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# loop.s -- example for branch prediction in hardware.
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.text
main:
outer:  li $s1, 1          # 1
inner:  li $s2, 1          # 2      ##### begin outer loop
        li $v0, 1         # 3      #          ##### begin inner loop
        move $a0, $s2     # 4      #          #
        syscall           # 5      #          #
        addi $s2, $s2, 1  # 6      #          #
        slti $t0, $s2, 11 # 7      #          #
        bnez $t0, inner   # 8      #          ##### end of inner loop
        addi $s1, $s1, 1  # 9      #          #
        slti $t0, $s1, 11 # 10     #          #
        bnez $t0, outer   # 11     ##### end of outer loop
        li $v0, 10       # 12
        syscall          # 13
```

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#-----
#
# Behavior of instruction #8, which is a conditional branch instruction:
#   taken 9 times
#   fall thru once
#   taken 9 times
#   fall thru once
#   ...
#   taken 9 times
#   fall thru once
# } There are 10 outer iterations, so the branch
#   is taken 90 times and falls thru 10 times.
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# If our branch prediction strategy is "always assume fall thru", then we are
# correct 10 times out of 100 (10%), which is pretty poor performance.
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#-----
# If our branch prediction strategy is to use a 1-bit predictor:
# We initially assume the branch is fall thru.
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```
# Reality: TTTTTTTTTF TTTTTTTTTF TTTTTTTTTF ... TTTTTTTTTF
# Predict: FTTTTTTTTT FTTTTTTTTT FTTTTTTTTT ... FTTTTTTTTT
# wrong:   *           * *           * *           *           *           *
```

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# So we will be wrong 20 times == 80/100 correct = 80%.
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#-----
# If our strategy uses a 2-bit predictor, again assume initially fall thru.
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# Reality: TTTTTTTTTF TTTTTTTTTF TTTTTTTTTF ... TTTTTTTTTF
# Predict: FFTTTTTTTTT TTTTTTTTTT TTTTTTTTTT ... TTTTTTTTTT
# wrong:   **          *           *           *           *
```

```
# So we will be wrong 12 times == 88/100 correct = 88%.
```