



OVP Guide to Using Processor Models

Model specific information for ARM_ARM966E

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Model Release Status

This model is released as part of OVP releases and is included in OVPworld packages. Please visit OVPworld.org.

Contents

1	Overview	1
1.1	Description	1
1.2	Licensing	1
1.3	Limitations	2
1.4	Verification	2
1.5	Features	3
1.5.1	Core Features	3
1.5.2	Memory System	3
1.6	Debug Mask	3
1.7	AArch32 Unpredictable Behavior	3
1.7.1	Equal Target Registers	3
1.7.2	Floating Point Load/Store Multiple Lists	3
1.7.3	Floating Point VLD[2-4]/VST[2-4] Range Overflow	4
1.7.4	If-Then (IT) Block Constraints	4
1.7.5	Use of R13	4
1.7.6	Use of R15	4
1.7.7	Unpredictable Instructions in Some Modes	4
1.8	Integration Support	5
1.8.1	Halt Reason Introspection	5
1.8.2	System Register Access Monitor	5
1.8.3	System Register Implementation	5
2	Configuration	7
2.1	Location	7
2.2	GDB Path	7
2.3	Semi-Host Library	7
2.4	Processor Endian-ness	7
2.5	QuantumLeap Support	7
2.6	Processor ELF code	7
3	All Variants in this model	8
4	Bus Master Ports	11
5	Bus Slave Ports	12
6	Net Ports	13

7	FIFO Ports	14
8	Formal Parameters	15
8.1	Parameter values	16
9	Execution Modes	18
10	Exceptions	19
11	Hierarchy of the model	20
11.1	Level 1: CPU	20
12	Model Commands	21
12.1	Level 1: CPU	21
12.1.1	debugflags	21
12.1.2	isync	21
12.1.3	itrace	21
13	Registers	23
13.1	Level 1: CPU	23
13.1.1	Core	23
13.1.2	Control	23
13.1.3	User	23
13.1.4	FIQ	24
13.1.5	IRQ	24
13.1.6	Supervisor	24
13.1.7	Undefined	24
13.1.8	Abort	25
13.1.9	Coprocessor_32_bit	25
13.1.10	Integration_support	25

Chapter 1

Overview

This document provides the details of an OVP Fast Processor Model variant.

OVP Fast Processor Models are written in C and provide a C API for use in C based platforms. The models also provide a native interface for use in SystemC TLM2 platforms.

The models are written using the OVP VMI API that provides a Virtual Machine Interface that defines the behavior of the processor. The VMI API makes a clear line between model and simulator allowing very good optimization and world class high speed performance. Most models are provided as a binary shared object and also as source. This allows the download and use of the model binary or the use of the source to explore and modify the model.

The models are run through an extensive QA and regression testing process and most model families are validated using technology provided by the processor IP owners. There is a companion document (OVP Guide to Using Processor Models) which explains the general concepts of OVP Fast Processor Models and their use. It is downloadable from the OVPworld website documentation pages.

1.1 Description

ARM Processor Model

1.2 Licensing

Usage of binary model under license governing simulator usage.

Note that for models of ARM CPUs the license includes the following terms:

Licensee is granted a non-exclusive, worldwide, non-transferable, revocable licence to:

If no source is being provided to the Licensee: use and copy only (no modifications rights are granted) the model for the sole purpose of designing, developing, analyzing, debugging, testing, verifying, validating and optimizing software which: (a) (i) is for ARM based systems; and (ii) does not incorporate the ARM Models or any part thereof; and (b) such ARM Models may not be used

to emulate an ARM based system to run application software in a production or live environment.

If source code is being provided to the Licensee: use, copy and modify the model for the sole purpose of designing, developing, analyzing, debugging, testing, verifying, validating and optimizing software which: (a) (i) is for ARM based systems; and (ii) does not incorporate the ARM Models or any part thereof; and (b) such ARM Models may not be used to emulate an ARM based system to run application software in a production or live environment.

In the case of any Licensee who is either or both an academic or educational institution the purposes shall be limited to internal use.

Except to the extent that such activity is permitted by applicable law, Licensee shall not reverse engineer, decompile, or disassemble this model. If this model was provided to Licensee in Europe, Licensee shall not reverse engineer, decompile or disassemble the Model for the purposes of error correction.

The License agreement does not entitle Licensee to manufacture in silicon any product based on this model.

The License agreement does not entitle Licensee to use this model for evaluating the validity of any ARM patent.

Source of model available under separate Imperas Software License Agreement.

1.3 Limitations

Instruction pipelines are not modeled in any way. All instructions are assumed to complete immediately. This means that instruction barrier instructions (e.g. ISB, CP15ISB) are treated as NOPs, with the exception of any undefined instruction behavior, which is modeled. The model does not implement speculative fetch behavior. The branch cache is not modeled.

Caches and write buffers are not modeled in any way. All loads, fetches and stores complete immediately and in order, and are fully synchronous (as if the memory was of Strongly Ordered or Device-nGnRnE type). Data barrier instructions (e.g. DSB, CP15DSB) are treated as NOPs, with the exception of any undefined instruction behavior, which is modeled. Cache manipulation instructions are implemented as NOPs, with the exception of any undefined instruction behavior, which is modeled.

Real-world timing effects are not modeled: all instructions are assumed to complete in a single cycle.

1.4 Verification

Models have been extensively tested by Imperas. ARM9 models have been successfully used by customers to simulate Linux and Nucleus on ArmIntegrator virtual platforms.

1.5 Features

1.5.1 Core Features

Thumb instructions are supported.

1.5.2 Memory System

1.6 Debug Mask

It is possible to enable model debug features in various categories. This can be done statically using the “override_debugMask” parameter, or dynamically using the “debugflags” command. Enabled debug features are specified using a bitmask value, as follows:

Value 0x080: enable debugging of all system register accesses.

Value 0x100: enable debugging of all traps of system register accesses.

Value 0x200: enable verbose debugging of other miscellaneous behavior (for example, the reason why a particular instruction is undefined).

All other bits in the debug bitmask are reserved and must not be set to non-zero values.

1.7 AArch32 Unpredictable Behavior

Many AArch32 instruction behaviors are described in the ARM ARM as CONSTRAINED UNPREDICTABLE. This section describes how such situations are handled by this model.

1.7.1 Equal Target Registers

Some instructions allow the specification of two target registers (for example, double-width SMULL, or some VMOV variants), and such instructions are CONSTRAINED UNPREDICTABLE if the same target register is specified in both positions. In this model, such instructions are treated as UNDEFINED.

1.7.2 Floating Point Load/Store Multiple Lists

Instructions that load or store a list of floating point registers (e.g. VSTM, VLDM, VPUSH, VPOP) are CONSTRAINED UNPREDICTABLE if either the uppermost register in the specified range is greater than 32 or (for 64-bit registers) if more than 16 registers are specified. In this model, such instructions are treated as UNDEFINED.

1.7.3 Floating Point VLD[2-4]/VST[2-4] Range Overflow

Instructions that load or store a fixed number of floating point registers (e.g. VST2, VLD2) are CONSTRAINED UNPREDICTABLE if the upper register bound exceeds the number of implemented floating point registers. In this model, these instructions load and store using modulo 32 indexing (consistent with AArch64 instructions with similar behavior).

1.7.4 If-Then (IT) Block Constraints

Where the behavior of an instruction in an if-then (IT) block is described as CONSTRAINED UNPREDICTABLE, this model treats that instruction as UNDEFINED.

1.7.5 Use of R13

In architecture variants before ARMv8, use of R13 was described as CONSTRAINED UNPREDICTABLE in many circumstances. From ARMv8, most of these situations are no longer considered unpredictable. This model allows R13 to be used like any other GPR, consistent with the ARMv8 specification.

1.7.6 Use of R15

Use of R15 is described as CONSTRAINED UNPREDICTABLE in many circumstances. This model allows such use to be configured using the parameter “unpredictableR15” as follows:

Value “undefined”: any reference to R15 in such a situation is treated as UNDEFINED;

Value “nop”: any reference to R15 in such a situation causes the instruction to be treated as a NOP;

Value “raz_wi”: any reference to R15 in such a situation causes the instruction to be treated as a RAZ/WI (that is, R15 is read as zero and write-ignored);

Value “execute”: any reference to R15 in such a situation is executed using the current value of R15 on read, and writes to R15 are allowed (but are not interworking).

Value “assert”: any reference to R15 in such a situation causes the simulation to halt with an assertion message (allowing any such unpredictable uses to be easily identified).

In this variant, the default value of “unpredictableR15” is “execute”.

1.7.7 Unpredictable Instructions in Some Modes

Some instructions are described as CONSTRAINED UNPREDICTABLE in some modes only (for example, MSR accessing SPSR is CONSTRAINED UNPREDICTABLE in User and System modes). This model allows such use to be configured using the parameter “unpredictableModal”, which can have values “undefined” or “nop”. See the previous section for more information about the meaning of these values.

In this variant, the default value of “unpredictableModal” is “nop”.

1.8 Integration Support

This model implements a number of non-architectural pseudo-registers and other features to facilitate integration.

1.8.1 Halt Reason Introspection

An artifact register `HaltReason` can be read to determine the reason or reasons that a processor is halted. This register is a bitfield, with the following encoding: bit 0 indicates the processor has executed a wait-for-event (WFE) instruction; bit 1 indicates the processor has executed a wait-for-interrupt (WFI) instruction; and bit 2 indicates the processor is held in reset.

1.8.2 System Register Access Monitor

If parameter “`enableSystemMonitorBus`” is `True`, an artifact 32-bit bus “`SystemMonitor`” is enabled for each PE. Every system register read or write by that PE is then visible as a read or write on this artifact bus, and can therefore be monitored using callbacks installed in the client environment (use `opBusReadMonitorAdd/opBusWriteMonitorAdd` or `icmAddBusReadCallback/icmAddBusWriteCallback`, depending on the client API). The format of the address on the bus is as follows:

bits 31:26 - zero

bit 25 - 1 if `AArch64` access, 0 if `AArch32` access

bit 24 - 1 if non-secure access, 0 if secure access

bits 23:20 - `CRm` value

bits 19:16 - `CRn` value

bits 15:12 - `op2` value

bits 11:8 - `op1` value

bits 7:4 - `op0` value (`AArch64`) or coprocessor number (`AArch32`)

bits 3:0 - zero

As an example, to view non-secure writes to writes to `CNTFRQ_EL0` in `AArch64` state, install a write monitor on address range `0x020e0330:0x020e0333`.

1.8.3 System Register Implementation

If parameter “`enableSystemBus`” is `True`, an artifact 32-bit bus “`System`” is enabled for each PE. Slave callbacks installed on this bus can be used to implement modified system register behavior

(use `opBusSlaveNew` or `icmMapExternalMemory`, depending on the client API). The format of the address on the bus is the same as for the system monitor bus, described above.

Chapter 2

Configuration

2.1 Location

This model's VLVN is arm.ovpworld.org/processor/arm/1.0.

The model source is usually at:

`$IMPERAS_HOME/ImperasLib/source/arm.ovpworld.org/processor/arm/1.0`

The model binary is usually at:

`$IMPERAS_HOME/lib/$IMPERAS_ARCH/ImperasLib/arm.ovpworld.org/processor/arm/1.0`

2.2 GDB Path

The default GDB for this model is: `$IMPERAS_HOME/lib/$IMPERAS_ARCH/gdb/arm-none-eabi-gdb`.

2.3 Semi-Host Library

The default semi-host library file is arm.ovpworld.org/semihosting/armNewlib/1.0

2.4 Processor Endian-ness

This model can be set to either endian-ness (normally by a pin, or the ELF code).

2.5 QuantumLeap Support

This processor is qualified to run in a QuantumLeap enabled simulator.

2.6 Processor ELF code

The ELF code supported by this model is: 0x28.

Chapter 3

All Variants in this model

This model has these variants

Variant	Description
ARMv4T	
ARMv4xM	
ARMv4	
ARMv4TxM	
ARMv5xM	
ARMv5	
ARMv5TxM	
ARMv5T	
ARMv5TExP	
ARMv5TE	
ARMv5TEJ	
ARMv6	
ARMv6K	
ARMv6T2	
ARMv6KZ	
ARMv7	
ARM7TDMI	
ARM7EJ-S	
ARM720T	
ARM920T	
ARM922T	
ARM926EJ-S	
ARM940T	
ARM946E	
ARM966E	(described in this document)
ARM968E-S	
ARM1020E	
ARM1022E	
ARM1026EJ-S	
ARM1136J-S	
ARM1156T2-S	

ARM1176JZ-S	
Cortex-R4	
Cortex-R4F	
Cortex-A5UP	
Cortex-A5MPx1	
Cortex-A5MPx2	
Cortex-A5MPx3	
Cortex-A5MPx4	
Cortex-A8	
Cortex-A9UP	
Cortex-A9MPx1	
Cortex-A9MPx2	
Cortex-A9MPx3	
Cortex-A9MPx4	
Cortex-A7UP	
Cortex-A7MPx1	
Cortex-A7MPx2	
Cortex-A7MPx3	
Cortex-A7MPx4	
Cortex-A15UP	
Cortex-A15MPx1	
Cortex-A15MPx2	
Cortex-A15MPx3	
Cortex-A15MPx4	
Cortex-A17MPx1	
Cortex-A17MPx2	
Cortex-A17MPx3	
Cortex-A17MPx4	
AArch32	
AArch64	
Cortex-A32MPx1	
Cortex-A32MPx2	
Cortex-A32MPx3	
Cortex-A32MPx4	
Cortex-A35MPx1	
Cortex-A35MPx2	
Cortex-A35MPx3	
Cortex-A35MPx4	
Cortex-A53MPx1	
Cortex-A53MPx2	
Cortex-A53MPx3	
Cortex-A53MPx4	
Cortex-A55MPx1	
Cortex-A55MPx2	
Cortex-A55MPx3	

Cortex-A55MPx4	
Cortex-A57MPx1	
Cortex-A57MPx2	
Cortex-A57MPx3	
Cortex-A57MPx4	
Cortex-A72MPx1	
Cortex-A72MPx2	
Cortex-A72MPx3	
Cortex-A72MPx4	
Cortex-A73MPx1	
Cortex-A73MPx2	
Cortex-A73MPx3	
Cortex-A73MPx4	
Cortex-A75MPx1	
Cortex-A75MPx2	
Cortex-A75MPx3	
Cortex-A75MPx4	
MultiCluster	

Table 3.1: All Variants in this model

Chapter 4

Bus Master Ports

This model has these bus master ports.

Name	min	max	Connect?	Description
INSTRUCTION	32	32	mandatory	
DATA	32	32	optional	

Table 4.1: Bus Master Ports

Chapter 5

Bus Slave Ports

This model has no bus slave ports.

Chapter 6

Net Ports

This model has these net ports.

Name	Type	Connect?	Description
reset	input	optional	Processor reset, active high
fiq	input	optional	FIQ interrupt, active high (negation of nFIQ)
irq	input	optional	IRQ interrupt, active high (negation of nIRQ)
sei	input	optional	System error interrupt, active on rising edge (negation of nSEI)

Table 6.1: Net Ports

Chapter 7

FIFO Ports

This model has no FIFO ports.

Chapter 8

Formal Parameters

Name	Type	Description
variant	Enumeration	Selects variant (either a generic ISA or a specific model)
verbose	Boolean	Specify verbosity of output
suppressCPSWarnings	Boolean	Suppress duplicate warnings generated using ARM_CP_CPSI or ARM_CP_CPSD message identifiers
showHiddenRegs	Boolean	Show hidden registers during register tracing
UAL	Boolean	Disassemble using UAL syntax
enableSystemBus	Boolean	Add 32-bit artifact System bus port, allowing system registers to be externally implemented
enableSystemMonitorBus	Boolean	Add 32-bit artifact SystemMonitor bus port, allowing system register accesses to be externally monitored
compatibility	Enumeration	Specify compatibility mode (ISA, gdb or nopSVC)
unpredictableR15	Enumeration	Specify behavior for UNPREDICTABLE uses of AArch32 R15 register (undefined, nop, raz_wi, execute or assert)
unpredictableModal	Enumeration	Specify behavior for UNPREDICTABLE instructions in certain AArch32 modes (for example, MRS using SPSR in System mode) (undefined, nop or assert)
maxSIMDUnroll	Uns32	If SIMD operations are supported, specify the maximum number of parallel SIMD operations to unroll (unrolled operations can be faster, but produce more verbose JIT code)
override_debugMask	Uns32	Specifies debug mask, enabling debug output for model components
endian	Endian	Model endian
override_fcsePresent	Boolean	Specifies that FCSE is present (if true)
override_SCTLR_V	Boolean	Override SCTLR.V with the passed value (enables high vectors; also configurable using VINITHI pin)
override_SCTLR_IE	Boolean	Override SCTLR.IE with the passed value (configures instruction endianness; also configurable using CFGIE pin)
override_SCTLR_EE	Boolean	Override SCTLR.EE with the passed value (configures exception data endianness; also configurable using CFGEE pin)
override_SCTLR_TE	Boolean	Override SCTLR.TE with the passed value (configures Thumb state for exception handling; also configurable using TEINIT pin)
override_SCTLR_NMFI	Boolean	Override SCTLR.NMFI with the passed value (configures NMFI state for exception handling; also configurable using CFGNMFI pin)
override_SCTLR_CP15BEN_Present	Boolean	Enable ARMv7 SCTLR.CP15BEN bit (CP15 barrier enable)

override_MIDR	Uns32	Override MIDR/MIDR_EL1 register
override_CTR	Uns32	Override CTR/CTR_EL0 register
override_CLIDR	Uns32	Override CLIDR/CLIDR_EL1 register
override_AIDR	Uns32	Override AIDR/AIDR_EL1 register
override_ERG	Uns32	Specifies exclusive reservation granule
override_STROffsetPC12	Boolean	Specifies that STR/STR of PC should do so with 12:byte offset from the current instruction (if true), otherwise an 8:byte offset is used
override_ignoreBadCp15	Boolean	Specifies whether invalid coprocessor 15 access should be ignored (if true) or cause Invalid Instruction exceptions (if false)
override_SGIDisable	Boolean	Override whether GIC SGIs may be disabled (if true) or are permanently enabled (if false)
override_condUndefined	Boolean	Force undefined instructions to take Undefined Instruction exception even if they are conditional
override_deviceStrongAligned	Boolean	Force accesses to Device and Strongly Ordered regions to be aligned
override_Control_V	Boolean	Override SCTLR.V with the passed value (deprecated, use override_SCTLR_V)
override_MainId	Uns32	Override MIDR register (deprecated, use override_MIDR)
override_CacheType	Uns32	Override CTR register (deprecated, use override_CTR)

Table 8.1: Parameters that can be set in: CPU

8.1 Parameter values

These are the current parameter values.

Name	Value
(Others)	
variant	ARM966E
verbose	T
suppressCPSWarnings	F
showHiddenRegs	F
UAL	T
enableSystemBus	F
enableSystemMonitorBus	F
compatibility	ISA
unpredictableR15	execute
unpredictableModal	nop
maxSIMDUnroll	2
override_debugMask	0
endian	none
override_fcsePresent	F
override_SCTLR_V	F
override_SCTLR_IE	F
override_SCTLR_EE	F
override_SCTLR_TE	F
override_SCTLR_NMFI	F
override_SCTLR_CP15BEN_Present	F

override_MIDR	0x41259661
override_CTR	0
override_CLIDR	0
override_AIDR	0
override_ERG	3
override_STRoffsetPC12	T
override_ignoreBadCp15	F
override_SGIDisable	F
override_condUndefined	F
override_deviceStrongAligned	F
override_Control_V	F
override_MainId	0x41259661
override_CacheType	0

Table 8.2: Parameter values

Chapter 9

Execution Modes

Mode	Code
User	16
FIQ	17
IRQ	18
Supervisor	19
Abort	23
Undefined	27
System	31

Table 9.1: Modes implemented in: CPU

Chapter 10

Exceptions

Exception	Code
Reset	0
Undefined	1
SupervisorCall	2
PrefetchAbort	5
DataAbort	6
IRQ	8
FIQ	9

Table 10.1: Exceptions implemented in: CPU

Chapter 11

Hierarchy of the model

A CPU core may be configured to instance many processors of a Symmetrical Multi Processor (SMP). A CPU core may also have sub elements within a processor, for example hardware threading blocks.

OVP processor models can be written to include SMP blocks and to have many levels of hierarchy. Some OVP CPU models may have a fixed hierarchy, and some may be configured by settings in a configuration register. Please see the register definitions of this model.

This model documentation shows the settings and hierarchy of the default settings for this model variant.

11.1 Level 1: CPU

This level in the model hierarchy has 3 commands.

This level in the model hierarchy has 10 register groups:

Group name	Registers
Core	16
Control	3
User	7
FIQ	8
IRQ	3
Supervisor	3
Undefined	3
Abort	3
Coprocessor_32_bit	6
Integration_support	3

Table 11.1: Register groups

This level in the model hierarchy has no children.

Chapter 12

Model Commands

A Processor model can implement one or more **Model Commands** available to be invoked from the simulator command line, from the OP API or from the Imperas Multiprocessor Debugger.

12.1 Level 1: CPU

12.1.1 debugflags

show or modify the processor debug flags

Argument	Type	Description
-get	Boolean	print current processor flags value
-mask	Boolean	print valid debug flag bits
-set	Int32	new processor flags (only flags 0x000003e4 can be modified)

Table 12.1: debugflags command arguments

12.1.2 isync

specify instruction address range for synchronous execution

Argument	Type	Description
-addresshi	Uns64	end address of synchronous execution range
-addresslo	Uns64	start address of synchronous execution range

Table 12.2: isync command arguments

12.1.3 itrace

enable or disable instruction tracing

Argument	Type	Description
-after	Uns64	apply after this many instructions
-enable	Boolean	enable instruction tracing
-instructioncount	Boolean	include the instruction number in each trace

-memory	String	show memory accesses by this instruction. Argument can be any combination of X (execute), L (load or store access) and S (system)
-off	Boolean	disable instruction tracing
-on	Boolean	enable instruction tracing
-processorname	Boolean	Include processor name in all trace lines
-registerchange	Boolean	show registers changed by this instruction
-registers	Boolean	show registers after each trace

Table 12.3: itrace command arguments

Chapter 13

Registers

13.1 Level 1: CPU

13.1.1 Core

Registers at level:1, type:CPU group:Core

Name	Bits	Initial-Hex	RW	Description
r0	32	0	rw	
r1	32	0	rw	
r2	32	0	rw	
r3	32	0	rw	
r4	32	0	rw	
r5	32	0	rw	
r6	32	0	rw	
r7	32	0	rw	
r8	32	0	rw	
r9	32	0	rw	
r10	32	0	rw	
r11	32	0	rw	frame pointer
r12	32	0	rw	
sp	32	0	rw	stack pointer
lr	32	0	rw	
pc	32	0	rw	program counter

Table 13.1: Registers at level 1, type:CPU group:Core

13.1.2 Control

Registers at level:1, type:CPU group:Control

Name	Bits	Initial-Hex	RW	Description
fps	32	0	rw	archaic FPSCR view (for gdb)
cpsr	32	d3	rw	
spsr	32	0	rw	

Table 13.2: Registers at level 1, type:CPU group:Control

13.1.3 User

Registers at level:1, type:CPU group:User

Name	Bits	Initial-Hex	RW	Description
r8_usr	32	0	rw	
r9_usr	32	0	rw	
r10_usr	32	0	rw	
r11_usr	32	0	rw	
r12_usr	32	0	rw	
sp_usr	32	0	rw	
lr_usr	32	0	rw	

Table 13.3: Registers at level 1, type:CPU group:User

13.1.4 FIQ

Registers at level:1, type:CPU group:FIQ

Name	Bits	Initial-Hex	RW	Description
r8_fiq	32	0	rw	
r9_fiq	32	0	rw	
r10_fiq	32	0	rw	
r11_fiq	32	0	rw	
r12_fiq	32	0	rw	
sp_fiq	32	0	rw	
lr_fiq	32	0	rw	
spsr_fiq	32	0	rw	

Table 13.4: Registers at level 1, type:CPU group:FIQ

13.1.5 IRQ

Registers at level:1, type:CPU group:IRQ

Name	Bits	Initial-Hex	RW	Description
sp_irq	32	0	rw	
lr_irq	32	0	rw	
spsr_irq	32	0	rw	

Table 13.5: Registers at level 1, type:CPU group:IRQ

13.1.6 Supervisor

Registers at level:1, type:CPU group:Supervisor

Name	Bits	Initial-Hex	RW	Description
sp_svc	32	0	rw	
lr_svc	32	0	rw	
spsr_svc	32	0	rw	

Table 13.6: Registers at level 1, type:CPU group:Supervisor

13.1.7 Undefined

Registers at level:1, type:CPU group:Undefined

Name	Bits	Initial-Hex	RW	Description
------	------	-------------	----	-------------

sp_undef	32	0	rw	
lr_undef	32	0	rw	
spsr_undef	32	0	rw	

Table 13.7: Registers at level 1, type:CPU group:Undefined

13.1.8 Abort

Registers at level:1, type:CPU group:Abort

Name	Bits	Initial-Hex	RW	Description
sp_abt	32	0	rw	
lr_abt	32	0	rw	
spsr_abt	32	0	rw	

Table 13.8: Registers at level 1, type:CPU group:Abort

13.1.9 Coprocessor_32_bit

Registers at level:1, type:CPU group:Coprocessor_32_bit

Name	Bits	Initial-Hex	RW	Description
DataSynchBarrier	32	-	-w	Data Synchronization Barrier
MIDR	32	41259661	r-	Main ID
SCTLR	32	f70	rw	System Control
TRACEIDR	32	0	rw	Trace ID
WaitForInterrupt	32	-	-w	Wait For Interrupt
WaitForInterrupt2	32	-	-w	Wait For Interrupt

Table 13.9: Registers at level 1, type:CPU group:Coprocessor_32_bit

13.1.10 Integration_support

Registers at level:1, type:CPU group:Integration_support

Name	Bits	Initial-Hex	RW	Description
transactPL	32	1	r-	privilege level of current memory transaction
transactAT	32	0	r-	current memory transaction type: PA=1, VA=0
HaltReason	8	0	r-	bit field indicating halt reason

Table 13.10: Registers at level 1, type:CPU group:Integration_support