

Adding Instruction Memory and Program Counter to Your Computer

1 Objective and Overview

In this lab you will add instruction memory to your lab computer. You will also add a Program Counter (PC) to address the instruction memory. We will only investigate straight line code for this experiment. Branching will be added in lab 8.

You must complete Lab 6 before you start this experiment.

2 Instruction Memory

In this lab, you will add instruction memory to the computer you completed in Lab 6. You will need to add instruction memory as described below and a Program Counter (PC) to address the Instruction Memory (IM). Your instruction memory should be 16 bits wide by 256 entries. An instruction for the lab computer is 16 bits wide, and 16 bits is defined as a word in the IM. The IM is *word addressable*. Your top level design will connect the BTN1 button on the PYNQ board to all clock inputs, including the PC, memory and the register file. BTN0 is the reset button for the register file and PC. It also resets the *output* from the instruction memory, but does not touch the memory. DM does not have a reset. Figure 1 shows the top level design for this lab experiment.

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2.1 Prelab

Begin by reading Sections 1 and 2 above. Then *use the Instruction Set document on Canvas* as a road-map for answering the following questions.

2.1.1 Straight Line Assembly Program

Based on the `instruction_set.pdf` document on Canvas (Here we have only 4 registers, \$0-\$3, as oppose the the MIPS ISA which has 32 registers) write an assembly program using our own instructions from the `instruction_set.pdf` document which fulfills the following tasks and turn in the assembly code:

- Initialize addresses 0x4 and 0x5 of the Data Memory with values 0x10 and 0x0F respectively.
- Add the numbers you stored in addresses 0x4 and 0x5 and store the sum in address 0x11.
- Store in address 0x12 the two's complement of the number stored in address 0x5.
- Subtract the number stored in 0x12 from the number in 0x4. Store the result in address 0x13.

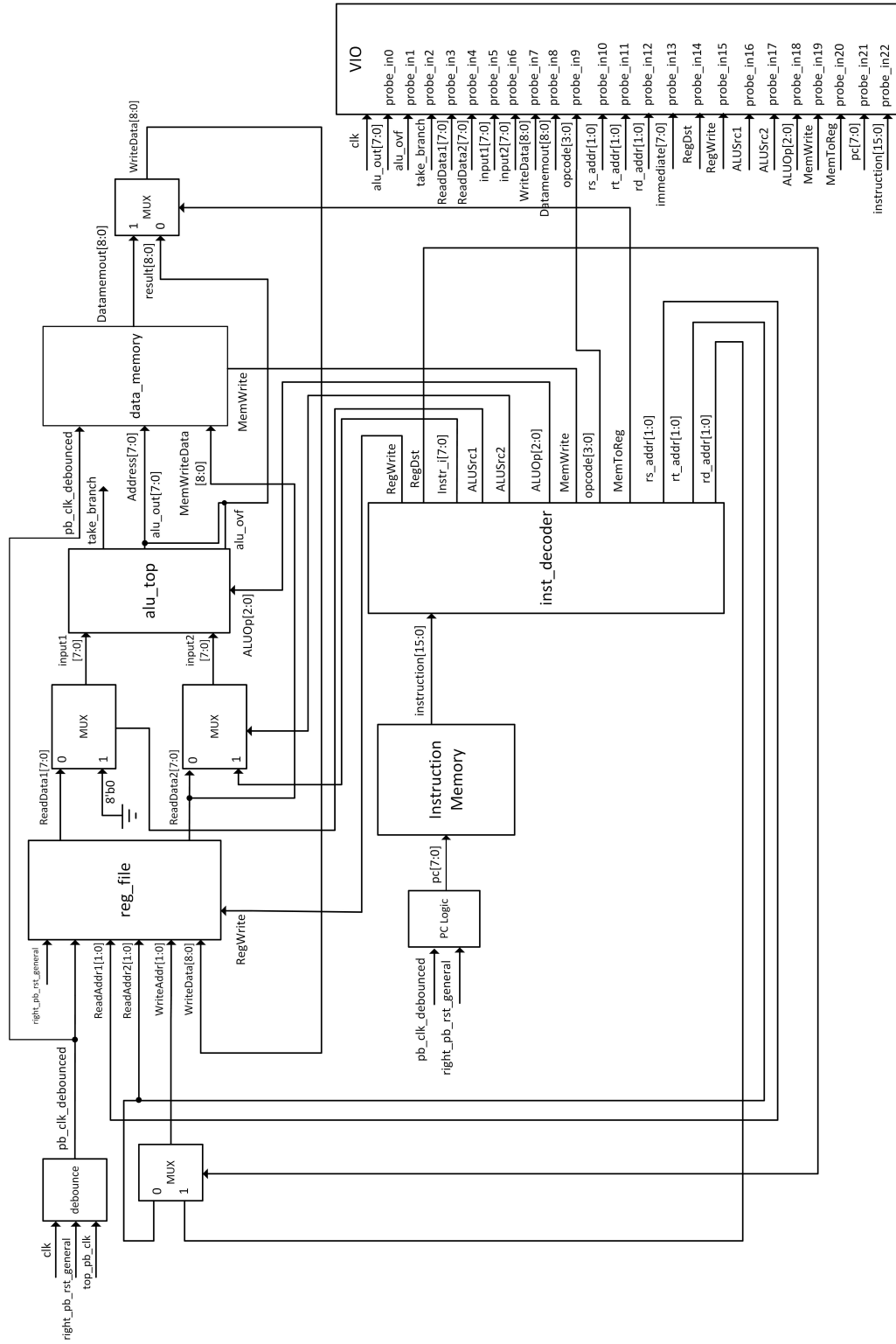


Figure 1: Computer with Instruction Memory and Program Counter

Turn in the assembly program you wrote with your report submission.

Please note that the numbers are in two's complement format. Also, since you not have yet created the hardware unit for branching, you are not allowed to use j-type and branch instruction like beq and bne in your code for this prelab.

2.1.2 Generate the Machine Codes using the Assembler

Use the assembler (`zassemble.c`) available on Canvas to generate the machine codes out of your assembly program. (Your assembly program should not have blank lines.)

Verify the output of the assembler by comparing the output machine codes with instruction structure described in the instruction set document.

Turn in the the output file of the assembler with your report submission.

Note: To compile the assembler, you can use a gcc compiler or an online C IDE from https://www.tutorialspoint.com/online_c_compiler.php. Or you can use the Windows and Linux compiled version posted on Canvas.

===== END Prelab =====

2.2 Entering Your Design

2.2.1 Designing the top level

Get the top level Verilog file, `pdatapath_top_lab7.v` from the course webpage. This Verilog code shows how all of your components are connected. You should have regfile, alu and instruction decode components already designed. Get the debounce circuit, `debounce.v` and the 7-Segment display modules, `adaptor_display.v` from the course webpage. You will need to generate instruction memory, data memory and VIO to add to this experiment. You also will need to add the Verilog code that describes the program counter as described below.

2.2.2 Generating Memory Contents using the Assembler

Check the `zassemble.pdf` handout in Canvas that explains how to use the assembler. The format of the output of the assembler matches the format of the `.coe` file that you need to initialize memory. All you need to do is to rename the generated file for your design.

2.2.3 Instruction Memory

For implementing Instruction Memory, add a Distributed ROM IP Core to the design and configure it. You can find this IP core in the IP catalog. To add Instruction Memory to your design in Vivado, follow these steps.

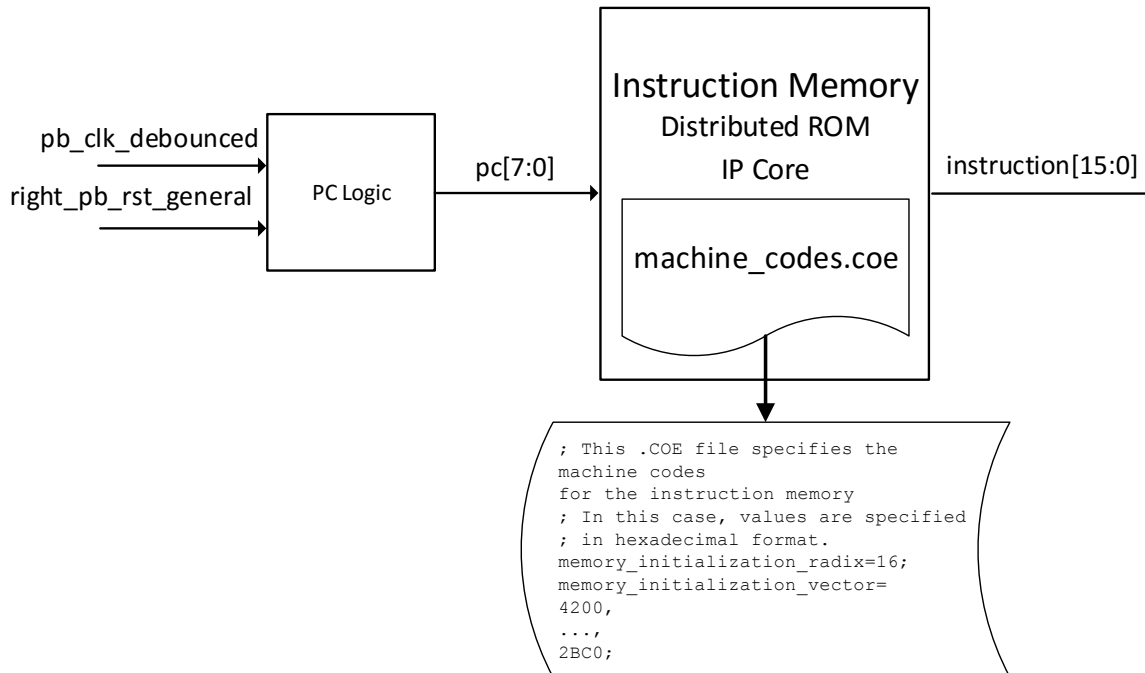


Figure 2: Instruction Memory

Open the IP catalog by clicking on “IP Catalog” in the Flow Navigator Pane under the Project Manager section. You should see the IP catalog window open. There you can find Distributed Memory Generator in the Memories & Storage Elements category under the RAMs & ROMs section, or you can look it up by typing Distributed Memory Generator in the search bar. After that, double click on the core name (Distributed Memory Generator) to open the configuration window. In the memory config tab of the configuration window, change the Depth to 256 and the Data Width to 16 to match the IM requirements. Set the memory Type to “ROM”. Change the name of the component to `instr_mem` by writing the name in the component name field. Under the Port config tab, check that both inputs and outputs are **Non Registered**. Under the RST & Initialization tab, in the Load COE File section browse for the `mycode.coe` file which you have generated using the assembler. By pressing “Edit” you can validate that you have imported the correct file. Leave all other options as they are, then press OK and then Generate to add the core to your design. Find the instantiation template in the IP Sources tab under: `instr_mem->Instantiation Template->instr_mem.v`. Check that this template matches the interface for the memory in the `datapath_top.v` module. The only interface signals should be the address port `a` and the output `spo` which will be the instruction from that address.

2.2.4 Program Counter

Create a Verilog module for the program counter (PC) and instantiate it in your top level design. The PC is an 8-bit counter that is reset to zero with the reset input and incremented by 1 with the push button input.

2.2.5 Completing the top level

To complete the top level design, will need to generate VIO to add to this experiment. Note that this VIO module has several new inputs and no outputs. For this lab experiment, you are using VIO to see what is happening in your hardware. All the control logic is being generated by you in hardware.

Add the constraint file for your design. The constraint file for this design is named: `pdatapath_lab7.xdc`

2.3 Testing in Hardware

2.3.1 Implementing the Design with Vivado Synthesizer

Click on Generate Bitstream under the Program and Debug section in the Flow Navigator pane to run the synthesis process. Vivado IDE will run the Synthesis and Implementation processes automatically.

If the synthesis process runs correctly, continue by programming the FPGA board. Follow the same steps you have for previous labs.

2.3.2 Programming the FPGA with Hardware Manager

Program your hardware the way you have in previous labs. Open the hardware manager, open the target device, and program the PYNQ.

Now you should see the `hw_vio_1` window open. Click on the + sign and add all of the probes by selecting and adding them. Now you are ready to test your design in hardware.

2.3.3 Testing Your Design

This experiment uses the same buttons as in experiment 6. There is one reset, named `rst_general` in Verilog, to reset the PC, register file, and instruction memory output port. On the board, it is connected to the right push button (BTN0). The upper push button (BTN1) allows you to single step your design. You need to press BTN1 whenever you want to store data or update the PC.

Use VIO to test your design. Use the instructions you developed in the prelab. Keep screen shots to show that you have done this.

3 What to submit on Canvas:

A single PDF report containing:

- All your Pre-lab responses.
- Summary of hardware/design implementation report as outlined in the rubric.
- Your top module showing the connection of all the other modules, and your output screen shots demonstrating the correct operation of your design.

Note: You do not need to include a video demo.