

## ECSE 425: Computer Organization and Architecture Pipelined Processor

**Due March 16, 2020, 11:59 PM**

This deliverable consists of a pipelined implementation, in VHDL, of a simplified MIPS processor.

### **Pipelined Implementation of a 32-bit MIPS Processor in VHDL**

You will implement a standard five-stage pipelined 32-bit MIPS processor in VHDL. A pipelined processor stores control signals and intermediate results associated with each executing instruction in pipeline registers between stages. Refer to the text for further information. For full credit, implement:

1. Hazard detection
2. Forwarding

### **Instruction Set Architecture**

You will implement a subset of the MIPS instruction set architecture. Refer to the MIPS Reference Data card:

[http://www-inst.eecs.berkeley.edu/~cs61c/resources/MIPS\\_Green\\_Sheet.pdf](http://www-inst.eecs.berkeley.edu/~cs61c/resources/MIPS_Green_Sheet.pdf)

and the text, for instruction formats, descriptions of operations, and other information. To ensure compatibility with the provided assembly language programs, your instruction formats must conform to those in the MIPS Reference Data card.

*You may assume that all instructions—including `mult`—require a single cycle in the EX stage.*

Your processor must be able to execute each of the required assembly language instructions (see *Appendix*). Assume that execution begins at address `0x0` in memory.



Implement hazard detection logic and the corresponding control logic such that instructions dependent operands that are not yet available stall in ID. It is recommended that you implement and test hazard detection *first*.

## Forwarding

Forwarding takes results from the EX/ME and ME/WB pipeline registers and makes them available as ALU inputs in order to eliminate stalls. Without forwarding, an instruction stalled in ID cannot proceed until the cycle during which the required operand is written back to the register file.

Implement forwarding from the EX/ME and ME/WB pipeline registers and the corresponding control logic such that stalls are eliminated when possible. It is recommended that you implement forwarding *second*, after hazard detection has been tested, and that you update hazard detection accordingly.

## Memory

To implement the memory for instructions and data, use the memory model provided for PD3. Instantiate two memories, one memory for instructions and one memory for data. You may alter the memory model as you see fit (e.g., set the memory delay to 1 clock cycle, if it makes your life easier). However, you must keep the data memory sized at 32768 bytes, and you must initialize the data memory to all zeros. You must also ensure that your processor can run a program of at most 1024 instructions.

## Testbench

To allow you to try different MIPS programs on your processor, we are providing you with an assembler which can convert *MIPS assembly* into *machine code*. For our purposes, *MIPS assembly* is restricted to the subset of functionality supported by the MiSaSiM instruction set simulator. For example:

```
# This program computes the factorial of the input in $1. The
# result is returned in $2.
# $1: n
# $2: running product (output n!)

Fact:   addi   $1, $0, 5           # input: n = 5
        addi   $2, $0, 1           # initialize output to 1
Loop:   slti   $3, $1, 2           # if input is less than 2
        bne    $3, $0, Skip        # then skip to return
        mult   $1, $2              # else multiply input and running product
        mflo   $2                  # assume small numbers
        addi   $1, $1, -1          # decrement input
        j      Loop               # and loop
Skip:   jr     $31                 # return to caller
```

The provided assembler supports the following functionality:

- Comments, indicated with “#”,

- Empty lines,
- Arbitrary whitespace (spaces, tabs) within lines,
- Labels, if present at the beginning of a line and ending with “:”,
- Instruction arguments using numbered registers, such as “\$0” and “\$31” and
- Branches and jumps to labels.

The output of the assembler is an ASCII text file, with one 32-bit word on each line, encoded in binary (i.e., 32 ‘1’s or ‘0’s), *in ascending order*; this is the expected input format for your processor testbench. Your output files should also have this format.

Your testbench should read a program in machine code from an ASCII text file called “program.txt”, put the program into instruction memory, run the program on your processor, write the final contents of data memory to a text file called “memory.txt”, and write the final contents of the register file to a text file called “register\_file.txt”. Since the data memory has 32768 bytes, “memory.txt” should have  $32768/4 = 8192$  lines, one for each 32-bit word. Likewise, since there are 32 registers, “register\_file.txt” should have 32 lines. Name your testbench `testbench.tcl`.

Your testbench should run for 10,000 clock cycles, after which point the simulation should stop and the output should be written to the proper files. You may assume that we will not test your processor on a program with a duration of longer than 10,000 clock cycles. Give your clock a frequency of 1 GHz.

## Grading

To test and grade your processor, the instructional staff will run your `testbench.tcl` and check whether the contents of the output files are correct. We are providing you with a subset of the suite of assembly programs which we will use to test your processor.

In the event that your results do not match the correct results, your processor will be inspected *to the extent possible* and partial credit awarded accordingly. Note: we will rely heavily on comments provided in your code to find the location of errors. Obtuse, uncommented code will receive substantially less partial credit.

## Hand In Procedure

Hand in, via MyCourses, in a single ZIP file:

- `testbench.tcl`
- All VHDL files required to simulate your processor.

Also, please include the link to a public Github repository hosting your code in the submission box comments.

## Appendix

Your processor must implement each of the following 27 instructions. These instructions are all supported by MiSaSiM. Refer to the MIPS Reference Data card for instruction format, opcode, and functionality.

Class	Instruction	Mnemonic
Arithmetic	Add	add
	Subtract	sub
	Add Immediate	addi
	Multiply	mult
	Divide	div
	Set Less Than	slt
	Set Less Than Immediate	slti
Logical	And	and
	Or	or
	Nor	nor
	Xor	xor
	And Immediate	andi
	Or Immediate	ori
	Xor Immediate	xori
Transfer	Move From HI	mfhi
	Move From LO	mflo
	Load Upper Immediate	lui
Shift	Shift Left Logical	sll
	Shift Right Logical	srl
	Shift Right Arithmetic	sra
Memory	Load Word	lw
	Store Word	sw
Control-flow	Branch On Equal	beq
	Branch On Not Equal	bne
	Jump	j
	Jump Register	jr
	Jump and Link	jal