

RISC-V SoC and Firmware Development

Lab: 05



Objective

- Get familiarize with firmware.
- Install and configure the RISC-V toolchain on local machines to compile and run RISC-V programs.
- Convert C programs into assembly, machine code, suitable for RISC-V processors.

Firmware

- Specialized software embedded in device's hardware to control their functions.
- It acts as the intermediary between the hardware and software.
- The purpose of firmware is to configure the instructions for peripherals without changing hardware.





RISC-V toolchain

- The RISC-V toolchain(GNU) is a set of software tools used to develop, compile, and debug software applications for the RISC-V instruction set architecture (ISA),which work together to translate source code into machine code that can be executed on a RISC-V processor.
- **It includes,**
- **Compiler:** translates source code into assembly code
- **Assembler:** translates assembly code into machine code
- **Linker:** combines multiple object files into a single executable file
- **Debugger:** allows developers to test and debug their code




Getting Started with RISC-V Toolchain

- The purpose of using RISC-V toolchain in this project is to optimize firmware for our hardware.

Installation & Build

STEP 01:

- Follow the URL(<https://github.com/stnolting/riscv-gcc-prebuilt>) and download the second option.

Status	Release (tag)	Download	GCC	binutils	march	mabi	c-lib
●	rv32e-231223	 download	13.2.0	2.41	rv32e	ilp32e	newlib
●	rv32i-131023	 download	13.2.0	2.41	rv32i	ilp32	newlib
●	rv32i-4.0.0	 download	12.1.0	2.39	rv32i	ilp32	newlib



Getting Started with RISC-V Toolchain

STEP 02:

- Create a folder where you want to install the toolchain and type
- `$ sudo mkdir /opt/riscv`

STEP 03:

- Navigate to the download folder, `/opt/riscv` is the path where you want to install toolchain.
- `$ sudo tar -xzf TOOLCHAIN.tar.gz -C /opt/riscv/`
- `$ export PATH=$PATH:/opt/riscv/bin`

STEP 04:

- `$ riscv32-unknown-elf-gcc -v`

Converting C to Hex

- **STEP 01:**
- Make a file in C for adding two numbers and print

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2
3 int main() {
4     int a = 10;
5     int b = 20;
6     int result = a + b;
7     printf("The result is: %d\n", result);
8     return 0;
9 }
10
```

Open the terminal and run the following command, which will generate an object file for the C file.

```
$ riscv32-unknown-elf-gcc -o add add.c
```



Converting C to Hex

STEP 02:

```
$ riscv32-unknown-elf-objcopy -O ihex add add.hex
```

This command will generate the hex file from the executable file generated in previous step.

Optional step:

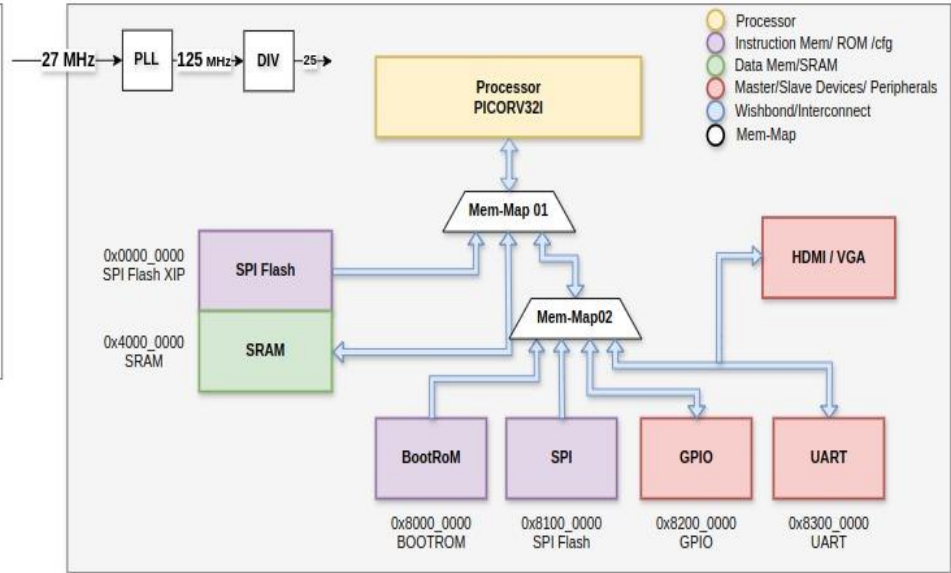
```
$ riscv32-unknown-elf-objdump -d add > add.asm
```

- **-d**: Specifies to disassemble the machine code into assembly instructions.
- **add**: is the executable file

Converting C to Hex

```
typedef struct {  
    volatile uint32_t OUT;  
} PICOGPIO;  
  
define GPIO0 ((PICOGPIO*)0x82000000)  
GPIO0->OUT ^= 0x00000004;
```

```
lui    a4,0x82000  
lw     a3,0(a4)  
xori   a3,a3,4  
sw     a3,0(a4)
```



TESTIMONIAL

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Sponsored By: Edmund from [Symbiotic EDA](#). for sponsoring FPGA.

Thanks: [Lushay Lab](#) (They've provided crucial resources and guidance throughout the project)