

MIX-fpga

Michael Schröder
mi.schroeder@netcologne.de

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1. A real MIX

Have you ever heard of Don Knuth's (hypothetical) first polyunsaturated computer MIX, the 1009? In this project we will build a binary version of the MIX-Computer as described in "The Art of Computer Programming, Vol. 1" by Donald E. Knuth running on an fpga-board.

The presented implementation is based on the fpga development board iCE40HX8K-EVB from the company Olimex Ltd.¹, which has the nice property of being completely open source. The whole project uses only FOSS free and open source hard- and software, so everybody can build their own MIX following the instructions on the project site².

1.1. A look inside

The MIX computer is composed of two little boards:

¹www.olimex.com

²[www.gitlab.com/x653/mix-fpga](https://gitlab.com/x653/mix-fpga)

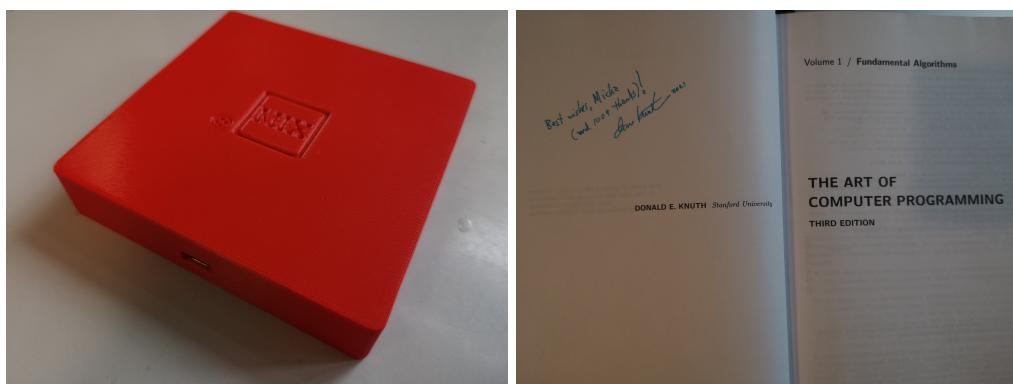


Figure 1: A real MIX for Don Knuth

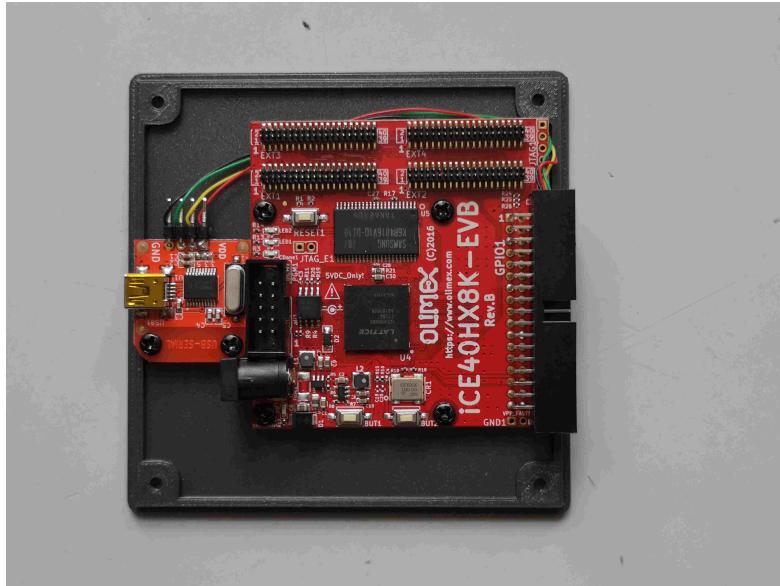


Figure 2: The two boards interconnected with wire wrap technique typical for computers of the 60s era

1. iCE40HX8K-EVB³, the fpga development board from the company Olimex Ltd.
2. USB-serial adapter⁴. Used to power the board with 5V and to in-/output data over the serial interface.

1.1.1. Basic unit of time

MIX runs on iCE40HX8K-EVB clocked at 23.8 MHz. The basic unit of time u corresponds to $1u = 42 \text{ ns}$, so according to Knuth it's a relatively high priced machine.

1.1.2. Character based I/O units U16-U20

In our MIX implementation all character based I/O units (U16 – U20) are connected to the USB-connector and can be accessed as serial data streams. You can connect MIX with any PC running a terminal emulator (e.g. screen for linux). The terminal should be set to 115200 baud (8N1). A conversion between ASCII and Knuths character codes is done in hardware according to Knuths specification (see TAOCP p. 128).

1.1.3. The block based I/O unit U0

A block based device is implemented on I/O unit 0. The device acts as a tape with 1024 blocks à 100 words. The data is stored in the SRAM chip included on the iCE40HX8K-

³www.olimex.com/Products/FPGA/iCE40/iCE40HX8K-EVB

⁴www.olimex.com/Products/Breadboarding/BB-CH340T

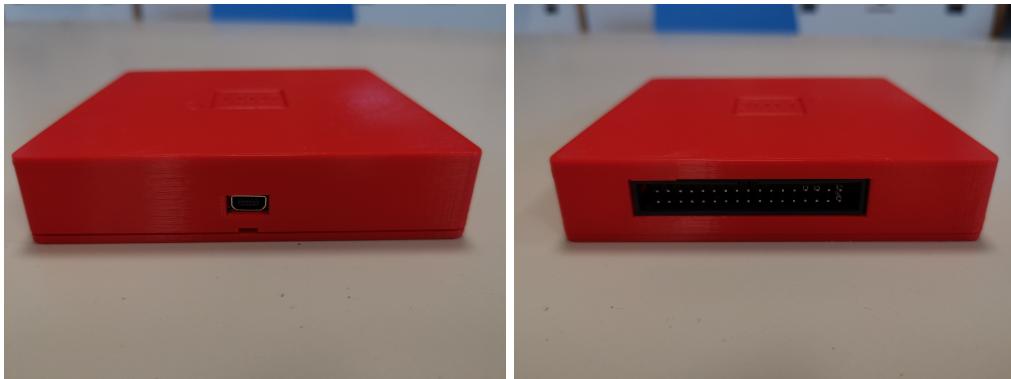


Figure 3: All character based I/O is done through a USB to serial adapter @115200 baud (8N1). MIX can be expanded through a GPIO connector placed at the rear side

EVB board. The speed of read and write operations is exactly 401μ for reading or writing one complete block of data (no JBUS is needed). The data stored to unit U0 can be retrieved also after a reset (GO-Button). But on a full shutdown, when removing power supply (USB connector) data is lost.

1.1.4. MIX commands

All commands described in TAOCP Vol. 1 are implemented (s. table 1.1.4) with execution times corresponding to Knuth's specifications. Special care is given to the correct timings. Even the "sofisticated" commands SRC and SLC, which need a modulo 10 computation are executed in the defined timing of two cycles.

The system can (easily) be extended in various ways:

1. add more commands:

- logic operators: AND, OR, XOR, NOT
- JrE,Jr0 jump if Register r is even/odd (done)
- Floating point arithmetic: FADD, FSUB, FMUL, FDIV (done)
- Floating point compare: FCMP (to do)

2. add more hardware:

- add leds to run the traffic light example (s. chapter 5 of this manual)
- add more I/O unit

1.1.5. The GO button

MIX comes with the *GO button* attached to USB-UART. So after pressing the *GO button* MIX-programms can be uploaded by sending the *punched cards* to USB-UART.

Table 1: MIX commands

Command	OP	Field	Timing
NOP	0	0	1 <u></u>
ADD, SUB, MUL, DIV	1, 2, 3, 4	0:5	2 <u>, 2u, 10u, 12u</u>
FADD, FSUB, FMUL, FDIV	1, 2, 3, 4	6	4 <u>, 4u, 9u, 11u</u>
NUM, CHAR	5	0, 1	10 <u></u>
HLT	5	2	1 <u>u or ∞?</u>
SLA, SRA, SLAX, SRAX, SLC, SRC	6	0—5	2 <u></u>
MOVE	7	F	(1 + 2F) <u></u>
LDr, LDNr	16—23	0:5	2 <u></u>
STr	24—31	0:5	2 <u></u>
STJ	32	0:2	2 <u></u>
STZ	33	0:5	2 <u></u>
JBUS, JRED	34,38	U	1 <u></u>
IOC	35	U	1 <u></u>
IN, OUT	36,37	U	(1 + T) <u></u>
JMP, JSJ, JOV, JNOV, JL, JE, JG, JGE, JNE, JLE	39	0—9	1 <u></u>
JrN, JrZ, JrP, JrNN, JrNZ, JrNP, JrE, JrO	40—47	0—7	1 <u></u>
INC _r , DEC _r , ENTr, ENNr	48—53	0—3	1 <u></u>
CMP _r	54—63	0:5	2 <u></u>

1.1.6. The toast case

MIX comes in a nice case with formfactor of a slice of toast (10 cm × 10 cm × 2 cm), so your complete MIX computer system will easily fit into your lunch box. The case can be printed with a 3D printer. Design files can be found in the directory `build/toast` of the project site.

2. Running programs on MIX

2.1. tools

To run mixal programs on your MIX the following tools found in `mixal/tools`⁵ are needed:

- `asm.py`: translates the mixal program into numeric representation (`.mls`).
- `mls2card.py`: translate the machine code (`.mls`) to punchcard format. The first two cards beeing the loading routine (1.3.1.ex26) and the last card beeing the transfer card.

⁵www.gitlab.com/x653/mix-fpga

- `mls2char.py`: translate to character codes, which can directly be read by MIX. (This is only necessary for the card-loading routine written on the first two punch cards).
- `mls2bin.py`: translate the `.mls` file to binary. This is only necessary for the GO button, which is hardcoded into fpga ROM.

2.2. V1: upload and run in a screen session

Finally you can connect your PC to MIX with a USB cable and start the terminal emulator (`screen`):

```
$ screen /dev/ttyUSB0 115200
```

Press the *GO button* to start MIX. You should see the MIX welcome message:

```
1 | WELCOME TO MIX. 1U = 40NS. U16-U20 TO UART @115200 BAUD (8N1).
```

If `screen` does not open the terminal try with `sudo screen`. This might happen, when the user is not allowed to acces the device `/dev/ttyUSB0`. Check the user setting of `/dev/ttyUSB0` and add the user to the dialout group `sudo usermod -a -G $USER dialout`.

Within the screen session you can upload the mixal programs written on punch cards:

```
<ctrl-a> : readreg p p.card
<ctrl-a> : paste p
```

2.3. V2: Upload and run using the Makefile

As an alterntive to `screen` you can send jobs to MIX using a `Makefile`. Every tested program comes in a subfolder with a corresponding `Makefile`, which can be used to compile, upload, and run the program on MIX.

- Connect MIX to USB
- Press the GO button
- run the Makefile
- the output is stored in a `.out` file

```
$ make clean
$ make
```

2.4. Verify

MIX has been verified with the following programms. The numbering correspond to the sections in TAOCP.

- 1.3.1ex26 card-loading routine

- 1.3.2P table of primes
- 1.3.2E easter dates
- 1.3.2.ex13 cryptanalyst problem (classified)
- 1.3.2.ex16 sum of harmonic series
- 1.3.2.ex20 josephus problem
- 1.3.2.ex22 traffic signal problem (driving real LEDs)
- 1.3.3A multiply permutations in cycle form
- 1.4.2 character input routine
- 1.4.3 trace routine (uses tape U0)
- 2.2.5elevator elevator simulation (with added in-/output)
- mixaload A load and go assembler by James L. Peterson from "Computer Organization and Assembly Language Programming"⁶

3. Example program 1.3.2P

We will run programm P of chapter 1.3.2 TAOCP (p. 148) on MIX. Programm P computes the first 500 primes and outputs them in a table on the line printer U18.

3.1. Prepare the input

3.1.1. p.mixal

The mixal program can be found in mixal/1.3.2P/p.mixal:

```
$ cd mixal/1.3.2P
$ cat p.mixal
```

```

1 * EXAMPLE PROGRAM ... TABLE OF PRIMES
2 *
3 L EQU 500
4 PRINTER EQU 18
5 PRIME EQU -1
6 BUF0 EQU 2000
7 BUF1 EQU BUF0+25
8 ORIG 3000
9 START IOC 0(PRINTER)
10 LD1 =1-L=
11 LD2 =3=
12 2H INC1 1
```

⁶<http://www.jklp.org/profession/books/mix/index.html>

```

13      ST2  PRIME+L,1
14      J1Z  2F
15 4H    INC2 2
16      ENT3 2
17 6H    ENTA 0
18      ENTX 0,2
19      DIV   PRIME,3
20      JXZ   4B
21      CMPA  PRIME,3
22      INC3 1
23      JG    6B
24      JMP   2B
25 2H    OUT   TITLE(PRINTER)
26      ENT4  BUF1+10
27      ENT5 -50
28 2H    INC5 L+1
29 4H    LDA   PRIME,5
30      CHAR
31      STX   0,4(1:4)
32      DEC4 1
33      DEC5 50
34      J5P   4B
35      OUT   0,4(PRINTER)
36      LD4   24,4
37      J5N   2B
38      HLT
39 * INITIAL CONTENTS OF TABLES AND BUFFERS
40      ORIG  PRIME+1
41      CON   2
42      ORIG  BUF0-5
43 TITLE  ALF   FIRST
44      ALF   FIVE
45      ALF   HUND
46      ALF   RED P
47      ALF   RIMES
48      ORIG  BUF0+24
49      CON   BUF1+10
50      ORIG  BUF1+24
51      CON   BUF0+10
52      END   START

```

3.1.2. p.mls

First we translate the mixal programm to binary code. This is done with the translator tools/asml.py.

```
$ ./tools/asml.py p.mixal
$ cat p.mls
```

```

1      0001 * EXAMPLE PROGRAM ... TABLE OF PRIMES
2      0002 *
3      0003 L          EQU  500
4      0004 PRINTER    EQU  18

```

```

5 |           0005 PRIME      EQU -1
6 |           0006 BUF0       EQU 2000
7 |           0007 BUF1       EQU BUF0+25
8 |           0008             ORIG 3000
9 | 3000 + 0000 00 18 35 0009 START    IOC 0(PRINTER)
10 | 3001 + 2050 00 05 09 0010      LD1 =1-L=
11 | 3002 + 2051 00 05 10 0011      LD2 =3=
12 | 3003 + 0001 00 00 49 0012 2H@0012 INC1 1
13 | 3004 + 0499 01 05 26 0013      ST2 PRIME+L,1
14 | 3005 + 3016 00 01 41 0014      J1Z 2F
15 | 3006 + 0002 00 00 50 0015 4H@0015 INC2 2
16 | 3007 + 0002 00 02 51 0016      ENT3 2
17 | 3008 + 0000 00 02 48 0017 6H@0017 ENTA 0
18 | 3009 + 0000 02 02 55 0018      ENTX 0,2
19 | 3010 - 0001 03 05 04 0019      DIV PRIME,3
20 | 3011 + 3006 00 01 47 0020      JXZ 4B
21 | 3012 - 0001 03 05 56 0021      CMPA PRIME,3
22 | 3013 + 0001 00 00 51 0022      INC3 1
23 | 3014 + 3008 00 06 39 0023      JG 6B
24 | 3015 + 3003 00 00 39 0024      JMP 2B
25 | 3016 + 1995 00 18 37 0025 2H@0025 OUT TITLE(PRINTER)
26 | 3017 + 2035 00 02 52 0026      ENT4 BUF1+10
27 | 3018 - 0050 00 02 53 0027      ENT5 -50
28 | 3019 + 0501 00 00 53 0028 2H@0028 INC5 L+1
29 | 3020 - 0001 05 05 08 0029 4H@0029 LDA PRIME,5
30 | 3021 + 0000 00 01 05 0030      CHAR
31 | 3022 + 0000 04 12 31 0031      STX 0,4(1:4)
32 | 3023 + 0001 00 01 52 0032      DEC4 1
33 | 3024 + 0050 00 01 53 0033      DEC5 50
34 | 3025 + 3020 00 02 45 0034      J5P 4B
35 | 3026 + 0000 04 18 37 0035      OUT 0,4(PRINTER)
36 | 3027 + 0024 04 05 12 0036      LD4 24,4
37 | 3028 + 3019 00 00 45 0037      J5N 2B
38 | 3029 + 0000 00 02 05 0038      HLT
39 |           0039 * INITIAL CONTENTS OF TABLES AND BUFFERS
40 |           0040             ORIG PRIME+1
41 | 0000 + 0000 00 00 02 0041      CON 2
42 |           0042             ORIG BUF0-5
43 | 1995 + 0393 19 22 23 0043 TITLE ALF FIRST
44 | 1996 + 0006 09 25 05 0044      ALF FIVE
45 | 1997 + 0008 24 15 04 0045      ALF HUND
46 | 1998 + 1221 04 00 17 0046      ALF RED P
47 | 1999 + 1225 14 05 22 0047      ALF RIMES
48 |           0048             ORIG BUF0+24
49 | 2024 + 0000 00 31 51 0049      CON BUF1+10
50 |           0050             ORIG BUF1+24
51 | 2049 + 0000 00 31 26 0051      CON BUF0+10
52 | 2050 - 0000 00 07 51      =1-L CON 499
53 | 2051 + 0000 00 00 03      =3 CON 3
54 |           0052             END START
55 |           TRANS 3000
56 |           * SYMBOL TABLE
57 |           * EQU 2050

```

58		2H@0012	EQU	3003
59		2H@0025	EQU	3016
60		2H@0028	EQU	3019
61		4H@0015	EQU	3006
62		4H@0029	EQU	3020
63		6H@0017	EQU	3008
64		=1_L	EQU	2050
65		=3	EQU	2051
66		BUF0	EQU	2000
67		BUF1	EQU	2025
68		L	EQU	500
69		PRIME	EQU	-1
70		PRINTER	EQU	18
71		START	EQU	3000
72		TITLE	EQU	1995

3.1.3. p.card

Next we must write the binary code onto punched cards. This can be done with the python script `mixal/tools/mls2card.py`. The python script reads the listing file `p.mls`, extracts the numeric codes and writes them in the file `p.card` in puncher card format.

Every line of `p.card` holds 80 chars of a card. The first two cards contain the card loading routine discussed in exercise 26 in chapter 1.3.1 of TAOCP. The last card is the so called transfer card, which tells the bootloader to start execution at memory location 3000.

```
$ ./tools/mls2card.py p.mls  
$ cat p.card
```

3.1.4. go!

Power MIX with USB cable connected to your computer. Start a screen session with 115200 baud (8N1)

```
screen /dev/ttyUSB0 115200
```

Press the *GO* button on MIX. You should see the welcome message on your terminal:

1 | WELCOME TO MIX. 1U = 40NS. U19 @115200 BAUD (8N1).

3.1.5. input the cards to U16

You can now send the punched cards to MIX within the screen terminal session. Read cards into a screen-buffer (called p) and send the buffer to MIX.

```
<in screen terminal> Ctr-a : readreg p p.card <enter>
<in screen terminal> Ctrl-a : paste p <enter>
```

After a short amount of time MIX spits out the following table to the printer U18. Notice that output to U18 have 120 characters per line, while output to the terminal U19 is only 70 chars wide.

FIRST FIVE HUNDRED PRIMES													
1	3000	0233	0547	0877	1229	1597	1993	2371	2749	3187			
2	0003	0239	0557	0881	1231	1601	1997	2377	2753	3191			
3	0005	0241	0563	0883	1237	1607	1999	2381	2767	3203			
4	0007	0251	0569	0887	1249	1609	2003	2383	2777	3209			
5	0011	0257	0571	0907	1259	1613	2011	2389	2789	3217			
6	0013	0263	0577	0911	1277	1619	2017	2393	2791	3221			
7	0017	0269	0587	0919	1279	1621	2027	2399	2797	3229			
8	0019	0271	0593	0929	1283	1627	2029	2411	2801	3251			
9	0023	0277	0599	0937	1289	1637	2039	2417	2803	3253			
10	0029	0281	0601	0941	1291	1657	2053	2423	2819	3257			
11	0031	0283	0607	0947	1297	1663	2063	2437	2833	3259			
12	0037	0293	0613	0953	1301	1667	2069	2441	2837	3271			
13	0041	0307	0617	0967	1303	1669	2081	2447	2843	3299			
14	0043	0311	0619	0971	1307	1693	2083	2459	2851	3301			
15	0047	0313	0631	0977	1319	1697	2087	2467	2857	3307			
16	0053	0317	0641	0983	1321	1699	2089	2473	2861	3313			
17	0059	0331	0643	0991	1327	1709	2099	2477	2879	3319			
18	0061	0337	0647	0997	1361	1721	2111	2503	2887	3323			
19	0067	0347	0653	1009	1367	1723	2113	2521	2897	3329			
20	0071	0349	0659	1013	1373	1733	2129	2531	2903	3331			
21	0073	0353	0661	1019	1381	1741	2131	2539	2909	3343			
22	0079	0359	0673	1021	1399	1747	2137	2543	2917	3347			
23	0083	0367	0677	1031	1409	1753	2141	2549	2927	3359			
24	0089	0373	0683	1033	1423	1759	2143	2551	2939	3361			
25	0097	0379	0691	1039	1427	1777	2153	2557	2953	3371			
26	0101	0383	0701	1049	1429	1783	2161	2579	2957	3373			
27	0103	0389	0709	1051	1433	1787	2179	2591	2963	3389			
28	0107	0397	0719	1061	1439	1789	2203	2593	2969	3391			
29	0109	0401	0727	1063	1447	1801	2207	2609	2971	3407			
30	0113	0409	0733	1069	1451	1811	2213	2617	2999	3413			
31	0127	0419	0739	1087	1453	1823	2221	2621	3001	3433			
32	0131	0421	0743	1091	1459	1831	2237	2633	3011	3449			
33	0137	0431	0751	1093	1471	1847	2239	2647	3019	3457			
34	0139	0433	0757	1097	1481	1861	2243	2657	3023	3461			
35	0149	0439	0761	1103	1483	1867	2251	2659	3037	3463			
36	0151	0443	0769	1109	1487	1871	2267	2663	3041	3467			
37	0157	0449	0773	1117	1489	1873	2269	2671	3049	3469			
38	0163	0457	0787	1123	1493	1877	2273	2677	3061	3491			
39	0167	0461	0797	1129	1499	1879	2281	2683	3067	3499			
40	0173	0463	0809	1151	1511	1889	2287	2687	3079	3511			
41	0179	0467	0811	1153	1523	1901	2293	2689	3083	3517			
42													

```

43 0181 0479 0821 1163 1531 1907 2297 2693 3089 3527
44 0191 0487 0823 1171 1543 1913 2309 2699 3109 3529
45 0193 0491 0827 1181 1549 1931 2311 2707 3119 3533
46 0197 0499 0829 1187 1553 1933 2333 2711 3121 3539
47 0199 0503 0839 1193 1559 1949 2339 2713 3137 3541
48 0211 0509 0853 1201 1567 1951 2341 2719 3163 3547
49 0223 0521 0857 1213 1571 1973 2347 2729 3167 3557
50 0227 0523 0859 1217 1579 1979 2351 2731 3169 3559
51 0229 0541 0863 1223 1583 1987 2357 2741 3181 3571

```

3.2. Congratulation

You have run your first program on a *real* MIX.

3.3. Using Makefile

With the included `Makefile` the above described steps can be done in one pass:

- Connect MIX to USB
- Press the GO button
- run the Makefile: `$ make`
- the output is stored in `p.out` file

4. Build your own MIX and/or modify the fpga design

The project runs on iCE40HX8K-EVB fpga from Olimex Ltd. The whole project uses only FOSS soft- and hardware. With little modifications it should run on any fpga board available out in the wild.

4.1. Requirement

1. fpga board (iCE40HX8K-EVB)
2. programmer device (Olimexino 32u4) with idc10 cable (cable-IDC10)
3. USB-UART-board (BB-CH340T).
4. fpga toolchain. The project was developed with `apio`⁷, a software suite based on project icestorm⁸ from Clifford Wolf.

Consider to buy at Olimex Ltd.⁹, the company with the highest number of registered OSHW-projects. Install the tools with:

⁷github.com/FPGAwars/apio

⁸www.clifford.at/icestorm

⁹www.olimex.com

```

$ sudo pip install -U apio
$ apio install ice40
$ apio install iverilog
$ apio install scons
$ apio install yosys
$ sudo apt install gtkwave
$ cd build/iceprogduino
$ make
$ sudo make install
$ sudo apt install screen

```

4.2. FPGA iCE40HX8K-EVB

Build the project and upload the circuit design to the fpga:

1. cd into the directory `rtl` and build the project

```

$ cd rtl
$ apio clean
$ apio build -v

```

2. Connect the fpga board with olimexino-32u4 programmer to upload the bitstream file. Use two USB cables to power both boards as shown in fig. 4.
3. Upload the bitstream file to fpga board.

```

$ cd build/rtl
$ apio clean
$ apio build -v
$ apio upload

```

4.3. The USB-serial adapter

The serial adapter BB-CH340T is used to:

1. Power MIX with 5Volt from USB cable
2. Serial communication to MIX over I/O Unit 16-20.

To use USB-Serial adapter as power source we must do a little modification on the board according to Fig. 5:

1. cut with a cutter knife the connection marked in GREEN, and
2. solder a bridge BLACK between the right most terminal (VDD) and the 5V pad.

This will ensure that the right most terminal connector (red cable) get's 5Volt form USB, which will be used to power the fpga board. But the UART signals (green and yellow cables) are still leveled to 3.3V, which corresponds to the in-/output signal level of fpga-connector GPIO1.

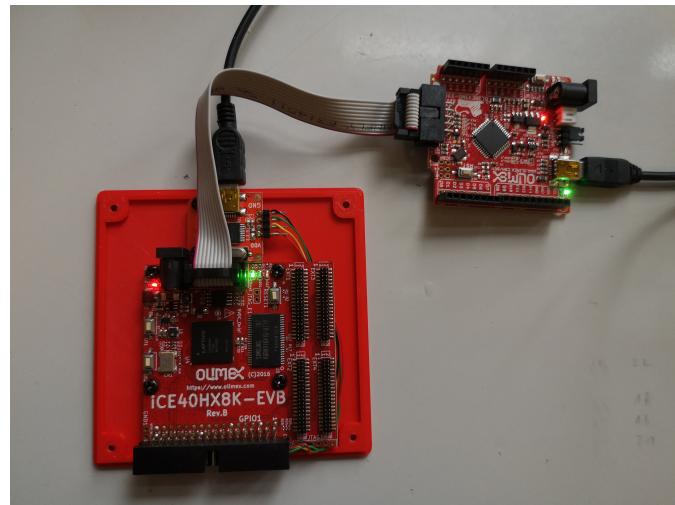


Figure 4: Connect programmer Olimexino-32u4 with fpga board iCE40HX8K-EVB

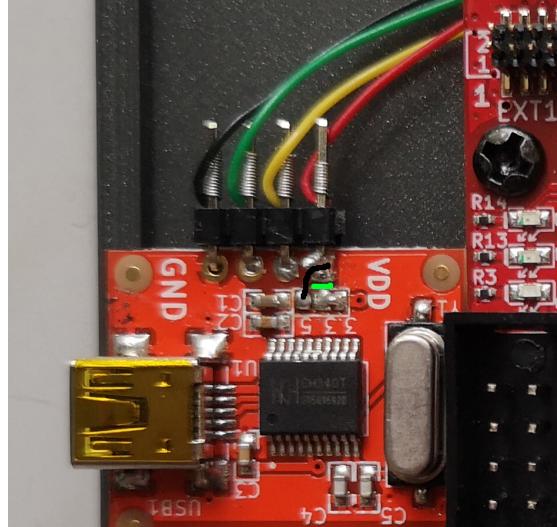


Figure 5: Cut the pcb track (GREEN) and solder a bridge from 5V pad to the right most connector pin.

The 4 wires are connected to the GPIO connector on the right side of iCE40HX8K-EVB according to the following table. Compare with schematic in the appendix B.

color	USB-serial	GPIO (ICE40HX8K-EVB)
black	GND	2
green	RX	7
yellow	TX	5
red	VDD	1

4.4. The Go button

We will implement the code needed by the go button proposed in exercise 26 in chapter 1.3.1 of TAOCP (see p. 510).

4.4.1. prepare the software

The mixal program can be found in `go/go.mixal`. It starts at location 4000 (which is implemented in fpga but not used by MIX). The programm spits out the welcome message. The JMP instruction at memory cell 4095 will jmp to location 0 storing a +0000 in the J-Register, because beeing a binary version with 12 bit programmcounter the next execution address without the jmp instruction would equally yield $4095 + 1 = 0000$.

```

1      ORIG 4000
2      JMP  START
3 WELCOME ALF  WELCO
4          ALF  ME TO
5          ALF  MIX.
6          ALF  1U =
7          ALF  42NS
8          ALF  . U16
9          ALF  -U20
10         ALF  USB-U
11         ALF  ART.
12         ALF  U0 10
13         ALF  24 BL
14         ALF  OCKS.
15         ALF  FPU.
16      ORIG 4091
17 START  OUT  WELCOME(17)
18      JBUS *(17)
19 NEXT   IN   0(16)
20      JBUS *(16)
21      JMP  0
22      END  START

```

First we translate the mixal programm to binary code with `mixal/tools/asm.py`.

```

$ cd build/go
$ ../../mixal/tools/asm.py go.mixal
$ cat go.mls

```

```

1          0001          ORIG 4000
2      4000 + 4091 00 00 39 0002      JMP START
3      4001 + 1669 13 03 16 0003 WELCOME   ALF WELCO
4      4002 + 0901 00 23 16 0004      ALF ME TO
5      4003 + 0014 09 27 40 0005      ALF MIX.
6      4004 + 0031 24 00 48 0006      ALF 1U =
7      4005 + 0034 32 15 22 0007      ALF 42NS
8      4006 + 2560 24 31 36 0008      ALF . U16
9      4007 + 2904 32 30 00 0009      ALF -U20
10     4008 + 1558 02 45 24 0010      ALF USB-U
11     4009 + 0083 23 40 00 0011      ALF ART.
12     4010 + 1566 00 31 30 0012      ALF U0 10
13     4011 + 2082 00 02 13 0013      ALF 24 BL
14     4012 + 1027 12 22 40 0014      ALF OCKS.
15     4013 + 0006 17 24 40 0015      ALF FPU.
16                      0016          ORIG 4091
17     4091 + 4001 00 17 37 0017 START    OUT WELCOME(17)
18     4092 + 4092 00 17 34 0018          JBUS *(17)
19     4093 + 0000 00 16 36 0019 NEXT     IN 0(16)
20     4094 + 4094 00 16 34 0020          JBUS *(16)
21     4095 + 0000 00 00 39 0021          JMP 0
22                      0022          END START
23                      TRANS 4091
24          * SYMBOL TABLE
25          *          EQU 4096
26          NEXT        EQU 4093
27          START       EQU 4091
28          WELCOME     EQU 4001

```

Next we must translate the binary code into a binary format readable by the fpga toolchain. This can be done with the python script `mixal/tools/mls2bin.py`.

```
$ ../../mixal/tools/mls2bin.py go.mls  
$ cat go.bin
```

The python scripts reads the listing file `go.mls`, extracts the code and writes it in the file `go.bin`.

Inspect the binary file ‘go.bin’

The output contain the program code expressed as binary numbers. These binary numbers can be flashed to the iCE40HX8K-EVB board, so it will be stored permanently in the MIX computer. At every reset (press *Go button*) the code will be executed. The first 4000 zero lines translate to NOP instructions. At the end you find the sequence IN(16).JBUS.JMP...



Figure 6: MIX fits in nice toast like case

4.5. build and flash to iCE40HX8K-EVB

- Copy the binary file `go.bin` into the directory `rtl`, where the fpga description files are.
- Rebuild the fpga project and upload. An `apio clean` is needed, because otherwise the preloaded memory will not be updated.

```
$ cp go.bin ../../rtl/go.bin  
$ apio clean  
$ apio build -v  
$ apio upload
```

Tipp: change the welcome message to ensure the new rom file has been uploaded.

4.6. print toast case with a 3D printer

In the subfolder `build/toast` you find printing files for the case. The case consists of three parts:

- `bottom.blend`: the bottom part of the case
- `top.blend`: top part of case
- `go.blend`: go bottom

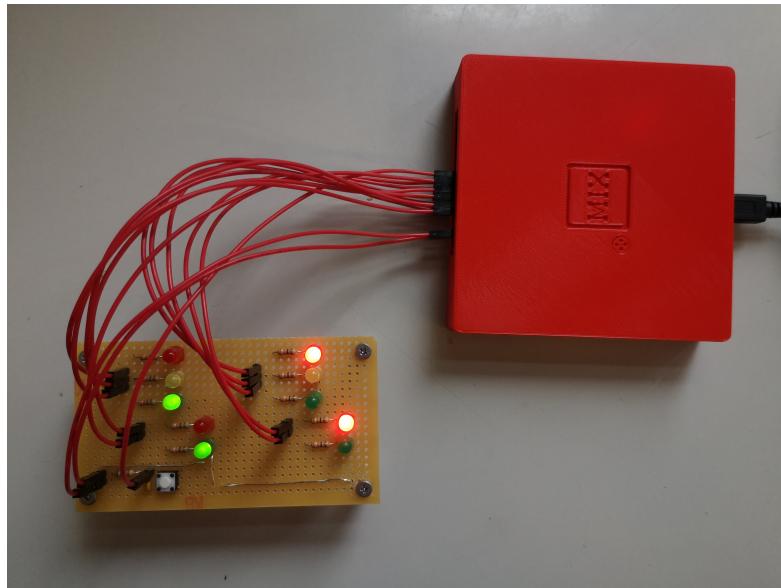


Figure 7: Connect LEDs and push button over the GPIO connector directly to register rX to control the traffic light

5. Example program 1.3.2.ex20T

We will run programm T of exercise 20 in chapter 1.3.2 TAOCP (p. 161) on MIX. Programm T controls the traffic signal at corner of Del Mare Boulevard and Berkeley Avenue. This project will connect LEDs directly to the register rX and a push button to the Overflow toggle. This will be done extending the fpga design and routing the appropriate signals to the GPIO connector at the back of MIX.

5.1. Extending the fpga desing

Make a copy of the folder `rtl` and `cd` into it.

```
$ cd build
$ cp -r rtl rtl_traffic_light
$ cd rtl_traffic_light
```

5.1.1. mix.pcf

Find the following lines in the physical constraint file `mix.pcf` and uncomment to get access to the GPIO pins 9-19.

```
15 #set_io dmred    F5  # GPIO 9
16 #set_io bred     J2  # GPIO 10
17 #set_io dmamber  B1  # GPIO 11
18 #set_io bamber   H1  # GPIO 12
19 #set_io dmgreen  C1  # GPIO 13
```

```

20 #set_io bgreen G1 # GPIO 14
21 #set_io dmdw C2 # GPIO 15
22 #set_io bdw J5 # GPIO 16
23 #set_io dmw F4 # GPIO 17
24 #set_io bw H2 # GPIO 18
25 #set_io button D2 # GPIO 19

```

5.1.2. mix.v

To connect the Register rX with the traffic signals: find the following lines (28–38 and 47–56) in `mix.v` and uncomment:

```

20 // MIX
21 // Don Knuth's computer architecture described in "The Art of Computer Programming"
22
23 'default_nettype none
24 module mix(
25     input wire clk_in,
26     output wire tx,
27     input wire rx,
28 //    output wire dmgreen,
29 //    output wire dmamber,
30 //    output wire dmred,
31 //    output wire bgreen,
32 //    output wire bamber,
33 //    output wire bred,
34 //    output wire dmw,
35 //    output wire dmdw,
36 //    output wire bw,
37 //    output wire bdw,
38 //    input wire button,
39     output wire hlt,
40     output [17:0] sram_addr,
41     inout [15:0] sram_data,
42     output sram_cen,
43     output sram_wen,
44     output sram_oen
45 );
46 // assign dmgreen = RegisterX[19:18] == 2'd1;
47 // assign dmamber = RegisterX[19:18] == 2'd2;
48 // assign dmred = RegisterX[19:18] == 2'd3;
49 // assign bgreen = RegisterX[13:12] == 2'd1;
50 // assign bamber = RegisterX[13:12] == 2'd2;
51 // assign bred = RegisterX[13:12] == 2'd3;
52 // assign dmw = RegisterX[7:6] == 2'd1;
53 // assign dmdw = RegisterX[7:6] == 2'd2;
54 // assign bw = RegisterX[1:0] == 2'd1;
55 // assign bdw = RegisterX[1:0] == 2'd2;
56

```

Control the overflow toggle with the button by uncommenting line 239 in the code snippet:

```

237 |     always @(posedge clk)
238 |         if (reset|clearof) overflow <= 0;
239 |     //         else if (button) overflow <= 1;           //the traffic signal button controls the overflow
240 |         else if (add2 & addof) overflow <= 1;
241 |         else if (div2 & divof) overflow <= 1;
242 |         else if (ide & (rA|rX) & ideof) overflow <= 1;
243 |         else if (fadd2 & faddof) overflow <= 1;
244 |             else if (fmul2 & fmulof) overflow <= 1;
245 |             else if (fdiv2 & fdivof) overflow <= 1;

```

5.2. rebuild and flash to iCE40HX8K-EVB

Rebuild the fpga project and upload.

```
$ apio clean
$ apio upload -v
```

Tipp: change the welcome message to ensure the new rom file has been uploaded.

5.3. add leds and button to GPIO

Connect leds and button (don't forget resistors) to the appropriate GPIO connectors as described in the `mix.pcf` file. For simplicity only one LED is shown below:

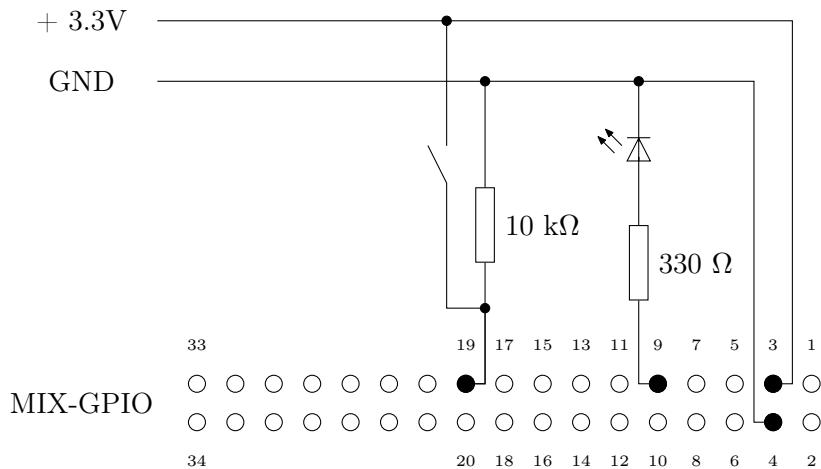


Figure 8: connect LED and button to GPIO connector

Attention: gpio pins 1,2,5 and 7 are already used by the internal USB-serial converter.

5.4. t.mixal

Compile and write `mixal/1.3.2.ex20/t.mixal` to puching card format. Start MIX by pressing the *go button*. Upload `t.card` to MIX and see the traffic signals blinking.

6. Service

In case you encounter an issue with MIX:

- don't panic
- please send an email to the author¹⁰ with a precise description of the problem.

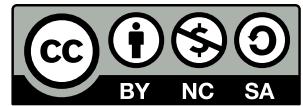
7. License

7.1. mix-fpga

The project as a whole is licensed under the GPL 3 and can be found at www.gitlab.com/x653/mix-fpga.

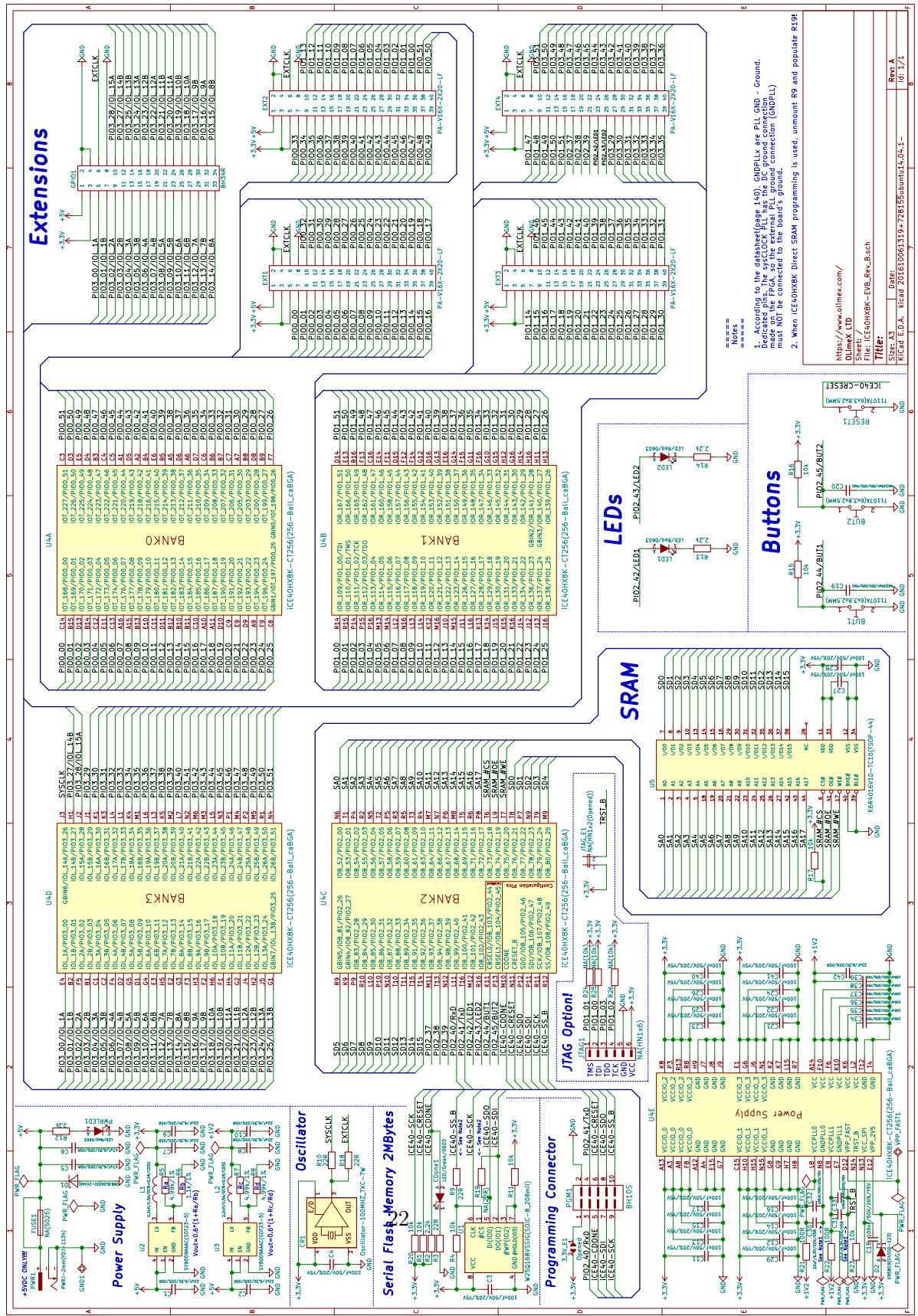
7.2. manual

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¹⁰mi.schroeder@netcologne.de

A. Schematic iCE40HX8K-EVB



B. Schematic BB-CH340T

