

Super8 Application Note

GETTING STARTED WITH THE ZILOG SUPER8

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Any time an engineer switches to a new processor, he usually begins the time consuming process of learning the quirks of the new part. This article is the first of a series of articles written to speed that transition time from any other processor to the Zilog Super8.

Getting started is the most difficult part of switching to a strange new processor and development tools. Weeks can be spent just getting the first lines of initialization code written and successfully assembled. Testing the code becomes another problem. The software from this article series has been tested and it should be possible to copy most of the software directly to a user's application. All of the software is available in machine readable form as noted at the end of the article.

This first article demonstrates the proper initialization of the Zilog Super8 microcontroller. It sets up a Z8800 ROMLESS for 64K bytes of external program memory, although most typical applications probably do not require more than maybe 4K or 8K bytes. Ports 2 and 3, which are bit-mappable as inputs or outputs, are set into the output mode. Port 4, also bit mappable, is set into the input mode. A hardware schematic has been included as an example.

The hardware schematic shown defines a simple Super8 implementation that was used to test the code in this series of articles. This example defines a simple evaluation board that contains 32K bytes of programable EPROM, and up to 32K bytes of RAM. The design contains a simple RS-232 interface that is used in future articles of the series. The entire board, including the RS-232 interface, is powered from 5 volts. The RAM battery option allows the software to be downloaded into the RAM and saved if power fails. Additional logic on the design allows a user to protect the lower half of RAM with a simple jumper change. This prevents the processor from destroying executable code if it goes off into space on a power failure.

Specifically, the ROMLESS Super8 is used as the core. The Super8 requires a latch to demultiplex the address from the data bus. A 74LS373 fits nicely here, requiring only an inverter to correct for the address strobe. The 'LS373 with inverter is preferred here rather than a single 'LS374 because the 'LS373 is a transparent latch and will present the address

earlier than the 'LS374. JU1 selects the EPROM size, correcting for the /PGM pin on 2764 and 27128 EPROMs. It is necessary to use pull down resistors on the upper 4 bits of the address bus because on reset, the ROMLESS Super8 defines only 12 bits for address; the other 4 are set as inputs. Since LS-TIL evices require more current to pull down the inputs, this pull down trick will only work for MOS and CMOS inputs, hence the requirement for the logic chips in this design to be HCT type devices.

The remaining logic is required to select the EPROM or RAM. JU2 selects the half-RAM protect mode. JU3 is set to determine what size ram to protect. This circuit allows the lower half of CMOS battery backed RAM to be read only, and removes chip select on any writes to that address space. Of course, that exact circuitry and the battery is optional, and might be replaced by a power threshold detector. On the other front, a Maxim MAX 232 provides the RS-232 interface requiring only 5 volts.

To make the software initialization more interesting, a few other typical initialization tasks are demonstrated. The entire block of registers (user ram) is cleared to zero, and one of the counter timer units is initialized to provide a periodic interrupt to form the heart of a real time clock function.

The program shows the typical pseudo-op usage demonstrated. This article series uses a cross assembler available from Zilog for either an IBM PC or a VAX operating under VMS. The program bElgins by defining the registers used as general purpose storage. This is done so the user does not have to refer to register numbers, but may refer to a name equated to the register.

The first 32 bytes of every program (beginning at OOOOH) always contain the interrupt vectors for the different sources. Using the Zilog assembler, the .WORD pseudo-op defines a pair of bytes for each of the 16 sources. Program execution begins at location 0020H. Since copyright requirements usually require the notice as close to the beginning as possible, it becomes necessary to jump around an ASCII string. The .ASCII pseudo-op generates the necessary string for this notice.

The source code describes almost completely, without further explanation, the entire initialization. Once initialized, the processor loops in a WAIT loop waiting on the periodic interrupt generated by the counterlimer. . The counter timer interrupts 60 times per second, and the interrupt bumps ram storage locations representing seconds, minutes, and hours. Each time a location is bumped, an external port line is toggled so that those without emulators can see some activity with an oscilloscope. In the next article of this series, we will take the same basic initialization routine and modify it to support the serial UART. That article will demonstrate polled serial communications using the Zilog Super 8.

One point of notice, is the interrupt service routine for the timer. One must reset the end of count interrupt bit (the source of interrupt) before exiting the interrupt service routine.

[Editors note: The software for this series is available on an IBM PC diskette and is included with the Super 8 Emulator package available from Creative Technology Corporation, 5144 Peachtree Road, Suite 30'1, Atlanta, GA 30341. (404) 455-8255. Any Zilog Field Application engineer should also be able to provide copies of the software on a user provided diskette.]

Super8 Technical Manual

12. External Interface

12.1 INTRODUCTION

The 4B-pin Super8 has 40 programmable I/O pins, aome of which are configurable as an external memory interface. A description of the pins and their functions follows (see Figure 12-1).

12.2 PIN DESCRIPTIONS

AS. Address Strobe (output, active low, 3-state). AS is pulsed low once at the beginning of each machine cycle. For external memory accesses, the. rising edge of ms indicates that addresses, R/W', and DR signals are valid. Under program control, AS' can be placed in a high impedance state along with Ports 0 and 1, ITS, R/W', and DR if used.

DS. Data Strobe (output. active low, 3-state). DS provides timing for data movement to or from Port 1 for each external memory transfer. During a write cycle, data out is valid at the . leading edge of crs; during a read cycle, data in is valid prior to the trailing edge of crs. crs can be placed in a high-impedance state along with Ports 0 and 1, AS, R/W, and DM if used.

R/W. Read/Write (output, 3-state). R/W determines the direction of data transfer for external memory transactions. R/W' is low during write operations and high during all other operations. R/W' can be placed in a high-impedance state along with Ports 0 and 1, AS, DS, and DM if used.

P00-P07, P10-P17, P20-P27, P30-P37, P40-P47. I/O Port Lines (inputs/outputs. TTL-coapatible). These I/O lines provide five B-bit I/O ports that can be configured under program control for I/O or external memory interfacing. Ports 0 and 1 can be placed in a high-impedance state under program control, along with AS, DS, R/W, and DM if used.

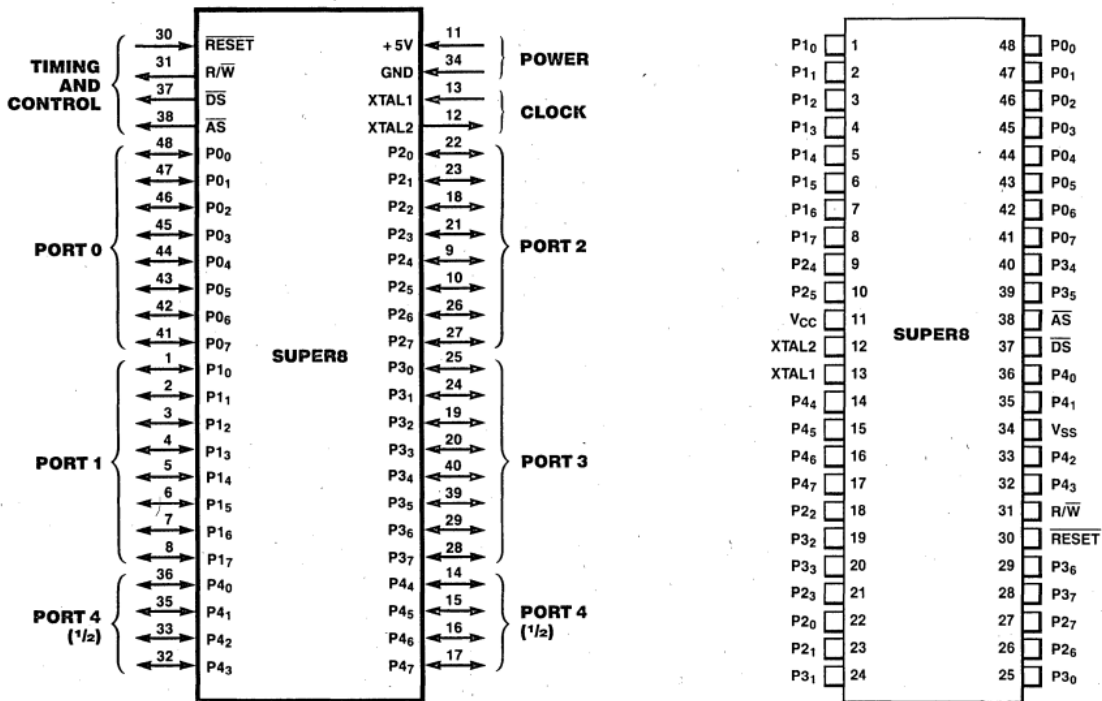


Figure 12-1. Pin Functions and ASSignments

RESET. Reset (input, active low). RESET is used to initialize the Super8. When RESET is deactivated, program execution begins from program address 0020H. RESET is also used to enable the Super8 test mode.

XTAL1, XTAL2. Crystal (oscillator input/output). XTAL 1 and XTAL2 are used to connect a parallel resonant crystal or external clock source to the on-board clock oscillator and buffer.

12.3 CONFIGURING FOR EXTERNAL MEMORY

Before external memory can be referenced in a ROM-based part, Ports 0 and 1 must be properly configured. The minimum bus configuration uses Port 1 as a multiplexed address/data bus (AOO-A07) with access to 256 bytes of external memory. In this configuration, the eight lower order address bits (AO-A7) are multiplexed with the eight data bits (D0-D7).

Additional address lines can be output on the Port 0 pins, where bit 0 of that port corresponds to A8, bit 1 to A9 and so on. The pins of Port 0 can be defined as memory address lines or I/O lines on a bit-by-bit basis, via programming of the Port 0 Mode register (R240, Bank 0). This ensures the efficient use of the I/O pins, allowing the Super8 to address various sizes of external memory using no more pins than necessary. Port 0 pins not configured for address lines can be used as I/O lines. Configuring Port 1 for external

memory is accomplished by writing the appropriate bits in the Port Mode register, R241 in Bank 0 (Figure 12-2).

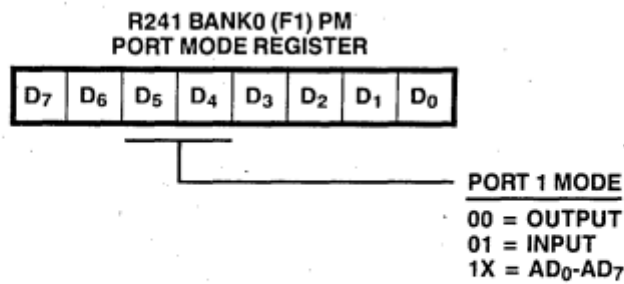


Figure 12-2. Configuring Port 1 for External Memory

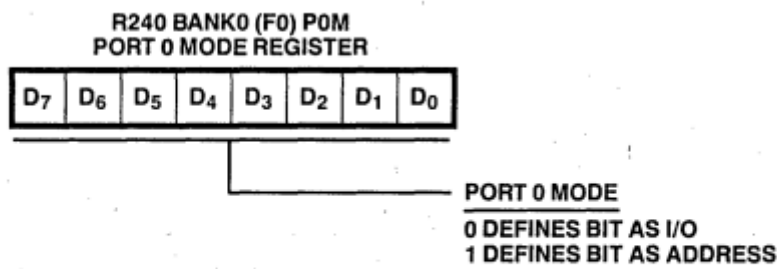


Figure 12-3. Configuring Port 0 for External Memory

Configuring Port 0 for external memory is accomplished in a similar manner, using Port 0 Mode Register, R240 in Bank 0 (Figure 12-3).

Once Port 1 is configured as an address/data port, H is no longer usable as a general-purpose I/O port. Attempting to read Port 1 returns "FF H"; writing has no effect. Similarly, if Port 0 is configured for address lines AB-A15, it is no longer usable as a general-purpose I/O port; however, if not all of the bits are defined as address lines, the remaining bits are still accessible as an I/O port. Reading Port 0 will return the port data in those positions defined as I/O. The positions defined as address will return the value on the external pins which, under normal loading, will be the address.

After setting the modes of Ports 0 and 1 for external memory, the next three bytes must be fetched from internal memory.

An external memory interface may be 3-stated under program control by setting bit 7 of the System Mode register, R222 (Figure 12-4).

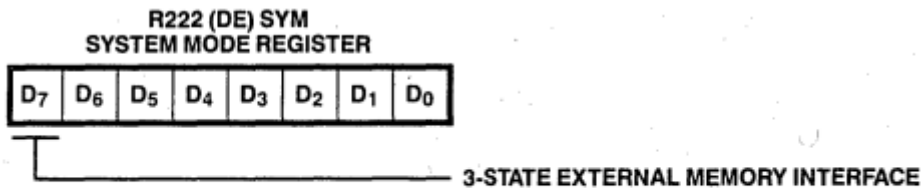


Figure 12-4. 3-State External Memory Interface

When this bit is set to 1, the external memory interface, including AS, OS, R/W and OM, is 3-stated. A hardware reset forces this bit to a 0. The external memory interface can but should not be tri-stated in the ROM-less parts.

In Super8 parts with on-Chip ROM, a hardware reset configures Ports 0 and 1 as input ports and instruction execution begins at location 0020H, which is within the on-chip ~OM.

In the ROM less parts, a hardware reset configures Port 0 pins POO-P04 as address out and pins P05-P07 as inputs; Port 1 is configured as an address/data port, allowing access to B Kbytes of memory. If external memory greater than B Kbytes is desired, additional address lines must be configured in Port 0. Since Port 0 lines are initially configured as inputs, they will float and their logic state will be unknown until an initialization routine is executed that configures Port 0. This initialization routine must reside within the first B Kbytes of executable code and must be physically mapped into memory by externally forcing the Port 0 address lines to a known state.

12.4 EXTERNAL STACKS

The Super8 architecture supports stack operations in either the register file or in data memory. A stack's location is determined by setting bit 1 in the External Memory Timing register, R254. Bank 0 (Figure 12-5).

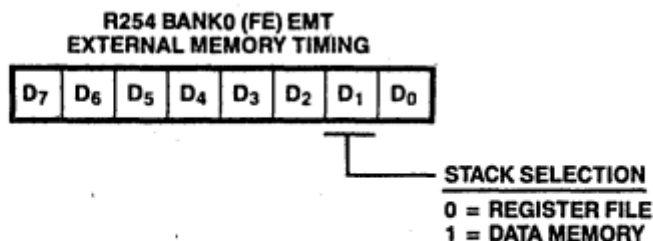


Figure 12-5. External Memory Timing

The instruction used to change the stack section bit should not be immediately followed by an instruction that uses the stack, since this will cause indeterminate program flow. Interrupts should be disabled when changing the stack section bit.

12.5 DATA MEMORY

The two external memory spaces, data and program, can be addressed as a single memory space or as two separate spaces. If the memory spaces are separated, program memory and data memory are logically selected by the Data Memory select output (1m'), 1m' is made available on Port 3, line 5 (P35) by setting bit D3 in the Port Mode register to 1 (Figure 12-6).

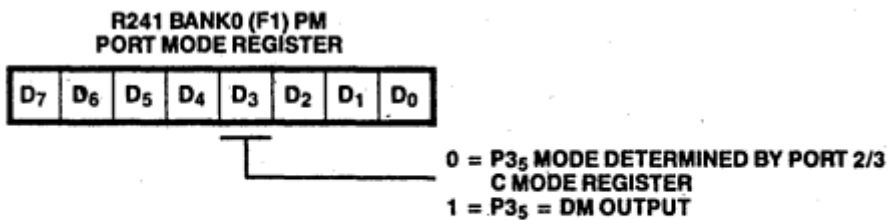


Figure 12-6. Data Memory

12.6 BUS OPERATION

Typical data transfers between the Super8 and external memory are illustrated in Figures 12-7 and 12-8. Machine cycles can vary from six to twelve external clock periods depending on the operation being performed. The notations used to describe the basic timing periods of the Super8 are machine cycles (Mn), timing state (Tn), and clock periods. All timing references are made with respect to the output signals AS and DS. The clock is shown for clarity only and does not have specific timing relationships with other signals; the clock signal shown is the external clock, which has twice the frequency of the internal CPU clock.

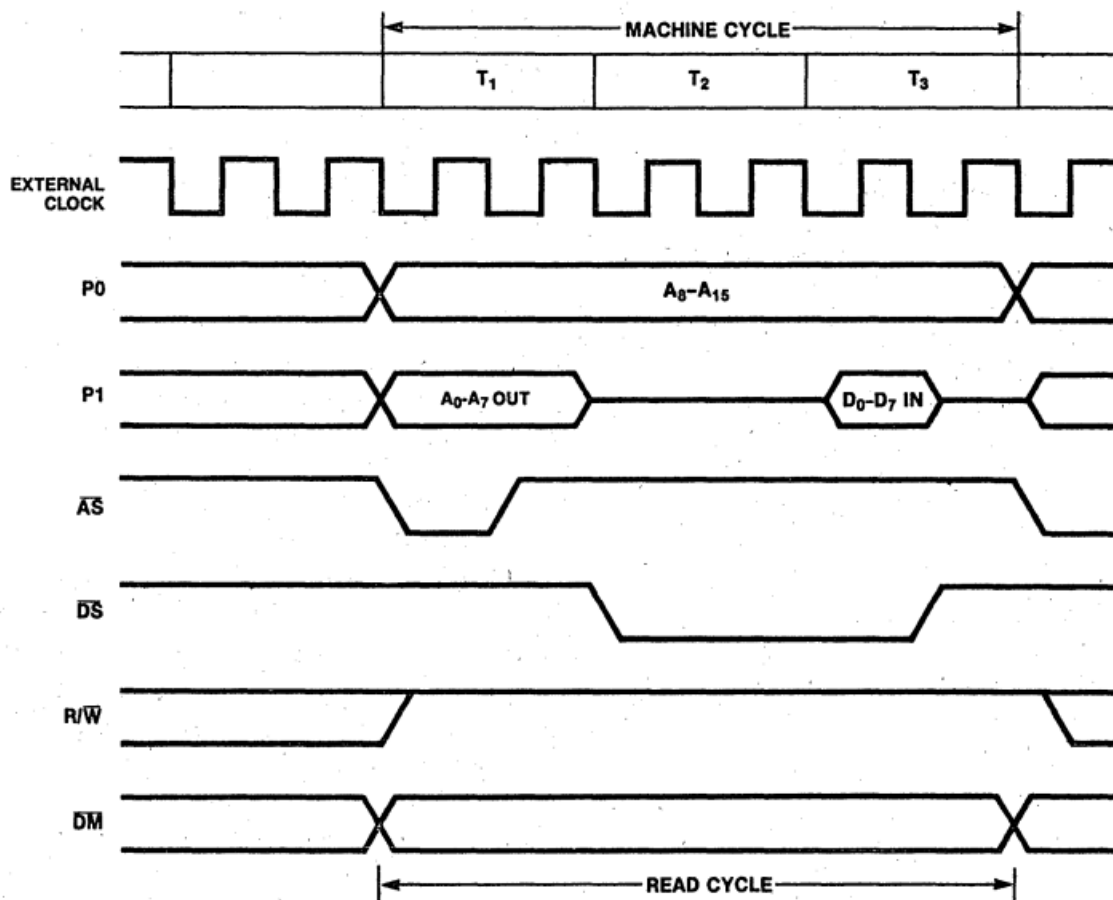


Figure 12-7. External Instruction Fetch or Memory Read Cycle

12.6.1 Address Strobe (AS)

All transactions start with Address Strobe (\overline{AS}) being driven low and then raised high by the Super8. The rising edge of \overline{AS} indicates that Read/Write (R/\overline{W}), Data Memory (\overline{DM}), and the addresses output from Ports 0 and 1 are valid. The addresses output via Port 1 typically need to be latched during \overline{AS} , whereas Port 0 address outputs, if used, remain stable throughout the machine cycle.

12.6.2 Data Strobe (DS)

The Super8 uses Data Strobe (\overline{DS}) to time the actual data transfer. For write operations (R/\overline{W} = low), a low on \overline{DS} indicates that valid data is on the Port 1 AD_0-AD_7 lines. For read operations (R/\overline{W} = high); the address/data bus is placed in a high-impedance state before driving \overline{DS} low so that the addressed device can put its data on the bus. The Super8 samples this data prior to raising \overline{DS} high.

12.6.1 External memory Operations

Whenever the Super8 is configured for external memory operations, the addresses of all internal program memory references appear on the external bus. This should have no effect on the external system since the bus control line $\overline{1'lr}$ remains in its inactive high state. $\overline{1'lr}$ becomes active only during external memory references.

12.7 EXTENDED BUS TIMING

The Super8 can accommodate slow memory access and cycle times by three different methods that give the user much flexibility in the types of memory available.

12.7.1 Software Programmable Wait States

The Super8 can stretch the Data Strobe (~ timing automatically by adding one, two, or three internal clock periods. This is under program control and applies only to external memory cycles. Internal memory cycles still operate at the maximum rate. The software has independent control over stretched Data Strobe for external memory (i.e., the software can set up one timing for program memory and a different timing for data memory). Thus, program and data memory may be made up of different kinds of hardware chips, each requiring its own timing.

12.7.2 Slow Memory Timing

Another feature of the Super8 that is useful in interfacing with slow memories is the Slow Memory Timing option. When this option is enabled, the normal external memory timing is slowed by a factor of two (bus clock = CPU clock divided by two). All memory times for setup, duration, hold, and access times are essentially doubled. This feature can also be used with the programmed automatic wait states described above. Programmed wait states can still be used to stretch the Data Strobe time by one, two, or three internal clock times (not two, four, or six) when Slow Memory Timing is enabled.

12.7.3 Hardware Wait States

Still another Super8 feature is an optional external VAAFT input using port pin P34. The VAAFT input function can be used with either or both of the above two features. Thus the Data Strobe width will have a minimum value determined by the number of programmed wait states selected, and/or by Slow Memory Timing. The mITT input provides the means to stretch it even farther. The VAAFT input is sampled each internal clock time and, if held low, can stretch the Data Strobe by adding one internal clock period to the Data Strobe time for an indefinite period of time.

All of the extended bus timing features are programmed by writing the appropriate bits in the External Memory Timing register (Figure 12-9).

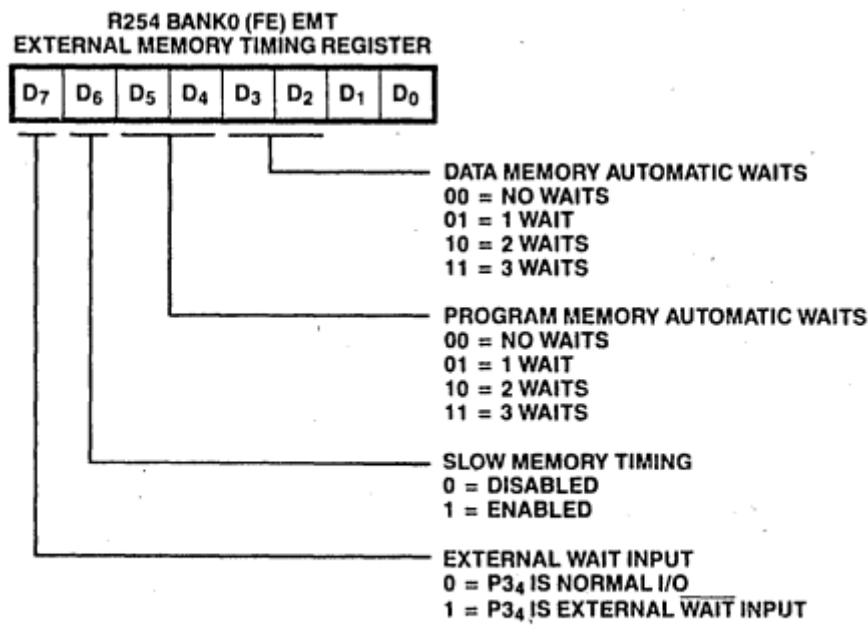


Figure 12-9. External Memory Timing Register

12.8 INSTRUCTION TIMING

The high throughput of the Super8 is due, in part, to the use of instruction pipelining, where the instruction fetch and execution cycles are overlapped. During the execution of the current instruction, the opcode of the next instruction is fetched, as illustrated in Figure 12-10.

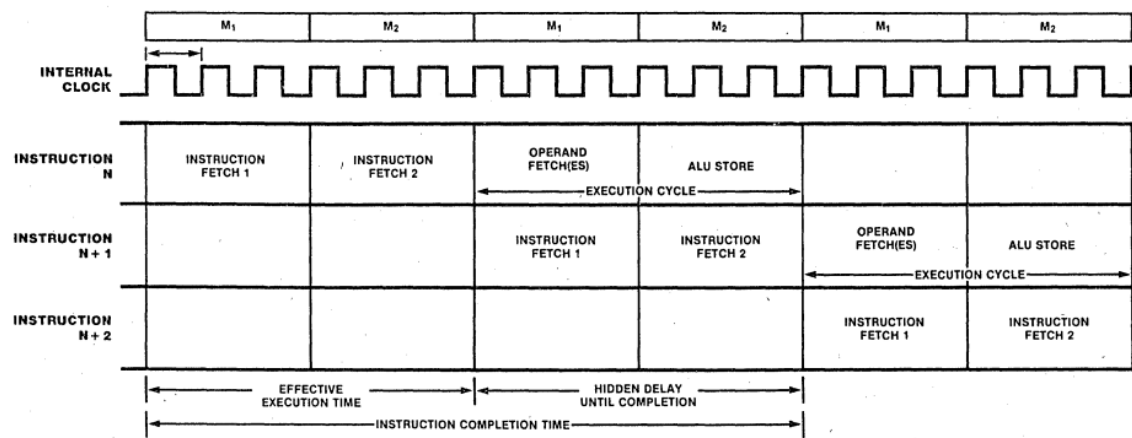


Figure 12-10. Instruction Pipelining

Figures 12-11 through 12-14 show typical instruction cycle timing for instructions fetched from external memory. All instruction fetch cycles have the same machine timing regardless of whether the memory is internal. or external except when external memory timing is

extended. In order to calculate the execution time of a program, the internal clock periods shown in the cycles column of the instruction formats in the Instruction Set (Chapter 5) should be added. Pipeline cycles are transparent to the user and should be ignored. Each cycle represents two cycles of the crystal or input clock.

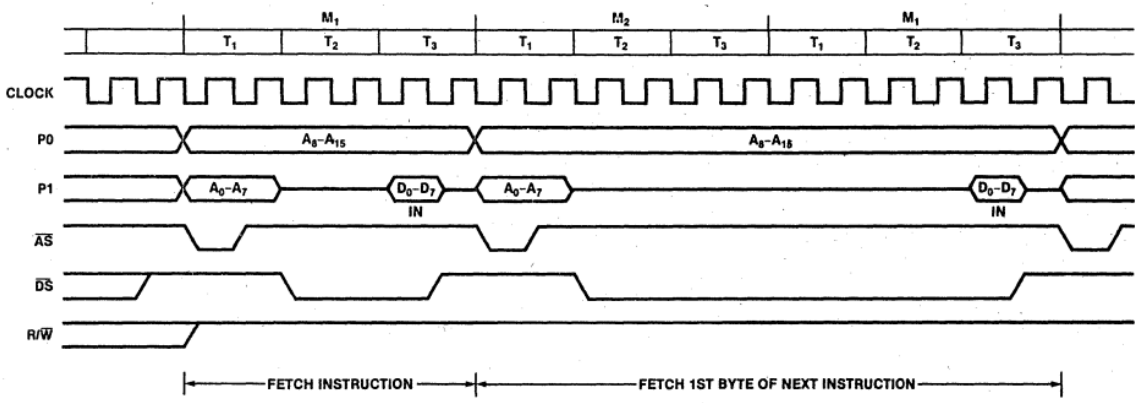


Figure 12-11. Typical Instruction Cycle Timing (One Byte Instruction)

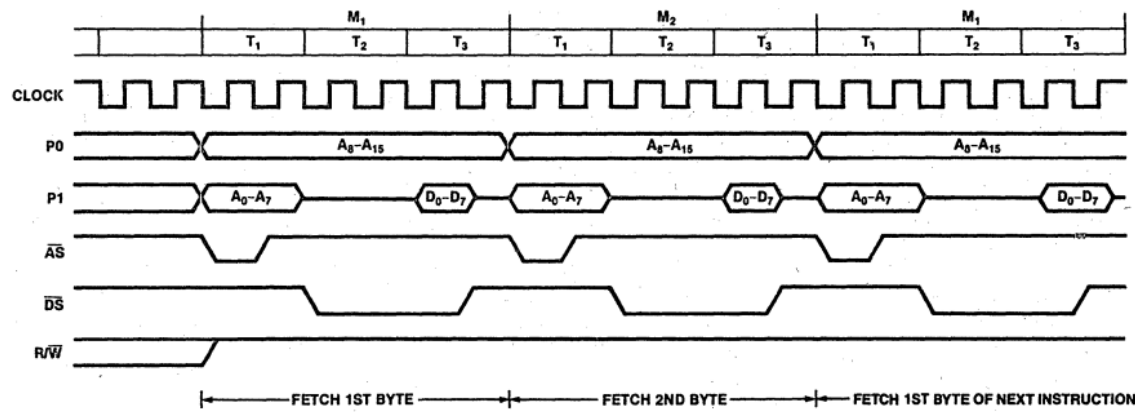


Figure 12-12. Typical Instruction Cycle Timing (Two Byte Instruction)

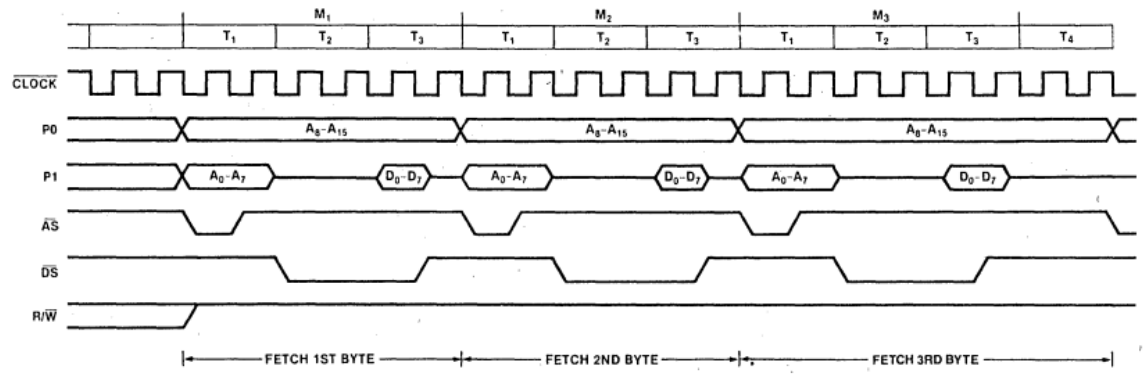


Figure 12-13. Typical Instruction Cycle Timing (Three Byte Instruction)

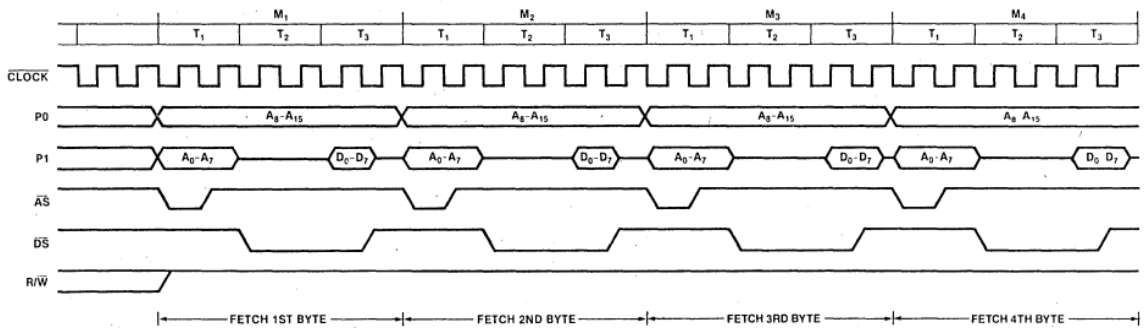


Figure 12-14. Typical Instruction Cycle Timing (Four Byte Instruction)

Glossary

addressing mode: The way in which the location of an operand is specified. There are seven addressing modes: Register, Indirect Register, Indexed, Direct Address, Indirect Address, Relative Address, and Immediate.

auto-echo code: In this UART mode, the data coming in on the Receive Data pin is reflected out on the Transmit Data pin. The receive section still listens to the receive data input; however, the data from the transmit section goes nowhere.

base address: The address used, along with an index and/or displacement value, to calculate the effective address of an operand. The base address is located in "a general-purpose register, the Program Counter, or the instruction.

baud-rate generator: The UART has its own on-chip programmable baud-rate gen-rator that consists of two B-bit Time Constant registers that hold the time constant value, a 16-bit Timer/Counter that counts down, and a flip-flop at the output producing a square wave.

bi-value code: A Super8 counter/timer operating mode wherein the Time Constant and Capture registers alternate in loading the counter.

byte: A data item containing 8 contiguous bits. A byte is the basic data unit for addressing memory and peripherals.

capture: A "capture on external event" feature of the Super8 that takes a snapshot of the counter when a certain event occurs.

data memory: A memory address space that can hold only data to be read or written, not instruction code; data memory is always external to the Super8.

Deskew Counter: A 4-bit counter in each handshaking channel that is used to count processor clocks between the time that valid data is available at the port and the handshake signal indicates that data is available.

Direct Address (DA) addressing mode: In this mode, the effective address is contained in the instruction.

Direct Memory Access (DMA): An on-chip channel that provides high-speed transfers of data directly between memory and peripheral devices.

exception: A condition or event that alters the usual flow of instruction processing. The Super8 CPU supports two types of exception: reset and interrupts.

extended bus timing: The Super8 has the capability of stretching the Data Strobe timing by 1, 2, or 3 internal clock periods during external memory accesses. The software can set up one timing for program memory and a different timing for data memory.

fast interrupt processing: Fast interrupt processing completes the interrupt servicing in 6 clock periods instead of the usual 22.

flag register: This register is used to supply the status of the Super8 CPU at any time.

flag': A dedicated register that saves the contents of the Flag register when a fast interrupt occurs.

general-purpose registers: The 32 registers that can be used as accumulators, address pointers, index registers, data registers, or stack registers.

handshaking channels: The Super8 has two identical handshaking channels which operate in two modes--"full interlocked" or two-wire mode, and "strobed" or single-wire mode.

Immediate (IM) addressing mode: In this mode, the operand is contained in the instruction.

Indexed (X) addressing mode: In this mode, the contents of an index register are added to the contents of a specified working register or working register pair, which holds the index

value desired.

Indirect Address (IA) addressing mode: In this mode, the instruction specifies a pair of memory locations and this selected pair, in turn, contains the actual address of the instruction to be executed.

Indirect Register (IR) addressing mode: In this mode, the contents of the specified register or register pair is the address of the operand.

Instruction Pointer: A 16-bit register that acts as Program Counter for a threaded-code language, such as Forth, or can be used ,in the fast interrupt processing mode for' special interrupt handling.

interrupt: An asynchronous exception generated by a peripheral device that needs attention. The interrupt structure of the Super8 contains 27 different interrupt sources, 16 vectors, and B levels.

interrupt level: Interrupt levels provide the top level of priority assignment and can be changed by programming the Interrupt Priority register.

Interrupt Priority register (IPR): This register assigns 192 different combinations of priority when more than one interrupt level is pending.

interrupt source: An interrupt source is anything that generates an interrupt, internal or external to the Super8.

interrupt vector: The vector number is used to generate the address of a particular, interrupt servicing routine.

local loopback mode: In this mode, the data output from the transmit section of the UART is also routed back to the receive section.

pipelining: Instruction pipelining is a c~mputer design technique in which the inst ruction fetch and execution cycles are overlapped. ,Thus, duri~g the execution of the current instruction, the opcode of the next instruction is fetched, resulting in high throughput.

Program Counter (PC): The 16-bit Program Counter controls the sequence of instructions in the currently executing program and is not an addressable register.

progrlllll memory: A memory address space that can hold code or data; program memory can be internal or external to the Super8.

read access: The type of memory access used by the CPU for fetching data operands and instructions. 608

Register (R) addressing mode: In this mode, the operand value is the contents of the specified register or register pair.

register file: One of the three types of address spaces supported by the Super8 CPU.

Register file address space is an internal register file composed of 325 B-bit wide registers that are logically divided into 32 working register groups of eight registers each.

Register Pointer (RP): The two register pointers are system registers that contain the base address of the two active working register groups of the register file.

Relative Address (RA) addressing mode: In this mode, the displacement in the instruction is added to the contents of the Program Counter to obtain the effective address.

reset: A CPU operating state or exception that results when a reset request is signaled on the mrr line. A reset initializes the Program Status registers.

Slow memory timing: An optional feature of the Super8 in which normal external memory timing is slowed by a factor of two.

Stack Pointer (SP): A 16-bit register pair indicating the top (lowest address) of the processor stack and used by the Call instruction and interrupts to hold the return address.

system registers: System registers govern the operation of the CPU and may be accessed using any of the instructions that reference the register, file using the Direct addressing mode.

Universal Asynchronous Receiver/Transmitter (UART): A full duplex asynchronous channel that transmits and receives independently with 5 to 8 bits per character, options for even or odd parity, and an optional wake-up feature.

wake-up feature: A feature of the UART wherein pattern match logic detects a predefined data pattern at the receiver; the pattern can include both the received character and a special wake-up bit.

write access: The type of memory access used by the CPU for storing data operands.