



RV12 RISC-V 32/64-bit CPU Core

Datasheet

[HTTP://ROALOGIC.GITHUB.IO/PLIC](http://roalogic.github.io/plic)

1st October, 2017

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1 Product Brief

1.1 Introduction

The RV12 is a highly configurable single-issue, single-core RV32I, RV64I compliant RISC CPU intended for the embedded market. The RV12 is a member of the Roa Logic's 32/64bit CPU family based on the industry standard RISC-V instruction set.



Figure -: RV12 Architecture

The RV12 implements a Harvard architecture for simultaneous instruction and data memory accesses. It features an optimizing folded 4-stage pipeline, which optimizes overlaps between the execution and memory accesses, thereby reducing stalls and improving efficiency.

Optional features include Branch Prediction, Instruction Cache, Data Cache, Debug Unit and optional Multiplier/Divider Units. Parameterized and configurable features include the instruction and data interfaces, the branch-prediction-unit configuration, and the cache size, associativity, replacement algorithms and multiplier latency. Providing the user with trade offs between performance, power, and area to optimize the core for the application.

RV12 is compliant with the RISC-V User Level ISA v2.2 and Privileged Architecture v1.9.1 specifications published by the RISC-V Foundation (<https://riscv.org>).

1.2 Features

High Performance 32/64bit CPU

- Royalty Free Industry standard instruction set (www.riscv.org)
- Parameterized 32/64bit data
- Fast, precise interrupts
- Custom instructions enable integration of proprietary hardware accelerators
- Single cycle execution
- Optimizing folded 4-stage pipeline
- Optional/Parameterized branch-prediction-unit
- Optional/Parameterized caches

Highly Parameterized

- User selectable 32 or 64bit data

- User selectable Branch Prediction Unit
- User selectable instruction and/or data caches
- User selectable cache size, structure, and architecture
- Hardware Multiplier/Divider Support with user defined latency
- Flexible bus architecture supporting AHB, Wishbone

Size and power optimized design

- Fully parameterized design provides power/performance tradeoffs
- Gated clock design to reduce power
- Small silicon footprint; 30kgates for full featured implementation

Industry standard software support

- Eclipse IDE for Windows/Linux
- GNU Compiler Collection, debugger, linker, assembler
- Architectural simulator

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2 Introduction to the RV12

The RISC-V specification provides for multi-threading and multi-core implementations. A core is defined as an implementation with its own instruction fetch unit. A hardware thread, or *hart*, is defined as a processing engine with its own state. A core may contain multiple hardware threads. See www.riscv.org for the specifications¹.

The RV12 implements a single core 32/64bit Reduced Instruction Set Computing (RISC) Central Processing Unit (CPU) with a single hardware thread, based on the RISC-V User Instruction Set Architecture v2.2 and Supervisor Instruction Set Architecture v1.9.1 specifications. The core is highly configurable, providing the user with a trade-off between area, power, and performance, thus allowing it to be optimized for the intended task.

See Chapter 4 for a description of the configuration options and parameters.

2.1 Privilege Levels

At any time, a hardware thread (*hart*) is running at some privilege level. The current privilege level is encoded in one or more Control and Status Registers (CSRs). See section 7, “Control & Status Registers”, for more information.

The RISC-V specification defines four privilege levels, where each level provides its own protection and isolation..

Level	Encoding	Name	Abbreviation
0	00	User/Application	U
1	01	Supervisor	S
2	10	Hypervisor	H
3	11	Machine	M

Table 2.1: RISC-V Privilege Levels

The highest privilege level is the Machine level. This is an inherent trusted level and has access to, and can alter, the whole machine. The lowest level is the User/Application level and is considered the least trusted level. It is used to protect the rest of the system from malicious applications.

Supervisor mode is used to provide isolation between an operating system and the machine and user levels. Hypervisor mode is used to virtualize operating systems.

The RV12 always implements Machine mode and optionally implements User mode and parts of the Supervisor Mode.

2.2 Execution Pipeline

The RV12 implements an optimizing 4-stage folded pipeline. The classic RISC pipeline consists of 5 stages; instruction fetch (IF), instruction decode (ID), execute (EX), memory access (MEM), and register write-back (WB).

¹Full reference details of the specifications are documented in section 11



The RV12 implements a modified form of the classic RISC pipeline where the Fetch stage takes 2 cycles to allow time to recode 16bit-compressed instructions and predict branches and jumps. The Memory stage is folded into the Execute and Write-Back stages. The Decode stage optimizes the instruction stream to allow CPU stalls, instruction execution, and memory accesses to overlap, thereby effectively hiding CPU stalls and improving the CPU's cycles per instruction CPI.



The RV12 pipeline is capable of executing one instruction per clock cycle by overlapping the execution stages. The figure below shows how 5 instructions are being operated on at the same time; this is referred to as 'being in flight'. Instruction A is the oldest instruction and it's in the Memory-Write Back (MEMWB) stage, whereas Instruction E is the newest instruction and it's in the Instruction Fetch (IF) stage.



Figure -: Overlapping Execution Stages

2.2.1 Instruction Fetch/Pre-Decode (IF/PD)

During the instruction fetch stage one instruction is read from the instruction memory, a 16bit-compressed instruction is decoded, and the program counter is updated to point to the next instruction.

2.2.2 Instruction Decode (ID)

During the instruction decode stage the Register File is accessed and the bypass controls are determined.

2.2.3 Execute (EX)

During the Execute/Memory Access stage the result is calculated for an ALU instruction and the memory accessed for a Load/Store instruction.

2.2.4 Write Back (WB)

During the Memory Access/Write Back stage the result from the ALU or the memory access is written into the Register File.



2.3 Branch Prediction Unit

The RV12 can execute one instruction every clock cycle. However due to the pipeline architecture each instruction takes several clock cycles to complete. When a branch instruction is decoded its conditions and outcome are not known. Waiting for the branch outcome before continuing fetching new instructions would cause excessive processor stalls, affecting the processor's performance.

Instead of waiting the processor predicts the branch's outcome and continues fetching instructions from the predicted address.

When a branch is predicted wrong, the processor must flush its pipeline and restart fetching from the calculated branch address. The processor's state is not affected because the pipeline is flushed and therefore none of the incorrectly fetched instructions is actually executed. However the branch prediction may have forced the Instruction Cache to load new instructions. The Instruction Cache state is NOT restored, meaning the predicted instructions remain in the Instruction Cache.

The RV12 has an optional Branch Prediction Unit (BPU) that stores historical data to guide the processor in deciding if a particular branch is taken or not-taken. The BPU data is updated as soon as the branch executes.

If no BPU is present, then all forward branches are predicted taken and all backward branches are predicted not-taken.

The BPU has a number of parameters that determine its behavior. HAS_BPU determines if a BPU is present, BPU_LOCAL_BITS determines how many of the program counter's LSB must be used and BPU_GLOBAL_BITS determines how many history bits must be used.

The combination of BPU_GLOBAL_BITS and BPU_LOCAL_BITS creates a vector that is used to address the Branch-Prediction-Table. Increasing the BPU_LOCAL_BITS increases the number of program counter entries, thereby reducing aliasing of the branch predictor at the expense of a larger Branch Prediction Table.

Setting BPU_GLOBAL_BITS to zero creates a local-predictor. Setting BPU_GLOBAL_BITS to any non-zero value adds history (previous branch prediction results) to the vector. This allows the branch predictor to handle nested branches. Increasing the number of BPU_GLOBAL_BITS adds more history to the vector at the expense of a larger Branch Prediction Table.

2.4 Control & Status Registers (CSRs)

The Control & Status Registers, or CSRs for short, provide information about the current state of the processor. See section 7, “Control & Status Registers”, for a description of the registers and their purpose.

2.5 Debug Unit

The Debug Unit allows the Debug Environment to stall and inspect the CPU. Provided features include Single Step Tracing, Branch Tracing, and up to 8 Hardware Breakpoints.

2.6 Data Cache

The Data Cache is used to speed up data memory accesses by buffering recently accessed memory locations. The data cache is capable of handling, byte, half-word, and word accesses when $XLEN=32$, as long as they are on their respective boundaries. It is capable of handling byte, half-word, word, and double-word accesses when $XLEN=64$, as long as they are on their respective boundaries. Accessing a memory location on a non-natural boundary (e.g. a word access on address 0x003) causes a data-load trap.

During a cache miss a complete block is written back to memory, if required, and a new block loaded.

Setting `DCACHE_SIZE` to zero disables the Data Cache. Memory locations are then directly access via the Data Interface.

2.7 Instruction Cache

The Instruction Cache is used to speed up instruction fetching by buffering recently fetched instructions. The Instruction Cache is capable of fetching one parcel per cycle on any 16bit boundary, but it cannot fetch across a block boundary. During a cache miss a complete block is loaded from instruction memory.

The Instruction Cache can be configured according to the user’s needs. The cache size, block length, associativity, and replacement algorithm are configurable.

Setting `ICACHE_SIZE` to zero disables the Instruction Cache. Parcels are then directly fetched from the memory via the Instruction Interface.

2.8 Integer Pipeline

The RV12 has a single ALU that can execute one instruction per cycle. The ALU handles all logical, integer arithmetic, CSR access, and PC modifying instructions.

The ALU also verifies predictions made for conditional branches.

2.9 Register File

The Register File is made up of 32 register locations (X0-X31) each $XLEN$ bits wide. Register X0 is always zero. The Register File has two read ports and one write port.

3 RV12 Execution Pipeline

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pipeline
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3.1 Instruction Fetch (IF)



Figure -: Instruction Fetch Stage Implementation

The Instruction Fetch unit loads a new parcel from the program memory. A parcel is a code field that contains one or more instructions. The address of the parcel to load is held by the Program Counter (PC). The Program Counter is either 32 or 64bits wide, depending on the XLEN parameter. The Program Counter is updated whenever the Instruction Pipeline is not stalled.

The Instruction Fetch unit translates 16-bit compressed instructions to base 32bit RISC-V instructions and then processes Program Counter modifying instructions. Jump-And-Link and Branch instructions modify the Program Counter in the Instruction Fetch unit. This avoids waiting for the Execute stage to trigger the update and removes the demand for pipeline flushes. The destination address for branches is predicted based on the data provided by the optional Branch Prediction unit or determined statically based on the offset.

In case the pipeline must be flushed the Program Counter is restarted from the given address.

3.2 Pre-Decode (PD)



3.3 Instruction Decode (ID)



Figure -: Instruction Decode Stage Implementation

The Instruction Decode unit ensures the operands for the execution units are available. It reads the Register File values, calculates immediate values, and sets bypasses.

The Instruction Decode unit stalls the pipeline when an operand value is not available. The RV12 only stalls when a value is loaded from data memory and is used in the instruction immediately after the load.

3.4 Execute (EX)



Figure -: Execute/Memory Access Stage Implementation

The Execute/Memory-Access stage performs the required operation on the data provided by the decode stage. It performs logical or arithmetic operations using the Arithmetic-Logical-Unit (ALU), calculates jump and branch addresses, performs Read-Modify-Write accesses to the CSRs, and starts memory accesses using the Memory Unit. Only one operation can be executed per clock cycle.

3.5 Write-Back (WB)



Figure -: Write-back Stage Implementation

The Memory/Write-Back stage completes a pending memory access and writes the results from the ALU or the Memory Unit into the Register File.

4 Configurations

4.1 Introduction

The RV12 is a highly configurable 32 or 64bit RISC CPU. The core parameters and configuration options are described in this section.

4.2 Core Parameters

Parameter	Type	Default	Description
XLEN	Integer	32	Datapath width
PC_INIT	Address	'h200	Program Counter Initialisation Value
PHYS_ADDR_SIZE	Integer	XLEN	Physical Address Size
HAS_USER	Integer	0	User Mode Enable
HAS_SUPER	Integer	0	Supervisor Mode Enable
HAS_HYPER	Integer	0	Hypervisor Mode Enable
HAS_MULDIV	Integer	0	“M” Extension Enable
HAS_AMO	Integer	0	“A” Extension Enable
HAS_RVC	Integer	0	“C” Extension Enable
HAS_BPU	Integer	1	Branch Prediction Unit Control Enable
IS_RV32E	Integer	0	RV32E Base Integer Instruction Set
MULT_LATENCY	Integer	0	Hardware Multiplier Latency (if “M” extension is enabled)
BP_LOCAL_BITS	Integer	10	Number of local predictor bits
BP_GLOBAL_BITS	Integer	2	Number of global predictor bits
HARTID	Integer	0	Hart Identifier
ICACHE_SIZE	Integer	16	Instruction Cache size in Kbytes
ICACHE_BLOCK_SIZE	Integer	32	Instruction Cache block length in bytes
ICACHE_WAYS	Integer	2	Instruction Cache associativity
ICACHE_REPLACE_ALG	Integer	0	Instruction Cache replacement algorithm 0: Random 1: FIFO 2: LRU
DCACHE_SIZE	Integer	16	Data Cache size in Kbytes
DCACHE_BLOCK_SIZE	Integer	32	Data Cache block length in bytes
DCACHE_WAYS	Integer	2	Data Cache associativity

Parameter	Type	Default	Description
DCACHE_REPLACE_ALG	Integer	0	Data Cache replacement algorithm 0: Random 1: FIFO 2: LRU
BREAKPOINTS	Integer	3	Number of hardware breakpoints

Parameter	Type	Default	Description
TECHNOLOGY	String	GENERIC	Target Silicon Technology
MNMIVEC_DEFAULT	Address	PC_INIT – ‘h004	Machine Mode Non-Maskable Interrupt vector address
MTVEC_DEFAULT	Address	PC_INIT – ‘h040	Machine Mode Interrupt vector address
HTVEC_DEFAULT	Address	PC_INIT – ‘h080	Hypervisor Mode Interrupt vector address
STVEC_DEFAULT	Address	PC_INIT – ‘h0C0	Supervisor Mode Interrupt vector address
UTVEC_DEFAULT	Address	PC_INIT – ‘h100	User Mode Interrupt vector address

Table -: IP Core Configuration Parameters

4.2.1 XLEN

The XLEN parameter specifies the width of the data path. Allowed values are either 32 or 64, for a 32bit or 64bit CPU respectively.

4.2.2 PC_INIT

The PC_INIT parameter specifies the initialization vector of the Program Counter; i.e. the boot address, which by default is defined as address ‘h200

4.2.3 PHYS_ADDR_SIZE

The PHYS_ADDR_SIZE parameter specifies the physical address space the CPU can address. This parameter must be equal or less than XLEN. Using fewer bits for the physical address reduces internal and external resources. Internally the CPU still uses XLEN, but only the PHYS_ADDR_SIZE LSBs are used to address the caches and the external buses.

4.2.4 HAS_USER

The HAS_USER parameter defines if User Privilege Level is enabled (‘1’) or disabled (‘0’). The default value is disabled (‘0’).

4.2.5 HAS_SUPER

The HAS_SUPER parameter defines if Supervisor Privilege Level is enabled (‘1’) or disabled (‘0’). The default value is disabled (‘0’).

4.2.6 HAS_HYPER

The HAS_HYPER parameter defines if Hypervisor Privilege Level is enabled (‘1’) or disabled (‘0’). The default value is disabled (‘0’).

4.2.7 HAS_MULDIV

The HAS_MULDIV parameter defines if the “M” Standard Extension for Integer Multiplication and Division is enabled (‘1’) or disabled (‘0’). The default value is disabled (‘0’).

4.2.8 HAS_AMO

The HAS_AMO parameter defines if the “A” Standard Extension for Atomic Memory Instructions is enabled (‘1’) or disabled (‘0’). The default value is disabled (‘0’).

4.2.9 HAS_RVC

The HAS_RVC parameter defines if the “C” Standard Extension for Compressed Instructions is enabled (‘1’) or disabled (‘0’). The default value is disabled (‘0’).

4.2.10 HAS_BPU

The CPU has an optional Branch Prediction Unit that can reduce the branch penalty considerably by prediction if a branch is taken or not taken. The HAS_BPU parameter specifies if the core should generate a branch-predictor. Setting this parameter to 0 prevents the core from generating a branch-predictor. Setting this parameter to 1 instructs the core to generate a branch-predictor. The type and size of the branch-predictor is determined by the BP_GLOBAL_BITS and BP_LOCAL_BITS parameters.

See section 5.1 Branch Prediction Unit for more details.

4.2.11 IS_RV12E

RV12 supports the RV32E Base Integer Instruction Set, Version 1.9. RV32E is a reduced version of RV32I designed for embedded systems, reducing the number of integer registers to 16. The IS_RV12E parameter determines if this feature is enabled (‘1’) or disabled (‘0’). The default value is disabled (‘0’).

4.2.12 MULT_LATENCY

If the “M” Standard Extension for Integer Multiplication and Division is enabled via the HAS_MULDIV parameter (HAS_MULDIV=1 See section 4.2.7), a hardware multiplier will be generated to support these instructions. By default (MULT_LATENCY=0) the generated multiplier will be built as a purely combinatorial function.

The performance of the hardware multiplier may be improved at the expense of increased latency of 1, 2 or 3 clock cycles by defining MULT_LATENCY to 1, 2 or 3 respectively.

If the “M” Standard Extension is *not* enabled (HAS_MULDIV=0) then the MULT_LATENCY parameter has no effect on the RV12 implementation.

4.2.13 BPU_LOCAL_BITS

The CPU has an optional Branch Prediction Unit that can reduce the branch penalty considerably by prediction if a branch is taken or not taken. The BPU_LOCAL_BITS parameter specifies how many bits from the program counter should be used for the prediction.

This parameter only has an effect if HAS_BPU=1.

See section 5.1 Branch Prediction Unit for more details.

4.2.14 BPU_GLOBAL_BITS

The CPU has an optional Branch Prediction Unit that can reduce the branch penalty considerably by prediction if a branch is taken or not-taken. The `BPU_GLOBAL_BITS` parameter specifies how many history bits should be used for the prediction.

This parameter only has an effect if `HAS_BPU=1`.

See section 5.1 Branch Prediction Unit for more details.

4.2.15 HARTID

The RV12 is a single thread CPU, for which each instantiation requires a hart identifier (`HARTID`), which must be unique within the overall system. The default `HARTID` is 0, but may be set to any integer.

4.2.16 ICACHE_SIZE

The CPU has an optional instruction cache. The `ICACHE_SIZE` parameter specifies the size of the instruction cache in Kbytes. Setting this parameter to 0 prevents the core from generating an instruction cache.

See section 5.5 Instruction Cache for more details.

4.2.17 ICACHE_BLOCK_LENGTH

The CPU has an optional instruction cache. The `ICACHE_BLOCK_LENGTH` parameter specifies the number of bytes in one cache block.

See section 5.5 Instruction Cache for more details.

4.2.18 ICACHE_WAYS

The CPU has an optional instruction cache. The `ICACHE_WAYS` parameter specifies the associativity of the cache. Setting this parameter to 1 generates a direct mapped cache, setting it to 2 generates a 2-way set associative cache, setting it to 4 generates a 4-way set associative cache, etc.

See section 5.5 Instruction Cache for more details.

4.2.19 ICACHE_REPLACE_ALG

The CPU has an optional instruction cache. The `ICACHE_REPLACE_ALG` parameter specifies the algorithm used to select which block will be replaced during a block-fill.

See section 5.5 Instruction Cache for more details.

4.2.20 DCACHE_SIZE

The CPU has an optional data cache. The `DCACHE_SIZE` parameter specifies the size of the instruction cache in Kbytes. Setting this parameter to '0' prevents the core from generating a data cache.

See section 5.4 Data Cache for more details.

4.2.21 DCACHE_BLOCK_LENGTH

The CPU has an optional data cache. The `DCACHE_BLOCK_LENGTH` parameter specifies the number of bytes in one cache block.

See section 5.4 Data Cache for more details.

4.2.22 DCACHE_WAYS

The CPU has an optional data cache. The DCACHE_WAYS parameter specifies the associativity of the cache. Setting this parameter to 1 generates a direct mapped cache, setting it to 2 generates a 2-way set associative cache, setting it to 4 generates a 4-way set associative cache, etc.

See section 5.4 Data Cache for more details.

4.2.23 DCACHE_REPLACE_ALG

The CPU has an optional instruction cache. The DCACHE_REPLACE_ALG parameter specifies the algorithm used to select which block will be replaced during a block-fill.

See section 5.4 Data Cache for more details.

4.2.24 BREAKPOINTS

The CPU has a debug unit that connects to an external debug controller. The BREAKPOINTS parameter specifies the number of implemented hardware breakpoints. The maximum is 8.

4.2.25 TECHNOLOGY

The TECHNOLOGY parameter defines the target silicon technology and may be one of the following values:

Parameter Value	Description
GENERIC	Behavioural Implementation
N3X	eASIC Nextreme-3 Structured ASIC
N3XS	eASIC Nextreme-3S Structured ASIC

Table 4-2: Supported Technology Targets

Note: the parameter value is not case-sensitive.

4.2.26 MNMIVEC_DEFAULT

The MNMIVEC_DEFAULT parameter defines the Machine Mode non-maskable interrupt vector address. The default vector is defined relative to the Program Counter Initialisation vector PC_INIT as follows:

$\text{MNMIVEC_DEFAULT} = \text{PC_INIT} - \text{'h004}$

4.2.27 MTVEC_DEFAULT

The MTVEC_DEFAULT parameter defines the interrupt vector address for the Machine Privilege Level. The default vector is defined relative to the Program Counter Initialisation vector PC_INIT as follows:

$\text{MTVEC_DEFAULT} = \text{PC_INIT} - \text{'h040}$

4.2.28 HTVEC_DEFAULT

The HTVEC_DEFAULT parameter defines the interrupt vector address for the Hypervisor Privilege Level. The default vector is defined relative to the Program Counter Initialisation vector PC_INIT as follows:

$\text{HTVEC_DEFAULT} = \text{PC_INIT} - \text{'h080}$

4.2.29 STVEC_DEFAULT

The STVEC_DEFAULT parameter defines the interrupt vector address for the Supervisor Privilege Level. The default vector is defined relative to the Program Counter Initialisation vector PC_INIT as follows:

$$\text{STVEC_DEFAULT} = \text{PC_INIT} - \text{'h0C0}$$

4.2.30 UTVEC_DEFAULT

The HTVEC_DEFAULT parameter defines the interrupt vector address for the User Privilege Level. The default vector is defined relative to the Program Counter Initialisation vector PC_INIT as follows:

$$\text{UTVEC_DEFAULT} = \text{PC_INIT} - \text{'h100}$$

4.3 Non User-Modifiable Parameters

The RV12 features a number of parameters that are not intended to be modified in a user design. For completeness these parameters and their defined values are specified below:

Parameter	Type	Value	Description
VENDORID	Vector (16)	16'H0001	Roa Logic Vendor ID
ARCHID	Vector (16)	1<<XLEN 12	RV12 Architecture ID
REVMajor	Vector (4)	4'h0	RV12 Major Revision Number
REVMINOR	Vector (4)	4'h0	RV12 Minor Revision Number

5 Control & Status Registers

5.1 Introduction

The state of the CPU is maintained by the Control & Status Registers (CSRs). They determine the feature set, set interrupts and interrupt masks, and determine the privilege level. The CSRs are mapped into an internal 12bit address space and are accessible using special commands.

5.2 Accessing the CSRs



Figure -: CSR Instructions

The CSRRW (Atomic Read/Write CSR) instruction atomically swaps values in the CSRs and integer registers. CSRRW reads the old value of the CSR, zero-extends the value to XLEN bits, and writes it to register *rd*. The initial value in register *rs1* is written to the CSR.

The CSRRS (Atomic Read and Set CSR) instruction reads the old value of the CSR, zero-extends the value to XLEN bits, and writes it to register *rd*. The initial value in register *rs1* specifies the bit positions to be set in the CSR. Any bit that is high in *rs1* will be set in the CSR, assuming that bit can be set. The effect is a logic OR between the old value in the CSR and the new value in *rs1*.

If *rs1*=X0, then the CSR is not written to.

The CSRRC (Atomic Read and Clear CSR) instruction reads the old value of the CSR, zero-extends the value to XLEN bits, and writes it to register *rd*. The initial value in register *rs1* specifies the bit positions to be cleared in the CSR. Any bit that is high in *rs1* will be cleared in the CSR, assuming that bit can be cleared. If *rs1*=X0, then the CSR is not written to.

The CSRRWI, CSRRSI, and CSRRCI commands are similar in behavior. Except that they update the CSR using an immediate value, instead of referencing a source register. The immediate value is obtained by zero-extending the 5bit *zimm* field. If *zimm*[4:0] is zero, then the CSR is not written to.

5.3 Illegal CSR accesses

Depending on the privilege level some CSRs may not be accessible. Attempts to access a non-existing CSR raise an illegal-instruction exception. Attempts to access a privileged CSR or write a read-only CSR raise an illegal-instruction exception. Machine Mode can access all CSRs, whereas User Mode can only access a few.

5.4 Timers and Counters



Table -: Time & Counter Instructions

The RV12 provides a number of 64-bit read-only user-level counters, which are mapped into the 12-bit CSR address space and accessed in 32-bit pieces using CSRRS instructions.

The RDCYCLE pseudo-instruction reads the low XLEN bits of the cycle CSR that holds a count of the number of clock cycles executed by the processor on which the hardware thread is running from an arbitrary start time in the past. RDCYCLEH is an RV32I-only instruction that reads bits 63–32 of the same cycle counter. The rate at which the cycle counter advances will depend on the implementation and operating environment.

The RDTIME pseudo-instruction reads the low XLEN bits of the time CSR, which counts wall-clock real time that has passed from an arbitrary start time in the past. RDTIMEH is an RV32I-only instruction that reads bits 63–32 of the same real-time counter. The underlying 64-bit counter should never overflow in practice. The execution environment should provide a means of determining the period of the real-time counter (seconds/tick). The period must be constant. The real-time clocks of all hardware threads in a single user application should be synchronized to within one tick of the real-time clock. The environment should provide a means to determine the accuracy of the clock.

The RDINSTRET pseudo-instruction reads the low XLEN bits of the instret CSR, which counts the number of instructions retired by this hardware thread from some arbitrary start point in the past. RDINSTRETH is an RV32I-only instruction that reads bits 63–32 of the same instruction counter.

In RV64I, the CSR instructions can manipulate 64-bit CSRs. In particular, the RDCYCLE, RDTIME, and RDINSTRET pseudo-instructions read the full 64 bits of the cycle, time, and instret counters. Hence, the RDCYCLEH, RDTIMEH, and RDINSTRETH instructions are not necessary and are illegal in RV64I.

5.5 CSR Listing

The following sections describe each of the register functions as specifically implemented in RV12.

Note: These descriptions are derived from “The RISC-V Instruction Set Manual, Volume II: Privileged Architecture, Version 1.9.1”, Editors Andrew Waterman and Krste Asanović, RISC-V Foundation, November 4, 2016, and released under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License

Address
<i>Machine Information Registers</i>
0xF11
0xF12
0xF13

Address
0xF14
<i>Machine Trap Setup</i>
0x300
0x301
0x302
0x303
0x304
0x305
0x7c0
<i>Machine Trap Handling</i>
0x340
0x341
0x342
0x343
0x344
<i>Machine Counter/Timers</i>
0xB00
0xB02
0xB80
0xB82

Table -: Machine Mode CSRs

Address
<i>Supervisor Trap Setup</i>
0x100
0x102
0x103
0x104
0x105
<i>Supervisor Trap Handling</i>
0x140
0x141
0x142
0x143
0x144

Table -: Supervisor Mode CSRs

Address
<i>User Counter / Timers</i>
0xC00
0xC02
0xC80

Address

0xC82

Table -: User Mode CSRs

5.6 Machine Level CSRs

In addition to the machine-level CSRs described in this section, M-mode can access all CSRs at lower privilege levels.

5.6.1 Machine ISA Register (misa)

The misa register is an XLEN-bit WARL read-write register reporting the ISA supported by the hart.



Figure -: Machine ISA Register Format

The extensions field encodes the presence of the standard extensions, with a single bit per letter of the alphabet (bit 0 encodes the presence of extension “A”, bit 1 encodes the presence of extension “B”, through to bit 25 that encodes the presence of extension “Z”).

The “I” bit will be set for RV32I and RV64I base ISAs, and the “E” bit will be set for RV32E.

The Base field encodes the native base integer ISA width as shown in Table 7-5.

Value	Description
1	32
2	64

Table -: Encoding of misa Base Field

5.6.2 Vendor ID Register (mvendorid)

The mvendorid read-only register is an XLEN-bit register encoding the manufacturer of the device.



Figure -: Vendor ID Register

Non-Zero vendor IDs will be allocated by the RISC-V Foundation.

5.6.3 Architecture ID Register (marchid)

The marched CSR is an XLEN-bit read-only register encoding the base microarchitecture of the hart. For the RV12 CPU this is defined as shown in Figure 7-5.



Figure -: Roa Logic RV12 marchid Definition

Note: Open-source project architecture IDs are allocated globally by the RISC-V Foundation, and have non-zero architecture IDs with a zero most-significant-bit (MSB). Commercial architecture IDs are allocated by each commercial vendor independently and have the MSB set.

5.6.4 Implementation ID Register (mimpid)

The mimpid read-only register provides hardware version information for the CPU. In the Roa Logic implementation, the 2 least significant bytes encode the major and minor code revisions.



Figure -: Roa Logic mimpid Implementation

The mimpid register is an XLEN size register, but the RV12 only implements the lower 32 bits. For an RV64 implementation the MSBs are zero extended.

5.6.5 Hardware Thread ID Register (mhartid)



Figure -: Hardware Thread ID Register

The mhartid read-only register indicates the hardware thread that is running the code. The RV12 implements a single thread, therefore this register always reads zero.

5.6.6 Machine Status Register (mstatus)

The mstatus register is an XLEN-bit read/write register that keeps track of and controls the *hart's* current operating state.

Privilege and Global Interrupt-Enable Stack in mstatus register Interrupt-enable bits, MIE, SIE, and UIE, are provided for each privilege mode. These bits are primarily used to guarantee atomicity with respect to interrupt handlers at the current privilege level. When a hart is executing in privilege mode x , interrupts are enabled when $xIE=1$. Interrupts for lower privilege modes are always disabled, whereas interrupts for higher privilege modes are always enabled. Higher-privilege-level code can use separate per-interrupt enable bits to disable selected interrupts before ceding control to a lower privilege level.



Figure -: Machine Mode Status Register

The MRET, SRET, or URET instructions are used to return from traps in M-mode, S-mode, or U-mode respectively. When executing an $xRET$ instruction, supposing xPP holds the value y , yIE is set to $xPIE$; the privilege mode is changed to y ; $xPIE$ is set to 1; and xPP is set to U.

Memory Privilege in mstatus Register The MPRV bit modifies the privilege level at which loads and stores execute. When $MPRV='0'$, translation and protection behave as normal. When $MPRV='1'$, data memory addresses are translated and protected as though PRV were set to the current value of the PRV1 field. Instruction address-translation and protection are unaffected. When an exception occurs, MPRV is reset to 0.

Virtualization Management & Context Extension Fields in mstatus Register Virtualization and Context Extensions are not supported by the RV12 v1.0 implementation. The value of these fields will therefore be permanently set to 0.

5.6.7 Machine Exception / Interrupt Delegation Registers (medeleg & mideleg)

Individual read/write bits within medeleg and mideleg registers indicate that lower privilege levels should directly process certain exceptions and interrupts.

When a trap is delegated to a less-privileged mode x , the x cause register is written with the trap cause; the x epc register is written with the virtual address of the instruction that took the trap; the x PP field of mstatus is written with the active privilege mode at the time of the trap; the x PIE field of mstatus is written with the value of the active interrupt-enable bit at the time of the trap; and the x IE field of mstatus is cleared. The mcause and mepc registers and the MPP and MPIE fields of mstatus are not written.



Figure -: Machine Exception Delegation Register

medeleg has a bit position allocated for every synchronous exception shown in Table 7-8, with the index of the bit position equal to the value returned in the mcause register (I.e. setting bit 8 allows user-mode environment calls to be delegated to a lower-privilege trap handler). See section 7.6.13 for additional details.



Figure -: Machine Interrupt Delegation Register

mideleg holds trap delegation bits for individual interrupts, with the layout of bits matching those in the mip register (I.e. STIP interrupt delegation control is located in bit 5).

5.6.8 Machine Interrupt Registers (mie & mip)

The mip register is an XLEN-bit read/write register containing information on pending interrupts, while mie is the corresponding XLEN-bit read/write register containing interrupt enable bits. Only the bits corresponding to lower-privilege software interrupts (USIP, SSIP) and timer interrupts (UTIP, STIP) in mip are writable through this CSR address; the remaining bits are read-only.

Restricted views of the mip and mie registers appear as the sip/sie, and uip/uie registers in S-mode, and U-mode respectively. If an interrupt is delegated to privilege mode x by setting a bit in the mideleg register, it becomes visible in the x ip register and is maskable using the x ie register. Otherwise, the corresponding bits in x ip and x ie appear to be hardwired to zero.



Figure -: Machine Interrupt Pending Register



Figure -: Machine Interrupt Enable Register

The MTIP, STIP, UTIP bits correspond to timer interrupt-pending bits for machine, supervisor, and user timer interrupts, respectively. The MTIP bit is read-only and is cleared by writing to the memory-mapped machine-mode timer compare register. The UTIP and STIP bits may be written by M-mode software to deliver timer interrupts to lower privilege levels. User and supervisor software may clear the UTIP and STIP bits with calls to the AEE or SEE respectively.

There is a separate timer interrupt-enable bit, named MTIE, STIE, and UTIE for M-mode, S-mode, and U-mode timer interrupts respectively.

Each lower privilege level has a separate software interrupt-pending bit (SSIP, USIP), which can be both read and written by CSR accesses from code running on the local hart at the associated or any higher privilege level. The machine-level MSIP bits are written by accesses to memory-mapped control registers, which are used by remote harts to provide machine-mode interprocessor interrupts. Interprocessor interrupts for lower privilege levels are implemented through ABI or SBI calls to the AEE or SEE respectively, which might ultimately result in a machine-mode write to the receiving hart's MSIP bit. A hart can write its own MSIP bit using the same memory-mapped control register.

The MEIP, SEIP, UEIP bits correspond to external interrupt-pending bits for machine, supervisor, and user external interrupts, respectively. These bits are read-only and are set and cleared by a platform-specific interrupt controller. There is a separate external interrupt-enable bit, named MEIE, SEIE, and UEIE for M-mode, S-mode, and U-mode external interrupts respectively.

An interrupt i will be taken if bit i is set in both mip and mie, and if interrupts are globally enabled. By default, M-mode interrupts are globally enabled if the hart's current privilege mode is less than M, or if the current privilege mode is M and the MIE bit in the mstatus register is set. If bit i in mideleg is set, however, interrupts are considered to be globally enabled if the hart's current privilege mode equals the delegated privilege mode (S, or U) and that mode's interrupt enable bit (SIE or UIE in mstatus) is set, or if the current privilege mode is less than the delegated privilege mode.

Multiple simultaneous interrupts and traps at the same privilege level are handled in the following decreasing priority order: external interrupts, software interrupts, timer interrupts, and then finally any synchronous traps.

5.6.9 Machine Trap-Handler Base Address Register (mtvec)

The mtvec register is an XLEN-bit read/write register that holds the base address of the M-mode trap vector.



Figure -: Machine Trap-Handler Base Address Register

All traps into machine mode cause the pc to be set to the value in mtvec. Additional trap vector entry points can be defined by implementations to allow more rapid identification and service of certain trap causes.

5.6.10 Machine Non-Maskable Interrupt Vector (mnmivec)

The mnmivec register is an XLEN-bit read/write register that holds the base address of the non-maskable interrupt trap vector. When an exception occurs, the pc is set to mnmivec.

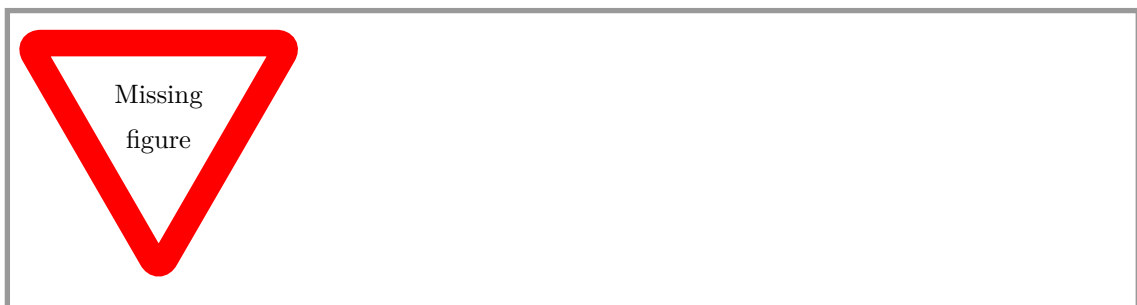


Figure -: Machine Non-Maskable Interrupt Vector

5.6.11 Machine Trap Handler Scratch Register (mscratch)

The mscratch register is an XLEN-bit read/write register dedicated for use by machine mode. It is used to hold a pointer to a machine-mode hart-local context space and swapped with a user register upon entry to an M-mode trap handler.



Figure -: Machine-mode Scratch Register

5.6.12 Machine Exception Program Counter Register (mepc)

mepc is an XLEN-bit read/write register. The two low bits (mepc[1:0]) are always zero.



Figure -: Machine Exception Program Counter Register

When a trap is taken, mepc is written with the virtual address of the instruction that encountered the exception.

5.6.13 Machine Trap Cause Register (mcause)

The mcause register is an XLEN-bit read-write register. The Interrupt bit is set if the exception was caused by an interrupt. The Exception Code field contains a code identifying the last exception. The remaining center bits will read zero



Figure -: Machine Cause Register

Table 7-8 lists the possible machine-level exception codes.

Interrupt	Exception Code	Description
1	0	User software interrupt
1	1	Supervisor software interrupt
1	2	<i>Reserved</i>
1	3	Machine software interrupt
1	4	User timer interrupt
1	5	Supervisor timer interrupt
1	6	<i>Reserved</i>
1	7	Machine timer interrupt
1	8	User external interrupt
1	9	Supervisor external interrupt
1	10	<i>Reserved</i>
1	11	Machine external interrupt
1	≥ 12	<i>Reserved</i>
0	0	Instruction address misaligned

Interrupt	Exception Code	Description
0	1	Instruction access fault
0	2	Illegal Instruction
0	3	Breakpoint
0	4	Load address misaligned
0	5	Load access fault
0	6	Store/AMO address misaligned
0	7	Store/AMO access fault
0	8	Environment call from U-mode
0	9	Environment call from S-mode
0	10	<i>Reserved</i>
0	11	Environment call from M-mode
0	≥ 12	<i>Reserved</i>

Table -: Machine Cause Register Values

5.6.14 Machine Bad Address Register (mbadaddr)

mbadaddr is an XLEN-bit read-write register. When a hardware breakpoint is triggered, or an instruction-fetch, load, or store address-misaligned or access exception occurs, mbadaddr is written with the faulting address. mbadaddr is not modified for other exceptions.

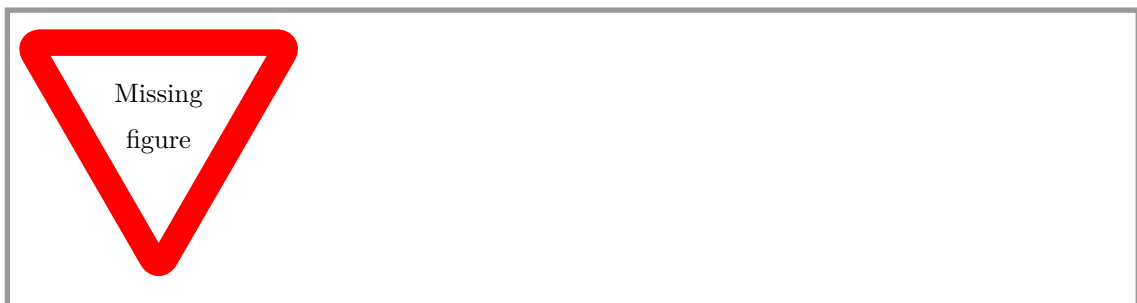


Figure -: Machine Bad Address Register

For instruction-fetch access faults with variable-length instructions, mbadaddr will point to the portion of the instruction that caused the fault while mepc will point to the beginning of the instruction.

5.6.15 Machine Cycle Counter (mcycle, mcycleh)

The mcycle CSR holds a count of the number of cycles the hart has executed since some arbitrary time in the past. The mcycle register has 64-bit precision on all RV32 and RV64 systems.

On RV32 only, reads of the mcycle CSR returns the low 32 bits, while reads of the mcycleh CSR returns bits 63–32.

5.6.16 Machine Instructions-Retired counter (minstret, minstreth)

The minstret CSR holds a count of the number of instructions the hart has retired since some arbitrary time in the past. The minstret register has 64-bit precision on all RV32 and RV64 systems.

On RV32 only, reads of the minstret CSR returns the low 32 bits, while reads of the minstreth CSR returns bits 63–32.

5.7 Supervisor Mode CSRs

5.7.1 Supervisor Status Register (sstatus)

The sstatus register is an XLEN-bit read/write register formatted as shown in Figure 7-19. The sstatus register keeps track of the processor's current operating state.



Figure -: Supervisor-mode Status Register

The SPP bit indicates the privilege level at which a *hart* was executing before entering supervisor mode. When a trap is taken, SPP is set to 0 if the trap originated from user mode, or 1 otherwise. When an SRET instruction is executed to return from the trap handler, the privilege level is set to user mode if the SPP bit is 0, or supervisor mode if the SPP bit is 1; SPP is then set to 0.

The SIE bit enables or disables all interrupts in supervisor mode. When SIE is clear, interrupts are not taken while in supervisor mode. When the *hart* is running in user-mode, the value in SIE is ignored, and supervisor-level interrupts are enabled. The supervisor can disable individual interrupt sources using the sie register.

The SPIE bit indicates whether interrupts were enabled before entering supervisor mode. When a trap is taken into supervisor mode, SPIE is set to either SIE or UIE depending on whether the trap was taken in supervisor or user mode respectively, and SIE is set to 0. When an SRET instruction is executed, if SPP=S, then SIE is set to SPIE; or if SPP=U, then UIE is set to SPIE. In either case, SPIE is then set to 1.

The UIE bit enables or disables user-mode interrupts. User-level interrupts are enabled only if UIE is set and the *hart* is running in user-mode. The UPIE bit indicates whether user-level interrupts were enabled prior to taking a user-level trap. When a URET instruction is executed, UIE is set to UPIE, and UPIE is set to 1.

Memory Privilege in sstatus Register The PUM (Protect User Memory) bit modifies the privilege with which S-mode loads, stores, and instruction fetches access virtual memory. When PUM=0, translation and protection behave as normal. When PUM=1, S-mode memory accesses to pages that are accessible by U-mode (U=1 in Figure 4.13) will fault. PUM has no effect when executing in U-mode.

5.7.2 Supervisor Trap Delegation Registers (sedeleg, sideleg)

The machine exception delegation register (sedeleg) and machine interrupt delegation register (sideleg) are XLEN-bit read/write registers.



Figure -: Supervisor Exception Delegation Register



Figure -: Supervisor Interrupt Delegation Register

See section 7.6.7 for additional information.

5.7.3 Supervisor Interrupt Registers (*sip*, *sie*)

The *sip* register is an XLEN-bit read/write register containing information on pending interrupts; *sie* is the corresponding XLEN-bit read/write register containing interrupt enable bits.



Figure -: Supervisor Interrupt Pending Register



Figure -: Supervisor Interrupt Enable Register

Three types of interrupts are defined: software interrupts, timer interrupts, and external interrupts. A supervisor-level software interrupt is triggered on the current *hart* by writing 1 to its supervisor software interrupt-pending (SSIP) bit in the *sip* register. A pending supervisor-level

software interrupt can be cleared by writing 0 to the SSIP bit in sip. Supervisor-level software interrupts are disabled when the SSIE bit in the sie register is clear.

Interprocessor interrupts are sent to other harts by means of *SBI* calls, which will ultimately cause the SSIP bit to be set in the recipient *hart's* sip register.

A user-level software interrupt is triggered on the current *hart* by writing 1 to its user software interrupt-pending (USIP) bit in the sip register. A pending user-level software interrupt can be cleared by writing 0 to the USIP bit in sip. User-level software interrupts are disabled when the USIE bit in the sie register is clear.

All bits besides SSIP and USIP in the sip register are read-only.

A supervisor-level timer interrupt is pending if the STIP bit in the sip register is set. Supervisor-level timer interrupts are disabled when the STIE bit in the sie register is clear. An *SBI* call to the SEE may be used to clear the pending timer interrupt.

A user-level timer interrupt is pending if the UTIP bit in the sip register is set. User-level timer interrupts are disabled when the UTIE bit in the sie register is clear. If user-level interrupts are supported, the *ABI* should provide a facility for scheduling timer interrupts in terms of real-time counter values.

A supervisor-level external interrupt is pending if the SEIP bit in the sip register is set. Supervisor-level external interrupts are disabled when the SEIE bit in the sie register is clear. The *SBI* should provide facilities to mask, unmask, and query the cause of external interrupts.

A user-level external interrupt is pending if the UEIP bit in the sip register is set. User-level external interrupts are disabled when the UEIE bit in the sie register is clear.

5.7.4 Supervisor Trap Vector Register (stvec)

The stvec register is an XLEN-bit read/write register that holds the base address of the S-mode trap vector. When an exception occurs, the pc is set to stvec. The stvec register is always aligned to a 4-byte boundary.



Figure -: Supervisor Trap Vector Register

5.7.5 Supervisor Scratch Register (sscratch)

The sscratch register is an XLEN-bit read/write register, dedicated for use by the supervisor. Typically, sscratch is used to hold a pointer to the hart-local supervisor context while the hart is executing user code. At the beginning of a trap handler, sscratch is swapped with a user register to provide an initial working register.



Figure -: Supervisor-mode Scratch Register

5.7.6 Supervisor Exception Program Counter (sepc)

sepc is an XLEN-bit read/write register formatted as shown in Figure 7-24. The low bit of sepc (sepc[0]) is always zero. On implementations that do not support instruction-set extensions with 16-bit instruction alignment, the two low bits (sepc[1:0]) are always zero. When a trap is taken, sepc is written with the virtual address of the instruction that encountered the exception.



Figure -: Supervisor Exception Program Counter Register

5.7.7 Supervisor Cause Register (scause)

The scause register is an XLEN-bit read-only register. The Interrupt bit is set if the exception was caused by an interrupt. The Exception Code field contains a code identifying the last exception.

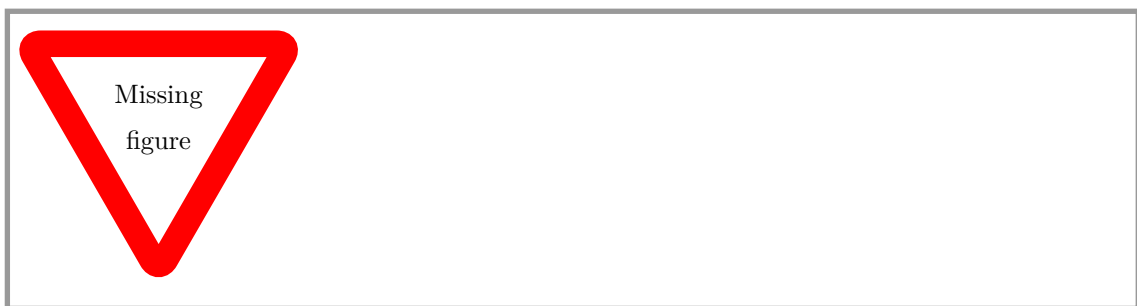


Figure -: Supervisor-mode Cause Register

Table 7-8 lists the possible exception codes for the current supervisor ISAs.

Interrupt	Exception Code	Description
1	0	User software interrupt
1	1	Supervisor software interrupt
1	2-3	<i>Reserved</i>
1	4	User timer interrupt
1	5	Supervisor timer interrupt

Interrupt	Exception Code	Description
1	6-7	<i>Reserved</i>
1	8	User external interrupt
1	9	Supervisor external interrupt
1	≤ 10	<i>Reserved</i>
0	0	Instruction address misaligned
0	1	Instruction access fault
0	2	Illegal Instruction
0	3	Breakpoint
0	4	<i>Reserved</i>
0	5	Load access fault
0	6	AMO address misaligned
0	7	Store/AMO access fault
0	8	Environment call
0	≤ 9	<i>Reserved</i>

Table -: Supervisor Cause Register Values

5.7.8 Supervisor Bad Address Register (sbadaddr)

sbadaddr is an XLEN-bit read/write register formatted as shown in Figure 7-26. When a hardware breakpoint is triggered, or an instruction-fetch, load, or store access exception occurs, or an instruction-fetch or AMO address-misaligned exception occurs, sbadaddr is written with the faulting address. sbadaddr is not modified for other exceptions.



Figure -: Supervisor Bad Address Register

For instruction fetch access faults on RISC-V systems with variable-length instructions, sbadaddr will point to the portion of the instruction that caused the fault while sepc will point to the beginning of the instruction.

5.8 User Mode CSRs

5.8.1 Cycle counter for RDCYCLE instruction (cycle)



Figure -: Cycle Counter Register

cycle is an XLEN-bit read-only register. The RDCYCLE pseudo-instruction reads the low XLEN bits of the cycle CSR that holds a count of the number of clock cycles executed by the processor on which the hardware thread is running from an arbitrary start time in the past.

5.8.2 Instruction-retire counter for RDINSTRET instruction (instret)



Figure -: Instruction-retire counter

instret is an XLEN-bit read-only register. The RDINSTRET pseudo-instruction reads the low XLEN bits of the instret CSR, which counts the number of instructions retired by this hardware thread from some arbitrary start point in the past.

5.8.3 Upper 32bits of cycle (cycleh - RV32I only)



Figure -: Upper word of cycle counter

cycleh is a read-only register that contains bits 63-32 of the counter of the number of clock cycles executed by the processor.

RDCYCLEH is an RV32I-only instruction providing access to this register.

5.8.4 Upper 32bit of instret (instreth - RV32I only)



Figure -: Upper word of instret counter

Instreth is a read-only register that contains bits 63-32 of the instruction counter.

RDINSTRETH is an RV32I-only instruction providing access to this register

6 External Interfaces

The RV12 CPU is designed to support a variety of external bus interfaces. The following sections define the default AMBA3 AHB-Lite and Interrupt Interfaces.

6.1 AMBA3 AHB-Lite

Port	Size	Direction	Description
HRESETn	1	Input	Asynchronous active low reset
HCLK	1	Input	System clock input
IHSEL	1	Output	Provided for AHB-Lite compatibility – tied high ('1')
IHADDR	XLEN	Output	Instruction address
IHRDATA	32	Input	Instruction data
IHWRITE	1	Output	Instruction write
IHSIZE	3	Output	Transfer size
IHBURST	3	Output	Transfer burst size
IHPROT	4	Output	Transfer protection level
IHTRANS	2	Output	Transfer type
IHMASTLOCK	1	Output	Transfer master lock
IHREADY	1	Input	Slave Ready Indicator
IHRESP	1	Input	Instruction Transfer Response
DHSEL	1	Output	Provided for AHB-Lite compatibility – tied high ('1')
DHADDR	XLEN	Output	Data address
DHRDATA	XLEN	Input	Data read data
DHWDATA	XLEN	Output	Data write data
DHWRITE	1	Output	Instruction write
DHSIZE	3	Output	Transfer size
DHBURST	3	Output	Transfer burst size
DHPROT	4	Output	Transfer protection level
DHTRANS	2	Output	Transfer type
DHMASTLOCK	1	Output	Transfer master lock
DHREADY	1	Input	Slave Ready Indicator
DHRESP	1	Input	Data Transfer Response

Table 6.1: AMBA3 AHB-Lite Ports

6.1.1 HRESETn

When the active low asynchronous HRESETn input is asserted ('0'), the core is put into its initial reset state.

6.1.2 HCLK

HCLK is the system clock. All internal logic operates at the rising edge of the system clock. All AHB bus timings are related to the rising edge of HCLK.

6.1.3 IHSEL

IHSEL is a *slave* selection signal and therefore provided for AHB-Lite completeness. This signal is tied permanently high ('1')

6.1.4 IHADDR

IHADDR is the instruction address bus. Its size is determined by `PHYS_ADDR_SIZE`.

6.1.5 IHRDATA

IHRDATA transfers the instruction from memory to the CPU. Its size is determined by `XLEN`.

6.1.6 IHWRITE

IHWRITE indicates whether the current transfer is a read or a write transfer. The instruction write is always negated ('0').

6.1.7 IHSIZE

The instruction transfer size is indicated by `IHSIZE`. Its value depends on the `XLEN` parameter and if the current transfer is a cache-line fill or non-cacheable instruction read.

IHSIZE	Type	Description
010	Word	Non-cacheable instruction read. <code>XLEN=32</code>
011	Dword	Non-cacheable instruction read. <code>XLEN=64</code>
1--		Cache line fill. The actual size depends on the Instruction cache parameters and <code>XLEN</code>

Table 6.2: Supported IHSIZE Values

6.1.8 IHBURST

The instruction burst type indicates if the transfer is a single transfer or part of a burst.

IHBURST	Type	Description
000	Single	<i>Not used</i>
001	INCR	Non-cacheable instruction reads
010	WRAP4	4-beat wrapping burst
011	INCR4	<i>Not used</i>
100	WRAP8	8-beat wrapping burst
101	INCR8	<i>Not used</i>
110	WRAP16	16-beat wrapping burst
111	INCR16	<i>Not used</i>

Table 6.3: Supported IHBURST Values

6.1.9 IHPROT

The instruction protection signals provide information about the bus transfer. They are intended to implement some level of protection.

Bit#	Value	Description
3	1	Cacheable region addressed
	0	Non-cacheable region addressed
2	1	Bufferable
	0	Non-bufferable
1	1	Privileged access. CPU is not in User Mode
	0	User access. CPU is in User Mode
0	0	Opcode fetch, always '0'

Table 6.4: Supported IHPROT Values

6.1.10 IHTRANS

IHTRANS indicates the type of the current instruction transfer.

IHTRANS	Type	Description
00	IDLE	No transfer required
01	BUSY	CPU inserts wait states during instruction burst read
10	NONSEQ	First transfer of an instruction read burst
11	SEQ	Remaining transfers of an instruction readburst

Table 6.5: Supported IHTRANS Values

6.1.11 IHMASTLOCK

The instruction master lock signal indicates if the current transfer is part of a locked sequence, commonly used for Read-Modify-Write cycles. The instruction master lock is always negated ('0').

6.1.12 IHREADY

IHREADY indicates whether the addressed slave is ready to transfer data or not. When IHREADY is negated ('0') the slave is not ready, forcing wait states. When IHREADY is asserted ('1') the slave is ready and the transfer completed.

6.1.13 IHRESP

IHRESP is the instruction transfer response; it can either be OKAY ('0') or ERROR ('1'). An error response causes a Bus Error exception.

6.1.14 DHSEL

DHSEL is a *slave* selection signal and therefore provided for AHB-Lite completeness. This signal is tied permanently high ('1')

6.1.15 DHADDR

DHADDR is the data address bus. Its size is determined by `PHYS_ADDR_SIZE`.

6.1.16 DHRDATA

DHRDATA transfers the data from memory to the CPU. Its size is determined by `XLEN`.

6.1.17 DHWDATA

DHWDATA transfers the data from the CPU to memory. Its size is determined by `XLEN`.

6.1.18 DHWRITE

DHWRITE indicates whether the current transfer is a read or a write transfer. It is asserted ('1') during a write and negated ('0') during a read transfer.

6.1.19 DHSIZE

The data transfer size is indicated by `DHSIZE`. Its value depends on the `XLEN` parameter and if the current transfer is a cache-line fill/write-back or a non-cacheable data transfer.

DHSIZE	Type	Description
000	Byte	Non-cacheable data transfer
001	Halfword	Non-cacheable data transfer
010	Word	Non-cacheable data transfer
011	Dword	Non-cacheable data transfer
1--		Cache line fill. The actual size depends on the Instruction cache parameters and <code>XLEN</code>

Table 6.6: Supported DHSIZE Values

6.1.20 DHBURST

The instruction burst type indicates if the transfer is a single transfer or part of a burst.

DHBURST	Type	Description
000	Single	Single transfer. E.g. non-cacheable read/write
001	INCR	<i>Not used</i>
010	WRAP4	4-beat wrapping burst
011	INCR4	<i>Not used</i>
100	WRAP8	8-beat wrapping burst
101	INCR8	<i>Not used</i>
110	WRAP16	16-beat wrapping burst
111	INCR16	<i>Not used</i>

Table -: Supported DHBURST Values

6.1.21 DHPROT

The data protection signals provide information about the bus transfer. They are intended to implement some level of protection.

Bit#	Value	Description
3	1	Cacheable region addressed
	0	Non-cacheable region addressed
2	1	Bufferable
	0	Non-bufferable
1	1	Privileged access. CPU is not in User Mode
	0	User access. CPU is in User Mode
0	1	Data transfer, always '1'

Table -: Supported DHPROT Values

6.1.22 DHTRANS

DHTRANS indicates the type of the current data transfer.

DHTRANS	Type	Description
00	IDLE	No transfer required
01	BUSY	<i>Not used</i>
10	NONSEQ	First transfer of an data burst
11	SEQ	Remaining transfers of an data burst

Table -: Supported DHTRANS Values

6.1.23 DHMASTLOCK

The data master lock signal indicates if the current transfer is part of a locked sequence, commonly used for Read-Modify-Write cycles. The data master lock is always negated ('0').

6.1.24 DHREADY

DHREADY indicates whether the addressed slave is ready to transfer data or not. When DHREADY is negated ('0') the slave is not ready, forcing wait states. When DHREADY is asserted ('1') the slave is ready and the transfer completed.

6.1.25 DHRESP

DHRESP is the data transfer response; it can either be OKAY ('0') or ERROR ('1'). An error response causes a Bus Error exception.

6.2 Interrupts

The RV12 supports multiple external interrupts and is designed to operate in conjunction with an external Platform Level Interrupt Controller (PLIC) as defined in Chapter 7 of the RISC-V Privilege Level specification v1.9.1.

Dedicated pins on the RV12 core present the interrupt to the CPU which then expects the Identifier of the Source Interrupt to be presented by the PLIC at the appropriate interrupt vector upon a claim of the interrupt.

Port	Size	Direction	Description
EXT_NMI	1	Input	Non-Maskable Interrupt
EXT_TINT	1	Input	Timer Interrupt
EXT_SINT	1	Input	Software Interrupt
EXT_INT	4	Input	External Interrupts

6.2.1 EXT_NMI

The RV12 supports a single external non-maskable interrupt, accessible in Machine Mode only. The interrupt vector for EXT_NMI is defined as an RV12 core parameter MNMIVEC_DEFAULT (see section 4.2.26)

6.2.2 EXT_TINT

The RV12 supports a single Machine-Mode timer interrupt EXT_TINT.

The interrupt may be delegated to other operating modes via software manipulation of mip and sip registers (See sections 7.6.8 and 7.7.3). Alternatively, higher performance interrupt redirection may be implemented via use of the mideleg and sideleg configuration registers (See sections 7.6.7 and 7.7.2).

The interrupt vector used to service the interrupt is determined based on the mode the interrupt is delegated to via the MTVEC_DEFAULT, STVEC_DEFAULT and UTVEC_DEFAULT parameters.

6.2.3 EXT_SINT

The RV12 supports a single Machine-Mode timer interrupt EXT_SINT.

The interrupt may be delegated to other operating modes via software manipulation of mip and sip registers (See sections 7.6.8 and 7.7.3). Alternatively, higher performance interrupt redirection may be implemented via use of the mideleg and sideleg configuration registers (See sections 7.6.7 and 7.7.2).

The interrupt vector used to service the interrupt is determined based on the mode the interrupt is delegated to via the MTVEC_DEFAULT, STVEC_DEFAULT and UTVEC_DEFAULT parameters.

6.2.4 EXT_INT

RV12 supports one general-purpose external interrupt input per operating mode, as defined in Table 8-10:

Interrupt	Priority	Mode Supported
EXT_INT[3]	3	Machine Mode
EXT_INT[2]	2	Reserved
EXT_INT[1]	1	Supervisor Mode
EXT_INT[0]	0	User Mode

Table -: External Interrupt Inputs

Each interrupt will be serviced by the operating mode it corresponds to, or alternatively a higher priority mode depending on the system configuration and specific operating conditions at the time the interrupt is handled. This includes if interrupt delegation is enabled, if a specific is implemented, or the specific operating mode at the time of servicing for example.

Notes:

1. An external interrupt will never be serviced by a lower priority mode than that corresponding to the input pin. For example, an interrupt presented to `EXT_INT[1]` – corresponding to supervisor mode – cannot be serviced by a user mode ISR.
2. Conversely, Machine Mode may service interrupts arriving on any of the interrupt inputs due to it have the highest priority.

7 Debug Unit

7.1 Introduction

The Debug Unit is a separate unit in the CPU. It's not directly related to any instruction execution or support functions, like Cache or Branch Prediction. Instead it provides a means to halt the CPU and inspect its internal registers and state as a means of debugging the execution program.

The Debug Unit has its own interfaces and must be connected to an external debug controller that provides the actual interfacing to the external Debug Tools. The Debug Unit does not stall the CPU, instead it relies on the external debug controller to stall the CPU when the Debug Unit requests it.

7.2 Debug Controller Interface

The Debug Unit has two interfaces; one to communicate with the CPU and one to communicate with the external debug controller. The CPU interface is an internal interface and therefore not described here.

The Debug Controller Interface is an SRAM like synchronous interface. The connected Debug Controller must use the same clock as the CPU.

Port	Size	Direction	Description
dbg_stall	1	Input	Stall CPU
dbg_strb	1	Input	Access Request/Strobe
dbg_we	1	Input	Write Enable
dbg_addr	13	Input	Address Bus
dbg_dati	XLEN	Input	Write Data Bus
dbg_dato	XLEN	Output	Read Data Bus
dbg_ack	1	Output	Access Acknowledge
dbg_bp	1	Output	BreakPoint

Table -: Debug Controller Ports

7.2.1 dbg_stall

The CPU is halted when dbg_stall is asserted ('1'). No new instructions are fed into the execution units. Any instructions already issued are finished.

The Debug Unit can use this signal to pause program execution and inspect the CPU's state and registers. The Debug Controller must assert dbg_stall immediate (combinatorial) when the Debug Unit asserts dbg_bp.

7.2.2 dbg_strb

The Debug Controller asserts ('1') the Access Strobe signal when it wants to read from or write to the Debug Unit or the CPU's registers. It must remain asserted until the Debug Unit acknowledges completion of the access by asserting ('1') dbg_ack.

7.2.3 dbg_we

The Debug Controller asserts ('1') the Write Enable signal when it wants to write to the Debug Unit or the CPU's registers. It must remain asserted until the Debug Unit acknowledges completion of the access by asserting ('1') dbg_ack. It is valid only when dbg_strb is asserted as well.

7.2.4 dbg_addr

The address bus carries the register-address that is read from or written to. See Register Map for the details.

7.2.5 dbg_dati

The write data bus carries the data to be written to the Debug Unit's or CPU's registers.

7.2.6 dbg_dato

The read data bus carries the data read from the Debug Unit's or CPU's registers.

7.2.7 dbg_bp

The Debug Unit asserts ('1') BreakPoint when a hardware breakpoint, single-step, branch-trace, or exception hit occurred. This is the CPU stall request from the Debug Unit to the external debug controller. The Debug Controller must assert ('1') dbg_stall immediately (combinatorial) upon detecting dbg_bp asserted.

7.3 Register Map

The Debug Unit's address map provides access to the Debug Unit's internal registers, the Register Files, and the Control-and-Status-Registers.

The internal registers can be always accessed, whereas the Register Files and the CSRs can only be access when the CPU is stalled.

addr[12:0]	Register	Description
0x0000	DBG_CTRL	Debug Control
0x0001	DBG_HIT	Debug Hit
0x0002	DBG_IE	Debug Interrupt Enable
0x0003	DBG_CAUSE	Debug Interrupt Cause
0x0004-0x000F		<i>Reserved</i>
0x0010	DBG_BPCTRL0	Hardware Breakpoint0 Control
0x0011	DBG_BPDATA0	Hardware Breakpoint0 Data
0x0012	DBG_BPCTRL1	Hardware Breakpoint1 Control
0x0013	DBG_BPDATA1	Hardware Breakpoint1 Data
0x0014	DBG_BPCTRL2	Hardware Breakpoint2 Control
0x0015	DBG_BPDATA2	Hardware Breakpoint2 Data
0x0016	DBG_BPCTRL3	Hardware Breakpoint3 Control
0x0017	DBG_BPDATA3	Hardware Breakpoint3 Data
0x0018	DBG_BPCTRL4	Hardware Breakpoint4 Control
0x0019	DBG_BPDATA4	Hardware Breakpoint4 Data
0x001A	DBG_BPCTRL5	Hardware Breakpoint5 Control
0x001B	DBG_BPDATA5	Hardware Breakpoint5 Data

addr[12:0]	Register	Description
0x001C	DBG_BPCTRL6	Hardware Breakpoint6 Control
0x001D	DBG_BPDATA6	Hardware Breakpoint6 Data
0x001E	DBG_BPCTRL7	Hardware Breakpoint7 Control
0x001F	DBG_BPDATA7	Hardware Breakpoint7 Data
0x0020-0x00FF		<i>Reserved</i>
0x0100-0x011F	RF	Integer Register File
0x0120-0x03FF		<i>Reserved</i>
0x0140-0x051F	FRF	Floating Point Register File
0x0160-0x071F	FRF (MSBs)	MSBs of the Floating Point Register, for 64bit FRF with 32bit XLEN
0x0180-0x07FF		<i>Reserved</i>
0x0800	NPC	Next Program Counter
0x0801	PPC	Current Program Counter
0x0802-0x0FFF		<i>Reserved</i>
0x1000-0x1FFF	CSR	CPU Control & Status

Table -: Debug Unit Register Map

7.4 Internal Register Map

The Debug Unit's internal register map can be accessed when the CPU is stalled or running. These registers control the hardware breakpoints and conditions and report the reason why the Debug Unit stalled the CPU.

7.4.1 Debug Control Register DBG_CTRL



Figure -: Debug Control Register

The XLEN size DBG_CTRL controls the single-step and branch-tracing functions.

When the Single-Step-Trace-Enable bit is '1' the Single-Step-Trace function is enabled. The CPU will assert ('1') dbg_bp each time a non-NOP instruction is about to be executed.

sste	Description
0	Single-Step-Trace disabled
1	Single-Step-Trace enabled

Table -: Single Step Trace Enable Settings

When the Branch-Trace-Enable bit is '1' the Branch-Step-Trace function is enabled. The CPU

will assert `dbg_bp` each time a branch instruction is about to be executed.

bte	Description
0	Branch-Step-Trace disabled
1	Branch-Step-Trace enabled

Table -: Branch Trace Enable Settings

7.4.2 Debug Breakpoint Hit Register `DBG_HIT`

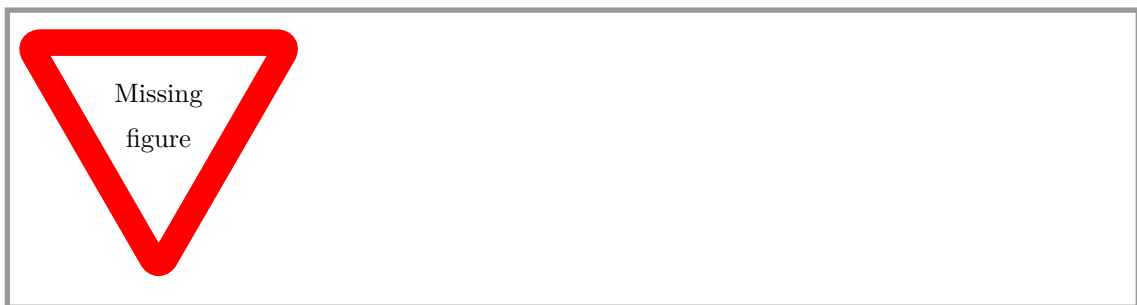


Figure -: Debug Breakpoint Hit Register

The Debug Breakpoint Hit register contains the reason(s) why the Debug Unit requested to stall the CPU.

The Single-Step-Trace-Hit field is asserted ('1') when the Single-Step-Trace function requests to stall the CPU. This is a sticky bit. It is set by the Debug Unit, but must be cleared by the Debug Environment.

The Branch-Trace-Hit field is asserted ('1') when the Branch-Trace function requests to stall the CPU. This is a sticky bit. It is set by the Debug Unit, but must be cleared by the Debug Environment.

The Breakpoint-Hit fields are asserted ('1') when the respective hardware breakpoint triggered and requests to stall the CPU. There is one bit for each implemented hardware breakpoint. These are sticky bits. They are set by the Debug Unit, but must be cleared by the Debug Environment.

7.4.3 Debug Interrupt Enable Register `DBG_IE`



Figure -: Debug Interrupt Enable Register

Bit#	Description
31-18	External Interrupts
17	Timer Interrupt

Bit#	Description
16	Software Interrupt
11	Environment call from Machine Mode
10	Environment call from Hypervisor Mode
9	Environment call from Supervisor Mode
8	Environment call from User Mode
7	Store Access Fault
6	Store Address Misaligned
5	Load Access Fault
4	Load Address Misaligned
3	Breakpoint
2	Illegal Instruction
1	Instruction Access Fault
0	Instruction Address Misaligned

Table -: DBG_IE Register Bit Descriptions

The `dbg_ie` register determines what exceptions cause the Debug Unit to assert `dbg_bp`. Normally an exception causes the CPU to load the trap-vector and enter the trap routine, but if the applicable bit in the `dbg_ie` bit is set, then the CPU does not load the trap-vector, does not change `mcause` and `mepc`, and does not enter the trap vector routine when that exception is triggered. Instead the CPU sets `DBG_CAUSE` and asserts `dbg_bp`, thereby handing over control to the external debug controller.

The lower 16bits of the register represent the trap causes as defined in the `mcause` register. The upper 16bits represent the interrupt causes as defined in the `mcause` register.

Logic '1' indicates the CPU hands over execution to the debug controller when the corresponding exception is triggered. For example setting bit-2 to '1' causes the BREAKPOINT trap to assert `dbg_bp` and hand over control to the debug controller. At least the BREAKPOINT exception must be set in the `dbg_ie` register.

7.4.4 Debug Exception Cause Register DBG_CAUSE



Figure -: Debug Exception Cause Register

The `DBG_CAUSE` register contains the exception number that caused the CPU to hand over control to the external Debug Controller. See the `mcause` register description for a description of all exceptions.

DBG_CAUSE	Description	GDB Signal
>15	Interrupts	INT
	Timer Interrupt	ALRM

DBG_CAUSE	Description	GDB Signal
11	ECALL from Machine Mode	TRAP
10	ECALL from Hypervisor Mode	TRAP
9	ECALL from Supervisor Mode	TRAP
8	ECALL from User Mode	TRAP
7	Store Access Fault	SEGV
6	Store Address Misaligned	BUS
5	Load Access Fault	SEGV
4	Load Address Misaligned	BUS
3	Breakpoint	TRAP
2	Illegal Instruction	ILL
1	Instruction Access Fault	SEGV
0	Instruction Address Misaligned	BUS

Because the RISC-V defines the cause register as an integer value, there is no easy way to detect if there was no cause. It's recommended that the Debug Environment writes '-1' into the dbg_cause register upon starting the debug session and after handling each exception.

The debug controller's software layer must translate the value in the DBG_CAUSE register to the debugger's control signal. The table below shows the basic mapping of the DBG_CAUSE register to GDB Signals.

7.4.5 Debug Breakpoint Control Registers DBG_CTRLx



Figure -: Debug Breakpoint Control Registers

The DBG_BPCTRL registers control the functionality of the hardware breakpoints. There is a Breakpoint Control Register for each implemented hardware breakpoint. The BREAKPOINTS parameter defines the amount of hardware breakpoints that are implemented.

The Breakpoint Implemented field informs the Debug Environment if the hardware breakpoint is implemented. The bit is set ('1') when the hardware breakpoint is implemented and ('0') when it is not. The Debug Environment should read the DBG_BPCTRL registers and examine the Breakpoint Implemented fields to determine the amount of hardware breakpoints implemented.

impl	Description
0	Hardware Breakpoint not implemented
1	Hardware Breakpoint implemented

Table -: DBG_CTRLx Implementation Field Values

The Breakpoint Enable bit enables or disables the breakpoint. The hardware breakpoint is

enabled when the bit is set ('1') and disabled when the bit is cleared ('0'). When the hardware breakpoint is disabled it will not generate a breakpoint hit, even if the breakpoint conditions are met. Clearing the breakpoint enable bit does not clear any pending hits. These must be cleared in the DBG_HIT register.

ena	Description
0	Hardware Breakpoint is disabled
1	Hardware Breakpoint is enabled

Table -: DBG_CTRLx Enable Field Values

The Breakpoint Condition Code bits determine what condition triggers the hardware breakpoint.

cc	Description
3'b000	Instruction Fetch
3'b001	Data Load
3'b010	Data Store
3'b011	Data Access
3'b1--	Reserved

Table -: DBG_CTRLx Breakpoint Condition Codes

Instruction Fetch The hardware breakpoint will trigger a breakpoint exception when the CPU is about to execute the instruction at the address specified in the DBG_DATA register.

Data Load The hardware breakpoint will trigger a breakpoint exception when the CPU reads from the address specified in the DBG_DATA register.

Data Store The hardware breakpoint will trigger a breakpoint exception when the CPU writes to the address specified in the DBG_DATA register.

Data Access The hardware breakpoint will trigger a breakpoint exception when the CPU accesses (either reads from or writes to) the address specified in the DBG_DATA register.

7.4.6 Debug Breakpoint Data Registers DBG_DATAx



Figure -: Debug Breakpoint Data Registers

The DBG_DATA registers contain the data/value that trigger a breakpoint hit. There is a Breakpoint Data Register for each implemented hardware breakpoint. The meaning of the DBG_DATA register depends on the condition code set in the associated DBG_BPCTRL register. See the DBG_CTRL register for the meaning of the DBG_DATA register.

8 Resources

Below are some example implementations for various platforms.

All implementations are push button, no effort has been undertaken to reduce area or improve performance.

Platform	DFF	Logic Cells	Memory	Performance (MHz)
lfxp3c-5	51	85	0	235MHz

Table -: Examples of RV12 Resource Utilisation

9 Acknowledgements

The RV12 CPU is designed to be compliant with v1.9.1 of the RISC-V Privileged Architecture and v2.2 of the RISC-V User Level ISA.

This datasheet includes documentation derived from the following RISC-V Foundation documentation, as licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License:

“The RISC-V Instruction Set Manual, Volume I: User-Level ISA, Document Version 2.2”, Editors Andrew Waterman and Krste Asanović, RISC-V Foundation, May 2017.

“The RISC-V Instruction Set Manual, Volume II: Privileged Architecture, Version 1.9.1”, Editors Andrew Waterman and Krste Asanović, RISC-V Foundation, November 2016

10 Revision History

Date	Rev.	Comments
01-Feb-2017	1.0	Initial Release

Table -: Revision History