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Pipelined Processor Synthesis from Micro-operation Level Specification

Makiko Itoh

January, 2001
Pipelined Processor Synthesis from Micro-operation Level Specification

Doctoral Dissertation
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Abstract

In an embedded system area, application specific instruction set processors (ASIPs) provide better performance, lower power consumption and a smaller chip area than general purpose processors. However, the design time of ASIPs becomes longer with the growth of the design scale. Higher abstraction level processor design method is required more than a traditional register transfer level (RTL) processor design method. The processor designs at RTL require a long design time because the designer has to design datapath and controller structures while considering the assignment of registers, functional units, interconnects among them, and the organization of the finite state machine of the controller. Designing processor organization at RTL from instruction set architecture level processor specification is an error-prone and time-consuming task. In addition, the modification of the processor specification requires a long time for re-design of datapath and controller at RTL level. Therefore, comparing with several design candidates for specific application in a short design time is difficult.

In this thesis, micro-operation level pipelined processor specification and a processor synthesis method from a micro-operation level processor description are proposed for the improvement of design productivity of the ASIP development. The higher abstraction level than RTL contributes to the easiness of design and design modification for ASIP design. The ease of specification and modification of processor architecture enables architectural exploration of a large design space in a short design time. The designer only specified clock based instruction behavior in micro-operation level specifications. Datapath and controller of the processor are synthesized from the behavioral description of instructions.

The design space of micro-operation level processor specification is large enough
for practical straightforward pipelined processors. Exploration of larger design space enables the designer to select a more suitable architecture for the target application. The target architecture of micro-operation level processor specification includes the following features: user-defined pipeline organization in terms of the number of pipeline stages, the number of delayed branch slots and the role of each pipeline stage; clock based behavioral representation of instructions and interrupts; utilization of parameterized hardware modules; and user-defined instruction format, processor interface ports and external interrupt conditions.

Processor synthesis from the micro-operation level processor specification includes datapath synthesis and controller synthesis. The synthesis of datapath and controller allows the designer to concentrate on instruction set design and evaluate various architecture candidates in a short time. In datapath synthesis, data flow graph generation from micro-operation description, signal conflicts resolution and insertion of pipeline registers are performed. In controller synthesis, instruction decoder, pipeline control logic such as pipeline stall and pipeline flush, and external interrupt control are synthesized.

From experimental results, the effectiveness and feasibility of the proposed processor synthesis method were evaluated. Examples in experiments are a MIPS R3000 compatible processor, DLX, PEAS-I core, a simple RISC controller, and a customized MIPS R3000 processor for DSP application. The amounts of processor design time and design modification time were drastically reduced compared with that of conventional RT level manual design. Processor synthesis time was about two minutes for the processor, which has 52 instructions. The design space of practical processors was explored at an architecture level in a short design time. In the design quality of synthesized processors and manually designed processors, the clock frequencies are almost the same. The area of synthesized processors is about 20% larger than that of manually designed processors. Though the area is inferior to manual design, the advantage of effective design space exploration has an impact on the total design quality. The effectiveness of the micro-operation level processor specification and processor synthesis for architectural design space exploration is confirmed.
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Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 Background

With advancements in semiconductor technology, chip complexity, that is, the number of transistors on a silicon chip, is doubling every three years. In the near future, it is estimated that over 10 million transistor circuits will be realized on a silicon chip of only 1 cm². From the technology innovation, System-on-a-Chip (SoC) with compound functionalities integrated on a single chip tends to be widely used in electronic equipment [1]. Figure 1.1 shows a typical organization of SoC. SoC usually consists of a combination of the following components: processors such as CPU core, digital signal processor (DSP) and specific processors; ASICs such as signal processing hardware, control hardware and other specific hardware; memories like flash and DRAM; and analog circuits. LSI designs are moved from the individual design of microprocessors and application-specific integrated circuits (ASICs) to a whole system design on a chip.

In SoC design, design productivity is a key issue. The roadmap of SEMATECH [2] indicates the growing productivity gap between available transistors and those that can be designed in microprocessors. The growth of transistor density is 58% per year. On the other hand, the growth of design productivity is only 21% per year. In addition, the rapidly changing technological environment shrinks product life cycles and shortens time-to-market.
1.2 ASIP Development

Focusing on the design of application specific instruction set processors (ASIPS) that are integrated to the SoC, Hardware/Software co-design [3] environment with architectural design space exploration is considered to be key to design productivity improvement. For the ASIP design, it is important to explore suitable processor architecture for the target application. The HW/SW co-design environment enables the designer to design and evaluate the processor while considering target application and suggests the direction for design improvement. Using the HW/SW co-design environment, the designer is able to design and evaluate various architecture candidates at instruction set architecture level easily. As a consequence, the designer is able to choose the most suitable architecture for the target application in a short design time.

Figure 1.2 shows one HW/SW co-design framework for effective design space exploration. The designer specifies processor architecture with entry system at instruction set architecture level. Processor components such as registers, memory access units, functional units and so on are instantiated from a module library. The module library provides instances at various abstraction levels. A processor synthesizer generates a simulation model and a synthesizable model of the designed processor. The processor synthesizer receives instances used in the processor from the database manager of the library. Software development tools such as a compiler and an assembler are also generated from the same processor description as processor synthesis. The synthesized instruction set simulation model and SW development tools enable co-verification and performance evaluation of the designed processor. A generated RT level processor model is used to estimate area, clock frequency and power consumption. Estimation and verification results suggest the direction for improvement of the processor design. Using a HW/SW co-design framework like this, exploration of large design space becomes possible because the turn-around time of the ASIP is drastically reduced.

The following techniques are required to implement a HW/SW co-design framework: instruction set level processor specification, processor synthesis and software development tool synthesis method from the same processor description, and fast estimation of designed processor. The processor synthesis method of the HW/SW co-design system often limits the design space of the system. In the recent research, several HW/SW co-design methods and processor synthesis methods are proposed, but their design space is very small in regard to pipeline organization.

Figure 1.1: Typical Organization of System-On-a-Chip.

Figure 1.2: HW/SW Co-design Framework
1.3 Objective

The aim of this research is an investigation of a processor synthesis method for exploration of a large design space for ASIPs. Because processor synthesis methods usually limit the design space of the HW/SW co-design environment, processor synthesis methods should support various architecture candidates of the ASIPs for architectural design exploration.

To explore a large design space, two requirements must be satisfied: a short turn-around time for evaluation of various candidates, and a large design space. Even if the design space is large enough, the design space cannot be fully explored in the restricted design time if the turn-around time for the design is too long. There is a tradeoff between the easiness of the processor specification and the design space. An appropriate abstraction level for processor specification should be considered.

1.4 Approach

Considering the tradeoff between the easiness of the processor specification and the design space of the specification language, micro-operation level processor specification for processor synthesis and a processor synthesis method for micro-operation level specification are proposed in this thesis.

Micro-operation level processor specification is based on a clock base behavioral description of instructions. With the abstraction level processor specification higher than the RT level, the design time and design modification time of the ASIPs are drastically reduced. Despite the easiness of the specification, the design space of micro-operation level processor specification enables the designer to specify practical straightforward pipelined processors. The designer can specify the pipeline organization, hardware module configuration and external interrupts. From these points, a micro-operation level is appropriate for a straightforward pipelined processor in terms of the easiness of the design and design space.

At a micro-operation level processor design, datapath structure and controller are synthesized from behavioral description of instructions and hardware module configuration. The designer is free from tedious, error-prone datapath and controller design. Therefore the designer can design various ASIPs in a short design time.

The target processor architecture is straightforward pipelined architecture that includes basic functionality of embedded microprocessors [4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9] such as multi-cycle operation, delayed branch and external interrupts. Micro-operation level processor specification includes: the number of pipeline stages and the number of delayed branch slots; utilization of parameterized hardware modules; user-defined instruction format, processor interface ports and external interrupt conditions; and clock-based behavioral representation of instructions and interrupts. Operations of each pipeline stage are specified by the designer with micro-operation description of instructions. The pipeline depth, role of each pipeline stage and hardware modules have an impact on clock frequency and area. The number of delayed branch slots affects code size and execution cycles. Therefore, flexibility in the processor architecture, such as the number of pipeline stages and delayed branch slot and the role of pipeline stages, and in the configuration of hardware modules, allows exploration of a large design space.

For the processor synthesis method from a micro-operation level processor specification, datapath and controller synthesis is required for user-defined pipeline organization in terms of the number of pipeline stages, the number of delayed branch slot and role of each pipeline stage. The controller synthesis includes pipeline control logic synthesis for pipeline hazards, interrupt controller synthesis, and instruction decoder synthesis. Structural hazards are caused by multi-cycle operations and resource conflicts from multiple stages. Hence generation of the hazard detection logic and pipeline interlock logic is required. To deal with the specified number of delayed branch slots, generation of branch control and pipeline flush control logic are also required.

In this thesis, to deal with user-defined pipeline organization, a flexible pipelined processor model is proposed. The model has flexibility regarding the number of pipeline stages and pipeline control logic. The model consists of datapath and controller of each pipeline stage, instruction decoder and external interrupt controller. The pipeline control mechanism using the model for pipeline interlock and pipeline flush is discussed. The processor model and pipeline control mechanism supports
the processor synthesis from the micro-operation level processor specification.

Finally, the processor synthesis method based on the processor model is proposed. Processor synthesis from the micro-operation level processor specification includes datapath structure synthesis and controller synthesis. Synthesis of datapath and controller allows the designer to concentrate on instruction set design and evaluate various architecture candidates in a short time. In datapath synthesis, data flow graph generation from micro-operation description, signal conflicts resolution and insertion of pipeline registers are performed. In controller synthesis, instruction decoder, pipeline control logic such as pipeline stall and pipeline flush, and external interrupt control are synthesized.

1.5 Contribution of the Research

The effectiveness of architectural design space exploration using the proposed processor design method and synthesis method is known from the experimental results. Design and design modification time is reduced compared with the RT level processor design. Processor design space was successfully explored at an architecture level in a short design time. Processor synthesis time was about two minutes for the processor, which has 52 instructions.

In the design quality of synthesized processors and manually designed processors, the clock frequencies are almost the same. The area of synthesized processors is about 20% larger than that of manually designed processors. Though the area is inferior to manual design, the advantage of effective design space exploration has an impact on the total design quality.

Consequently, the effectiveness of the micro-operation level processor specification and processor synthesis for architectural design space exploration is confirmed. By the architectural exploration of a large design space, design productivity for application specific processors is improved drastically.

1.6 Organization of the Thesis

This thesis is organized as follows.

In Chapter 2, existing HW/SW co-design environments, customizable processor cores and processor synthesis methods are reviewed. Problems of existing methods are discussed.

Chapter 3 describes micro-operation level processor specification and processor design environment PEAS-III. To determine parameters and user-definable parts of target processors, the characteristics of processor architecture are classified and evaluated in view of their impacts on performance and area on the processor.

In Chapter 4, the pipelined processor model for processor synthesis is illustrated. The model consists of datapath, an instruction decoder, a pipeline controller and an external interrupt controller. The conditions of pipeline interlock and pipeline flush are considered. The pipeline controller mechanism using these conditions is explained.

Chapter 5 is devoted to the processor synthesis method. The datapath and controller synthesis methods are described. The datapath synthesis includes data flow graph generation, signal conflicts resolution, and pipeline register insertion. The controller synthesis includes instruction decoder synthesis, pipeline control logic synthesis and interrupt controller synthesis.

In Chapter 6, the effectiveness of the method is evaluated through several experiments and architectural design space exploration is demonstrated. Examples in experiments are a MIPS R3000 compatible processor, DLX, a simple RISC controller, PEAS-I core, and a customized MIPS R3000 processor for DSP application. The amount of processor design time was drastically reduced compared with that of conventional RT level manual design in HDL. The processor design space was successfully explored at an architecture level in a short design time.

Chapter 7 presents the discussion of this thesis. The design space, design productivity and design quality of the proposed processor synthesis method are evaluated. The direction of further expansion of design space, reduction of turn-around time and improvement of the design quality are discussed.

The last chapter discusses the research results and concludes with future work.
Chapter 2

Related Work

In this chapter, related work for application specific instruction set processors (ASIPs) design is reviewed.

2.1 HW/SW co-design in early years

HW/SW co-design systems in early years are closely connected to the base processor of the system. The system adopts parameterized processor cores. However, datapath structure and pipeline organization are almost restricted. PEAS-I [10], Satsuki [11] and ARC [12] are classified to this approach. In these systems, the given configurable architecture is tuned to specific application by changing some architectural parameters such as bit width of hardware functional blocks, register file size, memory size, etc. The super set of instructions that can be executed on adopted processor architecture for the system is restricted. The system does not allow the user-defined extension instructions, so that the system cannot always fully satisfy the demand of diverse applications. User-defined instructions for extension are required to gain high performance.

2.2 Recent ASIP Development System

In the recent research, several ASIP development systems, which permit user-defined application specific instructions to be equipped with the target processor, have been proposed. These systems use their original processor description language to describe the target processor's instruction set and the hardware structure. From the
processor description, a code generator, an instruction set simulator and HDL description of the target processor are generated.

ISPS [13] is a common processor description for code generation, simulation and processor synthesis in 1980’s. While it incorporates a rich set of control mechanisms to describe parallelism and synchronization of processes, the synchronization mechanisms are inadequate to model pipeline operations and hazards for modern pipeline processors.

The other processor description based ASIP design systems for pipelined processors are classified into three types.

1. Adding several dedicated instructions to already designed processors. This approach includes FLEXWARE [14], Xtensa [15], Trimaran [16], CASTLE [17] and MetaCore [18].


3. RT level processor HDL description synthesis system for its original processor specification language. This approach includes MIMOLA [22] based system, nML [23] based system, AIDL [24] based system, and [25].

### 2.2.1 Prepared Processor based Approach

Processor descriptions in the first approach describe instruction set and portion of the datapath structure. In the approach, their pipeline organizations are fixed, so that modification of pipeline control does not allowed.

In the FLEXWARE [14], user-defined instructions can be described by the combination of generic instructions. The generic instructions are supported by instruction set simulator model of the FLEXWARE in VHDL. The designer can specify execution cycles for each instruction, but cannot specify pipeline organization. While FLEXWARE supports the retargetable code generator CodE Syn and the instruction set simulator Insulin, it doesn’t support processor synthesis.

Xtensa [15] uses a customizable processor core. Xtensa permits some user-defined instructions using Tensilica Instruction Extension Language (TIE). While Xtensa supports both processor synthesis and software development tool generation, user-defined instructions must be executed in restricted cycles. The designer can only describe behavior of the instructions and the structure of “execution” stage, but he/she cannot change the number of pipeline stages and other pipeline stages.

Trimaran uses processor description language MDes [26], which describes both behavior/structure of the target processor. Trimaran allows only a restricted retargetability of the simulator to the HPL-PD [27] processor family.

CASTLE [17] specifies target processor’s datapath in block diagram and generates VHDL description of a processor. The target architecture of CASTLE is VLIW. The feature of CASTLE includes: instantiation of VHDL descriptions for functional units from a module library, automatic input signal conflict resolution by selector insertion, and generation of VLIW control word for specified datapath. However, CASTLE assumes a basic VLIW architecture and cannot change pipeline stages.

MetaCore [18] is an application specific DSP development system. MetaCore prepares basic and extended instruction set, and additional user-defined instructions are permitted. Net-list level description of the datapath structure and behavioral description of instructions are described as a specification of a target processor. From these descriptions, software development tools and an HDL description of the target processor are synthesized. However, additional execution units are specified only for the “execution” stage. Additional execution units for other stages and changing the number of pipeline stages are not permitted.

### 2.2.2 Software Development Tool Generation Systems

Processor descriptions in the second approach describe an instruction set and structure of datapath. The designer can define pipeline structure of the target processor in terms of the number of pipeline stages and operations in each pipeline stage.

ISDL [19] [28] is one of such approach that describes an instruction set and datapath structure. In ISDL, constraints of pipeline execution are explicitly specified through illegal operation groupings. This is tedious for complex architectures like
DSPs that permit operation parallelism.

EXPRESSION [20] specifies an instruction set and datapath structure. A Pipeline description provides a mechanism to specify the order of pipeline stages. Accurate reservation tables can be generated from the description. While EXPRESSION supports cycle-accurate instruction set simulation by SIMPLESS [29], processor synthesis has not been supported.

LISA [21] [30] describes the datapath structure and operation-level description of the pipeline. LISA describes activation relationship among pipeline stages, pipeline stalls and pipeline flushes. However, LISA is used for retargetable simulators [31]. Processor synthesis has not been supported, either. Furthermore, description of pipeline control is tedious to design and to modify branch instructions and multi-cycle operations.

### 2.2.3 Processor Synthesis Systems

In the last approach, both behavior and datapath structure of the target processor are described. Synthesizable processor HDL descriptions are generated.

MIMOLA [22] describes behavior and structure of the target processor and generates RT level processor description. However, pipeline control is not supported since MIMOLA is micro-code based approach.

nML [23] describes behavior of instructions and datapath structure. From nML description, an instruction set simulator is generated [32]. nML is used by the retargetable code generation environment CHESS [33] to describe DSPs and ASIPs. Processor synthesis tool “Go” is also developed for nML processor description. However, nML does not directly support complex pipeline control such as pipeline interlock.

AIDL [24] specifies operations of each pipeline stage and timing relations and cause/effect relations among pipeline stages. Using AIDL, various kinds of processors can be represented including processors with out-of-order completion. However, the modification of the design is difficult for complicated architecture because the designer have to consider various kinds of dependency in the inter-instruction behavior.

Hamabe, et al. [25] proposed a description of clock based instruction behavior and pipeline stage information includes the correspondence of hardware units to the stage that contains their operations. However, designers must describe instruction behaviors considering with pipeline registers. Furthermore, pipeline control is not directly described.

### 2.3 Problems of Existing Processor Descriptions

Existing processor development systems have some problems.

1. Existing processor development systems need both structural and behavior description of the target processor in order to generate the processor. Describing a datapath structure wastes design time. Furthermore, for design space exploration it is tedious to describe datapath structure in consideration of consistency between behavior/structural descriptions.

2. Most systems do not support specification of pipeline organization. The pipeline model of such languages is restricted. The designer cannot change the number of pipeline stages and role of each stage. Several systems support pipeline control synthesis, but explicit definition of the pipeline control is needed. Pipeline control definition is error-prone task and design of it takes long design time.

For the more effective architectural design space exploration, synthesis of datapath from behavioral description of instructions and pipeline control logic synthesis for user-defined pipeline organization are required. The ability of dealing with the user-defined pipeline organization is essential to evaluate various pipelined processor architectures. Datapath synthesis and pipeline control logic synthesis for user-defined pipeline organization and instructions can reduce the design time and design modification time drastically. Consequently, large design space for ASIPs can be explored in a short design time.
Chapter 3

PEAS-III: Processor Design Environment

This chapter describes micro-operation level processor specification and application specific instruction set processor (ASIP) design environment PEAS-III based on micro-operation level processor specification. First of all, characteristics of processor architecture are classified. Then, their impacts on performance and cost on the processor are evaluated for decision of flexibility on micro-operation level processor specification.

3.1 Characteristics of Modern Processor Architecture

Architectural characteristics of modern processors are classified into the following points:

- Instruction set architecture: Instruction set architecture is an interface between software and hardware. Instruction set is influenced by many other architectural features described below.

- Configuration of functional units: Performance of the functional unit affects execution time of application program. Hardware cost of the function unit affects total chip area. The functionality of the units and connectivity among them, in other words "datapath structure," restricts instruction set. The number of functional units determines how many operations are executed at the
same time.

- **Storage units' organization**: Storage units' organization includes location of operands, the number of operands, size of register-file and memory, memory hierarchy and so on. The operands can be located in accumulators, special registers, general-purpose registers and memories. When operands are located in the accumulators or special registers, location of them are implicitly appointed by an instruction. Using implicit operands, the designer can reduce the instruction word length. However, load and store overhead from memory or register to accumulator or special registers makes execution time long. On the other hand, locations of operands are explicitly declared in an instruction when operands are located in a general-purpose register or in a memory.

Furthermore, the processor architecture is classified to register-register architecture, register-memory architecture and memory-memory architecture whether operands are located in a general-purpose register or memory. Addressing modes for operands affect various fields such as instruction bit width, execution cycles, the number of address generation units and memory access units, pipeline organization and structural hazards.

In general, register-register architecture and harvard architecture are preferred for the design of general purpose RISC processor. Complex memory architecture and memory-accumulator architecture are often preferred for data intensive digital signal processor design. For ASIP design, decision of suitable memory organization for applications is required.

- **Pipeline organization and pipeline hazard resolution policy**: Clock frequency and pipeline hazard occurrence are influenced by pipeline organization in terms of the number of pipeline stages and role of each pipeline stage. The deep pipeline makes clock frequency high, but hardware cost of it also increases. Scheduled operations of each pipeline stage decide clock frequency of the processor. Specifying the operations of each pipeline stage also decides clock frequency, area, and condition of pipeline hazard occurrence and penalties of them.

The penalty of pipeline hazards increases execution time of application program. Several techniques to decrease penalty of pipeline hazards are proposed. Data forwarding, re-order buffer reduces data hazards. Delayed branch, branch prediction and non-overhead loop reduce the penalty of control hazards. Additional functional units for the division of the operations of conflicted resource resolve structural hazards. Selection of those techniques makes trade-off between performance and hardware cost.

- **Instruction issue and completion policy**: The policies of instruction issue and completion are classified into in-order and out-of-order. Complex issue and completion mechanism make processor performance high but hardware cost becomes high, too.

- **Exception and interrupts**: Exception and interrupt handling manner has some variations especially for architectures with out-of-order instruction completion. One of the exception mechanisms is to use history file or future file to keep original register values. Another approach is to store status of each pipeline stage in detail and let the interrupt handling routine to recover the pipeline status. The other is a technique that stops the instruction issue while it is uncertain that all the execution instructions will complete without causing an exception.

These characteristics are not orthogonal and influenced each other. The designer has to decide processor architecture in considering with these architecture characteristics and feature of target applications. To overcome the difficulty of architecture exploration, pipeline stage level processor design system is indispensable. PEAS-III is proposed as one of pipeline stage level processor design system.

For the architectural design space exploration in consideration of target application, micro-operation level processor specification and design system PEAS-III is proposed [34, 35]. PEAS-III enables the designer to do architectural design space exploration in a short design time. The designer can try various architecture candidates including following architecture variations: configuration of hardware modules,

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specification of application specific instructions which include multi-cycle operations, user-defined external interrupts, the number of branch delay slots, and the number of pipeline stages.

Figure 3.1 shows the organization of PEAS-III. The designer enters processor specification using GUI, "Architecture Design Entry System," and processor synthesis system generates micro-operation level simulation model and RT level processor description for logic synthesis in VHDL [36]. The designer selects resources from flexible hardware model database (FHM-DB) [37] and the processor synthesis system receives HDL descriptions of selected resources from FHM-DBMS. Estimation is also performed at each design step, architecture design phase and micro-operation specification phase. Estimation system also accesses to FHM-DBMS to get estimation results of selected resources. This thesis describes architecture level processor specification and processor synthesis.

3.2 Design Methodology

Figure 3.2 shows a design flow of PEAS-III. With PEAS-III, processor is designed step by step. Firstly, design goal and processor architecture type are set. Secondly, outline of the processor is specified. Specification in the second step includes declarations of resources, which are used in the processor, definition of instruction format and conditions of external interrupts, and definition of interface

![Figure 3.1: PEAS-III System.](image)

![Figure 3.2: PEAS-III Design Flow.](image)
ports. In the resource declaration, hardware modules are selected with appropriate parameters from parameterized hardware library FHM-DB. The designer can specify application specific interface between the processor core and other modules on SoC by specifying the external interrupt condition and specific processor interface ports. Then, area, clock frequency and power consumption of designed processor are estimated at the first cut estimation. When the estimation results do not satisfy the design goal, the designer changes architecture parameters, resources, instruction formats and so on to satisfy design constraint.

After the estimation results satisfy the design goal, clock based micro-operation description of instructions and interrupts is defined. Simulation model and synthesizable model of the processor are generated from the processor description. The functionality of the designed processor can be validated using the generated simulation model. The simulation model consists of behavior level instances in VHDL. The simulation model can also be used for evaluation of execution cycles of application programs, and for cycle based co-verification. The area, clock frequency and power consumption of the designed processor are evaluated from synthesized datapath and controller. When estimation results do not satisfy the design goal, the designer improves the processor design by re-scheduling operations of instructions to the pipeline stages or changing the number of pipeline stages. Re-scheduling may improve clock frequency and the number of pipeline stages improve area and clock frequency.

Description and modification time of micro-operation level processor specification is shorter than other existing processor description for synthesis because datapath and pipeline control logic are automatically generated. To generate datapath of designed processor, "Processor Synthesis System" inserts selectors for signal conflicts and pipeline registers for pipeline execution. The pipeline hazard detection and pipeline control logic for pipeline interlock and pipeline flush are also synthesized. The designer can concentrate on instruction set design.

3.2.1 Flexible Hardware Model

For architectural design space exploration, effective design reuse of hardware modules and frequent cut and try of them are required. For that purpose, flexible hardware model [38] is utilized. FHM is parameterized with various characteristics such as bit width, algorithm of the operation, etc., and various design instances can be generated according to the given parameter values. Since instances can be generated with various combinations of parameter values, the designer is able to evaluate many kinds of resources only by changing parameter values of FHM.

Several instances of different abstraction levels can be generated from an FHM. The processor synthesis system uses behavioral level instances to synthesis micro-operation level simulation model and gate level instances to generate RT level processor HDL description for logic synthesis. FHM provides estimation results of instances for various combinations of parameter values. The estimation results of FHMs are also used for estimation of the designed processor.

![Flexible Hardware Model Browser View](image)
Figure 3.3 shows an FHM browser. FHMs in FHM-DB are displayed in the left box. FHM parameters are shown in the upper-central box and the designer can select candidates of parameter values from the pull down menu on the right. Functionality of the selected FHM is shown in the central box. Estimation results of the FHM with selected parameters are shown at the bottom of the window. An FHM “alu” has a two parameters “bit.width” and “algorithm.” “32” and “carry look ahead (cla)” are selected for the parameter value of “alu” respectively.

3.3 Micro-operation Level Processor Specification

The micro-operation level processor description consists of six major parts as follows:

1. Design Goal and Architecture Parameter Setting
2. Resource Declarations
3. Instruction Format Definition
4. Interrupt Condition Definitions
5. Interface Definitions
6. Micro-operation Descriptions of instructions and interrupts

In this section, details of each part are described.

3.3.1 Design Goal and Architecture Parameter Setting

Figure 3.4 shows a portion of design goal and architecture parameter setting window. In this step, the designer specifies design goal of area, clock frequency, execution cycle count and power consumption. Then, architecture parameters for pipelined processors are specified.

The number of pipeline stages and the number of delayed branch slots are supported, currently. Pipeline interlock logic for multi-cycle operation is synthesized. Pipeline interlock logic for data hazard, register bypass and memory bypass are not synthesized. These parameters are prepared for future extension of PEAS-III. Figure 3.5 shows a portion of processor description, which is output from architecture
entry system (GUI). In the example the number of pipeline stages is five and delayed branch architecture is selected. The number of delayed branch slots is specified to ‘1’. It indicates that synthesized execute one succeeding instruction to the branch instruction whether branch is taken or not.

Abstract_level.architecture{
  Pipeline_architecture{
    Number_of_stages("5"),
    Delayed_branch("Yes"),
    Number_of_exec_delayed_slot({number("1")})
  }
}

Figure 3.5: Example of Architecture Parameter Settings.

3.3.2 Resource Declarations

Figure 3.6 shows a resource declaration window. Flexible hardware models are selected from FHM-DB, and instance names and parameter values for them are specified. Abstraction levels of resources are specified for micro-operation level simulation model and for RT level synthesizable model, respectively. To synthesize simulation model, “Behavior” is more preferable than “RT” and “Gate” for simulation. On the other hand, “Gate” level is frequently used for synthesizable model generation.

Figure 3.7 shows a portion of a resource declaration description. The processor synthesis system instantiates HDL descriptions of declared resources from resource declarations.

In an example shown in Fig. 3.7, instruction register “IR” is declared. “IR” is a positive edge trigger type register and its bit width is “32.” “Behavior” level instance is used for micro-operation level simulation model generation and “Gate” level instance is used for logic synthesizable model generation.

3.3.3 Instruction Format Definitions

Figure 3.8 shows an instruction format definition window. Bit fields, field type, field name, and binary value of it are defined for each instruction type. Field type is
selected among "op-code," "operand" and "reserved." "op-code" means operation code and "reserved" indicates that the field is reserved for extension in the future. Operation code value is specified when the value is constant for all instructions belongs to that type, and the value for reserved field is also specified.

Then, for each instruction, instruction type is selected among defined instruction types and operation code value is decided.

```
Instruction.type{
  "R1type"{
    "OP-code"{{"binary"{"000000"},width{"31","26"}},
    "Operand"{{"name"{"rs"},width{"25","21"}},
    "Operand"{{"name"{"rt"},width{"20","16"}},
    "Operand"{{"name"{"rd"},width{"15","11"}},
    "Reserved"{{"binary"{"000000"},width{"10","6"}},
    "OP-code"{{"name"{"rfunct"},width{"5","0"}}}}
  }
}
```

```
Instruction{
  "ADD"{type{"R1type"},"OP-code"{"binary"{"000000"},width{"31","26"}},
  "Operand"{{"name"{"rs"},width{"25","21"}},
  "Operand"{{"name"{"rt"},width{"20","16"}},
  "Operand"{{"name"{"rd"},width{"15","11"}},
  "Reserved"{{"binary"{"000000"},width{"10","6"}},
  "OP-code"{"binary"{"100000"},width{"5","0"}}}
}
```

In micro-operation descriptions, bit field of the instruction is referred by the field name that is defined in instruction format definition phase. Modification of instruction format which includes varying instruction bit width, re-ordering instruction fields, changing operation code and so on do not require modification of micro-operation description of instructions. When bit width, name and role of the field are not changed, there is no need to modify micro-operation description. Instruction code definition is used to generate instruction decoder, which is mentioned in Section 4.4.1 and Section 5.2.4.

In an example shown in Fig. 3.9, an instruction type "R1type" and an instruction "ADD" which belongs to "R1type" are defined. The instruction type "R1type" has
six instruction fields. The range of the first field is from “31” to “26.” The type of the first field is “OP-code” and its value is constant “000000.” The second and the third fields indicate register address of source operands and the forth field indicates destination register address. The fifth field is reserved for future extension. The last field is an operation code for R1type instructions. The operation code for “ADD” is “100000.”

3.3.4 Interrupt Condition Definitions

Figure 3.10 shows an interrupt condition definition window. Interrupt definitions include interrupt conditions and the number of execution cycles of the interrupt. In the example of interrupt “int0.” Processor receives interrupt “int0” when external input port “INT” received ‘1’, and needs one cycle to process the interrupt “int0.”

3.3.5 Interface Definitions

Figure 3.11 shows an interface definition window. In an interface definition, an entity name, and input and output ports of target processor are defined. Port name, direction, type and attribute of processor interface ports are also defined. For the standard processor, memory interface port, clock port, reset port and external interrupt ports are usually defined. Furthermore special purpose interface port can be declared.

Figure 3.12 shows a portion of interface definition description. In the example, clock port “clk” of which type is “std_logic” is defined. “std_logic” is a bit type that is generally used in VHDL.

3.3.6 Micro Operation Descriptions

Figure 3.13 shows a micro-operation description window. In the micro-operation description phase, the designer defines clock based instruction behavior and interrupt behavior. In the micro-operation description of interrupts, operations of the processor such as setting specific values to special registers and jumping to the interrupt handler routine, are described. Micro-operation consists of three kinds of statements: (i) Operations which are executed by resources, e.g. arithmetic and logic operation, read, register write, (ii) Data transfers between resources, and (iii) Conditional execution of (i) and (ii).
Port.declaration{
  entity.name("CPU"),
  Port{
    "clk"{
      direction("in"),
      signal.type("std.logic"),
      signal.attribute("clock")},
    "instAB"{
      direction("out"),
      signal.type("std.logic.vector(31 downto 0)"),
      signal.attribute("instruction.memory.address.bus"))})
}

Figure 3.12: Example of Interface Definitions.

Figure 3.13: Micro-operation Description Window.

MOT{
  mnemonic{
    "BEQ"{
      clk(1){"IR := IMEM[PC];
               PC:=PC+1;
               $pc:=PC;
      }},
      clk(2){"DECODE(IR);
               $rt:=GPR.read1(rt);
               $rs:=GPR.read0(rs);
               $imm := EXTO.sign(offset);
      }},
      clk(3){"offset := $imm(29 downto 0) & \"00\";
               $target := ADDO.add($pc, $offset);
               $flag := ALUO.cmp($rs,$rt);
               if($flag(2)='1') then PC:=target; end if;
      }},
      clk(4){""},
      clk(5){""})}}

Figure 3.14: Micro-operation Description of instruction BEQ.

Figure 3.14 shows an extracted description of Figure 3.13. In the example, a micro-operation description of an instruction “Branch on Equal (BEQ)" is described. The instruction “BEQ" jumps to “PC + offset * 4" when register values of "rs" and "rt" are the same. Capitalized identifiers, such as "IR" and "ALU0" denote resources declared in the resource declaration phase. Symbol "+=" denotes assignment. Identifiers which begin with "$" are temporal variables. An identifier surrounded by symbols "[" and "]" specifies address to memory or register file. The expression “DECODE(IR)" in the second stage denotes that an instruction code is decoded in the second stage, where "IR" is an instruction register. The expression "$flag := ALU0.cmp($rs, $rt)" in the third stage denotes that values stored in "$rs" and "$rt" are compared using resource “ALU0" and the result will stored in "$flag." The “if" statement in the third stage is an example of conditional execution.

Definition and modification of micro-operation description are easy because designer does not need to take care of selectors, pipeline registers and pipeline control logic. PEAS-III generates HDL description of ASIPs from user-defined micro-operations of instructions and interrupts by inserting selectors and pipeline registers.
automatically, and generating control logic for pipeline interlock and pipeline flush.

Exception{
  "reset" {
    Condition("rst="1") ,
    Type("External"),
    Cycles("1"),
    MOD{
      clk(1){"PC.reset(); GPR.reset();
               EPC.reset(); HI.reset();
               LO.reset(); IR.reset();"}},
  "int0" {
    Condition("int = '1' and intn = \"00\""),
    Type("External"),
    Cycles("1"),
    MOD{
      clk(1){"EPC := PC;
               PC :=\"10000000000000000000000000000000\","}}}  
Figure 3.15: Example of Interrupt Definitions.

Figure 3.15 shows an example of interrupt definition description. Defined interrupt
conditions and micro-operation description of interrupts are combined in the
description. In the example, the processor detects the interrupt “int0” when input
port “int0” receives ‘1’ and value of program counter (PC) is stored in exception
program counter (EPC) and PC is updated to “0x800080.”

Chapter 4
Processor Model

In this chapter, processor model for processor synthesis is described. In Section 4.1,
limitation of target processor is discussed. In Section 4.2, requirements of the pro-
cessor model is described and proposed processor organization are described. In
Section 4.3, organization of datapath and controller are described. Processor con-
control mechanism which includes pipeline interlock and pipeline flush is demonstrated.

4.1 Processor Class

Feature of the target architecture of processor synthesis includes:

- single phase straightforward pipelined processor. PEAS-III assumes pipeline
  architecture, but the number of pipeline stages and operations assigned to each
  pipeline stage are flexible. Each pipeline stage is proceeded synchronously with
  positive edge of a clock.

- delayed branch with predict-not-taken policy. The designer can specify the
  number of delayed branch slot. The processor executes succeeding specified
  number of instructions whether branch is taken or not, and nullifies other
  fetched instructions when branch is taken.

- multi-cycle operation. PEAS-III is able to deal with multi-cycle units such as
  sequential multiplier, memory access units and so on. The processor synthe-
  sized by PEAS-III stalls succeeding instructions until multi-cycle operation is
  completed.
• In-order instruction issue and in-order completion. Out-of-order completion and out-of-order instruction issue are not supported.
• External interrupt. User-defined external interrupts are supported. On the other hand, internal exceptions are not supported.
• Flexible addressing modes, storage organization. The designer is able to design addressing modes freely in micro-operation description of instructions. Multi-port memory and multiple memories can be used.
• Single word instruction. The width of instruction word is user-defined constant. Multi-word instruction is not directly supported.

The designer can specify data forwarding in micro-operation description of instructions. Data hazard detection and data forwarding logic are not automatically generated from micro-operation description of instructions.

4.2 Processor organization

Since the number of pipeline stages is parameterized and micro-operations of each stage is defined by the designer, flexible processor model is required.

Figure 4.1 shows an example of a pipelined processor organization [39]. This processor consists of five stages, instruction fetch (IF), instruction decode and operand fetch (ID), execution (EXE), memory access (MEM) and register write back (WB) stage. In general, operations in a pipeline stage complete in one clock cycle and store the result to pipeline registers. The operation results are referred from the next stage at the next clock cycle.

To deal with flexibility in pipeline depth of target processor, datapath and controller is divided into pipeline stages like Fig. 4.2. Specified number of datapath and controller sets for each pipeline stage are arranged and connected together. A set of datapath and controller is added or deleted when the number of pipeline stages is changed.

Figure 4.3 shows a processor model for five stage pipelined processor. The model consists of five sets of datapath and pipeline stage controller, instruction decoder and...
Figure 4.2: Example of Pipelined Processor Divided into Pipeline Stages.

Figure 4.3: Processor Model.
interrupt controller. Instruction decoder is arranged to the instruction decode stage indicated by keyword "DECODE" in micro-operation description. The term "stage controller" is used to indicate a controller arranged to each pipeline stage. The stage controller sends control signals to resources in the datapath and manages pipeline flush and interlock. The stage controllers and the interrupt controller communicate each other. The stage controller determines the pipeline stall and the next state from the output of controller of next and previous stage. Since the load of pipeline control logic is distributed to each stage controllers, controller synthesis is simplified.

The rest of this chapter describes datapath model of pipeline stages, instruction decoder, stage controllers and interrupt controller. Section 4.3 describes datapath model and Section 4.4 describes controller model. The organization of stage controller is described. Pipeline interlock and pipeline flush using proposed stage controller are demonstrated. In Section 4.4.3, the organization of interrupt controller and how to handle interrupts are described.

4.3 Datapath Model

The datapath model is illustrated in Fig. 4.4. The datapath model consists of resources, selectors, pipeline registers and connections among them. From micro-operations that are described by the designer, datapath and controller are implemented using this model. Resource operations in micro-operations are executed by resources, and assignments are implemented as connections between resources. Selectors are used to resolve signal conflicts. Operation results are transferred to the next stage via pipeline registers.

4.4 Controller Model

Controller consists of three major ports, such as instruction decoder, stage controllers, and interrupt controller.

4.4.1 Instruction Decoder

There are two ideas of instruction decode shown in Fig. 4.5. The one is to execute instruction decode in the instruction decode stage. The other is to send instruction code to pipeline stage step by step and decode the code in each pipeline stage. The former method leads to shorter critical path of pipeline stage than the latter method because the latter method makes additional delay of instruction decode for each pipeline stage. The latter one, however, makes decoding logic simple. In this thesis, the former type instruction decoder is adopted to generate high-speed processor.

Instruction decoder in this thesis identifies which instruction is fetched and generates two types of control signals in the instruction decode stage: control signals for resources and instruction identification signals for stage controllers. The latter is used to judge whether executing instruction in the pipeline stage belongs to a certain set of instructions or not. Generated signals are transferred to the stage controllers.
step by step synchronously with pipeline execution. The behavior of stage controller is described in Section 4.4.2 and usage of instruction decode result are explained.

4.4.2 Pipeline Stage Controller

The stage controller generates control signals for resources, pipeline registers, and selectors. The controller assigns control signals to resources to execute described micro-operations. The controller also manages pipeline registers to transfer the data to next stage as usual, and to keep the operation results in the case of pipeline interlock. The stage controller also regulates pipeline execution in the sense of pipeline interlock and pipeline flush. The controller stalls the pipeline to wait for completion of multi-cycle operation and resolution of resource conflicts. The controller flushes the pipeline by nullifying executing instructions when branch is taken.

Control model of the stage controller is based on the pipeline control model published in [40]. In [40], pipeline controller synthesis for pipeline interlock from usage information of resources is discussed. In this thesis, instead of usage information of resources, structural hazard detection method is proposed. Furthermore, the pipeline controller is extended to pipeline flush and suspension of instruction fetch.

The controller model is common to all pipeline stages. Decision of next state and generation of control signal are distributed to each pipeline stage. Distributed control logic makes controller organization and synthesis method simple.

Suppose n is the number of pipeline stages and k(1 ≤ k ≤ n) is the stage number, the controller of each stage k is represented by finite state machine

\[ M_k = (q_k, I_k, O_k, \delta_k, a_k, \text{nop}) \]

and datapath control signal generator. Each item of \( M_k \) is defined as follows:

- **states variable:** \( q_k \in \{\text{nop, exec}\} \)
- **input signals:** \( I_k \triangleq \{\text{branch, lock}_k, g_{o_k-1}, g_{o_k+1}, \text{valid}_{k-1}, \text{valid}_{k+1}\} \)
- **output signals:** \( O_k \triangleq \{\text{valid}_k, g_{o_k}\} \)
- **next-state function:**

\[ \delta_k(q_k, \text{branch}, \text{lock}_k, g_{o_k-1}, g_{o_k+1}, \text{valid}_{k-1}, \text{valid}_{k+1}) \]
The function cancel\( (k) \) holds if and only if the \( k \)-th stage has to nullify current instruction when branch is taken. Detail of cancel\( (k) \) is described in the following section.

The interrupt controller outputs true for \( g_{0k} \), as usual. However it output false when interrupt is occurred and suspension of instruction fetch is required. When \( g_{0k} = false \) and \( g_{0k} = true \), next state \( q_{t} \) becomes nop and operations of the first stage will be stopped. If the instruction in the first stage does not stay, execution of the first stage will be stopped at next clock.

Output signal \( g_{0k} \) becomes false if and only if at least one of the following conditions is satisfied.

- The \( k \)-th stage causes pipeline interlock
- An instruction in the \((k + 1)\)-th stage does not move to the \((k + 2)\)-th stage.

When the \( k \)-th stage causes pipeline interlock by multi-cycle operations or resource conflicts, \( g_{0k} \) becomes false and the instructions in the succeeding \( 1 \leq i \leq (k - 1) \)-th stages are also stalled.

Control signals to datapath resources are generated from output signals \( O_{k} \) of stage controller \( M_{k} \), results of instruction decoder and output signal of interrupt controller. Stage controller outputs control signal for described micro-operation of executing instruction in the \( k \)-th stage as usual. The controller outputs the control signal to hold the status of resources when the pipeline is stalled \( (g_{0k} = false) \).

Pipeline hazards are classified as follows:

- Structural hazard, which is caused by multi-cycle operations and resource conflicts,
- Control hazard which is caused by branch.

For the structural hazard, pipeline is interlocked until the multi-cycle operations are completed and resource conflicts are resolved. For the control hazard, some instructions in the pipeline stages are flushed when branched. In the following section, pipeline control mechanism and the control logic of \( lock_{k} \), branch and function

\[
\Delta \triangleq \begin{cases} 
\text{exec} & \text{when} \quad (\text{branch} + \text{cancel}(k)) \cdot (\text{valid}_{k-1} \cdot \text{go}_{k-1} + (q_{k} = \text{exec}) \cdot (\text{lock}_{k} + \text{valid}_{k+1} + \text{go}_{k+1})) \\
\text{nop} & \text{otherwise}
\end{cases}
\]

Output functions:

\[
\rho_{\text{valid}}(q_{k}) \triangleq (q_{k} = \text{exec})
\]

\[
\rho_{\text{go}}(q_{k}, \text{lock}_{k}, \text{valid}_{k+1}, \text{go}_{k+1}) \triangleq (q_{k} = \text{exec}) \cdot \text{lock}_{k} \cdot (\text{valid}_{k+1} + \text{go}_{k+1})
\]

Initial status: \( \text{nop} \)

The status variable \( q_{k} \) indicates whether executable instruction exists in the \( k \)-th stage or not. When \( q_{k} = \text{exec} \), an instruction exists in the \( k \)-th stage. The value of \( q_{k} \) becomes \( \text{nop} \) when pipeline is stalled and valid instruction is not moved to the \( k \)-th stage or pipeline flush is executed, etc. \( q_{k} = \text{nop} \) means there is “no operation” in the \( k \)-th stage. The initial of value \( q_{k} \) is \( \text{nop} \).

Values of input signals are specified as follows:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{branch} &= \begin{cases} 
\text{true} & \text{when branch is taken} \\
\text{false} & \text{when branch is not taken}
\end{cases} \\
\text{lock}_{k} &= \begin{cases} 
\text{true} & \text{when an instruction in the \( k \)-th stage causes pipeline interlock} \\
\text{false} & \text{otherwise}
\end{cases} \\
\text{go}_{k} &= \begin{cases} 
\text{true} & \text{when an instruction in the \( k \)-th stage is transfered to the next stage} \\
\text{false} & \text{when an instruction in the \( k \)-th stage stays}
\end{cases} \\
\text{valid}_{k} &= \begin{cases} 
\text{true} & \text{when valid instruction exists in the \( k \)-th stage} \\
\text{false} & \text{when no instruction exists in the \( k \)-th stage}
\end{cases}
\end{align*}
\]

The values of \( g_{0k+1} \), \( \text{valid}_{k+1} \) are defined as \( g_{0k+1} = \text{true}, \text{valid}_{k+1} = \text{false} \). An input signal \( g_{0k} \) is an output signal of interrupt controller.

Next-state function \( \delta_{k} \) outputs exec if and only if the following conditions are satisfied.

- branch is not taken or the \( k \)-th stage does not need to nullify instruction when branch is taken.
- An instruction in the \((k - 1)\)-th stage will reach or current instruction in the \( k \)-th stage stays.
cancel(k) are described. Pipeline interlock signal $\text{lock}_k$ is described as follows:

$$lock_k = lock_{mk} + lock_{Tk}$$

$lock_{mk}$ is a pipeline interlock signal for multi-cycle operations and $lock_{Tk}$ is a pipeline interlock signal for resource conflicts.

**Pipeline Interlock caused by Multi-cycle Operations**

When multi-cycle operation is executed in the $k$-th stage, instruction transfer from stage $j$ ($1 \leq j < k$) to stage $j + 1$ is suspended to stall succeeding instructions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>1st stage</th>
<th>2nd stage</th>
<th>3rd stage</th>
<th>4th stage</th>
<th>5th stage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>T+2</td>
<td>Inst. F</td>
<td>Inst. E</td>
<td>Inst. D</td>
<td>NOP</td>
<td>NOP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T+m</td>
<td>Inst. F</td>
<td>Inst. E</td>
<td>Inst. D</td>
<td>NOP</td>
<td>NOP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T+m+1</td>
<td>Inst. G</td>
<td>Inst. F</td>
<td>Inst. E</td>
<td>Inst. D</td>
<td>NOP</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 4.6 shows an example of multi-cycle operation. Suppose instruction D executes $m$ cycle operation at the third stage from time $T$. The instructions in the first, second and third stages are not transferred to the next stage while multi-cycle operation is executed. The state of fourth stage becomes "no-operation" because instruction in the third stage is not transferred. At time $T + m$, multi-cycle operation is completed and then instructions in the first, second and third stage are transferred to the next stage at time $T + m + 1$.

In the case of pipeline stall, the $j$-th stage controller assigns control signals to storage resources to disable write back while instruction transfer is suspended.

Figure 4.7 shows a timing interface between the controller and multi-cycle resources. The controller makes start signal "Start" active for one cycle and then the resource starts operation. After the multi-cycle operation is finished, the resource outputs the result and changes the value of the flag "Fin" active to inform the completion of the operation. When multiple multi-cycle operations are executed in the same stage and the same instruction, the stage controller stalls the pipeline until all multi-cycle operations are finished. The operation results and completion flag must be kept until other multi-cycle operations are finished. Because the resources keep operation results and flag values until next operation starts, additional structure for saving the results and flags are not required. The interface information that includes start signal input port, flag output port, and active value of them can be obtained from FHM-DB.

Suppose $U_{\text{expr}} = \{(\text{expr}, \text{inst}) \mid \text{expr} \in \text{Exp}, \text{inst} \in I\}$ is a set of conditional expression $\text{expr}$ and instruction $\text{inst}$ pairs, which represent execution conditions of operation $\text{op}$ of resource $r$ in the $k$-th stage. In another words, an operation $\text{op}$ of resource $r$ in the $k$-th stage is executed if and only if one of the executing instructions is $\text{inst}$ and condition $\text{expr}$ holds. The control logic of $\text{lock}_{mk}$ for multi-cycle operations is represented as follows:

$$\text{control logic of } \text{lock}_{mk}$$
\[ \text{lock}_{m_k} = \bigvee_{R \in \text{OP}_{k}} \bigvee_{\text{inst}_k = \text{inst}} \text{exp} \cdot \text{fm}_{\text{op}_m} \quad (4.1) \]

where
\[ R: \text{a set of resources} \]
\[ \text{OP}_{k}: \text{a set of multi-cycle operations in the } k\text{-th stage} \]
\[ \text{inst}_k: \text{indicates executing instruction name in the } k\text{-th stage} \]
\[ \text{fm}_{\text{op}_m}: \text{true after multi-cycle operation } \text{op}_m \text{ is completed} \]
\[ \text{false during multi-cycle operation } \text{op}_m \text{ is executing} \]

Equation (4.1) means that \( \text{lock}_{m_k} \) holds if and only if at least one multi-cycle operation is not completed. \( \text{lock}_{m_k} \) becomes false after all the multi-cycle operations are completed.

The start signal of the multi-cycle operation is activated at the first cycle, and then negated from the second cycle to the start of the next multi-cycle operation. In the example, control signal for multiplier is activated at time \( T \), then negated from time \( T+1 \). Suppose \( \text{active} \) for the active value of control signal \( \text{start} \), control logic of \( \text{start} \) is as follows:
\[ \text{start}_{k} = \begin{cases} \text{true} & \text{when } \text{flag}_{k} \cdot \bigvee_{\text{op}_m \in \text{OP}_{k}} \bigvee_{\text{inst}_k = \text{inst}} \text{exp} \\ \text{false} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (4.2) \]
\[ \text{flag}_{k} = \text{active}_{k-1} \quad (4.3) \]

\( \text{flag}_{k} \) is a register, which indicates whether it is the first cycle of multi-cycle operation or not. The value \( \text{flag}_{k} \) becomes true when new instruction is transferred to the \( k \)-th stage and becomes \( \text{nop} \) when execution instruction stays in the \( k \)-th stage.

Pipeline Interlock caused by Resource Conflict

When resource conflict is occurred between stage \( k \) and stage \( j \) \((k < j)\), the \( k \)-th stage is stalled until completion of the \( j \)-th stage’s operation.

Figure 4.8 shows an example of resource conflict. An example processor shares a single-memory for data and instructions. The first stage is the instruction fetch stage and the fourth stage is the memory access stage. Suppose an instruction \( C \) is a memory access instruction. The first stage is stalled at time \( T \). After the instruction \( C \) completes memory access operation and moves to the fifth stage, memory access in the first stage is executed at time \( T+1 \).

Suppose \( V_{r,k} = \{\text{inst} | \text{inst} \in I\} \) is a set of instructions, which represents the instructions that use the resource \( r \) in the \( k \)-th stage. To put it in another way, a resource \( r \) is accessed from instruction \( \text{inst} \) in the \( k \)-th stage. Suppose \( n \) is the number of pipeline stages. The control logic of \( \text{lock}_{r,k} \) for resource conflict is represented as follows:
\[ \text{lock}_{r,k} = \bigvee_{r \in R} \bigvee_{k < j \leq k + n} \bigvee_{\text{inst}_k = \text{inst}_j} (\text{valid}_j \cdot \text{flags}_{k}) \quad (4.4) \]

Equation (4.4) means that \( \text{lock}_{r,k} \) holds if and only if at least one resource \( r \) is accessed from the \( k \)-stage and from at least one stage \( j \) where \( k < j < n \).

Control signals for conflicted resources are generated from multiple stage controllers. Suppose \( \text{ctrl}_{r,k} \) is a control signal for resource \( r \) and \( \text{ctrl}_{r,k} \) is a control signal generated by stage controller of the \( k \)-th stage. The control signal is selected as follows:
ctrl
r = V
1<\leq_{i<k}
ctrl_{r,k} \cdot sel_{r,k}

(4.5)

sel_{r,k} = ( ( \bigvee
_{i_{k} \in \nu_{r,k}}
(inst_{r} = i_{k}) \cdot valid_{r} ) \cdot \bigvee
_{j \in \nu_{r,k}}
((inst_{r} = i_{j}) \cdot valid_{r} )

(4.6)

Equation (4.6) means that control signal ctrl_{r,k} from the k-th stage controller is selected when sel_{r,k} = true. sel_{r,k} becomes true when resource r is not accessed from any stage j (k < j \leq n) and is accessed from stage k. Figure 4.9 shows an block diagram of interlock signal generation logic represented in Equation (4.4) and control signal selection represented in Equation (4.6).

Pipeline Flush

Branch control is based on a predict-not-taken policy and delayed branch. In PEAS-III system, the number of delayed branch slots d is parameterized. The processor executes succeeding d instructions whether branch is taken or not, and flushes the pipeline by nullifying other fetched instructions. When d = 0, the architecture of the processor is pure predict-not-taken architecture. When branch is taken at stage b, the controller of stage k (1 < k \leq b - d) nullifies transferred instruction and makes its state ”no-operation” at the next clock cycle.

Time 1st stage 2nd stage 3rd stage 4th stage 5th stage

The number of delayed branch slots: d = 1
The branch stage number b = 3

Figure 4.10: Example of Branch.

In the example shown in Fig. 4.10, the branch stage b is the third stage and the number of delayed branch slots d is one. In this example, branch is taken at time T and instruction E that is succeeding to the branch instruction D is executed continuously and the instruction F that is succeeding to instruction E is canceled by stage controller in the second stage at time T + 1.

The function cancel(k) is as follows:

\[ cancel(k) = \begin{cases} 
\text{true} & \text{when } (1 < k \leq b - d) \\
\text{false} & \text{otherwise} 
\end{cases} \]

(4.7)

Suppose Br = \{(exp, inst) | exp \in Exp, inst \in I\} is a set of conditional expression exp and instruction inst pairs, which represent branch condition. The pair (exp, inst) \in Br represents that branch is taken when executing instruction in the b-th stage is inst and conditional expression exp holds. The logic of control signal branch is represented as follows:

\[ branch = valid_{b} \cdot \bigvee
_{(exp, inst) \in Br}
(inst_{b} = inst) \cdot exp \]

(4.8)
Limitations of the proposed branch control method are as follows:

- Branch stage $b$ must be unique.
- Instructions that change the statuses of resources such as register write and so on, in the $k$-th ($1 \leq k < b - d$) stage should not be scheduled within $d + 1$ to $b$ slot after branch instruction. If these instructions are scheduled within $d + 1$ to $b$ slot after branch instruction, those instructions change the statuses before branch. Restoring mechanisms such as buffers are needed to cancel the effects of the canceled instruction completely. Since the proposed method does not synthesize such a mechanism, instructions that change machine statuses in early stages have to be scheduled within $d + 1$ to $b$ slot after branch instruction.
- Instruction that executes a multi-cycle operation in the $j$-th ($b - d \leq j < b$) stage must be scheduled after $d$ instructions from branch. When the multi-cycle instruction is scheduled within $d$ instructions from branch instruction, some stages becomes empty between branch stage and stage which includes multi-cycle operations. The empty stages push out instructions in the delayed branch slots. Pushed out instructions are flushed by the controller.

### 4.4.3 Interrupt Controller

The interrupt controller suspends instruction fetch and executes described interrupt operations. The interrupt controller consists of the following finite state machine $M_{intr}$ and control signals generator.

$$M_{intr} = (q_{intr}, I_{intr}, O_{intr}, \delta_{intr}, \rho_{intr})$$

Each item of $M_{intr}$ is defined as follows:

- **status variable**: $q_{intr} \in \{intr, exe, wait\}$
- **input signals**: $I_{intr} \triangleq \{interrupt, restart, complete\}$
- **output signals**: $O_{intr} \triangleq \{go_0, int\}$

next-state function:

$$\delta_{intr}(q_{intr}, interrupt, restart, complete) \triangleq \begin{cases} \text{intr} & \text{when } (q_{intr} = \text{wait}) \cdot \text{complete} \\ \text{exe} & \text{when } (q_{intr} = \text{intr}) \cdot \text{restart} \\ \text{wait} & \text{when } (q_{intr} = \text{exe}) \cdot \text{interrupt} \\ q_{intr} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

output functions: $\rho_{intr} \triangleq \{\text{Pvalid}, \text{Pint}\}$

$$\rho_{valid}(q_{intr}) \triangleq (q_{intr} = \text{exe})$$

$$\rho_{int}(q_{intr}) \triangleq (q_{intr} = \text{intr})$$

**initial status**: intr

States "intr," "exe" and "wait," of $q_{intr}$ are execution state of interrupts, execution state of instructions and waiting state for completion of all already fetched instructions, respectively. The initial state of $q_{intr}$ is "intr," because the processor has to begin with reset interrupt.

Input signal interrupt indicates the processor receives an interrupt. Input signal complete signal indicates execution of all fetched instructions is competed. restart signal indicates interrupt handling is completed and instruction fetch can be started. When an external interrupt occurs, the state of the controller changes the state from "exe" to "wait." Then, the controller suspends instruction fetch by forcing the $go_0$ to false. It makes the state of the first stage "no-operation." After all fetched instructions are completed; the states of all stages become "no-operation." Then, the state of the controller becomes "intr." An equation below is an control logic of complete signal.

$$\text{complete} = \bigvee_{1 \leq i \leq n} \text{valid}_i$$

The controller begins to execute interrupt operations described in micro-operation description of interrupts. When the interrupt is completed, the state of the controller becomes "exe" and the output signal $go_0$ becomes true to execute the first stage of the pipeline and to restart instruction fetch.

The following items of interrupt controller that depend on processor specification description and have to be synthesized.
1. logic of restart,
Suppose Intr is a set of defined interrupts, si is a defined execution cycle count of interrupt i and Cnt is a counter which counts execution steps from the status variable qintr becomes intr. The control logic for signal restart is represented as follows.

\[ \text{restart} = \bigvee_{i \in \text{Intr}} (s_i > \text{Cnt}) \]  \hspace{1cm} (4.10)

2. logic of interrupt,

\[ \text{interrupt} = \bigvee_{i \in \text{Intr}} (\text{specified condition of interrupt i}) \]  \hspace{1cm} (4.11)

3. and datapath control signal generator.

Chapter 5
Processor Synthesis

In this chapter the processor synthesis method is explained. The processor synthesis method consists of two major parts: datapath synthesis and controller synthesis. In this chapter datapath synthesis method is described first, and then controller synthesis method is described.

5.1 Datapath Synthesis

In datapath synthesis, data-flow graph is generated from micro-operation descriptions of instructions and interrupts at first. Then, techniques in high-level synthesis areas [41] are utilized for datapath synthesis. Since the designer performs micro-operation scheduling to the pipeline stages and resource allocations in micro-operation descriptions, interconnection generation and pipeline register insertion are performed in datapath synthesis.

Figure 5.1 shows the datapath synthesis flow. Data-flow graphs (DFGs) of instructions and interrupts are generated from micro-operation descriptions (MODEs). Then, DFGs of instructions are merged together to get required data-flow and condition of it. DFGs of interrupts are also merged together. For the resolution of signal conflicts, selectors are inserted to the both merged DFGs of instructions and interrupts. For the pipeline execution, pipeline registers are inserted to the DFGs of instructions. DFGs of instructions and interrupts are merged and signal conflicts are resolved. Then, the DFG that represents the datapath of designed processor is synthesized. Each generation step is described in the following sections in detail.
5.1.1 DFG generation

By analyzing a micro-operation description of each instruction \( \text{inst} \), a data-flow graph is generated. The data-flow graph is represented by \( G_{\text{inst}} = (R_{\text{inst}}, V_{\text{inst}}, E_{\text{inst}}) \) where \( R_{\text{inst}} \) is a set of resources, \( V_{\text{inst}} \) is a set of all resource ports, and \( E_{\text{inst}} \) is a set of connections between ports of the resources. \( (s, d) \in E_{\text{inst}} \) represents data transfer from the port \( s \in V_{\text{inst}} \) to the port \( d \in V_{\text{inst}} \) which is specified by a micro-operation description. \( \text{cond}_{\text{inst}} \) represents a conditional expression for the data transfer represented by \( e \in E_{\text{inst}} \) for instruction \( \text{inst} \). If the data transfer is written in an if-statement of MOD, the conditional expression \( \text{exp} \) of the if-statement is extracted to \( \text{cond}_{\text{inst}} \). If the data transfer is not written in if-statement, \( \text{cond}_{\text{inst}} \) of the transfer \( e \) becomes '1'.

To get input and output ports for resource operations described in the MOD, interface information of resources is used. This information consists of correspondence of input/output arguments of the resource operation to port names. The information also includes required control signals to execute the operation. This information is registered for each model in FHM-DB. Example of registered interfaces for an adder and a register shown in Fig. 5.2. In Fig. 5.2, the first argument of operation "add" is connected to adder's input port "a" and the second is to "b." The operation result is output from port "result." The controller have to provide control signal '0' to port "cin" to execute "a+b." An example of the extraction of connections is shown in Fig. 5.3. "RZ," "RX" and "RY" in Fig. 5.3 denote registers and "ADDO" denotes an adder. From the interface information shown in Fig. 5.2, connections \( e_0, e_1, e_2 \) are extracted. Where \( e_0, e_1 \) and \( e_2 \) denote the data transfer from port \( q \) of resource "RX" to port \( a \) of
micro-operation:
"RZ := ADDO.add(RX,RY) ;"
connections:
e0 = (RX.q,ADD0.a)
e1 = (RY.q,ADD0.b)
e2 = (ADD0.result,RZ.d)

Figure 5.3: Connection Extraction.

resource "ADD0," from port q of resource "RY" to port b of resource "ADD0," and from port result of resource "ADD0" to port d of resource "RZ," respectively.

5.1.2 Basic Datapath Synthesis

After the analysis of micro-operation, the data-flow graphs of instructions are merged into a data-flow graph $G = (R;V;E)$. It represents a basic datapath of the processor.

$$R = \bigcup_{inst \in I} R_{inst}$$ (5.1)

$$V = \bigcup_{inst \in I} V_{inst}$$ (5.2)

$$E = \bigcup_{inst \in I} E_{inst}$$ (5.3)

where $I$ is a set of all instructions. $Cond_e$ for each data transfer $e \in E$ is determined as follows:

$$Cond_e = \{(exp,inst,inst) \mid inst \in I\}.$$ (5.4)

$(exp,inst) \in Cond_e$ denotes that the data transfer $e \in E$ is executed when executing instruction is $inst$ and condition $exp$ holds.

5.1.3 Signal Conflicts Resolution

When the same destination port $d$ is shared by multiple connections in $E$, input signals for port $d$ must be conflict. This section presents a selector insertion procedure, which resolves input signal conflicts. In this section, basic selector insertion algorithm is introduced first, and then improvement of the algorithm is described.

Suppose that $stage_{src}(e)$ is a stage number where the port $s$ to which data transfer $e = (s,d)$ outputs data, $stage_{dest}(e)$ is a stage number where port $d$ inputs data, and $width(p)$ is bit width of port $p$. Instructions can be executed correctly if selectors are inserted at any stage from $stage_{src}(e)$ to $stage_{dest}(e)$. For a reduction of pipeline registers, selectors are inserted at each stage from $stage_{src}(e)$ to $stage_{dest}(e)$. Furthermore, a destination port $d$ inputs data from different ports in multiple stage, some selectors are inserted for each stage $stage_{dest}(e)$ to resolve signal conflicts in a stage, first. Then, a selector is inserted to resolve inter-stage signal conflicts.

In a selector insertion example shown in Fig. 5.4, operation results of ALU, SFT and DMEM are selected by selectors "sel" in the third, the fourth and the fifth stage, respectively. Because selectors are inserted in each stage, data transfers over pipeline stage boundary are reduced. Another example shown in Fig. 5.5 is a case of signal conflict over stages. The example is non-harvard architecture and memory access unit "MEM" is accessed from both the first stage and the fourth stage. Firstly, signal conflict in the fourth stage is resolved and then signal conflict between the first stage and the fourth stage, that is data transfer from PC and from inserted selector, is resolved.

Outlines of selector insertion procedure are shown in Fig. 5.6 and Fig. 5.7. Fig. 5.6 shows an intra-stage signal conflict resolution and Fig. 5.7 shows an inter-stage signal conflict resolution. For each destination port $d$, a set $X_d$ of stage numbers in which stage the port $d$ receives data. For each member $j \in X_d$, selectors
Figure 5.5: Example of Selector Insertion for Inter-stage Signal Conflicts.

Figure 5.6: Selector Insertion Procedure. \( \text{insert.selector}(x, y) \) is a function to insert \( x \) inputs and \( y \) bit selector.
to resolve signal conflict in the \( j \)-th stage are inserted. \( E_{d,j} \) is a set of data transfers that send data to the port \( d \) in the \( j \)-th stage is calculated. Then, the minimum stage number \( \min \) of data output stage of all data transfer \( e \in E_{d,j} \) is searched.

Selectors are inserted at each stage \( k \) from the minimum stage \( \min \) to the \( j \). A set \( E_{d,j,k} \) is calculated. For all \( e \in E_{d,j,k} \), the output stage of \( e \) is less than \( k \) is calculated. \( E_{d,j,k} \) is a set of data transfer from the \( k \)-th stage or before the \( k \)-th stage. When the number of data transfers in \( E_{d,j,k} \) is more than one, a selector is instantiated and inserted in the \( k \)-th stage. A feature of the selector used here is as follows: Input ports count is equal to the number of data transfers \( E_{d,j,k} \) and the bit width is equal to the bit width of input data for port \( d \).

With the selector insertion, the data transfer \( e \in E_{d,j,k} \) should be modified. Each data transfer from \( e' = (s', d) \in E_{d,j,k} \) is deleted from the connection set \( E \). A new data transfer \( e_i = (s, d_{sel}) \) is added to \( E \). \( e_i \) is a data transfer from the port \( s' \) to the \( i \)-th input port \( d_{sel} \) of the selector. The condition of \( e_i \) is equal to the condition of the deleted data transfer \( (s', d) \). The data input stage number for \( e_i \) is equal to \( k \) and output stage for \( e_i \) is equal to that of deleted one. The control signal value \( c_i = (p_{sel}, v_{sel}) \) is added to \( C \). \( p_{sel} \) is control input port of the selector and \( v_{sel} \) is a value of selecting the \( i \)-th input. The condition \( Cond_{d} \) is equal to the condition \( Cond_{d} \). Addition of selector control signal is described in Section 5.2.1.

In addition, \( e_{out} \) that is a data transfer from selector output port \( s_{out} \) to the port \( d \) is added to \( E \). The data output stage number is equal to \( k \) and input stage is equal to \( j \). The condition of data transfer using \( (s_{out}, d) \) is a conjunction of conditions of connections of \( E_{d,j,k} \).

After intra-stage signal conflicts are resolved, selector insertion for inter-stage signal conflicts resolution is executed. The procedure of inter-stage signal conflicts resolution is shown in Fig. 5.7. If the number of stages in \( X_d \) is more than one, a selector is inserted over stages. Feature of the selector used here is as follows: Input ports count is equal to the number of stages in \( X_d \) and the bit width is equal to the bit width of input data for port \( d \). Each data transfer \( e_{d,j} = (s_{d,j}, d) \) in the \( j \)-th stage is deleted from the connection set \( E \). A new data transfer \( e_i = (s_{d,j}, d_{sel}) \) is added to \( E \). \( e_i \) represents the data transfer from the port \( s_{d,j} \) to the \( i \)-th input

```
input:  G = (R, V, E)
output: G = (R, V, E)

foreach(d ∈ V) loop
    \( X_d := \{ \text{stage}_{d}(e) \mid (s, d) ∈ E \} \)
    if(\( |X_d| > 1 \)) then
        insert_selector(\( |X_d|, \text{width}(d) \))
        \( i := 0 \)
        \( e_{out} := (s_{out}, d) \)
        foreach(j ∈ X_d) loop
            \( e_{d,j} := (s, d) ∈ E \setminus \text{stage}_{d}(e_{d,j}) = j \)
            \( e_i := (s_{d,j}, d_{sel}) \)
            \( Cond_{d} := Cond_{d} \cup E_{d,j} \)
            \( stage_{d}(e_i) := \text{stage}_{d}(e_{d,j}) \)
            \( Cond_{d} := Cond_{d} \cup Cond_{d} \)
            \( c_i := (p_{sel}, v_{sel}) \)
            \( stage(c_i) := j \)
            \( C := C \cup \{ c_i \} \)
            \( E := E \cup \{ e_i \} \) - \( \{ e_{d,j} \} \)
            \( i := i + 1 \)
        end loop
    end if
    \( E := E \cup \{ e_{out} \} \)
end loop
```

Figure 5.7: Selector Insertion Procedure for Inter-stage Signal Conflicts.
port \( d_{seli} \) of the selector. The condition of \( e_i \) is equal to the condition of the deleted data transfer \( r_{dt,i} \). The data input stage number and the data output stage number for \( e_i \) are equal to \( j \). Then, the control signal value \( c_i = (p_{sel}, v_{sel}) \) is added to \( C \). \( p_{sel} \) is control input port of the selector and \( v_{sel} \) is a value of selecting \( j \)-th input. The condition \( Cond_{dt} \) is equal to the condition \( Cond_{e_i} \). Addition of selector control signal is described in Section 5.2.1.

**Improved selector insertion algorithm**

![Figure 5.8: Original DFG for Selector Sharing Example.](image)

The algorithm shown in Fig. 5.6 and Fig. 5.7 inserts wasteful selectors. In an example data-flow graph shown in Fig. 5.8, some input ports receive same sets of input signals. Resource "FWUR8" and "FWURT" are the data forwarding units. They receive data from "ALU" and "SFT" in the third stage, from "ALU," "SFT" and "DMEM" in the fourth and fifth stage, respectively. Because different input ports of "FWUR8," "FWURT" are used in each pipeline stage, there are no inter-stage signal conflicts. The conditions of data transfers from each functional unit to forwarding units and general-purpose registers (GPR) are the same. Figure 5.9 illustrates selector insertion results. The selectors in the third stage always output the same results and the selectors in the fourth stages, too. Therefore, improvement of the selector insertion algorithm is required to reduce selectors. Before line nine of Fig. 5.6, procedure to search a selector \( r_{sel} \) that have common input signals and select conditions. If the selector \( r_{sel} \) exists, the data transfer sets \( E_{d,i,k} \) are deleted from \( E \) and data transfer from the output port of selector \( r_{sel} \) to the port \( d \) is added.

Suppose \( E_{rsel} \) is a set of edges which represent data transfers to the selector input ports, the condition to use the inserted selector \( r_{sel} \) is described as follows:

\[
\forall e = (s, d) \in E_{d,i,k} \exists e_{rsel} = (s, d_{sel}) \in E_{rsel} \text{ Cond}_{rsel} = \text{Cond}_e \tag{5.5}
\]

The condition which is shown in Equation 5.5 becomes true if and only if data transfer \( e_{rsel} \) exists for all data transfer \( e \) of \( E_{d,i,k} \). \( e \) and \( e_{rsel} \) have the same input port and condition of data transfer.

Figure 5.10 shows a selector insertion result of improved algorithm. Wasteful selectors are reduced to one for each stage.

**5.1.4 Pipelining**

When data are transferred over pipeline stage boundary, a pipeline register is required to transfer operation results to the next stage. A data transfer \( e \in E \)
Figure 5.10: Selector Insertion Result with Sharing.

which satisfies $\text{stage}_{src}(e) < \text{stage}_{dst}(e)$ means data are transferred over pipeline stage boundary, so that pipeline registers are required at each stage boundary from $\text{stage}_{src}(e)$ to $\text{stage}_{dst}(e)$. In a pipeline register insertion example in Fig. 5.11, pipeline registers are inserted to each pipeline stage boundary.

Figure 5.11: Example of Pipeline Register Insertion.

Pipelining procedure is illustrated in Fig. 5.12. First of all, a set of data transfer $E_{reg}$ that is a subset of $E$ is calculated. For all data transfer $e \in E_{reg}$ satisfies $\text{stage}_{src}(e) < \text{stage}_{dst}(e)$. When the number of data transfers in $E_{reg}$ is not zero, there are some data transfers over pipeline stage boundary. One data transfer $e = (s, d)$ of the $E_{reg}$ is selected arbitrarily, and $\text{width}(s)$-bit pipeline register is inserted between the stage $\text{stage}_{src}(e)$ and the stage $\text{stage}_{dst}(e) + 1$. According to the register insertion, connection $e_{in}$ from port $s$ to $d_{reg}$ is added to $E$ where $d_{reg}$ and $e_{reg}$ are
an input port and an output port of inserted pipeline register, respectively. Because
the register is written in the stage \( \text{stage}_{\text{src}}(e) \), \( \text{stage}_{\text{dst}}(e) \) is equal to \( \text{stage}_{\text{src}}(e) \).
For all data transfer \( e' = (s,d) \) which transfers data from port \( s \) and satisfies
\( \text{stage}_{\text{src}}(e') = \text{stage}_{\text{src}}(e) \), connection \( e_{\text{out}} = (\text{src},d') \) is added to \( E \). Because the
register is read at one stage after it is written, stage number \( \text{stage}_{\text{dst}}(e_{\text{out}}) \) becomes \( \text{stage}_{\text{dst}}(e_{\text{in}}) + 1 \). An original connection \( e' = (s,d) \) is deleted from \( E \). Until
no data transfer, which transfers data over pipeline stage boundary, exists in \( E \),
pipeline insertion procedure is repeated from line one.

5.2 Controller Synthesis

The controller synthesis is based on the controller model described in Section 4.4.
The control logics that depend on processor specification are synthesized from processor
specifications, mainly from micro-operation descriptions.

The controller synthesis procedure consists of six parts:

1. Control Signal Extraction from micro-operation descriptions,
2. Interlock Condition Extraction,
3. Branch Condition Extraction,
4. Instruction Decoder Synthesis,
5. Stage Controller Synthesis,
6. and Interrupt Controller Synthesis.

Each synthesis procedures are described in the following sections in detail.

5.2.1 Control Signal Extraction

Control signals for declared resources to execute described micro-operation are extracted in this step. By analyzing a micro-operation description of each instruction \( \text{inst} \), a set of control signal assignments \( C_{\text{inst}} \) is generated. A control signal assignment \( c \in C_{\text{inst}} \) is a tuple \((p,v)\) where \( p \) denotes a control input port of a resource and \( v \) denotes the value to the port \( p \). An expression \( \text{cond}_{\text{inst}} \) represents a condition for the control signal assignment of \( c \) for instruction \( \text{inst} \). The extraction procedure of control signal \( c \) from a micro-operation description is explained using example shown in Fig. 5.13 as follows. Control signal values for cin port of “ADDO” and enb port of register “RZ” are induced by Fig. 5.2. As a consequence, control signal assignments \( c_0 \) and \( c_1 \) are extracted.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{micro-operation:} & \quad \text{“RZ := ADDO.add(RX,RY);”} \\
\text{control signals:} & \quad c_0 = (ADDO.cin,0) \\
& \quad c_1 = (RZ.enb,1)
\end{align*}
\]

Figure 5.13: Control signal extraction.

After the analysis of micro-operations, sets of control signals are merged into \( C \). \( C \) is obtained as follows:

\[
C = \bigcup_{\text{inst} \in I} C_{\text{inst}} \tag{5.6}
\]

where \( I \) is a set of all instructions. \( \text{Cond}_{\text{p}} \) is determined as follows:

\[
\text{Cond}_{\text{p}} = \{(\text{cond}_{\text{inst}},\text{inst}) \mid \text{inst} \in I\}. \tag{5.7}
\]

\((\text{exp},\text{inst}) \in \text{Cond}_{\text{p}}\) denotes that the value \( v \) is assigned to port \( p \) when executing instruction is \( \text{inst} \) and condition \( \text{exp} \) is satisfied. The stage controller assigns the value \( v \) to \( p \) when all the following conditions are satisfied. (1) The status variable \( q_k \) is ‘1’, (2) the executing instruction of the stage is \( \text{inst} \), and (3) the expression \( \text{exp} \) holds. The stage controller assigns control signal value for “no-operation” when one of the conditions above does not hold. “no-operation” value means the resource of the port \( p \) do not change its status during the port \( p \) is receiving the value \( v_0 \). For example, the “no-operation” value for register write enable port is its negative value.

When the selectors are inserted in datapath synthesis, control signals for selectors are also added to \( C \) described in Fig. 5.6 and Fig. 5.7.
5.2.2 Interlock Condition Extraction

To synthesize pipeline interlock control signal \( lock_k \), conditions of multi-cycle operations and resource conflicts are extracted. In this section, condition extraction of multi-cycle operations is described first and then that of resource conflicts is described.

Pipeline interlock logic for multi-cycle operation is synthesized from the Equation (4.1) in Section 4.4.1. Execution conditions of resource operations \( U_{k,op} = \{ (exp, inst) | exp \in Exp, inst \in I \} \) are extracted from the micro-operation description of instructions where \( exp \) is a conditional expression and \( inst \) indicates an execution instruction. If operation \( op \) of resource \( r \) occurs in the micro-operation description of instruction \( inst \) in the \( k \)-th stage, execution condition \( (exp, inst) \) is added to \( U_{k,op} \). Completion flag \( fim_{op} = (p, v) \) is defined for each operation \( op \) in FHM-DB. \( fim_{op} = (p, v) \) denotes that the output signal of the port \( p \) becomes \( v \) after the operation \( OP_{op} \) is finished. From extracted execution conditions \( U_{k,op} \) and received completion flag expression \( fim_{op} \) from FHM-DB, interlock control logic for multi-cycle operation \( multi.lock_k \) is synthesized.

Suppose \( Fin \) is a set of completion flags of all described multi-cycle operations.

\[
Fin = \{ fim_{op} \} \tag{5.8}
\]

\( OP_{fin} \) is a set of multi-cycle operations, which have the same completion flag \( fin \).

\[
OP_{fin} = \{ op | fim_{op} = fin \} \tag{5.9}
\]

Then \( Exp_{fin} \) and \( I_{k,fin,exp} \) are calculated by the following equations.

\[
Exp_{fin} = \{ exp | (exp, inst) \in U_{k,op}, op \in OP_{fin} \} \tag{5.10}
\]

\[
I_{k,fin,exp} = \{ inst | (exp, inst) \in U_{k,op}, op \in OP_{fin} \} \tag{5.11}
\]

\( Exp_{fin} \) is a set of execution condition of operation \( op \) in \( OP_{fin} \). \( I_{k,fin,exp} \) is a set of instructions, which execute multi-cycle operation \( op \) in \( OP_{fin} \) when \( exp \) holds.

Suppose \( output(p) \) indicates output value of port \( p \). Using Equation (5.8), (5.10) and (5.11) \( multi.lock_k \) is represented as follows:

\[
\begin{align*}
multi.lock_k &= \bigvee_{(exp, inst) \in Exp_{fin}} \left( \bigvee_{(inst_k \in I_{k,fin,exp})} ((inst_k \in I_{k,fin,exp}) \cdot exp \cdot valid_k \cdot (output(p) \neq v)) \right) \\
&= \bigvee_{(exp, inst) \in Exp_{fin}} \left( \bigvee_{(inst_k \in I_{k,fin,exp})} ((inst_k \in I_{k,fin,exp}) \cdot exp \cdot valid_k \cdot (output(p) \neq v)) \right) \tag{5.12}
\end{align*}
\]

Signal \( multi.lock_k \) becomes '1' when at least one of the multi-cycle operations is not completed. The signal \( multi.lock_k \) becomes '0' when all the value of completion flag output port \( p \) becomes \( v \).

Pipeline interlock detection logic for resource conflicts is synthesized from the Equation (4.4) in Section 4.4.1. A set \( V_{r,k} \) is calculated from the set \( C \), function \( resource(p) \) and \( stage(c) \). A function \( resource(p) \) returns resource \( r \) of port \( p \) and \( stage(c) \) returns the stage number in that stage control signal is assigned to port \( p \).

Suppose \( C_r = \{ c | c = (p, v) \in C, resource(p) = r \} \), and \( C_A = \{ c | c \in C_r, stage(c) = k \} \). Using \( C_A \), a set \( V_{r,k} \) is calculated. From \( V_{r,k} \) and Equation (4.4), lock signal for resource conflict \( res.conflict_k \) is synthesized. \( V_{r,k} \) is also used to synthesis control signal selection for resource \( r \).

\[
V_{r,k} = \{ inst | (inst, exp) \in Cond_{r,k}, C_A \in C_A \} \tag{5.13}
\]

\[
res.conflict_k = \bigvee_{r} \left( \bigvee_{C_A \in C_A} (\bigvee_{(inst_j \in V_{r,k}) \cdot valid_j \cdot (inst_k \in V_{r,k}) \cdot valid_k) \right) \tag{5.14}
\]

5.2.3 Branch Condition Extraction

By analyzing a micro-operation description of branch instructions, branch stage number \( b \) and a condition \( Br = \{ (exp, inst) | exp \in Exp, inst \in I \} \) of branch are extracted. The conditional expression \( exp \) is a condition for the case that the program counter PC is written. Suppose \( Exp_{br} \) is a set of conditional expression \( exp \) for branches and \( I_{b,exp} \) is a set of instructions, which execute branch when condition \( exp \) holds.

The set \( Exp_{br} \) and \( I_{b,exp} \) are calculated as follows:

\[
Exp_{br} = \{ exp | (exp, inst) \in Br \} \tag{5.15}
\]
\[ \text{branch} = \text{valid}_k \cdot \left( \bigvee_{\text{exp} \in \text{exp}_{k-1}} (\text{inst}_k \in \text{I}_{\text{exp},k}) \cdot \exp \right) \]  

5.2.4 Instruction Decoder Synthesis

Instruction decoder inputs instruction word and generates two types of signals based on the model described in Section 4.4.1. In this section, resource control signal generation is described first, and then instruction identification signal is described.

The control signals that are independent of datapath status signals are selected. Then the instruction decoder logics for selected control signals are generated. A set of instructions \( I_{\text{exp},k} \) which assigns the value \( v \) to control port \( p \) in the \( k \)-th stage when condition \( \exp \) is calculated as follows:

\[ I_{\text{exp},k} = \{ \text{inst} | c \in C, (\text{exp}, \text{inst}) \in \text{Cond}_{z}, \text{stage}(c) = k \} \]  

\( I_{\text{exp},k} \) is a set of instructions which assigns control signal represented by \( c \) independently of datapath status. A set of control signal assignment \( C_{p,k} \) for the port \( p \) in the \( k \)-th stage is selected as follows:

\[ C_{p,k} = \{ c | (p, v) \in C, \text{stage}(c) = k \} \]  

\( f_{p,k}(\text{inst}) \) is an output function of instruction decoder which generates control signal for the port \( p \) in the \( k \)-th stage. The decoded result \( f_{p,k}(\text{inst}) \) is sent to each pipeline stage step by step via pipeline register. Suppose \( Z_j, f_{p,k}(\text{inst}) \) is a pipeline register for \( f_{p,k}(\text{inst}) \) between the \( (j-1) \)-th stage to \( j \)-th stage and \( d \) is an instruction decode stage. The value of \( Z_j, f_{p,k}(\text{inst}) \) is assigned to the port \( p \) in the \( k \)-th stage when \( k \) is less than instruction decode stage \( d \). The decoded result \( f_{p,k} \) is directly assigned to the port \( p \) when \( k \) is equal to \( d \). \( f_{p,k} \) and \( Z_j, f_{p,k}(\text{inst}) \) are represented as follows:

\[ f_{p,k} = \{ \bigvee_{c \in p,k \in C_{p,k}} (\text{inst} \in I_{\text{exp},k}) \} \]  

\[ Z^+_{j+1, f_{p,k}(\text{inst})} = Z_{j, f_{p,k}(\text{inst})} \cdot \gamma_0 + Z_{j+1, f_{p,k}(\text{inst})} \cdot \gamma_0 \] (d < j < k)  

\[ Z^+_{j+1, f_{p,k}(\text{inst})} = f_{p,k}(\text{inst}) \] (5.22)

Function \( f_{p,k}(\text{inst}) \) returns the value \( v \) when fetched instruction \( \text{inst} \) is a member of \( I_{\text{exp},k} \). If fetched instruction \( \text{inst} \) is not a member of \( I_{\text{exp},k} \), \( f_{p,k}(\text{inst}) \) returns "no-operation" value \( v_0 \).

The other type of instruction decode, the result indicates whether fetched instruction is a member of a certain set of instructions or not. It is used to generate the following control signals: interlock control signal \( \text{lock}_k \), branch detection signal \( \text{branch} \) and resource control signal, which depends on datapath status. The decoded result of \( m(I, \text{inst}) \) is also send to each pipeline stage step by step via pipeline register \( Z_{j m, f(I, \text{inst})} \). Suppose \( Z_{j m, f(I, \text{inst})} \) is a pipeline register for \( m(I, \text{inst}) \) between the \( (j-1) \)-th stage and \( j \)-th stage. Suppose \( \text{'inst'} \) is a fetched instruction and \( I \) is a set of instructions, function of the latter type instruction decode is described as follows:

\[ m(I, \text{inst}) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{when} \ \text{inst} \in I \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \] (5.23)

\[ Z^+_{j+1, m(I, \text{inst})} = Z_{j, m(I, \text{inst})} \cdot \gamma_0 + Z_{j+1, m(I, \text{inst})} \cdot \gamma_0 \] (d < j < k)  

\[ Z^+_{j+1, m(I, \text{inst})} = m(I, \text{inst}) \] (5.25)

The stage controllers input decoded result \( S_{k, f_{p,k}(\text{inst})} \) and \( S_{k, m(I, \text{inst})} \) that are shown in the following equations:

\[ S_{k, f_{p,k}(\text{inst})} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{d < k} \\ f_{p,k}(\text{inst}) & \text{d = k} \end{cases} \] (5.26)

\[ S_{k, m(I, \text{inst})} = \begin{cases} Z_{k, m(I, \text{inst})} & \text{d < k} \\ m(I, \text{inst}) & \text{d = k} \\ 1 & \text{k < d} \end{cases} \] (5.27)
The controller of the \( k \)-th stage uses output signal of pipeline register \( Z_k \), when \( k \) is greater than \( d \), which represents instruction decode stage number. The stage controller of instruction decode stage uses decoded result directly.

### 5.2.5 Stage Controller Synthesis

The stage controller, which is based on a model in Section 4.4.2, is described. The following items of stage controller depend on architectural level processor description and are synthesized, and items of finite state machine \( M_k \) are generated from the model:

1. interlock detection signal \( \text{lock}_k \)

\[
\text{lock}_k = \text{multi.lock}_k + \text{res.conflict}_k \tag{5.28}
\]

\( \text{lock}_k \) is a logical sum of \( \text{multi.lock}_k \) and \( \text{res.conflict}_k \). \( \text{multi.lock}_k \) and \( \text{res.conflict}_k \) are defined in Equation (5.14) and (5.12). Using the result of instruction decode shown in Equation (5.23), \( \text{multi.lock}_k \) and \( \text{res.conflict}_k \) are represented as follows:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{multi.lock}_k &= \bigvee_{\text{entry, } \text{exp}, \text{inst}} S_{k,m(l_k,\text{exp},\text{inst})} \cdot \text{exp} \cdot \text{valid}_k \\
\text{res.conflict}_k &= \bigvee_{\text{entry, } \text{inst}} (S_{k,m(V_r,\text{inst})} \cdot \text{valid}_k) \cdot S_{k,m(V_r,\text{inst})} \cdot \text{valid}_k \tag{5.29}
\end{align*}
\]

2. branch detection signal \( \text{branch} \) that is defined as Equation (5.17). Using the result of instruction decode shown in Equation (5.23), \( \text{branch} \) is represented as follows:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{branch} &= \text{valid}_k \cdot \left( \bigvee_{\text{exp}, \text{inst}} S_{k,m(l_k,\text{exp},\text{inst})} \cdot \text{exp} \right) \tag{5.31}
\end{align*}
\]

3. function \( \text{cancel}(k) \) that is generated from Equation (4.7) in Section 4.4.2 and extracted branch stage number \( b \).

4. and control signal generation functions.

#### Control Signal Generation Functions

Control signal generation functions are classified into three types,

1. control signals for resources in the \( k \)-th stage,
2. control signals for multi-cycle operations,
3. control signals for the resources, which are accessed from multiple stages.

Control signal of the port \( p \) in the \( k \)-th stage is generated from \( C_{p,k} \) shown in Equation (5.19) and (5.18) and \( \text{Exp}_{p,k} \). \( \text{Exp}_{p,k} \) is a set of expression \( \text{exp} \) for conditional control signal assignment of \( c \).

\[
\text{Exp}_{p,k} = \{ \text{exp} | c \in C, \langle \text{exp}, i \rangle \in \text{Cond}_c, \text{stage}(c) = k \} \tag{5.32}
\]

Referring to Equations (5.19), (5.18) and (5.32), control signal \( S_{p,k} \) for the port \( p \) in the \( k \)-th stage is represented as follows:

\[
\begin{align*}
S_{p,k} &= \left( \bigvee_{\text{entry, } \text{exp}, \text{inst}} \text{exp} \cdot S_{k,m(l_k,\text{exp},\text{inst})} \cdot \text{valid}_k \right) \\
&+ S_{k,f_p,\text{inst}} \cdot \text{go}_k \cdot \left( \bigwedge_{\text{entry, } \text{exp}, \text{inst}} (\text{exp} \cdot S_{k,m(l_k,\text{exp},\text{inst})}) \right) \\
&+ \text{go}_k \cdot v_0 \tag{5.33}
\end{align*}
\]

Control signal \( S_{p,k} \) becomes the "no-operation" value \( v_0 \) when the \( k \)-th stage is stalled (\( \text{go}_k = 0 \)). Control signal \( S_{p,k} \) becomes the value \( v \) if condition \( \text{exp} \) holds and executing instruction is a member of the set of instructions \( I_{k,\text{exp}} \). If any condition \( \text{exp} \) of conditional control signal assignment does not hold, the result of instruction decoder \( f_{p,k}(\text{inst}) \), which is described in Equation (5.20) in Section 5.2.4, is assigned to the port \( p \).
Control signals for multi-cycle operations and conflicted resources are discussed in Section 4.4.2.

Because control signal $S_{p,k}$ becomes active value of start signal when multi-cycle operation should be executed, control signal for multi-cycle operation $S_{p,k,start}$ is described as follows:

$$S_{p,k,start} = \text{flag} \cdot S_{p,k} + \text{flag} \cdot \text{active}$$  \hspace{1cm} (5.34)

Using the result of instruction decoder, resource usage condition $V_{r,k}$ and control signal $S_{p,k}$ of port $p$ in the $k$-th stage, control signal $S_p$ for the port $p$ which is accessed from multiple stages is described as follows:

$$S_p = \bigvee_{1 \leq k \leq n} S_{p,k} \cdot \text{sel}_{r,k}$$  \hspace{1cm} (5.35)

$$\text{sel}_{r,k} = S_{k,m(V_{r,k},\text{inst})} \cdot \text{valid}_k \cdot \bigvee_{1 \leq k \leq n} S_{k,m(V_{r,k},\text{inst})} \cdot \text{valid}_k$$  \hspace{1cm} (5.36)

### 5.2.6 Interrupt Controller Synthesis

From an interrupt definition, a state machine shown in Section 4.4.3 is synthesized. The conditions of state transition from "exe" to "wait" are logical sum of defined interrupt conditions. The synthesis method of data-path and control signal values to execute described interrupt operation is the same as that of instructions.

$$\text{interrupt} = \bigvee_{i \in \text{intr}} \text{condition of defined interrupt } i$$  \hspace{1cm} (5.37)

$$\text{restart} = (\text{Cnt} \geq s_i)$$  \hspace{1cm} (5.38)

where

$$s_i : \text{execution cycle count for interrupts}$$

$$\text{Cnt} : \text{counter for interrupts}$$

When one of the conditions for specified interrupt holds, the output of the signal interrupt becomes '1' and detects interrupts. The counter Cnt counts the number of execution cycles of interrupts.

If one of the interrupt conditions condition holds, the signal restart turns to '1' and detects interrupts. The counter S is used for interrupt control during the status variable keeps $q_{intr} = 0$.

Suppose $C_{intr}$ is a set of control signals assignment for interrupt intr. Suppose $\text{cycle}(c)$ is a function which returns in what stage control signal assignment $c$ is executed in micro-operation description of interrupt intr. The control signal for interrupts are defined as follows.

$$S_{p,int} = \bigvee_{c(x,p) \in C_{intr}} v \cdot \text{exp} \cdot (\text{intr} = \text{int.name}) \cdot (\text{Cnt} = \text{cycle}(c)) + \bigvee_{c(x,p) \in C_{intr}} v \cdot \text{exp} \cdot (\text{intr} = \text{int.name}) \cdot (\text{Cnt} = \text{cycle}(c)) \cdot v_0$$  \hspace{1cm} (5.40)

If execution interrupt is intr, the number of steps since interrupt processing is started is equal to cycle$(c)$ and condition exp holds, the control value $v$ is assigned to port $p$. 

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Chapter 6

Experiments

In this chapter, the effectiveness of the proposed processor design method and synthesis method are evaluated through experiments.

6.1 Objective of the Experiments

In this chapter five kinds of experiments are described.

1. existing RISC processor to evaluate variety of instructions that can be designed and synthesized by the proposed method.

2. PEAS-I processor core to compare design quality of synthesized processor to that of manually designed one.

3. embedded RISC controller for comparison between conventional design method and proposed processor synthesis method in terms of design time and design quality.

4. pipeline depth tuning. It is aimed for evaluate modification time and effectiveness of an adjustment of the number of pipeline stages and operation re-scheduling to the pipeline stages.

5. architectural design space exploration for FIR filter. It is aimed for evaluate the design time of new instruction specification and the range of explored design space.
To evaluate the effectiveness of the proposed processor synthesis method, processor synthesis time, design productivity and the quality of synthesized processor, and the largeness of explored design space are examined. Processor synthesis time is evaluated using prototyped processor synthesizer of the proposed synthesis method on Pentium III processor. Design productivity is evaluated in terms of design time and the amount of description. Design productivity is evaluated for both new processor design and architectural design space exploration. The quality of synthesized processor is evaluated in terms of area and clock frequency.

6.2 Basic RISC Processor

In the first experiment, the easiness of new processor design and its derivative processor design is explained. First, a MIPS R3000 [4] [42] compatible processor PEAS R3K was designed. Then, it was modified into DLX [43] for evaluation of the easiness of design in micro-operation level processor specification.

At the first step, a subset of MIPS R3000 instruction set was implemented. The number of implemented instructions is 52 out of 74 instructions of all instructions on MIPS R3000. Coprocessor instruction and interrupt instruction were not implemented in this experiment. Required time for design was about eight hours. Required time for synthesis was about two minutes.

Table 6.1: Results of Synthesis for PEAS R3K

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>component</th>
<th>#</th>
<th>Total Area (gates)</th>
<th>Frequency (MHz)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>user specified resources</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>45759.22</td>
<td>157.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>registers</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>7064.67</td>
<td>769.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>selectors</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3046.08</td>
<td>471.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>controller</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2541.18</td>
<td>290.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sum of the above</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>57217.17</td>
<td>157.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>processor</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>59815.34</td>
<td>125.63</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

using Design Compiler (0.5μm CMOS library)

The results of synthesis are summarized in Table 6.1. The column "#" denotes the number of components in the processor. "Total Area" indicates the component area including wiring area. "Frequency" means the maximal frequency of the corresponding component. "User specified resources" are the resources that are explicitly declared by the designer. "Registers," "selectors," and "controller" are automatically introduced resources by the generator. "Sum of the above" means just the summary of all values above in the column. "Processor" is the synthesis result as a processor.

From these experimental results, it is confirmed that automatically generated parts does not so much affect area and performance of the processor. Area of the generated part is about 15% of the whole processor. Frequency of the introduced resources including the controller is relatively high, hence they do not include the critical path individually. The critical path of PEAS R3K was zero-flag generation by ALU and PC update. This path is synthesized from the micro-operation description in the third stage of some branch instructions like "Branch on Equal (BEQ)." Micro-operation description of BEQ is shown in Fig. 3.14 in Section 3.3.6.

Table 6.2: Results of Synthesis for PEAS DLX

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>component</th>
<th>#</th>
<th>Total Area (gates)</th>
<th>Frequency (MHz)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>user specified resources</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>45758.01</td>
<td>157.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>registers</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>7545.82</td>
<td>769.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>selectors</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1960.82</td>
<td>628.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>controller</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1790.78</td>
<td>200.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sum of the above</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>67055.39</td>
<td>157.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>processor</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>48469.03</td>
<td>116.28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

using Design Compiler (0.5μm CMOS library)

At the second step in this experiment, a subset of DLX (called PEAS DLX) was implemented based on PEAS R3K. The number of implemented instructions is 51 out of all instructions 91. Similar to the case of PEAS R3K, coprocessor instruction and interrupt instruction were not implemented in this experiment. The reuse ratio for DLX design from the description of PEAS R3K is 59% since both architectures have many similar instructions. Required time for modification is about 3 hours. Table 6.2 shows a logic synthesis results of DLX.
The amount of descriptions for both PEAS R3K and PEAS DLX is shown in Table 6.3. The amount of description for micro-operation level processor specification is about less than one sixth of the case of the corresponding generated HDL description. It is clear that proposed processor synthesis method reduces the designer's load.

Table 6.3: Comparison of the Amount of Descriptions for PEAS R3K and PEAS DLX

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MOD</th>
<th>generated HDL description</th>
<th>datapath</th>
<th>ctrl</th>
<th>all</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PEAS R3K</td>
<td>512</td>
<td>833</td>
<td>512</td>
<td>5804</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEAS DLX</td>
<td>498</td>
<td>824</td>
<td>490</td>
<td>5541</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(To be continued)

6.3 PEAS-I Processor Core

PEAS-I core is a processor generated by the PEAS-I system [10]. PEAS-I system can generate an optimal processor for a given application program from predefined instruction set. Predefined instruction set consists of a primitive instruction set and optional instructions. The primitive instruction set contains basic instructions that most processors have. Instructions in the primitive instruction set can be categorized into arithmetic instructions, data transfer instructions, and execution sequence control instructions. In this experiment, the existing design and new one designed with PEAS-III's micro-operation level processor specification are compared. First, a PEAS-I core from a primitive instruction set was designed with PEAS-III. The instruction set contains 85 instructions. Then, this processor was extended with adding multiply instructions.

The result of the first step is shown in Table 6.4. The column “original” corresponds to the case of the original design, and the column “with PEAS-III” corresponds to the case of the design with PEAS-III. Workload for the design with PEAS-III is about one third compared to the original one. Maximum delays of each design area almost the same and area of the design with PEAS-III is 20% larger than original design.

Next in this experiment, this processor was extended with additional multiply with signed/unsigned operations using PEAS-III. The result of the logic synthesis is shown in Table 6.5. To implement the multiply instructions, several functional units for multiply operation can be selected. Using the proposed method, this selection is done by specifying the parameters for the multiplier in the resource declarations. Pipeline interlock logic is automatically generated and the designer has no need to design pipeline control logic.

Table 6.4: Result of PEAS-I Core Design

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>original</th>
<th>with PEAS-III</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>work load (hour)</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>32 (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lines in the HDL description</td>
<td>6431 (7194 for MOD)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>maximum delay (ns)</td>
<td>9.80</td>
<td>9.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of gates</td>
<td>22,247</td>
<td>26,570</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) includes learning about the system and improvement of MODs.

Table 6.5: Delay and Size of PEAS-I Core with Multiply Operation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Design</th>
<th>delay (ns)</th>
<th>Area (gate)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>under 100MHz</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SR</td>
<td>17.93</td>
<td>49567.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SL</td>
<td>9.77</td>
<td>49946.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CR</td>
<td>9.78</td>
<td>67995.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CL</td>
<td>9.72</td>
<td>75085.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>under 200MHz</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SR</td>
<td>17.69</td>
<td>50770.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SL</td>
<td>7.68</td>
<td>51528.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CR</td>
<td>6.93</td>
<td>69551.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CL</td>
<td>6.07</td>
<td>76577.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6.4 Embedded RISC Controller

This experiment is aimed for comparison between designs with conventional method and designs with the proposed processor synthesis method used in PEAS-III. The original controller that is used for image processing was designed by manual RT-level description. A compatible controller was designed with PEAS-III in this experiment.

This RISC controller has Harvard architecture. The instruction width is 24 bits. The number of instructions is 54. The controller consists of three-stage pipeline. It has synchronous interrupt facility.

An undergraduate student designed this controller with PEAS-III. He had no experience of processor design with PEAS-III at the beginning of this experiment.

Design proceeded as the following way.

1. He learned the usage of PEAS-III.
2. He designed the controller with 32 bits for instruction width.
3. He modified the design to fit 24 bits for instruction width.

The time required for learning PEAS-III is about seven hours. The learning includes reading manuals and trying design with a sample processor attached to PEAS-III.

In the first design, he designed the 32 bits instruction width for ease of the code assignment, because the code assignment of the original instruction set was not given. He implemented all 54 instructions. The workload for this work is shown in the column "first design" of Table 6.6. The total required time is 58 hours. Though he was not familiar with PEAS-III, he designed a processor in a few days. The designed controller has various addressing modes and special registers and register files. Because the complex addressing mode makes the micro-operation descriptions difficult, design time became longer than other processors in the experiments.

In the second design, he modified the first design concerning about the instruction width. The main work was the modification of instruction format. While some trivial modifications were required, the most part of the micro-operation description was reused.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Works</th>
<th>First Design</th>
<th>Modification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>selecting resources</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>determining instruction set architecture</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>writing micro-operation description</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>modifying errors</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>total</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Examples of instruction code assignment of both 24-bit and 32-bit are shown in Fig. 6.1. In this example, code assignments of ADDU (add unsigned) instruction are shown. Fields named like "opr1" in Fig. 6.1 are referred in the micro-operation description.

An example of a portion of a micro-operation description is shown in Fig. 6.2. In this example, the micro-operation description of ADDU instruction is shown. It consists of behavior of each stage. At the stage 2, the value of operands are referred using the names "opr2" and "opr3." As shown in this example, modification of instruction codes can be done without modification of the micro-operation description.

The column "modification" of the Table 6.6 shows the required time for this work.

![Figure 6.1: Difference of Instruction Code of ADDU between 24-bit and 32-bit in RISC controllers.](image-url)
The improvement includes changing the micro-operation scheduling to the pipeline stages.

PEAS R3K-5 is an extended version of PEAS R3K for data forwarding. Design time for forwarding extension was about half an hour.

### 6.5.1 Changing the Number of Pipeline Stages

Changing the number of pipeline stages may lead to change the critical path and the number of pipeline registers. In other words, both performance and hardware cost can be improved by proper choice of the number of pipeline stages and micro-operation scheduling to the pipeline stages.

Hardware cost is approximately linear to the number of pipeline stages. Because the number of pipeline registers increases in proportion to the increase of the number of pipeline stages.

On the other hand, maximal frequency is more complicated. If operations in the critical path can be divided into different stages by increasing the number of pipeline stages, the length of the critical path can be reduced. However, if operations in the critical path cannot be divided into different stages, the length of the critical path cannot be reduced.

The critical path of PEAS R3K-5 was the path from pipeline register to program counter (PC) through ALU and stage controller in the third stage. ALU compared operands stored in pipeline registers and output zero-flag, then the stage controller decides whether branch is executed or not and sends control signal for PC to update its value.

To change the number of pipeline stages from five to four, micro-operations in the fourth stage and the fifth stages were merged (PEAS R3K-4) because there were not critical path in these stages. The critical path of PEAS R3K-4 was the same as PEAS R3K-5. To change the number of pipeline stages from four to three, arithmetic and logic operations, address calculation operations in the third stages are merged into previous stage and branch operation was merged into next stage (PEAS R3K-3). Because delay time of a sequential operations such as address calculation operation by ALU and memory access operation need longer time than...
other operations, scheduling these two operations into different stages is preferable. To keep the branch stage same as PEAS R3K-5 and PEAS R3K-4, branch operation was scheduled to the third stage. Figure 6.3 shows a scheduling result of PEAS R3K-4 and PEAS R3K-3.

Table 6.8: Comparison of the Design that has Different number of Pipeline Stages.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># of stages</th>
<th>freq. (MHz)</th>
<th># of gates (k gates)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>95.0</td>
<td>57.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>121.1</td>
<td>60.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>119.9</td>
<td>62.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 6.9: Design Quality of Clock Frequency Improvement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># of stages</th>
<th>freq. (MHz)</th>
<th># of gates (k gates)</th>
<th>freq. (MHz)</th>
<th># of gates (k gates)</th>
<th>freq. (MHz)</th>
<th># of gates (k gates)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>95.0</td>
<td>57.4</td>
<td>144.3</td>
<td>62.8</td>
<td>131.8</td>
<td>62.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>121.1</td>
<td>60.4</td>
<td>144.3</td>
<td>62.8</td>
<td>131.8</td>
<td>62.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>119.9</td>
<td>62.3</td>
<td>144.3</td>
<td>62.8</td>
<td>131.8</td>
<td>62.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6.5.2 Clock Frequency Improvement

For the improvement of clock frequency, there were two ideas for changing operation scheduling to the pipeline stages.

(a) One was to move the branch stage to the next stage and divide the critical path into two stages as follows: comparison by ALU and zero-flag generation, and conditional program counter update. This modification increased branch penalty. As a result, an execution cycle becomes increased.

(b) The other was addition of dedicated comparator to shorten the delay time of comparison and zero-flag generation.

Table 6.9 shows design modification result for (a) and (b). Because comparison and branch operations were divided into different stages in the design of PEAS R3K-3, the design of R3K-3 (original) and R3K-3 (a) were the same.

From the result shown in Table 6.9, it is confirmed that both modification of (a) and (b) improved clock frequency. Division of branch stage and comparison stage (a) made clock frequency higher than addition of dedicated comparison (b). However, considering the branch penalty increase of processor (a), whether the execution time of processor (a) is less than that of (b) or not it depends on an application program. If an application program includes many branch instructions which are taken frequently, execution cycles of (a) becomes much larger than that of (b), and execution time of (a) becomes larger than that of (b).
On the other hand, the area of (a) was increased because additional pipeline registers were required. The area of (b) was also increased. Additional comparator made the area increase.

The design modification time of (a) and (b) was only two or three minutes for each modification. For the design of (a), micro-operation description of branch and jump instructions were modified with moving branch operation to the next stage. For the design of (b), resource declaration for dedicated comparator was added. Moreover, micro-operation description of branch and jump instructions were modified with replacing comparison resource from ALU to added comparator.

### 6.6 Design Space Exploration for DSP Application

An FIR filter is one of applications in digital signal processing area. In the second experiment, modules to calculate the following equation are designed as ASIPs:

\[ y[n] = \sum_{i=0}^{M} a_i \times x[N - i] \]  

where \( a, x, \) and \( y \) are complex numbers.

Specification of the filter module is as follows. Data size of input/output value is 32 bits. It consists of two 16-bit parts. The higher 16 bits corresponds to the real part of the complex number and the lower 16 bits corresponds to the imaginary part. Both parts are fixed point representation. Input data are provided to the filter module at specified intervals. Output data must be produced before the next data input. The result of the calculation is rounded to round-to-nearest.

An algorithm of this filter is shown in Fig. 6.4. This is a straightforward implementation of Equation (6.1). Variables \( ar \) and \( aj \) correspond to real part and imaginary part respectively of coefficients \( a_i \) in Equation (6.1). Variables \( xr, xj, yr, \) and \( yj \) follow the same manner.

A program of the filter is coded for PEAS R3K processor in assembly language. The code size is 1631 lines.

### 6.6.1 Customization of PEAS R3K

To improve performance, three types of new instructions are added. As another architectural design space exploration, the effect of changing the number of pipeline stages is examined.

#### Adding New Instructions

**Complex MAC**  
Complex MAC type instructions consist of complex MAC operation and related operations such as initialization of complex MAC operation. The instruction `cmult` performs multiply, accumulation, and rounding. By introducing instructions related to complex MAC operation, drastic improvement of execution cycles of the application is expected.

To implement the Complex MAC type instructions, a complex MAC module was designed. A block diagram of the module is shown in Fig. 6.5. This MAC Unit simultaneously calculates complex multiplication and addition, in other words, real part and imaginary part computation, at once. It also includes a round-to-nearest rounding function.

To add Complex MAC type instructions to PEAS R3K, instruction definitions and micro-operation descriptions were added by the designer. The micro-operation
Figure 6.5: Block Diagram of a Complex MAC Unit.

description of ‘cmult’ instruction is shown in Fig. 6.6. In this description, it is specified that the pipeline is proceeding with instruction fetch at stage1, decoding of fetched instruction at stage2, execution of complex MAC operation with complex MAC module ‘CMACO’ at stage3. As shown in this example, multi-cycle operations do not need supplemental description compared to single cycle operations since proposed processor synthesis method can detect multi-cycle operations and generates the controller with multi-cycle handling.

| stage1 | IR := IMEM[PC]; PC.inc(); |
| stage2 | DECODE(IR); $rs := GPR.read0(rs); $rt := GPR.read1(rt); |
| stage3 | ($result, $flag) := CMACO.mac($rs, $rt); |
| stage4 | |
| stage5 | |

Figure 6.6: Micro-operation Description of cmult (Complex MAC).

Modulo Addressing  Modulo addressing is one of addressing modes to calculate address for queues. In the algorithm in Fig. 6.4, buffer x for preceding inputs has overhead of load/store. Using Modulo addressing, when load/store instruction is executed, the next address is also calculated in the instruction. By introducing instructions related to Modulo addressing, some improvement of execution cycles of the application is expected.

Since these instructions require no special resources, the designer only added instruction definitions and micro-operation descriptions for introducing these instructions.

Loop  Loop instruction is one of branch instructions. The loop instruction performs decrement of counter and branch as a single instruction. Though the improvement of the number of the execution cycles is at most one instruction per iteration, relatively large improvement can be expected for the iteration of short basic block length.

To implement Loop instruction, the designer added instruction definitions and micro-operation descriptions for introducing these instructions.

6.6.2 Pipeline Stage Tuning for Derivative Processors

The number of pipeline stages of derivative processors, which are added the instruction described in the previous section, was varied from three to five. Micro-operation re-scheduling that is described Section 6.5 is also done to improve clock frequency.

6.6.3 Results of Design Space Exploration for DSP Applications

Results of logic synthesis for each modification are shown in this section. Design times for each modification are also shown.

Results of Adding Instructions

Five derivative version processors have been designed. Let M mean the processor including complex MAC instructions, L mean the processor including Loop instructions, and A mean the processor including modulo addressing instructions. Results
of logic synthesis, i.e., the number of gates and maximal clock frequency, and the number of execution cycles for calculating a single output value for \( M = 128 \) are summarized in Table 6.10.

Table 6.10: Design Quality for Each Processors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Processor</th>
<th>Max Frequency (MHz)</th>
<th># of Gates (K gates)</th>
<th># of Execution Cycles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Original</td>
<td>119.9</td>
<td>80.0</td>
<td>23932</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>101.8</td>
<td>71.4</td>
<td>3893</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>104.4</td>
<td>64.7</td>
<td>23805</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MA</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>92.0</td>
<td>3507</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ML</td>
<td>102.7</td>
<td>73.6</td>
<td>3766</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAL</td>
<td>100.7</td>
<td>94.8</td>
<td>3509</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Using Design Compiler (0.5μm CMOS library)

- M: including complex MAC instructions
- L: including Loop instructions
- A: including Modulo Addressing

In Table 6.10, the number of execution cycles is drastically reduced by introducing CMAC type instructions. In this case, maximal frequency of processor decrease approximately 30%.

Table 6.11: Design Time for Each Instructions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instructions</th>
<th>Time (Hour)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Original</td>
<td>8.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMAC</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mod. Addr.</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loop</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Design time for each processors is shown in Table 6.11. Original PEAS R3K processor has been designed in eight hours. To add new instructions, less than one hour was required in any type of instruction in this experiment. Furthermore, any processor, which has any combination of already designed instruction, can be easily synthesized by PEAS-III.

Results of Pipeline Tuning

Results of logic synthesis for each design are summarized in Table 6.12. The column “model” denotes the variation of instruction set addition shown in Table 6.10. The column “type” denotes variation of clock frequency improvement shown in Section 6.5.2.

As mentioned in Section 6.5, the number of gates in Table 6.12 is approximately linear to the number of pipeline stages, too. Clock frequency for three stage derivatives is about 40 % less than that of four and five stage derivatives. Clock frequency of both four and five stage derivatives is almost the same.

Table 6.12: Design Quality for Changing the Number of Pipeline Stages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th># of Exec. Cycles</th>
<th>3 Stages</th>
<th>4 Stages</th>
<th>5 Stages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>freq. (MHz)</td>
<td>area (K gates)</td>
<td>freq. (MHz)</td>
<td>area (K gates)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Original</td>
<td>orig</td>
<td>23932</td>
<td>95.0</td>
<td>57.4</td>
<td>121.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a</td>
<td>24063</td>
<td>95.0</td>
<td>57.4</td>
<td>144.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b</td>
<td>23932</td>
<td>100.7</td>
<td>57.3</td>
<td>140.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>orig</td>
<td>3766</td>
<td>66.3</td>
<td>70.9</td>
<td>101.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a</td>
<td>3895</td>
<td>66.3</td>
<td>70.9</td>
<td>102.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b</td>
<td>3766</td>
<td>65.8</td>
<td>71.4</td>
<td>102.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>orig</td>
<td>3507</td>
<td>73.4</td>
<td>85.9</td>
<td>101.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a</td>
<td>3638</td>
<td>73.4</td>
<td>85.9</td>
<td>98.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b</td>
<td>3507</td>
<td>72.2</td>
<td>86.5</td>
<td>98.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>orig</td>
<td>3509</td>
<td>65.3</td>
<td>89.3</td>
<td>98.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a</td>
<td>3638</td>
<td>65.3</td>
<td>89.3</td>
<td>104.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b</td>
<td>3509</td>
<td>65.1</td>
<td>89.3</td>
<td>103.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Using Design Compiler (0.5μm CMOS library)

Relationship between area and execution time for FIR filtering application is plotted in Fig. 6.7. Trade-off between area and execution time is plotted in Fig. 6.8. At various design constraint, various architecture candidates can be selected in terms of the number of pipeline stages, extension instruction set and so on.

Design time of derivative processors in terms of pipeline tuning was within an hour per one model. Total design time of pipeline tuning for four models in Ta-
Table 6.12 took four hours. Total design time of all derivatives, which was the addition of design time of new instructions and design time of pipeline tuning, was about six hours.

Figure 6.7: Area and Execution Time for all Derivatives.

Figure 6.8: Trade-off of Area and Execution Time.
Chapter 7

Discussion

In this chapter, the effectiveness of the proposed processor design and synthesis method is discussed with the results of experiments. The effectiveness is discussed at the following points:

- largeness of explored design space,
- design and design exploration time,
- and design quality.

7.1 Design Space

The proposed synthesis method supports portion of the architectural characteristics shown in Chapter 3. The supported items are as follows:

- hardware module configuration,
- storage units organization,
- pipeline organization that includes the number of pipeline stages and micro-operation assignment to the pipeline stages,
- structural hazard detection and pipeline interlock control synthesis,
- predict-not-take based delayed branch,
- and external interrupt.
From experimental results, effectiveness of design space exploration with these architectural variations was shown.

In the experiments, design space was explored in terms of the following points:
Design space was explored in terms of the following points:

- **hardware module configuration.** Hardware configuration includes changing resource parameters and addition of new resources. Changing resource parameters for PEAS-I core, which is shown in Section 6.3. Addition of new resource for clock frequency improvement is shown in Section 6.5.2.
- **instruction bit width.** The instruction bit width of embedded RISC controller was changed from 32-bit to 24-bit.
- **the number of pipeline stages.** The number of pipeline stages for PEAS R3K processor and derivative processors for DSP applications were changed. It is shown in Section 6.5 and Section 6.6.2.
- **operation scheduling to the pipeline stages.** Changing the stage of branch operation for PEAS R3K and DSP derivative processors is shown in Section 6.5 and Section 6.6.2.
- **organization of storage units.** Complex addressing modes for special registers and multiple register files were designed. Complex addressing modes were shown in Section6.4.

Furthermore proposed synthesis method has a potential ability for designing complex memory architecture, such as memory-memory architecture, non-harvard architecture, multiple port memory and so on. Synthesis of structural hazard detection and pipeline interlock logic enables to design such processors.

Proposed synthesis method can deal with much larger design space than that of existing prepared processor based systems. Design space is enlarged in terms of instruction bit width, user-defined pipeline organization in terms of the number of pipeline stages, the number of delayed branch slot, role of each pipeline stage and multi-cycle operations, storage unit organization, and user-defined external interrupt.

For the further expansion of the design space, extension for out-of-order instruction issue and out-of-order completion, VLIW architecture, and internal exception are required. When target processor uses a functional unit that has long latency to calculate the result, the pipeline organization with out-of-order completion is effective. The processor with out-of-order completion can execute other succeeding instructions while executing instructions that have long latency. For the applications which requires high performance, the processor with out-of-order instruction issue and VLIW processors are suitable to execute multiple instructions at the same time.

Extension for branch mechanism is also required. The synthesis method cannot deal with the non-overhead loop instructions which are popular in DSP application because branch architecture is fixed to predict-not-take base delayed branch.

### 7.2 Design Time and Design Space Exploration Time

#### 7.2.1 Design Time for New Processors

With the higher abstraction level processor specification than RT level, design time of the ASIPs are drastically reduced. Higher abstraction level processor description contributes the easiness of the design.

From the experiments, reduction of the design time was shown. Design time for ASIP with proposed method was about three to seven times shorter than those for conventional RT level design as shown in experiments. Compared with other processor description language AIDL [24], AIDL needs 37 hours to design 23 instructions of PA-RISC processor. AIDL includes complex specification descriptions for complicated processors. From the results, it is obvious that micro-operation level processor description is effective for shortening design time of straightforward pipelined processors.
7.2.2 Design Time for Derivative Processors

Proposed micro-operation level processor specification also reduces design exploration time compared with that of RT level processor specification. Synthesis of datapath structure and controller reduces design and design modification time of them and enables the designer to change the architecture in a short time.

From the experiments, turn around time for derivative processor designs was shown. The derivative processor designs includes the following modifications:

- changing resource parameters. The designer change parameters for the sake of the evaluation of various hardware module which has same functionality and different design quality in the sense of area, clock frequency and execution cycles. This modification needs only few seconds per one parameter.

- addition of application specific user-defined instructions. The designer defines instruction format and describe micro-operation description of new instructions. This modification takes ten to fifteen minutes per one instruction of DSP instructions shown in Section 6.6.

- addition of new resource. The designer declares additional resources to gain performance of the design. It takes only a few minutes.

- changing the number of pipeline stages and changing operation scheduling to pipeline stages. The number of pipeline stages will be decreased for the reduction of the area. On the other hand, the number of pipeline stages will be increased to reduce the delay time of the critical path. The designer also changes the stage of micro-operation to reduce the delay time of critical path. Changing the number of pipeline stages and operation scheduling to the pipeline stages requires re-scheduling of micro-operation to the pipeline stages. The changing time is within a minutes per one instruction. From the experiments, pipeline tuning takes 20 minutes for the PEAS R3K processor that has 52 instructions.

Large design space has been successfully explored. The trade-off of the design is found. The designs of 12 derivatives were tried in a day.

Though design and design modification time is very short, evaluation and validation time for the designed processor makes turn around time long. Effective and rapid estimation and critical path analysis for synthesized processor are required.

For more efficient support of design space exploration, optimization of resource selection, instruction format decision, the number of pipeline stages and micro-operation assignment for pipeline stages are required.

7.3 Design Quality

In the design quality of synthesized processors and manually design processors, clock frequencies of them are almost the same. The area of synthesized processors is about 20% larger than those of manually designed processors. Though the area is inferior to manual design, the advantage of effective design space exploration has an impact on the total design quality. The disadvantage on the area does not affect so much.

To improve the design quality of synthesized processor, optimization of selector and pipeline register insertion is required. For the reduction of pipeline register, pipeline register sharing could be effective. However, sharing the register needs additional selectors. On the other hand, when critical path includes automatically inserted selectors, moving the selector to the previous pipeline stage or to the next pipeline stage, if possible, reduces the critical path. Pipeline register sharing and selector insertion stage optimization based on an RT level rapid and accurate estimation improve the design quality.
Chapter 8

Conclusions and Future Work

In this thesis a micro-operation level processor specification and processor synthesis method is proposed for the architectural design space exploration of ASIPs.

8.1 Conclusion

In this thesis, micro-operation level processor specification for architectural design space exploration has been discussed. The specification includes a parameterized pipeline structure in the sense of the number of pipeline stages and roles of the pipeline stages. Furthermore, a complex mechanism that includes pipeline control logic, designing a datapath structure is not needed. The easiness of the design and design modification and flexibility on the processor enables architectural exploration of a large design space in a short design time.

For processor synthesis, a processor model has been examined. To deal with flexibility in pipeline depth of target processor, datapath and controller is divided into pipeline stages. The sequence of datapath and controller models of each pipeline stage organizes the pipelined processor. The organization of each pipeline stage controller, instruction decoder and external interrupt controller are discussed. The pipeline hazard detection and control mechanism that includes pipeline interlock and pipeline flush are formalized. The pipeline control model and pipeline hazard detection mechanism are used to synthesize pipeline control logic from micro-operation level processor specifications.

Processor synthesis method from micro-operation level processor specification is
proposed. Each part of the datapath synthesis, such as data flow graph generation, signal conflicts resolution and pipeline register insertion are described. Instruction decoder synthesis, pipeline control logic synthesis and interrupt controller synthesis are also described. The synthesis method supports user-defined pipeline organization in the sense of the number of pipeline stages and the number of delayed branch slots, multi-cycle operation, structural hazards resolution, and external interrupts. The wide support for the pipelined processor enables exploration of a large design space for ASIPs.

Through the five kinds of experiments, the effectiveness of the micro-operation level processor design is confirmed. The design time and the architectural design space exploration time are reduced while keeping the flexibility in the pipeline organization, hardware configuration and so on. A large design space has been successfully explored. The trade-off of the design is found by trying 12 derivative processors. The designs of 12 derivatives were tried in a day.

In this thesis, micro-operation level processor specification and a processor synthesis method for architectural design space exploration for ASIPs are proposed. It is confirmed that in using the proposed method, large design spaces are easily explored in terms of the number of pipeline stages and delayed branch slots and hardware module configuration, user-defined instructions interface ports and external interrupts, and operation scheduling to pipeline stages.

8.2 Future Work

Future work for further architectural design space exploration includes the expansion of design space and reduction of design exploration time. Improvement of the design quality of synthesized processors is also a future goal. In the following section, the future directions of these articles are described.

8.2.1 Design Space Expansion

Supports for the following characteristics described in Section 3.1 to enlarge design space are required.

- branch prediction mechanism and non-overhead loop,
- out-of-order completion,
- out-of-order instruction issue,
- and other interrupt and exception.

Instruction fetch module synthesis is required to extend branch mechanism because branch control is closely related to instruction fetch. Parameterization of instruction fetch module and branch architecture, and consideration of their synthesis method enable the system to deal with various branch architectures. The parameter seems to include instruction bit width, increment step, predict-taken or predict-not-taken or dynamic branch prediction with branch-prediction buffers or that with branch-target buffers, and parameters of buffers.

Processor model extension for multiple pipeline sequence enables super-scalar and VLIW type processor synthesis. However, the extension for multiple pipeline sequence makes hazard detection and the resolution algorithm more complex. For out-of-order instruction issue, reservation station synthesis is also required.

For the support of the precise exception, restriction of instruction specification and exception handling should be discussed. Extension instruction flush and restoring the processor status mechanism for exception is also required.

8.2.2 Design Exploration Time Reduction

For the further reduction of the design and design modification time, optimization of micro-operation level processor specification is required. The target of the optimization includes instruction format assignment, resource parameter selection, the number of pipeline stages and micro-operation assignment for pipeline stages.

The critical path of each pipeline stage can be reduced by changing the pipeline stage assignment of micro-operations and hardware module parameters.

Data flow graph generation from micro-operation description and ASAP (as soon as possible) base scheduling with design constraint enables optimization of micro-operation assignment to the pipeline stages. At the same time, the parameter selection of resources should be done because the design qualities of the resources affect
the delay time of the critical path. For the scheduling and resource parameter selection, fast and accurate estimation of micro-operation level processor specification is required, too.

8.2.3 Improvement of the Design Quality

The design quality of the synthesized processor is slightly inferior to that of manual design using RT level HDL description. For the improvement of the design quality, optimization of selector and pipeline register insertion taking into account the trade-off between clock frequency and hardware cost is required, as discussed in Section 7.3.

Bibliography


Appendix A

Grammar of Micro-operation Level Processor Specification

A.1 Organization of Micro-operation Level Specification

Micro-operation level specification is a text file divided into eight parts:

1. Version
2. Design Goal and Architecture Parameter
3. Interface Definition
4. Instruction Type Definition
5. Instruction Definition
6. Resource Declaration
7. Interrupt Definition
8. Micro-operation Description

General grammar of micro-operation level specification is as follows:

```
KEY := [a-zA-Z][a-zA-Z0-9]*
STRING := "["-"|"\"|\"]*"
<design> := <item>
<item> := <keyword> ["{",<item>"]","{","<item>}
<keyword> := (KEY | STRING)
```

"KEY" includes "clk(n)" as an exception. n takes integer value.

Each part has its own syntax and keywords. Each part begins with the keywords Version, Port_declaration, Instruction_type, Instruction, Resource, Exception, and MOT. Keywords and syntax for each part are described in the following sections.
A.2 Architecture Parameter

In the architecture parameter part, design goal and architecture parameters are specified.

```plaintext
<Specification> := 'Design' '{' /
  <Version> ', '
  <Architecture_Parameter> ', '
  <Interface_Declaration> ', '
  <Inst_Type_Definition> ', '
  <Instruction_Definition> ', '
  <Resource_Declaration> ', '
  <Interrupt_Definition> ', '
  <Micro_Dp_Description> ' ''}
```

Architecture parameter includes login name of FHM-DB, design goal, processor type and architecture parameters for pipeline processor. Candidates of processor type are "Non-pipeline", "Pipeline" and "VLIW". Processor types "Non-pipeline" and "VLIW" are prepared for future extension. Currently, "Pipeline" architecture is supported.

A.2.1 Design Goal

```plaintext
<Design_Constraint> := 'constraint' '{' /
  <Goal_Frequency> ', '
  <Goal_Area> ', '
  <Goal_Delay> ',
  <Goal_Power_Static> ', '
  <Goal_Power_Dynamic> ' ''}
```

```
<Goal_Frequency> := 'goal_frequency' '{' 'VALUE' '}'
<Goal_Area> := 'goal_area' '{' 'VALUE' '}'
<Goal_Delay> := 'goal_delay' '{' 'VALUE' '}'
<Goal_Power_Static> := 'goal_power_S' '{' 'VALUE' '}'
<Goal_Power_Dynamic> := 'goal_power_D' '{' 'VALUE' '}'
VALUE := [0-9]+[,][0-9]+]
```

Design goal for clock frequency, chip area, maximum delay, static power consumption and dynamic power consumption. Their values are represented in decimal or integer.

A.2.2 Pipeline Processor Parameters

Architecture parameters for pipeline processor include the number of stages, the number of common stages, the number of phases per stage, synthesis of pipeline interlock logic, data bypassing logic, and branch control logic.

```plaintext
<Pipeline_Arch_Parameter> := 'Pipeline_architecture' '{' /
  <Number_of_Stages> ', '
  <Number_of(Common_Stages)>, '
  <Number_of(Phases_Per_S)>, '
  <Multi_Cycle_Interlock> ',
  <Data_Hazard_Interlock> ',
  <Register_Bypass> ',
  <Memory_Bypass> ',
  <Delayed_Branch> ',
  <Delayed_Branch_Slot> ' ''}
```

```
<Number_of_Stages> := 'number_of_stages' '{' 'INT' '}'
<Number_of(Common_Stages)>, := 'number_of_common_stages' '{' 'INT' '}'
<Number_of(Phases_Per_S)>, := 'number_of_phases_per_stages' '{' 'INT' '}'
<Multi_Cycle_Interlock> := 'multi_cycle_interlock' '{' 'USAGE' '}'
<Data_Hazard_Interlock> := 'data_hazard_interlock' '{' 'USAGE' '}'
<Register_Bypass> := 'register_bypass' '{' 'USAGE' '}'
<Memory_Bypass> := 'memory_bypass' '{' 'USAGE' '}'
<Delayed_Branch> := 'delayed_branch' '{' 'YES' '}'
<Delayed_Branch_Slot> := 'number_of_exec_delayed_slot' '{' 'number' 'INT' '}'
INT := "[0-9]" "
USAGE := "Yes" "No" "
YES := "Yes" "No" "
```

The number of pipeline stages takes integer value. The parameter value of delayed branch indicates whether the processor adopts delayed branch architecture or not. If the parameter value of delayed branch is "Yes", the number delayed branch slot should be specified. The number of delayed branch slot must be less than the number of branch stage.

The following parameters are prepared for future extension: the number of common stages, the number of phases per stage, synthesis of pipeline interlock logic and bypassing logic. Pipeline interlock logic for the resolution of structural hazards is automatically synthesized regardless of the parameter value.

A.3 Interface Definition

In the interface definition part, entity name, and input and output ports of target processor are defined.
A.4 Instruction Format Definition

Instruction format definition consists of two parts, instruction type definition and instruction definition.

A.4.1 Instruction Type Definition

Instruction type definition part consists of a list of instruction type definitions.

```
<Inst.Type.DEfinition> := 'Instruction.type' '{
  'sub.field.name' '{
    'NO.VILW' 'Field.Width' ',
    'type' '{
      <Inst.Type> { ', ' <Inst.Type> } '
    },
  },
'}

<Field.Width> := 'width' '{
  'INT', 'INT'
}
```

In the instruction type definition part, bit fields, field type, field name, and binary value of it are defined for each instruction type.

A.5 Resource Declaration

In the resource declaration part, hardware modules are selected with appropriate parameters from parameterized hardware library FHM-DB.
Resource declaration part consists of a list of resources. For each resource, resource name, FHM model name and its parameter values are specified. The class path field is prepared for future extension.

Resource parameter includes abstraction level for synthesized simulation model and logic synthesizable model. Abstraction level must be selected among ‘Behavior’, ‘RT’ and ‘Gate’. After the abstraction level, parameters, which are specific to the model, are specified.

### A.6 Interrupt Definition

In the interrupt definition part, interrupt condition definitions and micro-operation description of interrupts are combined.

Interrupt definition includes interrupt name, condition, type, execution cycle count, behavior, assertion and micro-operation description. Interrupt type, behavior and assertion are prepared for future extension.

Execution cycle count for the interrupt is defined. In the micro-operation description of interrupts, interrupt handling operations of the processor, such as setting special values to special registers and jumping to the interrupt handler routine, are described. The syntax of Interrupt condition <Condition> and micro-operation description <MOD> are explained in Appendix A.7.

### A.7 Micro-operation Description

Micro-operation description is used to describe clock based behavior of instructions and interrupts. Micro-operation description of a clock instruction (or interrupt) is described as follows:

\[
\text{clk}(k)("<\text{Micro-Op}>"))
\]

Behavior of the instruction (or interrupt) in the k-th clock is described with “clk(k)”. Micro-operation of each clock consists of the following elements:

- **Variable**
- **Logic**
• Constant,
• Storage,
• Operand,
• Function,
• Assignment statement,
• If-statement,
• Decode designation.

\[\text{<Micro-Op> := <Assignment_statement> ';'; |}
\text{<Function> ';'; |}
\text{<If_statement> ';'; |}
\text{<Decode_statement> ';'; |}
\]

A.7.1 Variable
\[\text{<Variable> := VAR}
\text{\text{VAR} := \$[a-zA-Z][a-zA-Z0-9]*}\]

Variables are declared implicitly in assignment statements. The scope of variable is an instruction in which the variable is described. Assignment for a variable is allowed only once. Right value of the assignment can be referred in the same stage and in the following stages. The variable is implemented with net when the variable is referred in the same stage. The variable is implemented with pipeline register when the variable is referred in the following stage.

A.7.2 Constant
\[\text{<Constant> := SignalBit | BitVector}
\text{\text{SignalBit} := \"\{0\}\ | \"\{1\}\}
\text{\text{BitVector} := \"[01]\}\}
\]

Constant in binary expression is used in the micro-operation description. Single bit constant is quoted by single quote. Plural bits constant is quoted by double quote. Constant value is referred in assignment statement, conditional expression of if-statement, resource operations and index of addressed storage.

A.7.3 Storage
\[\text{<Storage> := <Resource_Name> [ <Address> ]}
\text{\text{Resource_Name} := NAME}
\text{\text{Address} := <Right_Part>}
\text{\text{Name} := \[a-zA-Z][a-zA-Z0-9]*}\]

In an assignment statement, right part values are assigned to the storages and variables appeared in left part. Right hand includes storage units, variables, operands, constant and function and concatenate of them.

Declared registers, memory access units, register files and so on in the resource declaration part, are referred as storage unit. For an addressed storage unit, location is referred by an index. An index is quoted by "[ ]". The content value of storage unit is referred when it is in a parameter of resource operation, right part of the assignment statement and conditional expression of if-statement. The content value of storage unit is changed to assigned value when it is in a left part of assignment statement. The value of the storage unit is replaced synchronously with the transition timing of the stage.

A.7.4 Operands
\[\text{<Operand> := <Field_Name>}
\text{\text{Field_Name} := NAME}
\text{\text{Name} := \[a-zA-Z][a-zA-Z0-9]*}\]

Certain bit field of the instruction register is referred by an operand field name, which is specified in instruction format definition part. The field name and bit field of an operand are defined in instruction type definition part.

A.7.5 Function
\[\text{<Function> := <Resource_Name> \'.', \text{<Function_Name> ['( '<Parameter_List>' )']}\}
\text{\text{Resource_Name} := NAME}
\text{\text{Function_Name} := NAME}
\text{\text{Parameter_List} := [ '<Parameter> [ ', '<Parameter> ]}\}
\text{\text{Parameter} := <Right_Part>}
\text{\text{Name} := \[a-zA-Z][a-zA-Z0-9]*}\]

Functions indicate operations of resources. Input data of the operation are described as parameters. Output results of the operation are assigned to variables and storage units with assignment statement. If the function has no output, the statement consists of function expression only.

A.7.6 Assignment statement
\[\text{<Assignment_statement> := <Left_Part> ';'; := '<Right_Part>'}
\text{\text{Left_Part} := <Left_Part> [ '\(', '<Left_Part> [ ', '<Left_Part> ]\)'}\}
\text{\text{Left_Part} := <Storage> | <Variable>}
\text{\text{Right_Part} := <Term> [ '\&' '<Term>]}\]
\text{\text{Term} := <Storage> [ <Bit_Select> | <Variable> [ <Bit_Select> |}
\text{\text{Constant} | <Function> | <Operand>]}\]

In an assignment statement, right part values are assigned to the storages and variables appeared in left part. Right hand includes storage units, variables, operands, constant and function and concatenate of them.

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A.7.7 If-statement

```plaintext
<If_Statement> ::= 'if' '(' 'Condition' ')' 'Then Phase'
    [ 'Else Phase' ] 'end if'
<Condition> ::= <Equation> | <Expression>
<Expression1> ::= <Expression2> [ '&&' <Expression3> ]
<Expression2> ::= <Expression3> [ '||' <Expression4> ]
<Expression3> ::= '(' 'Condition' ')' | 'not' <Expression3>
<Equation> ::= 'Right Part' | '=' <Right Part>
<Then_Phase> ::= 'then' 'Micro-Op'
<Else_Phase> ::= 'else' 'Micro-Op'
```

If the condition holds, then-phase is executed. If the condition does not hold, else-phase is executed. The condition of the if-statement is represented in boolean expression of equations, which compare value of variables, constants, storages, operands and functions. The order of priority of boolean operators is 'not', '&&' and '||'.

A.7.8 Decode statement

```plaintext
<Decode_Statement> ::= 'DECODE' '(' '<Instruction_Register>' ')' 'Instruction_Register' ::= '<Storage>
```

Decode statement indicates instruction decode stage and instruction register. Instruction decode stage is the stage where the decode statement is described. The storage unit in the decode statement indicates instruction register.

Appendix B

Processor Specification of PEAS R3K

Design
Version(2.0)
Abstract_level_architecture
Flat_architecture('peas'),
construction([Goal_frequency="50", Goal_area="42"], Goal_delay="56", Goal_power(31=1000), Goal_power(31=1000), Goal_exec=300000),
CPU_type('Pipeline'),
PipelineArchitecture([Number_of_stages="6", Number_of_common_stages="0", Number_of_phase_mem_stages="1", stage1="ID", stage2="IR", stage3="EX", stage4="EX", stage5="EX", stage6="EX"],
Multi_cycle_interlock("Use"), Data_hazard_interlock("Use"), Register_hypothesis("Use"), Memory_hypothesis("Use"), Delayed_branch("Yes"),
Number_of_exec_delayed_slot(number("1"))),
Port_declaration
entity_name('CPU'), Port('clk'('direction'="in"), signal_type('std_logic'), signal_attribute('clock')),
  'inst'('direction'="in"), signal_type('std_logic'), signal_attribute('clock'))],
  'inst'('direction'="in"), signal_type('std_logic'), signal_attribute('clock'))],
  'inst'('direction'="out"), signal_type('std_logic_vector(31 downto 0)')
),
  'dataA'('direction'="out"), signal_type('std_logic_vector(31 downto 0)')
),
  'dataB'('direction'="out"), signal_type('std_logic_vector(31 downto 0)')
),
  'write'('direction'="out"), signal_type('std_logic_vector(3 downto 0)')
),
  'data_memory_write_enable')
})

Instruction_type
sub_field_name(31, 31) VLIW_width('31', '16') type('Btype'('ID code'('type'='opcode'),width('31', '26'))),
  'operand'('type'='rs'), width('30', '21'))
),
  'data_memory_write_disable'('type'='enable', width('31', '26'))
)}}

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clk(2) { "DECODE(IR);" }
$rs := $GPR.read(O); |
$im := EXTO.sign(immediate); |
clk(3) { "result, $flag := ALU0.add($rs, $im);" }
clk(4) { "GPR[rt] := $result;" }
clk(5) { "IR := IMMPC;" } |
\\\\\\\\
$pc := $result; |
$pc := $flag; |
\\\\\\\\
$im := EXTO.zero(immediate); |
clk(3) { "result, $flag := ALU0.add($rs, $im);" }
clk(4) { "GPR[rd] := $result;" }
\\\\\\\\
$im := EXTO.sign(offset); |
clk(3) { "result := $imm(29 downto 0) \& "00;" } |
$target := ALU0.add($pc, $offset); |
if ($rs(31) = '0') then $pc := $target; end if; |
clk(4) { "if ($flag(2) = '0')) then $pc := $target; end if;", |
clk(5) { "GPR[rd] := $result;" }
\\\\\\\\
$im := EXTO.sign(offset); |
clk(3) { "result := $imm(29 downto 0) \& "00;" } |
$target := ALU0.add($pc, $offset); |
if ($rs(31) = '1') then $pc := $target; end if; |
clk(4) { "if ($flag(2) = '1')) then $pc := $target; end if;", |
clk(5) { "GPR[rd] := $result;" }
\\\\\\\\
$im := EXTO.sign(offset); |
clk(3) { "result := $imm(29 downto 0) \& \"00\";" } |
$target := ALU0.add($pc, $offset); |
if ($rs(31) = '1') then $pc := $target; end if; |
clk(4) { "if ($flag(2) = '1')) then $pc := $target; end if;", |
clk(5) { "GPR[rd] := $result;" }
\\\\\\\\
$im := EXTO.sign(offset); |
clk(3) { "result := $imm(29 downto 0) \& \"00\";" } |
$target := ALU0.add($pc, $offset); |
if ($rs(31) = '0') then $pc := $target; end if; |
clk(4) { "if ($flag(2) = '0')) then $pc := $target; end if;", |
clk(5) { "GPR[rd] := $result;" }
\\\\\\\\
$im := EXTO.sign(offset); |
clk(3) { "result := $imm(29 downto 0) \& \"00\";" } |
$target := ALU0.add($pc, $offset); |
if ($rs(31) = '1') then $pc := $target; end if; |
clk(4) { "if ($flag(2) = '1')) then $pc := $target; end if;", |
clk(5) { "GPR[rd] := $result;" }
\\\\\\\\
$im := EXTO.sign(offset); |
clk(3) { "result := $imm(29 downto 0) \& \"00\";" } |
$target := ALU0.add($pc, $offset); |
if ($rs(31) = '0') then $pc := $target; end if; |
clk(4) { "if ($flag(2) = '0')) then $pc := $target; end if;", |
clk(5) { "GPR[rd] := $result;" }
\\\\\\\\
$im := EXTO.sign(offset); |
clk(3) { "result := $imm(29 downto 0) \& \"00\";" } |
$target := ALU0.add($pc, $offset); |
if ($rs(31) = '1') then $pc := $target; end if; |
clk(4) { "if ($flag(2) = '1')) then $pc := $target; end if;", |
clk(5) { "GPR[rd] := $result;" }
PC := 0;

$rs := GPR.read(0);
$rt := GPR.read(0);
$offset := EXTO.sign($shamt);
$target := IMEM[PC];
DRESULT := $result; 1
$addr.err := DMEM.sh($target, $rt);
$imm := EXTO.zero($imm);
$offset := EXTO.sign($offset);
$result := SFTO.sll($result, $shamt);
Appendix C

Synthesis Result of PEAS R3K Processor

C.1 VHDL Description of PEAS R3K Datapath

```vhdl
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;

entity CPU is
  port ( clk : in std_logic;
         intn : in std_logic_vector(2 downto 0);
         rst : in std_logic;
         instAB : out std_logic_vector(31 downto 0);
         instDB : in std_logic_vector(31 downto 0);
         dataAB : out std_logic_vector(31 downto 0);
         dataDB : in std_logic_vector(31 downto 0);
         we : out std_logic_vector(3 downto 0));
end CPU;

architecture syn of CPU is
  component cpu_ctrl
    port ( instAB : in std_logic_vector(31 downto 0);
           rst : in std_logic;
           int : in std_logic;
           intn : in std_logic_vector(2 downto 0);
           clk : in std_logic;
           IR_data_out : in std_logic_vector(31 downto 0);
           MULO_fin : in std_logic;
           DIVO_flag : in std_logic;
           CSW_enb : out std_logic;
           CSW_rst : out std_logic;
           reg39_enb : out std_logic;
           reg38_enb : out std_logic;
           reg37_enb : out std_logic;
           reg36_enb : out std_logic;
           reg35_enb : out std_logic;
           reg34_enb : out std_logic;
           reg33_enb : out std_logic;
           reg32_enb : out std_logic;
           reg31_enb : out std_logic;
           reg30_enb : out std_logic;
           reg29_enb : out std_logic;
           reg28_enb : out std_logic;
           reg27_enb : out std_logic;
           reg26_enb : out std_logic;
           reg25_enb : out std_logic;
           reg24_enb : out std_logic;
           reg23_enb : out std_logic;
           reg22_enb : out std_logic;
           ...)
  end component;
```

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data_in => d_GPR_data_out1, 
data_out => d_reg26_data_out;
reg27 : pipereg_26
port map(
clk => clk,
reset => d_sys2_p0,
enable => c_reg27_enable,
data_in => d_reg26_data_out, 
data_out => d_reg27_data_out);
reg28 : pipereg_26
port map(
clk => clk,
reset => d_sys2_p0,
enable => c_reg26_enable,
data_in => d_sel10_data_out, 
data_out => d_reg28_data_out);
reg29 : pipereg_27
port map(
clk => clk,
reset => d_sys2_p0,
enable => c_reg29_enable,
data_in => d_sel12_data_out, 
data_out => d_reg29_data_out);
reg30 : pipereg_27
port map(
clk => clk,
reset => d_sys2_p0,
enable => c_reg30_enable,
data_in => d Reg29_data_out, 
data_out => d_reg30_data_out);
reg31 : pipereg_27
port map(
clk => clk,
reset => d_sys2_p0,
enable => c_reg31_enable,
data_in => d_Reg29_data_out, 
data_out => d_reg31_data_out);
reg32 : pipereg_25
port map(
clk => clk,
reset => d_sys2_p0,
enable => c_reg32_enable,
data_in => d_Reg31_data_out, 
data_out => d_reg32_data_out);
reg33 : pipereg_25
port map(
clk => clk,
reset => d_sys2_p0,
enable => c_reg33_enable,
data_in => d_Reg32_data_out, 
data_out => d_reg33_data_out);
reg34 : pipereg_25
port map(
clk => clk,
reset => d_sys2_p0,
enable => c_reg34_enable,
data_in => d_Reg33_data_out, 
data_out => d_reg34_data_out);
reg35 : pipereg_27
port map(
clk => clk,
reset => d_sys2_p0,
enable => c_reg35_enable,
data_in => d_Reg34_data_out, 
data_out => d_reg35_data_out);
C.2 VHDL Description of PEAS R3K Controller

library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
use IEEE.std_logic_arith.all;

-- entity_begin

entity cpu_ctrl is
port :
in std_logic_vector(31 downto 0);
int : in std_logic;
int : in std_logic_vector(2 downto 0);
clk : in std_logic;
IR_data_out : in std_logic_vector(31 downto 0);
MUL_fin : in std_logic;
DIV0_flag : in std_logic_vector(1 downto 0);
CNW : out std_logic;
reg50_ent : out std_logic;
reg51_ent : out std_logic;
reg52_ent : out std_logic;
reg53_ent : out std_logic;
reg54_ent : out std_logic;
reg55_ent : out std_logic;
reg56_ent : out std_logic;

end entity;

architecture behavior of cpu_ctrl is

-- type

type TypeInsn is
   TypeInsn, TypeInsn,
   TypeInsn, TypeInsn,
   TypeInsn, TypeInsn,
   TypeInsn, TypeInsn,
   TypeInsn, TypeInsn,
   TypeInsn, TypeInsn,
   TypeInsn, TypeInsn,
   TypeInsn, TypeInsn,
   TypeInsn, TypeInsn,
   TypeInsn, TypeInsn,
   TypeInsn, TypeInsn;

-- subtype

subtype TypeInsn_Count is TypeInsn range 0 to 2;

-- signal

signal insn : TypeInsn;
signal go : std_logic_vector(0 to 5);
signal valid : std_logic_vector(1 to 6);
signal reset : std_logic;
signal Interrupts.Step : Type.Instr_Count;

-- reg50_ent : out std_logic;
reg51_ent : out std_logic;
reg52_ent : out std_logic;
reg53_ent : out std_logic;
reg54_ent : out std_logic;
reg55_ent : out std_logic;
reg56_ent : out std_logic;

-- reg50_ent : out std_logic;
reg51_ent : out std_logic;
reg52_ent : out std_logic;
reg53_ent : out std_logic;
reg54_ent : out std_logic;
reg55_ent : out std_logic;
reg56_ent : out std_logic;

-- end architecture;
if (rst = '1') then
  valid <= "00000";
elsif (reset = '1') then
  valid <= "00000";
elsif (interrupt_state = 0) then
  interrupt_state <= 0;
elsif (Interrupt_Step = 2) then
  Interrupt_Step <= Interrupt_Step + 1;
end if;
elsif (interrupt_state = 1) then
  if (rst = '1') then
    Interrupt_Step <= 2;
  end if;
elsif (interrupt_state = 2) then
  interrupt_state <= INT_Init;
end if;
else
  if (valid = "00000") then
    Interrupt_Step <= 1;
  end if;
  interrupt_state <= 0;
end if;
end if;
List of Major Publications of the Author

Journal Papers


International Conference Papers


National Conference Papers


