

Slide 1

Administrivia

- Extra-credit assignments on the Web. You can still do problems from the first one, and I've added a second. Due just after finals (May 10 *at noon*). Can only help your grade.
- Everything graded except extra-credit problems. I will send summaries plus tentative letter grade soon.
- I will likely have office hours sometime next week; I'll send mail later with details. (If you need/want to talk to me, it might be good to send me an e-mail so we can pick a time.)
- (Anything else?)

Slide 2

Course Recap — Topics

- A little about performance. (It's not simple!)
- MIPS assembler language; translating C to MIPS assembler language.
- Compiling, assembling, and linking.
- Binary representation of instructions.
- Binary representation of data (integers, ASCII, floating-point numbers); basics of computer arithmetic.
- Gate-level logic design.
- Design of a processor — ALU, datapath, control; a little about pipelining.
- A little about caches and support for parallelism.
- Other schools spread this material over two or even three courses (though they presumably cover more in all). so, we have done a lot?

Course Recap, Continued

Slide 3

- Some topics — representation of data, computer arithmetic, maybe finite state machines — are review, or small extension of what you know.
- Others, though — assembler language, gate-level logic, designing a processor in terms of AND/OR/NO and how it works — are not familiar to most, and involve a new perspective, or mindset, or “mental model”. My observation — some students take to it, others struggle.
- I do hope, however, that all of you have come away with more understanding of how things work “under the hood” than you had!

Minute Essay

Slide 4

- How did the exam compare to your expectations? with regard to topics, length, difficulty . . .
And — would you have rather had a big comprehensive final during finals week?
- Any other parting remarks?
- And best wishes for a good summer break!