

N1 Manual

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Revision History

Date	Change		
March 21, 2019	Initial release		
March 22, 2019	Changed encoding of ALU operands (see Table 2-1 and Table ??)		
April 17, 2019	Fixed some copy & paste errors		
April 26, 2019	Fixes and a description of the branch condition in Section 2.4 "Conditional Branches"		
May 6, 2019	Added input pbus_rty_i Corrected and specified reference point for relative addresses		
May 7, 2019	Changed definition of reference point for relative addresses		
October 14 2019 Added Section 3 "Extensions" Updated Section 7.1 "Integratation Parameters"			
November 11, 2022 Fixed typos Started chapter Section 8 "Architecture Description"			
January 4, 2024 Modified "Status and Control Instructions" in Figure 2-1 and Section 2.9 "Function Register Access"			
February 5, 2024	Extended sections Section 2.7 "Stack Instructions" and Section 3.1 "ROT Extension", including a description of the stack underflow detection		
February 12, 2024 Swapped order of operands in shift instructions (see Table 2-1)			
February 23, 2024	Added Section ?? "??", Section 3.2 "Interrupt Extension", Section ?? "??", and Section 4-2 "Non-standard Forth words".		

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1 Overview

The N1 is a 16-bit stack machine, targeted for low-end FPGA applications. Its instruction set and architecture are designed for efficient execution of Forth code. Here is a summary of the N1's characteristics:

Memory connection:

- 16-bit Von-Neumann-Architecture
- Separate address space for stack content
- Wishbone interfaces to main and stack memory
- Up to 128KB (main) memory space
- Memory addressable in 16-bit entities only

Stacks:

- Two hardware stacks (parameter and return stack)
- Each stack consists of three segments:

Upper stack:

- Shift registers with selectable shift direction for each individual cell
- Fixed size
 - * Upper parameter stack: 4 cells
 - * Upper return stack: 1 cell

Intermediate stack:

- Buffer with lazy data transfers to and from the lower stack
- Configurable size

Lower stack:

- RAM space shared by both stacks
- Stacks grow towards each other
- Up to 128KB in size

Instruction set:

- Fixed instruction size of 16-bit
- Jumps and calls
 - Indirect addressing
 - Direct addressing within a 32KB window
 - Two bus cycle execution time
 - Return from calls performed concurrently with last instruction
- Conditional branches
 - Direct relative addressing within a 16KB range
 - Two bus cycles of execution time if branch is taken, one cycle if not
- Literals
 - Immediate encoding of literals between -2048 and 2047
 - Literals out of this range requre one additional instruction
- Arithmetic and logic operations
 - Single cycle ALU operations include:

- * Sum and Difference
- * Comparisons
- * Signed and unsigned products
- * Bitwise logic operations
- * Milti-bit shifts
- Optional immediate encoding of one operand, using 5-bit encoding
- Stack operations
 - All 1024 stack transitions of the upper stack encodable
- Memory I/O
 - Indirect addressing
 - Direct addressing within a 511B window
 - Two bus cycle execution time if branch is taken, one cycle if not

Exceptions:

- Exception handler invoked by five error conditions:
 - Parameter stack overflow
 - Parameter stack underflow
 - Return stack overflow
 - Return stack underflow
 - Access violations in the (main) address space

Interrupts:

- \bullet Optional interrupt support through external interrupt controller
- Automatic interrupt acknowledge (flag clearing) supported

2 Instruction Set

The intent of the N1's instruction set is to map most of the essential Forth words to single cycle instructions. Figure 2-1 illustrates the instruction format.

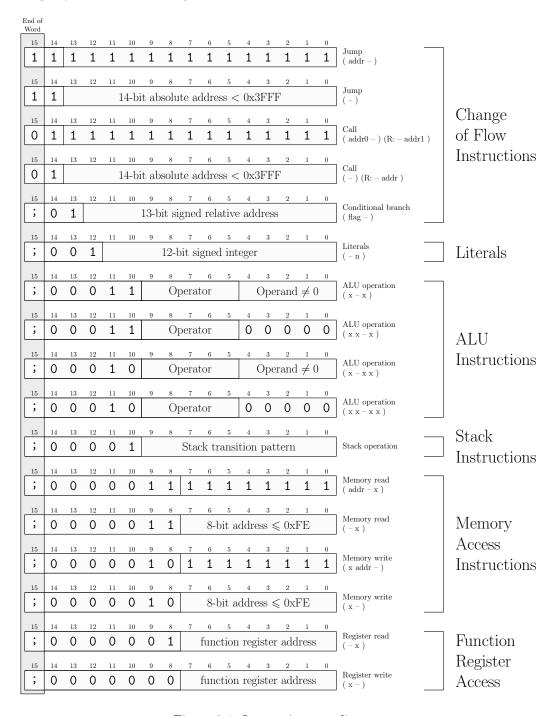


Figure 2-1: Instruction encoding

2.1 Return from a Call (;)

Rather than providing a dedicated instruction to end the execution of word in Forth and to return the caller's program flow, the N1 allows to perform this operation in parallel to the execution of any of its instructions. Each opcode contains a bit (bit 15) to indicate, that the current instruction is the last operation of the current word. If this bit is set, the program flow will resume at the calling word as soon as the operationis performed.

As shown in Figure 2-1, bit 15 is also distinction between the encoding of jump and of call instructions. Considering that the last call in a word definition can be optimized to a jump, bit 15 can be regarded as the termination bit for call instructions as well. For a Forth compiler, this means that the semi-colon (;) always translates to setting bit 15 of the last instruction.

2.2 Jump Instructions

Jump instructions transfer the program flow to any address location within the supported 128KB program space. Jump instructions consume an absolute destination address which can either be placed on the top of the parameter stack or encoded into the opcode of the instruction (only for destination addresses < 0x3FFF).

2.3 Call Instructions

Call instructions temporarily transfer the program flow to any address location within the supported 128KB program space, while pushing a return address onto the return stack. Call instructions consume an absolute destination address which can either be placed on the top of the Parameter stack or encoded into the opcode of the instruction (only for destination addresses < 0x3FFF).

2.4 Conditional Branches

Conditional branches invoke a change of program flow depending on the argument at the top of the parameter stack. If it is zero, then the branch is taken. The branch destination is a relative address, encoded into the opcode of the instruction in the range of \pm 8KB. A relative address of value zero points to the istruction following the conditional branches.

2.5 Literals

Signed integer literals of 12-bit length can be pushed onto the parameter stack within a single instruction. For larger integers a supplemental ALU instruction is required. (see encoding 11100 in Table 2-1)

2.6 ALU Instructions

ALU instructions perform an operation on two cell values, resulting in a new double cell value. The result can either be placed entirely onto the parameter stack, or truncated, discarding the most significant cell. The first operand is always taken from the parameter stack. The second operand can either be taken from the parameter stack or encoded into the opcode of the instruction. In the latter case, the interpretation of the embedded 5-bit value depends on the operation. The immediate value

is interpreted as either an unsigned (uimm), a sign extended (simm), or an offsetted (oimm) integer value:

$$\begin{aligned} &uimm = \text{opcode}[4:0]\\ &simm = \begin{cases} \text{opcode}[4:0], & \text{if opcode}[4:0] < 16\\ \text{opcode}[4:0] - 32, & \text{if opcode}[4:0] \ge 16 \end{cases}\\ &oimm = \text{opcode}[4:0] - 16 \end{aligned}$$

Table 2-1 lists the supported ALU operations.

Table 2-1: ALU operations

Encoding	Operation	(x1 – d)	(x1 x2 - d)
00000	Sum	uimm + x1	x1 + x2
00001	Absolute value	oimm + ABS(x1)	x1 + ABS(x2)
00010	Difference	x1 - uimm	x2-x1
00011	Difference	oimm - x1	x1 - x2
00100	Unsigned minimum value	UMIN(uimm, x1)	UMIN(x1, x2)
00101	Signed maximum value	MAX(oimm, x1)	MAX(x1, x2)
00110	Unsigned maximum value	UMAX(uimm, x1)	UMAX(x1, x2)
00111	Signed minimum value	MIN(oimm, x1)	MIN(x1, x2)
01000	Equals comparison	uimm = x1?	x1 = x2?
01001	Equals comparison	oimm = x1?	x1 = x2?
01010	Not-equals comparison	$uimm \neq x1?$	$x1 \neq x2$?
01011	Not-equals comparison	$oimm \neq x1?$	$x1 \neq x2$?
01100	Unsigned greater-than comparison	uimm > x1?	x1 > x2?
01101	Signed lower-than comparison	oimm < x1?	x1 < x2?
01110	Unsigned lower-than comparison	uimm < x1?	x1 < x2?
01111	Signed greater-than	oimm > x1?	x1 > x2?
10000	Unsigned product	uimm * x1	x1 * x2
10001	Unsigned product	simm * x1	x1 * x2
10010	Signed product	uimm * x1	x1 * x2
10011	Signed product	simm * x1	x1 * x2
10100	Logic AND	$simm \wedge x1$	x1 ∧ x2
10101	Logic XOR	$simm \oplus x1$	$x1 \oplus x2$
10110	Logic OR	$uimm \lor x1$	$x1 \lor x2$
10111		served	
11000	Logic right shift	$x1 \gg uimm$	$x1 \gg x2$
11001	Logic left shift	$x1 \ll uimm$	$x1 \ll x2$
11010	Arithmetic right shift	$x1 \gg uimm$	$x1 \gg x2$
11011	Reserved		
11100	Set upper bits of a literal value $simm$, x1[11:0] $simm$, x2[11		
11101	Reserved		
11110	Reserved		
11111	Reserved		

2.7 Stack Instructions

The N1's stack instruction aims at efficiently implementing common stack operations of the Forth language, while only implementing the essential data paths, which are needed for plain push and pull operations.

The opcode of the stack instruction contains a 10-bit field to specify a transition pattern of the upper cells of the parameter stack and the return stack. The structure transition pattern is shown in Figure 2-2.

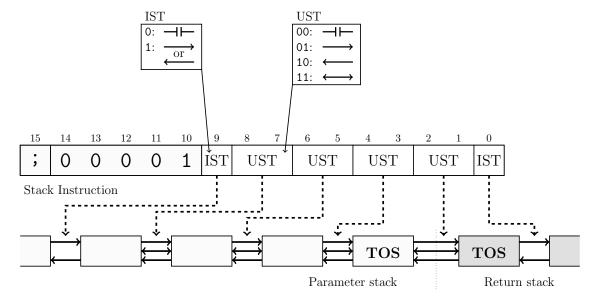


Figure 2-2: Transition encoding of stack instructions

The stack instruction contains four UST fields which control the data movement within the upper four cells of the parameter stack and the top cell of the return stack. Each UST field determines the direction of data transfer between two neighboring stack cells. Four options are selectable:

- No data transfer
- Data transfer upwards (or towards the return stack)
- Data transfer downwards (or towards the parameter stack)
- Data exchange between two stack cells

It is possible to put the UST fields into a combination which would trigger a data transfer of two source cells to a single desination cell. These combinations are reserved for instruction set extensions (see Section 3 "Extensions"). If no related instruction set extension is implemented, the outcome of these stack operations is undefined. In practice, the resulting data in the desination cell is then a logic OR of all sources. The two remaining IST fields in the stack instruction control the data movement of the lower stacks. Two options are selectable:

- No data transfer
- Data shift throughout the entire intermediate stack. The direction is determined by the data movement of the lowest cell of the upper stack (see Figure 2-3).

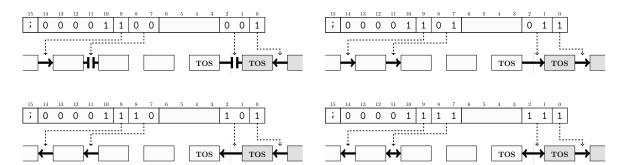


Figure 2-3: Transitions to and from the intermediate stack

2.7.1 Common Stack Operations

Table 2-2 shows how common stack operations in Forth are mapped N1 instructions.

Word Opcode Description Transitions DROP 0x06A8 (x-)→ TOS TOS DUP (x-xx)TOS 0x0750 TOS (x1 x2 - x2 x1)SWAP ↔ Tos TOS 0x0418 OVER (x1 x2 - x1 x2 x1)0x0758 ↔ Tos TOS (x1 x2 - x2)NIP 0x06A0 TOS TOS ← TOS TOS 0x0750 TUCK (x1 x2 - x2 x1 x2) \leftrightarrow TOS TOS 0x0460 TOS TOS0x0460 ROT (x1 x2 x3 - x2 x3 x1)↔ Tos TOS 0x0418 ↔ Tos TOS 0x0418 -ROT (x1 x2 x3 - x3 x1 x2)TOS TOS 0x0460 RDROP (R: x -)TOS TOS **←** 0x0401 TOS ← → TOS 0x0407 (R: x - xx)RDUP 0x0406 TOS 🗲 (x-) → TOS 0x06AB >R → TOS (R:-x)(-x)TOS 🗲 TOS R@ 0x0754(R: x - x)(-x)R> Tos **←** TOS 0x0755 (R:x-)→ TOS TOS 0x06A8 2DROP (x1 x2 -)→ TOS TOS 0x06A8

Table 2-2: Common stack operations

...continued

Table 2-2: Common stack operations

Word	Description	Transitions	Opcode
ODIID	(1 0 1 0 1 0)	← ← tos Tos	0x0758
2DUP	(x1 x2 - x1 x2 x1 x2)	Tos	0x0758
		→ Tos Tos	
2SWAP	(x1 x2 x3 x4 - x3 x4 x1 x2)	↔ Tos Tos	0x0460
	,	Tos Tos	0x0598 0x0460
		Tos Tos	0110100
		Tos Tos	0x0780
20VER	$\left(\ x1\ x2\ x3\ x4-x1\ x2\ x3\ x4\ x1\ x2\ \right)$		0x0760 0x0460
		← ← Tos Tos	0x0798
		Tos Tos	0x0460
2NIP	(x1 x2 x3 x4 - x3 x4)	Tos Tos	0x06A0
21111	(X1 X2 X3 X4 - X3 X4)	TOS	0x06A0
		$\longrightarrow \text{Tos} \longrightarrow \text{Tos} \longrightarrow$	
		Tos tos	
	(1 2 2 4 2 2 4 2 2 4)	→ TOS TOS	0x046B 0x0587
2TUCK	(x1 x2 x3 x4 - x3 x4 x1 x2 x3 x4)	TOS TOS	0x0307 0x0418
		← ← TOS ← TOS ←	0x0460
		← ← TOS ← TOS ←	0x0755 0x0755
			0110100
	(x1 x2 x3 x4 x5 x6 - x3 x4 x5 x6 x1 x2)	Tos Tos	
		Tos Tos	
		↔ Tos Tos	0x06AB
2ROT			0x0580 0x06AB
			0x0598
		→ Tos Tos	0x0755
			0x0598
		→ Tos Tos	0x0755 0x0598
		TOS TOS	0x0460

...continued

Word Description Transitions Opcode TOS TOS ↔ Tos TOS → TOS TOS 0x0460 ↔ Tos TOS 0x0598 -2ROT (x1 x2 x3 x4 x5 x6 - x5 x6 x1 x2 x3 x4) 0x06AB \rightarrow TOS TOS 0x0598 ↔ Tos TOS 0x06AB **←** TOS **←** TOS 0x0598 0x0755↔ Tos TOS 0x0418 **←** TOS **←** TOS 0x0755 TOS TOS0x0401 (R: x1 x2 -) 2RDROP TOS TOS 🗲 0x0401 TOS 🗲 TOS Tos 🗲 → TOS 0x0755 2RDUP (R: x1 x2 - x1 x2 x1 x2)0x0757 → TOS TOS 0x06AB TOS → TOS 0x06AB → TOS TOS (x1 x2 -)0x06AB 2>R (R: -x1 x2) \rightarrow Tos 0x06AB Tos **←** (-x1 x2)0x0755 2R@ (R: x1 x2 - x1 x2)TOS 0x0757 TOS TOS (-x1 x2)0x0755 2R> TOS 🗲 TOS 🗲 (R: x1 x2 -)0x0755

Table 2-2: Common stack operations

2.7.2 Stack Underflow Detection

The required number of arguments for a stack instruction is determined by the transition pattern (UST and IST fields). The rules listed in Table 3-2 are applied. subsubsectionCommon Stack Operations Table 2-2 shows how common stack operations in Forth are mapped N1 instructions.

Table 2-3: Rules of Stack Underflow Detection

Rule	Transitions	Description
"DROP" Rule		A cell that will be dropped (overwritten, without passing on it's content) from either direction must hold content, otherwise a stack underflow exception will be triggered.
"DUP" Rule	_ -	A cell that will be duplicated in either direction must hold content, otherwise a stack underflow exception will be triggered.
"SWAP" Rule	↔	Two neighboring cells that will be swapped must both hold content, otherwise a stack underflow exception will be triggered.
"Shift" Rule		Cells that will be shifted in either direction, will not be checked for content
"Cross" Rule	→ → → → → → → → → →	Any cell that is shifted, swapped or duplicated across the parameter stack/return stack boundary must hold content, otherwise a stack underflow exception will be triggered.

2.8 Memory Access Instructions

Memory access instruction perform read or write acesses to the system's 64K word (128KB) address space. Data is solely accessed in 16-bit entities. Accesses to a 255 word (510B) window in the main address space, can be done through an immediate addressing. This offers faster access to frequently used system variables.

2.9 Function Register Access

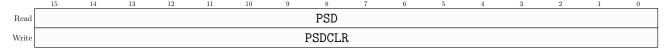
The N1 processor provides a set function registers, which provide access to a number of processor features (see Table 2-4). These function registers are read and written through special opcodes.

Table 2-4: Function registers

Address	Mnemonic	Name	
0x00	PSD	Parameter Stack Depth Register	
0x01	RSD	Return Stack Depth Register	
0x02	IEN	Optional Interrupt Enable Register	
0x04	EKEY?	Optional EKEY? Register	
0x05	EMIT?	Optional EKEY/EMIT Register	
0x06	PEEK	Optional PEEK Register	
0x07	EKEY	Optional EKEY/EMIT Register	

2.9.1 Parameter Stack Depth Register (PSD)

Offset: 0x00



The current depth of the parameter stack is captured in the parameter stack depth register.

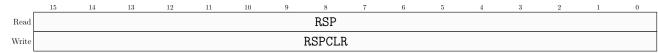
Writing 0x0000 to this register will clear the parameter stack.

Table 2-5: Parameter Stack Depth Register Bit Description

Bit	Postion	Description
PSD	150	Parameter Stack Depth Read:
		Current parameter stack depth
		Clear Parameter Stack
PSDCLR	150	Write: Writing the value 0x0000 will clrear the parameter stack. All other write accesses have no effect.

2.9.2 Return Stack Depth Register (RSD

Offset: 0x01



The current depth of the return stack is captured in the parameter stack depth register.

Writing 0x0000 to this register will clear the return stack.

Table 2-6: Return Stack Depth Register Bit Description

Bit	Postion	Description
RSD	150	Return Stack Depth Read: Current return stack depth.

...continued

Table 2-6: Return Stack Depth Register Bit Description

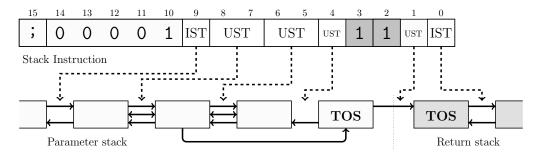
Bit	Postion	Description
		Return Stack Depth
RSDCLR	150	Write:
		Writing the value 0x0000 will clrear the return stack.
		All other write accesses have no effect.

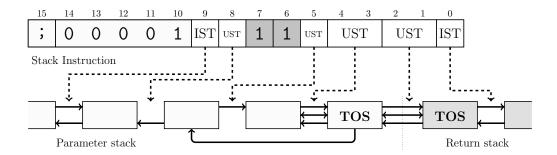
3 Extensions

The instruction set of the N1 processor (see Section 2 "Instruction Set") reserves a number of undefined opcodes for functional extensions. These extensions imply a trade-off between hardware complexity and functional improvements. They can be selected individually for each system integrating the N1 processor (see Section 7 "Integration Guide").

3.1 ROT Extension

The ROT extension adds two data paths to the upper stack, allowing direct data transfers between the top and the third element of the parameter stack. These new stack transitions are performed by the regular stack instructions (see Section 2.7 "Stack Instructions"), using some of the reserved stack transition patterns. Figure 3-1 illustrates the usage of the ROT extension.





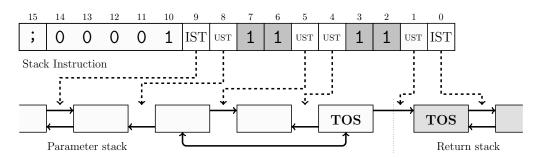


Figure 3-1: Stack transitions of the ROT extension

3.1.1 Accellerated Stack Operations

The ROT extension improves the execution time and code density of the three common stack operations TUCK, ROT, and ¬ROT (see Table 3-1). This means that all common single-cell parameter stack operations shown in Table 2-2 can be executed in one cycle if the ROT extension is enabled.

Table 3-1: Improved stack operations

Word	Description	Transitions	Opcode
TUCK	(x1 x2 - x2 x1 x2)	Tos Tos	0x07C0
ROT	(x1 x2 x3 - x2 x3 x1)	Tos Tos	0x041C
-ROT	(x1 x2 x3 - x3 x1 x2)	Tos Tos	0x04E0

N1 processors with ROT extension are backward compatible to the ones without. All stack operations can still be executed as listed in Table 2-2, even if the ROT extension is enabled.

3.1.2 Stack Underflow Detection

The ROT extension introduces three new stack underflow detection rules. These rules are listed in Table 3-2.

Table 3-2: Rules of Stack Underflow Detection

Rule	Transitions	Description
"TUCK" Rule	Tos	If the downward ROT extension path is used and the target cell is shifted further downward, then the parameter stack must hold at least two values prior to the stack operation.
"ROT" Rule	TOS TOS TOS TOS TOS TOS TOS	For all other stack operations, which use any of the ROT extension paths and for which the "TUCK" rule does not apply, the parameter stack must hold at least three values prior to the stack operation.

3.2 Interrupt Extension

Interrupt support is optional on the N1 processor. If it is available, the Interupt Enable Register (IEN) (see Figure 3-2) is mapped into the function register space, allowing interrupts to be temporarily disabled.

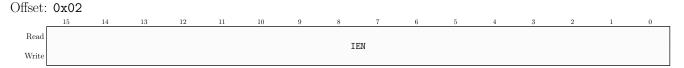


Figure 3-2: Interrupt Enable Register

Interrupt handling can be disabled through clearing the interrupt Enable Flag IEN. The IEN bit is automatically cleared when an interrupt service routine is started and must be set manually by writing a true value to the Interrupt Enable Register (see Table 3-3).

Table 3-3: Exception and Interrupt Mask Register Bit Description

Bit	Postion	Description		
		Interrupt Enable Flag		
TEN	15.0	Read:		
IEN	EN 150 true: Interrupts a		Interrupts are enabled	
		false:	false: Interrupts are disabled	
		Write:		
		true: Enable interrupts		
		false:	Disable interrupts	

3.3 EKEY/EMIT Extension

The EKEY/EMIT extension adds support for an I/O device to the N1 core. Forth words EKEY, EKEY?, EMIT, ands EMIT? dre directly mapped to a set of function register.

3.3.1 EKEY? Register

The EKEY? register (see Figure 3-3) indicates whether there is data to be received from the input device.

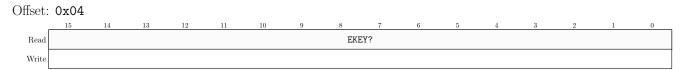


Figure 3-3: EKEY? Register

The EKEY? field in this read only register resembles the functionality of the EKEY? word (see Table 3-6.

Table 3-4: Exception and Interrupt Mask Register Bit Description

Bit	Postion	Description	
			Input Data Available Query
EKEY?	150	Read:	
		true:	Input data is available
		false:	Input data is not available

3.3.2 EMIT? Register

The EMIT? (see Figure 3-4) register indicates whether the I/O device is ready to transmit data.

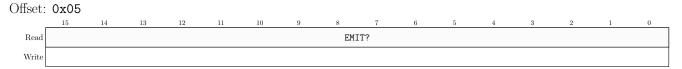


Figure 3-4: EMIT? Register

The EMIT? field in this read only register resembles the functionality of the EMIT? word (see Table ??.

Table 3-5: Exception and Interrupt Mask Register Bit Description

Bit	Postion	Description		
			Output Device Ready Query	
EMIT?	150	Read:	Read:	
		true:	Output device is ready to transmit data	
		false:	Output device is not ready to transmit data	

3.3.3 Peek Register

The PEEK register (see Figure 3-5) allows the software to preview at the input buffer of the I/O device, without removing any data. This functionality is needed to implement the KEY? word.

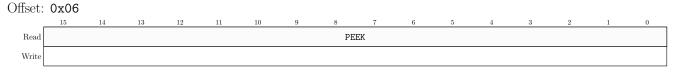


Figure 3-5: EMIT? Register

The data in the PEEK field (see Table ?? is only valid if EKEY? holds a true value.

Table 3-6: Exception and Interrupt Mask Register Bit Description

Bit	Postion	Description
PEEK	150	Input Data Preview
		Read: Next word of read data from the input device

3.3.4 EKEY/EMIT Register

The EKEY/EMIT register (see Figure 3-6 is used to receive data from and to transmit daza to the I/O device. Accesses to this register are blocking.



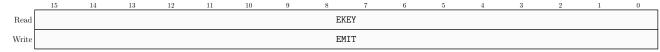


Figure 3-6: EKEY/EMIT Register

The EKEY field resembles the EKEY word and the EMIT field resembles the EMIT word (see Table 3-7),

Table 3-7: Exception and Interrupt Mask Register Bit Description

Bit	Postion	Description
EKEY	150	Input Data Read:
		Input data, removed from input device when read.
EMIT	150	Output Data Read: Output data

4 Forth Words

The following sections show recomended implementations of Forth words.

4.1 ANS Forth Words

The N1 processor aims at executing Forth code in an efficient way. Table 4-1 provides a list of standard ANS Forth[1] words which can be directly mapped to N1 instructions.

Table 4-1: ANS Forth words

Word	Stack	Description	Opcode
!	(x addr –)	Store x at addr	0x02FF
*	(n1 u1 n2 u2 - n3 u3)	Multiply n1 u1 by n2 u2	0x0E00
+	(n1 u1 n2 u2 - n3 u3)	Add n1 u1 to n2 u2	0x0C00
			0x0403
+!	(n1 u1 a-adr -)	Add n1 u1 to the cell at addr	0x03FF
			0x0C00
			0x0755
			0x02FF
_	(n1 u1 n2 u2 - n3 u3)	Subtract n2 u2 from n1 u1	0x0C40
0<	(n – flag)	Test if n is negative	0x0DF0
0<>	(x - flag)	Test if x is not zero	0x0D70
0>	(n – flag)	Test if n is greater than zero	0x0DB0
0=	(x - flag)	Test if x is not zero	0x0D30
1+	(n1 u1 - n2 u2)	Increment n1 u1	0x0C01
1-	(n1 u1 - n2 u2)	Decrement n1 u1	0x0C1F
			0x0750
2!	(x1 x2 addr -)	Store x2 at addr and x1 at addr+1	0x0460
			0x02FF
			0x0C01
			0x02FF
2*	(x1 - x2)	Shift x1 one bit towards the MSB	0x0F41
2/	(x1 – x2)	Shift x1 one bit towards the LSB, while the MSB remains unchanged	0x0F41
			0x0750
20	(addr - x1 x2)	Fetch x2 from addr and x1 at	0x0C01
		addr+1	0x03FF
			0x0418
			0x03FF
2DROP	(x1 x2 -)	Drop cell pair x1 x2	0x06A8
	, ,		0x06A8
2DUP	(x1 x2 - x1 x2 x1 x2)	Duplicate cell pair x1 x2	0x0758
	, , ,	_	0x0758
OUMED	(10241 -0)	Conversall points 1 2 to the TOO	0x0750
20VER	(x1 x2 x3 x4 - x1 x2 x1 x2 x3 x4 x1 x2)	Copy cell pair x1 x2 to the TOS	0x0460
			0x0789
			0x0460

...continued

Table 4-1: ANS Forth words

Word	Stack	Description	Opcode
2>R	(x1 x2 -) (R: - x1 x2)	Shift cell pair x1 x2 to the	0x06AB
	, , , , ,	return stack	0x06AB
2R>	$(-x1 \ x2) \ (R: x1 \ x2 -)$	Shift cell pair x1 x2 to the	0x0755
		parameter stack	0x0755
2R@	$(-x1 \ x2) \ (R: x1 \ x2 - x1 \ x2)$	Copy cell pair x1 x2 to the	0x0755
		parameter stack	0x0757
			0x06AB
0000	(1004476047610)	D () (1) 11 .	0x0580
2ROT	(x1 x2 x3 x4 x4 x5 x6 - x3 x4 x5 x6 x1 x2)	Rotate three cell pairs	0x06AB
			0x0598
			0x0755 0x0598
			0x0398
			0x0598
			0x0460
	(1 2 2 1 2 1 2)	2	0x0460
2SWAP	(x1 x2 x3 x4 - x3 x4 x1 x2)	Swap two cell pairs	0x0598
			0x0460
;	(-) (R: addr -)	Return to the calling word	0x8400
<	(n1 n2 – flag)	Test if n1 is lower than n2	OxODAO
<>	(x1 x2 - flag)	Test if x1 is different than x2	0x0D40
=	(x1 x2 - flag)	Test if x1 equals x2	0x0D00
>	(n1 n2 – flag)	Test if n1 is greater than n2	0x0DE0
>R	(x-)(R:-x)	Shift x on to the return stack	0x06AB
00110	(0)	D 1:	0x0750
?DUP	$(\mathbf{x} - 0 \mathbf{x} \mathbf{x})$	Duplicate x if it is not zero	0x0D30
			0x2001
			0x06A8
0	(addr - x)	Fetch x from addr	0x03FF
ABS	(n – u)	Absolute vale of n	0x0C30
AND	$(x1 \ x2 - x3)$	Bitwise logic AND of x1 and x2	0x0E80
BL	(- char)	Space character	0x1020
CELL+	(addr1addr2)	Increment addr1	0x0C01
DEPTH	(-+n)	+n is the number of cells on the	0x0100
7707		parameter stack without +n	0.0010
DROP	(x-)	Drop x from the /glsps	0x06A8
DUP	(x - x x)	Duplicate x	0x0750
EKEY	(- x)	Receive one input event u ¹	0x0107
EKEY?	(– flag)	Return true if input event is available ⁴	0x0104
EMIT	(x-)	Send x to the output device ⁴	0x0005
EMIT?	(– flag)	Return true if the output device is ready for data ⁴	0x0105
EXECUTE	(i*x xt - j*x)	Execute xt	0x7FFF
FALSE	(- false)	FALSE flag	0x1000

...continued

 $^{^{1}}$ Requires the EKEY/EMIT extension

Table 4-1: ANS Forth words

Word	Stack	Description	Opcode
I	($ n u$) ($R: n u - n u$)	Copy the innermost loop index n u onto the parameter stack	0x0754
INVERT	(x1 - x2)	Bitwise inverse of x1	0x0EBF
J	(-n u) (R: x n u - x n u)	Copy the next-outer loop index	0x0755
	(11/4) (10/11 11/4 11 11/4)	n u onto the parameter stack	0x0407
LSHIFT	(x1 u - x2)	Shift x1 u bits towards the MSB	0x0F20
M*	(n1 n2 – d)	Multiply n1 by n2	0x0A40
M+	(n1 n2 – d)	Add n1 to n2	0x0800
MAX	(n1 n2 - n3)	n3 is the greater of n1 and n2	0x0CA0
MIN	(n1 n2 – n3)	n3 is the lesser of n1 and n2	0x0CE0
NEGATE	(n1 – n2)	n2 is the two's complement of n1	0x0C70
NIP	(x1 x2 - x2)	Drop x1	0x06A0
OR	(x1 x2 - x3)	Bitwise logic OR of x1 and x2	0x0EC0
OVER	(x1 x2 - x1 x2 x1)	Copy x1 to the TOS	0x0758
R>	(- x) (R: x -)	Shift x to the parameter stack	0x0755
R@	(-x)(R: x - x)	Copy x to the parameter stack	0x0754
RSHIFT	(x1 u - x2)	Shift x1 u bits towards the LSB	0x0F00
	(, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		0x0460
ROT	(x1 x2 x3 - x2 x3 x1)	Rotate the three topmost cells	0x0418
			or
			0x041C ²
S>D	(n – d)	Sign-extend n	0x0A41
SWAP	(x1 x2 - x2 x1)	Swap x1 and x2	0x0418
TRUE	(-true)	TRUE flag	0x1FFF
	(1 2 2 1 2)	G 11 1 2	0x0750
TUCK	(x1 x2 - x2 x1 x2)	Copy x1 below x2	0x0460
			or
			0x07C0 ²
U<	(u1 u2 – flag)	Test if u1 is lower than u2	0x0DC0
U>	(u1 u2 – flag)	Test if u1 is greater than u2	0x0D80
UM*	(u1 u2 – d)	Multiply u1 by u2	0x0A00
XOR	(x1 x2 - x3)	Bitwise logic XOR of x1 and x2	0x0EA0

4.2 Non-Standard Forth Words

To provide access to features wich are unique to the N1 processor, the word definitions listed in Table 4-2 are recommended.

 $^{^2}$ Requires the ROT extension

Table 4-2: Non-standard Forth words

Word	Stack	Description	Opcode
CLRPS	(i*x-)	Clears the parameter stack	0x1000
	,	•	0x0000
CLRRS	(i*x-)	Clears the return stack	0x1000
	,		0x0001
IDIS	(-)	Disable interrupts ³	0x1000
		1	0x0003
IEN	(-)	Enable interrupts ³	0x1FFF
	,	1	0x0003
IEN?	(- flag)	Return true if interrupts are	0x1FFF
	(18)	enabled 3	0x0003
PEAK	(- x)	Read from the input device, while	0x0106
	,	preserving the input event ⁴	
RDEPTH	(-+n)	+n is the number of cells on the	0x0101
	, , ,	return stack	

 $^{^3}$ Requires the Interrupt extension 4 Requires the EKEY/EMIT extension

5 Stacks

The N1 operates with two stacks: the parameter stack to perform data transactions and the return stack to manage the program flow. As illustrated in Figure 5-1, each of these stacks consists of three segments: the upper stack, the intermediate stack, and the lower stack.

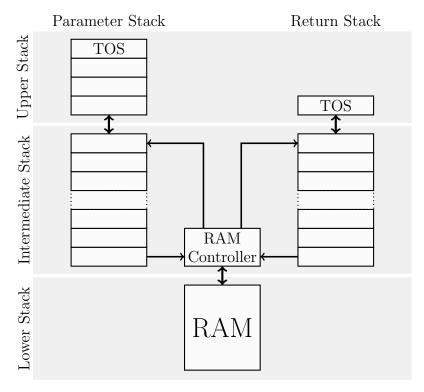


Figure 5-1: Stack Architecture

5.1 Parameter Stack

The upper parameter stack holds the four topmost data entries. Its purpose is to perform stack and ALU operations (see Section 2.7 "Stack Instructions" and Section 2.6 "ALU Instructions"). When the capacity of the upper stack is exceeded, older data entries are shifted to the intermediate stack.

The intermediate stack serves as a buffer between the upper stack and the lower stack, which resides in RAM. The purpose of the intermediate stack is to minimize RAM traffic to and from the lower stack. Push operations to the intermediate stack are only propagated to the lower stack when the buffer capacity is exceeded. Pull operations are only propagated when the intermediate stack is empty. Stack fluctuations within the intermediate stack's capacity are not visible to the lower stack.

The lower stack is a region of the RAM, which is managed by a memory controller that is shared by the parameter stack and the return stack. Within the RAM, both stacks will grow towards each other. Moving cell content from one stack to the other (>R or R>) will never lead to a stack overflow.

5.2 Return Stack Stack

The upper stack of the return stack has the capacity of one cell. The intermediate stack and lower stack are identical to the ones of the parameter stack.

6 Reset, Exceptions, and Interrupts

There are three hardware mechanisms in the N1 processor, which can stop the ongoing program flow in order to react to an urgent hardware condition: Reset, Exceptions and Interrupts.

6.1 Reset

A reset puts the entire sequential logic of the N1 into a defined initial state. The return stack becomes completely cleared and the parameter stack is initialized to hold exactly one cell, containing the reset indicator 0x0000 (see Table 6-1). After every reset, program execution will begin at address 0x0000. Any context of the previous program flow is lost. Resets are generated by the system's hardware and occur at least once during power-up.

6.2 Exceptions

Exceptions are triggered by error conditions and allow the software to restore the functionality of the system. There are five error conditions, which can be detected by the N1 hardware:

Parameter stack overflow

A parameter stack overflow occurs when the capacity of the lower stack's RAM is exceeded

Return stack stack underflow

A parameter stack underflow occurs when an instruction requires more arguments than available on the stack and when a stack instruction would result in non-continuous filling of the stack.

Return stack overflow

A return stack overflow occurs when the capacity of the lower stack's RAM is exceeded

Return stack underflow

A return stack underflow occurs when an instruction requires more arguments than available on the return stack.

Address out of range

This error condition indicates a memory access to a restricted address. This can either be caused by an instruction fetch or a data access

In any of these cases, the N1 processor will push a throw code (see Table 6-1) onto the parameter stack and proceed with code execution at address 0x0000. In case of a parameter stack overflow or a return stack overflow, both stacks will be cleared. Otherwise, the return stack and the lower content of the parameter stack remain untouched, allowing the to be caught by software. The parameter stack and the parameter stack remain untouched.

The context of the previous program execution is not preserved. The throw codes listed in Table 6-1 comply with the exception word set of the ANS Forth standard [1].

Table 6-1: Throw codes

Throw Code	Condition
0x0000 (0)	Reset
OxFFFD (-3)	Parameter stack overflow
0xFFFC (-4)	Parameter stack underflow
OxFFFB (-5)	Parameter stack overflow
OxFFFA (-6)	Parameter stack underflow
0xFFF3 (-13)	Undefined word

The five hardware exceptions can be easily complemented by user defined software exceptions. Software exceptions can be thrown by pushing a unique throw code onto the parameter stack and performing a jump to address 0x0000. Hardware and software exceptions can then be handled by a common exception handler routine.

6.3 Interrupts

interrupts are an optional feature (see Section 3.2 "Interrupt Extension")

7 Integration Guide

This section outlines the interfaces and configurations of the N1 processor for system integration.

7.1 Integratation Parameters

The N1 processor supports six Verilog integration parameters to configure the design for application specific needs:

SP_WIDTH

Stack pointer width.

This parameter determines the address width of the lower stack. Values in the range of 5 to 16 are valid. The default value is 12.

IPS_DEPTH

Depth of the intermediate parameter stack.

This parameter determines the number of cells in the intermediate stack of the parameter stack. Any value larger than 2 is valid. The default value is 8. The purpose of the intermediate stack is to conceal fluctuations in stack usage to the lower stack. The optimal value should be derived from the application use case.

IPS_BYPASS

Bypass the intermediate parameter stack.

This parameter provides the option of bypassing the intermediate parameter stack. If set to a non-zero value, the lower stack will be directly connected to the upper stack. The default value is 0.

IRS_DEPTH

Depth of the intermediate return stack.

This parameter determines the number of cells in the intermediate stack of the return stack. Any value larger than 2 is valid. The default value is 8. The purpose of the intermediate stack is to conceal fluctuations in stack usage to the lower stack. The optimal value should be derived from the application use case.

IRS_BYPASS

Bypass the intermediate return stack.

This parameter provides the option of bypassing the intermediate return stack. If set to a non-zero value, the lower stack will be directly connected to the upper stack. The default value is 0.

PBUS_AADR_OFFSET

Offset for direct jump or call addressing.

This parameter determines the location of the 32KB window for jumps and calls with direct addressing. The default value is 0x0000.

PBUS_MADR_OFFSET

Offset for direct data accesses.

This parameter determines the location of the 511B window for memory I/O with direct addressing. This window should cover commonly used Forth variables. The default value is 0xFFFF.

EXT_ROT

Enable the ROT extension.

Recovering from an exception requires some free stack space. This parameter enables the ROT extension if set to a non-zero value. It is disabled by default.

7.2 Interfaces

The N1 processor provides four interfaces which must be connected at system level. A fifth one (see Section 7.2.5 "Probe Signals") is only to be used for verification and debug purposes.

7.2.1 Clock and Resets

This interface provides clocks and resets for all sequential logic in the N1 design.

clk_i

Single clock input.

This clock is used for all interfaces as well as all internal sequential logic.

async_rst_i

Asynchronous reset input.

This active high reset input may assert asynchronously, but must deassert synchronously. This signal is not required if a synchronous reset (sync_rst_i) is implemented. If unused, this input must be tied to 0.

sync_rst_i

Synchronous reset input.

This active high reset input must assert and deassert synchronously. This signal is not required if an asynchronous reset (async_rst_i) is implemented. If unused, this input must be tied to 0.

7.2.2 Program Bus

This interface connects the N1 to the main memory. All signals comply to the Wishbone protocoll [2].

pbus_cyc_o

Cycle indicator output.

This output signal corresponds to signal CYC_O of the Wishbone specification [2].

pbus_stb_o

Strobe output.

This output signal corresponds to signal STB_O of the Wishbone specification [2].

pbus_we_o

Write enable output.

This output signal corresponds to signal WE_O of the Wishbone specification [2].

pbus_adr_o

Address bus

These output signals correspond to bus ADR_O of the Wishbone specification [2].

pbus_dat_o

Write data bus.

These output signals correspond to bus DAT_O of the Wishbone specification [2].

pbus_tga_cof_jmp_o

Change of flow indicator.

This output signal corresponds to bus TGA_O of the Wishbone specification [2]. It indicates, that the current bus access was caused by a jump instruction. This information may be used to trace the program flow.

pbus_tga_cof_cal_o

Change of flow indicator.

This output signal corresponds to bus TGA_O of the Wishbone specification [2]. It indicates, that the current bus access was caused by either a call instruction or an interrupt service request. This information may be used to trace the program flow.

pbus_tga_cof_bra_o

Change of flow indicator.

This output signal corresponds to bus TGA_O of the Wishbone specification [2]. It indicates, that the current bus access was caused by a conditional branch instruction. This information may be used to trace the program flow.

pbus_tga_cof_eow_o

Change of flow indicator.

This output signal corresponds to bus TGA_O of the Wishbone specification [2]. It indicates ,that the current bus access was caused by a return from a call. This information may be used to trace the program flow.

pbus_ack_i

Acknowlede input.

This input signal corresponds to signal ACK_I of the Wishbone specification [2]. If unused, this input must be tied to 1.

pbus_err_i

Error indicator input.

This input signal corresponds to signal ERR_I of the Wishbone specification [2]. It informs the N1 processor, that the current address exceeds the valid range of the connected memory system. If unused, this input must be tied to 0.

pbus_rty_i

Retry input.

This input signal corresponds to signal RTY_I of the Wishbone specification [2]. It terminates the bus cycle, indicating that the target is not ready to accept or provide new data. In contrast to asserting pbus_stall_i or delaying pbus_ack_i, the bus cycle termination via pbus_rty_i does not block the processor from handing interrupts. If unused, this input must be tied to 0.

pbus_stall_i

Pipeline stall input.

This input signal corresponds to signal STALL_I of the Wishbone specification [2]. If unused, this input must be tied to 0.

pbus_dat_i

Read data bus.

These input signals correspond to bus DAT_I of the Wishbone specification [2].

7.2.3 Stack Bus

This interface connects the N1 to the stack memory. It is expected that the SP_WIDTH parameter (see Section 7.1 "Integratation Parameters") matches the implemented memory size. Therefore no ERR_I input is needed in this interface. All signals comply to the Wishbone protocoll [2].

sbus_cyc_o

Cycle indicator output.

This output signal corresponds to signal CYC_O of the Wishbone specification [2].

sbus_stb_o

Strobe output.

This output signal corresponds to signal STB_0 of the Wishbone specification [2].

shus we o

Write enable output.

This output signal corresponds to signal WE_O of the Wishbone specification [2].

sbus_adr_o

Address bus.

These output signals correspond to bus ADR_O of the Wishbone specification [2].

sbus_dat_o

Write data bus.

These output signals correspond to bus DAT_O of the Wishbone specification [2].

sbus_tga_ps_o

Parameter stack access indicator.

These output signals correspond to bus TGA_O of the Wishbone specification [2]. It indicates, that the current bus access is associated with the parameter stack.

sbus_tga_rs_o

Return stack access indicator.

These output signals correspond to bus TGA_O of the Wishbone specification [2]. It indicates, that the current bus access is associated with the return stack.

sbus_ack_i

Acknowlede input.

This input signal corresponds to signal ACK_I of the Wishbone specification [2]. If unused, this input must be tied to 1.

sbus_stall_i

Pipeline stall input.

This input signal corresponds to signal STALL_I of the Wishbone specification [2]. If unused, this input must be tied to 0.

sbus_dat_i

Read data bus.

These input signals correspond to bus DAT_I of the Wishbone specification [2].

7.2.4 Interrupt Interface

This interface connects an optional interrupt controller to the N1 processor.

irq_ack_o

Interrupt acknowledge.

This output signal asserts for one clock cycle, whenever the current interrupt is serviced. It may be used for automatic flag clearing.

irq_req_i

Interrupt request.

Any non-zero value driven to this bus interface is interpreted as interrupt request. The value determines the start address of the interrupt service routine that is to be executed by the N1 processor. This bus must be tied to 0x0000 if no interrupt controller is connected.

7.2.5 Probe Signals

This interface propagates all internal states of the N1 processor to the outside. It is solely intended for verification and debug purposes and should be left unconnected for system integration. The signals in this interface are specific to the internal implementation of the N1 processor and may change with every revision.

7.3 Target Specific Design Files

All adder and multiplier logic of the N1 design ls located in a single Verilog module called N1_dsp. A synthesizable implementation of this module, can be found in the file rtl/verolog/N1_dsp_synth.v. If desired, this file can be replaced by one containing a alternative implementation of the N1_dsp module. An example is given in in the file rtl/verolog/N1_dsp_iCE40UP5K.v. It contains a custom implementation for Lattice iCE40 FPGAs, utilizing four hard instantiated SB_MAC16 macro cells.

8 Architecture Description

The following sections provide some descriptions of the internal N1 design.

8.1 Design Principles

The RTL implementation of the N1 follows a number of design principles which are captured in following sections.

8.1.1 Naming Convention of Interface Signals

For all signals, which do not implement a common standard (e.g. Wishbone), the following signal naming rules are used throughout the design:

• All interface signals of a point-to-point connection, contain a mnemonic of the sending and the receiving block in its prefix. The format of the prefix is: <sender mnemonic>2<receiver mnemonic>....

Example: fc2ir_capture

- Control signals which represent a request, end with a verb in imperative form. Example: fc2ir_expend
- Status signals represening a busy indicator, have the postfix ..._bsy Example: prs2fc_bsy
- If a signal is connected to the interface of a module, a further postfix is added to indicate the signal direction:
 - Input signals: ... _i
 - Output signals: . . . $_{\tt o}$

Example: prs2fc_bsy_o

• Names of signals which are only used within one design block are kept short and don't follow a particular naming convention.

8.1.2 Handshaking

A high signal level of a contol signal is interpreted a request by the receiving design block. The request is expected to be immediately accepted by the receiver and processed in the next clock cycle, unless the receiver provides a busy indicator (...bsy). In this case the request in only accepted if the busy indicator was deasserted in the previous cycle.

8.1.3 Instruction Boundaries

The instruction register always contains the instruction which is currently in execution. Before the execution of an instruction can ce concluded and the next one can begin, the fillowing conditions must be fulfilled:

- The program bus must be available TBD
- The parameter and the return stack must be available TBD

8.2 Instruction Execution Cycle

The execution cycle of the N1 processor characterized by the following design components:

Program Counter

A 16-bit register, which contains the memory location on the next instruction to be executed. It is implemented within the DSP Block.

Address Bus

The address output of the Program Bus (pbus_adr_o).

Read Data Bus

The read data input of the Program Bus (pbus_dat_i)

Instruction Register

A 16-bit register holding the opcode of the instruction, which is currently executed (see Section 8.3.2 "Instruction Register (ir)").

Instruction Stash Register

A 16-bit register to temoprarily store an upcoming opcode. (see Section 8.3.2 "Instruction Register (ir)").

The following sections show the timing relation of these design components in different execution scenarios.

8.2.1 Plain Linear Execution

Most of the N1 instructuins are executed in a single clock cycle. Figure 8-1 the typical linear execution flow of single cycle instructions.

The opcode stored in the instruction register determines which instruction is currently being executed. The program counter points to the address of the next instruction. The address bus is unregistered and always runs one clock cycle ahead of the program counter. The resulting data on the read data bus is captured by the instruction register in the next clock cycle.

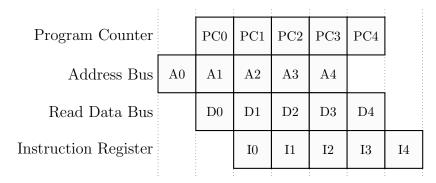


Figure 8-1: Plain Linear Execution

8.2.2 Execution of Extended Instructions

In some cases the execution of an instruction can span multiple cycles (i.e. non-concurrent control instructions or any instruction waiting for a blocked stack access). Figure 8-2 illustrates the timing in these scenarios.

Whenever an opcode needs to be captured from the read data bus, but the instruction register is blocked by an instruction spaning multiple cycles, The incoming opcode needs to be temourarely stashed away in a separate register. When the execution of the ongoing instruction is finished, the stashed opcode is moved into the instruction register.

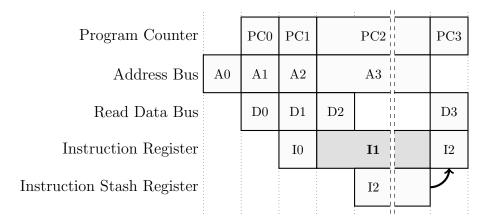


Figure 8-2: Execution of an Extended Instruction

8.2.3 Execution of Memory Access Instructions

A special case of multi-cycle instructions are memory access instructions. These instructions perform their memory accesses on the program bus. Figure 8-3 illustrates how opcode fetches and data accesses are interleaved.

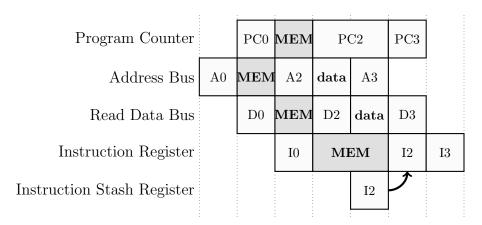


Figure 8-3: Execution of a Memory Access Instruction

8.2.4 Change of Flow Instructions

TBD

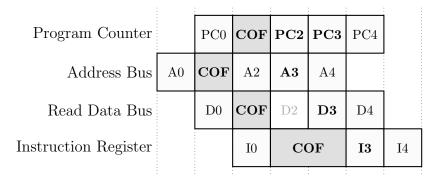


Figure 8-4: Execution of a Change of Flow Instruction

8.2.5 Exceptions and Interrupts

TBD

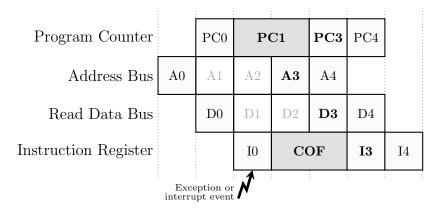


Figure 8-5: Program flow interruted by an exception - TBD

8.3 Design Components

The N1 architecture is divided in 11 subblocks as shown in Figure 8-6.

TBD

Figure 8-6: Block Diagram

8.3.1 Flow Control Block (fc)

The flow control block is implemented in the Verilog module N1_fc (N1_fc.v). It manages the instruction cycles of the N1 core. It handles the control and resonse

signals of the program bus's Wishbone interface and it communicates with the other N1 componenents by sending requests and receiving status information. No actual data passes through the N1_fc module. The interfaces to the N1 compunents, which are under the control of the flow control block, are explained in the following sections.

8.3.1.1 Control and Status Interface to the Instruction Register

The flow control block is able to request has the following request signals to the instruction register:

fc2ir_capture

Capture the program bus's read data (pbus_dat_i) in the instruction register at the next clock edge.

fc2ir_stash

Capture the program bus's read data (pbus_dat_i) in the stash register at the next clock edge.

fc2ir_expend

The read data input of the Program Bus (pbus_dat_i)

fc2ir_expend

Copy the stash regiesr's content into the instruction register at the next clock cycle.

The following status signala are coming from the instruction register:

```
8.3.2 Instruction Register (ir)
8.3.3 Arithmetic Logic Unit (alu)
TBD
8.3.4 DSP Block (dsp)
TBD
8.3.5 Exception Handler (excpt)
TBD
8.3.6 Upper Stack (us)
TBD
```

8.3.7 Intermediate Parameter Stack (ips)

TBD

8.3.8 Intermediate Return Stack (irs)

TBD

8.3.9 Lower Stack (ls)

TBD

9 Verification Status

The implementation of the N1 design is currently still ongoing. Verification has not yet begun.

10 Tool Summary

One of the main goals of the N1 project is to use a design and verification flow, based on open source EDA tools. Table 10-1 summarizes the tools, used for this project.

Table 10-1: Tool Summary

Tool	Version	Usage
Verrilator[4]	3.874	Linting
Icarus Verilog[6]	0.9.7	Linting
Yosys[8]	0.7 + 627	Linting, Formal Verification
SymbiYosys[7]	Sep. 12, 2018	Formal Verification
GTKWave[3]	3.3.95	Waveform Viewer
Verilog-Perl[5]	3.418-1	Gerneration of design data for GTKWave[3]

11 Glossary

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End of a word definition in Forth.

ALU

Arithmetic Logic Unit.

call

A change of the program flow, where a return address is kept on the return stack (see Section 2.3 "Call Instructions").

cell

A data entity within a stack.

conditional branch

A change of the program flow without return option, only if a certain (non-zero) argument value is given (see Section 2.4 "Conditional Branches").

direct addressing

Addressmode, where the address is encoded into the opcode of an instruction

EKEY/EMIT extension

An optional extension to support EKEY and EMIT functionality, described in Section 3.3 "EKEY/EMIT Extension"

Forth

Forth is an extensible stack-based programming language.

function register

A processor internal register, that provides access to a hardware feature.

immediate data

A data value, which is encoded into the opcode of an instruction

indirect addressing

Address mode, where the address ist stored on the parameter stack.

intermediate stack

The section of the stack that serves as a buffer between the lower stack and the upper stack. See Section 5 "Stacks".

Interrupt extension

An optional extension to support interrupts, described in Section 3.2 "Interrupt Extension"

IST

A bit field in the stack instruction which contols data movement on the intermediate parameter stack or return stack. The mnemonic stands for "Intermediate Stack Transition".

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jump

A change of the program flow without return option (see Section 2.2 "Jump Instructions").

LIFO

A memory which is accessible in last in - first out order.

literal

A fixed numerical value within the program code (see Section 2.5 "Literals").

lower stack

The section of the stack which is stored in RAM. See Section 5 "Stacks".

LSB

The least significant bit.

MSB

The most significant bit.

opcode

Encoding of a machine instruction. Short for "operation code".

parameter stack

A LIFO storage mainly for keeping call parameters and return values.

RAM

Random access memory.

relative addressing

Addressmode, where the address is given relative to the current position in the execution flow

return stack

A LIFO storage mainly for maintaining return addresses of calls.

ROT extension

An optional extension of the N1 instruction set, described in Section 3.1 "ROT Extension"

stack

A LIFO storage.

throw code

A unique identifier for each type of exception.

TOS

The top cell of a stack.

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upper stack

The section of the stack that contains the TOS. It supports reordering of its storage cell. See Section 5 "Stacks".

UST

A bit field in the stack instruction which contols data movement between two neighboring cells in the upper parameter stack or return stack. The mnemonic stands for "Upper Stack Transition".

Verilog

The harware description language used for the N1 implementation.

Von-Neumann-Architecture

A computer architecture where intruction fetches and data I/O occur over the same memory interface.

Wishbone

An open bus prototocoll. see [2]

word

The term word refers to a callable code sequence in Forth terminology.

12 References

- [1] American National Standard for Information Systems, 1994.
- [2] Wishbone b4. http://cdn.opencores.org/downloads/wbspec_b4.pdf, 2010.
- [3] BSI. Gtkwave. http://gtkwave.sourceforge.net.
- [4] Wilson Snyder. Verilator. http://www.veripool.org/verilator.
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