

RISC Processor User Manual

Project Name: RISC Processor

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1. Introduction

Overview

This manual provides instructions on how to use the 16-bit RISC processor implemented in Verilog. The processor is designed to be used in educational settings or small-scale embedded systems. It supports a basic set of instructions and is implemented in a modular fashion to facilitate understanding and customization.

System Requirements

- **Hardware:** FPGA development board (optional for hardware implementation)
- **Software:**
 - Verilog HDL simulator (e.g., ModelSim, Vivado)

- Text editor (e.g., VSCode, Sublime Text)
 - Command-line tools (for compiling and running simulations)
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2. Getting Started

Installation

1. **Clone the Repository:** Download the RISC processor project files from the repository.

<https://github.com/Akor-Michael/RISC-Processor-16-Bit>

2. **Set Up the Environment:** Ensure you have a Verilog simulator installed. Follow the simulator's installation guide if needed.

Folder Structure

The project files are organized as follows:

```
risc-processor/
├── src/
│   ├── Risc_16_bit.v           # Top-level module
│   ├── Datapath_Unit.v        # Datapath module
│   ├── Control_Unit.v         # Control Unit module
│   ├── ALU.v                  # ALU module
│   ├── Instruction_Memory.v   # Instruction Memory module
│   ├── Data_Memory.v          # Data Memory module
│   └── GPRs.v                 # General Purpose Registers
├── module
│   ├── testbench/
│   │   ├── test_Risc_16_bit.v # Testbench for the processor
│   │   └── simulation_time.v  # Simulation timing parameters
│   ├── docs/
│   │   ├── Design_Specification.pdf # Design specification document
│   │   └── User_Manual.pdf          # User manual (this document)
│   └── README.md
└──
```

3. Using the Processor

Writing Assembly Code

Write your program in assembly language using the instruction set supported by the processor. An example program might look like this:

```
LW R1, 0x0004    // Load word from memory address 0x0004 into R1
ADD R2, R1, R3    // Add R1 and R3, store the result in R2
```

```
SW R2, 0x0008    // Store word from R2 into memory address 0x0008
J 0x0000         // Jump to address 0x0000
```

Compiling and Loading Programs

1. **Compile the Assembly Code:** Convert your assembly code into machine code using an assembler that targets the processor's instruction format.
2. **Load the Program:** Write the machine code into the `Instruction_Memory.v` module or load it into the memory using a testbench script.

Running Simulations

1. **Open the Testbench:** Open the `test_Risc_16_bit.v` file in your Verilog simulator.
2. **Run the Simulation:** Use the simulator's command to run the simulation.

```
vsim -c -do "run -all" test_Risc_16_bit
```

3. **View the Results:** Analyze the output to verify the correct operation of your program.

4. Understanding the Processor

Processor Architecture

The processor consists of a datapath and a control unit:

- **Datapath:** Handles the flow of data within the processor, including instruction fetching, decoding, execution, and memory access.
- **Control Unit:** Generates control signals based on the opcode of the current instruction to control the datapath.

Instruction Set Overview

The processor supports a basic set of instructions, including:

- **LW (Load Word)**
 - **SW (Store Word)**
 - **ADD, SUB (Arithmetic Operations)**
 - **AND, OR, NOT, XOR (Logical Operations)**
 - **BEQ (Branch if Equal)**
 - **BNE (Branch if Not Equal)**
 - **J (Jump)**
-

5. Troubleshooting

Common Issues

- **Simulation Doesn't Start:** Check if the clock signal in the testbench is toggling correctly.
- **Unexpected Output:** Verify that the program was loaded correctly into the instruction memory.

Debugging Tips

- **Use Waveforms:** Most Verilog simulators allow you to view waveforms. Use this feature to observe the behavior of signals and identify issues.
 - **Check Control Signals:** Ensure that the control signals generated by the Control Unit match the expected behavior for the given opcode.
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6. Extending the Processor

Adding New Instructions

1. **Modify the Instruction Set:** Define the new instruction in the `Control_Unit.v` module.
2. **Update the ALU:** Implement the logic for the new instruction in the `ALU.v` module.
3. **Test the Instruction:** Write test cases to ensure the new instruction operates correctly.

Modifying the Datapath

- To change the processor's functionality, you may need to modify the `Datapath_Unit.v` module. For example, adding support for a new addressing mode or pipeline stage would involve updating the relevant components.
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