CSCI 2500 — Computer Organization Group Project (document version 1.1) — Due 7 May 2021 MIPS Processor in C

- This project is due by the Midnight EST on the above date via a Submitty gradeable.
- This project is a *group assignment*. You can have groups of up to four people.
- Start the project early. You can ask questions during office hours, in the Submitty forum, and during your lab session.
- **NOTE:** This document *will change* in the coming weeks.

1 Project Overview

For the group project, we'll be taking Lab 5 and Homework 5 to the logical conclusion – you'll be implementing a full gate-level circuit representing the datapath for a reduced, but still Turing complete, MIPS ISA. While we have already developed our ALU, the rest of the datapath and control needs to be implemented. For most of the instructions and datapath, implementation details are provided in depth throughout the Chapter 4 slides as well as the book. However, another aspect of the project will be to expand on the provided datapath by developing your own implementations for a few other instructions. See the template file (project.c) for more details.

2 Supported Instructions

Our ISA will include the following instructions:

Instruction	Type	Description	Input format	Operation
lw	I-type	Load Word	lw reg1 reg2 offset	reg1 = M[reg2 + offset]
sw	I-type	Store Word	sw reg1 reg2 offset	M[reg2+offset] = reg1
beq	I-type	Banch on equal	beq reg1 reg2 offset	if $(reg1 == reg2) PC += offset$
addi	I-type	Add immediate	addi reg1 reg2 constant	reg1 = reg2 + constant
and	R-type	Logical AND	and reg1 reg2 reg3	reg1 = reg2 & reg3
or	R-type	Logical OR	or $reg1 reg2 reg3$	$reg1 = reg2 \mid reg3$
add	R-type	Integer addition	add reg1 reg2 reg3	reg1 = reg2 + reg3
sub	R-type	Integer subtraction	$\mathrm{sub}\ \mathrm{reg1}\ \mathrm{reg2}\ \mathrm{reg3}$	reg1 = reg2 - reg3
j	J-type	Jump	j address	PC = address
jal	J-type	Jump and link	jal address	RA = PC, PC = address
jr	R-type	Jump register	jr reg1	PC = reg1

The "input format" given above refers to the format of the assembly instructions you'll parse, convert to machine code, and then process through your circuit. Note that for lw and sw the format is slightly different than what we've seen in the past. This adjustment was made to simplify input processing. Also note that you'll need to map each register label (e.g., t0) to its 5-bit binary representation.

2.1 Instruction Conversion

Your first step is to parse the input instructions into their 32-bit binary machine code representation. See the MIPS reference card on Submitty for the instruction format fields, the op codes, function codes, and register mappings (rs, rt, rd) for each instruction. For Lab 6, you'll be implementing this for a subset of instruction types and only the t0 and s0 registers. For this project, you'll need to consider all of the following the registers:

Register Name	Register #	Use
zero	0	Constant value 0
v0	2	Return value register 0
a0	4	Argument register 0
t0	8	Temporary register 0
t1	9	Temporary register 1
s0	16	Saved register 0
s1	17	Saved register 1
sp	29	Stack pointer
ra	31	Return address

3 Memory

For simplicity, we'll have 3 separate 32×32 -bit 2D arrays representing storage for the register file, instruction memory, and data memory. You won't need to construct D-flip-flops or similar circuits to store program state. For additional simplicity, memory is to be addressed on the word (**not byte**) boundary. What this means is:

- For updating your PC, you'll only need to add +1 instead of +4.
- For jump and branch addresses, you won't need to shift left by 2.
- Any jump value in an instruction will be the actual address to jump to.

To access and read/write a specific memory address, you can use the 5-to-32 decoder implemented in Lab 6 along with read/write control bits. The different memories are implemented in 4 separate functions, including Instruction_Memory, Read_Register, Write_Register, and Data_Memory.

4 Control

There will be several sets of control bits that you'll need to determine for each instruction. These include the 4-bit ALU Control bits input to the ALU, the 2-bit ALUOp that is input into ALU Control circuit, as well as 9 other control bits. You'll primarily be calculating these values in the functions Control and ALU_Control. The control bit are all specified below.

Control Bit	Size	Use
ALUControl	4	Output from ALU Control circuit to ALU
RegDst	1	TRUE if R-type instruction
Jump	1	TRUE if jump instruction
Branch	1	TRUE if branch instruction
${\tt MemRead}$	1	TRUE if reading from memory
${\tt MemToReg}$	1	TRUE if writing to register from memory
ALU0p	2	Output from Control circuit to ALU Control circuit
${\tt MemWrite}$	1	TRUE if writing to memory
ALUSrc	1	TRUE if second input to ALU is immediate value
RegWrite	1	TRUE if register is being written
Zero	1	TRUE if ALU result is Zero

See the following tables for guidance on how to set these values for each instruction:

- ALUControl and ALUOp: Chapter-4a, slide 33; Figure 4.13 from book
- Others: Chapter-4a, slides 38-44; Figure 4.18, Figure 4.22 from book

However, **be careful** when implementing any SOP circuits using *only* the values in the provided tables. These tables do not include a few instructions that we're considering (j, jal, jr, addi). In addition, be aware that you'll likely to need to implement your own additional control lines for these specific instructions.

5 ALU, Adder, and Other Circuits

You'll need to implement additional circuitry for the ALU and 32-bit adders. You can mostly re-use your implementations from Lab 5 and Homework 5, with a couple caveats.

- There are now 4 ALU control input bits, instead of just 2
- We have an additional output for the control line Zero

You'll further need to implement a "sign-extender" circuit for instructions with a 16-bit immediate value field. You are also free to implement any additional "helper circuits", as you deem necessary. It will likely be useful to implement things like 3-input or 4-input AND/OR gates.

6 Datapath

The datapath describes the way that all of the above control lines and circuits are hooked up to each other. Recall that we're considering the entire processor as one big combinational circuit. Each sub-circuit is similarly a combinational circuit of some inputs and some outputs. You'll need to implement the functionality of the datapath by feeding an output from one circuit to the input in another circuit in some specified order. A representative figure to base your implementation off of is given by slide 53 in Chapter-4a or in Figure 4.24 in the book. However, again be aware that this figure doesn't consider some of the additional instructions that we're including. As part of your project writeup, you'll need to show how you modified the datapath to account for these new instructions.

The datapath will primarily be implemented in the function updateState(). Although the processor we're implementing doesn't have explicit pipeline stages, it might still help you figure out your implementation by considering each pipeline stage at a time. E.g., You should process all of the circuits that would be in the DECODE stage of the pipeline before processing the circuits that would be in the EXECUTE stage.

7 Project Rules

The rules for your project implementation will be the same as with Homework 5. Basically, anything you code up for your processor should be representable as some actual combinational circuit. Generally: for loops over fixed iteration counts are OK, while all if-else statements are NOT. You are free to re-use any code from any group members' prior assignments. Group work should be as evenly distributed among members as is possible. Try and start as early as is reasonably possible.

8 Input and Output

The input format will be a list of assembly instructions. The output will be for each processed instruction: the PC, the binary instruction, the state of all 32 words of memory, and the state of all 32 registers. See below for example inputs and outputs:

PC: 4

PC: 5

PC: 6

PC: 7

9 Submission and Grading Criteria

Due to the complexity and duration of the project, there will be a few different checkpoints and deadlines that you'll need to be aware of. The final submission will consist of two parts – one being the autograded component and the other being the project writeup.

- April 7 Lab 6: Instruction parsing and 32-bit memory implementation
- April 16 Finalize your groups in Submitty
- May 7 Final submissions to Submitty for autograded portion
- May 9 Final submissions to Submitty for project writeup

9.1 Grading Breakdown

The grading breakdown is as follows:

- 1. Autograding: 50%
 - Standard visible and hidden test cases
- 2. TA grading: 50%
 - Solution is representative of an implementable circuit
 - Project writeup
 - Fully explains design and implementation choices for each circuit
 - Includes modified datapath from Figure 4.24 for new instructions
 - Explains contributions of each group member