

ADVANCED PROCESSOR ARCHITECTURES
AND MEMORY ORGANISATION –
Lesson-14: SHARC and TigerSHARC

1. SHARC

SHARC

- Processor from Analog Devices.
- SHARC stands for Super Harvard Single-Chip Computer
- Super Harvard architecture means more than one set of address and data buses for data
- For example, set J of address and data buses for data-memory space, set K of address and data buses for data-memory space, and set I of address and data buses for program-memory space

SHARC functions

- Program memory configurable as program and data memory parts (Princeton architecture)
- SHARC functions as VLIW (very large instruction word) processor.
- used in large number of DSP applications.
- Controlled power dissipation in floating point ALU.
- Different SHARCs can link by serial communication between them

SHARC features

- ON chip memory 1 MB Program memory and data memory (Harvard architecture)
- External OFF chip memory
- OFF chip as well as ON-chip Memory can be configured for 32-bit or 48 bit words.

Integer operation features

- Integer and saturation integer arithmetic both
- Saturation integer example— integer after operation should limit to a maximum value — required in graphic processing

Parallel Processing features

- Supports processing instruction level parallelism as well as memory access parallelism.
- Multiple data accesses in a single instruction

Addressing Features

- SHARC 32-bit address space for accesses
- Accesses 16 GB or 20 GB or 24 GB as per the word size (32-bit, 40-bit or 48 bit) configured in the memory for each address.
- When word size = 32-bit then external memory configuration addressable space is 16 GB ($2^{32} \times 4$) bytes

Word size features

- Provides for two word sizes 32-bit and 48-bit.
- SHARC two full sets of 16 general-purpose registers, therefore fast context switching
- Allows multitasking OS and multithreading.
- Registers are called R0 to R15 or F0 to F15 depending upon integer operation configuration or floating point configuration.
- Registers are of 32-bit. A few registers are special, of 48 bits that may also be accessed as pair of 16-bit and 32-bit registers.

SHARC features

- instruction word 48-bits
- 32-bit data word for integer and floating point operations and
- 40-bit extended floating point.
- Smaller 16 or 8 bit must also store as full 32-bit data. Therefore, the big endian or little endian data alignment is not considered during processing with carry also extended for rotating (*RRX*).

2. TigerSHARC

TigerSHARC

- Highest performance density family of processors from Analog Devices
- Precision high-performance integrated circuits used in analog and digital signal processing applications
- designed for multiprocessing applications and for peak performance greater than BFLOPS (billion floating-point operations per second)

Example

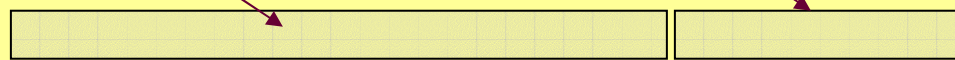
- ADSP-TS203SABP-050 processor processes using 250 MHz clock and on chip memory of 6 M bits and operates at 1.2V/3.3 V
- Low voltage design helps in processing with little power dissipation.
- Analog Devices claims the highest performance per Watt.

TigerSHARC

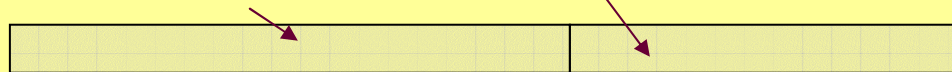
- Multiple TigerSHARCs can connect by serial communication at 1 GBps.
- A TigerSHARC version has 24 M bits ON-chip memory.
- Two ALUs and two sets of address and data buses for data memory
- One set of address and data buses for program memory
- TigerSHARC is available as IP core also so that new applications and enhancements can be developed.

TigerSHARC super Harvard architecture and registers in ADSP-TS203S

48- bits Instruction 32 integer and floating point (flp)



40- bits extended flp



J-ALU for Integers

K-ALU for Integers

On-chip memory

32-bit address bus J-bus

32-bit address bus K-bus

128-bit data bus J-bus

128-bit data bus K- bus

32-bit address bus I-bus

128-bit data bus I- bus

Off-Chip
Memory

32-bit words

Summary

We learnt

- SHARC has super Harvard architecture
- 32-bit address buses and 128-bit data buses in three sets J, K and I.
- TigerSHARC
- Peak performance greater than BFLOPS
- Low voltage design helps in processing with little power dissipation,
- Claims the highest performance per Watt

End of Lesson 14 of Chapter 2