**Imperial College<br>London** 



# **ELEC40006-Electronics Design Project 1 2019-2020 CPU Design – SEGFAULT Report for Dr. Edward Stott and Mrs. Esther Perea**

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# Contents



# <span id="page-2-0"></span>1 Abstract

This report presents in detail how a Central Processing Unit has been built to meet certain benchmarks and design goals. The CPU was based on an invented instruction set architecture and took advantage of the Harvard Architecture philosophy, while building off the work done with ARMish in term two. In this report, a clear explanation of the hardware implementation has been done including analysis of how individual instructions control hardware. The report also includes the optimisation process, where pipelining, latency/propagation delay and the trade-off between speed, power, and area have been discussed.

# <span id="page-2-1"></span>2 Introduction

The CPU is the core of a computer and plays a paramount role in electronic engineering. The primary objective was to build a CPU that could do the benchmarks (Calculating Fibonacci numbers, pseudo-random integers with a linear congruential generator and traverse a linked list), while remaining general (Turing complete). Hence research on different ISAs like AVR, MIPS, SPARC, and ARM, as well as the Harvard Architecture was conducted. Some instructions were specifically developed for the benchmarks like multiply, subroutines, and stacks. After deciding upon a 12 instruction ISA to meet the benchmark requirements, the separate hardware blocks were decided. The CPU's hardware took inspiration from the ARMish CPU built in term two, as it had a register file and ALU to carry out calculations. After implementing all instructions with hardware, the CPU was optimised to maximise power, speed, and area. This was done through pipelining, parallel computation, and analysis of different multipliers.

# <span id="page-2-2"></span>3 Project Planning and Management

Before starting the project, the Belbin Inventory had been completed to find out the different roles of team members. There was an implementer who is practical, reliable, efficient, hardworking, and methodical. It helped to have a shaper who is energetic, driven, and bold. The final person was a resource investigator who is outgoing and a great motivator. The task was split into three main tasks for each member, with all team members having a general understanding of the CPU. One person implemented the hardware and tested instructions. The second person had done research on the multiplier and hardware components. The last person helped write the test code for the benchmarks and implement the CPU. On 8th June, all the general instructions with associated hardware had been completed and tested. On 10th June, all three benchmarks had been completed and tested. On 12th June, the CPU had been optimised to achieve a better frequency. A regular meeting pattern had been used. All team members met every day since 24th May at 10:00 BST on Microsoft Teams to discuss progress and distribute tasks for the day. The TODO list website, Trello, and One Note were used to make share notes throughout the project. Some screen shots of the meeting plans and to do lists are in Appendix 3.

# **Snippet of team notes:**



# <span id="page-4-0"></span>4 Design Criteria

The CPU should be able to run the following three benchmarks.

Calculate Fibonacci numbers using recursion

```
int fib(const int n)int y;
     if (n \le 1) y = 1;
     else {
         y = fib(n-1)y = y + fib(n-2);return y;
\mathcal{F}
```
Calculate pseudo-random integers with a linear congruential generator (LCG)

```
int lcong(
      const unsigned int a,
      const unsigned int b,
      const int n,
      const unsigned int s)
\{unsigned int y = s;
       unsigned int sum = 0;for (int i = n; i > 0; i--){
          y = y^*a + b // calculate the new pseudo-random number
          sum = sum + y // add it to the total
       \mathcal{E}return sum;
\mathcal{F}
```
Traverse a linked list to find an item

```
typedef struct item{
     int value;
     struct item *next;
\} item_t;
item_t* find(const int x, item_t* head){
     while (head->value != x){
           head = head \rightarrow next;if (head == NULL) break;return head;
}
```
# **Software requirements specification:**

Functional requirements:

- Benchmark tests:
	- o Fibonacci test and recursion
		- Stack
		- Stack pointer
	- o LCG
		- Multiplication
	- o Traverse linked list and find item
		- Indirect addressing
- Correctness
	- o Use benchmark algorithms to check using trial data
	- o Compare with hand-calculated results
- Speed minimise geometric mean time (T1T2T3)^(⅓)
	- o Found by counting number of CPU cycles required for each benchmark and how this changed with size of problem (e.g. size of list)
	- o Find max clock speed of design and minimum execution time
- Power consumed minimise number of logic gates
	- o Number of logic gates and clock speed

Non-functional requirements:

- Greatest number of applications for least number of transistors
- 16-bit instruction word
- At least 2k words of instructions and 2k words of data
- Built and simulated using Quartus

# <span id="page-6-0"></span>5 Outline of technical problem

**Technical Problem:** Build a general CPU that can complete the given benchmarks.

The CPU was not a task to create a hyper specialised instruction set that only implements the benchmarks in the most efficient way and does nothing else. It also required the CPU to be Turing complete, which involve implementing indirect or register addressing of memory, computed jump (jump with register value), and loading current value of PC into a register or memory. Each benchmark also required specific instructions and hardware to be implemented, including subroutines, multiplication, and the stack.

# <span id="page-6-1"></span>6 Design Process

# <span id="page-6-2"></span>6.1 Overview of design

# **Memory**

The memory blocks took inspiration from the Harvard architecture philosophy1. This involved separated the memory into an instruction ROM, where the main program was stored, and a data RAM, where all the data was stored. The different memory types could then be addressed differently. This was useful for implementing indirect addressing and a pointer to the stack (a section in the data RAM), as the ALU can output the correct data address for each cycle depending on the instruction. The instructions and data could also be accessed simultaneously, which was very useful for pipelining, as the next instruction can be fetched at the same time as reading or writing from the data memory.

The instruction memory could be either a ROM or RAM as the CPU never needs to write to this memory block. The two types of memory both simulate pretty much identically in Quartus. The ROM was used as it looked cleaner without all the extra write outputs for RAM (see Appendix 9 for more detail on decision).

The size of both memory blocks were 4096 16-bit words. As the opcode was 4 bits, one instruction (LDI) could use the rest of the bits to load a 12-bit constant that could be used as an address for all 4096 locations in the memory blocks. This was useful for testing.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Scott Thornton,"What's the difference between Von-Neumann and Harvard architectures" March 8th 2018 [online]MICROCONTROLLERTIPS available at:

[<sup>&</sup>lt;https://www.microcontrollertips.com/difference-between-von-neumann-and-harvard](https://www.microcontrollertips.com/difference-between-von-neumann-and-harvard-architectures/)[architectures/>](https://www.microcontrollertips.com/difference-between-von-neumann-and-harvard-architectures/)

# **Register file**



The register file included 8 registers. This required a 3-bit port addresses to select which register to read from or write to. Using 16 registers would have required 4 bits, which would take much more space in the instruction words, and many registers would not be used for the benchmarks given. This register file took inspiration from the ARMish CPU register file built in the second term, although register files are common for most CPUs.

# **ALU with register file (file called ALU1)**



Like ARMish, the ALU was able to read from two registers in the register file, addressed using bits in the instruction word. The ALU implemented the decoder for all the signals and could do calculations on the two registers that were read. It handled all the logic and was implemented in Verilog (full ALU in Appendix 1).

# **State machine (unpipelined)**

The synchronous state machine controlled what state the CPU was in.



The unpipelined state machine just switched between the execute (EXEC1) cycle and the FETCH cycle as a new instruction is fetched every second cycle. This made it easier to pipeline the CPU as all logic was already carried out during EXEC1. The states were numbered as above, so the next state was just the inverse of the current state.



# **Decoder:**

Originally, the decoder for control signals was separate from the ALU, although most logic signals were in the ALU, so many output and inputs needed to be created to leave different BSF files, which increased the time it took to test. This was simplified by moving the state machine into the regfile\_ALU BDF and decoder logic was put into the ALU.

```
Original decoder:
```

```
module decode<br>타(
|<br>| 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 1 1 2 3 4<br>| 4 5 6 7 8 9 1 0 1 1 1 2 3 4<br>| 4 5 6 7 8 9 1 0 1 1 1 5 6 7 8 9 0
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                                                                            [3:0] op,
                                              input FETCH,<br>input EXEC1,<br>output pc_sload
                                             output pc_cht_en,<br>output ram_wren,<br>output pc_in_sel,<br>output ldi_sel,
                                              output din_sel
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assign 1dr =<br>
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                              // Need to think of all decode signals and then implement logic<br>assign pc_sload = exec1 & jmp;<br>assign pc_cnt_en = exec1 & ~(jmp | stp);<br>assign ram_wren = exec1 & (str | stmfd);<br>assign ldi_sel = ~ldi;
                                endmodule
```
# **CPU block**



This block made the connections between the regfile alu block, the program counter and the memory. The program counter (PC) addressed the instruction memory, while the address for the data memory came from the ALU. The MUX at the data input of the PC switched between loading the PC with the value of the second register that was read for jump instructions and the least significant 12 bits of the instruction for branch instructions (discussed in the next section).

# <span id="page-11-0"></span>6.2 Instruction Set Architecture (ISA) choice explanation

The instructions were chosen to meet the requirements of the benchmarks and to create a general CPU. Given the word length of 16 bits, there was a limitation to how many bit fields could fit into the instruction. The register file contained 8 registers, which required a register address of 3 bits to select one of them. Therefore, two-operand instructions were used as it only took 6 bits of the instruction to select the two registers to read/write to. Three-operand instructions would be too large as they would require 9 bits and only 7 bits would be left for the opcode and other bit fields.

To decide upon the instructions required, the benchmark codes were first converted into a first draft of assembly code, so that the required instructions could be found.



ISA:

LDI: It was useful to load a 12-bit address into a register to be able to address all 4096 locations in memory. Due to the 16-bit word limit, LDI only worked for one instruction

**LDR, STR:** These instructions took inspiration from ARM, and were both used to implement register addressing. This is needed for the "find in list" benchmark.

**MOV:** Just like in ARM, the MOV instruction also carried out different shifts on the register value. While this was not specifically required for the benchmarks to work, it is a very useful function for general CPUs to have.

**JMP:** Jump was required for all benchmarks to implement loops in assembly code. The benchmarks also required conditional jumps, which were implemented using a condition field in the instruction that determines what condition needs to be met for the jump to work.

**ADD, SUB:** Based off ARMish.

**MUL:** Multiplication was required for the pseudo random number generator. This was implemented with a separate multiplier block, which both allowed the team to work in parallel, and for the ALU to carry out instructions at the same time as the multiplication is occurring.

BL: Branch and link<sup>2</sup> implemented subroutines, and were based off ARM. This involved having a link register (register 6) that stored the next address and then jumped to the address of the subroutine in the instruction word. When this subroutine (like a function in a separate part of the memory) was finished, it jumped to the value in the link register to return to where it left off in the main program. This instruction was useful when implementing the recursive Fibonacci benchmark test as it needed to call the Fibonacci function multiple times and needed to return to where it left off.

**LDMFD/STMFD (POP/PUSH):** These instructions implement the stack that is required for the Fibonacci benchmark. The stack was a section of the data memory addressed by a stack pointer. The stack pointer (register 7) decreased for POPs and increased for PUSHes. This took inspiration from the AVR ISA<sup>3</sup>. Each of these instructions needed to be called three times to pop/push the value of the link register, and the two local variables (M for multiple). The FD stands for full descending as the stack starts at the end of the data memory. This prevented the need to initialise the stack pointer at a particular address and run the risk of it exceeding 0xFFFF. Instead, the stack starts at 0xFFFF and descends when adding new items to the stack.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Clarke, T. Class Lecture, Topic "LEC9.pdf", Department Of Electrical & Electronic Engineering, Imperial College London, UK,2020. Available at:

[<sup>&</sup>lt;https://intranet.ee.ic.ac.uk/t.clarke/arch/html16/lect16/lec9.pdf>](https://intranet.ee.ic.ac.uk/t.clarke/arch/html16/lect16/lec9.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> <http://ww1.microchip.com/downloads/en/DeviceDoc/doc2503.pdf>

# <span id="page-13-0"></span>6.3 ISA format

The decided ISA format took some inspiration from the ARM Thumb ISA4, due to the 16-bit word length. It helped make decisions on how many bits are needed for each field and how to reduce the instruction set.

# **ISA Table:**



Note: Rd= destination register, Rs = source register

# **Descriptions:**

12Bit constant 0  $\Omega$  $\Omega$ 0 LDI

LDI would load a constant to Register 0. It would read the operand (12 bits) to store the integer to the register. Being able to load a 12 bits constant would allow the CPU to load any address number to the register, and thus it could jump to any address in the memory. The opcode of LDI is 0000, so this helped address directly to R0 by letting port address in the register file read from the opcode.

 $4$  ARM QRC 0006E, Thumb 16-bit Instruction Set Qucik Reference Card [online] available at: [<http://infocenter.arm.com/help/topic/com.arm.doc.qrc0006e/QRC0006\\_UAL16.pdf>](http://infocenter.arm.com/help/topic/com.arm.doc.qrc0006e/QRC0006_UAL16.pdf)



LDR would load a value stored in the memory to one of the registers. Rs bits [2:0] was the address of the register which stored the address of the value to be loaded to another register. Rd bits [5:3] was the address of the register where the value should be moved to. OFFSET bits [10:6] would provide a positive or negative offset to the value in the Rs depending on the S bit. Sign bit (S) [11] would define the direction of the offset: 0 would be positive offset, 1 would be negative offset.

In order to do that, the value stored in the memory first need to be loaded into R0 using LDI.

The offset function helped the CPU implement register addressing for the "Finding in linked list" benchmark, since it could load the next location of the value where the address of the next item is stored.

The problem is that the LDR would require two cycles, one for the retrieving the data from RAM, one for writing back the value to the register. This was solved using the same state machine by allowing instructions to be completed in parallel (See Hardware descriptions in next section).



STR was implemented in the same way as LDR except instead of loading a register with a memory address, STR stores the register value into the memory address given by mem[Rs  $\pm$ Offset]. This was not required for the benchmark but helped generalise the CPU.



MOV would move the value from Rs to Rd while also doing optionally shifting the value. Rs bits [2:0] was the register which stored the value to be moved. Rd bits[5:3] was the register where the value should be moved to.

# **Shift type:**

00: no shift

01: shift left

- 10: shift right
- 11: move multiply registers

**CIN field:**

00: cin=0

01: cin=1

10: cin = carrystatus (previous carry)

11: cin = CMSB (carry most significant bit of Rs)

The Move multiply registers option was added later with multiplication as the product is stored in two separate registers from the register file, so these instructions were necessary to move them to the register file. Only one MOV instruction was required after multiplying for the LCG as only the least significant 16 bits are required. Although, general multiplication with the full 32-bit product is possible.

JMP would change the address in the program counter under different condition. Rs bits [2:0] was the register which stored the address the program counter should jump to. Rd bits [5:3] was the register which stored the value to be compared with the comparator. Comparator bits [9:6] was the value to be compared with the value in Rd.

# **COND field [11:10]**

00: JMP (always)

- 01: JEQ (jump if equal) Rd==comparator
- 10: JMI (jump if less than) Rd < comparator
- 11: JMB (jump if bigger than) Rd > comparator



ADD/SUB would add/subtract the value in Rd and Rs and store the result back to Rd. Rs bits [2:0] was the register which stored one of the number for addition. Rd bits [5:3] was the register which stored one of the number for addition and the register the result would be stored in. Bits [8:6] are reserved for future features. CWEN bit [9] would enable writing the result to the carry register. CIN is added to the result. Note that normal subtraction required CIN=1 as the conversion to 2's complement of Rs required an inversion and addition of 1.



MUL carried out 16-bit multiplication between Rd and Rs and stored the product in 2 output registers after the multiplier block.



LDMFD/POP would load the value stored in the stack area back to the register. Bits [2:0] was the location of the stack register (R7). Rd bits [5:3] was the register where the value should be restored to. Bits [11:6] were not needed.

The process of this instruction is

Rd = Mem[Stack Pointer]

Stack Pointer = Stack Pointer + 1



STMFD would store the value in the register to the stack area. Rd bits [2:0] was the register stored the value to be preserved. Bits [5:3] was the location of the stack register (R7). Bits [11:6] were not used. The location of 111 was flipped as it made the logic easier.

The process of this instruction is:

```
Stack Pointer = Stack Pointer - 1
```
# Mem[Stack Pointer] = Rd

The reason why stack pointer would decrement by one first is that the stack register would initialise to be 0, and minus one would let it be 0xFFFF which pointed to the end of the memory.



STP function would stop the whole program (prevent the program counter from counting).

# <span id="page-17-0"></span>6.4 Instruction Hardware Implementation

# LDI, ADD, SUB, and STP were implemented like ARMish

#### **Input to register file**



The series of MUXes selected the input of port1addr[2:0] (to address the register to write to) depending on the instruction. The possible inputs included instr[5:3] to address Rd, instr[2:0] for selecting register 7 for the pop instruction, 3'b000 for LDI, 3'b110 (register 6) for writing into the link register in BL, and write\_next\_status[2:0], which is used for LDR (described below). The MUXes at the input of din (data in of register file) also switched between either data from the RAM (din[15:0]), the instruction word (instr[15:0]), or the output of the ALU (aluout[15:0]). See appendix 1 for ALU logic for control signals.

# **Output of ALU**



The carry flip-flop bits carryout, carryen, and carrystatus were implemented using the ARMish design. The other register is used for LDR instructions as explained below.

# **LDR hardware implementation**

LDR required two cycles: one for reading a value from the RAM, and one for writing data out of the RAM into the register file. This meant that data in (din) of the register file is only updated one cycle after the LDR instruction, so port1addr needs to be correct one cycle afterwards, as well as write enable (wen). A register called write\_next was added at the ouput of the ALU that stores "write\_next\_flag" (telling the next instruction that the data is now at dout during the next cycle and can enable writing) and the address of Rd given by bits [5:3] of the LDR instruction. This register was enabled every execute cycle.

#### // Status FF bits:

// write\_next tells next instruction that the data that is now at dout can be written into the Rs of the previous instruction (for load instructions)<br>// if write\_next\_flag is already 1, set to 0 (if it is not another ldr), // write\_next\_en enables writing to write\_next register - needs to update for every instruction during exec1 so that it returns to 0<br>assign write\_next\_en = exec1; // Output to write\_next register<br>assign write\_next\_out = {write\_next\_flag, instr[5:3]}; // write\_next\_stp stop PC from counting up so instruction can finish before next instruction<br>assign write\_next\_stp = write\_next\_status[3] & ~(ldr | str | jmp | ldmfd) | write\_next\_status[3] & ldmfd; // carryen enables writing to carry register - writes when cwen is enabled for add, sub, and mov<br>assign carryen = exec1 & cwen & (add | sub | mov); // carryout equal to alucout if not a shift - note the special case of rsdata[O] for LSR or ASR (MOV instruction)<br>assign carryout = (mov & ((~field[1] & field[0]) | (field[1] & ~field[0]))) ? rsdata[O] : alucout;

This implementation allowed other instructions to be carried out in parallel with this second cycle for LDR, given that the following instruction does not write to the registers or read from the register being written to by LDR (as it has not updated yet). To prevent the CPU from bugging if the next instruction was a write instruction, the write next stp bit stops PC from counting during this second LDR instruction to allow it to finish before the next instruction executes. This acted like a delay to the system and allows the assembly to have any instruction after LDR as the ALU decides if the PC waits for LDR to finish or if the next instruction can be done in parallel. Note that LDR instructions could be executed after each other and be done in parallel as the first cycle of LDR just involved the data RAM. An XOR gate between the write enable out (wenout) of the ALU and the write next flag from the write next register determined if the register is written or not (as these two bits should not be on at the same time).

# **LDR instructions after each other**

Data memory: 0x0004 0x0002 0x00AB

Instruction mem:



Simulation:



In the simulation multiple LDR instructions could be executed consecutively after each other as the output of a register updated every EXEC1 clock edge.

# **Indirect addressing (LDR and STR)**

// ALU output Calculations<br>assign alucout = alusum[16]; // carry bit<br>assign alucout = lamfd ? (alusum[11:0]-1) : alusum[11:0]; // offset address used for addressing data memory or stores R7 value for stack manipulation<br>ass assign dmemin = stmfd ? rsdata : rddata; // input to data memory is q2 for stmfd, q1 for str

```
\frac{1}{2} determine alusum - need to change opcodes<br>
always @(*) begin<br>
3 case (op) .<br>
4 b0001, 4 b0010 : alusum = sign ? (rsdata - {11'b0,offset}) : (rsdata + {11'b0,offset}); // LDR and STR: calculate daddr
```
Indirect addressing was achieved by calculating the offset address into alusum and storing this as the data address (daddr) as seen above. The offset address was calculated using the parameters specified in the instruction word. This was used in both LDR and STR to specify the address for the RAM.

# **MOV**

The move instruction was implemented similarly to ARMish together with the shift functionality inside the ALU using alusum.



The option of no shift also could add cin, so this was a quick way of moving a register and adding one simultaneously. When instr[7:6]=11, the mov instruction output either the least significant 16 bits (LS prod) or the most significant 16 bits (MS prod) of the multiplication result depending on whether Rs is 0 (moves LS prod) or 1 (moves MS prod). LCG only used the Rs=0 option, as only LS prod is required. Alusum is directed back into the data in of the register file to be written into the register specified by port1addr.

# **JMP:**

On the other hand, jump was implemented with a wire, jmp\_cond, that determined if the PC should load the address of Rs depending on the conditions given in the opcode and by the comparisons made (eq and mi). Jmp\_cond enables PC loading and stops it from counting.

```
// conditional operators - compares Rd and comparator (in cond) - used for if jump should occur<br>wire eq = (rddata == cond); // Rd == comparator<br>wire mi = (rddata < cond); // Rd < comparator
// change jmp cond to determine if jmp will occur depending on comparison and jump condition in instruction word<br>wire jmp_cond = jmp & ((~field[1] & ~field[0]) | (~field[1] & field[0] & eq) | (field[1] & ~field[0] & mi) |
// PC and RAM control signals<br>assign pc_sload = exec1 & (jmp_cond | bl);<br>assign pc_cnt_en = exec1 & ~(jmp_cond | stp | bl | write_next_stp);<br>assign ram_wren = exec1 & (str | stmfd);
```
# **MUL:**

Refer to multiplication method research for information about the Booth Radix 4 multiplier that was used.

# Hardware in regfile\_alu bdf:



The left-hand registers were used to store the values read from the two registers in the register file specified in the instruction word. This was necessary as these multiplicands needed to be constant throughout the entire 9 cycles that it takes this multiplier to carry out the multiplication. When the MUL instruction started, the mul\_start control signal was asserted, getting stored in a DFF, so that in the next cycle, the multiplication can start in the multwithRadix4 block. When it was done, the mul\_finish signal was activated, which enabled writing to the output registers, where the 32-bit product was stored. As discussed previously, the MOV instruction had an option to store this product into the register file. This could not be done with the MUL instruction as there was no space in the instruction word to include output registers.

 $2^{1611}$ : alusum = instr[0] ? ({1'b0, MS\_prod}+{1'b0, rddata}+cin) : ({1'b0, LS\_prod}+{1'b0, rddata}+cin);

In the alusum calculation, add and multiply was incorporated into this design, so that the multiply product gets added onto what is already in the destination register. This allowed it to first move "b" into the register in the LCG benchmark and then move the product into the same register, where it automatically adds the "b". Therefore, an additional ADD instruction was not needed.

# **BL: Branch and Link**

The link register was stored with "PC+1" and the port1addr selects 6 the MUX described at the beginning of the section.

# $4'$ b1000 : alusum = {5'b00000, pc\_out} + 1; // BL

When the MUX at the data in of PC was asserted, it selects the least significant 12 bits of the instruction to be loaded into the PC. This carried out the jump from the instruction word rather than from a register for JMP instructions.

# **LDMFD(POP)/STMFD(PUSH)**

LDMFD (pop) writes the new value into the stack pointer (subtracted by 1) while using the old value as the data address. STMFD (push) writes the new value into the stack pointer (added by 1) while using the new value as the data address. This logic was reflected in the daddr wire seen below. The stack pointer, R7 was selected at port1addr using a MUX (either from Rs or Rd – refer to ISA table).

```
4'b1001 : alusum = \{1'b0,rddata} + 1; // POP (LDMFD)<br>4'b1010 : alusum = \{1'b0,rddata} - 1; // PUSH (STMFD)
```
assign daddr = ldmfd ? (alusum[11:0]-1) : alusum[11:0]; // offset addressed used for addressing data memory All tests for instructions found in Appendix 13

# <span id="page-23-0"></span>6.5 Multiplication method research

Multipliers are important in CPU design, as they have long latency and consume relatively considerable power. A system's performance largely depends on multipliers because the multipliers are one of the slowest element within the system. In this section, a few ways of implementing the multipliers have been introduced and the strength and drawback of each implementation is discussed. In real life, the most important thing about multipliers is power, the power consumption of multipliers need to be controlled as low as possible, and proper cooling system need to be designed to remove the heat generate from the multiplier. However, in this project, the improvement in fundamental arithmetic functionality and speed of the multiplier can outweigh the increased power usage. Below is a table that shows multiplication in math perspective.

# <span id="page-23-1"></span>**Multiplication table**

$$
A_3
$$
  $A_2$   $A_1$   $A_0$   
\n $\times$   $B_3$   $B_2$   $B_1$   $B_0$   
\n $A_3B_1$   $A_2B_0$   $A_2B_0$   $A_1B_0$   $A_0B_0$   
\n $+ A_3B_1$   $A_2B_1$   $A_1B_1$   $A_0B_1$   
\n $+ A_3B_2$   $A_2B_2$   $A_1B_2$   $A_0B_2$   
\n $+ A_3B_3$   $A_1B_3$   $A_0B_3$ 

Multiplying A(N-bits) and B(M-bits) resulted in M\*N bits

# Multiplier Type I: shift adding multiplier (Combinational Multiplier)

A shift and add multiplier architecture is demonstrated in Figure 3. The inputs include a start signal, clock, and multiplicand. It used the shift and add method to output the result with a stop signal.





These multipliers are simple and take up little area. Higher radix multipliers are quicker, although there is a higher power usage due to the larger register use and more complicated

<sup>5</sup> Deepak Bordiya, and Lalit Bandil, "*Comparative Analysis Of Multipliers*" International Journal of Engineering Research & Technology. Volume 2 Issue 9, September - 2013, pp. 1437– 1441. Accessed on: 8 June 2020. [Online]. Available at: [<https://www.ijert.org/research/comparative-analysis-of](https://www.ijert.org/research/comparative-analysis-of-multipliers-serial-and-parallel-with-radix-based-on-booth-algoritham-IJERTV2IS90625.pdf)[multipliers-serial-and-parallel-with-radix-based-on-booth-algoritham-IJERTV2IS90625.pdf>](https://www.ijert.org/research/comparative-analysis-of-multipliers-serial-and-parallel-with-radix-based-on-booth-algoritham-IJERTV2IS90625.pdf)

logic. Implementing the example above using Verilog, a time analysis could be run to find out the propagation delay. If the multiplier with full-adder and logic gate was implemented, it would contain many adders and logic gate. The logic is the same with the [multiplication table](#page-23-1), each individual bit of the product came from multiple addition. The exact number of additions depends on the bit number.



**Figuer 4** <http://www.ellab.physics.upatras.gr/~bakalis/Eudoxus/CSAM.html>

This image illustrates a hardware implementation for an 8 \* 8-bit combinational multiplier, if N is the bits of the multiplicand, the delay should be 2N times the delay of the full adder.

The implementation could be done in Verilog, although this would be the function already implemented in in Figure 5.

wire [9:0] a.b: wire [19:0] result =  $a * b$ ; // unsigned multiplication! If you want Verilog to treat your operands as signed two's complement numbers, add the keyword signed to your wire or reg declaration: wire signed [9:0] a,b; wire signed [19:0] result =  $a * b$ ; // signed multiplication!

**Figure 5 <sup>6</sup>**

Using the FPGA shown in Figure 6, the propagation delay would be around 10ns. Hardware multiplier block: two 18-bit twos complement (signed) operands



<sup>6</sup> Gim P. Hom, Joe Steinmyer, Class Lecture, Topic: "*Arithmetic Circuits & Multipliers*" 6.111 Introductory Digital Systems Laboratory, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, MA, Fall, 2017.Avaiable at: [<http://web.mit.edu/6.111/www/f2017/handouts/L08.pdf>](http://web.mit.edu/6.111/www/f2017/handouts/L08.pdf)

# **Multiplier Type II Sequential Multiplier**





After the combinational multiplier, the sequential multiplier (Figure 7) was also commonly used in early hardware design. It only contains one full adder, four registers in total. A stored a M-bits multiplier, B store a N-bits multiplicand, P is N bit register and C is a single bit register. P and C had initial value of 0. To illustrate the multiple process, an example of 11\*11 has been done in [Figure 8.](#page-27-0)



<span id="page-27-0"></span>**Figure 8**

It was doing implicit shifting and adding operation, where P/B are shifting registers, they always shifted right by one each cycle. The mathematical explanation is shown in [Figure 9.](#page-28-0) The shifting operation is determined if shifting and adding both needed to be done or just shifting. The addition step is added at the MSB side, which means adding multiplicand\*2^N, N is the number of bits of the multiplier. However, at the end of the multiplication, the value stored in P/B is shifted to right by N bits. The shifting cancels out the effect of adding to the MSB.



**Figure 9**

<span id="page-28-0"></span>**Multiplier Type III: Multiplier with Radix 4 and Radix 8.** 

The radix determines the addition choices in this case. In radix 2 multiplier, the only choice of addition was to add the multiplicand or not add the multiplicand. In radix 4, the choice for addition was not only 1 or 0 but 2\*multiplicand and 3\*multiplicand. In radix 8 the choices are even more. In radix 2 multiplier 16 additions need to be done for 16 bits multiplication, but with radix 4, only 8 additions need to be done and with Radix 8 it is 4 addition. Normally each addition takes one cycle, hence the number of cycles required could be reduced by increasing the Radix.

For Radix 4 multiplier, [Figure 10](#page-60-0) in Appendix, the shifting and adding method has also been used, the multiple of the multiplicand have been pre-computed before the additions. Instead of shifting one bit to the right per cycle, 2 bits were shifted in Radix4 multiplier. The product of this 2 bits number and the multiplicand was added to with the product registers which is the left side to the register B, however it was shifted to the LSB at the end of the multiplication. So, the MSB partial product was not shifted because it is added at the end without any further shifting. Comparing to the normal Radix 2 multiplier, the Radix 4 take 9 additions, one of them was pre-computing the multiple of the multiplicand, it was more efficient than Radix2, the detailed tests regard to latency and power have been discussed in the optimisation section. In theory, higher radix multipliers have more power consumption and lower latency.

The waveform simulation has proved that the cycles required for multiplication have been reduced. Figure 11.



Radix 8 multiplier has the similar structure, [Figure 11,](#page-61-0) but instead of shifting 2 bits, 4 bits were shifted. Therefore, the number of additions had been reduced further.

For the Radix 8 multiplier, more values needed to be pre-computed before the multiplication. However, the multiplication itself only took 4 additions. From the waveform simulation, Figure 12, the result would be available after 4 cycles, however the total number of additions of the Radix8 multiplier were 15 additions in total including 11 pre-computing additions. Clearly Radix 8 multipliers have larger propagation delay due to larger number of additions at the start compared to Radix 4 multipliers.



#### **Figure 12**

To conclude, higher radix multiplier meant less additions during the multiplication, but more pre-computed values were required. In this case, radix 8 multiplier need to do 6 more additions for one multiplication compared to radix 4 multiplier. For a 16bits or 32bits word, Radix 4 multiplier would be efficient enough. The radix of the multiplier should be chosen according to the bit length of operands. For the combinational multiplier, it used the most adders but could compute the result with less cycles, and the propagation delay problem could be solved by changing the intermediate adders to be carry save adders, so the carry would be saved instead of added. This would reduce the propagation delay of adding the carry. The final adding stage of the combinational multiplier would involve adding the carries. For the sequential multiplier, it could not be improved and had to take 16 cycles, but it only needed one full adder to do the multiplication.

# <span id="page-31-0"></span>7 Benchmark tests

# <span id="page-31-1"></span>7.1 Benchmark: Fibonacci numbers using recursion

# **Assembly:**



Explanation:

Phase One: Calling

Loading the parameter n in to R1, and call the Fibonacci function.

Phase Two: Initializing variable y

Assigning local variable  $y$  to R2 by letting R2 = 0.

Phase Three: IF statement

Comparing whether n is bigger than one.

Phase Four: NOT Bigger

Assigning variable y to 1 by letting  $R2 = 1$ 

Jump to the END phase

Phase Five: Bigger

Store all the values in this call to stack and call the Fibonacci (n-1) Restore all the values and move the value in the return register(R5) to variable y (R2) Store all the values in this call to stack again and call the Fibonacci (n-2) Restore all the values and adding the values in the return register and variable y, and storing the result back to variable y. Jump to END phase

Phase Six: END

Move the value of variable y (R2) to the return register (R5) Jump to the address stored in the link register

# **Testing:**

# **Fib(2)**

#### 107 cycles



The final value of R5 (the return register) was 2, which was correct for fib(2)=2.

# **First section of Fib(2)**



The stack pointer R7 could clearly be seen decrementing as values are pushed into the stack in the screenshot above. R6 also updates as the link register.

#### **FIB(5)=8**





See Appendix 10 for Fib simulations from fib(2) to fib(7).



**Relationship between execution time (using 20 ns period clock) and parameter**

As the parameter was increased, the execution time increased exponentially. This was due to the use of a recursive implementation of the Fibonacci function, which required even more calls to itself as the parameter increases. This was an especially inefficient implementation of the function, and it would be interesting to see how a different implementation could be used to decrease execution time.

# <span id="page-35-0"></span>7.2 Benchmark: Pseudo-random integers with LCG

# $x_{n+1} = (ax_n + b) \bmod 2^N$

Using linear congruential generator is one of the ways to generate pseudo- random integer, it takes three parameters a,b,N and one seed value Xn to generate the next value. The sequence generated by the generator is called a linear congruential sequence. The target of this research is to choose the suitable parameters that generate the longest sequence without repeating, so the sequence looks random. Figure LCG shows three examples with fixed sequence cycle.



Wikipedia diagram<sup>7</sup>

Firstly, the generator took a seed input which means the output is related with the input, hence the largest possible length of the sequence is 2^N. In this case, N was fixed at 16 as it is the word length. Ideally the maximum length of the sequence is 65536.

The first case is  $b=0$ , a is a primitive element of  $2^{\wedge}16$ , and assume  $2^{\wedge}N$  is a prime number. The length of the sequence without repeating would be 2^16-1=65535. This special case is called "Lehmer random number generator". However, 2^N is not a prime number, so this is not a possible case. When b=0, 2^N is a power of 2, these parameters are commonly used because it is convenient for binary representation. This form has maximum sequence length of 2^N/4 when a=3 or a=5 and the initial seed input Xn is odd. The final case is when b does not equal zero.

<sup>7</sup> Wikipedia, Linear Congruential generator.[online] available at: [<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Linear\\_congruential\\_generator>](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Linear_congruential_generator)
#### According to Hull-Dobell Theorem8, if

1. b and 2^N are relative prime, 2. a-1 is divisible by all prime factor of 2^N 3.a-1 is divisible by 4 if 2^N is divisible by 4

The period of the sequence is equal to 2^N.

Therefore, for this implementation if b=1, a=2^15+1=32769, N=16, in theory the sequence would have a length of 65536, which is much too large for the execution time of the Quartus simulation

#### **Assembly:**



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Linear Congruential Generator I section two, Cornell Department of Mathematics. [online] available at:

[<sup>&</sup>lt;http://pi.math.cornell.edu/~mec/Winter2009/Luo/Linear%20Congruential%20Generator/linear%2](http://pi.math.cornell.edu/~mec/Winter2009/Luo/Linear%20Congruential%20Generator/linear%20congruential%20gen1.html) [0congruential%20gen1.html>](http://pi.math.cornell.edu/~mec/Winter2009/Luo/Linear%20Congruential%20Generator/linear%20congruential%20gen1.html)

The value stored in R0 is initialised with 0. Firstly, load R1 with 25385 as the "a" value, load R2 with 3 as the "b" value, load R3 with 8 as the "n" value. R4 stores "y" value, R5 stores "sum" value. "Y" and "sum" are initialised with 0 as well. Then write the stop address to R0, compare the value 0 and the "n" value stores in R3, if they are equal, jump to the END 'address otherwise R4 multiplies with R1, the "y" and the "a" value. During the multiplication, write value 1 to R0. Once the multiplication is done, the least significant 16 bits have been stored in R4. Then the value stores in R5 is added with R4 which represent adding y value to the sum. After that, the n value is subtracted by 1 and jump back to the start of the loop where the comparison between n value and 0 has been done. The loop continues and at the end of each loop n value is subtracted by 1. Once the n value is one, the conditional jump will jump to the stop address and the test code for pseudo random integer has finished. The final random integer is stored at R5.

#### **Testing:**

#### **Using "typical" parameters in overview** A=25385=0x6329, b=3, n=8 213 cycles Execution time: 4.27 us Pattern: 0, 3, 10625, 34994, 47758, 51917, 49639, 25364, 39500 (does not seem to repeat)



The outputs were changed to the radix unsigned integer to read the values more easily.

Even when increasing the length of the loop, the integers never seemed to repeat due to the small execution time of the Quartus simulation.

Execution time scaled linearly as the length of the for loop increased, as the for loop just executed the corresponding number of times, where each loop required the same amount of time.



# 7.3 Benchmark: Traverse linked list to find an item

**Assembly:**

Note that to change the x value (value being searched for in the list), the first instruction needed to be changed to this x value. The above code looked for the number 7 in the list.

First the target value is loaded in R0 and stored in R1 in the next instruction, then load R0 with the beginning address of the loop and stores the address in R3 in the next instruction. After that load R0 with the end address of the loop and store the end address in R4 in the next instruction. After all the initialisation, R0 is loaded with the head pointer which contain the address of the first value, the value is compared with the target value by subtraction method. If it is the target value, jump to the end address and stored the pointer in R5, the test is finished. If it is not the target value, loading R0 with pointer pointing to the next value in the list and jump back to the beginning of the loop, this loop will stop when it iterates through the whole list or when the target value has been found. NULL was defined as the memory address 0. The item was found if R5 (register 5) returns the address of the item with value x. If it remains at 0, the item was not found in the list.

#### **Data memory:**



This test data was used for the simulations (the list continues on the right side). One item in the linked list consisted of the value of the item and the value in the next memory address is the memory address pointing to the next item in the linked list (each item's value was highlighted in the image). The memory location storing a memory address acted like a sort of pointer. In this example, memory address 1 is the head item, which had a value of 1 and the next item in the list is at the memory address 3 (as the value in memory address 1+1 is 3). The length of this list was 20 items, although the actual length of the simulation depended on what value was being searched for in the list, as once it was found, the simulation stopped. The length was tested for 7, 10, 15, and 20 items (all simulation results for "find in list" benchmark found in Appendix 12).

### **Testing:**

#### **Length 10 (typical):**

To test a length 10 linked list, the first instruction needed to be changed to 000A, as the linked list values are in numerical order, and thus it would stop at 10 items when 0xA or 10 is found as the value in the tenth item.

149 cycles





**Relationship between execution time and linked list size**



Execution time seemed to increase linearly with linked list size as each item took up the same amount of time. It would be interesting to investigate quicker search algorithms, possibly using binary search trees.

# 8 Optimisation

#### 8.1 Basic CPU evaluation

The speed, power and area were measured using the full compilation on Quartus. This evaluation is

for the unpipelined CPU.



To find the geometric mean time, a parameter was fixed for each benchmark tests that obtained similar execution times between each test. This allowed comparison between geometric mean times.

**FIB(3) = 3** 191 cycles = 3.149 us

**LCG typical parameters A=25385=0x6329, b=3, n=8** 213 cycles = 3.512 us

**Length 15 linked list:** 219 cycles = 3.611 us

#### **Geometric mean time = 3.42 us**

Analysis of CPU block:

Timing analysis:



The largest propagation delay in the CPU\_block bdf was between the instruction and data memories. In the CPU, there is a large propagation delay due to the entire loop being completed in one cycle and being required for the next cycle. One way to decrease this propagation delay is to add pipelining stages. A register could be added at the output of the data RAM so that the output is ready at the next cycle. This would involve changes to the state machine so that all the stages have a value in each register, and then this could be pipelined so that each stage has a very log propagation delay, thus increasing the max clock frequency (discussed further in Extension).

#### Power:





Area:



Power and area were more difficult to change than speed, although they were taken into account when choosing the multiplier to carry out multiplication.

## 8.2 Choosing the multiplier

To maximise the clock frequency of the CPU, the propagation delay needed to be minimised. Therefore, the power and latency analysis were done with the Radix 2 multiplier [\(Figure](#page-65-0)  [analysis Radix 2](#page-65-0) Appendix 8) and the Radix 4 multiplier[\(Figure analysis Radix 4](#page-63-0) Appendix 7). After running the full compilation with model Cyclone IV E, the TimeQuest Timing Analyzer showed the time analysis.

The set-up slack in time analysis means the difference between the data required time and the data arrival time. For the radix 4 multiplier, the worst-case slack is 0.395, for the radix 2 multiplier is 0.677. The radix 4 had half the cycles, 0.395\*2>0.677. The result showed that the propagation delay for radix 4 multiplier was less compared to radix 2. The positive slack in each simulation meant there were still some margin for both multipliers to increase the clock frequency further.

The dynamic power is the power consumed when inputs are active, the static power is the power consumption the inputs are kept constant, it is usually caused by DFF. For the Radix 2 multiplier, total power dissipation was 97.79mV, core dynamic thermal power dissipation was 6.19mW, and core static thermal power dissipation was 42.86mW. For Radix 4 multiplier, total power dissipation was 102.71mW, core dynamic thermal power dissipation was 7.42mW, and core static thermal power dissipation was 42.88mW. The result makes perfect sense as the high dynamic power dissipation for radix 4 was because it shifted more bits in the same amount of time. The similar static power was because the same number of additions had been done in the same amount of time. Even the Radix 4 multiplier had a slightly larger total power dissipation, however it could do double the work that radix could do with the same amount of time. Hence, the radix 4 multiplier was the most efficient choice.

### 8.3 Pipelining

Pipelining<sup>9</sup> involved creating a state machine that fetched the next instruction and executed the current instruction during the same cycle. This approximately halved the number of cycles required as fetch and exec1 happen at the same time.

#### **Pipelined state machine:**

EXEC

<sup>9</sup> Torsten Grust, Class Lecture, Topic "*Pipelining*" Database Systems and Modern CPU Architecture, Eberhard Karls University of Tübingen, German, 2009. Available at: [<https://db.inf.uni](https://db.inf.uni-tuebingen.de/staticfiles/teaching/ss09/dbcpu/dbms-cpu-2.pdf)[tuebingen.de/staticfiles/teaching/ss09/dbcpu/dbms-cpu-2.pdf>](https://db.inf.uni-tuebingen.de/staticfiles/teaching/ss09/dbcpu/dbms-cpu-2.pdf)

The new state machine executes FETCH only for the first cycle and then fetches the next instruction while executing the current instruction during EXEC1.



A reset pin was required for the DFF, so that FETCH starts at 1 at the beginning.



## **Pipeline hardware (see Appendix 2):**

To increase PC during the first cycle, an add one block was used for all instructions (adds one to output of PC). A MUX chose between PC+1 and PC depending on add\_sel, so it should always increase by 1 other than for stop instructions, where it should not increase again. Otherwise, the PC would count above the STP instruction and skip it.

#### **Hardware:**



#### **Pipelined control signals logic**

```
// PC and RAM control signals
assign pc\_sload = exec1 & (jmp_cond | bl);
\frac{1}{2} assign pc_cnt_en = exec1 & ~(jmp_cond
                                             \vert stp \vert bl \vert write_next_stp);
\frac{1}{2} assign ram wren = exec1 & (str
                                      stmfd);
assign add_sel = exec1 & ~(stp | jmp_cond | bl | write_next_stp);
```
For pipelining, JMP and BL should not increase the PC, and they should not use PC+1, as this skips the address being jumped to. Write\_next\_stp (the delay for write instructions after an LDR) also had the same logic as it should stop the PC from counting during this cycle. BL also required an additional MUX at the input of the instruction memory so that the jump address updates during the same cycle as the BL instruction being executed, so that the next instruction already executes the instruction that was jumped to as it should be available at the memory output.

# **Improved Multiple LDR instructions Test:**

# Pipelined:



# Unpipelined:



Clearly the pipelined version was able to execute the LDR instructions in one cycle rather than two cycles for the unpipelined version. This test was already optimised due to the LDR implementation allowing for LDR instructions to be carried out in parallel, but the pipelining allowed for even better optimisation in terms of number of cycles.

#### **Multiplication while pipelining**

More instructions had to be added after MUL instruction so that 9 instructions or cycles pass to give the multiplier time to obtain the output. This could not be decreased using pipelining, which meant that the LCG benchmark (the one using multiplication) did not have as great an improvement in execution time compared to the other benchmarks, as the majority of the time was taken up by the multiplication. While the ability to carry out instructions in parallel was possible, this could not be fully taken advantage of for this specific benchmark as not many instructions could be executed in parallel that would actually lead to improved efficiency.

#### **Pipelined CPU benchmark tests (using fixed parameters for comparison)**



#### **Pipelined: FIB(3) = 3**

## **Pipelined: LCG with typical parameters:**

 $A=25385=0x6329, b=3, n=8$ 

## 163 cycles



#### **Pipelined: Length 15 linked list search:**

#### 126 cycles



Each of the tests were clearly executed in less cycles. It was approximately halved from the unpipelined version, other than the LCG due to multiplication causing the same delay.

#### **Pipelined compilation**



Fmax increased compared to the unpipelined CPU from 60 MHz to 63 MHz.

#### **Geometric Mean Time (pipelined) = 2.047 microseconds**

This was an increase from 3.42 microseconds. It is not exactly halved due to the long delay that remains due to the multiplier block of 9 cycles. This took up the majority of the execution time for the LCG benchmark.

#### **Reg\_Alu compilation :**





The write next register seemed to cause significant delay to get to the register file, due to the large amount of combinational logic due to logic gates and MUXes. This was a bottleneck to the maximum clock frequency. Pipeline stages could have been used to store the value at intermediate stages in a register and change the state machine so that each stage or cycle only involves little propagation delay. This would increase the maximum clock frequency, but also increase the setup time is takes to fully take advantage of this pipeline. These pipeline stage registers could be added at the output of the data RAM as this seemed to also introduce significant slack, as well as between the register file and ALU.

## 9 Conclusion/Extension

Making the CPU was very interesting as it built off the work done during term 2 very well. One could see the CPU becoming increasingly advanced as it incorporated instructions from modern ISAs and computer architectures. The CPU met the benchmark tests that were written in C++, so the link between programming and computer architecture could be explored. Meeting the design goal of creating a general CPU was satisfying as there are many different applications that can be tested.

There are several ways for the CPU to improve and to investigate further if there was more time. Firstly, in terms of the memory blocks, a dual port RAM could be tested, as this would probably be very similar to the current setup, while also being more compact. To make the CPU more general, a signed multiplier could be implemented with slightly more hardware to multiply signed numbers. More complex implementations of a multiplier could also be investigated to attempt to decrease the number of cycles it takes. Different implementations of the Fibonacci benchmark could also be tested, as the results showed that recursion is very inefficient execution time scales exponentially with the input parameter. An assembler for the invented ISA could also be made to make it easier to convert from assembly to machine code.

In terms of optimisation, pipeline stages would have been useful to limit the effect of propagation delay on the max clock frequency. It would be interesting to investigate how much the maximum clock frequency would improve due to the added intermediate stages lowering the propagation delay and how this would improve the execution times of the benchmarks.

10 Link to Github <https://github.com/alexpondaven/CPU>

Send login to [ap2619@ic.ac.uk](mailto:ap2619@ic.ac.uk) for permission to Github.

# 11 References

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# Appendix 1: Unpipelined ALU1



// din\_sel should be on if writing back to registers from alu (mov, add, sub, bl, ldmfd, stmfd)<br>// If ldr is writing, din should not be changed yet<br>assign din\_sel = (mov | add | sub | bl | ldmfd | stmfd) & ~write\_next\_stp; // Tells when ldi is on, want it to turn off is ldr is still writing from previous instruction<br>assign ldi\_sel = ldi & ~write\_next\_stp; //bl\_sel tells link\_MUX that it is a BL instruction and portladdr needs to be 6 to load PC+1<br>assign bl\_sel = bl & ~write\_next\_stp; // pop\_sel turns on for POP instruction when Rs needs to be written - Rs address at portladdr<br>assign pop\_sel = ldmfd & write\_next\_flag; // enables mul\_start for the mult\_instruction<br>assign mul\_start = mul; // can be started even though write\_next\_stp is enabled (ldr is writing in this cycle) // conditional operators - compares Rd and comparator (in cond) - used for if jump should occur<br>wire eq = (rddata == cond); // Rd == comparator<br>wire mi = (rddata < cond); // Rd < comparator // change jmp cond to determine if jmp will occur depending on comparison and jump condition in instruction word<br>wire imp\_cond = imp & ((-field[1] & -field[0]) | (-field[1] & field[0] & eq) | (field[1] & -field[0] & mi) | // PC and RAM control signals<br>assign pc\_sload = execl & (jmp\_cond | bl);<br>assign pc\_cnt\_en = execl & ~(jmp\_cond | stp | bl | write\_next\_stp);<br>assign ram\_wren = execl & (str | stmfd);  $4'$ b0011 : begin 自 n<br>2:b00 : alusum = {1'b0,rsdata} + cin; // MOV<br>2'b01 : alusum = {rsdata,cin}; // LSL<br>2'b10 : alusum = {rsdata,cin}; // LSL<br>2'b11 : alusum = fnsdata[0] ? ({1'b0,MS\_prod}+{1'b0,rddata}+cin) : ({1'b0,LS\_prod}+{1'b0,rddata}+ci endrase. 4'b0101 : alusum = {1'b0,rddata} + {1'b0,rsdata} + cin;// ADD<br>4'b0110 : alusum = {1'b0.rddata} + {1'b0.~rsdata} + cin:// SUB 4'b1000 : alusum =  ${5'b00000, pc\_out} + 1$ ; // BL 4'b1001 : alusum =  $\{1'b0, rddata\} + 1$ ; // POP (LDMFD)<br>4'b1010 : alusum =  $\{1'b0, rddata\} - 1$ ; // PUSH (STMFD) 4'b1010 : alusum =  $\{1\}$ <br>default : alusum = 0;<br>endcase:

#### **Appendix 2: Pipelined ALU1 differences**



#### **Appendix 3: Meeting notes**









Alex Pondaven added Think of how to implement LDI (12 bits in instruction word but also address the register needed) - LDI may only work for one register - extra cycles to TO DO  $2 \text{ km} + 12.42$ Alex Pondaven archived Delete test files in github Jun at 22:52 Alex Pondaven archived Jason: Stack Register  $1$  Jun at  $22.52$ Alex Pondaven added Delete test files in github to TO DO Jun at 19:22 Yz Yuliang Zhu added Jason: Stack Register to For next meeting 31 May at 10:24 Alex Pondaven archived Stacks/caches 30 May at 12:39 Alex Pondaven archived Make layout of CPU - rough sketch 30 May at 12:39 Alex Pondaven archived Multiply Methods, Harvard (Peter) 30 May at 12:39 Alex Pondaven archived How many registers to use? 80 May at 12:39 Alex Pondaven archived Instruction format 0 May at 12:39 Alex Pondaven added Remov eq and mi from status register - not needed to TO DO Jun at 15:3 Alex Pondaven added Make table to summarise instruction formats to TO DO Alex Pondaven added Update input to PC from q2 to TO DO  $\frac{1}{\text{lim at } 10.51}$ Alex Pondaven added Status register needs to store the comparison between Rd and Rs for JMP instructions to TO DO  $4 \text{ lim at } 10.32$ Alex Pondaven added Read through stack lecture to TO DO  $\lim$  at 19:14 A Alex Pondaven archived ALU  $l$  lun at 18:04 A Alex Pondaven added ALU to TO DO Jun at 18:04 A Alex Pondaven moved Do we need to reference ARMish design as we took inspiration from there? from TO DO to Questions 3 lun at  $18:04$ Alex Pondaven moved We basically have 2 decoders now in ALU and decoder outside of this block. Could SM be put inside of regfile alu and then make all control signals come from this block? Would be more clear from TO DO to Questions

last cin field be? CMSB (as in ARMish) is not  $MUX1?$ very useful now since shifts are being  $2 \text{ lim}$  at 11:24 implemented with MOV instruction from TO DO to Questions Alex Pondaven archived Make a decoder 3 Jun at 18:03 table to determine logic 3 lun at 11-34 Alex Pondaven moved Is there any way to do LDI for all registers? from TO DO to Alex Pondaven archived Separate stack Questions pointer  $\frac{1}{3}$  Jun at 18:03 3 Jun at 11:34 Alex Pondaven added Questions to this Alex Pondaven archived Think about SM board 3 Jun at 18:03 Alex Pondaven archived Find decoder Alex Pondaven added Do we need to signals reference ARMish design as we took 3 Jun at 11:34 inspiration from there? to TO DO 3 Jun at 18:02 Alex Pondaven added Do we need MUX1? to TO DO Alex Pondaven added We basically have 2 ່∆່ 2 Jun at 13:09 decoders now in ALU and decoder outside of this block. Could SM be put inside of Alex Pondaven added Make a decoder regfile alu and then make all control signals table to determine logic to TO DO come from this block? Would be more clear to TO DO 3 Jun at 17:07 Alex Pondaven added **Find decoder signals** to TO DO Alex Pondaven added What should the last  $2 \text{ lim at } 13.04$ cin field be? CMSB (as in ARMish) is not very useful now since shifts are being Alex Pondaven added Think about SM to implemented with MOV instruction to TO TO DO **DO** 2 Jun at 13:03 3 Jun at 16:17 Alex Pondaven added Separate stack Alex Pondaven added Is there any way to pointer to TO DO do LDI for all registers? to TO DO 3 Jun at 15:57 2 Jun at 13:03 A Alex Pondaven added Implement multiplication block, adding block, adding output register, to TO DO Alex Pondaven added Change instr. mem to RAM to TO DO Alex Pondaven added Test fibonnacci to TO DO Alex Pondaven archived Update input to 10 Jun at 11-27 PC from q2 A Alex Pondaven added Add LDMFD and STMFD to TO DO Alex Pondaven added Forgot a bit in MOV  $10 \ \text{lim}$  at  $11.27$ 

Alex Pondaven archived Do we need

Alex Pondaven archived We basically have 2 decoders now in ALU and decoder outside of this block. Could SM be put inside of regfile alu and then make all control signals come from this block? Would be more clear

9 Jun at 20:45

Alex Pondaven archived What should the last cin field be? CMSB (as in ARMish) is not very useful now since shifts are being implemented with MOV instruction  $\lim_{x \to 0}$  at 20:4

Alex Pondaven moved What should the

Alex Pondaven archived Forgot a bit in MOV code - need to update this 9 lun at 20:44

Alex Pondaven archived Write tests for all instructions 9 Jun at 20:44

Alex Pondaven added Change STP opcode to A rather than B, as stack was combined, so A is empty now to TO DO 9 Jun at 20:44

**Figure 1** 

code - need to update this to TO DO

Alex Pondaven added Write tests for all

Alex Pondaven archived Do we need to

Alex Pondaven archived Is there any way

Alex Pondaven archived Make table to

summarise instruction formats (include

Alex Pondaven archived Remov eq and mi

Alex Pondaven archived Status register

needs to store the comparison between Rd

from status register - not needed

and Rs for JMP instructions

reference ARMish design as we took

8 lun at 11-12

instructions to TO DO

inspiration from there?

to do LDI for all registers?

7 lun at 17:01

status register)

7 lun at 17-01



**Figure 2**

#### **Appendix 5**

```
module multwithRadix4(prod,finish,A,B,start,clk);
       input [15:0] A, B;<br>input start, clk;<br>output prod;
                                 prod;<br>finish;
       output
                                 count;<br>finish = !count;
       reg [4:0]<br>wire
       reg [32:0]<br>wire [31:0]
                              product;<br>prod = product[<mark>31:0</mark>];
       reg [17:0]
                               tmp;
       initial count = 0;
                                 A_X_1 = \{1'b0,A\};<br>A_X_2 = \{A,1'b0\};<br>A_X_3 = A_X_2 + A_X_1;wire [17:0]<br>wire [17:0]<br>wire [17:0]
       always @( posedge clk )
\Boxif(finish && start) begin
                count = 8;<br>product = { 16' d0, B };
           end else if( count ) begin
                case ( {product[1:0]} )<br>
2'b00: tmp = {2'b0, product[31:16] };<br>
2'b01: tmp = {2'b0, product[31:16] }<br>
2'b10: tmp = {2'b0, product[31:16] }<br>
2'b11: tmp = {2'b0, product[31:16] }
Ė
                endcase
                product = { tmp, product[15:2] };<br>count = count - 1;
           end
 endmodule
```
Ξ

```
module multwithRadix8(prod,finish,A,B,start,clk);
       input [15:0] A, B;
      input
                                 start, clk;
                                 prod;
      output
      output
                                  finish;
                                 count;
      reg [2:0]
      wire
                                 f۾inish = !count;
      reg [32:0]
                                 product;
      wire [31:0]
                                 prod = product[31:0];reg [19:0]
                                 tmp;
      initial count = 0;
     wire [19:0]<br>wire [19:0]
                                 A_X_1 = {1'b0, A};<br>A_X_2 = {A, 1'b0};<br>A_X_3 = A_X_2 + A<br>A_X_4 = {A, 2'b0};<br>A_X_5 = A_X_4 + A
                                                                    X_1:
                                    X_6 = A\overline{4}+X_7 = AX_4A_X 8 = \{A, 3'bo},
                                                        8 +X_9 = AX_10 = AX_8+X_1 = A_1X_8 +\overline{\mathbf{3}}\overline{A}A_X 12 = A_X 8 + A_X 4<br>A_X 13 = A_X 8 + A_X 5A
                                    X_14 = A_28\ddot{\phantom{1}}A
                                                                          6
                                  A X_15 =AX 8always @( posedge clk )
          if(finish && start) begin
                count
                                   = 4:product = { 16'd0. B };
          end else if (count ) begin
                case ( {product[3:0]} )
                    4'b0000: tmp = {4'b0, product[31:16] }<br>4'b0001: tmp = {4'b0, product[31:16] }<br>4'b0010: tmp = {4'b0, product[31:16] }<br>4'b0011: tmp = {4'b0, product[31:16] }<br>4'b0100: tmp = {4'b0, product[31:16] }<br>4'b0100: tmp = {4'b0, prod
                                                                                                        \ddot{+}\overline{2}+3
                                                                                                       ++E
                                                                                                       \ddot{+}6
                                                                                                       ++\mathbf{R}\ddot{}9
                                                                                                                     10+Δ
                                                                                                                     11:++\overline{A}12:X 13:
                                                                                                       +14;\ddot{}X_15+endcase
                 product = { tmp, product[15:4] };
                                      = count -1;
                 count
           end
 endmodule
```








<span id="page-63-0"></span>**Figure analysis Radix 4** 





<span id="page-65-0"></span>**Figure analysis Radix 2** 

The ROM implementation had a slightly higher Fmax than using RAM when testing the unpipelined versions as seen below.

## Instruction ROM implementation



## Instruction RAM implementation:

 $\mathbf{I}$ 





## **Appendix 10: Fibonacci results**

**Fib(2) = 2**

#### $68$  | Page

n.  $\pm$ 

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 $1.16 \text{ us}$ 

 $1.12 \text{ us}$ 

 $\frac{1}{\sqrt{1012}}$ 

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 $1.08 \text{ us}$ 

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LП





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 $840,0 \text{ ns}$ 

LП

 $800.0 \text{ ns}$ 

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760,0 ns

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LП

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880.0 m 920.0 m 960.0 m 1.0 us 1.0 km

 $\Box$ 

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107 cycles  $2.15$  us

640,0 ns 680,0 ns

 $\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ 

720,0 ns

LП

 $600.0 \text{ ns}$ 





#### $FIB(3) = 3$ 191 cycles  $3.83us$



## **FIB(4)=5**

359 cycles





# **FIB(5)=8**

611 cycles 12.23 us



## $FIB(6)=13$

1031 cycles  $20.63$  us



#### $FIB(7)=21$ 1703 cycles

34.07 us



Appendix 11: Pseudo-random integer generator simulations
# **Using "typical" parameters in overview**

A=25385=0x6329, b=3, n=8

213 cycles

Execution time: 4.27 us

```
Pattern: 0, 3, 10625, 34994, 47758, 51917, 49639, 25364, 39500 (does not seem to repeat)
```




## **Using smaller values and longer loop, see if it repeats:**

A=0x500, b=1, n=0x10

421 cycles

## Doubled loop length, execution time doubled: 8.43 us



• Series still does not seem to repeat

# **Keeping big and longer loop:**

0x6329, b=9, n=0x20 837 cycles Execution time: 16.75 us



# Appendix 12: "Find value in list" Benchmark results

# Length  $7:$

# 107 cycles

# $2.15$  us





Length 10 (typical): 149 cycles 2.99 us



# 219 cycles

4.39 us



### Length 20:





### Appendix 13: Instruction testing process

# **LDI** test

Instruction mem:





# **LDR**

•

## **LDR (no offset) test:**

Data memory: 0x0004 0x00AB

Instruction mem:



• Note - does not work yet - implemented later



• Removed ldi and ldmfd from wen and added the OR gate so that it writes when the write next bit in status bus is active even when wenout is off

Another issue:

- Daddr remains at 0
- Daddr pin was not named



- During STP, R0 is written to since the initial values in memory is 0000, which is LDI 0000, which loads R0 with 0000
- Need to add a STP bit in status register to say that the program has stopped and wenout in ALU should be off
- After doing this, wenout was stuck at 0
- This is because stp\_en is initialised to 1
	- Should expect 0 as register is initialised to 0, so initial status[5] should be 0

Status register:

• Do we need to have separate registers so that I can individually enable writing to the different bit fields - actually maybe not as it needs to be returned to 0 if it is done



- Could not see stp\_en as bit size was not right in simulation
- It is always at 1

Stp en is actually not needed as instr stays ta B000, for some reason thought it went to 0000

- But wenout is off while R0 is changing???
- Status[3] is on, which turns on wenout
- Need it to turn off one cycle afterwards

• Don't need stp\_en stuff and we need to separate status register to cin register and write\_next register



• Same problem, wen is on with stp as write next out[3] is on and is not switched off after loading in next cycle

Issue was that write\_next\_en was only on for ldi and ldmfd, when it should always be on during

exec1, so that it can actually go back to 0<br>// write\_next\_en enables writing to write\_next register - needs to update for every instruction during exec1 so that it returns to 0<br>|assign write\_next\_en = exec1;

Simulation working:



• Realised this doesn't work as it will be pipelined - can't actually LDI after LDR - can't write to registers as there is a conflict for what to have as port1addr

# **Test STP right after LDR**

Data memory: 0x0004 0x00AB

## Instruction mem:



### Issue:



- R0 is changing since wen is enabled while daddr is 0 during STP exec1
- Port1addr needs to come from status register, not instruction word forgot to actually take status register address and put it into port1addr -> enabled if status[3] is enabled
	- Added MUX:



## Old simulation:



• Port1addr is 1 during ldr instruction rather than one cycle after when dout has updated



- Status is not storing 1001
	- Storing 1000 so it loads to R0 (sees register address as 0)

```
• It was taking Rs into write_next rather than Rd address, corrected:
```

```
// Output to write_next register<br>assign write_next_out = {write_next_flag, instr[5:3]};|
```
Working;



• R1 loaded with 0x00AB or mem[1] and R0 remains at 1

## **Test two LDR instructions after each other**

• Works since the first cycle of the second LDR does not write to registers

Data memory: 0x0004 0x00AB

## Instruction mem:





• If the next instruction is an LDR, need to make sure that it does not reset write\_next\_flag to

0 as seen above<br>// write\_next\_tells next instruction that the data that is now at dout can be written into the Rs of the previous instruction (for load instructions)<br>// if write\_next\_flag is already 1, set to 0 (if it is n



# **Test multiple LDR instructions**

Data memory: 0x0004 0x0002 0x00AB



# **Test positive offset LDR**

Data memory: 0x0001 0x002 0x003 0x006 0x004

Instruction mem:

 $\vert$ LDR 0 1 R1 R0  $\vert$  1048



## Working:



# **Test negative offset LDR**

Data memory: 0x0002 0x003 0x004 0x005 0x006

Instruction mem:





- Can't write register after LDR, can only LDR, STR, JMP, STMFD and STP
	- What if must write register after LDR, how to wait?
		- Messy: Could have 2 separate registers for stack and link register to write at the same time - may be more messy
		- Hacky: have a JMP instruction to next PC value to basically do nothing or STR a value in memory
		- Best?: Have logic that says if when write next status[3] is on and the current instruction is a write instruction, PC stays at the current instruction
			- Can add input to decoder that stops pc\_cnt\_en just like stp
			- I believe the current order of MUXes will make LDR writing to register take priority over LDI for example

Implementation:

```
ALU:
```

```
// write_next_stp goes to decoder to stop PC<br>assign write_next_stp = write_next_status[3] & ~(ldr | str | jmp | stmfd | stp);
```
Decoder:

```
// Need to think of all decode signals and then implement
assign pc_sload = exec1 & jmp;<br>assign pc_cnt_en = exec1 & ~(jmp | stp | write_next_stp);<br>assign ram_wren = exec1 & ~(jmp | stp | write_next_stp);<br>assign ram_wren = exec1 & (str | stmfd);
```
**Test LDR and then LDI**

Data memory: 0x0004 0x00AB

Instruction mem:



Issue:



R1 loads 0

- When port1addr is still at 1, ldi has started already
- should make sure when write\_next\_stp is on, ldi\_sel is off
- Also changed ldi\_sel so it is in alu makes more sense

### Working:



**Test Mov after LDR**

Data memory: 0x0004 0x00AB

### Instruction mem:





- Need a way to de-activate the current instruction from changing the
- Din should not be changed while port1addr is still at 1



Din sel should still select from din even though mov has started if the write next stp is enabled

// din\_sel should be on if writing back to registers from alu (mov, add, sub, mul, bl)<br>// If ldr is writing, din should not be changed yet|<br>assign din\_sel = (mov | add | sub | mul | bl) & ~write\_next\_stp;

### Working:



# **STR**

## **STR (no offset) test:**

Data mem: 0x0 0x2

### Instruction mem:



- CANT LDI AFTER LDR

### Issue

• Need to add STR to also change daddr

### Working:



# **MOV**

// carryen enables writing to carry register - writes when cwen is enabled for add, sub, and mov<br>assign carryen = exec1 & cwen & (add | sub | mov);

- Need to actually write carry ff during all mov instructions
	- "No shift" writes 0
	- LSL writes MSB
	-

• Shift right writes LSB<br>
<sup>3</sup>b0011 : begin<br>
always @(\*) begin<br>
case (instr[8:7])<br>
<sup>2</sup>b00 : alusum = {1'b0,rsdata} + cin; // MOV<br>
<sup>2'b01</sup> : alusum = {rsdata,cin} // LSL<br>
<sup>2'b10</sup> : alusum = {rsdata[0], cin, rsdata[15:1]};//

Test: Data mem: 0xFFF0

Instruction mem:





3EB6 B000

Working:



# **JMP**

- As the conditions for jump need to determine if sload is loaded, the decision was made to put the entire decoder in the ALU
	- This makes it easier and less messy, so multiple signals do not need to leave each block and result in longer time to compile and test

JMP ALU logic:



• Did not work - pc\_sload and pc\_cnt\_en were undefined during exec1

# **JMP test**

Instruction mem:





# **ADD/SUB**

# **Multi-register Add/Sub test (from ARMish testing)**





# **MUL**



• Need to make sure regfile is not written during MUL



Largest Multiplication: Data RAM: 0xFFFF





## **Storing MSB and LSB into regfile**





# Testing add and multiply:





# **BL**

# **Test if link register loading works**

Instruction mem:





## **Test if full BL works**





# **STACK**

## **LDMFD and STMFD**



Issue:

- Stack pointer is not changing
	- Rdin is rd-1
	- Also need to have wen during stmfd
- We also need aluout to be selected for din
- Thus, ldmfd instructions cannot be done in parallel like ldr as something is written every cycle
- Now it is writing R6, instead of LDMFD and STMFD
- Rdin should be



- Stmfd works but not ldmfd
- 2 ldmfd instructions do not work after each other as write\_next\_stp is stuck at 1

Issue:



• STMFD works but in LDMFD, stack pointer is not updating

### Issue:



- Works but the registers are rewritten to 0 as rdin becomes 0
- This is because dout changes to 0 for the instructions that need to wait when write next stp is enabled
	- Daddr switches to 0 during fetch as aluout is reset
- Saw that when write next flag is on, wen should be the inverse of wenout, so that it is not on in that last cycle where 0 is written is at daddr, so could use an XOR gate to carry out selective inversion
	- May cause problems when pipelining

• Added stp to wenout, this may cause problems for other instructions writing during stp - check later

### Working:



Issue: loading 0 in because enabled stp in wrenout<br>assign wenout = exec1 & (ldi | mov | add | sub | mul | bl | ldmfd | stmfd | stp & write\_next\_status[3]);

Added this - may help - temporary solution - may be different when pipelining

### Working:



**Test doing LDI after this to make sure it works after POP**

• Works with LDI

