PD4 Report Document

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EECS 4201 E
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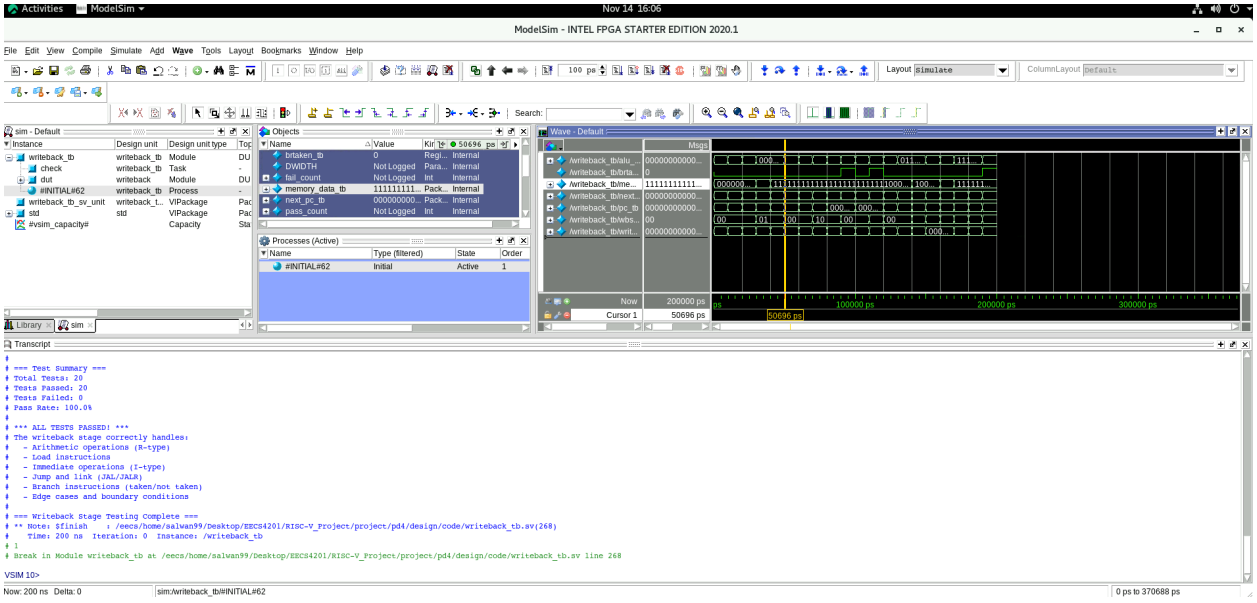
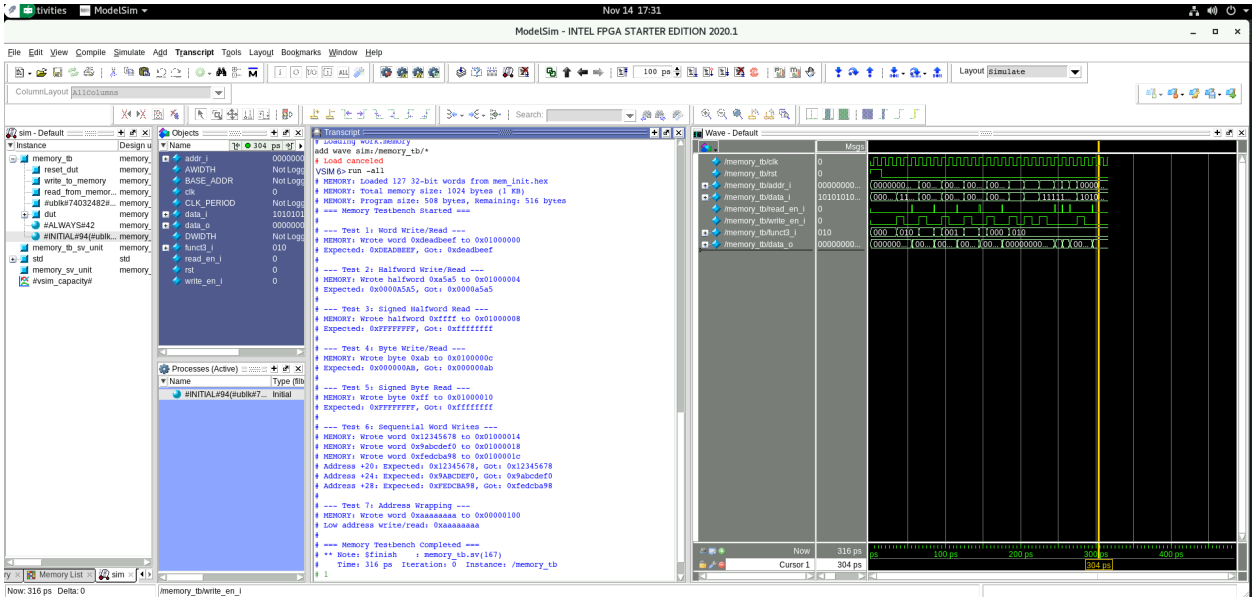
ModelSim Our Testbench Waveform Screenshots:



Writeback_tb.sv



memory_tb.sv

Challenges Faced During PD4 Deliverables:

One of the biggest challenges we faced while doing the pd4 was we misunderstood the pipeline requirements. At first I thought we needed to fully pipeline the write back and memory stages, so I kept adding extra registers and forwarding paths

which were not required and it caused persistent errors and unnecessary complexity. At the same time we were facing a mismatch issue in the instruction memory that made the simulator flag important warnings - specificall, the funct3_i port was accidentally treated as 1 bit instead of 3 bits. We corrected this with the proper assignment of 3'b010 which helped to stabilize the memory interface and cleared the compilation issues.

After fixing the signalling I encountered another issue which was the program counter (PC) which refused to move from the base address. Debugging showed that the Control Unit had been unintentionally skipped in the top-level wiring. Important control signals, such as branch and jump, therefore defaulted to zero, totally stopping the process. This error was comparable to my previous misunderstanding of the pipeline steps, when my presumptions resulted in erroneous or insufficient connections. The PC impasse was resolved and appropriate control flow was restored by reintroducing the Control Unit outputs.

We also struggled with the memory behavior, especially the wraparound logic. The memory must loop back to the first address instead of increasing memory size, which i didn't know that memory was reaching the last address. In the process of resolving this, I discovered a structural problem with the initialization loop: the $display message was positioned within the for-loop, resulting in repeated printing. The module operated as anticipated and the simulation output became clear and accurate when the proper wraparound was implemented, the loop structure was cleaned up, and the memory addressing was adjusted.