

3-Stage Pipelined RISC Processor

I have successfully implemented a **3-stage pipelined RISC processor**, consisting of the following pipeline stages:

1. **Instruction Fetch (IF)**
2. **Decode & Execute (ID/EXE)**
3. **Memory & Writeback (MEM/WB)**

All modules were developed separately in Verilog, and the complete processor was integrated and simulated on **Modelsim**.

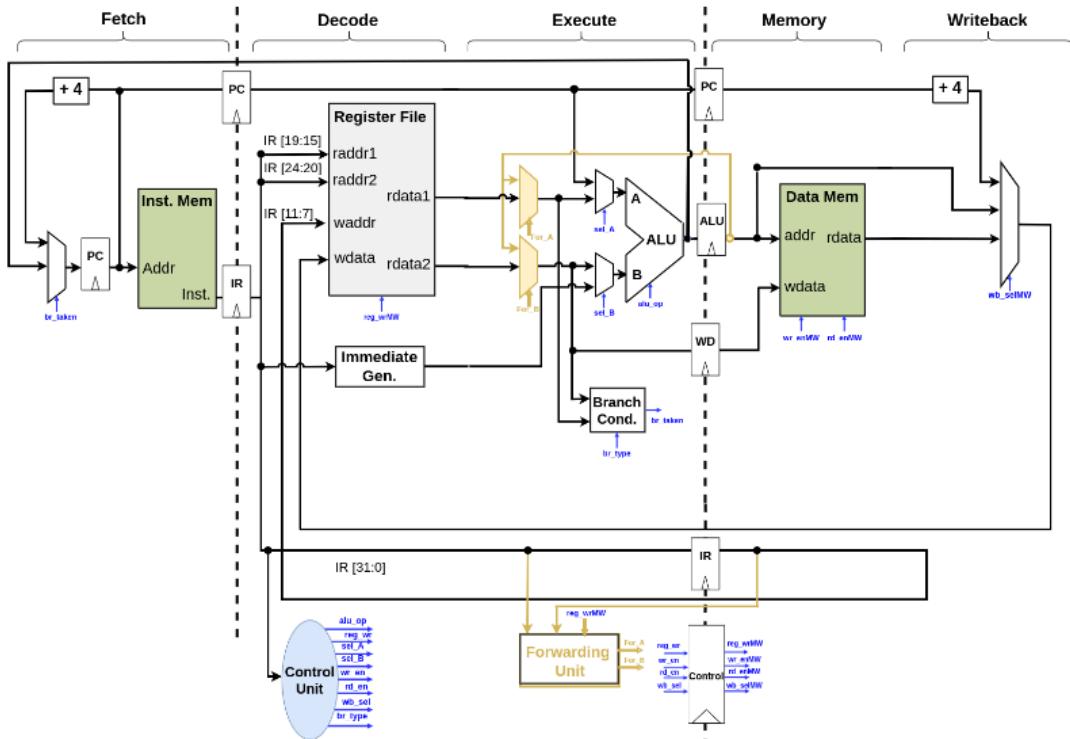
1. Processor Architecture & Modules

The pipelined datapath is created by inserting pipeline registers between IF → ID/EXE and ID/EXE → MEM/WB stages.

Individual modules implemented include:

- Program Counter
- Instruction Memory
- Register File
- ALU
- Control Unit
- Immediate Generator
- Pipeline Registers
- **Forwarding Unit** (for resolving RAW data hazards)

Figure 1:3-Stage Pipelined Processor Block Diagram



2. Data Hazard Handling (Forwarding Only)

I implemented **forwarding** between the MEM/WB stage and the Decode/Execute stage to resolve simple **read-after-write (RAW)** hazards.

Forwarding Features:

- Detects when destination register of previous instruction matches source register of current instruction
- Automatically forwards updated data to ID/EXE stage inputs
- Removes the need for stalling in many common arithmetic dependencies

3. Simulation & Verification (ModelsimS)

The complete pipelined CPU was simulated using QuestaSim.

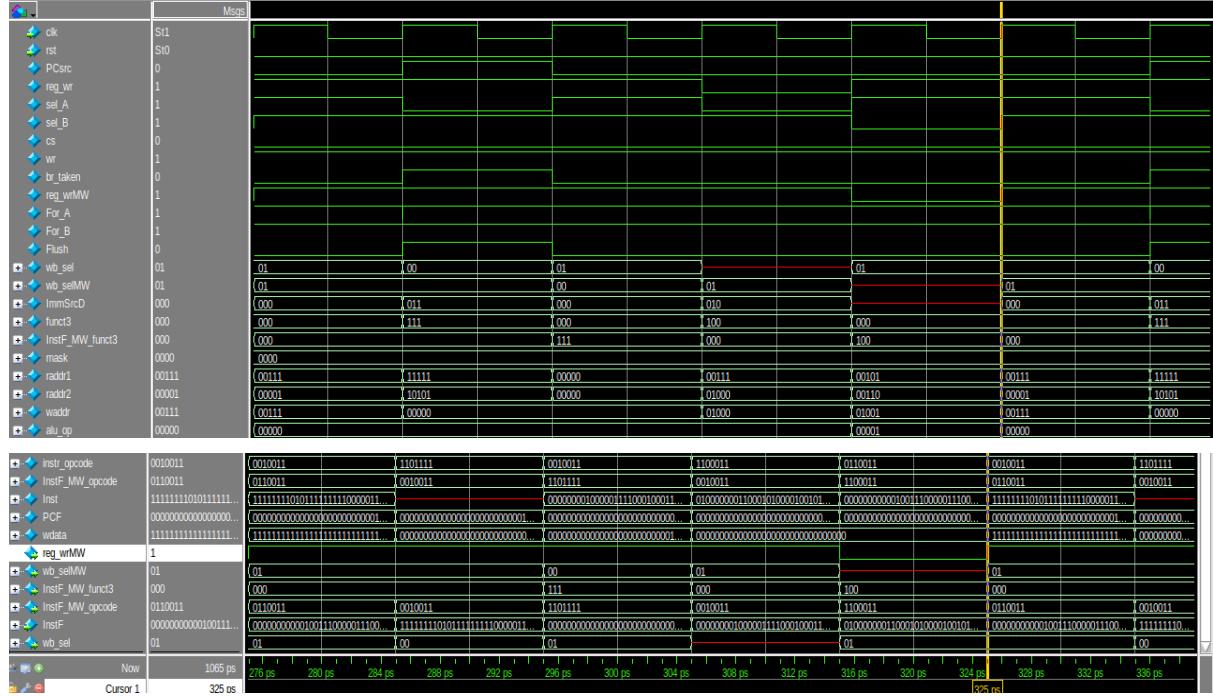
Forwarding operation was tested using dependent instructions such as:

add x3, x1, x2

add x4, x3, x5 // dependent on x3 → forwarding required

The waveform confirms correct forwarding from MEM/WB back to the EXE stage.

Figure 2 – Simulation Waveform



4. FPGA/Vivado Work

Vivado synthesis, implementation have been completed. Below i have attached the resources utilization report and schematic of the project.

Schematic of the processor:

Below is the schematic of the RTL generated from Xilinx Vivado.

Resources utilization report:

The Slice Logic section details the usage of the fundamental programmable resources: **LUTs** (for logic) and **Registers** (for storage).

1. Slice Logic

Site Type	Used	Fixed	Available	Util%
Slice LUTs*	1350	0	63400	2.13
LUT as Logic	838	0	63400	1.32
LUT as Memory	512	0	19000	2.69
LUT as Distributed RAM	512	0	-	-
LUT as Shift Register	0	0	-	-
Slice Registers	734	0	126800	0.58
Register as Flip Flop	690	0	126800	0.54
Register as Latch	44	0	126800	0.03
F7 Muxes	320	0	31700	1.01
F8 Muxes	160	0	15850	1.01

1.1 Summary of Registers by Type

Total	Clock Enable	Synchronous	Asynchronous
0	-	-	-
0	-	-	Set
0	-	-	Reset
0	-	Set	-
0	-	Reset	-
0	Yes	-	-
0	Yes	-	Set
76	Yes	-	Reset
0	Yes	Set	-
658	Yes	Reset	-

4. IO and GT Specific

Site Type	Used	Fixed	Available	Util%
Bonded IOB	210	0	210	100.00
Bonded IPADs	0	0	2	0.00
PHY_CONTROL	0	0	6	0.00
PHASER_REF	0	0	6	0.00
OUT_FIFO	0	0	24	0.00
IN_FIFO	0	0	24	0.00
IDELAYCTRL	0	0	6	0.00
IBUFDS	0	0	202	0.00
PHASER_OUT/PHASER_OUT_PHY	0	0	24	0.00
PHASER_IN/PHASER_IN_PHY	0	0	24	0.00
IDELAYE2/IDELAYE2_FINEDELAY	0	0	300	0.00
ILOGIC	0	0	210	0.00
OLOGIC	0	0	210	0.00

IO and Clocking:

This section shows how the physical interfaces and clock signals are managed.

5. Clocking

Site Type	Used	Fixed	Available	Util%
BUFGCTRL	2	0	32	6.25
BUFIO	0	0	24	0.00
MMCME2_ADV	0	0	6	0.00
PLLE2_ADV	0	0	6	0.00
BUFMRCE	0	0	12	0.00
BUFHCE	0	0	96	0.00
BUFR	0	0	24	0.00

Primitive Used:

The Primitives table lists the fundamental FPGA building blocks inferred by the Synthesis tool from our SystemVerilog code:

7. Primitives

Ref Name	Used	Functional Category
FDRE	658	Flop & Latch
RAMS64E	512	Distributed Memory
LUT6	347	LUT
MUXF7	320	MuxFx
OBUF	208	IO
LUT4	208	LUT
MUXF8	160	MuxFx
LUT5	150	LUT
LUT2	99	LUT
LUT3	92	LUT
LDCE	44	Flop & Latch
CARRY4	40	CarryLogic
FDCE	32	Flop & Latch
LUT1	30	LUT
IBUF	2	IO
BUFG	2	Clock

Schematics of Processor:

