Computer Logic

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First Version of a Computer Block Diagram

- What follows is a first pass at the block diagram/data path for a 16-bit MIPS-like computer
 - 16-bit means that each instruction is 16-bits wide
 - The data path assumes a byte-addressable memory
 - MIPS-like means that the computer uses a General Purpose Register (GPR) array to store data within the processor
 - A GPR can be read or written at roughly the speed of the processor
 - The GPR array has a limited number of registers (*e.g.* 8, 16, or 32)
 - In this design, each instruction can access up to two registers
 - There are dedicated instructions to read from or write to memory
 - All branch instructions are relative to the incremented PC
 - Data that does not fit in the GPR array is stored in memory
 - All instructions are stored in memory
 - Not all details are shown in the following diagrams



