Fall 2005
CSE 141L Projects in Computer Architecture
Lab 3: Construct & Test Data Path for 8-bit Processor

Reports and electronic submissions are due at the beginning of class on Tuesday, November 15th. Make an appointment with a TA to demonstrate your Lab 3 design in the week of November 15th. You must not make any changes to your design after electronic submission on November 15th.

In this lab, you will design a data path for the 8-bit processor architecture you developed in Lab 1 and test its functionality.

You will implement all instructions in your architecture except for the control transfer instructions (branch, jump, etc.) and memory access instructions.

What you will turn in for this Lab
Written Report Only:
• Summary of your ISA from Lab 1.
• Printed schematics for the top level data path you designed in LogicWorks 5. You don’t need to submit all the lower level schematics.
• Answers to the questions below.

Electronic Turn-in Only:
• All the LogicWorks 5 files you created (to be submitted using turnin script).
• Description of the procedure to follow in order to test the operation of the data path for each instruction for your processor. This is so your TA can test your design.

Working knowledge of LogicWorks 5 is assumed!
We will not review LogicWorks 5 in class. You should be familiar with this tool in general and following items in particular:
• Various components available in Standard Libraries such as: D Flip-flop, logic gates, multiplexors, registers, adders, clock, binary switch, binary display, hex keypad, hex display, etc.
• How to connect a bus to various components.
• How to define a sub-circuit bottom up, i.e. create a circuit and then use it to define the pins on the parent symbol.
• How to simulate a circuit and generate waveforms.
• How to print a circuit and waveforms.

Design of the data path
A data path is a collection of registers and logic elements through which the data flows during the operation of a processor. Various elements of the data path are generally controlled by logic in a separate control block.
You will design the data path for your 8-bit processor. This will include the register file, any special registers (except the PC, which will be implemented in Lab 4), ALU and basic control logic for the data path. You will take the opcodes for your instructions and generate appropriate ALU opcodes. For example, if you have an ADD instruction it will be implemented through the data path and will have a corresponding ALU opcode. Note that you must implement an instruction to load a register with a constant value and an instruction to move the contents of one register to another register through the data path.

The control logic for the data path will take the ALU opcode and generate signals necessary to control the function of the ALU. You will also appropriately connect hex keypads, binary switches, hex displays and binary displays to test your data path.

The figure on page 4 shows an example of 8-bit data path for a specific architecture. Your ISA will have different characteristics and hence your data path may differ significantly from the example shown in the figure on page 4.

Your data path may have internal storage consisting of a register file, stack, accumulator and/or special registers. You should set up a mechanism appropriate for your architecture to supply operands to the ALU from internal storage. You must also provide a mechanism to load immediate values (i.e. constants) to the internal storage.

An example data path is shown in the figure on page 4. Various components are:

- The register file has one write port (address WA[1:0], write enable WE, data D[7:0]) and two read ports A (address RA[1:0], data A[7:0]) and port B (address RB[1:0], data B[7:0]).

- The inputs to the ALU are a source operands (S[7:0]), and (D[7:0]) as well as 3-bit opcode (OP[2:0]).

- The output of the ALU is result (R[7:0] ) and a status flag (FLAG) as well as a write enable for the flag (WRFLAG). The architecture for which the data path is depicted in the figure has two variants of compare instructions that set the FLAG depending on the result of the comparison. Furthermore, the FLAG is left unchanged if the instruction being executed is one other than a compare instruction. This is accomplished by providing a WRFLAG signal, which is used as the write enable to the register associated with FLAG. Your architecture may not have this feature.

- A 2:1 multiplexor (MUX8X2) provides a means to supply immediate data to the ALU. A particular register can be set to a constant by using the immediate data, a MOV opcode, asserting write enable high and setting appropriate address on the write port of the register file.

You should design a data path that is capable of executing all the instructions in your ISA, except for the control transfer instructions and memory access instructions. Furthermore, it should have a provision for memory access instructions (you don't need an interface to the data memory in this lab).

You should connect binary switches and hex keypads to provide appropriate stimulus and also connect binary and hex displays to show the results at various points in your design.
In the figure on page 4, REG8CLKL is an 8-bit register that registers data on the negative edge of the clock and is used to display the output of the ALU when it becomes stable.

During your demo to the TA, should show following features of your data path:
- Ability to load a constant with the required number of bits for your ISA into any appropriate register (e.g. any general purpose register).
- Correct operation of the ALU for all the ALU opcodes supported.
- Ability to have the same register to be the source and destination of an instruction.

Show the ALU operation for interesting input data. For example, if the carry from the adder is saved in your architecture, use data that both does and does not set the carry bit.

In order to make it easy for the TAs to grade your report, organize and document your report well.

Questions
1. Which instruction is the most expensive in terms of number of gates it requires (no need to give the exact gate count, just give the reasoning).
2. What tricks did you use to decrease the logic in your data path by sharing the logic among more than one instruction?
3. How does your "move constant to register" and "move register to register" instruction work? Is it a special case of another ALU instruction, or does it use special data path elements?
4. Using your data path, explain how you will load a register with a value from a memory location and store contents of a register to a memory location.
ALU Operations

- 000 MOV (Move)
- 001 ADD (Add)
- 010 SUB (Subtract)
- 011 CMP (Unsigned compare greater than)
- 100 CMPEQ (Compare equal to)
- 101 XOR (Exclusive OR)
- 110 SHL4 (Shift left by 4)
- 111 USR4 (Unsigned shift right by 4)