

Vexriscv SoC with UART & Hello World:

Hello World application for Vexriscv based SoC.

Instructions:

Copy your demo folder from litex installation directory `litex/litex/soc/software/demo` and paste it inside your project directory. Use the `main.c` file provided in this example in the demo application and replace it with the `main.c` file located inside your newly copied demo folder in project directory.

1. Simulation:

We can simulate the hello world example using `litex_sim` tool in litex.

Run the following command to generate your SoC:

```
litex_sim --integrated-main-ram-size=0x10000 --cpu-type=vexriscv --no-compile-gateway --sim-debug
```

Before running the simulation, you have to create the binary of your application code residing in demo. The python script below converts the application code to `demo.bin`, which is later loaded on to the RAM.

Run the following command to generate `.bin` file from `.py` file:

```
python3 ./demo/demo.py --build-path=build/sim
```

Run the following command to execute your applicationcode onto the processor:

```
litex_sim --integrated-main-ram-size=0x10000 --cpu-type vexriscv --ram-init=demo.bin --sim-debug
```

Output:

```

  _/_/ ( )/_/_/ |/_/_/
  /_/_/ /_/_/ -_/_/ > <
  /_/_/ /_/_/ \_/_/ /_/_/
Build your hardware, easily!

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BIOS built on May 26 2022 10:24:36
BIOS CRC passed (97f4cb9b)

LiteX git sha1: a4cc859d

----- SoC -----
CPU:          VexRiscv @ 1MHz
BUS:          WISHBONE 32-bit @ 4GiB
CSR:          32-bit data
ROM:          128KiB
SRAM:         8KiB
MAIN-RAM:     64KiB

----- Initialization -----

----- Boot -----
Booting from serial...
Press Q or ESC to abort boot completely.
sL5DdSMmkekro
Timeout
Executing booted program at 0x40000000

----- Liftoff! -----

=====
-----TEST-STATUS-----
=====

HELLO WORLD

TEST PASSED

=====
-----END-----
=====

litex-demo-app> 
```

2. Hardware:

Connect your Digilent Arty a7-100 board with your machine. We will be using the same design which we used in simulation to verify on the board. The following board file written in python creates the same SoC and later build and load it onto the Arty board.

Run the following command to generate your SoC:

```
../../../../litex_installation/litex-boards/litex_boards/targets/digilent_arty.py --integrated-main-ram-size=0x10000 --variant a7-100 --cpu-type=vexriscv --build --load --uart-name=serial
```

Run the following command to generate .bin file from .py file:

```
python3 ./demo/demo.py --build-path=build/digilent_arty
```

The litex_term tool load the board with the application binary through the COM port.

```
litex_term /dev/ttyUSB1 --kernel=demo.bin
```

Output:

```
  /_/_/  ( )  /_/_/  |  /_/_/
 /_/_/  /_/_/  /_/_/  - )>  <
 /_/_/  /_/_/  /_/_/  /_/_/

Build your hardware, easily!

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BIOS built on May 17 2022 15:24:23
BIOS CRC passed (9ee2154e)

LiteX git sha1: a4cc859d

--===== SoC =====--
CPU:          VexRiscv @ 100MHz
BUS:          WISHBONE 32-bit @ 4GiB
CSR:          32-bit data
ROM:          128KiB
SRAM:         8KiB
MAIN-RAM:     64KiB

--===== Initialization =====--
Memtest at 0x40000000 (64.0KiB)...
  Write: 0x40000000-0x40010000 64.0KiB
  Read: 0x40000000-0x40010000 64.0KiB
Memtest OK
Memspeed at 0x40000000 (Sequential, 64.0KiB)...
  Write speed: 166.5MiB/s
  Read speed: 87.4MiB/s

--===== Boot =====--
Booting from serial...
Press Q or ESC to abort boot completely.
sL5DdSMmkekro
[LITEX-TERM] Received firmware download request from the device.
[LITEX-TERM] Uploading demo.bin to 0x40000000 (4660 bytes)...
[LITEX-TERM] Upload calibration... (inter-frame: 10.00us, length: 64)
[LITEX-TERM] Upload complete (9.7KB/s).
[LITEX-TERM] Booting the device.
[LITEX-TERM] Done.
Executing booted program at 0x40000000

--===== Liftoff! =====--
```

Application

In this application code we print a Hello world to the Uart console(Litex Console).