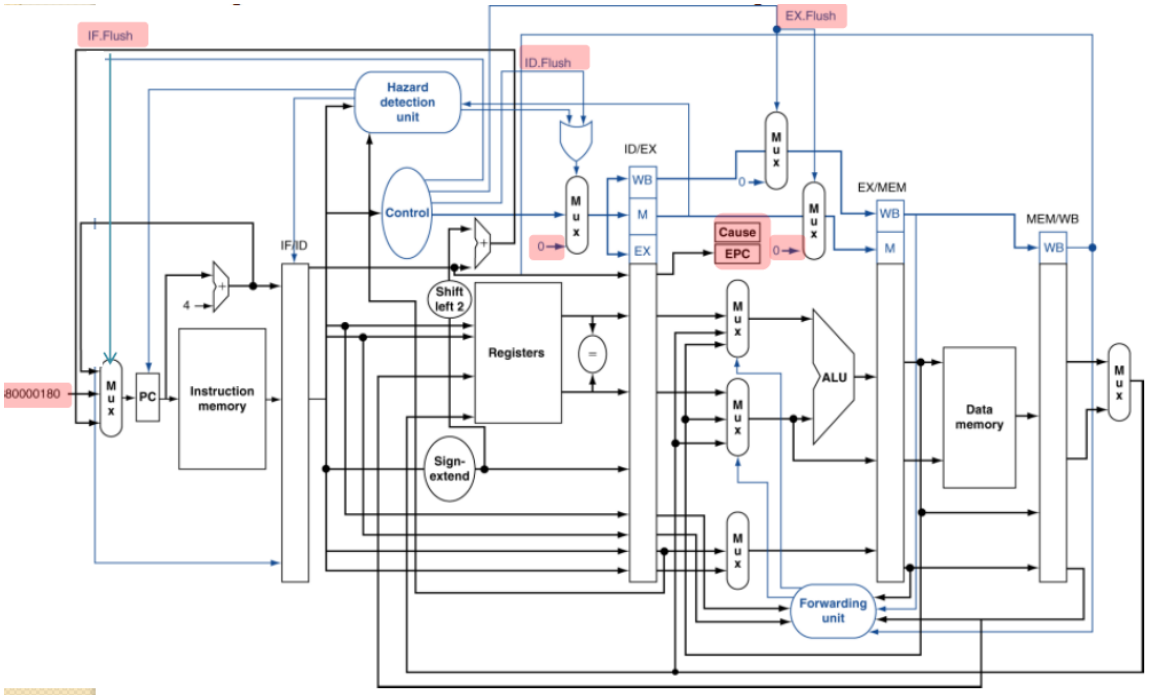
10420 CS410001 – Computer Architecture 2016

Project #2

1. Project Objective
   a. Implement a pipelined, functional processor simulator for the reduced MIPS R3000 ISA, following the specification "*Datasheet for the Reduced MIPS R3000 ISA*" in *Appendix A*
   b. Design your own test case to validate your implementation, particularly on hazards handling.

2. Project Description
   a. Pipeline Description



IF **ID** **EX** **DM** **WB**

i. 5 stages in pipeline: instruction fetch (IF), instruction decode (ID), ALU execution (EX), data memory access (DM) and write back (WB).

ii. Conditional branches and unconditional branches are determined during the ID stage.

iii. Load/store computes the address to be accessed in D memory during the EX stage, and accesses data memory during the DM stage.

iv. Arithmetic/bitwise shift/logical operations are done during the EX stage.

v. There are two forwarding paths: EX/DM to ID, EX/DM to EX.

vi. All **write back** executions targeting to $0~$31 **are done during the first half of the cycle** in the WB stage.

vii. All **reads to registers are done during the second half of the cycle** in the ID stage.

viii. PC is updated in each cycle **after** executing all instructions in each pipeline stage.

ix. If inserting "NOPs" is needed to resolve hazards, use *sll $0, $0, 0*, i.e. the bit stream $0x00000000_h$. **In your implementation, you should decode** the instruction bit stream $0x00000000_h$ **as NOP**.

b. Other Constraints

i. The pipeline is **initialized** with **NOPs in all stages**.

ii. The simulation of the pipelined processor **terminates** after the **five "halt"** instructions arriving **all the stage.**

iii. **Register 0** is a **hard-wired 0**; any attempt to write to register 0 takes no effect.

iv. The instruction memory is of 1K bytes size, the data memory of 1K bytes size.

v. The executable should be named **pipeline**.

vi. To avoid re-execution of some stages, the order of simulating the pipeline is WB → DM → EX → ID → IF.

3. Input Test Case File and Format

Same as Project 1. Please refer to the specification of Project 1 and *Appendix B*, "*Sample Input*."

- **Note:** Your test case should cover at least one control hazard and one data hazard resolved by inserting NOPs, and one data hazard cleared by forwarding.

4. Output Requirement

- For each test case, generate the following two output files:
  a. **snapshot.rpt :** Record all the register values at each cycle.
  b. **error_dump.rpt :** Record any error messages.
- Place the output files at the same directory where your executable file resides.
- For details, please refer to *Appendix C-2*, "*Sample Output for Project 2*." and *Appendix D*, *"Error Detection Sample*".

5. The 2-submission Process

Same as Project 1, but with the following modification: The cloned repository from GitHub should be named as *pipeline*. At submission, compress the folder *pipeline* as *pipeline.tar.gz* (you may use *test_script_v2.py* to help you), and upload *pipeline.tar.gz* and studentID_report.pdf to the iLMS system.

6. Grading Policy

Same as project 1.

Note: Demo parts will focus on:

a. Structure of Pipeline
b. Design of Pipeline
c. Hazard Concepts

d. Forwarding Path' s Effect

- **Etiquette**
  - **a. Do not plagiarize others' works, or you will fail this course.**
  - **b. No acceptance of late homework.**
  - **c. For details of submission, please note the announcement on the course website.**