

μCore Instruction Set

In the table below opcodes are grouped by functionality.

- **names** are the opcode names used in the uForth cross-compiler.
- **stack effect** indicates the effect of each opcode on the stacks. It shows a list of data stack input parameters up to the "--" followed by the list of output parameters. Sometimes the return stack is affected as well, which is indicated by a second line with the **rs:** prefix. In a few cases there are input or output list alternatives (e.g. ?dup) - these are separated by the | character.

The following conventions are used for the input and output list elements:

name	semantics
n	2s-complement number
u	unsigned number
flag	0 = false, true otherwise. When flag is an output, true has all bits set.
addr	data memory address
paddr	program memory address
d	2s-complement double number occupying two stack elements. The most significant word is on top of the least significant word.
ud	unsigned double number. The most significant word is on top of the least significant word.
mask	a bit mask. Usually only one single bit will be set.
op	8 bit instruction
float	Floating point number, data_width wide. The mantissa takes the more significant bits, the exponent the less significant bits. Meaningful floating point operations are possible for data_widths >= 24.
man	2s-complement mantissa.
exp	2s-complement exponent. The significant number of bits is defined by exp_width in architecture_pkg.vhd.

- **type** is either a **core**, an **ext.** (extended), or a **float** (floating point) opcode.
- **cycles** are the number of μCore cycles needed to execute an opcode. The prefix **u** is used to indicate uninterruptible sequences of cycles. Multi-cycle opcodes without **u** are interruptible after each cycle.

names	stack effect	type	cycles	description
noop	--	core	1	no operation
Data Stack				
drop	n --	core	1	drop top stack item
dup	n -- n n	core	1	duplicate top stack item
?dup	n -- 0 n n	core	1	duplicate top stack item if it is not zero
swap	n1 n2 -- n2 n1	core	1	exchange the top two stack items
over	n1 n2 -- n1 n2 n1	core	1	push 2nd stack item on the stack
rot	n1 n2 n3 -- n2 n3 n1	core	1	move 3rd stack item to the top
-rot	n1 n2 n3 -- n3 n1 n2	core	1	move top stack item to 3rd position on the stack
nip	n1 n2 -- n2	ext.	1	drop the 2nd stack item
tuck	n1 n2 -- n2 n1 n2	ext.	1	equivalent to swap over
under	n1 n2 -- n1 n1 n2	ext.	1	equivalent to over swap

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Return Stack				
>r	n -- rs: -- n	core	1	pop the top stack item and push it on the return stack
r>	-- n rs: n --	core	u 2	pop the top return stack item and push it on the stack
r@	-- n rs: n -- n	core	1	push the top return stack item on the stack
local	offset -- addr	core	1	Converts an offset into the return stack into its equivalent data memory address.
rdrop	rs: n --	ext.	u 2	drop the top return stack item
I	-- n2 rs: n1 u -- n1 u	ext.	u 2	Loop index for DO ... LOOPS
Branches				
branch	n --	core	1	If the lit flag is set, the next instruction is fetched from relative address PC+n, else it is fetched from absolute address n.
0=branch	flag n --	core	u 2	If the flag is set, continue execution at the next sequential instruction, else execute the branch instruction.
next	rs: u -- u-1 rs: 0 --	core	1 u 2	Primitive for the FOR ... NEXT loop. If u > 0, u is decremented and the branch instruction is executed, else the top return stack item is dropped and execution continues at the next sequential instruction.
call	n -- rs: -- paddr	core	1	The PC is pushed on the return stack and the branch instruction is executed.
exit	rs: paddr --	core	u 2	The top return stack item is dropped and execution continues at paddr.
iret	u -- rs: paddr --	core	u 2	The status register is restored from u, and the exit instruction is executed.
?exit	flag -- rs: paddr -- rs: paddr -- paddr	ext.	1 u 2	Drop the top stack item. When flag is true, execute the exit instruction, else execution continues at the next sequential instruction.
Data Memory				
ld	addr -- n addr	core	u 2	LoaD pushes the content of the data memory location at addr on the stack as 2 nd item. : @ (addr -- n) ld drop ;
st	n addr -- addr	core	1	STore pops the 2 nd item of the stack and stores it at data memory location addr. : ! (n addr --) st drop ;
@	addr -- n	ext.	u 2	Fetch the content of the data memory location at addr.
+!	n addr --	ext.	u 2	Add n to the content of the data memory location at addr and pop two stack items. This is an uninterruptible read-modify-write instruction.

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Unary Arithmetic				
not	u1 -- u2	core	1	u2 is the bit-wise not of u1.
0=	u -- flag	core	1	flag is true when u equals zero.
0<	n -- flag	core	1	flag is true when n is negative.
Shifting with Hardware Multiplier				
mshift	u1 n -- u1' u2	core	1	<p>Logical single-cycle barrel shift of u1 by n bit positions. u1' is the shift result, and u2 are the remaining bits that have been shifted out of u1.</p> <p>If n is negative, a right shift is executed, the most significant bit position(s) are filled with zeros, and u2 is filled from the MSB on downwards. The carry flag is set to the MSB of u2.</p> <p>If n is positive, a left shift is executed, the least significant bit position(s) are filled with zeros, and u2 is filled from the LSB on upwards. The carry flag is set to the LSB of u2.</p> <p>If n is zero, u1' = u1 and u2 = 0.</p> <pre>: shift (u1 n -- u1') mshift drop ; : u2/ (u1 -- u1') -1 shift ; : rotate (u1 n -- u1') mshift or ;</pre>
mashift	n1 n2 -- n1' n3	core	1	<p>Arithmetic single-cycle barrel shift of n1 by n2 bit positions. n1' is the shift result, and n3 are the remaining bits that have been shifted out of n1.</p> <p>If n2 is negative, a right shift is executed, the most significant bit position(s) are filled with the sign bit of n1, and n3 is filled from the MSB on downwards. The carry flag is set to the MSB of n3.</p> <p>If n2 is positive, a left shift is executed, the least significant bit position(s) are filled with zeros, and n3 is filled from the LSB on upwards. The carry flag is set to the LSB of n3.</p> <p>If n2 is zero, n1' = n1 and n3 = 0.</p> <pre>: ashift (n1 n2 -- n3) mashift drop ; : 2/ (n1 -- n2) -1 shift ;</pre>
Shifting without Hardware Multiplier				
shift	u n -- u'	core	n	<p>Logical shift of u by n bit positions.</p> <p>If n is negative, a right shift is executed and the most significant bit position(s) are filled with zeros.</p> <p>If n is positive, a left shift is executed and the least significant bit positions are filled with zeros.</p> <p>The carry flag is set to the last bit shifted out of u.</p>

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ashift	n1 n2 -- n1'	core	n	Arithmetic shift of n1 by n2 bit positions. If n2 is negative, a right shift is executed and the most significant bit position(s) of n1' are filled with the sign bit of n1. If n is positive, a left shift is executed and the least significant bit position(s) of n1' are filled with zeros. The carry flag is set to the last bit shifted out of n1.
c2/	u -- u'	core	1	Shift right through carry. Used for multi-precision shift operations. u is shifted right by one bit position and the content of the carry flag is shifted into the most significant bit position of u'. The carry flag is set to the least significant bit of u.
c2*	u -- u'	core	1	Shift left through carry. Used for multi-precision shift operations. u is shifted left by one bit position and the content of the carry flag is shifted into the least significant bit position of u'. The carry flag is set to the most significant bit of u.
Binary Arithmetic				
+	n1 n2 -- n3	core	1	n3 is the 2s-complement sum of n1 + n2.
+c	n1 n2 -- n3	core	1	n3 is the 2s-complement sum of n1 + n2 + carry flag
-	n1 n2 -- n3	core	1	n3 is the 2s-complement difference of n1 - n2.
swap-	n1 n2 -- n3	core	1	n3 is the 2s-complement difference of n2 - n1.
and	n1 n2 -- n3	core	1	n3 is the logical and of n1 and n2.
or	n1 n2 -- n3	core	1	n3 is the logical or of n1 or n2.
xor	n1 n2 -- n3	core	1	n3 is the logical xor of n1 xor n2.
um*	u1 u2 -- ud	core	1 dw+3	ud is the double precision unsigned product of u1 * u2. When no hardware multiplier is available, it takes data_width+3 cycles to execute.
*	n1 n2 -- n3	core	1 dw+3	n3 is the signed product of n1 * n2. The overflow flag is set when the product does not fit into single precision n3. When no hardware multiplier is available, it takes data_width+3 cycles to execute.
um/mod	ud u -- urem uquot	core	dw+2	Quotient uquot and remainder urem are the unsigned results of dividing double number ud by unsigned divisor u. It takes data_width+2 cycles to execute.
+sat	n1 n2 -- n3	ext.	1	n3 is the 2s-complement sum of n1 + n2. In case of an overflow, n3 is set to the largest 2s-complement number. In case of an underflow it is set to the smallest 2s-complement number. +sat is used to prevent control loops from oscillating in case of over/underflows.
2dup_+	n1 n2 -- n1 n2 n3	ext.	1	See +
2dup_+c	n1 n2 -- n1 n2 n3	ext.	1	See +c
2dup_-	n1 n2 -- n1 n2 n3	ext.	1	See -

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2dup_swap-	n1 n2 -- n1 n2 n3	ext.	1	See swap-
2dup_and	n1 n2 -- n1 n2 n3	ext.	1	See and
2dup_or	n1 n2 -- n1 n2 n3	ext.	1	See or
2dup_xor	n1 n2 -- n1 n2 n3	ext.	1	See xor
m*	n1 n2 -- d	ext.	1 dw+38	d is the signed double precision product of n1 * n2. When no hardware multiplier is available, it takes data_width+38 cycles to execute.
m/mod	d n -- rem quot	ext.	dw+2	Quotient quot and remainder rem are the signed results of dividing double number d by signed divisor n. Quot is floored and rem has the same sign as divisor n. It takes data_width+2 cycles to execute.
sqrt	u -- urem uroot	ext.	dw/2 +4	uroot and urem are the root and the remainder after taking the square root of u. It takes data_width/2+4 cycles to execute. Note: Only defined for even data_widths.
Flags				
status-set	mask --	core	1	Status flags Carry, OverFlow, InterruptEnable, and InterruptInService can be set or reset explicitly. E.g. the carry is set using the phrase #c status-set, it is reset using #c status-reset without modifying other flags of the status register.
ovfl?	-- flag	core	1	Flag is true when the overflow flag is set.
carry?	-- flag	core	1	Flag is true when the carry flag is set.
time?	n -- flag	core	1	Flag is true when the auto-incrementing time register is larger than n. The time register increments every 1/ticks_per_ms (see: architecture_pkg.vhd). Note: The time register is a wrap-around counter and therefore, the maximum difference between the time register and n can be $2^{\text{data_width}-1}$, which is the upper limit for time delays.
<	n1 n2 -- flag	core	1	Flag is true when n1 is less than n2 in 2s-complement representation.
flag?	mask -- flag	ext.	1	Flag is true when the bit selected by mask is set in the flags register.
Program Memory				
pst	op paddr -- paddr	ext.	u 2	ProgramSTore. Op is stored into the program memory at paddr. This instruction will only be available during the cold boot phase. : p! (op paddr --) pst drop ;

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pld	paddr -- op paddr	ext.	u 2	ProgramLoad. Op is fetched from program memory address paddr and stored as 2 nd item on the stack. This instruction may only be available during the cold boot phase. : p@ (paddr -- op) pld drop ;
Floating Point				
*,	n1 u -- n2	float	1	Fractional multiply. 2s-complement n1 is multiplied by coefficient u. n2 is the most-significant word of the signed double product. This operator is used to compute polynomial expressions using the Horner scheme.
log2	u -- u'	float	dw+3	u must be in the range $[1 .. 2^{data_width-1}]$. u' is the logarithm dualis of u.
normalize	man exp -- man' exp'	float	< dw-2	This is an auto-repeat instruction. In each step, man is shifted one position to the left and exp is decrement by one until a) the mantissa's sign bit and its second most significant bit have different values, or b) exp has reached its minimum value. In the end, man', exp' is a normalized version of man and exp. It takes at most data_width-2 cycles to execute.
>float	man exp -- float	float	2	After normalization the pair man, exp is packed into floating point number float.
float>	float -- man exp	float	1	Unpack floating point number float into man and exp.
Traps				
reset	--	core	1	Hardware trap
interrupt	--	core	1	Hardware trap
pause	--	core	1	Hardware trap
break	--	core	1	Soft trap for single-step tracing
dodoes	addr -- addr+1	core	1	Soft trap compiled by DOES>
data!	addr n -- addr'	core	1	Soft trap used for data memory initialization