DIGITAL DESIGN LAB (EDA322) CHACC PROCESSOR

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1 Introduction

This document provides the specifications of the Chalmers Accumulator (ChAcc) processor that will be implemented and evaluated during the seven lab sessions of Digital Design (EDA322). The student will:

- 1. Implement the processor design in VHDL
- 2. Verify its implementation using simulation in Modelsim/ Questasim
- 3. Evaluate the design regarding performance, area, and power dissipation and possibly optimize further
- 4. Download the processor design on an FPGA

The ChAcc processor, based on the lab processor of HY-120 course in the institute of Computer Science in FORTH, Greece, is a simple and slow processor which can run various programs. It is an 8-bit processor, i.e., the processor executes operations on 8-bit data but executes instructions (machine code in Table 1) which are 12-bit long. ChAcc makes use of the accumulator architecture, which has a special register, called Accumulator (ACC). The register is so named because it can perform consecutive operations (e.g., additions) and accumulate the result. ACC keeps the result of the most recent operation. Almost every instruction works on ACC and the content of a memory location.

This document describes the ChAcc processor and provides important details regarding the Instruction Set Architecture (ISA) and the control signals. This document is organized as follows. Section 2 presents the ISA containing the syntax and the use of the instructions. Section 3 discusses the processor datapath, briefly describing the contained components. Finally, Section 4 discusses the use of the controller documenting the set of control signals and when they must be set/reset so that ChAcc can correctly function.

2 Instruction Set Architecture

The Instruction Set Architecture(ISA) is the set of instructions that a processor can recognize and execute. The ChAcc processor uses its own ISA with 16 instructions as shown in Table 1. The table contains the following columns:

- 1. Machine code or imDataOut[11:0]: The binary code of an instruction which is 12 bits wide wherein the 4 most significant bits compose the opcode (operation code which is unique for each type of instruction) and the 8 least significant bits can be
 - "aaaaaaaa": 8 bit address (Addr in Table) that is used to access the data memory,
 - "dddddddd": 8 bit data that is used to load a value directly into the accumulator using the MOV instruction.
 - "cooooooo": 1 bit control and 7 bit offset for the jump instructions like JEQ, and JNE, or
 - "xxxxxxxx": or "don't care" for instructions like NOOP, NOT, and DS as they do not need to access the data memory or have an offset.
- 2. Instruction: The name of the instruction
- 3. Assembly code: The instruction written in assembly language format
- 4. Comments: A brief description of the instruction and some extra information that must be taken into consideration in particular cases.

Machine Code	Instruction	Assembly Code	Comments
0000xxxxxxxx	No Operation	NOOP	Do Nothing
0001xxxxxxxx	Input	IN	ACC = Value at IO_BUS
0010xxxxxxxx	Display	DS	$DS ext{ (display register)} = ACC$
0011dddddddd	Move	MOV ACC, #Value	ACC = Value
0100coooooo	Jump Equal	JE Offset	if (E flag == 1): $PC = (PC+1) \pm Offset^1$
0101cooooooo	Jump Not Equal	JNE Offset	if (E flag != 0): $PC = (PC+1) \pm Offset^1$
0110coooooo	Jump Zero	JZ Offset	if (Z flag == 0): PC = (PC+1) \pm Offset ¹
0111aaaaaaaa	Compare	CMP ACC, Mem[Addr]	if (ACC == Memory[Addr]): E flag=1 else: E flag=0
1000xxxxxxxx	Rotate Left	ROL ACC, 1	$ACC = ACC \ll 1$
1001aaaaaaaa	Logical AND	AND ACC, Mem[Addr]	ACC = ACC & Memory[Addr] Set Z flag
1010aaaaaaaa	Add	ADD ACC, Mem[Addr]	
1011aaaaaaaa	Subtract	SUB ACC, Mem[Addr]	ACC = ACC - Memory[Addr] Set C and Z flags
1100aaaaaaaa	Load Byte	LB ACC, Mem[Addr]	ACC = Memory[Addr]
1101aaaaaaaa	Store Byte	SB Mem[Addr], ACC	Memory[Addr]=ACC
1110aaaaaaaa	Load Byte Index	LBI ACC, Mem[Mem[Addr]]	ACC = Memory[Memory[Addr]]
1111aaaaaaaa	Store Byte Index	SBI Mem[Mem[Addr]], ACC	Memory[Memory[Addr]]=ACC

¹ Offset is a positive integer contained in imDataOut[6:0], and can be added or subtracted to pcOut (which is already updated to (PC+1) in the FE stage, see Figure 1) based on the c bit in the instruction, i.e. imDataOut[7]. 0 means addition and 1 means subtraction.

Table 1: Instruction Set Architecture (ISA) of the ChAcc processor

ChAcc processor primarily consists of three groups of instructions:

1. **Arithmetic and logic instructions:** The instructions Add, Subtract, AND, Compare, and Rotate Left belong to this group. These instructions make use of the ALU and perform arithmetic or logic

operations between the ACC and the content of a data memory location (except the NOT and ROL instructions). The address field of the instruction is used to access the data memory and retrieve the second data operand for the ALU.

- 2. **Memory instructions:** The instructions Load Byte, Store Byte, Load Byte Index, and Store Byte Index that belong to this group access the data memory using the address field of the instruction as an index. Memory instructions can:
 - (a) read something from the data memory and save it to the ACC (Load Byte, Load Byte Index),
 - (b) write the content of the ACC into the data memory (Store Byte, Store Byte Index), or
 - Note that the instructions LBI and SBI access the data memory twice.
- 3. **Jump instructions:** The instructions Jump Equal, Jump Carry, and Jump Zero that belong to this group can change the program flow by modifying the program counter (PC) based on a condition. The address of the next instruction is calculated based on the instruction.
- 4. **Misc instructions:** There are three other instructions that do not belong to any of the groups above.
 - DS is used for debugging by copying the content of the ACC register into the Display (DS) register)
 - IN is used to write the data that come from the I/O bus into the ACC register
 - NOOP is used to keep the processor idle. It does nothing
 - MOV is used to write data directly into the ACC register.

3 Datapath

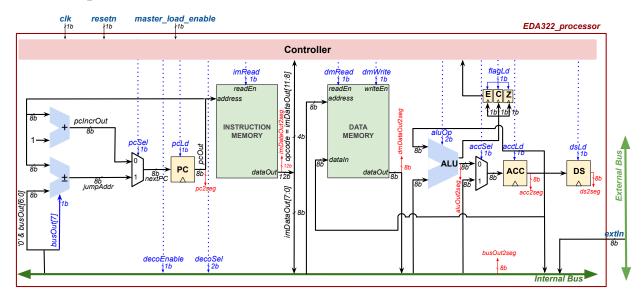


Figure 1: ChAcc processor datapath

The datapath is the portion of the processor that contains hardware components necessary to execute instructions by the processor. The ChAcc datapath is depicted in Figure 1. The datapath consists of many different components such as memory, registers, an Arithmetic and Logic Unit (ALU), adders, multiplexers, buses, controller and the 7-segment displays. The controller (Section 4) is the brain of the processor since it orchestrates the different units based on the executed instruction (Section 2).

3.1 Instruction Execution

The ChAcc processor, like any processor, runs a set of instructions or in other words a program. The program is executed instruction-by-instruction. An instruction execution can be split into the following stages:

• (FE) Instruction Fetch:

- The instruction (imDataOut) is read from the Instruction Memory using program counter (PC) as the address
- PC is incremented to the address of next sequential instruction

• (DE1) Instruction Decode and Data Fetch:

- The controller decodes the opcode (imDataOut[11:8]) to figure out which processor's units will be used and which control signals must be set or unset during the whole instruction's execution
- The data is fetched from the Data Memory using the address part of the instruction (imDataOut[7:0])

• (DE2) Second Data Fetch:

- The Data Memory is read for a second time to get the data for load index instruction (LBI)

• (EX) Execute:

- Arithmetic and logic instructions (e.g., ADD, SUB, AND, CMP, ROL) are executed using the Arithmetic-Logic Unit (ALU), and the result is saved into the ACC register (except for CMP which updates only the E register).
- Load instructions (e.g., LB, LBI) update the value of ACC register with the data read from memory
- Input instruction (IN) writes the value from external input to the ACC register
- DS instruction sets the dsLd control signal and completes execution
- Jump instructions JE, JNE, JZ calculate the jump address (jumpAddr), update PC and complete
 execution

• (ME) Write to Memory:

- Store instructions (e.g., SB, SBI) writes the previously calculated result (already saved in ACC) to the memory

Each instruction uses different datapath components during execution and thus, may not require all five stages. Table 2 summarizes the stages utilized by the different instructions marking with \checkmark for the used ones and with \checkmark for the unused stages. Every stage has a duration of one clock cycle. The last column of the table presents the actual number of used stages (cycles needed) per instruction.

Opcode	Assembly Code	FE	DE1	DE2	EX	ME	#stages
0000	NOOP	/	/	X	X	X	2
0001	IN	√	✓	X	√	X	3
0010	DS	√	✓	X	√	X	3
0011	MOV ACC, #Value	√	✓	X	√	X	3
0100	JE Offset	✓	✓	X	√	X	3
0101	JNE Offset	√	✓	X	√	X	3
0110	JZ Offset	√	✓	X	√	X	3
0111	CMP ACC, Mem[Addr]	√	✓	X	√	X	3
1000	ROL ACC, 1	✓	✓	X	√	X	3
1001	AND ACC, Mem[Addr]	√	√	X	√	X	3
1010	ADD ACC, Mem[Addr]	✓	✓	X	√	X	3
1011	SUB ACC, Mem[Addr]	√	√	X	√	X	3
1100	LB ACC, Mem[Addr]	√	✓	X	√	X	3
1101	SB Mem[Addr], ACC	✓	✓	X	X	✓	3
1110	LBI ACC, Mem[Mem[Addr]]	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	4
1111	SBI Mem[Mem[Addr]], ACC	✓	✓	X	X	✓	3

Table 2: Datapath stages per instruction

The clock cycle time of the processor is determined by the latency of the slowest datapath stage (critical path). If the whole datapath was clocked as one large stage, all the instructions would have the same execution time resulting in a simpler controller design. However, it is more advantageous to have a multistage datapath as different instructions of the ISA utilize a variable number of datapath stages, thus requiring a variable number of clock cycles, resulting in different execution times among them. This can potentially yield a more efficient design in terms of performance. Finally, a multi-stage datapath can be more easily

pipelined to parallelize the execution of more instructions per cycle. However, the latter requires computer organization knowledge and is out of the scope of this course. The rest of this section focuses on particular components of the datapath.

3.2 Memory

The ChAcc datapath contains two memories, Instruction Memory and Data Memory, which store the program's instructions and data, respectively. Each memory is accessed using an 8-bit address, implying that each has 2⁸ entries (= 256 entries). Both memories are synchronous, meaning that all accesses must be clock synchronized. Table 3 and 4 describe the inputs and outputs of the Instruction Memory and Data Memory.

3.2.1 Instruction Memory

- Each entry in the Instruction Memory is 12 bits
- The memory takes an input address (address)
- If readEn is enabled at a rising clock edge, then data is read from address to the dataOut port
- The memory can be initialized using a memory initialization file (-mif) in the implementation

Name	$\# { m bits}$	Type	Comments
clk	1	Input	The processor's clock signal
readEn	1	Input	Reads data from address to dataOut port, when set
address	8	Input	The memory address for memory read operation
dataOut	12	Output	The output data from memory for a memory read operation

Table 3: Inputs and outputs of the Instruction Memory

3.2.2 Data Memory

- Each entry in the Data Memory is 8 bits
- The memory takes an input address (address)
- If writeEn is enabled at a rising clock edge, then data is written from the dataIn port to address
- If readEn is enabled at a rising clock edge, then data is read from address to the dataOut port
- The memory can be initialized using a memory initialization file (-mif) in the implementation

Name	$\# { m bits}$	Type	Comments
clk 1 Input The processor's close		Input	The processor's clock signal
writeEn	1	Input	Writes data from dataIn port to address, when set
readEn	1	Input	Reads data from address to dataOut port, when set
address 8 Input The memory address for memory read/write operation		The memory address for memory read/write operation	
dataIn 8 Input The input data to memory for a memory write operation		The input data to memory for a memory write operation	
dataOut 8 Output The output data from memory for a memory read operation		The output data from memory for a memory read operation	

Table 4: Inputs and outputs of the Data Memory

3.3 Registers

The register is the simplest storage component used in the ChAcc processor. It contains one or more D flip-flops which store their input in each positive clock edge. All the registers receive an input enable signal (loadEnable) from the controller. Based on the enable signal, each register either maintains the current value or updates it with a new one. Figure 2 shows a 1-bit register using a D flip-flop. An n-bit register can store an n-bit value, thus having n number of flip-flops. Table 5 describes the inputs and outputs of an n-bit register.

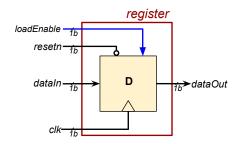


Figure 2: 1-bit register using D flip-flop

Name	$\# { m bits}$	Type	Comments
dataIn	n	Input	Data input of the register
clk	1	Input	Connected to the processor's clock
resetn	1	Input	Connected to the processor's reset signal which is asynchronous and
			active when it is θ .
loadEnable	1 Input Control input signal which updates the register with a new		Control input signal which updates the register with a new input,
			when set (i.e., loadEnable $= 1$)
dataOut	n	Output	Data output of the register

Table 5: Inputs and outputs of an n-bit Register

The registers of the ChAcc processor are described in Table 6. As shown in Figure 1, all the registers receive an input control signal (or *loadEnable*) from the controller.

Name	$\# { m bits}$	Control Signal	Comments
PC	8	pcLd	Stores the address of next instruction in the program sequence
ACC	8	accLd	Stores the value of the recent ALU operation
DS	8	dsLd	Stores the content of the ACC if we decide to show its value on the
			FPGA's display, using the instruction DS
E	1	flagLd	Stores the flag which indicates that the two ALU inputs are equal
C	1	flagLd	Stores the flag which indicates the carry in the ALU operation
Z	1	flagLd	Stores the flag which indicates that the ALU output is zero

Table 6: List of registers in the ChAcc processor

3.4 Arithmetic and Logic Unit (ALU)

The datapath contains an Arithmetic and Logic Unit (ALU) to perform all the necessary arithmetic and logic operations. In most modern processors, the ALU can perform arithmetic operations such as addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division on integer and floating-point operands and logic operations. However, the ALU of the ChAcc processor is relatively simple and only performs addition, subtraction, and a few logic operations (AND, Rotate Left and Compare). Furthermore, our ALU supports arithmetic operations only between unsigned numbers.

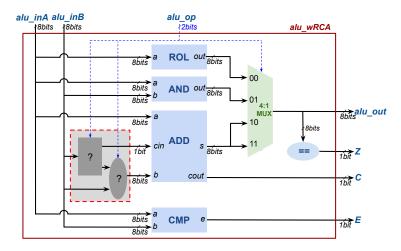


Figure 3: Block Diagram of the ALU

The block diagram of the ALU is depicted in Figure 3. The ALU has three inputs and four outputs as described in Table 7. The sub-components perform operations as listed in Table 8 based on alu_op. Note that cmp compares alu_inA and alu_inB and is always active irrespective of the operation.

Name	$\# { m bits}$	Type	Comments
alu_inA	8	Input	First data operand
alu_inB	8	Input	Second data operand
alu_op	2	Input Control signal that determines the ALU operation	
alu_out	8	Output Output of the ALU operation	
C flag	1	Output	Carry out cout of the adder
E flag	1	Output	Output of the compare operation; Set when the input data operands are equal
Z flag	1	Output	Set when the ALU output is zero.

Table 7: Inputs and outputs of the ALU

alu_op	Operation	Action		
00	Rotate Left	${\tt alu_out} \ll 1$		
01	Logical AND	${ t alu_out} = { t alu_inA} \ \& \ { t alu_inB}$		
10	Addition	${ t alu_out} = { t alu_inA} + { t alu_inB}$		
11	Subtraction	alu_out = alu_inA - alu_inB		

Table 8: ALU Operations for given ALU op

3.5 Adders

The datapath includes two adders, which do the following operations:

(Adder 1) Increments the PC to compute the address of the next sequential instruction pcIncrOut = pcOut + 1

(Adder 2) Computes the jump target address for JE, JC, and JZ instructions

 $jumpAddr = pcOut \pm Offset$

Offset is a positive integer contained in imDataOut[6:0], and can be added or subtracted to pcOut.

- If c bit in the instruction, i.e. imDataOut[7] is 0, jumpAddr = pcOut + Offset
- If c bit in the instruction, i.e. imDataOut[7] is 1, jumpAddr = pcOut Offset

3.6 Multiplexers

The datapath includes two 2:1 multiplexers (mux) to select between two inputs based on the control signal generated by the controller. Table 9 describes the different muxes in the ChAcc datapath with the two inputs and control signals.

Name	Description	Select Signal	Inputs
pc mux	Selects address for the	pcSel	Input0: pcIncrOut
po man	next instruction	Posse	Input1: jumpAddr
	Selects the source of ACC		Input0: ALU output
ACC mux	register	accSel	Input1: Output of the bus (busOut) for load and
	register		IN instructions

Table 9: Multiplexers in the ChAcc datapath

3.7 Bus

On the bottom of Figure 1, we can see the internal bus of the ChAcc processor. The bus communicates data between different components in the datapath. The bus has 6 inputs (4 data inputs, 1 enable input, 1 control input) and 1 data output as discussed in Table 10.

Name	$\# { m bits}$	Type	Comments		
imDataOut	8	Data Input	Source: 8 lower significant bits of the Instruction Memory output,		
Impataout	0	Data Inpat	i.e., imDataOut[7:0]		
dmDataOut	dmDataOut 8 Data Input		Source: Output from the Data Memory, dmDataOut		
accOut	accOut 8 Data Input		Source: Output from the accOut register		
extIn	8	Data Input	Source: Output from the external bus, extIn		
decoEnable	1	Enable Input	Enable input of the decoder from the controller		
decoSel	2	Control Input	Decoder control signal from the controller		
bus0ut	8	Data Output	The bus data output		

Table 10: Inputs and output of the Bus

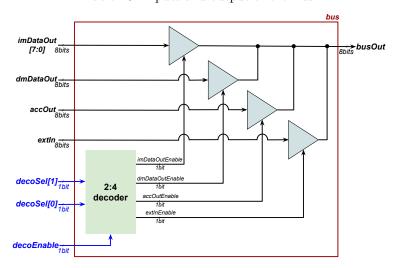


Figure 4: Bus with decoder and tri-state buffers

The bus is implemented with a 2:4 decoder and four tri-state buffers as shown in Figure 4. The four different data inputs are connected to the tri-state buffers and the outputs generated by the four buffers are connected to form a single bus line. The control inputs to the buffers determine which of the four data inputs will communicate with the bus line. Note that only one buffer can be in active state at a given point in time.

This is ensured by the 2:4 decoder which generates the control inputs to the buffers and hence, no more than one control input is active at a given point in time. The truth table of the decoder is presented in Table 11. When decoEnable is 0, all of the four outputs are 0, and the bus line is in a high-impedance state because all four buffers are disabled. When decoEnable is active, one of the three-state buffers will be active, depending on the binary value in the select inputs of the decoder.

decoEnable	decoSel[1]	decoSel[0]	imDataOutEnable	dmDataOutEnable	accOutEnable	extInEnable
0	x	x	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	1	0	0	0
1	0	1	0	1	0	0
1	1	0	0	0	1	0
1	1	1	0	0	0	1

Table 11: Truth table of the 2:4 decoder

3.8 7-segment displays

Many datapath signals are connected to 7-segment displays (self-explanatory names), as depicted in Figure 1. The user can use these displays to track the value of particular signals or registers to verify the correct operation when the processor is running. The 7-segment displays are handy when debugging the design.

4 Controller

In any processor, a special unit is needed in order to synchronize the rest of the components in the datapath and orchestrate their operations. This unit is called controller and is actually the "brain" of a processor. In the ChAcc processor, the controller is shown on the top of Figure 1. The controller is implemented as a Finite State Machine (FSM), and the details are provided in the Lab 4 assignment. This section discusses how the controller controls the components during the different stages of an instruction execution.

4.1 Controller's Interface

As different instructions make use of different datapath stages, the controller must determine which datapath stage is used by an instruction and when (which cycle), by setting/resetting particular signals (marked in blue color in Figure 1) that control the various datapath components like the muxes, the bus, the registers, the memory, the ALU, etc. The inputs and outputs are detailed in Table 12 and Table 13, respectively.

Name	$\# {f bits}$	Comments
clk	1	Synchronizes every sequential circuit (the processor's clock)
resetn	1	Intializes the components when active (RESETn = θ). Reset is asynchronous, i.e., not dependent on the rising/falling edge of the clock.
master_load _enable	1	This signal is connected to an FPGA switch and can be used to control manual clock toggling. In other words, by toggling this signal, the user is able to control the clocking of the design, freezing and starting the time. This is useful when debugging the design; otherwise the changes on the displays would not be visible to a human's eye, as the design's clock is on the order of hundreds of MHz. The master_load_enable affects the following: 1. The internal state transitions of the controller (FSM) are enabled when master_load_enable is set. 2. The registers save their input on the rising clock edge only when • master_load_enable is set (master_load_enable = 1) • respective control signal of a register is set • RESETn is disabled (i.e., RESETn = 1)
opcode	4	The four most significant bits of the current instruction (imDataOut[11:8]) to set/reset the control signals during different stages of the instruction execution.
E flag	1	Output from E register; Used for conditional jump instructions
Z flag	1	Output from Z register; Used for conditional jump instructions

Table 12: ChAcc Controller Inputs

Name	$\# { m bits}$	Component	Comments			
decoEnable	1	Bus	Enables decoder inside the internal bus, when set			
decoSel	2	Bus	Controls the decoder inside the internal bus			
pcSel	1	pc mux	Select signal for pc mux			
accSel	1	ACC mux	Select signal for ACC mux			
alu0p	2	ALU	Control signal that determines the ALU operation			
imRead	1	Memory	Enables the read function of the Instruction Memory, when set			
dmRead	1	Memory	Enables the read function of the Data Memory, when set			
dmWrite	1	Memory	Enables the write function of the Data Memory, when set			
pcLd	1	PC register	Enables PC register, when set			
flagLd	1	E, C and Z registers	Enables E, C and Z registers, when set			
accLd	1	ACC register	Enables ACC register, when set			
dsLd	1	DS register	Enables the load of the DS register			

Table 13: ChAcc Controller Outputs

4.2 Control Signals

Figure 5 depicts the values of the control signals for every instruction. The first column of the table presents the *opcode* (of the decoded instruction) while the row summarizes all the control signals for the corresponding *opcode*. Use the notation presented below to understand the control signals in Figure 5.

- \bullet The signal is presented in X_Y format, where X is the signal's value and Y is the stage at which the signal must take this value.
- Only the value X is presented when the signal is either set or unset during the whole execution of the instruction. *Example*: For *opcode* = 1000, *decoEnable* is 0 during the whole execution of instruction.
- The value of a signal may be x (don't care) instead of 1 or 0 which means that it can take any value.
- For JE and JNE instructions: The control signals in the EX stage are updated only if the respective flag condition is met (highlighted in Only if ..).
- All the control signals should have a default value (say, set to 0 at boot-up)

• Memory Read/Write and Register Load signals are set to 1 only if they are used in a particular stage. If it is not used/mentioned in the Table, it should be 0. Example: For opcode = 0111, flagLd is 1 only in the EX stage and should be 0 otherwise.

Opcode	Instruction	decoEnable	decoSel	pcSel	accSel	aluOp	imRead	ctive on	dmWrite	bc[d	e flagLd	accLd	dsLd
0000	NOOP	0	xx	0_FE	х	xx	1_FE	0	0	1_FE	0	0	0
0001	IN	1_EX	11_EX	0_FE	1_EX	xx	1_FE	0	0	1_FE	0	1_EX	0
0010	DS	0	xx	0_FE	х	xx	1_FE	0	0	1_FE	0	0	1_EX
0001	MOV	1_EX	00_EX	0_FE	1_EX	xx	1_FE	0	0	1_FE	0	1_EX	0
0100	JE OnlyIf E=1	1_EX	00_EX	0_FE 1_EX	х	XX	1_FE	0	0	1_FE 1_EX	0	0	0
0101	JNE OnlyIf E=0	1_EX	00_EX	0_FE 1_EX	х	XX	1_FE	0	0	1_FE 1_EX	0	0	0
0110	JZ OnlyIf Z=1	1_EX	00_EX	0_FE 1_EX	х	XX	1_FE	0	0	1_FE 1_EX	0	0	0
0111	CMP	1_DE1 1_EX	00_DE1 01_EX	0_FE	х	xx	1_FE	1_DE1	0	1_FE	1_EX	0	0
1000	ROL	0	xx	0_FE	0_EX	00_EX	1_FE	0	0	1_FE	1_EX	1_EX	0
1001	AND	1_DE1 1_EX	00_DE1 01_EX	0_FE	0_EX	01_EX	1_FE	1_DE1	0	1_FE	1_EX	1_EX	0
1010	ADD	1_DE1 1_EX	00_DE1 01_EX	0_FE	0_EX	10_EX	1_FE	1_DE1	0	1_FE	1_EX	1_EX	0
1011	SUB	1_DE1 1_EX	00_DE1 01_EX	0_FE	0_EX	11_EX	1_FE	1_DE1	0	1_FE	1_EX	1_EX	0
1100	LB	1_DE1 1_EX	00_DE1 01_EX	0_FE	1_EX	xx	1_FE	1_DE1	0	1_FE	0	1_EX	0
1101	SB	1_ME	00_ME	0_FE	х	xx	1_FE	0	1_ME	1_FE	0	0	0
1110	LBI	1_DE1 1_DE2 1_EX	00_DE1 01_DE2 01_EX	0_FE	1_EX	xx	1_FE	1_DE1 1_DE2	0	1_FE	0	1_EX	0
1111	SBI	1_DE1 1_ME	00_DE1 01_ME	0_FE	х	xx	1_FE	1_DE1	1_ME	1_FE	0	0	0

Figure 5: ChAcc Control Signals

4.3 Examples

Let's take some example instructions to explain how particular control signals are set or unset. You can better comprehend these examples by looking at the datapath animations in the slides of Lecture 2 and the following paragraphs.

Example 1) ADD instruction (opcode: 1010): As given in Table 2, the ADD instruction uses 3 stages – **FE**, **DE1** and **EX** as follows:

- **FE**: A read from the instruction memory is issued using program counter (pcOut) as the Instruction Memory address (imAddress) and PC is incremented to the address of next sequential instruction.
- **DE1**: The controller decodes the opcode (imDataOut[11:8]) to figure out which processor's units will be used and which control signals must be set or unset during the whole instruction's execution. The data (or input operand) is fetched using the address part of the instruction from the memory, i.e., dmAddress = imDataOut[7:0].
- EX: The ALU performs the addition operation (alu0p = 10) on the output of ACC register (accOut) and the output of the bus (busOut). For addition, the busOut will be the value from dmDataOut(holding the value of the address set in the DE1 stage). So we set the decoder inputs of the bus accordingly. The output of the ALU operation is updated to accOut.

The control signals for the operations per stage are given below:

Stage	Operation	Control Signal(s)
	${ m imAddress}={ m pcOut}$	imRead = 1
FE	pcIncrOut = pcOut + 1	
	$\mathrm{nextPC} = \mathrm{pcIncrOut}$	pcSel = 0
	PC = nextPC	pcLd = 1
DE1	Controller decodes imDataOut[11:8]	
	dmAddress = imDataOut[7:0]	decoEnable = 1, decoSel = 00, dmRead = 1
	${ m aluOut} = { m accOut} + { m busOut}$	decoEnable = 1, decoSel = 01
$\mathbf{E}\mathbf{X}$	$where \ busOut = dmDataOut$	aluOp = 10
	$\mathrm{ACC} = \mathrm{aluOut}$	accSel = 0, accLd = 1
	Set C and Z flags	$\mathrm{flagLd}=1$

Table 14: Control Signals for ADD

Example 2) LBI instruction (opcode: 1110): As given in Table 2, the LBI instruction uses 4 stages – **FE**, **DE1**, **DE2** and **EX** as follows:

- **FE**: A read from the instruction memory is issued using program counter (pcOut) as the Instruction Memory address (imAddress) and PC is incremented to the address of next sequential instruction.
- **DE1**: The controller decodes the opcode (imDataOut[11:8]) to figure out which processor's units will be used and which control signals must be set or unset during the whole instruction's execution. The data (or input operand) is fetched using the address part of the instruction from the memory, i.e., dmAddress = imDataOut[7:0].
- **DE2**: The data for the load index operation is fetched from the memory using the address from dmDataOut i.e., dmAddress = dmDataOut, and dmDataOut is updated with the value from Data memory
- EX: The value of ACC register (accOut) is updated with the output of the bus (busOut). For load, the busOut will be the value from dmDataOut made available from DE2 stage. So we set the decoder inputs of the bus accordingly.

The control signals for the operations per stage are given below:

Stage	Operation	Control Signal(s)
	$\mathrm{imAddress} = \mathrm{pcOut}$	imRead = 1
FE	pcIncrOut = pcOut + 1	
	nextPC = pcIncrOut	$\mathrm{pcSel} = 0$
	$\mathrm{PC} = \mathrm{nextPC}$	pcLd = 1
DE1	Controller decodes imDataOut[11:8]	
	dmAddress = imDataOut[7:0]	decoEnable = 1, decoSel = 00, dmRead = 1
DE2	${\rm dmAddress} = {\rm dmDataOut}$	decoEnable = 1, decoSel = 01, dmRead = 1
	$\mathrm{ACC} = \mathrm{busOut}$	decoEnable = 1, decoSel = 01
EX	$where\ busOut = dmDataOut$	accSel = 1, accLd = 1

Table 15: Control Signals for LBI

Finally, it must be mentioned here that the purpose of this document was to provide you with the specifications of the ChAcc processor, which included the overview of the processor's datapath, ISA, and components. We will provide the functionality and the interfaces of particular components (e.g., adder, controller FSM) in the corresponding lab assignments.