**System on chip with RISC-V microprocessor and Linux operating system**

In this project, RISC-V microprocessor and Linux (xv6) will be the core parts. It aims to construct a system on chip (SoC) to run the transplanted operating system and enable it to act as a minicomputer such as getting input from keyboard. This project will improve the understanding of OS and microprocessor and programming skills.

**1. Regulatory considerations**

**1.1 RoHS regulation**

In this project, the only device is *Digilent 410-292 Nexys 4 DDR Artix-7 Development Board.* According to EU Directives 2011/65/EU and 2015/863, 10 kinds of hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment are restricted. In the specification, the concentration of Cadmium is 0.01% and the others’ concentration are 0.1%, which is safe for human. The manufacturer and retailers also provide a Declaration of Conformity illustrates this electrostatic discharge sensitive device has been handled and packed under conditions that meet the administrative and technical requirements of the ANSI/ESD S20.20:2014 and BS EN 61340-5-1:2007 Electrostatic Control Standards. Therefore, when testing the program on this board, the risk from hardware will be minimized and it meets RoHS regulation.

**1.2 WEEE regulation**

The specification of this device shows that the concentration of harmful elements are within safe limit. Moreover, the manufacturer joins the producer compliance scheme (PCS) and is under supervision, so its sale is legal. Since it does not contain any batteries, it is not necessary to subtract and report separately. In UK, there are three retailers selling this product, Farnell UK, Rapid Electronics and RS Components Ltd. On their website, all of them have sale areas larger than 400 square meters and accept small WEEE for free from private household customer services or not need to purchase new equipment. Therefore, this device meets WEEE regulation.

**2. SD/Ethical Implications of large-scale manufacture and sale**

In this project, only FPGA and computers are utilized. FPGA is responsible for constructing the system on chip to execute the operating system while the computer has duty on designing all the components. There is no immediate benefit to sustainability and otherwise, SoC on FPGA does worse on sustainability. Compared with ASIC, FPGA consumes more resources because it needs to support program and has more usability; thus, it does not have perfect performance on sustainability when largely being manufactured. In addition, the CPU in this project doesn’t take security into consideration, and someone who knows the computer architecture can easily know what is doing in this system. The DDR2 SDRAM may also be affected by the RowHammer problem, which is that is the malicious program repeatedly open and close some cells of memory, it will cause data loss. Moreover, some IP core in the project are provided by Xilinx and users should obey its licenses. If the potential customers who use IP core in the way of violating these licenses, they will be sued for charge. Hence, the only restriction is that licenses of Xilinx should be obeyed when using IP core. However, the rest part is open-sourced and customers need only to obey MIT license. Furthermore, the design of SoC isn’t energy-efficient, which means that it wastes too much power than what existed in the market now. This part can be the improvement on the sustainability in the future.

In conclusion, for large manufacture, this project should improve on power consumption and resources usage because it does worse in those two parts. On the other hand, for sale, licenses of Xilinx and MIT should be emphasized and also security will also be a significant problem in the future.

**3. SD/Ethical Implications of follow-on products/markets**

RISC-V is a new, simple, open, and free instruction set architecture that can be freely used by any academic institution or business organization. With RISC-V, many new products can be produced, for example, using the RISC-V architecture to develop artificial intelligence chips for low-power devices, and providing lower-cost chips for intelligent driving.

RISC-V meets the Sustainable Development regulations, because it meets the Technocentric concerns, Eco-centric concerns and Sociocentric concern.

RISC-V is aimed at the Internet of Things market. With a budding market, RISC-V has its market opportunities. At this time, RISC-V is defined as a national standard instruction set by many countries, such as India. Furthermore, it has also attracted many companies to join the RISC-V Foundation and expressed support for it, including Samsung, Google, Huawei. This shows that RISC-V has good Eco-centric concerns.

The reason why RISC-V has become popular is that it has three advantages. Firstly, Minimalist. Compared with traditional commercial architectures, RISC-V has a streamlined length. Secondly, Clean. RISC-V clearly distinguishes between user and privileged instruction subsets, so it could reduce costs significantly. Thirdly, Stability. After several years of iteration, the benchmark instructions and some standard extensible instructions have been determined. These advantages indicate that RISC-V meets the technical needs of users and has great Technocentric concerns.

In addition, RISC-V allows commercial software release and sales based on open source code. In this situation, RISC-V gives users the opportunity to avoid ARM's high chip royalties and Intel x86 intellectual property system lock-up, so it greatly attracts those countries that promote an innovative economy and companies in the global chip industry. This shows that it has great Sociocentric concern.