load address
call symbol	<pre>jalib ibcall-reloc(text-label,const-label)</pre>	procedure call
ret	jtlib ibret-reloc(block-entry-label)	procedure return
cmp.lt.i64 rc, rb	compare.i64 rc, rb, lt	compare less than (signed)
cmp.gt.i64 rc, rb	compare.i64 rb, rc, lt	compare greater than (signed)
cmp.le.i64 rc, rb	compare.i64 rb, rc, ge	compare less or equal (signed)
cmp.ge.i64 rc, rb	compare.i64 rc, rb, ge	compare greater or equal (signed)
cmp.eq.i64 rc, rb	compare.i64 rc, rb, eq	compare equal
cmp.ne.i64 rc, rb	compare.i64 rc, rb, ne	compare not equal
cmp.ltu.i64 rc, rb	compare.i64 rc, rb, ltu	compare less than (unsigned)
cmp.gtu.i64 rc, rb	compare.i64 rb, rc, ltu	compare greater than (unsigned)
cmp.leu.i64 rc, rb	compare.i64 rb, rc, geu	compare less or equal (unsigned)
cmp.geu.i64 rc, rb	compare.i64 rc, rb, geu	compare greater or equal (unsigned)
cmov.i64 rc, rb	compare.i64 rc, rb, cmov	conditional move
ncmov.i64 rc, rb	compare.i64 rc, rb, ncmov	negated conditional move
mov.i64 rc, rb	logic.i64 rc, rb, mov	copy register
not.i64 rc, rb	logic.i64 rc, rb, not	logical not
neg.i64 rc, rb	logic.i64 rc, rb, neg	signed negate
bswap.i64 rc, rb	logic.i64 rc, rb, bswap	byte swap
ctz.i64 rc, rb	logic.i64 rc, rb, ctz	count trailing zeros
clz.i64 rc, rb	logic.i64 rc, rb, clz	count leading zeroes
ctpop.i64 rc, rb	logic.i64 rc, rb, ctpop	count population
sext.i64 rc, rb	logic.i64 rc, rb, sext	sign extend

Table 3.2.: Pseudo instructions

## 3.5. Calling convention

## 3.5.1. calling convention — 16-bit

the 16-bit instruction packet, while intended to be used in conjunction with the larger opcodes, is designed as a complete subset, so there is an ABI variant that targets a subset of the instruction set architecture that only uses the 16-bit opcodes.

the register assignment for the 16-bit subset was chosen with this rationale:

- 2 blocks of 4 contiguous non-volatile *callee-save* and volatile *caller-save* registers.
- 3 special registers, 2 argument registers, 1 temporary register, and 3 save registers.
- 3 save registers to avoid excessive spilling around function calls.
- 1 temporary register to avoid spilling arguments to free a temporary.

the calling convention for the 16-bit subset is as follows:

- *immediate base* ib is set by call instructions and must point to a valid immediate block on function entry. function symbols are exported with two labels; one in the .text section, and one in the .const section. *immediate base* must be restored to the entry value in the function *epilogue* before it can be restored by ret.
- argument registers a0 and a1 are used for the first two arguments, and the remaining arguments are passed on the stack. return value is places in a0 and a1, temporary register t0 is a volatile register, and frame pointer (if enabled) uses s0. there are two more non-volatile callee-save registers, s1 and s2.

the following table outlines the 16-bit register allocation showing register name alias, description, and non-volatile *callee-save* or volatile *caller-save* status.

name	alias	description	save
ib		immediate base	callee
r0	sp	stack pointer	callee
r1	s0/fp	saved register 0 / frame pointer	callee
r2	s1	saved register 1	callee
r3	s2	saved register 2	callee
r4	t0	temporary register 0	caller
r5	a0	argument register 0	caller
r6	a1	argument register 1	caller
r7	ra	return address / (pc,ib) link vector	caller

Table 3.3.: 16-bit register assignment

# A. Appendix

## A.1. Opcode summary — 16-bit

15	13	12 10	9 7	6 2	1 0
		uimm		00000	00
		simm	00001	00	
		simm	00010	00	
		simm	00011	00	
r	c	uiı	nm	00100	00
r	c	uiı	nm	00101	00
r	c	uiı	nm	00110	00
r	c	sir	nm	00111	00
r	c	sir	nm	01000	00
r	c	uiı	nm	01001	00
r	c	uiı	nm	01010	00
r	c	uiı	nm	01011	00
r	c	uiı	nm	01100	00
r	c	uiı	nm	01101	00
r	c	uiı	nm	01110	00
r	c	uiı	nm	01111	00
r	c	rb	uimm	10000	00
r	c	rb	uimm	10001	00
r	c	rb	fun3	10010	00
r	c	rb	fun3	10011	00
r	c	rb	ra	10100	00
r	c	rb	ra	10101	00
r	c	rb	ra	10110	00
r	c	rb	ra	10111	00
r	c	rb	ra	11000	00
r	c	rb	ra	11001	00
r	c	rb	ra	11010	00
r	c	rb	ra	11011	00
r	c	rb	ra	11100	00
r	c	rb	ra	11101	00
r	c	rb	ra	11110	00
		uimm	11111	00	

break uimm9  $isimm9 \times 2$  $\mathbf{b}$  simm $9 \times 2$ ibj  $simm9 \times 64$ **jalib.i64** rc, ib64(uimm6) **jtlib.i64** *rc*, *ib*64(*uimm*6) **movib.i64** *rc*, *ib*64(*uimm*6) movi.i64 rc, simm6 addi.i64 rc,simm6 srli.i64 rc, uimm6 **srai.i64** *rc*, *uimm*6 slli.i64 rc, uimm6 **addib.i64** rc, ib32(uimm6) **leapc.i64** rc, ib32(uimm6)(pc) loadpc.i64 rc, ib32(uimm6)(pc) **storepc.i64** *rc*, *ib*32(*uimm*6)(*pc*) **load.i64** rc,  $(uimm3 \times 8)(rb)$ **store.i64** rc,  $(uimm3 \times 8)(rb)$ compare.i64 rc, rb, fun3 logic.i64 rc, rb, fun3 **pin.i64** rc, rb, ra **and.i64** rc, rb, ra **or.i64** rc, rb, ra **xor.i64** rc, rb, ra add.i64 rc, rb, ra**srl.i64** rc, rb, ra **sra.i64** rc, rb, ra sll.i64 rc, rb, ra**sub.i64** rc, rb, ra mul.i64 rc, rb, ra **div.i64** rc, rb, ra illegal uimm9