SiFive E21 Manual

20G1.03.00

SiFive E21 Manual

Proprietary Notice

Release Information

Version	Date	Changes
20G1.03.00	June 13, 2020	• No functional changes
koala.02.00-preview	June 03, 2020	• No functional changes
koala.01.00-preview	May 22, 2020	• No functional changes
koala.00.00-preview	May 15, 2020	• Changed clock, reset, and logic I/O ports associated with debug
v19.08p3p0	April 30, 2020	• Fixed issue in which unused logic in asynchronous crossings (as found in the Debug connection to the core) would cause CDC lint warnings • Fixed issue in which the `BASE` field in the `mtvec` CSR did not accurately exhibit WARL behavior • Fixed issue in which performance counters set to count both exceptions and other retirement events only counted the exceptions • Various documentation fixes and improvements
v19.08p2p0	December 06, 2019	• Fixed erratum in which the TDO pin may remain driven after reset
v19.08p1p0	November 08, 2019	• Corrected issues which caused some 2-series cores to be larger than prior releases • Fixed erratum in which Debug.SBCS had incorrect reset value for SBACCESS • Fixed typos and other minor documentation errors
v19.08p0	September 17, 2019	• The Debug Module memory region is no longer accessible in M-mode
v19.05p2	August 26, 2019	• Fix for errata on E2-series cores in which memory/MMIO operations had no guaranteed order
v19.05p1	July 22, 2019	• SiFive Insight is enabled • Use AHB-Lite for external ports • Enable debugger reads of Debug Module registers when periphery is in reset • Fix errata to get illegal instruction exception executing DRET outside of debug mode
v19.05	June 09, 2019	• v19.05 release of the E21 Standard Core. No functional changes.

Version	Date	Changes
v19.02	February 28, 2019	• Changed the date based release numbering system • Top-level module name [E21_CoreIPSubsystem] • SiFive Insight [enabled] • External MEIP interrupt [distinguished from local CLIC interrupts]
v1p0	June 29, 2018	• Updates to support the intitial release of the E21 Standard Core • Interrupts chapter now supports CLIC modes and CSRs • Added CLIC chapter (removed PLIC and CLINT chapters)
v0p2	February 28, 2018	• Replace Peripheral Port 0 with System Port
v0p1	February 28, 2018	• Initial release • Describes the functionality of the SiFive E21 Core Complex

Contents

Chapter 1

Introduction

SiFive's E21 is an efficient implementation of the RISC-V RV32IMAC architecture. The SiFive E21 is guaranteed to be compatible with all applicable RISC-V standards, and this document should be read together with the official RISC-V user-level, privileged, and external debug architecture specifications.

A summary of features in the E21 can be found in Table 1.

E21 Feature Set	
Feature	**Description**
Number of Harts	1 Hart.
E2 Core	1 × E2 RISC-V core.
Hardware Breakpoints	4 hardware breakpoints.
Physical Memory Protection Unit	PMP with 4 regions and a minimum granularity of 4 bytes.

Table 1: E21 Feature Set

The E21 also has a number of on-core-complex configurability options, allowing one to tune the design to a specific application. The configurable options are described in Section 12.1.

1.1 About this Document

This document describes the functionality of the E21. To learn more about the production deliverables of the E21, consult the E21 User Guide.

1.2 About this Release

This is a general release of the E21, with a supported life cycle of two years from the release date. Contact support@sifive.com if you have any questions.

1.3 E21 Overview

The E21 includes 1 × E2 32-bit RISC-V core, along with the necessary functional units required to support the core. These units include a Core-Local Interrupt Controller (CLIC) to support local interrupts, physical memory protection, a Debug unit to support a JTAG-based debugger host connection, and a local cross-bar that integrates the various components together.

The E21 memory system consists of a Tightly-Integrated Memory (TIM). The E21 also includes a Front Port, which allows external masters to be coherent with the L1 memory system and access to the TIMs, thereby removing the need to maintain coherence in software for any external agents.

An overview of the SiFive E21 is shown in Figure 1.

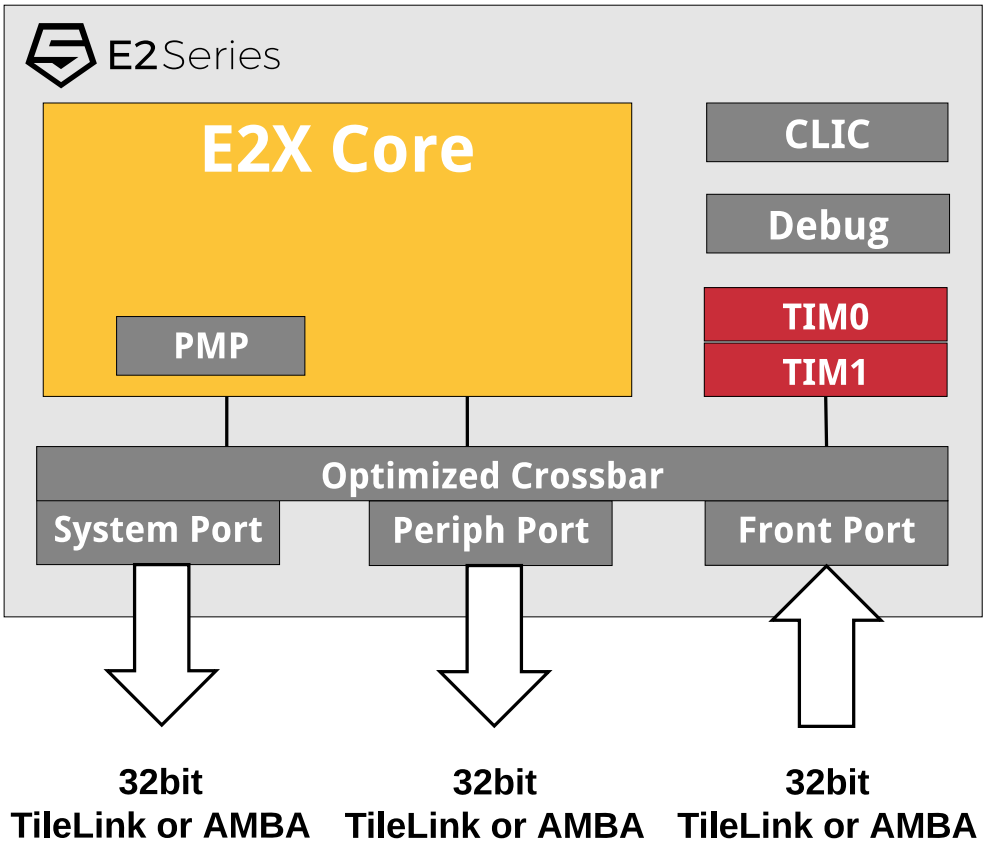


Figure 1: E21 Block Diagram

The E21 memory map is detailed in Section 4.2, and the interfaces are described in full in the E21 User Guide.

1.4 E2 RISC-V Core

The E21 includes a 32-bit E2 RISC-V core, which has an efficient, single-issue, in-order execution pipeline, with a peak execution rate of one instruction per clock cycle. The E2 core supports machine and user privilege modes, as well as standard Multiply (M), Atomic (A), and Compressed (C) RISC-V extensions (RV32IMAC).

The core is described in more detail in Chapter 3.

1.5 Interrupts

The E21 supports 127 core-local interrupts, in addition to the RISC-V architecturally-defined software, timer, and external interrupts. The Core-Local Interrupt Controller (CLIC) is used to set interrupt levels and priorities, and can support up to 16 interrupt levels.

Interrupts are described in Chapter 7. The CLIC is described in Chapter 8.

1.6 Debug Support

The E21 provides external debugger support over an industry-standard JTAG port, including 4 hardware-programmable breakpoints per hart.

Debug support is described in detail in Chapter 11, and the debug interface is described in the E21 User Guide.

1.7 Compliance

The E21 is compliant to the following versions of the various RISC-V specifications:

ISA	**Version**	**Ratified**	**Frozen**
RV32I	2.1	Y	
Extensions	**Version**	**Ratified**	**Frozen**
Multiplication (M)	2.0	Y	
Atomic (A)	2.0		Y
Compressed (C)	2.0	Y	
Devices	**Version**	**Ratified**	**Frozen**
Debug specification	0.13	Y	

Chapter 2

List of Abbreviations and Terms

Term	Definition
AES	Advanced Encryption Standard
BHT	Branch History Table
BTB	Branch Target Buffer
CBC	Cipher Block Chaining
CCM	Counter with CBC-MAC
CFM	Cipher FeedBack
CLIC	Core-Local Interrupt Controller. Configures priorities and levels for core-local interrupts.
CLINT	Core-Local Interruptor. Generates per hart software interrupts and timer interrupts.
CTR	CounTeR mode
DTIM	Data Tightly Integrated Memory
ECB	Electronic Code Book
GCM	Galois/Counter Mode
hart	HARdware Thread
IJTP	Indirect-Jump Target Predictor
ITIM	Instruction Tightly Integrated Memory
JTAG	Joint Test Action Group
LIM	Loosely-Integrated Memory. Used to describe memory space delivered in a SiFive Core Complex that is not tightly integrated to a CPU core.
OFB	Output FeedBack
PLIC	Platform-Level Interrupt Controller. The global interrupt controller in a RISC-V system.
PMP	Physical Memory Protection
RAS	Return-Address Stack
RO	Used to describe a Read-Only register field.
RW	Used to describe a Read/Write register field.
SHA	Secure Hash Algorithm
TileLink	A free and open interconnect standard originally developed at UC Berkeley.
TRNG	True Random Number Generator
WARL	Write-Any, Read-Legal field. A register field that can be written with any value, but returns only supported values when read.
WIRI	Writes-Ignored, Reads-Ignore field. A read-only register field reserved for future use. Writes to the field are ignored, and reads should ignore the value returned.
WLRL	Write-Legal, Read-Legal field. A register field that should only be written with legal values and that only returns legal value if last written with a legal value.
WPRI	Writes-Preserve, Reads-Ignore field. A register field that might contain unknown information. Reads should ignore the value returned, but writes to the whole register should preserve the original value.
WO	Used to describe a Write-Only registers field.

Chapter 3

E2 RISC-V Core

This chapter describes the 32-bit E2 RISC-V processor core, instruction fetch and execution unit, data memory system, and external interfaces.

The E2 feature set is summarized in Table 2.

Feature	Description
ISA	RV32IMAC
Core Interfaces	2 core interfaces
Tightly-Integrated Memory (TIM)	32 KiB TIM 0 and 32 KiB TIM 1
Modes	Machine mode, user mode
SiFive Custom Instruction Extension (SCIE)	Not Present

Table 2: E2 Feature Set

3.1 Instruction Memory System

This section describes the instruction memory system of the E2 core.

3.1.1 Execution Memory Space

The regions of executable memory consist of all directly addressable memory in the system. The memory includes any volatile or non-volatile memory located off the Core Complex ports, and includes the on-core-complex TIM.

See Section 4.2 for a description of the executable regions of the E21.

The E2 has two core interfaces, allowing the split TIMs simultaneous access to both banks. When executing code solely from TIM address space, it is recommended to place code in one TIM and data in the other.

Trying to execute an instruction from a non-executable address results in an instruction access trap.

3.1.2 Instruction Fetch Unit

The E2 instruction fetch unit is responsible for keeping the pipeline fed with instructions from memory. Fetches are always word-aligned and there is a one-cycle penalty for branching to a 32-bit instruction that is not word-aligned.

The E2 implements the standard Compressed (C) extension to the RISC-V architecture, which allows for 16-bit RISC-V instructions. As two 16-bit instructions can be fetched per cycle, the instruction fetch unit is often idle when executing programs mostly comprised of compressed 16-bit instructions. This reduces memory accesses and power consumption.

All branches must be aligned to half-word addresses. Otherwise, the fetch generates an instruction address misaligned trap. Trying to fetch from a non-executable or unimplemented address results in an instruction access trap.

The instruction fetch unit always accesses memory sequentially. Conditional branches are predicted not-taken, and not-taken branches incur no penalty. Taken branches and unconditional jumps incur a one-cycle penalty if the target is naturally aligned, i.e., all 16-bit instructions and 32-bit instructions whose address is divisible by 4; or a two-cycle penalty if the target is not naturally aligned.

3.2 Execution Pipeline

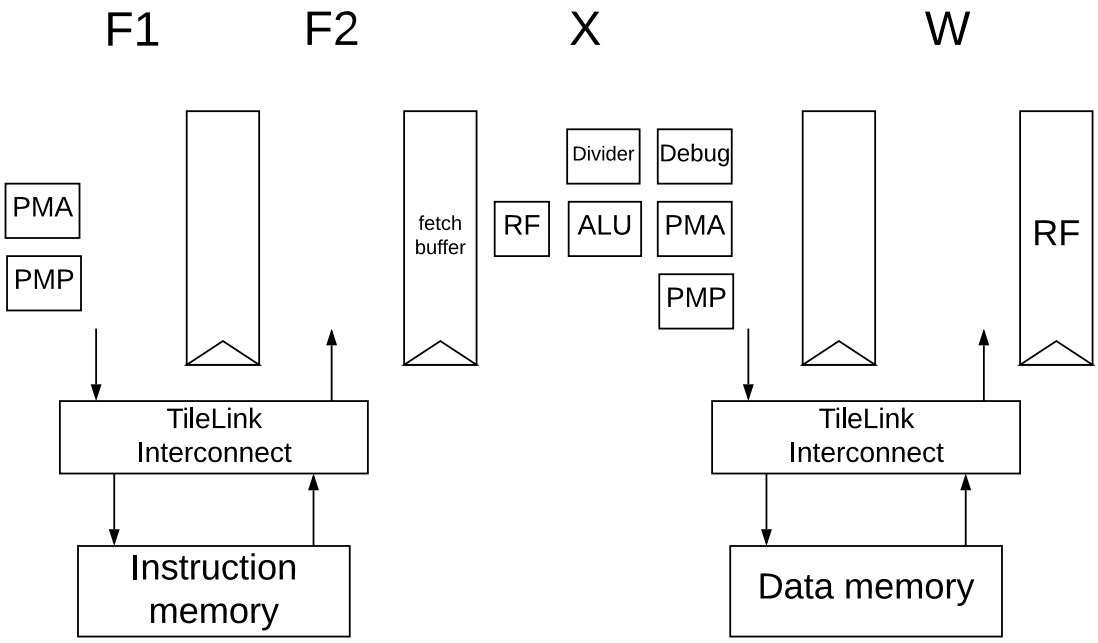


Figure 2: Example E2 Block Diagram

The E2 execution unit is a single-issue, in-order pipeline. The pipeline comprises four stages: two stages of instruction fetch (F1 and F2), described in the previous section; execute (X); and write-back (W).

The pipeline has a peak execution rate of one instruction per clock cycle. Bypass paths are included so that most instructions have a one-cycle result latency. There are some exceptions:

- The number of stall cycles between a load instruction and the use of its result is equal to the number of cycles between the bus request and bus response. In particular, if a load is satisfied the cycle after it is demanded, then there is one stall cycle between the load and its use. In this special case, the stall can be obviated by scheduling an independent instruction between the load and its use.
- Integer division instructions have variable latency of at most 32 cycles. Division operations can be interrupted, so they have no effect on worst-case interrupt latency.

In the Execute stage of the pipeline, instructions are decoded and checked for exceptions, and their operands are read from the integer register file. Arithmetic instructions compute their results in this stage, whereas memory-access instructions compute their effective addresses and send their requests to the bus interface.

In the Writeback stage, instructions write their results to the integer register file. Instructions that reach the Writeback stage but have not yet produced their results will interlock the pipeline. In particular, load and division instructions with result latency greater than one cycle will interlock the pipeline.

3.3 Data Memory System

The data memory system consists of on-core-complex Tightly-Integrated Memory and the ports shown in the Memory Map in Section 4.2.

The on-core-complex data memory consists of a 32 KiB TIM 0 and a 32 KiB TIM 1.

The TIMs can be utilized for either code or data storage, and provide single-cycle access time. The E2 has two core interfaces, allowing the split TIMs simultaneous access to both banks. When executing code solely from TIM address space, it is recommended to place code in one TIM and data in the other.

The E2 pipeline allows for two outstanding memory accesses. Store instructions incur no stalls if acknowledged by the bus on the cycle after they are sent. Otherwise, the pipeline will interlock on the next memory-access instruction until the store is acknowledged. Misaligned accesses are not allowed to any memory region and result in a trap to allow for software emulation.

3.4 Atomic Memory Operations

The E2 core supports the RISC-V standard Atomic (A) extension on the Peripheral Port.

Atomic memory operations to regions that do not support them generate an access exception precisely at the core.

The load-reserved and store-conditional instructions are not implemented and will generate an illegal instruction exception.

See Section 5.4 for more information on the instructions added by this extension.

3.5 Supported Modes

The E2 supports RISC-V user mode, providing two levels of privilege: machine (M) and user (U). U-mode provides a mechanism to isolate application processes from each other and from trusted code running in M-mode.

See *The RISC-V Instruction Set Manual, Volume II: Privileged Architecture, Version 1.10* for more information on the privilege modes.

3.6 Physical Memory Protection (PMP)

Machine mode is the highest privilege level and by default has read, write, and execute permissions across the entire memory map of the device. However, privilege levels below machine mode do not have read, write, or execute permissions to any region of the device memory map unless it is specifically allowed by the PMP. For the lower privilege levels, the PMP may may grant permissions to specific regions of the device's memory map, but it can also revoke permissions when in machine mode.

When programmed accordingly, the PMP will check every access when the hart is operating in user mode. For machine mode, PMP checks do not occur unless the lock bit (`L`) is set in the `pmpcfgY` CSR for a particular region.

PMP checks also occur on loads and stores when the machine previous privilege level is user (`mstatus.MPP=0x0`), and the Modify Privilege bit is set (`mstatus.MPRV=1`). For virtual address translation, PMP checks are also applied to page table accesses in supervisor mode.

The E2 PMP supports 4 regions with a minimum region size of 4 bytes.

This section describes how PMP concepts in the RISC-V architecture apply to the E2. For additional information on the PMP refer to *The RISC-V Instruction Set Manual, Volume II: Privileged Architecture, Version 1.10*.

3.6.1 PMP Functional Description

The E2 PMP unit has 4 regions and a minimum granularity of 4 bytes. Access to each region is controlled by an 8-bit `pmpXcfg` field and a corresponding `pmpaddrX` register. Overlapping regions are permitted, where the lower numbered `pmpXcfg` and `pmpaddrX` registers take priority over highered numbered regions. The E2 PMP unit implements the architecturally defined `pmpcfgY` CSR `pmpcfg0`, supporting 4 regions. `pmpcfg1`, `pmpcfg2`, and `pmpcfg3` are implemented, but hardwired to zero.

The PMP registers may only be programmed in M-mode. Ordinarily, the PMP unit enforces permissions on U-mode accesses. However, locked regions (see Section 3.6.2) additionally enforce their permissions on M-mode.

3.6.2 PMP Region Locking

The PMP allows for region locking whereby, once a region is locked, further writes to the configuration and address registers are ignored. Locked PMP entries may only be unlocked with a system reset. A region may be locked by setting the `L` bit in the `pmpXcfg` register.

In addition to locking the PMP entry, the `L` bit indicates whether the R/W/X permissions are enforced on machine mode accesses. When the `L` bit is clear, the R/W/X permissions apply only to U-mode.

3.6.3 PMP Registers

Each PMP region is described by an 8-bit `pmpXcfg` field, used in association with a 32-bit `pmpaddrX` register that holds the base address of the protected region. The range of each region depends on the Addressing (`A`) mode described in the next section. The `pmpXcfg` fields reside within 32-bit `pmpcfgY` CSRs.

Each 8-bit `pmpXcfg` field includes a read, write, and execute bit, plus a two bit address-matching field `A`, and a Lock bit, `L`. Overlapping regions are permitted, where the lowest numbered PMP entry wins for that region.

PMP Configuration Registers

The `pmpcfgY` CSRs are shown below for a 32-bit design.

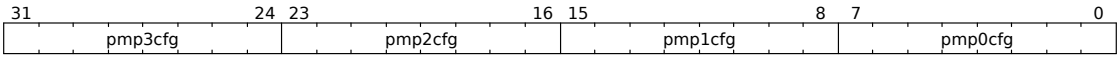


Figure 3: RV32 `pmpcfg0` Register

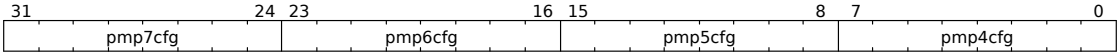


Figure 4: RV32 `pmpcfg1` Register

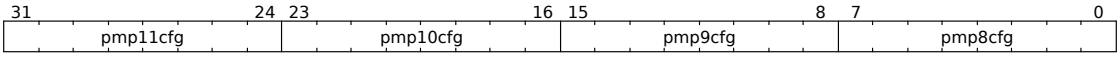


Figure 5: RV32 `pmpcfg2` Register

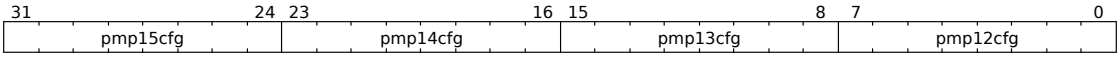


Figure 6: RV32 `pmpcfg3` Register

The `pmpcfgY` and `pmpaddrX` registers are only accessible via CSR specific instructions such as `csrr` for reads, and `csrw` for writes.

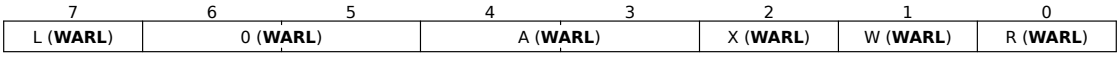


Figure 7: RV64 `pmpXcfg` bitfield

Bit	Description
0	**R: Read Permissions** 0x0 - No read permissions for this region 0x1 - Read permission granted for this region
1	**W: Write Permissions** 0x0 - No write permissions for this region 0x1 - Write permission granted for this region
2	**X: Execute permissions** 0x0 - No execute permissions for this region 0x1 - Execute permission granted for this region
[4:3]	**A: Address matching mode** 0x0 - PMP Entry disabled 0x1 - Top of Range (TOR) 0x2 - Naturally Aligned Four Byte Region (NA4) 0x3 - Naturally Aligned Power-of-Two region, ≥ 8 bytes (NAPOT)
7	**L: Lock Bit** 0x0 - PMP Entry Unlocked, no permission restrictions applied to machine mode. PMP entry only applies to S and U modes. 0x1 - PMP Entry Locked, permissions enforced for all privilege levels including machine mode. Writes to `pmpXcfg` and `pmpcfgY` are ignored and can only be cleared with system reset.

Table 3: `pmpXcfg` Bitfield Description

Note: The combination of `R=0` and `W=1` is not currently implemented.

Out of reset, the PMP register fields `A` and `L` are set to 0. All other hart state is unspecified by *The RISC-V Instruction Set Manual, Volume II: Privileged Architecture, Version 1.10*.

Additional details on the available address matching modes is described below.

A = 0x0: The attributes are disabled. No PMP protection applied for any privilege level.

A = 0x1: Top of range (TOR). Supports four byte granularity, and the regions are defined by [PMP(i - 1) > a > PMP(i)], where 'a' is the address range. PMP(i) is the top of the range, where PMP(i - 1) represents the lower address range. If only `pmp0cfg` selects TOR, then the lower bound is set to address 0x0.

A = 0x2: Naturally aligned four-byte region (NA4). Supports only a four-byte region with four byte granularity. Not supported on SiFive U7 series cores since minimum granularity is 4 KiB.

A = 0x3: Naturally aligned power-of-two region (NAPOT), ≥ 8 bytes. When this setting is programmed, the low bits of the `pmpaddrX` register encode the size, while the upper bits encode the

base address right shifted by two. There is a zero bit in between, we will refer to as the least significant zero bit (LSZB).

Some examples follow using NAPOT address mode.

Base Address	Region Size*	LSZB Position	pmpaddrX Value
0x4000_0000	8 B	0	(0x1000_0000 | 1'b0)
0x4000_0000	32 B	2	(0x1000_0000 | 3'b011)
0x4000_0000	4 KB	9	(0x1000_0000 | 10'b01_1111_1111)
0x4000_0000	64 KB	13	(0x1000_0000 | 13'b01_1111_1111_1111)
0x4000_0000	1 MB	17	(0x1000_0000 | 17'b01_1111_1111_1111_1111)
*Region size is $2^{(LSZB+3)}$.			

Table 4: pmpaddrX Encoding Examples for A=NAPOT

PMP Address Registers

The PMP has 4 address registers. Each address register pmpaddrX correlates to the respective pmpXcfg field. Each address register contains the base address of the protected region right shifted by two, for a minimum 4-byte alignment.

The maximum encoded address bits per *The RISC-V Instruction Set Manual, Volume II: Privileged Architecture, Version 1.10* are [33:2].

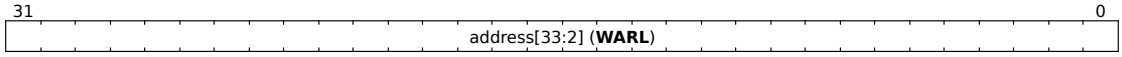


Figure 8: RV32 pmpaddrX Register

3.6.4 PMP and PMA

The PMP values are used in conjunction with the Physical Memory Attributes (PMAs) described in Section 4.1. Since the PMAs are static and not configurable, the PMP can only revoke read, write, or execute permissions to the PMA regions if those permissions already apply statically.

3.6.5 PMP Programming Overview

The PMP registers can only be programmed in machine mode. The pmpaddrX register should be first programmed with the base address of the protected region, right shifted by two. Then, the pmpcfgY register should be programmed with the properly configured 32-bit value containing each properly aligned 8-bit pmpXcfg field. Fields that are not used can be simply written to 0, marking them unused.

PMP Programming Example

The following example shows a machine mode only configuration where PMP permissions are applied to three regions of interest, and a fourth region covers the remaining memory map. Recall that lower numbered `pmpXcfg` and `pmpaddrX` registers take priority over higher numbered regions. This rule allows higher numbered PMP registers to have blanket coverage over the entire memory map while allowing lower numbered regions to apply permissions to specific regions of interest. The following example shows a 64 KB Flash region at base address `0x0`, a 32 KB RAM region at base address `0x2000_0000`, and finally a 4 KB peripheral region at base address base `0x3000_0000`. The rest of the memory map is reserved space.

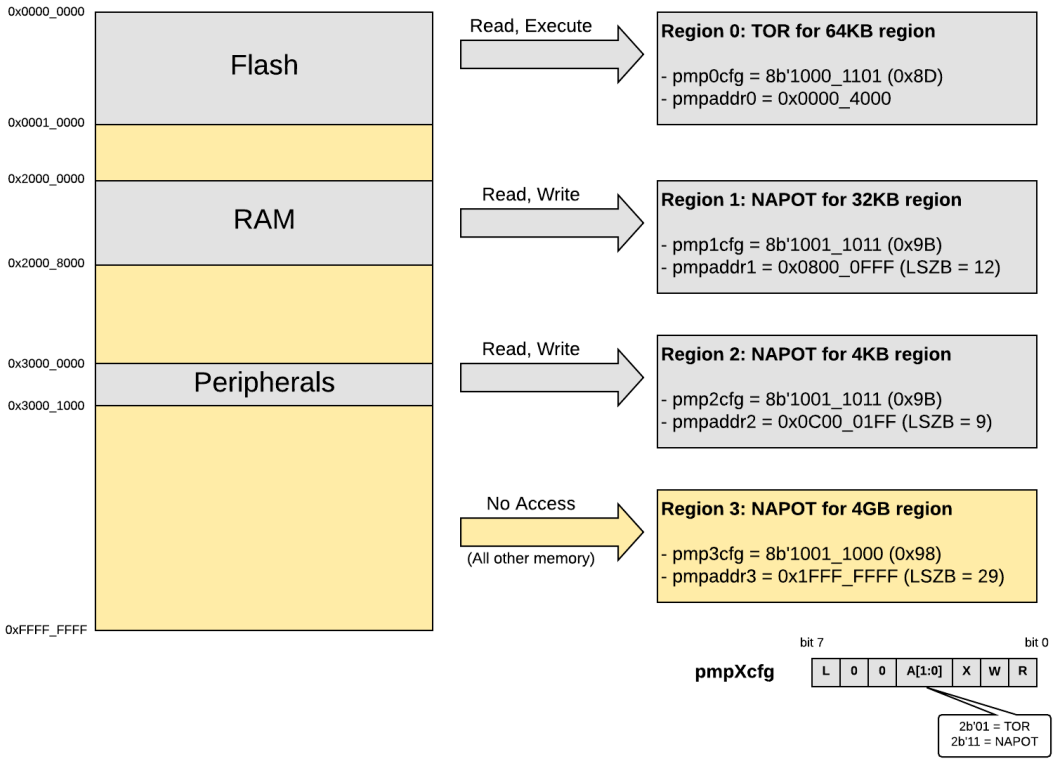


Figure 9: PMP Example Block Diagram

PMP Access Scenarios

The `L`, `R`, `W`, and `X` bits only determine if an access succeeds if all bytes of that access are covered by that PMP entry. For example, if a PMP entry is configured to match the four-byte range 0xC–0xF, then an 8-byte access to the range 0x8–0xF will fail, assuming that PMP entry is the highest-priority entry that matches those addresses.

While operating in machine mode when the lock bit is clear (`L=0`), if a PMP entry matches all bytes of an access, the access succeeds. If the lock bit is set (`L=1`) while in machine mode, then the access depends on the permissions set for that region. Similarly, while in Supervisor mode, the access depends on permissions set for that region.

Failed read or write accesses generate a load or store access exception, and an instruction access fault would occur on a failed instruction fetch. When an exception occurs while attempting to execute from a region without execute permissions, the fault occurs on the fetch and not the branch, so the `mepc` CSR will reflect the value of the targeted protected region, and not the address of the branch.

It is possible for a single instruction to generate multiple accesses, which may not be mutually atomic. If at least one access generated by an instruction fails, then an exception will occur. It might be possible that other accesses from a single instruction will succeed, with visible side effects. For example, references to virtual memory may be decomposed into multiple accesses.

On some implementations, misaligned loads, stores, and instruction fetches may also be decomposed into multiple accesses, some of which may succeed before an access exception occurs. In particular, a portion of a misaligned store that passes the PMP check may become visible, even if another portion fails the PMP check. The same behavior may manifest for floating-point stores wider than XLEN bits (e.g., the FSD instruction in RV32D), even when the store address is naturally aligned.

3.6.6 PMP and Paging

The Physical Memory Protection mechanism is designed to compose with the page-based virtual memory systems described *The RISC-V Instruction Set Manual, Volume II: Privileged Architecture, Version 1.10*. When paging is enabled, instructions that access virtual memory may result in multiple physical-memory accesses, including implicit references to the page tables. The PMP checks apply to all of these accesses. The effective privilege mode for implicit page-table accesses is S.

Implementations with virtual memory are permitted to perform address translations speculatively and earlier than required by an explicit virtual-memory access. The PMP settings for the resulting physical address may be checked at any point between the address translation and the explicit virtual-memory access. A mis-predicted branch to a non-executable address range does not generate a trap. Hence, when the PMP settings are modified in a manner that affects either the physical memory that holds the page tables or the physical memory to which the page tables point, M-mode software must synchronize the PMP settings with the virtual memory system. This is accomplished by executing an `SFENCE.VMA` instruction with `rs1=x0` and `rs2=x0`, after the PMP CSRs are written.

If page-based virtual memory is not implemented, or when it is disabled, memory accesses check the PMP settings synchronously, so no fence is needed.

3.6.7 PMP Limitations

In a system containing multiple harts, each hart has its own PMP device. The PMP permissions on a hart cannot be applied to accesses from other harts in a multi-hart system. In addition, SiFive designs may contain a Front Port to allow external bus masters access to the full memory map of the system. The PMP cannot prevent access from external bus masters on the Front Port.

3.6.8 Behavior for Regions without PMP Protection

If a non-reserved region of the memory map does not have PMP permissions applied, then by default, supervisor or user mode accesses will fail, while machine mode access will be allowed. Access to reserved regions within a device's memory map (an interrupt controller for example) will return 0x0 on reads, and writes will be ignored. Access to reserved regions outside of a device's memory map without PMP protection will result in a bus error.

3.6.9 Cache Flush Behavior on PMP Protected Region

When a line is brought into cache and the PMP is set up with the lock (L) bit asserted to protect a part of that line, a data cache flush instruction will generate a store access fault exception if the flush includes any part of the line that is protected. The cache flush instruction does an invalidate and write-back, so it is essentially trying to write back to the memory location that is protected. If a cache flush occurs on a part of the line that was not protected, the flush will succeed and not generate an exception. If a data cache flush is required without a write-back, use the cache discard instruction instead, as this will invalidate but not write back the line.

3.7 Hardware Performance Monitor

The E2 processor core supports a basic hardware performance monitoring (HPM) facility. The performance monitoring faculty is divided into two classes of counters: fixed-function and event-programmable counters. These classes consist of a set of fixed counters and their counter-enable registers, as well as a set of event-programmable counters and their event selector registers. The registers are available to control the behavior of the counters. Performance monitoring can be useful for multiple purposes, from optimization to debug.

3.7.1 Performance Monitoring Counters Reset Behavior

At system reset, the hardware performance monitor counters are not reset and thus have an arbitrary value. Users can write desired values to the counter control and status registers (CSRs) to start counting at the given, known value.

3.7.2 Fixed-Function Performance Monitoring Counters

A fixed-function performance monitor counter is hardware wired to only count one specific event type. That is, they cannot be reconfigured with respect to the event type(s) they count. The only modification to the fixed-function performance monitoring counters that can be done is to enable or disable counting, and write the counter value itself.

The E2 processor core contains two fixed-function performance monitoring counters.

Fixed-Function Cycle Counter (`mcycle`)

The fixed-function performance monitoring counter `mcycle` holds a count of the number of clock cycles the hart has executed since some arbitrary time in the past. The `mcycle` counter is read-

write and 64 bits wide. Reads of `mcycle` return the lower 32 bits, while reads of `mcycleh` return the upper 32 bits of the 64-bit `mcycle` counter.

Fixed-Function Instructions-Retired Counter (`minstret`)

The fixed-function performance monitoring counter `minstret` holds a count of the number of instructions the hart has retired since some arbitrary time in the past. The `minstret` counter is read-write and 64 bits wide. Reads of `minstret` return the lower 32 bits, while reads of `minstreth` return the upper 32 bits of the 64-bit `minstret` counter.

3.7.3 Event-Programmable Performance Monitoring Counters

Complementing the fixed-function counters are a set of programmable event counters. The E2 HPM includes one addtitional event counter, `mhpmcounter3`. These programmable event counters are read-write and 64 bits wide. Reads of any of `mhpmcounter3h` return the upper 32 bits of their corresponding machine performance-monitoring counter. The hardware counters themselves are implemented as 40-bit counters on the E2 core series. These hardware counters can be written to in order to initialize the counter value.

3.7.4 Event Selector Registers

To control the event type to count, event selector CSRs `mhpmevent3` are used to program the corresponding event counters. These event selector CSRs are 32-bit **WARL** registers.

The event selectors are partitioned into two fields; the lower 8 bits select an event class, and the upper bits form a mask of events in that class.

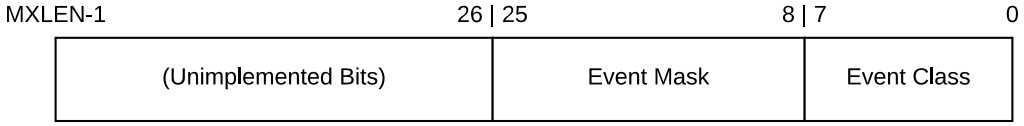


Figure 10: Event Selector Fields

The counter increments if the event corresponding to any set mask bit occurs. For example, if `mhpmevent3` is set to `0x4200`, then `mhpmcounter3` will increment when eitehr a load instruction or a conditional branch instruction retires. An event selector of 0 means "count nothing".

3.7.5 Event Selector Encodings

Table 5 describes the event selector encodings available. Events are categorized into two classes based on the Event Class field encoded in `mhpmeventX[7:0]`. One or more events can be programmed by setting the respective Event Mask bit for a given event class. An event selector encoding of 0 means "count nothing". Multiple events will cause the counter to increment any time any of the selected events occur.

Machine Hardware Performance Monitor Event Register	
Instruction Commit Events, `mhpmeventX[7:0]=0`	
Bit	**Description**
8	Exception taken
9	Integer load instruction retired
10	Integer store instruction retired
11	Atomic memory operation retired
12	System instruction retired
13	Integer arithmetic instruction retired
14	Conditional branch retired
15	JAL instruction retired
16	JALR instruction retired
Microarchitectural Events , `mhpmeventX[7:0]=1`	
Bit	**Description**
8	Load-use interlock
9	Long-latency interlock
10	CSR read interlock
11	Instruction cache/ITIM busy
12	Data cache/DTIM busy
13	Branch direction misprediction
14	Branch/jump target misprediction
15	Pipeline flush from CSR write
16	Pipeline flush from other event
Memory System Events, `mhpmeventX[7:0]=2`	
Bit	**Description**
8	Instruction cache miss
9	Memory-mapped I/O access

Table 5: `mhpmevent` Register

Event mask bits that are writable for any event class are writable for all classes. Setting an event mask bit that does not correspond to an event defined in Table 5 has no effect for current implementations. However, future implementations may define new events in that encoding space, so it is not recommended to program unsupported values into the `mhpmevent` registers.

Combining Events

It is common usage to directly count each respective event. Additionally, it is possible to use combinations of these events to count new, unique events. For example, to determine the average cycles per load from a data memory subsystem, program one counter to count "Data cache/DTIM busy" and another counter to count "Integer load instruction retired". Then, simply divide the "Data cache/DTIM busy" cycle count by the "Integer load instruction retired" instruction count and the result is the average cycle time for loads in cycles per instruction.

It is important to be cognizant of the event types being combined; specifically, event types counting occurrences and event types counting cycles.

3.7.6 Counter-Enable Registers

The 32-bit counter-enable register `mcounteren` controls the availability of the hardware performance-monitoring counters to the next-lowest privileged mode.

The settings in these registers only control accessibility. The act of reading or writing these enable registers does not affect the underlying counters, which continue to increment when not accessible.

When any bit in the `mcounteren` register is clear, attempts to read the cycle, time, instruction retire, or `hpmcounterX` register while executing in U-mode will cause an illegal instruction exception. When one of these bits is set, access to the corresponding register is permitted in the next implemented privilege mode, U-mode.

`mcounteren` is a **WARL** register. Any of the bits may contain a hardwired value of zero, indicating reads to the corresponding counter will cause an illegal instruction exception when executing in a less-privileged mode.

3.8 Ports

This section describes the Port interfaces to the E2 core.

3.8.1 Front Port

The Front Port can be used be external masters to read from and write into the memory system utilizing any port in the Core Complex. The TIMs can also be accessed through the Front Port.

The E21 User Guide describes the implementation details of the Front Port.

3.8.2 Peripheral Port

The Peripheral Port is used to interface with lower speed peripherals and also supports code execution. When a device is attached to the Peripheral Port, it is expected that there are no other masters connected to that device.

The Peripheral Port supports the RISC-V standard Atomic (A) extension, which is useful for programming peripherals. See Chapter 5 for more information on the instructions added by this extension.

Consult Section 4.1 for futher information about the Peripheral Port and its Physical Memory Attributes.

See the E21 User Guide for a description of the Peripheral Port implementation in the E21.

3.8.3 System Port

The System Port is used to interface with memory, like SRAM, memory-mapped I/O (MMIO), and higher speed peripherals. The System Port also supports code execution.

Consult Section 4.1 for futher information about the System Port and its Physical Memory Attributes.

See the E21 User Guide for a description of the System Port implementation in the E21.

Note that the System Port does not support Atomic instructions.

Chapter 4

Physical Memory Attributes and Memory Map

This chapter describes the E21 physical memory attributes and memory map.

4.1 Physical Memory Attributes Overview

The memory map is divided into different regions covering on-core-complex memory, system memory, peripherals, and empty holes. Physical memory attributes (PMAs) describe the properties of the accesses that can be made to each region in the memory map. These properties encompass the type of access that may be performed: execute, read, or write. As well as other optional attributes related to the access, such as supported access size, alignment, atomic operations, and cacheability.

RISC-V utilizes a simpler approach than other processor architectures in defining the attributes of memory accesses. Instead of defining access characteristics in page table descriptors or memory protection logic, the properties are fixed for memory regions or may only be modified in platform-specific control registers. As most systems don't require the ability to modify PMAs, SiFive cores only support fixed PMAs, which are set at design time. This results in a simpler design with lower gate count and power savings, and an easier programming interface.

External memory map regions are accessed through a specific port type and that port type is used to define the PMAs. The port types are Memory, Peripheral, and System. Memory map regions defined for internal memory and internal control regions also have a predefined PMA based on the underlying contents of the region.

The assigned PMA properties and attributes for E21 memory regions are shown in Table 6 and Table 7 for external and internal regions, respectively.

The configured memory regions of the E21 are listed with their attributes in Table 8.

Port Type	Access Properties	Attributes
Peripheral Port	Read, Write, Execute	Atomics
System Port	Read, Write, Execute	N/A

Table 6: Physical Memory Attributes for External Regions

Region	Access Properties	Attributes
CLIC	Read, Write	Atomics
Debug	None	N/A
Error Device	Read, Write, Execute	Atomics
Reserved	None	N/A
TIM	Read, Write, Execute	N/A

Table 7: Physical Memory Attributes for Internal Regions

All memory map regions support word, half-word, and byte size data accesses.

Atomic access support enables the RISC-V standard Atomic (A) Extension for atomic instructions. These atomic instructions are further documented in Section 3.4 for the E2 core.

No region supports unaligned accesses. An unaligned access will generate the appropriate trap: instruction address misaligned, load address misaligned, or store/AMO address misaligned.

All accesses to the Debug Module from the core in non-Debug mode will trap.

The Physical Memory Protection unit is capable of controlling access properties based on address ranges, not ports. It has no control over the attributes of an address range, however.

4.2 Memory Map

The memory map of the E21 is shown in Table 8.

Base	Top	Attr.	Description
0x0000_0000	0x0000_0FFF		Debug
0x0000_1000	0x0000_2FFF		Reserved
0x0000_3000	0x0000_3FFF	RWX A	Error Device
0x0000_4000	0x01FF_FFFF		Reserved
0x0200_0000	0x02FF_FFFF	RW A	CLIC
0x0300_0000	0x1FFF_FFFF		Reserved
0x2000_0000	0x3FFF_FFFF	RWX A	Peripheral Port (512 MiB)
0x4000_0000	0x5FFF_FFFF	RWX	System Port (512 MiB)
0x6000_0000	0x7FFF_FFFF		Reserved
0x8000_0000	0x8000_7FFF	RWX	TIM 0 (32 KiB)
0x8000_8000	0x8000_FFFF	RWX	TIM 1 (32 KiB)
0x8001_0000	0xFFFF_FFFF		Reserved

Table 8: E21 Memory Map. Physical Memory Attributes: **R**–Read, **W**–Write, **X**–Execute, **I**–Instruction Cacheable, **D**–Data Cacheable, **A**–Atomics

Chapter 5

Programmer's Model

The E21 implements the 32-bit RISC-V architecture. The following chapter provides a reference for programmers and an explanation of the extensions supported by RV32IMAC.

This chapter contains a high-level discussion of the RISC-V instruction set architecture and additional resources which will assist software developers working with RISC-V products. The E21 is an implementation of the RISC-V RV32IMAC architecture, and is guaranteed to be compatible with all applicable RISC-V standards. RV32IMAC can emulate almost any other RISC-V ISA extension.

5.1 Base Instruction Formats

RISC-V base instructions are fixed to 32 bits in length and must be aligned on a four-byte boundary in memory. RISC-V ISA keeps the source (`rs1` and `rs2`) and destination (`rd`) registers at the same position in all formats to simplify decoding, with the exception of the 5-bit immediates used in CSR instructions.

The various formats are described in Table 9 below.

Format	Description
R	Format for register-register arithmetic/logical operations.
I	Format for register-immediate ALU operations and loads.
S	Format for stores.
B	Format for branches.
U	Format for 20-bit upper immediate instructions.
J	Format for jumps.

Table 9: Base Instruction Formats

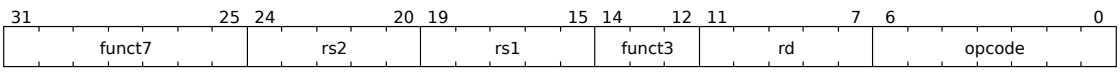


Figure 11: R-Type

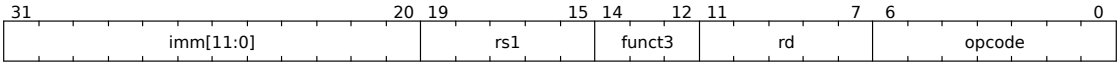


Figure 12: I-Type

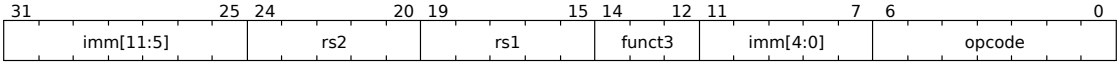


Figure 13: S-Type

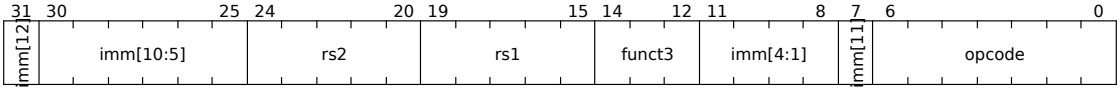


Figure 14: B-Type

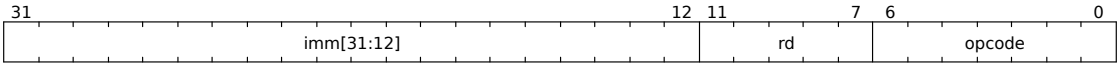


Figure 15: U-Type

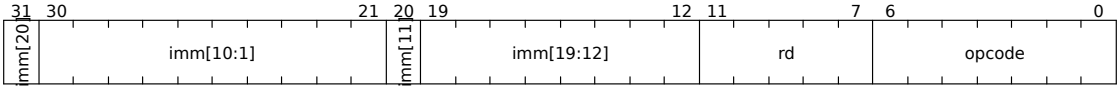


Figure 16: J-Type

The **opcode** field partially specifies an instruction, combined with **funct7** + **funct3** which describe what operation to perform. Each register field (**rs1**, **rs2**, **rd**) holds a 5-bit unsigned integer (0-31) corresponding to a register number (`x0` - `x31`). Sign-extension is one of the most critical operations on immediates (particularly for XLEN>32), and in RISC-V the sign bit for all immediates is always held in bit 31 of the instruction to allow sign-extension to proceed in parallel with instruction decoding.

5.2 I Extension: Standard Integer Instructions

This section discusses the standard integer instructions supported by RISC-V. Integer computational instructions don’t cause arithmetic exceptions.

5.2.1 R-Type (Register-Based) Integer Instructions

funct7			funct3		opcode	Instruction
00000000	rs2	rs1	000	rd	0110011	ADD
01000000	rs2	rs1	000	rd	0110011	SUB
00000000	rs2	rs1	001	rd	0110011	SLL
00000000	rs2	rs1	010	rd	0110011	SLT
00000000	rs2	rs1	011	rd	0110011	SLTU
00000000	rs2	rs1	100	rd	0110011	XOR
00000000	rs2	rs1	101	rd	0110011	SRL
01000000	rs2	rs1	101	rd	0110011	SRA
00000000	rs2	rs1	110	rd	0110011	OR
00000000	rs2	rs1	111	rd	0110011	AND

Instruction	Description
ADD `rd`, `rs1`, `rs2`	Performs the addition of `rs1` and `rs2`, result stored in `rd`.
SUB `rd`, `rs1`, `rs2`	Performs the subtraction of `rs2` from `rs1`, result stored in `rd`.
SLL `rd`, `rs1`, `rs2`	Logical left shift (zeros are shifted into the lower bits) shift amount is encoded in the lower 5 bits of `rs2`.
SLT `rd`, `x0`, `rs2`	Signed and compare sets `rd` to 1 if `rs2` is not equal to zero, otherwise sets `rd` to zero.
SLTU `rd`, `x0`, `rs2`	Unsigned compare sets `rd` to 1 if `rs2` is not equal to zero, otherwise sets `rd` to zero.
SRL `rd`, `rs1`, `rs2`	Logical right shift (zeros are shifted into the lower bits) shift amount is encoded in the lower 5 bits of `rs2`.
SRA `rd`, `rs1`, `rs2`	Arithmetic right shift, shift amount is encoded in the lower 5 bits of `rs2`.
OR `rd`, `rs1`, `rs2`	Bitwise logical OR.
AND `rd`, `rs1`, `rs2`	Bitwise logical AND.
XOR `rd`, `rs1`, `rs2`	Bitwise logical XOR.

Below is an example of an ADD instruction.

add x18, x19, x10

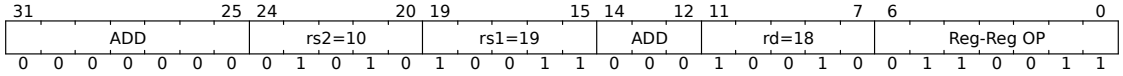


Figure 17: ADD Instruction Example

5.2.2 I-Type Integer Instructions

For I-Type integer instruction, one field is different from R-format. `rs2` and `funct7` are replaced by the 12-bit signed immediate, `imm[11:0]`, which can hold values in range [-2048, +2047]. The

immediate is always sign-extended to 32-bits before being used in an arithmetic operation. Bits [31:12] receive the same value as bit 11.

imm			**func3**		**opcode**	**Instruction**
imm[11:0]		rs1	000	rd	0010011	ADDI
imm[11:0]		rs1	010	rd	0010011	SLTI
imm[11:0]		rs1	011	rd	0010011	SLTIU
imm[11:0]		rs1	100	rd	0010011	XORI
imm[11:0]		rs1	110	rd	0010011	ORI
imm[11:0]		rs1	111	rd	0010011	ANDI
00000000	shamnt	rs1	001	rd	0010011	SLLI
00000000	shamnt	rs1	101	rd	0010011	SRLI
01000000	shamnt	rs1	001	rd	0010011	SRAI

One of the higher-order immediate bits is used to distinguish "shift right logical" (SRLI) from "shift right arithmetic" (SRAI).

Instruction	**Description**
ADDI	Adds the sign-extended 12-bit immediate to register `rs1`. Arithmetic overflow is ignored and the result is simply the low 32-bits of the result. ADDI `rd`, `rs1`, 0 is used to implement the MV `rd`, `rs1` assembler pseudoinstruction.
SLTI	Set less than immediate. Places the value 1 in register `rd` if register `rs1` is less than the sign extended immediate when both are treated as signed numbers, else 0 is written to `rd`.
SLTIU	Compares the values as unsigned numbers (i.e., the immediate is first sign-extended to 32-bits then treated as an unsigned number). Note: SLTIU `rd`, `rs1`, 1 sets `rd` to 1 if `rs1` equals zero, otherwise sets `rd` to 0 (assembler pseudo instruction SEQZ `rd`, `rs`).
XORI	Bitwise XOR on register `rs1` and the sign-extended 12-bit immediate and place the result in `rd`.
ORI	Bitwise OR on register `rs1` and the sign-extended 12-bit immediate and place the result in `rd`.
ANDI	Bitwise AND on register `rs1` and the sign-extended 12-bit immediate and place the result in `rd`.
SLLI	Shift Left Logical. The operand to be shifted is in `rs1`, and the shift amount is encoded in the lower 5 bits of the I-immediate field.
SRLI	Shift Right Logical. The operand to be shifted is in `rs1`, and the shift amount is encoded in the lower 5 bits of the I-immediate field.
SRAI	Shift Right Arithmetic. The operand to be shifted is in `rs1`, and the shift amount is encoded in the lower 5 bits of the I-immediate field (the original sign bit is copied into the vacated upper bits).

Shift-by-immediate instructions only use lower 5 bits of the immediate value for shift amount (can only shift by 0-31 bit positions).

Below is an example of an ADDI instruction.

addi x15, x1, -50

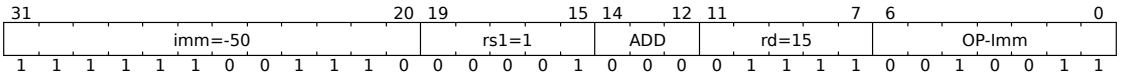


Figure 18: ADDI Instruction Example

5.2.3 I-Type Load Instructions

For I-Type load instructions, a 12-bit signed immediate is added to the base address in register rs1 to form the memory address. In Table 10 below, **funct3** field encodes size and signedness of load data.

imm		func3		opcode	Instruction
imm[11:0]	rs1	000	rd	00000011	LB
imm[11:0]	rs1	001	rd	00000011	LH
imm[11:0]	rs1	010	rd	00000011	LW
imm[11:0]	rs1	100	rd	00000011	LBU
imm[11:0]	rs1	101	rd	00000011	LHU

Table 10: I-Type Load Instructions

Instruction	Description
LB `rd`, `rs1`, `imm`	Load Byte, loads 8 bits (1 byte) and sign-extends to fill destination 32-bit register.
LH `rd`, `rs1`, `imm`	Load Half-Word. Loads 16 bits (2 bytes) and sign-extends to fill destination 32-bit register.
LW `rd`, `rs1`, `imm`	Load Word, 32 bits.
LBU `rd`, `rs1`, `imm`	Load Unsigned Byte (8-bit).
LHU `rd`, `rs1`, `imm`	Load Unsigned Half-Word, which zero-extends 16 bits to fill destination 32-bit register.

Below is an example of a LW instruction.

lw x14, 8(x2)

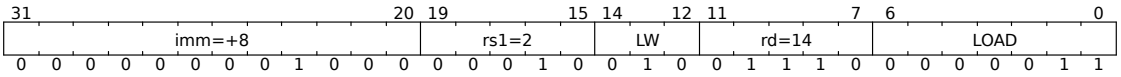


Figure 19: LW Instruction Example

5.2.4 S-Type Store Instructions

Store instructions need to read two registers: `rs1` for base memory address and `rs2` for data to be stored, as well as an immediate offset. The effective byte address is obtained by adding register `rs1` to the sign-extended 12-bit offset. Note that stores don't write a value to the register file, as there is no `rd` register used by the instruction. In RISC-V, the lower 5 bits of immediate are moved to where the `rd` field was in other instructions, and the `rs1`/`rs2` fields are kept in same place. The registers are kept always in the same place because a critical path for all operations includes fetching values from the registers. By always placing the read sources in the same place, the register file can read the registers without hesitation. If the data ends up being unnecessary (e.g. I-Type), it can be ignored.

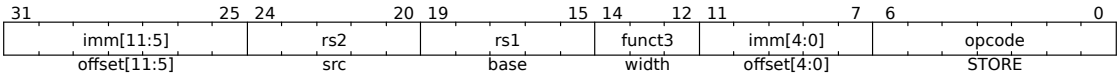


Figure 20: Store Instructions

imm			func3	imm	opcode	Instruction
imm[11:5]	rs2	rs1	000	imm[4:0]	01000011	SB
imm[11:5]	rs2	rs1	001	imm[4:0]	01000011	SH
imm[11:5]	rs2	rs1	010	imm[4:0]	01000011	SW

Table 11: S-Type Store Instructions

Instruction	Description
SB `rs2`, `imm[11:0](rs1)`	Store 8-bit value from the low bits of register `rs2` to memory.
SH `rs2`, `imm[11:0](rs1)`	Store 16-bit value from the low bits of register `rs2` to memory.
SW `rs2`, `imm[11:0](rs1)`	Store 32-bit value from the low bits of register `rs2` to memory.

Below is an example SW instruction.

sw x14, 8(x2)

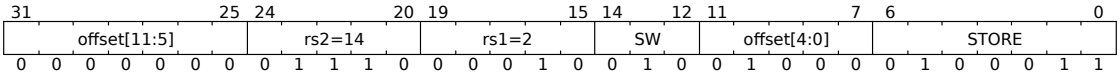


Figure 21: SW Instruction Example

5.2.5 Unconditional Jumps

The jump and link (JAL) instruction uses the J-type format, where the J-immediate encodes a signed offset in multiples of 2 bytes. The offset is sign-extended and added to the address of the jump instruction to form the jump target address. Jumps can therefore target a ±1 MiB range. JAL stores the address of the instruction following the jump (pc+4) into register `rd`. The standard software calling convention uses `x1` as the return address register and `x5` as an alternate link register.

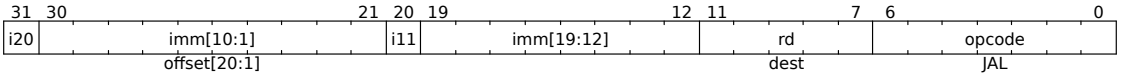


Figure 22: JAL Instruction

The indirect jump instruction JALR (jump and link register) uses the I-type encoding. The target address is obtained by adding the sign-extended 12-bit I-immediate to the register rs1, then setting the least-significant bit of the result to zero. The address of the instruction following the jump (pc+4) is written to register rd. Register x0 can be used as the destination if the result is not required.

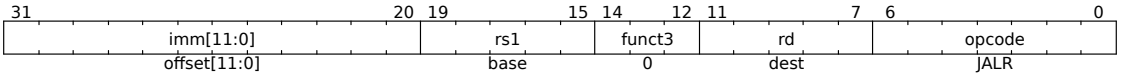


Figure 23: JALR Instruction

Both JAL and JALR instructions will generate an instruction-address-misaligned exception if the target address is not aligned to a four-byte boundary.

Instruction	Description
JAL `rd`, `imm[20:1]`	Jump and link
JALR `rd`, `rs1`, `imm[11:0]`	Jump and link register

5.2.6 Conditional Branches

All branch instructions use the B-Type instruction format. The 12-bit immediate represents values -4096 to +4094 in 2-byte increments. The offset is sign-extended and added to the address of the branch instruction to give the target address. The conditional branch range is ±4 KiB.

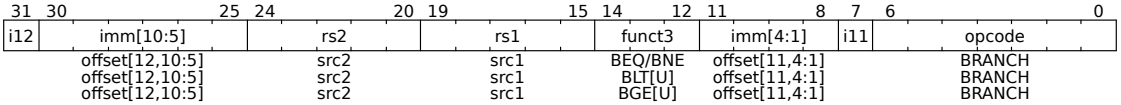


Figure 24: Branch Instructions

imm			func3	imm	opcode	Instruction
imm[12,10:5]	rs2	rs1	000	imm[4:1,11]	110011	BEQ
imm[12,10:5]	rs2	rs1	001	imm[4:1,11]	110011	BNE
imm[12,10:5]	rs2	rs1	100	imm[4:1,11]	110011	BLT
imm[12,10:5]	rs2	rs1	101	imm[4:1,11]	110011	BGE
imm[12,10:5]	rs2	rs1	110	imm[4:1,11]	110011	BLTU
imm[12,10:5]	rs2	rs1	111	imm[4:1,11]	110011	BGEU

Instruction	Description
BEQ `rs1`, `rs2`, `imm[12:1]`	Take the branch if registers `rs1` and `rs2` are equal.
BNE `rs1`, `rs2`, `imm[12:1]`	Take the branch if registers `rs1` and `rs2` are unequal.
BLT `rs1`, `rs2`, `imm[12:1]`	Take the branch if `rs1` is less than `rs2`.
BGE `rs1`, `rs2`, `imm[12:1]`	Take the branch if `rs1` is greater than or equal to `rs2`.
BLTU `rs1`, `rs2`, `imm[12:1]`	Take the branch if `rs1` is less than `rs2` (unsigned).
BGEU `rs1`, `rs2`, `imm[12:1]`	Take the branch if `rs1` is greater than or equal to `rs2` (unsigned).

Note

Software should be optimized such that the sequential code path is the most common path, with less-frequently taken code paths placed out of line. Software should also assume that backward branches will be predicted taken and forward branches as not taken, at least the first time they are encountered. Dynamic predictors should quickly learn any predictable branch behavior.

ISA Base Instruction	Assembly pseudo instruction	
BEQ `rs`, `x0`, `offset`	`beqz rs,offset`	Branch if = zero

5.2.7 Upper-Immediate Instructions

Figure 25: Upper-Immediate Instructions

LUI (load upper immediate) is used to build 32-bit constants and uses the U-type format. LUI places the U-immediate value in the top 20 bits of the destination register `rd`, filling in the lowest 12 bits with zeros. Together with an ADDI to set low 12 bits, can create any 32-bit value in a register using two instructions (LUI/ADDI).

For example:

LUI x10, 0x87654 # x10 = `0x8765_4000`

ADDI x10, x10, 0x321 # x10 = `0x8765_4321`

AUIPC (add upper immediate to `pc`) is used to build pc-relative addresses and uses the U-type format. AUIPC forms a 32-bit offset from the 20-bit U-immediate, filling in the lowest 12 bits with

zeros, and adds this offset to the address of the AUIPC instruction, then places the result in register `rd`.

5.2.8 Memory Ordering Operations

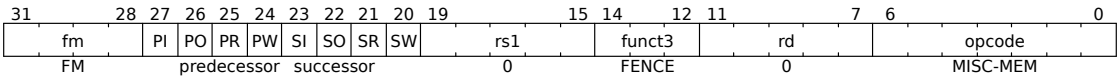


Figure 26: FENCE Instructions

The `FENCE` instruction is used to order device I/O and memory accesses as viewed by other RISC-V harts and external devices or coprocessors. Any combination of device input (I), device output (O), memory reads (R), and memory writes (W) may be ordered with respect to any combination of the same. These operations are discussed further in Section 5.9.

5.2.9 Environment Call and Breakpoints

`SYSTEM` instructions are used to access system functionality that might require privileged access and are encoded using the I-type instruction format. These can be divided into two main classes: those that atomically read-modify-write control and status registers (CSRs), and all other potentially privileged instructions.

5.2.10 NOP Instruction

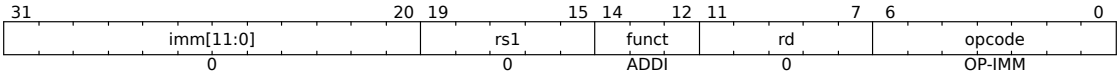


Figure 27: NOP Instructions

The NOP instruction does not change any architecturally visible state, except for advancing the pc and incrementing any applicable performance counters. NOP is encoded as **ADDI x0, x0, 0**.

5.3 M Extension: Multiplication Operations

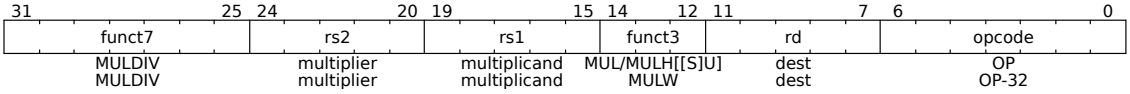


Figure 28: Multiplication Operations

Instruction	Description
MUL `rd`, `rs1`, `rs2`	Multiplication of `rs1` by `rs2` and places the lower 32-bits in the destination register.
MULH `rd`, `rs1`, `rs2`	Multiplication that return the upper 32-bits of the full 2×32-bit product.
MULHU `rd`, `rs1`, `rs2`	Unsigned multiplication that return the upper 32-bits of the full 2×32-bit product.
MULHSU `rd`, `rs1`, `rs2`	Signed rs1 multiple unsigned rs2 that return the upper 32-bits of the full 2×32-bit product.

Combining MUL and MULH together creates one multiplication operation.

5.3.1 Division Operations

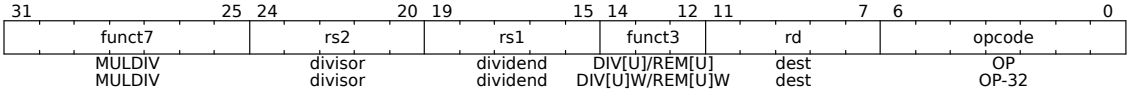


Figure 29: Division Operations

Instruction	Description
DIV `rd`, `rs1`, `rs2`	32-bits by 32-bits signed division of `r1` by `rs2` rounding towards zero.
DIVU `rd`, `rs1`, `rs2`	32-bits by 32-bits unsigned division of `r1` by `rs2` rounding towards zero.
REM `rd`, `rs1`, `rs2`	Remainder of the corresponding division.
REMU `rd`, `rs1`, `rs2`	Unsigned remainder of the corresponding division.
REMW `rd`, `rs1`, `rs2`	Singed remainder.
REMUW `rd`, `rs1`, `rs2`	Unsigned remainder sign-extend the 32-bit result to 64 bits, including on a divide by zero.
MULDIV `rd`, `rs1`, `rs`	Multiply Divide.

Combining DIV and REM together creates on division operation.

5.4 A Extension: Atomic Operations

Atomic operations are defined as operations that automatically read-modify-write memory to support sychronization between multiple RISC-V harts running in the same memory space.

5.4.1 Atomic Memory Operations (AMOs)

The atomic memory operation (AMO) instructions perform read-modify-write operations for multiprocessor synchronization. These AMO instructions atomically load a data value from the

address in `rs1`, place the value into register `rd`, apply a binary operator to the loaded value and the original value in `rs2`, then store the result back to the address in `rs1`.

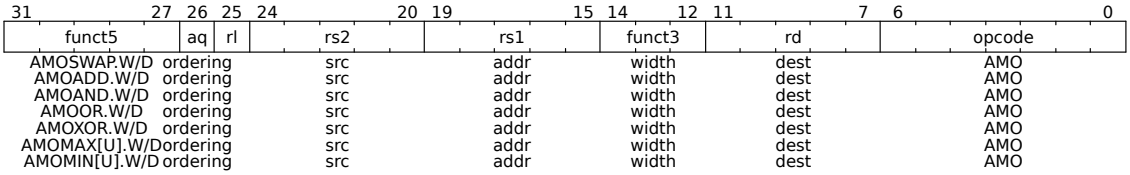


Figure 30: Atomic Memory Operations

Instruction	Description
AMOSWAPW/D	Word / doubleword swap.
AMOADD.W/D	Word / doubleword add.
AMOAND.W/D	Word / doubleword and.
AMOOR.W/D	Word / doubleword or.
AMOXOR.W/D	Word / doubleword xor.
AMOMIN.W/D	Word / doubleword minimum.
AMOMINU.W/D	Unsigned word / doubleword minimum.
AMOMAX.W/D	Word / doubleword maximum.
AMOMAXU.W/D	Unsigned word / doubleword maximum.

5.5 C Extension: Compressed Instructions

The C Extension reduces static and dynamic code size by adding short 16-bit instruction encodings for common operations. The C extension can be added to any of the base ISAs (RV32, RV64, RV128), and we use the generic term "RVC" to cover any of these. Typically, 50%–60% of the RISC-V instructions in a program can be replaced with RVC instructions, resulting in a 25%–30% code-size reduction. The C extension is compatible with all other standard instruction extensions. The C extension allows 16-bit instructions to be freely intermixed with 32-bit instructions, with the latter now able to start on any 16-bit boundary, i.e., IALIGN=16. With the addition of the C extension, no instructions can raise instruction-address-misaligned exceptions. It is important to note that the C extension is not designed to be a stand-alone ISA, and is meant to be used alongside a base ISA. The compressed 16-bit instruction format is designed around the assumption that `x1` is the return address register and `x2` is the stack pointer.

5.5.1 Compressed 16-bit Instruction Formats

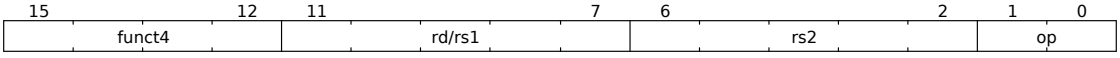


Figure 31: CR Format - Register

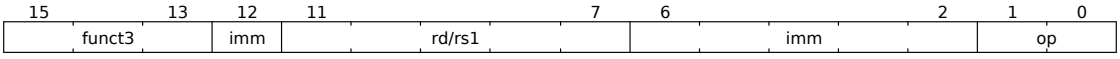


Figure 32: CI Format - Immediate

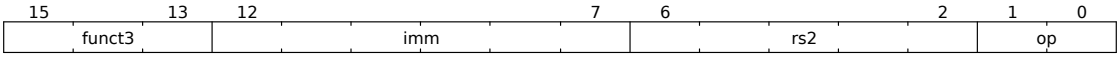


Figure 33: CSS Format - Stack-relative Store

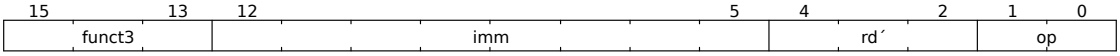


Figure 34: CIW Format - Wide Immediate

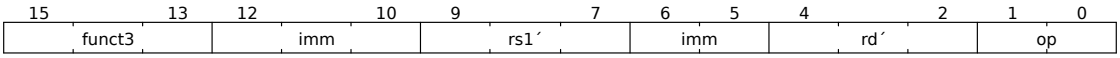


Figure 35: CL Format - Load

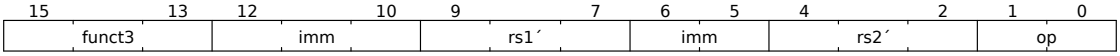


Figure 36: CS Format - Store

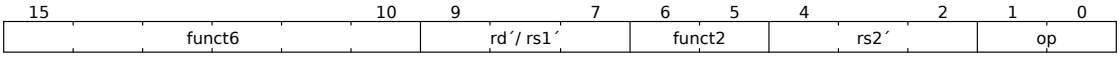


Figure 37: CA Format - Arithmetic

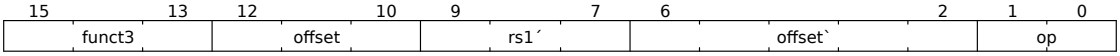


Figure 38: CJ Format - Jump

5.5.2 Stack-Pointed-Based Loads and Stores

The compressed load instructions are expressed in CI format.

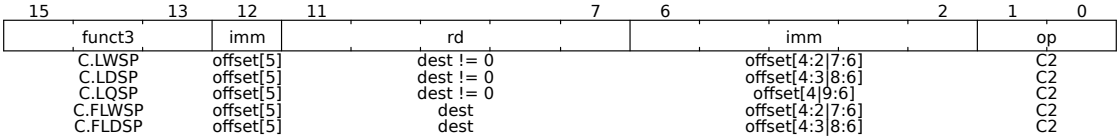


Figure 39: Stack-Pointed-Based Loads

Instruction	Description
C.LWSP	Loads a 32-bit value from memory into register `rd`.
C.LDSP	RV64C Instruction which loads a 64-bit value from memory into register `rd`.
C.LQSP	RV128C loads a 128-bit value from memory into register `rd`.
C.FLWSP	RV32FC Instruction that loads a single-precision floating-point value from memory into floating-point register `rd`.
C.FLDSP	RV32DC/RV64DC Instruction that loads a double-precision floating-point value from memory into floating-point register `rd`.

The compressed store instructions are expressed in CSS format.

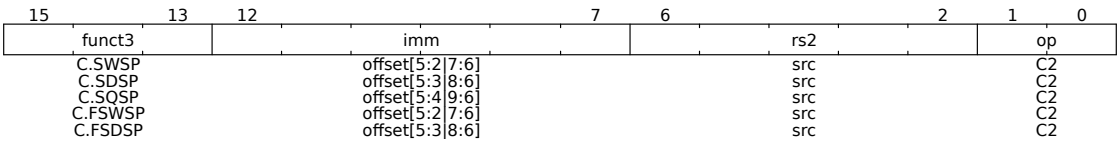


Figure 40: Stack-Pointed-Based Stores

Instruction	Description
C.LWSP	Loads a 32-bit value from memory into register `rd`.
C.SWSP	Stores a 32-bit value in register `rs2` to memory.
C.SDSP	RV64C/RV128C instruction that stores a 64-bit value in register `rs2` to memory.
C.SQSP	RV128C instruction that stores a 128-bit value in register `rs2` to memory.
C.FSWSP	RV32FC instruction that stores a single-precision floating-point value in floating-point register `rs2` to memory.
C.FSDSP	RV32DC/RV64DC instruction that stores a double-precision floating-point value in floating-point register `rs2` to memory.

5.5.3 Register-Based Loads and Stores

The compressed register-based load instructions are expressed in CL format.

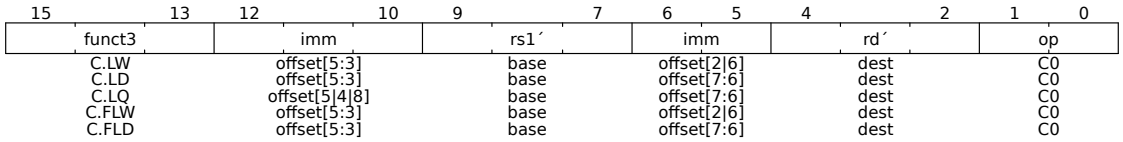


Figure 41: Register-Based Loads

Instruction	Description
C.LW	Loads a 32-bit value from memory into register rd.
C.LD	RV64C/RV128C-only instruction that loads a 64-bit value from memory into register `rd`.
C.LQ	RV128C-only instruction that loads a 128-bit value from memory into register `rd`.
C.FLW	RV32FC-only instruction that loads a single-precision floating-point value from memory into floating-point register `rd`.
C.FLD	RV32DC/RV64DC-only instruction that loads a double-precision floating-point value from memory into floating-point register `rd`.

The compressed register-based store instructions are expressed in CS format.

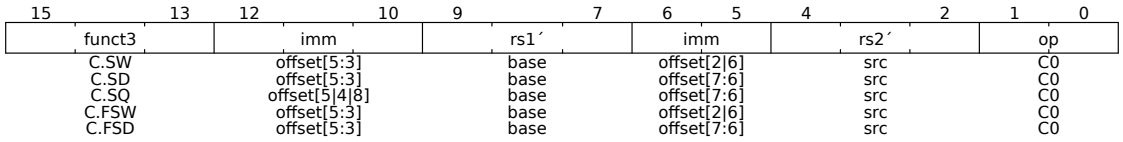


Figure 42: Register-Based Stores

Instruction	Description
C.SW	Stores a 32-bit value in register `rs2` to memory.
C.SD	RV64C/RV128C instruction that stores a 64-bit value in register `rs2` to memory.
C.SQ	RV128C instruction that stores a 128-bit value in register `rs2` to memory.
C.FSW	RV32FC instruction that stores a single-precision floating-point value in floating point register `rs2` to memory.
C.FSD	RV32DC/RV64DC instruction that stores a double-precision floating-point value in floating-point register `rs2` to memory.

5.5.4 Control Transfer Instructions

RVC provides unconditional jump instructions and conditional branch instructions.

The unconditional jump instructions are expressed in CJ format.

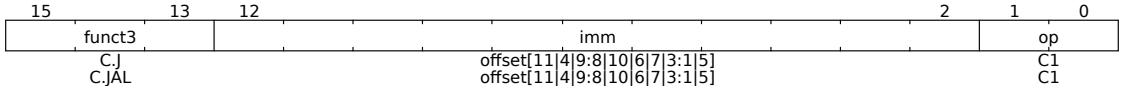


Figure 43: Unconditional Jump Instructions

Instruction	Description
C.J	Unconditional control transfer.
C.JAL	RV32C instruction that performs the same operation as C.J, but additionally writes the address of the instruction following the jump (pc+2) to the link register, `x1`.

The unconditional control transfer instructions are expressed in CR format.

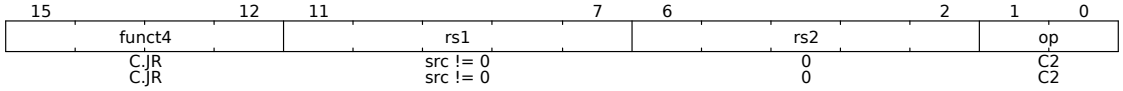


Figure 44: Unconditional Control Transfer Instructions

Instruction	Description
C.JR	Performs an unconditional control transfer to the address in register `rs1`.
C.JALR	Performs the same operation as C.JR, but additionally writes the address of the instruction following the jump (pc+2) to the link register, `x1`.

The conditional control transfer instructions are expressed in CB format.

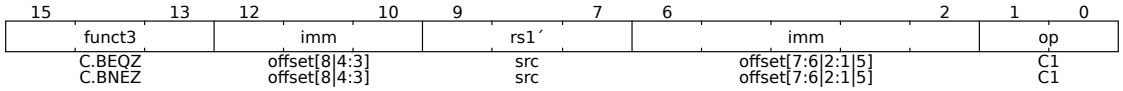


Figure 45: Conditional Control Transfer Instructions

Instruction	Description
C.BEQZ	Conditional control transfers. Takes the branch if the value in register `rs1'` is zero.
C.BNEZ	Conditional control transfers. Takes the branch if `rs1'` contains a nonzero value.

5.5.5 Integer Computational Instructions

Integer Constant-Generation Instructions

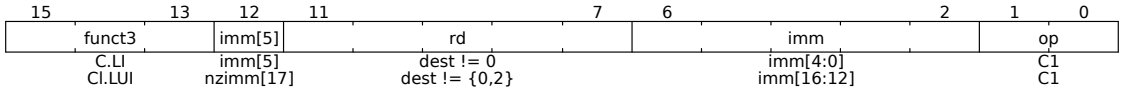
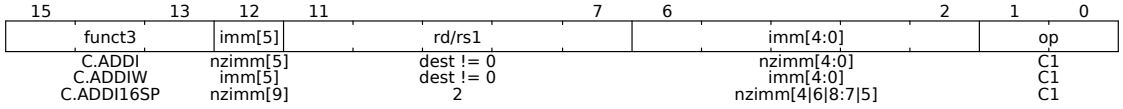


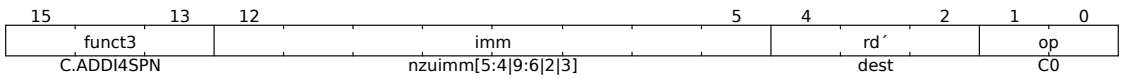
Figure 46: Constant Generation Instructions

Instruction	Description
C.LI	Loads the sign-extended 6-bit immediate, `imm`, into register `rd`.
C.LUI	Loads the non-zero 6-bit immediate field into bits 17–12 of the destination register, clears the bottom 12 bits, and sign-extends bit 17 into all higher bits of the destination

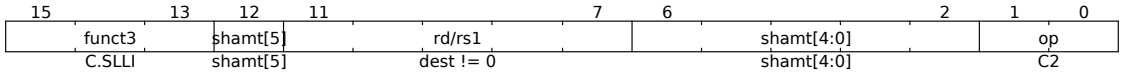
Integer Register-Immediate Operations



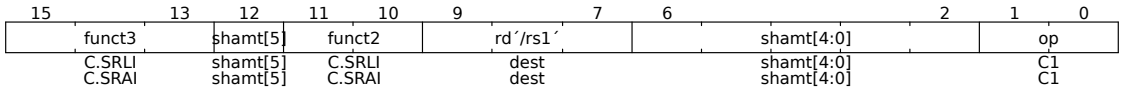
Instruction	Description
C.ADDI	Adds the non-zero sign-extended 6-bit immediate to the value in register rd then writes the result to `rd`.
C.ADDIW	RV64C/RV128C instruction that performs the same computation but produces a 32-bit result, then sign-extends result to 64 bits.
C.ADDI16SP	Adds the non-zero sign-extended 6-bit immediate to the value in the stack pointer (`sp`=x2), where the immediate is scaled to represent multiples of 16 in the range (-512,496). C.ADDI16SP is used to adjust the stack pointer in procedure prologues and epilogues.



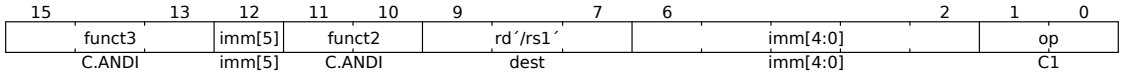
Instruction	Description
C.ADDI4SPN	Adds a zero-extended non-zero immediate, scaled by 4, to the stack pointer, `x2`, and writes the result to `rd′`.



Instruction	Description
C.SLLI	Performs a logical left shift of the value in register `rd` then writes the result to `rd`. The shift amount is encoded in the `shamt` field.

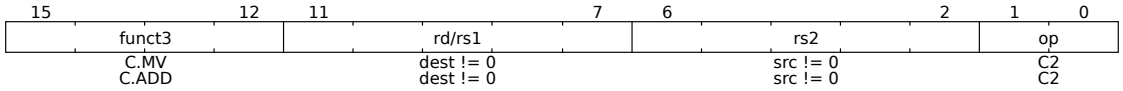


Instruction	Description
C.SRLI	Logical right shift of the value in register `rd′` then writes the result to `rd′`. The shift amount is encoded in the `shamt` field.
C.SRAI	Arithmetic right shift of the value in register `rd′` then writes the result to `rd′`. The shift amount is encoded in the `shamt` field.

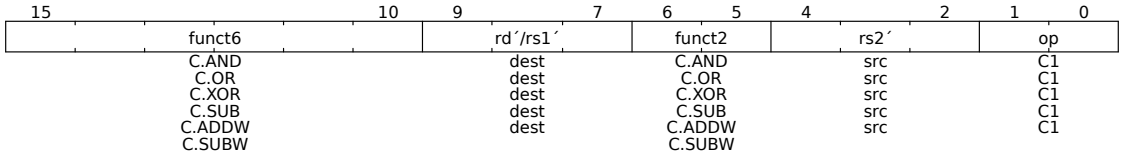


Instruction	Description
C.ANDI	Computes the bitwise AND of the value in register `rd′` and the sign-extended 6-bit immediate, then writes the result to `rd′`.

Integer Register-Register Operations



Instruction	Description
C.MV	Copies the value in register `rs2` into register `rd`.
C.ADD	Adds the values in registers `rd` and `rs2` and writes the result to register rd.



Instruction	Description
C.AND	Computes the bitwise AND of the values in registers `rd′` and `rs2′`.
C.OR	Computes the bitwise OR of the values in registers `rd′` and `rs2′`.
C.XOR	Computes the bitwise XOR of the values in registers `rd′` and `r2′`.
C.SUB	Subtracts the value in register `rs2′` from the value in register `rd′`.
C.ADDW	RV64C/RV128C-only instruction that adds the values in registers `rd′` and `rs2′`, then sign-extends the lower 32 bits of the sum before writing the result to register `rd`.
C.SUBW	RV64C/RV128C-only instruction that subtracts the value in register `rs2′` from the value in register `rd′`, then sign-extends the lower 32 bits of the difference before writing the result to register `rd`.

Defined Illegal Instruction

A 16-bit intruction with all bits zero is permanently reserved as an illegal instruction.

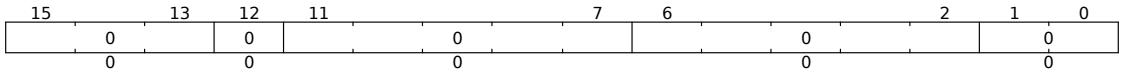


Figure 47: Defined Illegal Instruction

5.6 Zicsr Extension: Control and Status Register Instructions

RISC-V defines a separate address space of 4096 Control and Status registers associated with each hart. The defined instructions access counter, timers and floating point status registers.

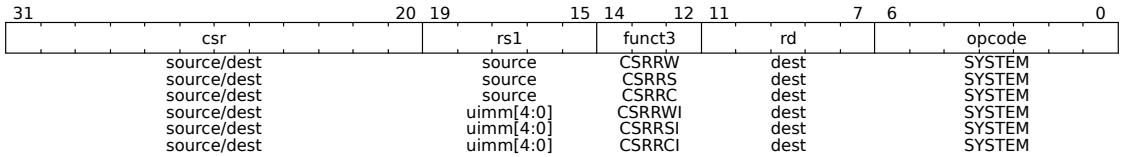


Figure 48: Zicsr Instructions

Instruction	Description
CSRRW `rd`, `rs1` `csr`	Instruction atomically swaps values in the CSRs and integer registers.
CSRRS `rd`, `rs1` `csr`	Instruction reads the value of the CSR, zeroextends the value to 32-bits, and writes it to integer register rd. The initial value in integer register `rs1` is treated as a bit mask that specifies bit positions to be set in the CSR.
CSRRC `rd`, `rs1` `csr`	Instruction reads the value of the CSR, zeroextends the value to 32-bits, and writes it to integer register rd. The initial value in integer register `rs1` is treated as a bit mask that specifies bit positions to be cleared in the CSR.
CSRRWI `rd`, `rs1` `csr`	Update the CSR using an 32-bit value obtained by zero-extending a 5-bit unsigned immediate (uimm[4:0]) field encoded in the rs1 field instead of a value from an integer register.
CSRRSI `rd`, `rs1` `csr`	Update the CSR using an 32-bit value obtained by zero-extending a 5-bit unsigned immediate (uimm[4:0]) field encoded in the rs1 field instead of a value from an integer register.
CSRRCI `rd`, `rs1` `csr`	If the uimm[4:0] field is zero, then these instructions will not write to the CSR.

The CSRRWI, CSRRSI, and CSRRCI instructions are similar in kind to CSRRW, CSRRS, and CSRRC respectively, except in that they update the CSR using an 32-bit value obtained by zero-extending a 5-bit unsigned immediate (uimm[4:0]) field encoded in the rs1 field instead of a value from an integer register. For CSRRSI and CSRRCI, these instructions will not write to the CSR if the uimm[4:0] field is zero, and they shall not cause any of the size effecs that might otherwise occur on a CSR write. For CSRRWI, if `rd` = `x0`, then the instruction shall not read the CSR and shall not cause any of the side effects that might occur on a CSR read. Both CSRRSI and CSRRCI will always read the CSR and cause any read side effects regardless of the `rd` and `rs1` fields.

Table 12 shows if a CSR reads or writes given a particular CSR.

Register Operand				
Instruction	**rd**	**rs1**	**read CSR?**	**write CSR?**
CSRRW	`x0`	-	no	yes
CSRRW	`!x0`	-	yes	yes
CSRRS/C	-	`x0`	yes	no
CSRRS/C	-	`!x0`	yes	yes
Immediate Operand				
Instruction	**rd**	**uimm**	**read CSR?**	**write CSR?**
CSRRWI	`x0`	-	no	yes
CSRRWI	`!x0`	-	yes	yes
CSRRS/CI	-	0	yes	no
CSRRS/CI	-	!0	yes	yes

Table 12: CSR Reads and Writes

5.6.1 Control and Status Registers

The control and status registers (CSRs) are only accessible using variations of the CSRR (Read) and CSRRW (Write) instructions. Only the CPU executing the csr instruction can read or write these registers, and they are not visible by software outside of the core they reside on. The standard RISC-V ISA sets aside a 12-bit encoding space (csr[11:0]) for up to 4,096 CSRs. Attempts to access a non-existent CSR raise an illegal instruction exception. Attempts to access a CSR without appropriate privilege level or to write a read-only register also raise illegal instruction. A read/write register might also contain some bits that are read-only, in which case writes to the read-only bits are ignored. Each core functionality has its own control and status registers which are described in the corresponding section.

5.6.2 Defined CSRs

The following tables describe the currently defined CSRs, categorized by privilege level. The usage of the CSRs below is implementation specific. CSRs are only accessbile when operating within a specific access mode (user mode, machine mode, and Debug mode). Therefore, attempts to access a non-existent CSR raise an illegal instruction exception, and attempts to access a CSR without appropriate privilege level or to write a read-only register also raise illegal instruction exceptions. A read/write register might also contain some bits that are read-only, in which casewrites to the read-only bits are ignored.

Number	Privilege	Name	Description
User Trap Setup			
0x000	RW	ustatus	User status register.
0x004	RW	uie	User interrupt-enable register.
0x005	RW	utvec	User trap handler base address.
User Trap Handling			
0x040	RW	uscratch	Scratch register for use trap handlers.
0x041	RW	uepc	User exception program counter.
0x042	RW	ucause	User trap cause.
0x043	RW	ubadaddr	User bad address.
0x044	RW	uip	User interrupt pending.
User Floating-Point CSRs			
0x001	RW	fflags	Floating-Point Accrued Exceptions.
0x002	RW	frm	Floating-Point Dynamic Rounding Mode.
0x003	RW	fcsr	Floating-Point Control and Status Register (frm + fflags).
User Counter/Timers			
0xC00	RO	cycle	Cycle counter for RDCYCLE instruction.
0xC01	RO	time	Timer for RDTIME instruction.
0xC02	RO	instret	Instructions-retired counter for RDINSTRET instruction.
0xC03	RO	hpmcounter3	Performance-monitoring counter.
0xC04	RO	hpmcounter4	Performance-monitoring counter.
		…	
0xC1F	RO	hpmcounter31	Performance-monitoring counter.
0xC80	RO	cycleh	Upper 32 bits of cycle, RV32I only.
0xC81	RO	timeh	Upper 32 bits of time, RV32I only.
0xC82	RO	instreth	Upper 32 bits of instret, RV32I only.
0xC83	RO	hpmcounter3h	Upper 32bits of hpmcounter3, RV32I only.
0xC84	RO	hpmcounter4h	Upper 32bits of hpmcounter4, RV32I only.
		…	
0xC9F	RO	hpmcounter31h	Upper 32bits of hpmcounter31, RV32I only.

Table 13: User Mode CSRs

Number	Privilege	Name	Description
Supervisor Trap Setup			
0x100	RW	sstatus	Supervisor status register.
0x102	RW	sedeleg	Supervisor exception delegation register.
0x103	RW	sideleg	Supervisor interrupt delegation register.
0x104	RW	sie	Supervisor interrupt-enable register.
0x105	RW	stvec	Supervisor trap handler base address.
Supervisor Trap Handling			
0x140	RW	sscratch	Scratch register for supervisor trap handlers.
0x141	RW	sepc	Supervisor exception program counter.
0x142	RW	scause	Supervisor trap cause.
0x143	RW	sbadaddr	Supervisor bad address.
0x144	RW	sip	Supervisor interrupt pending.
Supervisor Protection and Translation			
0x180	RW	sptbr	Page-table base register.

Table 14: Supervisor Mode CSRs

Number	Privilege	Name	Description
Machine Information Registers			
0xF11	RO	mvendorid	Vendor ID.
0xF12	RO	marchid	Architecture ID.
0xF13	RO	mimpid	Implementation ID.
0xF14	RO	mhartid	Hardware thread ID.
Machine Trap Setup			
0x300	RW	mstatus	Machine status register.
0x301	RW	misa	ISA and extensions.
0x302	RW	medeleg	Machine exception delegation register.
0x303	RW	mideleg	Machine interrupt delegation register.
0x304	RW	mie	Machine interrupt-enable register.
0x305	RW	mtvec	Machine trap-hanlder base address.
Machine Trap Handling			
0x340	RW	mscratch	Scratch register for machine trap handlers.
0x341	RW	mepc	Machine exception program counter.
0x342	RW	mcause	Machine trap cause.
0x343	RW	mbadaddr	Machine bad address.
0x344	RW	mip	Machine interrupt pending.
Machine Protection and Translation			
0x380	RW	mbase	Base register.
0x381	RW	mbound	Bound register.
0x382	RW	mibase	Instruction base register.
0x383	RW	mibound	Instruction bound register.
0x384	RW	mdbase	Data base register.
0x385	RW	mdbound	Data bound register.
Machine Counter/Timers			
0xB00	RW	mcycle	Machine cycle counter.
0xB02	RW	minstret	Machine instruction-retired counter.
0xB03	RW	mhpmcounter3	Machine performance-monitoring counter.
0xB04	RW	mhpmcounter4	Machine performance-monitoring counter.
		…	
0xB1F	RW	mhpmcounter31	Machine performance-monitoring counter.
0xB80	RW	mcycleh	Upper 32 bits of mcycle, RV32I only.
0xB82	RW	minstreth	Upper 32 bits of minstret, RV32I only.
0xB83	RW	mhpmcounter3h	Upper 32 bits of mhpmcounter3, RV32I only.
0xB84	RW	mhpmcounter4h	Upper 32 bits of mhpmcounter4, RV32I only.
		…	
0xB9F	RW	mhpmcounter31h	Upper 32 bits of mhpmcounter31, RV32I only.
Debug/Trace Register (shared with Debug Mode)			
0x7A0	RW	tselect	Debug/Trace trigger register select.
0x7A1	RW	tdata1	First Debug/Trace trigger data register.

Table 15: Machine Mode CSRs

Number	Privilege	Name	Description
0x7A2	RW	tdata2	Second Debug/Trace trigger data register.
0x7A3	RW	tdata3	Third Debug/Trace trigger data register.

Table 15: Machine Mode CSRs

Number	Privilege	Name	Description
0x7B0	RW	dcsr	Debug control and status register.
0x7B1	RW	dpc	Debug PC.
0x7B2	RW	dscratch	Debug scratch register.

Table 16: Debug Mode Registers

5.6.3 CSR Access Ordering

On a given hart, explicit and implicit CSR access are performed in program order with respect to those instructions whose execution behavior is affected by the state of the accessed CSR. In particular, a CSR access is performed after the execution of any prior instructions in program order whose behavior modifies or is modified by the CSR state and before the execution of any subsequent instructions in program order whose behavior modifies or is modified by the CSR state.

Furthermore, a CSR read access instruction returns the accessed CSR state before the execution of the instruction, while a CSR write access instruction updates the accessed CSR state after the execution of the instruction. Where the above program order does not hold, CSR accesses are weakly ordered, and the local hart or other harts may observe the CSR accesses in an order different from program order. In addition, CSR accesses are not ordered with respect to explicit memory accesses, unless a CSR access modifies the execution behavior of the instruction that performs the explicit memory access or unless a CSR access and an explicit memory access are ordered by either the syntactic dependencies defined by the memory model or the ordering requirements defined by the Memory-Ordering PMAs. To enforce ordering in all other cases, software should execute a FENCE instruction between the relevant accesses. For the purposes of the `FENCE` instruction, CSR read accesses are classified as device input (I), and CSR write accesses are classified as device output (O). For more about the FENCE instructions, see Section 5.9. For CSR accesses that cause side effects, the above ordering constraints apply to the order of the initiation of those side effects but does not necessarily apply to the order of the completion of those side effects.

5.6.4 SiFive RISC-V Implementation Version Registers

`mvendorid`

The value in `mvendorid` is `0x489`, corresponding to SiFive's JEDEC number.

marchid

The value in marchid indicates the overall microarchitecture of the core and at SiFive we use this to distinguish between core generators. The RISC-V standard convention separates marchid into open-source and proprietary namespaces using the most-significant bit (MSB) of the marchid register; where if the MSB is clear, the marchid is for an open-source core, and if the MSB is set, then marchid is a proprietary microarchitecture. The open-source namespace is managed by the RISC-V Foundation and the proprietary namespace is managed by SiFive.

SiFive's E3 and S5 cores are based on the open-source 3/5-Series microarchitecture, which has a Foundation-allocated marchid of 1. Our other generators are numbered according to the core series.

Value	Core Generator
0x80…02	2-Series Processor (E2, S2 series)

Table 17: Core Generator Encoding of marchid

mimpid

The value in mimpid holds the release tag for the generator used to build this implementation.

Reading Implementation Version Registers

To read the mvendorid, marchid and mimpid registers, simply replace mimpid with mvendorid or marchid as needed.

In C:

```
uintptr_t mimpid;
__asm__ volatile("csrr %0, mimpid" : "=r"(mimpid));
```

In Assembly:

```
csrr a5, mimipd
```

5.7 Base Counters and Timers

RISC-V ISAs provide a set of up to 32×64-bit performance counters and timers that are accessible via unprivileged 32-bit read-only CSR registers 0xC00–0xC1F, with the upper 32 bits accessed via CSR registers 0xC80–0xC9F on RV32. The first three of these (CYCLE, TIME, and INSTRET) have dedicated functions; while the remaining counters, if implemented, provide programmable event counting.

The E21 implements mcycle, mtime, and minstret counters, which have dedicated functions: cycle count, real-time clock, and instructions-retired, respectively. The timer functionality is

based on the `mtime` register. Additionally, the E21 implements event counters in the form of `mhpmcounter`, which is used to monitor user requested events.

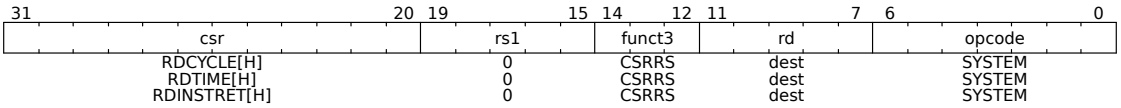


Figure 49: Timers & Counters

Instruction	Description
RDCYCLE `rd`, `rs1`, `cycle`	Reads the low 32-bits of the cycle CSR which holds a count of the number of clock cycles executed by the processor core on which the hart is running from an arbitrary start time in the past.
RDCYCLEH `rd`, `rs1`, `cycle`	RV32I instruction that reads bits 63–32 of the same cycle counter.
RDTIME `rd`, `rs1`, `time`	Reads the low 32-bits of the time CSR, which counts wall-clock real time that has passed from an arbitrary start time in the past.
RDTIMEH `rd`, `rs1`, `time`	RV32I-only instruction that reads bits 63–32 of the same real-time counter.
RDINSTRET `rd`, `rs1`, `instret`	reads the low 32-bits of the instret CSR, which counts the number of instructions retired by this hart from some arbitrary start point in the past.
RDINSTRETH `rd`, `rs1`, `instret`	RV32I-only instruction that reads bits 63–32 of the same instruction counter.

RDCYCLE, RDTIME, and RDINSTRET pseudoinstructions read the full 64 bits of the `cycle`, `time`, and `instret` counters. The RDCYCLE pseudoinstruction reads the low 32-bits of the cycle CSR (`mcycle`), which holds a count of the number of clock cycles executed by the processor core on which the hart is running from an arbitrary start time in the past. The RDTIME pseudoinstruction reads the low 32-bits of the time CSR (`mtime`), which counts wall-clock real time that has passed from an arbitrary start time in the past The RDINSTRET pseudoinstruction reads the low 32-bits of the instret CSR (`minstret`), which counts the number of instructions retired by this hart from some arbitrary start point in the past The rate at which the cycle counter advances is `rtc_clock`. To determine the current rate (cycles per second) of instruction execution, call the `metal_timer_get_timebase_frequency` API. The `metal_timer_get_timebase_frequency` and additional APIs are described in Section 5.7.2 below.

Number	Privilege	Name	Description
`0xC00`	RO	`cycle`	Cycle counter for RDCYCLE instruction
`0xC01`	RO	`time`	Timer for RDTIME instruction
`0xC02`	RO	`instret`	Instruction-retired counter for RDINSTRET instruction
`0xC80`	RO	`cycleh`	Upper 32 bits of cycle, RV32 only.
`0xC81`	RO	`timeh`	Upper 32 bits of time, RV32 only.
`0xC82`	RO	`instreth`	Upper 32 bits of instret, RV32 only

5.7.1 Timer Register

`mtime` is a 64-bit read-write register that contains the number of cycles counted from the `rtc_toggle` signal described in the E21 User Guide. On reset, `mtime` is cleared to zero.

5.7.2 Timer API

The APIs below are used for reading and manipulating the machine timer. Other APIs are described in more detail within the Freedom Metal documentation. https://sifive.github.io/freedom-metal-docs/

Functions

int `metal_timer_get_cyclecount`(int `hartid`, unsigned long long *`cyclecount`)
Read the machine cycle count.

Return
0 upon success

Parameters
- `hartid`: The hart ID to read the cycle count of
- `cyclecount`: The variable to hold the value

int `metal_timer_get_timebase_frequency`(int `hartid`, unsigned long long *`timebase`)
Get the machine timebase frequency.

Return
0 upon success

Parameters
- `hartid`: The hart ID to read the cycle count of
- `timebase`: The variable to hold the value

int `metal_timer_set_tick`(int `hartid`, int `second`)
Set the machine timer tick interval in seconds.

Return
0 upon success

Parameters
- `hartid`: The hart ID to read the cycle count of
- `second`: The number of seconds to set the tick interval to

5.8 ABI - Register File Usage and Calling Conventions

RV32IMAC has 32 `x` registers that are each 32 bits wide.

Register	ABI Name	Description	Saver
x0	zero	Hard-wired zero	-
x1	ra	Return address	Caller
x2	sp	Stack pointer	Callee
x3	gp	Global pointer	-
x4	tp	Thread pointer	-
x5	t0	Temporary / alternate link register	Caller
x6-7	t1-2	Temporaries	Caller
x8	s0/fp	Saved-register / frame-ponter	Callee
x9	s1	Saved register	Callee
x10-11	a0-1	Function arguments / return values	Caller
x12-17	a2-7	Function arguments	Caller
x18-27	s2-11	Saved registers	Callee
x28-31	t3-6	Temporaries	Caller
Floating-Point Registers			
f0-7	ft0-7	FP temporaries	Caller
f8-9	fs0-1	FP saved registers	Callee
f10-11	fa0-1	FP arguments / return values	Caller
f12-17	fa2-7	FP arguments	Caller
f18-27	fa2-11	FP saved registers	Callee
f28-31	ft8-11	FP temporaries	Caller

Table 18: RISC-V Registers

The programmer counter PC hold the address of the current instruction.

- `x1 / ra` - holds the return address for a call.
- `x2 / sp` - stack pointer, points to the current routine stack.
- `x8 / fp / s0` - frame pointer, points to the bottom of the top stack frame.
- `x3 / gp` - global pointer, points into the middle of the global data section.
  The common definition is: .data + 0x800. RISC-V immediate values are 12-bit signed values, which is +/- 2048 in decimal or +/- `0x800` in hex. So that global pointer relative accesses can reach their full extent, the global pointer point + `0x800` into the data section. The linker can then relax LUI+LW, LUI+SW into gp-relative LW or SW. i.e. shorter instruction sequences and access most global data using LW at gp +/- offset

  ```
  LW t0 , 0x800(gp)
  LW t1 , 0x7FF(gp)
  ```

- `x4 / tp` - thread pointer, point to thread-local storage (TLS-mostly used in linux and RTOS). If you create a variable in TLS, every thread has its own copy of the variable, i.e. changes to the variable are local to the thread. This is a static area of memory that gets copied for each thread in a program. It is also used to create libraries that have thread-safe functions,

because of the fact that each call to a function has its copy of the same global data, so it's safe.

5.8.1 RISC-V Assembly

RISC-V instructions have opcodes and operands.

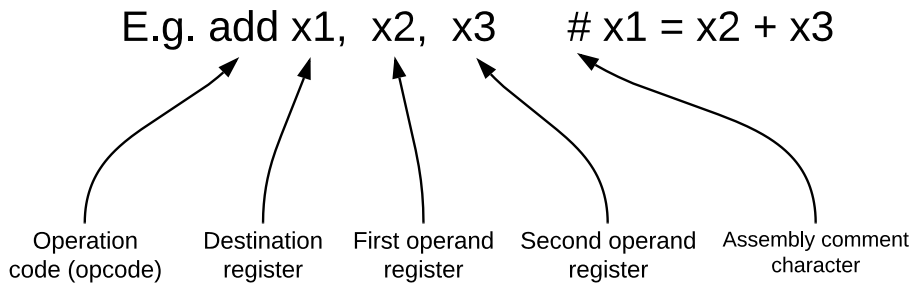


Figure 50: RISC-V Assembly Example

Assembly	C	Description
`add x1,x2,x3`	`a = b + c`	a=x1, b=x2, c=x3
`sub x3,x4,x5`	`d = e - f`	d=x3, e=x4, f=x5
`add x0,x0,x0`	NOP	Writes to `x0` are always ignored
`add x3,x4,x0`	`f = g`	f=x3, g=x4
`addi x3,x4,-10`	`f = g - 10`	f=x3, g=x4
`lw x10,12(x13) # 12 = 3x4` `add x11,x12,x10`	`int A[100];` `g = h + A[3];`	Reg `x10` gets A[3] g=x11, h=x12

`lw x10,12(x13) # 12 = 3x4`
`add x10,x12,x10`
`sw x10,40(x13) # 40 = 10x4`
	`int A[100];`
	`A[10] = h + A[3];`
		Reg `x10` gets A[3]
		h=x12
		Reg `x10` gets h + A[3]

`  bne x13,x14,done`
`  add x10,x11,x12`
`done:`
	`if (i == j)`
	`  f = g + h;`
		f=x10, g=x11, h=x12, i=x13, j=x14

`  bne x10,x14,else`
`  add x10,x11,x12`
`  j done`
`else: sub x10,x11,x12`
`done:`
	`if (i == j)`
	`  f = g + h;`
	`else`
	`  f = g - h;`
		f=x10, g=x11, h=x12, i=x13, j=x14

5.8.2 Assembler to Machine Code

The following flowchart describes how the assembler converts the RISC-V assembly code to machine code.

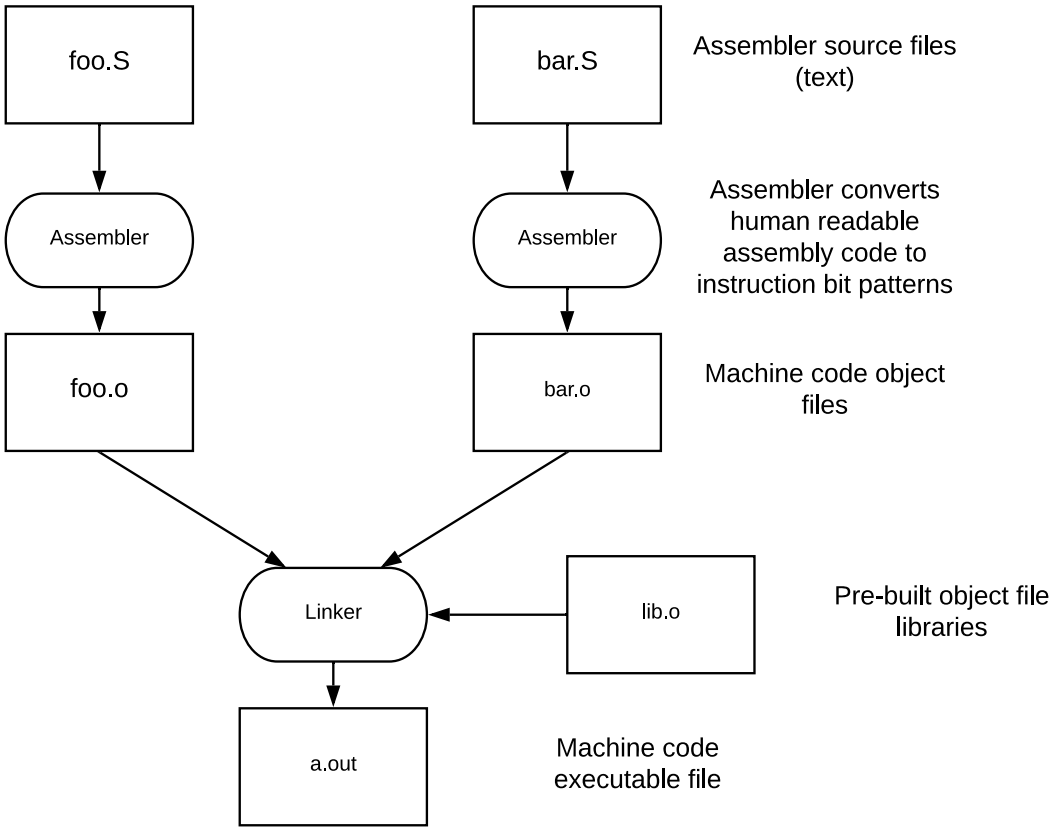
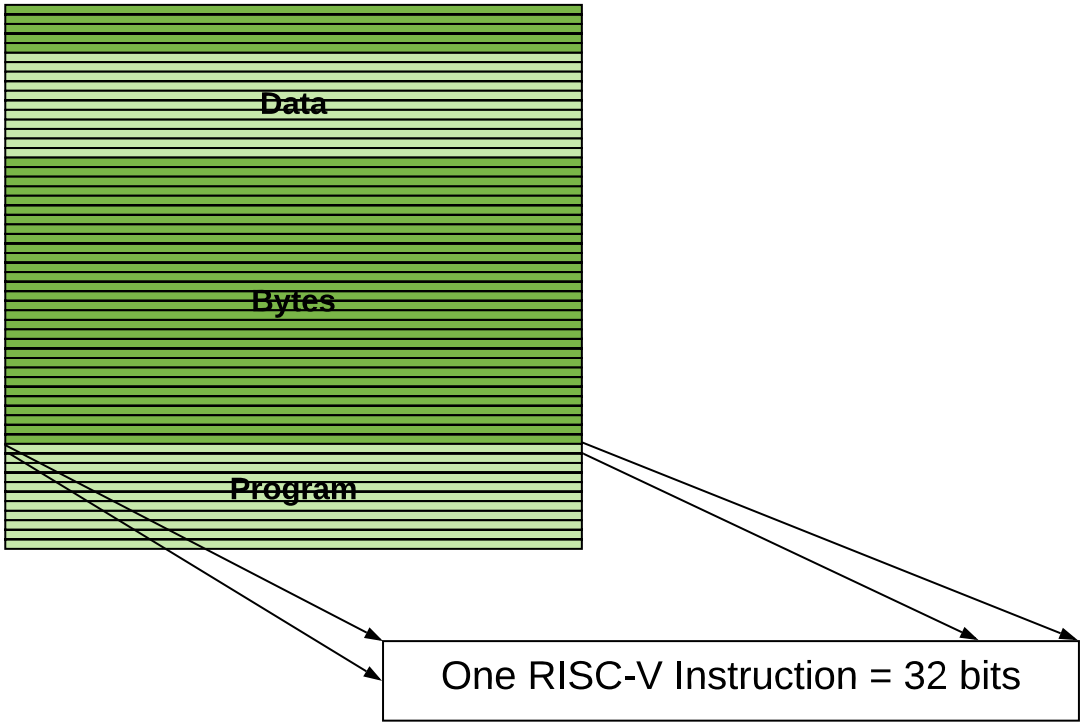


Figure 51: RISC-V Assembly to Machine Code



5.8.3 Calling a Function (Calling Convention)

1. Put parameters in place where function can access them.
2. Transfer control to function.
3. Acquire local resources needed for tunction.
4. Perform function task.
5. Place result values where calling code can access and restore any registers might have used.
6. Return control to original caller.

Caller-saved The function invoked can do whatever it likes with the registers. Callee-saved If a function wants to use registers it needs to store and restore them.

Take, for example, the following function:

```
int leaf(int g, int h, int i, int j) {
      int f;
      f = (g+h) - (i+j);
      return f;
}
```

In this function above, arguments are passed in `a0`, `a1`, `a2` and `a3`. The return value is returned in `a0`.

```
addi sp, sp, -8   # adjust stack for 2 items
sw s1, 4(sp)      # save 1 for use afterwards
sw s0, 0(sp)      # save s0 for use afterwards

add s0,a0,a1      # s0 = g + h
add s1,a2,a3      # s1 = i + j
sub a0,s0,s1      # return value (g + h) - (i + j)

lw s0, 0(sp)      # restore register s0 for caller
lw s1, 4(sp)      # restore register s1 for caller
addi s1, 4(sp)    # adjust stack to delete 2 items
jr ra             # jump back to calling routine
```

In the assembly above, notice that the stack pointer was decremented by 8 to make room to save the registers. Also, `s1` and `s0` are saved and will be stored at the end.

Nested Functions

In the case of nested function calls, values held in `a0-7` and `ra` will be clobbered.

Take, for example, the following function:

```
int sumSquare(int x, int y) {
  return mult(x,x) + y;
}
```

In the function above, a function called `sumSquare` is calling `mult`. To execute the function, there's a value in `ra` that `sumSquare` wants to jump back to, but this value will be overwritten by the call to `mult`.

To avoid this, the `sumSquare` return address must be saved before the call to `mult`. To save the the return address of `sumSquare`, the function can utilize stack memory. The user can use stack memory to preserve automatic (local) variables that don't fit within the registers.

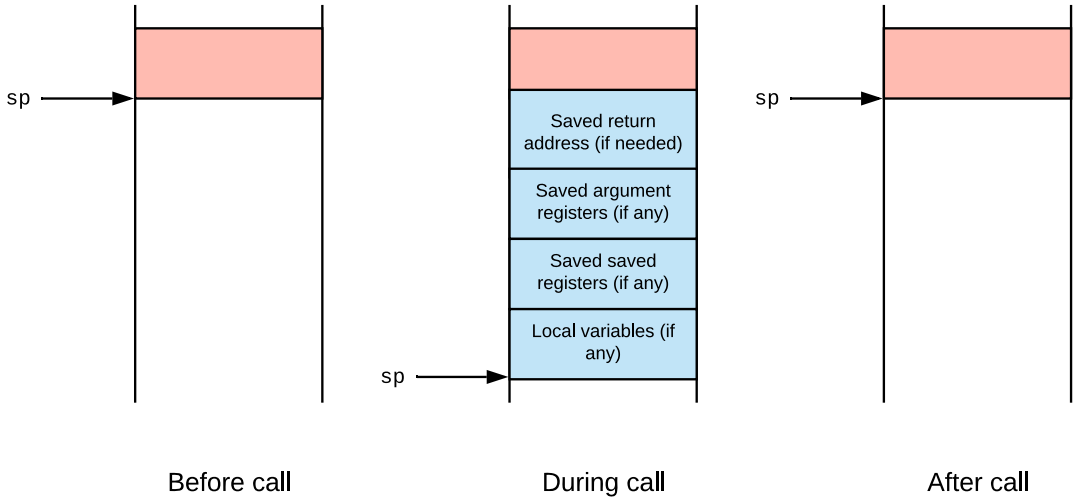


Figure 52: Stack Memory during Function Calls

Consider the assembly for `sumSquare` below:

```
sumSquare:
addi sp,sp,-8       # reserve space on stack
sw ra, 4(sp)        # save return address
sw a1, 0(sp)        # save y
mv a1,a0            # mult(x,x)
jal mult            # call mult
lw a1, 0(sp)        # restore y
add a0,a0,a1        # mult()+y
lw ra, 4(sp)        # get return address
addi sp,sp,8        # restore stack
mult:...
```

Memory Layout

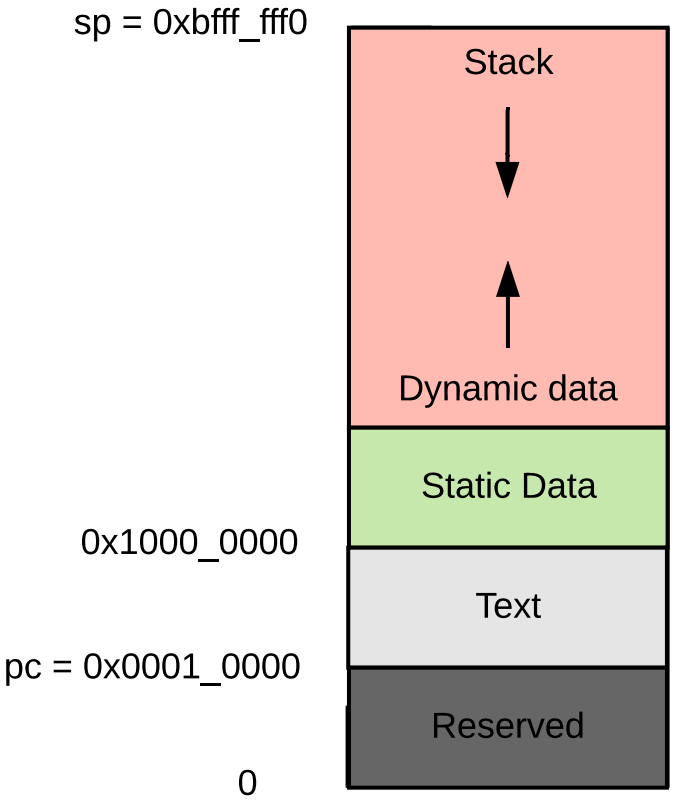


Figure 53: RV32 Memory Layout

5.9 Memory Ordering - FENCE Instructions

In the RISC-V ISA, each thread, referred to as a hart, observes its own memory operations as if they executed sequentially in program order. RISC-V also has a relaxed memory model, which requires explicit FENCE instructions to guarantee the ordering of memory operations.

The FENCE instructions include `FENCE` and `FENCE.I`. The `FENCE` instruction simply ensures that the memory access instructions before the `FENCE` instruction get committed before the `FENCE` instruction is committed. It does not guarantee that those memory access instructions have actually completed. For example, a load instruction before a `FENCE` instruction can commit without waiting for its value to come back from the memory system. `FENCE.I` functions the same as `FENCE`, as well as flushes the instruction cache.

For example, without `FENCE` instructions:

Hart 1 executes:

```
Load X
Store Y
Store Z
```

Because of relaxed memory model, Hart 2 could see stores/loads arranged in any order:

```
Store Z
Load X
Store Y
```

With `FENCE` instructions:

Hart 1 executes:

```
Load X
Store Y
FENCE
Store Z
```

Hart 2 sees:

```
Store Y
Load X
Store Z
```

With `FENCE` instructions, Hart 2 is forced to see the Load X and the Store Y prior to the Store Z, but could arbitrarily see Store Y before Load X or Load X before Store Y. Functionally, `FENCE` instructions order the completion of older memory accesses prior to newer accesses. However, unnecessary `FENCE` instructions slow processes and can hide bugs, so it is essential to identify where and when FENCE should be used.

5.10 Boot Flow

This process is managed as part of the Freedom Metal source code. The freedom-metal boot code supports single core boot or multi-core boot, and contains all the necessary initialization code to enable every core in the system.

1. ENTRY POINT: File: `freedom-metal/src/entry.S`, label: `_enter`.
2. Initialize global pointer `gp` register using the generated symbol `__global_pointer$`.
3. Write `mtvec` register with `early_trap_vector` as default exception handler.
4. Clear chicken bits (usage for this register is not made public).
5. Read `mhartid` into register `a0` and call `_start`, which exists in `crt0.S`.
6. We now transition to File: `freedom-metal/gloss/crt0.S`, label: `_start`.
7. Initialize stack pointer, `sp`, with `_sp` generated symbol. Harts with `mhartid` of one or larger are offset by (`_sp` + `__stack_size` × `mhartid`). The `__stack_size` field is generated in the linker file.
8. Check if `mhartid` == `__metal_boot_hart` and run the init code if they are equal. All other harts skip init and go to the Post-Init Flow, step #15.
9. Boot Hart Init Flow begins here.
10. Init data section to destination in defined RAM space.
11. Copy ITIM section, if ITIM code exists, to destination.
12. Zero out `bss` section.
13. Call `atexit` library function that registers the `libc` and `freedom-metal` destructors to run after main returns.
14. Call the `__libc_init_array` library function, which runs all functions marked with `__attribute__((constructor))`.
    a. For example, PLL, UART, L2 if they exist in the design. This method provides full early initialization prior to entering the main application.
15. Post-Init Flow Begins Here.
16. Call the C routine `__metal_synchronize_harts`, where hart 0 will release all harts once their individual `msip` bits are set. The `msip` bit is typically used to assert a software interrupt on individual harts, however interrupts are not yet enabled, so `msip` in this case is used as a gatekeeping mechanism.
17. Check `misa` register to see if floating-point hardware is part of the design, and set up `mstatus` accordingly.
18. Single or multi-hart design redirection step.

a. If design is a single hart only, or a multi-hart design without a C-implemented function `secondary_main`, ONLY the boot hart will continue to `main()`.
b. For multi-hart designs, all other CPUs will enter sleep via WFI instruction via the weak `secondary_main` label in `crt0.S`, while boot hart runs the application program.
c. In a multi-hart design which includes a C-defined `secondary_main` function, all harts will enter `secondary_main` as the primary C function.

5.11 Linker File

The linker file generates important symbols that are used in the boot code. The linker file options are found in the `freedom-e-sdk/bsp` path.

There are usually three different linker file options:

- `metal.default.lds` — Use flash and RAM sections
- `metal.ramrodata.lds` — Place read only data in RAM for better performance
- `metal.scratchpad.lds` — Places all code + data sections into available RAM location

Each linker option can be selected by specifying `LINK_TARGET` on the command line.

For example:

```
make PROGRAM=hello TARGET=design-rtl CONFIGURATION=release LINK_TARGET=scratchpadsoft-
ware
```

The `metal.default.lds` linker file is selected by default when `LINK_TARGET` is not specified. If there is a scenario where a custom linker is required, one of the supplied linker files can be copied and renamed and used for the build. For example, if a new linker file named `metal.newmap.lds` was generated, this can be used at build time by specifying `LINK_TARGET=newmap` on the command line.

5.11.1 Linker File Symbols

The linker file generates symbols that are used by the startup code, so that software can use these symbols to assign the stack pointer, initialize or copy certain RAM sections, and provide the boot hart information. These symbols are made visible to software using the PROVIDE keyword.

For example:

```
__stack_size = DEFINED(__stack_size) ? __stack_size : 0x400;
PROVIDE(__stack_size = __stack_size);
```

Generated Linker Symbols

A description list of the generated linker symbols is shown below.

`__metal_boot_hart`
: This is an integer number to describe which hart runs the main init flow. The `mhartid` CSR contains the integer value for each hart. For example, hart 0 has `mhartid==0`, hart 1 has `mhartid==1`, and so on. An assembly example is shown below, where `a0` already contains the `mhartid` value.

```
/* If we're not hart 0, skip the initialization work */
la t0, __metal_boot_hart
bne a0, t0, _skip_init
```

An example on how to use this symbol in C code is shown below.

```
extern int __metal_boot_hart;
int boot_hart = (int)&__metal_boot_hart;
```

Additional linker file generated symbols, along with descriptions are shown below.

`__metal_chicken_bit`
: Status bit to tell startup code to zero out the Feature Disable CSR. Details of this register are internal use only.

`__global_pointer$`
: Static value used to write the `gp` register at startup.

`_sp`
: Address of the end of stack for hart 0, used to initialize the beginning of the stack since the stack grows lower in memory. On a multi-hart system, the start address of the stack for each hart is calculated using (`_sp` + `__stack_size` × `mhartid`)

`metal_segment_bss_target_start`
`metal_segment_bss_target_end`
: Used to zero out global data mapped to `.bss` section.

- Only `__metal_boot_hart` runs this code.

`metal_segment_data_source_start`
`metal_segment_data_target_start`
`metal_segment_data_target_end`
: Used to copy data from image to its destination in RAM.

- Only `__metal_boot_hart` runs this code.

`metal_segment_itim_source_start`
`metal_segment_itim_target_start`
`metal_segment_itim_target_end`
Code or data can be placed in itim sections using the `__attribute__((section(".itim")))`.

- When this attribute is applied to code or data, the `metal_segment_itim_source_start`, `metal_segment_itim_target_start`, and `metal_segment_itim_target_end` symbols get updated accordingly, and these symbols allow the startup code to copy code and data into the ITIM area.
  - Only `__metal_boot_hart` runs this code.

> **Note**
> At the time of this writing, the boot flow does not support C++ projects

5.12 RISC-V Compiler Flags

5.12.1 `arch`, `abi`, and `mtune`

RISC-V targets are described using three arguments:

1. `-march=ISA`: selects the architecture to target.
2. `-mabi=ABI`: selects the ABI to target.
3. `-mtune=CODENAME`: selects the microarchitecture to target.

`-march`

This argument controls which instructions and registers are available for the compiler, as defined by the RISC-V user-level ISA specification.

The RISC-V ISA with 32, 32-bit integer registers and the instructions for multiplication would be denoted as RV32IM. Users can control the set of instructions that GCC uses when generating assembly code by passing the lower-case ISA string to the -march GCC argument: for example `` `-march=rv32im ``. On RISC-V systems that don't support particular operations, emulation routines may be used to provide the missing functionality.

Example:

```
double dmul(double a, double b) {
  return a * b;
}
```

will compile directly to a FP multiplication instruction when compiled with the D extension:

```
$ riscv64-unknown-elf-gcc test.c -march=rv64imafdc -mabi=lp64d -o- -S -O3
    dmul:
      fmul.d  fa0,fa0,fa1
      ret
```

but will compile to an emulation routine without the D extension:

```
$ riscv64-unknown-elf-gcc test.c -march=rv64i -mabi=lp64 -o- -S -O3
    dmul:
      add     sp,sp,-16
      sd      ra,8(sp)
      call    __muldf3
      ld      ra,8(sp)
      add     sp,sp,16
      jr      ra
```

Similar emulation routines exist for the C intrinsics that are trivially implemented by the M and F extensions.

`-mabi`

`-mabi` selects the ABI to target. This controls the calling convention (which arguments are passed in which registers) and the layout of data in memory. The `-mabi` argument to GCC specifies both the integer and floating-point ABIs to which the generated code complies. Much like how the `-march` argument specifies which hardware generated code can run on, the `-mabi` argument specifies which software-generated code can link against. We use the standard naming scheme for integer ABIs (`ilp32` or `lp64`), with an argumental single letter appended to select the floating-point registers used by the ABI (`ilp32` vs. `ilp32f` vs. `ilp32d`). In order for objects to be linked together, they must follow the same ABI.

RISC-V defines two integer ABIs and three floating-point ABIs.

- `ilp32`: int, long, and pointers are all 32-bits long. long long is a 64-bit type, char is 8-bit, and short is 16-bit.
- `lp64`: long and pointers are 64-bits long, while int is a 32-bit type. The other types remain the same as `ilp32`.

The floating-point ABIs are a RISC-V specific addition:

- "" (the empty string): No floating-point arguments are passed in registers.
- `f`: 32-bit and smaller floating-point arguments are passed in registers. This ABI requires the F extension, as without F there are no floating-point registers.
- `d`: 64-bit and smaller floating-point arguments are passed in registers. This ABI requires the D extension.

`arch/abi` Combinations

- `march=rv32imafdc -mabi=ilp32d`: Hardware floating-point instructions can be generated and floating-point arguments are passed in registers. This is like the `-mfloat-abi=hard` argument to ARM's GCC.
- `march=rv32imac -mabi=ilp32`: No floating-point instructions can be generated and no floating-point arguments are passed in registers. This is like the `-mfloat-abi=soft` argument to ARM's GCC.
- `march=rv32imafdc -mabi=ilp32`: Hardware floating-point instructions can be generated, but no floating-point arguments will be passed in registers. This is like the `-mfloat-abi=softfp` argument to ARM's GCC, and is usually used when interfacing with soft-float binaries on a hard-float system.
- `march=rv32imac -mabi=ilp32d`: Illegal, as the ABI requires floating-point arguments are passed in registers but the ISA defines no floating-point registers to pass them in.

Example:

```
double dmul(double a, double b) {
  return b * a;
}
```

If neither the ABI or ISA contains the concept of floating-point hardware then the C compiler cannot emit any floating-point-specific instructions. In this case, emulation routines are used to perform the computation and the arguments are passed in integer registers:

```
   $ riscv64-unknown-elf-gcc test.c -march=rv32imac -mabi=ilp32 -o- -S -O3
    dmul:
      mv      a4,a2
      mv      a5,a3
      add     sp,sp,-16
      mv      a2,a0
      mv      a3,a1
      mv      a0,a4
      mv      a1,a5
      sw      ra,12(sp)
      call    __muldf3
      lw      ra,12(sp)
      add     sp,sp,16
      jr      ra
```

The second case is the exact opposite of this one: everything is supported in hardware. In this case we can emit a single `fmul.d` instruction to perform the computation.

```
$ riscv64-unknown-elf-gcc test.c -march=rv32imafdc -mabi=ilp32d -o- -S -O3
    dmul:
      fmul.d  fa0,fa1,fa0
      ret
```

The third combination is for users who may want to generate code that can be linked with code designed for systems that don't subsume a particular extension while still taking advantage of the extra instructions present in a particular extension. This is a common problem when dealing

with legacy libraries that need to be integrated into newer systems. For this purpose the compiler arguments and multilib paths designed to cleanly integrate with this workflow. The generated code is essentially a mix between the two above outputs: the arguments are passed in the registers specified by the `ilp32` ABI (as opposed to the `ilp32d` ABI, which could pass these arguments in registers) but then once inside the function the compiler is free to use the full power of the RV32IMAFDC ISA to actually compute the result. While this is less efficient than the code the compiler could generate if it was allowed to take full advantage of the D-extension registers, it's a lot more efficient than computing the floating-point multiplication without the D-extension instructions

```
$ riscv64-unknown-elf-gcc test.c -march=rv32imafdc -mabi=ilp32 -o- -S -O3
    dmul:
      add     sp,sp,-16
      sw      a0,8(sp)
      sw      a1,12(sp)
      fld     fa5,8(sp)
      sw      a2,8(sp)
      sw      a3,12(sp)
      fld     fa4,8(sp)
      fmul.d  fa5,fa5,fa4
      fsd     fa5,8(sp)
      lw      a0,8(sp)
      lw      a1,12(sp)
      add     sp,sp,16
      jr      ra
```

5.13 Compilation Process

GCC driver script is actually running the preprocessor, then the compiler, then the assembler and finally the linker. If the user runs GCC with the `--save-temps` argument, several intermediate files will be generated.

```
$ riscv64-unknown-linux-gnu-gcc relocation.c -o relocation -O3 --save-temps
```

- `relocation.i`: The preprocessed source, which expands any preprocessor directives (things like #include or #ifdef).
- `relocation.s`: The output of the actual compiler, which is an assembly file (a text file in the RISC-V assembly format).
- `relocation.o`: The output of the assembler, which is an un-linked object file (an ELF file, but not an executable ELF).
- `relocation`: The output of the linker, which is a linked executable (an executable ELF file).

5.14 Large Code Model Workarounds

RISC-V software currently requires that linked symbols reside within a 32-bit range. There are two types of code models defined for RISC-V, **medlow** and **medany**. The medany code model generates auipc/ld pairs to refer to global symbols, which allows the code to be linked at any

address, while medlow generates lui/ld pairs to refer to global symbols, which restricts the code to be linked around address zero. They both generate 32-bit signed offsets for referring to symbols, so they both restrict the generated code to being linked within a 2 GiB window. When building software, the code model parameter is passed into the RISC-V toolchain and it defines a method to generate the necessary instruction combinations to access global symbols within the software program. This is done using `-mcmodel=medany/medlow`. For 32-bit architectures, we use the medlow code model, while medany is used for 64-bit architectures. This is controlled within the 'setting.mk' file in freedom-e-sdk/bsp folder.

The real problem occurs when:

1. Total program size exceeds 2 GiB, which is rare
2. When global symbols within a single compiled image are required to reside in a region outside of the 32-bit space

Example for symbols within 32-bit address space:

```
MEMORY
{
ram (wxa!ri) : ORIGIN = 0x80,000,000, LENGTH = 0x4000
flash (rxai!w) : ORIGIN = 0x20400000, LENGTH = 0x1fc00000
}
```

Example for symbols outside 32-bit address space:

```
MEMORY
{
ram (wxa!ri) : ORIGIN = 0x100000000, LENGTH = 0x4000 /* Updated ORIGIN from
0x80000000 */
flash (rxai!w) : ORIGIN = 0x20400000, LENGTH = 0x1fc00000
}
```

If a software example uses the above memory map, and uses either medlow or medany code models, it will not link successfully. Generated errors will generally contain the following phrase:

```
relocation truncated to fit:
```

5.14.1 Workaround Example #1

Even if global symbols cannot be linked with the toolchain, we can still access any 64-bit addressable space using pointers. The following example is a straightforward approach to accessing data within any 64-bit addressable space:

```
// Create defines for new memory region
#define LARGE_DATA_SECTION_ADDRESS 0x100000000
#define LARGE_DATA_SECTION_SIZE_IN_BYTES 0x4000
#define DWORD_SIZE 8

int main(void) {

/******************************************************************************/
```

```
    /* Example #1 - defining and accessing data outside 32-bit range using array
pointer */

/*****************************************************************************/
    uint32_t idx;
    uint64_t *data_array, addr;

    data_array = (uint64_t *)LARGE_DATA_SECTION_ADDRESS;
    for (addr = 0, idx = 0; addr < LARGE_DATA_SECTION_SIZE_IN_BYTES; addr +=
DWORD_SIZE, idx++) {

    // Simply writing data to our region outside of 32-bit range
    data_array[idx] = addr;
    }
}
```

5.14.2 Workaround Example #2

Here we use an existing `freedom-metal` data structure to define a new region and API to access attributes of the region.

```
#include <metal/memory.h>   // required for data struct

// Create defines for new memory region
#define LARGE_DATA_SECTION_ADDRESS 0x100000000
#define LARGE_DATA_SECTION_SIZE_IN_BYTES 0x4000
#define DWORD_SIZE 8

// Create our struct using existing metal_memory type in freedom-metal
const struct metal_memory large_data_mem_struct;
const struct metal_memory large_data_mem_struct = {
    ._base_address = LARGE_DATA_SECTION_ADDRESS,
    ._size = LARGE_DATA_SECTION_SIZE_IN_BYTES,
    ._attrs = {.R = 1, .W = 1, .X = 0, .C = 1, .A = 0},
};

int main(void) {
    // Example #2 - Creating data structure which defines 64-bit addressable regions,
    // using existing structure type to define base addr, size, and permissions

    size_t _large_data_size;
    uintptr_t _large_data_base_addr;
    int _atomics_enabled, _cachable_enabled;
    uint64_t *large_data_array;

    _large_data_base_addr = metal_memory_get_base_address(&large_data_mem_struct);
    _large_data_size = metal_memory_get_size(&large_data_mem_struct);
    _atomics_enabled = metal_memory_supports_atomics(&large_data_mem_struct);
    _cachable_enabled = metal_memory_is_cachable(&large_data_mem_struct);

    large_data_array = (uint64_t *)_large_data_base_addr;

    // Access our new memory region
    // large_data_array[x] = 0x0;
    // ... add functional code ...
```

```
    return 0;
}
```

This example can be used if multiple data regions are required with different attributes. Once the base address is assigned from the required data structure, then pointers can be used to access memory, similar to Example #1 above. The existing struct and API format allows for multiple regions to be created easily.

5.15 Pipeline Hazards

The pipeline only interlocks on read-after-write and write-after-write hazards, so instructions may be scheduled to avoid stalls.

5.15.1 Read-After-Write Hazards

Read-after-Write (RAW) hazards occur when an instruction tries to read a register before a preceding instruction tries to write to it. This hazard describes a situation where an instruction refers to a result that has not been calculated or retrieved. This situation is possible because even though an instruction was executed after a prior instruction, the prior instruction may only have processed partly through the core pipeline.

Example:

- Instruction 1: `x1 + x3` is saved in `x2`
- Instruction 2: `x2 + x3` is saved in `x4`

The first instruction is calculating a value (`x1 + x3`) to be saved in `x2`. The second instruction is going to use the value of `x2` to compute a result to be saved in `x4`. However, in the core pipeline, when operations are fetched for the second operation, the results from the first operation have not yet been saved.

5.15.2 Write-After-Write Hazards

Write-after-write (WAW) hazards occur when an instruction tries to write an operand before it is written by a preceding instruction.

Example:

- Instruction 1: `x4 + x7` is saved in `x2`
- Instruction 2: `x1 + x3` is saved in `x2`

Write-back of instruction 2 must be delayed until instruction 1 finishes executing.

In general, MMIO accesses stall when there is a hazard on the result caused by either RAW or WAW. So, instructions may be scheduled to avoid stalls.

Chapter 6

Custom Instructions

These custom instructions use the SYSTEM instruction encoding space, which is the same as the custom CSR encoding space, but with funct3=0.

6.1 CEASE

- Privileged instruction only available in M-mode.
- Opcode 0x30500073.
- After retiring CEASE, hart will not retire another instruction until reset.
- Instigates power-down sequence, which will eventually raise the cease_from_tile_X signal to the outside of the Core Complex, indicating that it is safe to power down.

6.2 PAUSE

- Opcode 0x0100000F, which is a FENCE instruction with predecessor set W and null successor set. Therefore, PAUSE is a HINT instruction that executes as a no-op on all RISC-V implementations.
- This instruction may be used for more efficient idling in spin-wait loops.
- This is simply a no-op instruction.

6.3 Other Custom Instructions

Other custom instructions may be implemented, but their functionality is not documented further here and they should not be used in this version of the E21.

Chapter 7

Interrupts and Exceptions

This chapter describes how interrupt and exception concepts in the RISC-V architecture apply to the E21.

Specifically, the E21 implements the *RISC-V Core-Local Interrupt Controller (CLIC) specification, Version 20180831*. The CLIC represents a new RISC-V interrupt specification which differs from the *The RISC-V Instruction Set Manual, Volume II: Privileged Architecture, Version 1.10*. As of June 2018, the CLIC is currently a RISC-V draft proposal of the RISC-V foundation's Fast Interrupts Task Group. Future versions of this core may implement later versions of the CLIC specification.

7.1 Interrupt Concepts

Interrupts are *asynchronous* events that cause program execution to change to a specific location in the software application to handle the interrupting event. When processing of the interrupt is complete, program execution resumes back to the original program execution location. For example, a timer that triggers every 10 milliseconds will cause the CPU to branch to the interrupt handler, acknowledge the interrupt, and set the next 10 millisecond interval.

The E21 supports machine mode interrupts.

The Core Complex also has support for the following types of RISC-V interrupts: local and global. Local interrupts are routed into the Core-Local Interrupt Controller (CLIC) where they have a dedicated interrupt exception code and programmable priority. This allows flexibility in configuring all low latency local interrupts routed into the hart from the CLIC interface. The E21 has 127 interrupts that are delivered to the core via the CLIC, along with the software and timer interrupts.

Global interrupts are routed through a Platform-Level Interrupt Controller (PLIC), which can direct interrupts to any hart in the system via the external interrupt. Decoupling global interrupts from the hart allows the design of the PLIC to be tailored to the platform, permitting a broad range of attributes like the number of interrupts and the prioritization and routing schemes.

Chapter 8 describes the CLIC. The E21 does not implement a PLIC. Instead a Machine External Interrupt input signal is exposed at the boundary of the Core Complex which can be connected to a PLIC in a larger design.

7.2 Exception Concepts

Exceptions are different from interrupts in that they typically occur *synchronously* to the instruction execution flow, and most often are the result of an unexpected event that results in the program to enter an exception handler. For example, if a hart is operating in supervisor mode and attempts to access a machine mode only Control and Status Register (CSR), it will immediately enter the exception handler and determine the next course of action. The exception code in the `mstatus` register will hold a value of 0x2, showing that an illegal instruction exception occurred. Based on the requirements of the system, the supervisor mode application may report an error and/or terminate the program entirely.

There are no specific enable bits to allow exceptions to occur since they are always enabled by default. However, early in the boot flow, software should set up `mtvec.BASE` to a defined value, which contains the base address of the default exception handler. All exceptions will trap to `mtvec.BASE`. Software must read the `mcause` CSR to determine the source of the exception, and take appropriate action.

Synchronous exceptions that occur from within an interrupt handler will immediately cause program execution to abort the interrupt handler and enter the exception handler. Exceptions within an interrupt handler are usually the result of a software bug and should generally be avoided since `mepc` and `mcause` CSRs will be overwritten from the values captured in the original interrupt context.

The RISC-V defined synchronous exceptions have a priority order which may need to be considered when multiple exceptions occur simultaneously from a single instruction. Table 19 describes the synchronous exception priority order.

Priority	Interrupt Exception Code	Description
Highest	3	Instruction Address Breakpoint
	12	Instruction page fault
	1	Instruction access fault
	2	Illegal instruction
	0	Instruction address misaligned
	8, 9, 11	Environment call
	3	Environment break
	3	Load/Store/AMO address breakpoint
	6	Store/AMO address misaligned
	4	Load address misaligned
	15	Store/AMO page fault
	13	Load page fault
Lowest	7	Store/AMO access fault
	5	Load access fault

Table 19: Exception Priority

Refer to Table 26 for the full table of interrupt exception codes.

Data address breakpoints (watchpoints), Instruction address breakpoints, and environment break exceptions (EBREAK) all have the same Exception code (3), but different priority, as shown in the table above.

Instruction address misaligned exceptions (0x0) have lower priority than other instruction address exceptions because they are the result of control-flow instructions with misaligned targets, rather than from instruction fetch.

7.3 Trap Concepts

The term trap describes the transfer of control in a software application, where trap handling typically executes in a more privileged environment. For example, a particular hart contains three privilege modes: machine, supervisor, and user. Each privilege mode has its own software execution environment including a dedicated stack area. Additionally, each privilege mode contains separate control and status registers (CSRs) for trap handling. While operating in User mode, a context switch is required to handle an event in Supervisor mode. The software sets up the system for a context switch, and then an ECALL instruction is executed which synchronously switches control to the Environment call-from-User mode exception handler.

The default mode out of reset is Machine mode. Software begins execution at the highest privilege level, which allows all CSRs and system resources to be initialized before any privilege level changes. The steps below describe the required steps necessary to change privilege mode from machine to user mode, on a particular design that also includes supervisor mode.

1. Interrupts should first be disabled globally by writing `mstatus.MIE` to 0, which is the default reset value.
2. Write `mtvec` CSR with the base address of the Machine mode exception handler. This is a required step in any boot flow.
3. Write `mstatus.MPP` to 0 to set the previous mode to User which allows us to *return* to that mode.
4. Setup the Physical Memory Protection (PMP) regions to grant the required regions to user and supervisor mode, and optionally, revoke permissions from machine mode.
5. Write `stvec` CSR with the base address of the supervisor mode exception handler.
6. Write `medeleg` register to delegate exceptions to supervisor mode. Consider `ECALL` and page fault exceptions.
7. Write `mstatus.FS` to enable floating point (if supported).
8. Store machine mode user registers to stack or to an application specific frame pointer.
9. Write `mepc` with the entry point of user mode software
10. Execute `mret` instruction to enter user Mode.

Note

There is only one set of user registers (`x1` - `x31`) that are used across all privilege levels, so application software is responsible for saving and restoring state when entering and exiting different levels.

7.4 Interrupt Block Diagram

The E21 interrupt architecture is depicted in Figure 54.

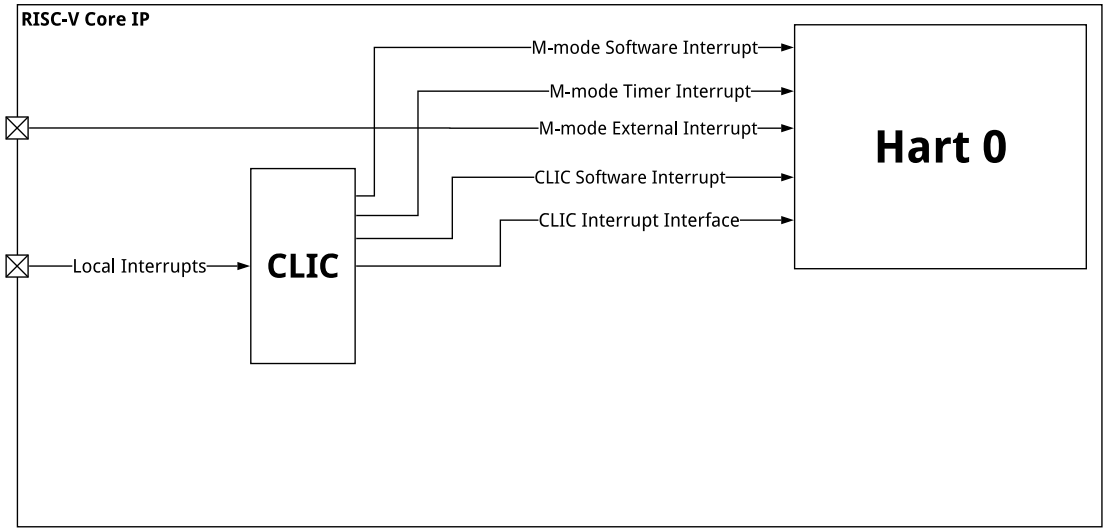


Figure 54: E21 Interrupt Architecture Block Diagram

7.5 Local Interrupts

Software interrupts (Interrupt ID #3) are triggered by writing the memory-mapped interrupt pending register `msip` for a particular hart when operating in CLINT modes of operation, or the `clicIntIE` register when in CLIC modes of operation. The `msip` register is described in Table 24 and `clicIntIE` is described in Table 34.

Timer interrupts (Interrupt ID #7) are triggered when the memory-mapped register `mtime` is greater than or equal to the global timebase register `mtimecmp`, and both registers are part of the CLIC memory map. The `mtime` and `mtimecmp` registers are generally only available in machine mode, unless the PMP grants user mode access to the memory-mapped region in which they reside.

Global interrupts are usually first routed to a PLIC, then into the hart using external interrupts (Interrupt ID #11). As the E21 does not implement a PLIC, this interrupt can optionally be disabled by tying it to logic 0.

The CLIC software interrupt (Interrupt ID #12) serves a similar function as the legacy machine software interrupt, except its typical use interrupting software threads.

Local external interrupts (Interrupt ID #16–143) may connect directly to an interrupt source. The E21 has 127 local external interrupts.

7.6 Interrupt Operation

If the global interrupt-enable `mstatus.MIE` is clear, then no interrupts will be taken. If `mstatus.MIE` is set, then pending-enabled interrupts at a higher interrupt level will preempt current execution and run the interrupt handler for the higher interrupt level.

When an interrupt or synchronous exception is taken, the privilege mode and interrupt level are modified to reflect the new privilege mode and interrupt level. The global interrupt-enable bit of the handler's privilege mode is cleared.

CLIC interrupt levels, priorities, and preemption are described in Section 8.1.

7.6.1 Interrupt Entry and Exit

When an interrupt occurs:

- The value of `mstatus.MIE` is copied into `mcause.MPIE`, and then `mstatus.MIE` is cleared, effectively disabling interrupts.
- When in CLIC mode, the interrupted interrupt level is copied into `mcause.MPIL`, and the interrupt level is set to that of the incoming interrupt as defined in its `clicintcfg` register.
- The privilege mode prior to the interrupt is encoded in `mstatus.MPP`.
- The current `pc` is copied into the `mepc` register, and then `pc` is set to the value specified by `mtvec` as defined by the `mtvec.MODE` described in Table 22.

At this point, control is handed over to software in the interrupt handler with interrupts disabled. When an `mret` instruction is executed, the following occurs:

- The privilege mode is set to the value encoded in `mstatus.MPP`.
- When in CLIC mode, the interrupt level is set to the value encoded in `mcause.MPIL`.
- The global interrupt enable, `mstatus.MIE`, is set to the value of `mcause.MPIE`.
- The `pc` is set to the value of `mepc`.

At this point, control is handed over to software.

The Control and Status Registers (CSRs) involved in handling RISC-V interrupts are described in Section 7.7.

7.6.2 Critical Sections in Interrupt Handlers

To implement a critical section between interrupt handlers at different levels, an interrupt handler at any interrupt level can clear global interrupt-enable bit, `mstatus.MIE`, to prevent interrupts from being taken.

7.7 Interrupt Control and Status Registers

The E21 specific implementation of interrupt CSRs is described below. For a complete description of RISC-V interrupt behavior and how to access CSRs, please consult *The RISC-V Instruction Set Manual, Volume II: Privileged Architecture, Version 1.10* and the *RISC-V Core-Local Interrupt Controller (CLIC) specification, Version 20180831*.

7.7.1 Machine Status Register (`mstatus`)

The `mstatus` register keeps track of and controls the hart's current operating state, including whether or not interrupts are enabled. A summary of the `mstatus` fields related to interrupts in the E21 is provided in Table 20. Note that this is not a complete description of `mstatus` as it contains fields unrelated to interrupts. For the full description of `mstatus`, please consult *The RISC-V Instruction Set Manual, Volume II: Privileged Architecture, Version 1.10*.

Machine Status Register			
CSR	`mstatus`		
Bits	**Field Name**	**Attr.**	**Description**
[2:0]	Reserved	WPRI	
3	MIE	RW	Machine Interrupt Enable
[6:4]	Reserved	WPRI	
7	MPIE	RW	Machine Previous Interrupt Enable
[10:8]	Reserved	WPRI	
[12:11]	MPP	RW	Machine Previous Privilege Mode

Table 20: E21 `mstatus` Register (partial)

Interrupts are enabled by setting the `MIE` bit in `mstatus`. Prior to writing `mstatus.MIE=1`, it is recommended to first enable interrupts in `mie` or `clicIntIE`, depending on CLINT or CLIC modes of operation.

Note that when operating in CLIC mode, `mstatus.MPP` and `mstatus.MPIE` are accessible in the `mcause` register described in Section 7.7.5.

7.7.2 Machine Trap Vector (`mtvec`)

The `mtvec` register has two main functions: defining the base address of the trap vector, and setting the mode by which the E21 will process interrupts. For Direct and Vectored modes, the interrupt processing mode is defined in the `MODE` field of the `mtvec` register. The `mtvec` register is described in Table 21, and the `mtvec.MODE` field is described in Table 22.

Machine Trap Vector Register			
CSR	`mtvec`		
Bits	**Field Name**	**Attr.**	**Description**
[1:0]	MODE	WARL	`MODE` Sets the interrupt processing mode. The encoding for the E21 supported modes is described in Table 22.
[31:2]	BASE[31:2]	WARL	Interrupt Vector Base Address. Operating in CLINT Direct Mode requires 4-byte alignment. Operating in CLINT Vectored Mode requires 128-byte alignment. Operating in CLIC mode requires minimum 64-byte alignment.

Table 21: `mtvec` Register

MODE Field Encoding `mtvec.MODE`		
Value	**Mode**	**Description**
0x0	Direct	All asynchronous interrupts and synchronous exceptions set `pc` to `BASE`.
0x1	Vectored	Exceptions set `pc` to `BASE`, interrupts set `pc` to `BASE` + 4 × `mcause.EXCCODE`.
0x2	CLIC Direct	All interrupts and exceptions set `pc` to `BASE`.
0x3	CLIC Vectored	Exceptions set `pc` to `BASE`, interrupts set `pc` to the address in the vector table located at `mtvt` + (`mcause.EXCCODE` × 4).

Table 22: Encoding of `mtvec.MODE`

Note that when in either of the non-CLIC modes, the only interrupts that can be serviced are the architecturally defined software, timer, and external interrupts.

Mode CLINT Direct

When operating in direct mode, all interrupts and exceptions trap to the `mtvec.BASE` address. Inside the trap handler, software must read the `mcause` register to determine what triggered the trap. The `mcause` register is described in Table 25.

When operating in CLINT Direct Mode, `BASE` must be 4-byte aligned.

Mode CLINT Vectored

While operating in vectored mode, interrupts set the `pc` to `mtvec.BASE` + 4 × exception code (`mcause.EXCCODE`). For example, if a machine timer interrupt is taken, the `pc` is set to

mtvec.BASE + 0x1C. Typically, the trap vector table is populated with jump instructions to transfer control to interrupt-specific trap handlers.

In CLINT vectored interrupt mode, BASE must be 128-byte aligned.

All machine external interrupts (global interrupts) are mapped to exception code 11. Thus, when interrupt vectoring is enabled, the pc is set to address mtvec.BASE + 0x2C for any global interrupt.

Mode CLIC Direct

In CLIC Direct mode, the processor jumps to the 64-byte-aligned trap handler address held in the upper 26 bits of mtvec for all exceptions and interrupts.

In CLIC direct interrupt mode, BASE must be a minimum of 64-byte aligned.

Mode CLIC Vectored

In vectored CLIC mode, on an interrupt, the processor switches to the handler's privilege mode and sets the hardware vectoring bit mcause.MINHV, then fetches an 32-bit handler address from the in-memory vector table pointed to by mtvt, which is described in Section 7.7.6. The address fetched is defined in the following formula: mtvt + (mcause.EXCCODE × 4).

If the fetch is successful, the processor clears the low bit of the handler address, sets the PC to this handler address, then clears mcause.MINHV. The hardware vectoring bit minhv is provided to allow resumable traps on fetches to the trap vector table.

Synchronous exceptions always trap to mtvec.BASE in machine mode.

In CLIC vectored interrupt mode, BASE must be 64-byte aligned.

7.7.3 Machine Interrupt Enable (mie)

Individual interrupts are enabled by setting the appropriate bit in the mie register. The mie register is described in Table 23.

Machine Interrupt Enable Register			
CSR	`mie`		
Bits	**Field Name**	**Attr.**	**Description**
[2:0]	Reserved	WPRI	
3	MSIE	RW	Machine Software Interrupt Enable
[6:4]	Reserved	WPRI	
7	MTIE	RW	Machine Timer Interrupt Enable
[10:8]	Reserved	WPRI	
11	MEIE	RW	Machine External Interrupt Enable
[31:12]	Reserved	WPRI	

Table 23: `mie` Register

When in either of the CLIC modes, the `mie` register is hardwired to zero and individual interrupt enables are controlled by the `clicIntIE` CLIC memory-mapped registers. See Chapter 8 for a detailed description of `clicIntIE`.

7.7.4 Machine Interrupt Pending (`mip`)

The machine interrupt pending (`mip`) register indicates which interrupts are currently pending. The `mip` register is described in Table 24.

Machine Interrupt Pending Register			
CSR	`mip`		
Bits	**Field Name**	**Attr.**	**Description**
[2:0]	Reserved	WIRI	
3	MSIP	RO	Machine Software Interrupt Pending
[6:4]	Reserved	WIRI	
7	MTIP	RO	Machine Timer Interrupt Pending
[10:8]	Reserved	WIRI	
11	MEIP	RO	Machine External Interrupt Pending
[31:12]	Reserved	WIRI	

Table 24: `mip` Register

When in either of the CLIC modes, the `mip` register is hardwired to zero and individual interrupt enables are controlled by the `clicIntIP` CLIC memory-mapped registers. See Chapter 8 for a detailed description of `clicIntIP`.

7.7.5 Machine Cause (`mcause`)

When a trap is taken in machine mode, `mcause` is written with a code indicating the event that caused the trap. When the event that caused the trap is an interrupt, the most-significant bit of `mcause` is set to 1, and the least-significant bits indicate the interrupt number, using the same encoding as the bit positions in `mip`. For example, a Machine Timer Interrupt causes `mcause` to

be set to `0x8000_0007`. `mcause` is also used to indicate the cause of synchronous exceptions, in which case the most-significant bit of `mcause` is set to 0.

When in either of the CLIC modes, `mcause` is extended to record more information about the interrupted context which is used to reduce the overhead to save and restore that context for an `mret` instruction. CLIC mode `mcause` also adds state to record progress through the trap handling process.

See Table 25 for more details about the `mcause` register. Refer to Table 26 for a list of synchronous exception codes.

Machine Cause Register			
CSR	`mcause`		
Bits	**Field Name**	**Attr.**	**Description**
[9:0]	Exception Code	WLRL	A code identifying the last exception.
[22:10]	Reserved	WLRL	
23	MPIE	WLRL	Previous interrupt enable, same as `mstatus.mpie`. CLIC mode only.
[27:24]	MPIL	WLRL	Previous interrupt level. CLIC mode only.
[29:28]	MPP	WLRL	Previous interrupt privilege mode, same as `mstatus.mpp`. CLIC mode only.
30	MINHV	WIRL	Hardware vectoring in progress when set. CLIC mode only.
31	Interrupt	WARL	1, if the trap was caused by an interrupt; 0 otherwise.

Table 25: `mcause` Register

Interrupt Exception Codes		
Interrupt	**Exception Code**	**Description**
1	0–2	Reserved
1	3	Machine software interrupt
1	4–6	Reserved
1	7	Machine timer interrupt
1	8–10	Reserved
1	11	Machine external interrupt
1	12	CLIC Software Interrupt Pending (CSIP)
1	13–15	Reserved
1	16	CLIC Local Interrupt 0
1	17	CLIC Local Interrupt 1
1	18–141	…
1	142	CLIC Local Interrupt 126
0	0	Instruction address misaligned
0	1	Instruction access fault
0	2	Illegal instruction
0	3	Breakpoint
0	4	Load address misaligned
0	5	Load access fault
0	6	Store/AMO address misaligned
0	7	Store/AMO access fault
0	8	Environment call from U-mode
0	9–10	Reserved
0	11	Environment call from M-mode
0	≥ 12	Reserved

Table 26: `mcause` Exception Codes

7.7.6 Machine Trap Vector Table (`mtvt`)

The `mtvt` register holds the Machine Trap Vector base address for CLIC vectored interrupts. `mtvt` allows for relocatable vector tables, where `mtvt.BASE` must be 64-byte aligned. Values other than 0 in the low 6 bits of `mtvt` are reserved.

Machine Trap Vector Table Register			
CSR	`mtvt`		
Bits	**Field Name**	**Attr.**	**Description**
[5:0]	Reserved	WARL	
[31:6]	BASE	WARL	Base address of the CLIC Vector Table. See Section 8.2.

Table 27: `mtvt` Register

7.7.7 Handler Address and Interrupt-Enable (`mnxti`)

The `mnxti` CSR can be used by software to service the next horizontal interrupt when it has greater level than the saved interrupt context (held in `mcause.PIL`), without incuring the full cost of an interrupt pipeline flush and context save/restore. The `mnxti` CSR is designed to be accessed using CSRRSI/CSRRCI instructions, where the value read is a pointer to an entry in the trap handler table and the write back updates the interrupt-enable status. In addition, accesses to the `mnxti` register have side-effects that update the interrupt context state.

Note that this is different than a regular CSR instruction as the value returned is different from the value used in the read-modify-write operation.

A read of the `mnxti` CSR returns either zero, indicating there is no suitable interrupt to service, or the address of the entry in the trap handler table for software trap vectoring.

If the CSR instruction that accesses `mnxti` includes a write, the `mstatus` CSR is the one used for the read-modify-write portion of the operation, while the exception code in `mcause` and the `mintstatus` register's `mil` field can also be updated with the new interrupt level. If the CSR instruction does not include write side effects (e.g., `csrr t0, mnxti`), then no state update on any CSR occurs.

The `mnxti` CSR is intended to be used inside an interrupt handler after an initial interrupt has been taken and `mcause` and `mepc` registers updated with the interrupted context and the id of the interrupt.

7.7.8 Machine Interrupt Status (`mintstatus`)

`mintstatus` holds the active interrupt level for each supported privilege mode. These fields are read-only.

Machine Interrupt Status Register			
CSR	`mintstatus`		
Bits	**Field Name**	**Attr.**	**Description**
[23:0]	Reserved	WIRI	
[31:24]	MIL	WIRL	Active Machine Mode Interrupt Level

Table 28: E21 `mintstatus` Register

7.7.9 Minimum Interrupt Configuration

The minimum configuration needed to configure an interrupt is shown below.

- Write `mtvec` to configure the interrupt mode and the base address for the interrupt vector table. For CLIC vectored mode, configure `mtvt`. The CSR number for `mtvt` is `0x307`.
- Enable interrupts in memory mapped PLIC or CLIC register space. The CLINT does not contain interrupt enable bits.

- Write `mie` CSR to enable the software, timer, and external interrupt enables for each privilege mode.

> **Note**
>
> `mie` register is disabled when CLIC modes are used. Use `clicIntiE` to enable interrupts in CLIC modes of operation.

- Write `mstatus` to enable interrupts globally for each supported privilege mode.

7.8 Interrupt Latency

Interrupt latency for the E21 is six `clock` cycles in CLIC Vectored Mode, as counted by the number of cycles it takes from signaling of the interrupt to the hart to the first instruction of the handler executed. In CLIC Direct Mode, the interrupt latency is four clock cycles.

Chapter 8

Core-Local Interrupt Controller (CLIC)

This chapter describes the operation of the Core-Local Interrupt Controller (CLIC). The E21 implements the *RISC-V Core-Local Interrupt Controller (CLIC) specification, Version 20180831*.

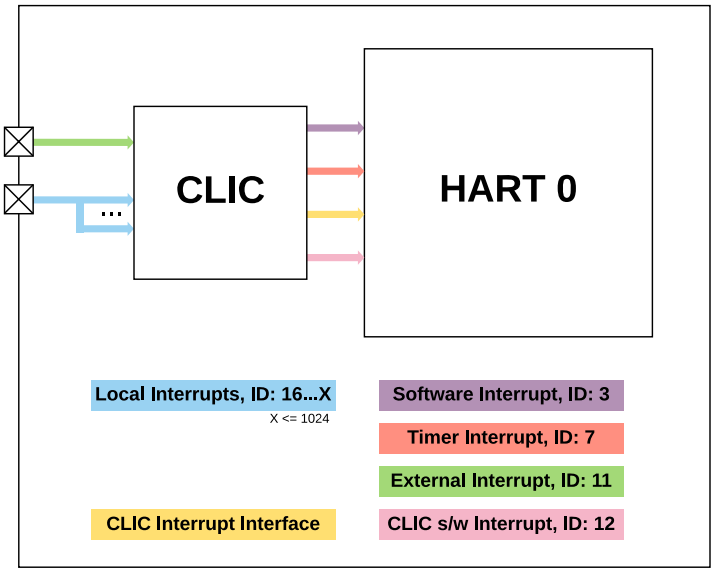


Figure 55: CLIC Block Diagram

The CLIC is a fully-featured interrupt controller that supports nested interrupts (pre-emption), and programmable interrupt levels and priorities. The CLIC supports software, timer, and external interrupts. In addition to the first 16 local interrupts as defined by the RISC-V Specification, the CLIC also provides 127 additional local external interrupts.

The CLIC provides flexibility for embedded systems with a large number of interrupt sources that require low-latency handling. The CLIC is backwards compatible with the Core-Local Interruptor (CLINT) modes of operation—CLINT direct and CLINT vectored— for software, timer, and external interrupts.

When a CLIC is programmed for CLINT modes of operation, the local external interrupts are not available. The CLIC offers two additional modes of operation, CLIC Direct and CLIC Vectored.

In CLIC direct mode, all interrupts route to the `mtvec.BASE` address, except those that are programmed for vectored mode of operation. These interrupts use the vector table entry with base address `mtvt.BASE`. CLIC vectored mode is a similar concept to CLINT vectored mode, but the CLIC vector table format is slightly different in both the alignment requirements and the actual contents of the vector table itself.

8.1 CLIC Interrupt Levels, Priorities, and Preemption

The CLIC allows programmable interrupt levels and priorities for all supported interrupts. The interrupt level is the first step to determine which interrupt gets serviced first, whereas the priority is used to break the tie in the event two interrupts of the same level are received by the hart at the same time.

For an interrupt to preempt another active interrupt, the level setting of the non-active interrupt is required to be higher than that of the active interrupt. If two interrupts have the same level setting, preemption will not occur even if one has a higher priority. There are up to 16 level values available.

At any time, a hart is running in some privilege mode with some interrupt level. The hart's current interrupt level is made visible in the `mintstatus` register (Section 7.7.8); however, the current privilege mode is not visible to software running on a hart.

The CLIC supports 144 interrupts, where the first 16 are reserved for software, timer, external, and CLIC software interrupts for all privilege modes, and 127 additional local external interrupts.

The number of preemption levels, and priorities within each level, is determined by the number of configuration bits in the CLIC's `clicIntCfg` register and the value of the CLIC's `cliccfg.nlBits` register.

8.2 CLIC Vector Table

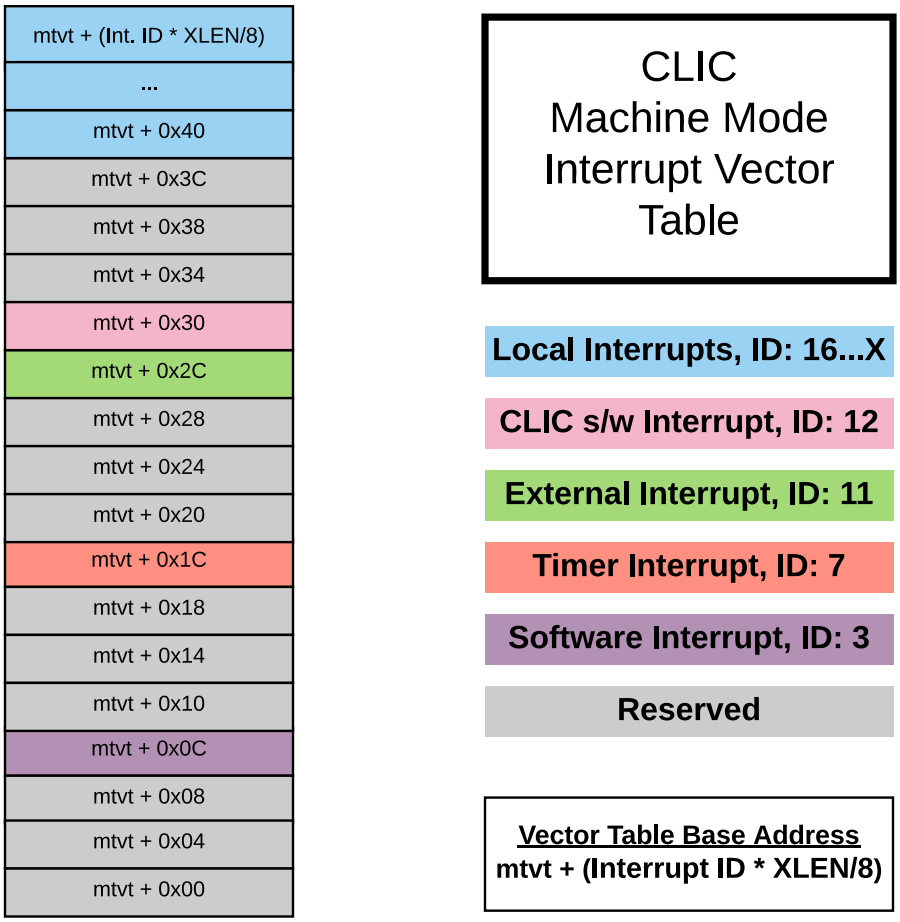


Figure 56: CLIC Interrupts and Vector Table

CLIC vectored mode of operation provides the ability to use a vector table for interrupts, shown above. The CLIC vector table is populated with the address of interrupt handlers, not the jump opcode like the CLINT. The software implementation is slightly different for CLIC, since the address of the handler is loaded by hardware directly.

8.2.1 CLIC Vector Table Software Example

The example below shows an implementation of the CLIC vector table, in C:

```
#define write_csr(reg, val) ({ \
  asm volatile ("csrw " #reg ", %0" :: "rK"(val)); })

__attribute__((aligned(64))) uintptr_t
__mtvt_clic_vector_table[CLIC_VECTOR_TABLE_SIZE_MAX];

uint32_t mode = MTVEC_MODE_CLIC_VECTORED;   /* value of 0x3 */
```

```
/* Setup mtvec to always handle exceptions - same as CLINT vector table */
mtvec_base = (uintptr_t)&__mtvec_clint_vector_table;
write_csr (mtvec, (mtvec_base | mode));

/* Write base address into vector table used for mtvt.BASE for interrupts */
__mtvt_clic_vector_table[INT_ID_SOFTWARE] = (uintptr_t)&software_handler;
__mtvt_clic_vector_table[INT_ID_TIMER] = (uintptr_t)&timer_handler;
__mtvt_clic_vector_table[INT_ID_EXTERNAL] = (uintptr_t)&external_handler;

/* Setup mtvt which is CLIC specific, to hold base address for interrupt
handlers */
mtvt_base = (uintptr_t)&__mtvt_clic_vector_table;
write_csr (0x307, (mtvt_base));  /* 0x307 is CLIC CSR number */
```

8.3 CLIC Interrupt Sources

The E21 has 127 interrupt sources that can be connected to peripheral devices, in addition to the standard RISC-V software, timer, and external interrupts. These interrupt inputs are exposed at the top-level via the `local_interrupts` signals. Any unused `local_interrupts` inputs should be tied to logic 0. These signals are positive-level triggered.

The E21 does not include a PLIC, which is used to signal External Interrupts. A Machine External Interrupt signal, `meip`, is exposed at the top-level and can be used to integrate the E21 with an external PLIC.

See the E21 User Manual for a description of these interrupt signals.

CLIC Interrupt IDs are provided in Table 29.

E21 Interrupt IDs		
ID	**Interrupt**	**Notes**
0–2	Reserved	
3	msip	Machine Software Interrupt
4–6	Reserved	
7	mtip	Machine Timer Interrupt
8–10	Reserved	
11	meip	Machine External Interrupt
12	csip	CLIC Software Interrupt
13–15	Reserved	
16	lint0	Local Interrupt 0
17	lint1	Local Interrupt 1
…	lintX	Local Interrupt X
143	lint126	Local Interrupt 126

Table 29: E21 Interrupt IDs

8.4 CLIC Interrupt Attribute

To help with efficiency of save and restore context, interrupt attributes can be applied to functions used for interrupt handling.

```
void __attribute__((interrupt))
software_handler (void) {
  // handler code
}
```

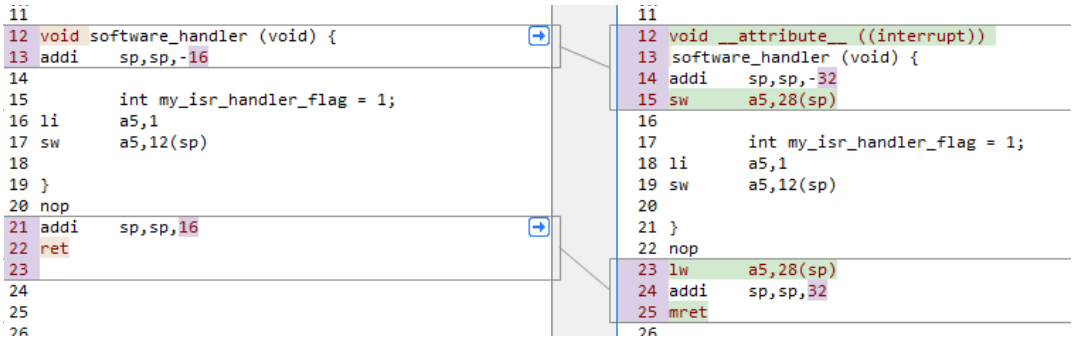


Figure 57: CLIC Interrupt Attribute Example

This attribute will save and restore registers that are used within the handler, and insert an `mret` instruction at the end of the handler.

8.4.1 CLIC Preemption Interrupt Attribute

In order for an interrupt of a higher level to preempt an active interrupt of a lower level, `mstatus.mie` needs to be enabled (non-zero) within the handler, since it is disabled by hardware automatically upon entry. Prior to re-enabling interrupts through `mstatus.mie`, `mepc` and `mcause` must first be saved and subsequently restored before `mret` is executed at the end of the handler. There is a CLIC-specific interrupt attribute that will do these steps automatically.

```
void __attribute__((interrupt("SiFive-CLIC-preemptible")))
software_handler (void) {
  // handler code
}
```

> **Note**
>
> Using the **`SiFive-CLIC-preemptible`** attribute requires the addition of the `-fomit-frame-pointer` compilier flag.

The functionality of this CLIC-specific attribute can be demonstrated by comparing the list output of functions with and without the attribute applied.

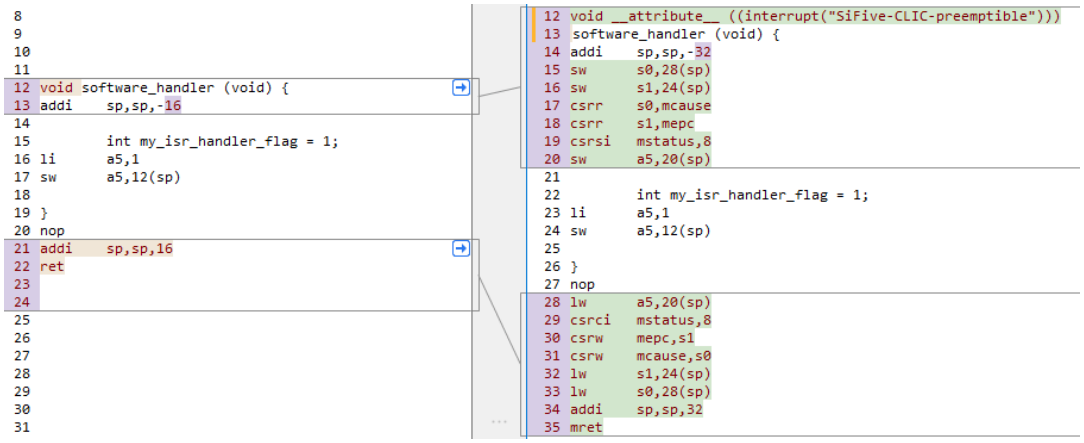


Figure 58: CLIC Preemption Interrupt Attribute Example

Note that this attribute applies to vectored interrupts. To support preemption for non-vectored interrupts, refer to the CLIC Specification example, here: https://github.com/riscv/riscv-fast-interrupt/blob/master/clic.adoc#c-abi-trampoline-code

Also, refer to the CLIC section on how to manage interrupt stacks across privilege modes, here: https://github.com/riscv/riscv-fast-interrupt/blob/master/clic.adoc#managing-interrupt-stacks-across-privilege-modes

8.5 Details for CLIC Modes of Operation

In CLIC modes of operation, both the Machine Interrupt Enable (`mie`) and Machine Interrupt Pending (`mip`) registers are hard wired to zero, and their functionality moves to the `clicIntIE` and `clicIntIP` registers.

8.6 Memory Map

The CLIC memory map is separated into multiple regions depending on the number of harts that implement a CLIC; one shared region, and as many hart-specific regions. This allows for backwards compatibility with the Core-Local Interruptor (CLINT) and its `msip`, `mtimecmp`, and `mtime` memory-mapped registers, as well as compatibility between CLIC and non-CLIC harts. The base address for all regions are provided below in Table 30.

Base Addresses for CLIC Regions		
Address	**Region**	**Notes**
0x0200_0000	Shared	RISC-V Standard CLINT Base. The specific implementation of this region is described in detail in Table 31.
0x0280_0000	Hart 0	Hart 0 CLIC Base. The specific implementation of this region is described in detail in Table 32.

Table 30: CLIC Base Addresses

CLIC Shared Region				
Offset	**Width**	**Attr.**	**Description**	**Notes**
0x0000	4B	RW	msip for hart 0	MSIP Register (1 bit wide)
0x0004			Reserved	
…				
0x3FFF				
0x4000	8B	RW	mtimecmp for hart 0	MTIMECMP Register
0x4008			Reserved	
…				
0xBFF7				
0xBFF8	8B	RW	mtime	Timer Register
0xC000			Reserved	

Table 31: CLIC Shared Register Map

CLIC Hart-Specific Region			
Offset	**Width**	**Name**	**Description**
0x000	1B per Interrupt ID	clicIntIP	CLIC Interrupt Pending Registers
0x400	1B per Interrupt ID	clicIntIE	CLIC Interrupt Enable Registers
0x800	1B per Interrupt ID	clicIntCfg	CLIC Interrupt Configuration Registers
0xC00	1B	cliccfg	CLIC Configuration Register

Table 32: CLIC Hart-Specific Region Map

8.7 Register Descriptions

This section describes the changes made to interrupt CSRs while in CLIC mode, as well as additional CLIC mode registers.

8.7.1 Changes to CSRs in CLIC Mode

This section describes the differences to CSRs when a CLIC is implemented, compared to a design including a CLINT. See Section 7.7 for further description of these CSRs.

`mstatus`
`mstatus.mpp` and `mstatus.mpie` are accessible via fields in the `mcause` register.

`mie` and `mip`
`mie` and `mip` are hardwired to zero and replaced with memory-mapped `clicIntIE` and `clicIntIP` registers.

`mtvec`
Additional modes that enable CLIC modes of operation.

`mcause`
Stores previous privilege mode and previous interrupt enable.

8.7.2 CLIC Interrupt Pending Register (`clicIntIP`)

`clicIntIP` Register				
Register Address		CLIC Hart Base + 1 × Interrupt ID		
Bits	**Field Name**	**Attr.**	**Rst.**	**Description**
0	`clicIntIP`	RO*	0	When `clicIntIP` is set, the corresponding Interrupt ID is pending. Only the software interrupt bits are writable. For all other interrupts these are read-only registers connected directly to input pins or logic.
[7:1]	Reserved	RO	0	
*`clicIntIP` bits for `msip` (Interrupt ID #3) and `csip` (Interrupt ID #12) are RW registers that enables software to set these interrupts to pending.				

Table 33: CLIC Interrupt Pending Register (partial)

When in CLIC mode, the Machine Interrupt Pending (`mip`) CSR is hardwired to zero and interrupt pending status is instead presented in the `clicIntIP` memory-mapped registers.

8.7.3 CLIC Interrupt Enable Register (`clicIntIE`)

`clicIntIE` Register				
Register Address		CLIC Hart Base + `0x400` + 1 × Interrupt ID		
Bits	**Field Name**	**Attr.**	**Rst.**	**Description**
0	`clicIntIE`	RW	0	When `clicIntIE` is set, the corresponding Interrupt ID is enabled.
[7:1]	Reserved	RO	0	

Table 34: CLIC Interrupt Enable Register (partial)

When in CLIC mode, the Machine Interrupt Enable (`mie`) CSR is hardwired to zero and interrupt enables are instead presented in the `clicIntIE` memory-mapped registers.

8.7.4 CLIC Interrupt Configuration Register (`clicIntCfg`)

`clicIntCfg` Register				
Register Address		CLIC Hart Base + `0x800` + 1 × Interrupt ID		
Bits	**Field Name**	**Attr.**	**Rst.**	**Description**
[3:0]	`clicIntCfgPad`	RO	0	Padding of `clicIntCfg`.
[7:4]	`clicIntCfg`	RW	0	`clicIntCfg` sets the pre-emption level and priority of a given interrupt. When selective hardware vectoring is enabled, the least-significant bit is used to control vectoring of a given interrupt.

Table 35: CLIC Interrupt Configuration Register (partial)

The E21 has a total of 4 bits in `clicintcfg` which specify how to encode a given interrupt's pre-emption level and/or priority. The actual number of bits which determine the pre-emption level is determined by `cliccfg.NLBITS`. If `cliccfg.NLBITS` is < 4, then the remaining least significant implemented bits are used to encode priorities within a given pre-emption level. If `cliccfg.NLBITS` is set to zero, then all interrupts are treated as level 255 and all 4 bits are used to set priorities.

8.7.5 CLIC Configuration Register (`cliccfg`)

This register determines the number of levels and priorities set by `clicIntCfg`. It also contains the selective hardware vector configuration, which allows CLIC direct mode or vectored mode on a per-interrupt basis.

`cliccfg` Register				
Register Address		CLIC Hart Base + `0xC00`		
Bits	**Field Name**	**Attr.**	**Rst.**	**Description**
0	`nvBits`	RW	0	When set, selective hardware vectoring is enabled.
[4:1]	`nlBits`	RW	0	Determines the number of Level bits available in `clicIntCfg`
[6:5]	`nmBits`	RW	0	Determines the number of Mode bits available in `clicIntCfg`.
7	Reserved	WARL	0	

Table 36: CLIC Configuration Register (partial)

The `cliccfg` register is used to configure the operation of the CLIC primarily by determining the function of the bits implemented in `clicIntCfg` bits. The E21 only supports machine mode interrupts, therefore `cliccfg.nmBits` is set to zero.

`cliccfg.nlBits` is used to determine the number of `clicIntCfg` bits used for levels versus priorities. The CLIC supports a maximum of 256 pre-emption levels, which requires 8 bits to encode all 256 levels. For values of `cliccfg.nlBits` less than 8, the lower bits are assumed to be all 1s. The resulting encoding of `cliccfg.nlBits` to interrupt levels is shown below:

Value	Encoding	Interrupt Levels
0	`1111`	255
1	`x111`	127,255
2	`xx11`	63,127,191,255
3	`xxx1`	31,63,65,127,159,191,223,255
4	`xxxx`	15,31,47,63,79,95,111,127,143,159,175,191,207,223,239,255
Note: `x` bits are available `clicIntCfg` bits.		

Table 37: Encoding of `cliccfg.nlBits`

See Section 8.7.4 for a description of the effects of `cliccfg.nlBits` on `clicIntCfg`.

`cliccfg.nvBits` allows for certain, selected, interrupts to be vectored while in CLIC Direct mode. If in CLIC Direct mode and `cliccfg.nvBits` is set to 1, then selective interrupt vectoring is turned on. The least-significant implemented bit of `clicIntCfg` (bit 4 in the E21) controls the vectoring behavior of a given interrupt. When in CLIC Direct mode, and both `cliccfg.nvBits` and the relevant bit of `clicIntCfg` are set to 1, then the interrupt is vectored using the vector table pointed to by the `mtvt` CSR. This allows some interrupts to all jump to a common base address held in `mtvec`, while the others are vectored in hardware.

Chapter 9

TileLink Error Device

The Error Device is a TileLink slave that responds to all requests with a TileLink `denied` error and all reads with a `corrupt` error. It has no registers. The entire memory range discards writes and returns zeros on read. Both operation acknolwedgements carry an error indication.

The Error Device serves a dual role. Internally, it is used as a landing pad for illegal off-chip requests. However, it is also useful for testing software handling of bus errors.

Chapter 10

Power Management

The following chapter establishes flows for powering up, powering down, and resetting the hardware of the E21.

10.1 Hardware Reset

The following list summarizes the hardware reset values required by the RISC-V Privileged Specification and applies to all SiFive designs.

1. Privilege mode is set to machine mode.
2. `mstatus.MIE` and `mstatus.MPRV` are required to be 0.
3. The `misa` register holds the full set of supported extensions for that implementation, and `misa.MXL` defaults to the widest supported ISA available, referred to as MXLEN.
4. The `pc` is set to the implementation specific reset vector.
5. The `mcause` register is set to a value indicating the cause of the reset.
6. The PMP configuration fields for address matching mode (`A`) and Lock (`L`) are set to 0, which defaults to no protection for any privilege level.

The internal state of the rest of the system should be completed by software early in the boot flow.

10.2 Early Boot Flow

For the early stages of boot, some of the first things software must consider are listed below:

- The global pointer (`gp` or `x3`) user register should be initialized to the `__global_pointer$` linker generated symbol and not changed at any point in the application program.

- The stack pointer (`sp` or `x2`) user register should be also set up as a standard part of the boot flow.
- All other user registers (`x1`, `x4` - `x31`) can be written to 0 upon initial power-on.
- The `mtvec` register holds the default exception handler base address, so it is important to set up this register early in the boot flow so it points to a properly aligned, valid exception handler location.
- Zero out the `bss` section, and copy data sections into RAM areas as needed.

10.3 Interrupt State During Early Boot

Since `mstatus.MIE` defaults to 0, all interrupts are disabled globally out of reset. Prior to enabling interrupts globally through `mstatus.MIE`, consider the following:

- Ensure no timer interrupts are pending by checking the `mip.MTIP` bit. The `mtime` register is 0 out of reset, and starts running immediately. However, the `mtimecmp` register does not have a reset value.

  If no timer interrupt is required, leave `mie.MTIE` equal to 0 prior to enabling global interrupt with `mstatus.MIE`.

  If the application requires a timer interrupt, write `mtimecmp` to a value in the future for the next timer interrupt before enabling `mstatus.MIE`.
- Write the remaining bits in the `mie` CSR to the desired value to enable interrupts based on the requirements of the system. This register is not defined to have a reset value.
- Each `msip` register in the Core-Local Interruptor (CLINT) or Core-Local Interrupt Controller (CLIC) address space is reset to 0, so no specific initialization is required for local software interrupts.

  Since `msip` is memory-mapped, any hart in the system may trigger a software interrupt on another hart, so this should be considered during the boot flow on a multi-hart system.
- If a CLIC exists, ensure memory-mapped CLIC interrupt enable register `clicIntIE` contents reflect the requirements of the system, and that no unexpected CLIC pending `clicIntIP` bits are set.

  The `clicIntIP` bits are read-only with the exception of the software interrupt (`clicIntIP[0]`, bit 3) and the CLIC software interrupt pending (`clicIntIP[0]`, bit 12). If any of the non-software CLIC pending bits are set, check the source of the interrupt.

  Note that `mip` and `mie` are hardwired to 0 when using CLIC modes of operation, and all enable and pending status reside in memory mapped `clicIntIE` and `clicIntIP` registers.

10.4 Other Boot Time Considerations

- Ensure the remaining bits in the `mstatus` CSR are written to the desired application specific configuration at boot time.
- If a design includes user and supervisor privilege levels, initialize `medeleg` and `mideleg` registers to 0 until supervisor-level trap handling is set up correctly using `stvec`.
- The `mcause`, `mepc`, and `mtval` registers hold important information in the event of a synchronous exception. If the synchronous exception handler forces reset in the application, the contents of these registers can be checked to understand root cause.
- The PMP address and configuration CSRs are required to be initialized if user or supervisor privilege levels are part of the design. By default, user and supervisor modes have no permissions to the memory map unless explicitly granted by the PMP.
- The `mcycle` CSR is a 64-bit counter on both RV32 and RV64 systems, and it counts the number of cycles executed by the hart. It has an arbitrary value after reset and can be written as needed by the application.
- Instructions retired can be counted by the `minstret` register, and this also has an arbitrary value after reset. This can be written to any given value.
- The `mhpmeventX` CSR selects which hardware events to count, where the count is reflected in `mhpmcounterX`. At any point, the `mhpmcounterX` registers can be directly written to reset their value when the `mhpmeventX` register has the proper event selected.
- There is no requirement for boot time initialization to any of the registers within the Debug Module, unless there is an application specific reason to do so.
- All other CSRs during boot time initialization should be considered based on system and application requirements.

10.5 Power-Down Flow

Designate one core as `master` and all others as `slaves`. For our Core IP product, coordination with an `External Agent` is required.

1. External Agent: Wait for communication from master core to initiate the following steps:
    a. Stop sending inbound traffic (both transactions and interrupts) into the core complex.
    b. Wait until all outstanding requests to the Core Complex are completed, then
    c. Wait until `cease_from_tile_X` is high for the master core and all slave cores.
    d. Once `cease_from_tile_X` is high for master core and all slave cores, apply reset to the whole core complex.

2. Master core:

    a. The following sequence should be executed in machine mode and NOT out of a remote ITIM/DTIM.

    b. Communicate with external agent to initiate cease power-down sequence.

    c. Poll external agent until steps 1.a and 1.b are completed.

    d. Disable all interrupts except those related to bus errors/memory corruption, and IPIs (if using enabled IPI to coordinate power-down sequence among cores).

        i. Copy contents of any TIMs/LIMs into external memory.

        ii. Master core: if there is an L2 cache, flush it (all addresses at which cacheable physical memory exists).

        iii. If there is no L2 cache, but there is a data cache, flush it using full-cache variant of `CFLUSH.D.L1`, if available; or per-line variant if not

    e. Disable all interrupts.

    f. Execute CEASE instruction.

Chapter 11

Debug

This chapter describes the operation of SiFive debug hardware, which follows *The RISC-V Debug Specification, Version 0.13*. Currently only interactive debug and hardware breakpoints are supported.

11.1 Debug CSRs

This section describes the per hart Trace and Debug Registers (TDRs), which are mapped into the CSR space as follows:

CSR Name	Description	Allowed Access Modes
`tselect`	Trace and debug register select	Debug, Machine
`tdata1`	First field of selected TDR	Debug, Machine
`tdata2`	Second field of selected TDR	Debug, Machine
`tdata3`	Third field of selected TDR	Debug, Machine
`dcsr`	Debug control and status register	Debug
`dpc`	Debug PC	Debug
`dscratch`	Debug scratch register	Debug

Table 38: Debug Control and Status Registers

The `dcsr`, `dpc`, and `dscratch` registers are only accessible in debug mode, while the `tselect` and `tdata1-3` registers are accessible from either debug mode or machine mode.

11.1.1 Trace and Debug Register Select (`tselect`)

To support a large and variable number of TDRs for tracing and breakpoints, they are accessed through one level of indirection where the `tselect` register selects which bank of three `tdata1-3` registers are accessed via the other three addresses.

The `tselect` register has the format shown below:

Trace and Debug Select Register			
CSR	`tselect`		
Bits	**Field Name**	**Attr.**	**Description**
[31:0]	`index`	WARL	Selection index of trace and debug registers

Table 39: `tselect` CSR

The `index` field is a **WARL** field that does not hold indices of unimplemented TDRs. Even if `index` can hold a TDR index, it does not guarantee the TDR exists. The `type` field of `tdata1` must be inspected to determine whether the TDR exists.

11.1.2 Trace and Debug Data Registers (`tdata1-3`)

The `tdata1-3` registers are 32-bit read/write registers selected from a larger underlying bank of TDR registers by the `tselect` register.

Trace and Debug Data Register 1			
CSR	`tdata1`		
Bits	**Field Name**	**Attr.**	**Description**
[27:0]	TDR-Specific Data		
[31:28]	`type`	RO	Type of the trace & debug register selected by `tselect`

Table 40: `tdata1` CSR

Trace and Debug Data Registers 2 and 3			
CSR	`tdata2/3`		
Bits	**Field Name**	**Attr.**	**Description**
[31:0]	TDR-Specific Data		

Table 41: `tdata2/3` CSRs

The high nibble of `tdata1` contains a 4-bit `type` code that is used to identify the type of TDR selected by `tselect`. The currently defined `types` are shown below:

Type	Description
0	No such TDR register
1	Reserved
2	Address/Data Match Trigger
≥3	Reserved

Table 42: `tdata` Types

The `dmode` bit selects between debug mode (`dmode`=1) and machine mode (`dmode`=1) views of the registers, where only debug mode code can access the debug mode view of the TDRs. Any

attempt to read/write the `tdata1-3` registers in machine mode when `dmode`=1 raises an illegal instruction exception.

11.1.3 Debug Control and Status Register (`dcsr`)

This register gives information about debug capabilities and status. Its detailed functionality is described in *The RISC-V Debug Specification, Version 0.13*.

11.1.4 Debug PC (`dpc`)

When entering debug mode, the current PC is copied here. When leaving debug mode, execution resumes at this PC.

11.1.5 Debug Scratch (`dscratch`)

This register is generally reserved for use by Debug ROM in order to save registers needed by the code in Debug ROM. The debugger may use it as described in *The RISC-V Debug Specification, Version 0.13*.

11.2 Breakpoints

The E21 supports four hardware breakpoint registers per hart, which can be flexibly shared between debug mode and machine mode.

When a breakpoint register is selected with `tselect`, the other CSRs access the following information for the selected breakpoint:

CSR Name	Breakpoint Alias	Description
`tselect`	`tselect`	Breakpoint selection index
`tdata1`	`mcontrol`	Breakpoint match control
`tdata2`	`maddress`	Breakpoint match address
`tdata3`	N/A	Reserved

Table 43: TDR CSRs when used as Breakpoints

11.2.1 Breakpoint Match Control Register (`mcontrol`)

Each breakpoint control register is a read/write register laid out in Table 44.

Breakpoint Control Register				
CSR	`mcontrol`			
Bits	**Field Name**	**Attr.**	**Rst.**	**Description**
0	R	WARL	X	Address match on LOAD
1	W	WARL	X	Address match on STORE
2	X	WARL	X	Address match on Instruction FETCH
3	U	WARL	X	Address match on user mode
4	S	WARL	X	Address match on supervisor mode
5	Reserved	WPRI	X	Reserved
6	M	WARL	X	Address match on machine mode
[10:7]	`match`	WARL	X	Breakpoint Address Match type
11	`chain`	WARL	0	Chain adjacent conditions.
[15:12]	`action`	WARL	0	Breakpoint action to take.
[17:16]	`sizelo`	WARL	0	Size of the breakpoint. Always 0.
18	`timing`	WARL	0	Timing of the breakpoint. Always 0.
19	`select`	WARL	0	Perform match on address or data. Always 0.
20	Reserved	WPRI	X	Reserved
[26:21]	`maskmax`	RO	4	Largest supported NAPOT range
27	`dmode`	RW	0	Debug-Only access mode
[31:28]	`type`	RO	2	Address/Data match type, always 2

Table 44: Test and Debug Data Register 3

The `type` field is a 4-bit read-only field holding the value 2 to indicate this is a breakpoint containing address match logic.

The `action` field is a 4-bit read-write **WARL** field that specifies the available actions when the address match is successful. The value 0 generates a breakpoint exception. The value 1 enters debug mode. Other actions are not implemented.

The R/W/X bits are individual **WARL** fields, and if set, indicate an address match should only be successful for loads, stores, and instruction fetches, respectively. All combinations of implemented bits must be supported.

The M/S/U bits are individual **WARL** fields, and if set, indicate that an address match should only be successful in the machine, supervisor, and user modes, respectively. All combinations of implemented bits must be supported.

The `match` field is a 4-bit read-write **WARL** field that encodes the type of address range for breakpoint address matching. Three different `match` settings are currently supported: exact, NAPOT, and arbitrary range. A single breakpoint register supports both exact address matches and matches with address ranges that are naturally aligned powers-of-two (NAPOT) in size. Breakpoint registers can be paired to specify arbitrary exact ranges, with the lower-numbered breakpoint register giving the byte address at the bottom of the range and the higher-numbered

breakpoint register giving the address 1 byte above the breakpoint range, and using the `chain` bit to indicate both must match for the action to be taken.

NAPOT ranges make use of low-order bits of the associated breakpoint address register to encode the size of the range as follows:

`maddress`	Match type and size
`a…aaaaaa`	Exact 1 byte
`a…aaaaa0`	2-byte NAPOT range
`a…aaaa01`	4-byte NAPOT range
`a…aaa011`	8-byte NAPOT range
`a…aa0111`	16-byte NAPOT range
`a…a01111`	32-byte NAPOT range
…	…
`a01…1111`	2^{31}-byte NAPOT range

Table 45: NAPOT Size Encoding

The `maskmax` field is a 6-bit read-only field that specifies the largest supported NAPOT range. The value is the logarithm base 2 of the number of bytes in the largest supported NAPOT range. A value of 0 indicates that only exact address matches are supported (1-byte range). A value of 31 corresponds to the maximum NAPOT range, which is 2^{31} bytes in size. The largest range is encoded in `maddress` with the 30 least-significant bits set to 1, bit 30 set to 0, and bit 31 holding the only address bit considered in the address comparison.

To provide breakpoints on an exact range, two neighboring breakpoints can be combined with the `chain` bit. The first breakpoint can be set to match on an address using `action` of 2 (greater than or equal). The second breakpoint can be set to match on address using `action` of 3 (less than). Setting the `chain` bit on the first breakpoint prevents the second breakpoint from firing unless they both match.

11.2.2 Breakpoint Match Address Register (`maddress`)

Each breakpoint match address register is a 32-bit read/write register used to hold significant address bits for address matching and also the unary-encoded address masking information for NAPOT ranges.

11.2.3 Breakpoint Execution

Breakpoint traps are taken precisely. Implementations that emulate misaligned accesses in software will generate a breakpoint trap when either half of the emulated access falls within the address range. Implementations that support misaligned accesses in hardware must trap if any byte of an access falls within the matching range.

Debug-mode breakpoint traps jump to the debug trap vector without altering machine-mode registers.

Machine-mode breakpoint traps jump to the exception vector with "Breakpoint" set in the `mcause` register and with `badaddr` holding the instruction or data address that caused the trap.

11.2.4 Sharing Breakpoints Between Debug and Machine Mode

When debug mode uses a breakpoint register, it is no longer visible to machine mode (that is, the `tdrtype` will be 0). Typically, a debugger will leave the breakpoints alone until it needs them, either because a user explicitly requested one or because the user is debugging code in ROM.

11.3 Debug Memory Map

This section describes the debug module's memory map when accessed via the regular system interconnect. The debug module is only accessible to debug code running in debug mode on a hart (or via a debug transport module).

11.3.1 Debug RAM and Program Buffer (`0x300–0x3FF`)

The E21 has two 32-bit words of program buffer for the debugger to direct a hart to execute arbitrary RISC-V code. Its location in memory can be determined by executing `aiupc` instructions and storing the result into the program buffer.

The E21 has one 32-bit words of debug data RAM. Its location can be determined by reading the `DMHARTINFO` register as described in the RISC-V Debug Specification. This RAM space is used to pass data for the Access Register abstract command described in the RISC-V Debug Specification. The E21 supports only general-purpose register access when harts are halted. All other commands must be implemented by executing from the debug program buffer.

In the E21, both the program buffer and debug data RAM are general-purpose RAM and are mapped contiguously in the Core Complex memory space. Therefore, additional data can be passed in the program buffer, and additional instructions can be stored in the debug data RAM.

Debuggers must not execute program buffer programs that access any debug module memory except defined program buffer and debug data addresses.

The E21 does not implement the `DMSTATUS.anyhavereset` or `DMSTATUS.allhavereset` bits.

11.3.2 Debug ROM (`0x800–0xFFF`)

This ROM region holds the debug routines on SiFive systems. The actual total size may vary between implementations.

11.3.3 Debug Flags (0x100–0x110, 0x400–0x7FF)

The flag registers in the debug module are used for the debug module to communicate with each hart. These flags are set and read used by the debug ROM and should not be accessed by any program buffer code. The specific behavior of the flags is not further documented here.

11.3.4 Safe Zero Address

In the E21, the debug module contains the addresses `0x0` through `0xFFF` in the memory map. Memory accesses to these addresses raise access exceptions, unless the hart is in debug mode. This property allows a "safe" location for unprogrammed parts, as the default `mtvec` location is `0x0`.

11.4 Debug Module Interface

The SiFive Debug Module (DM) conforms to *The RISC-V Debug Specification, Version 0.13*. A debug probe or agent connects to the Debug Module through the Debug Module Interface (DMI). The following sections describe notable spec options used in the implementation and should be read in conjunction with the RISC-V Debug Specification.

11.4.1 DM Registers

dmstatus register

`dmstatus` holds the DM version number and other implementation information. Most importantly, it contains status bits that indicate the current state of the selected hart(s).

dmcontrol register

A debugger performs most hart control through the dmcontrol register.

Control	Function
`dmactive`	This bit enables the DM and is reflected in the dmactive output signal. When dmactive=0, the clock to the DM is gated off.
`ndmreset`	This is a read/write bit that drives the ndreset output signal.
`resethaltreq`	When set, the DM will halt the hart when it emerges from reset.
`hartreset`	Not Supported
`hartsel`	This field selects the hart to operate on
`hasel`	Not Supported

Table 46: Debug Control Register

11.4.2 Abstract Commands

Abstract commands provide a debugger with a path to read and write processor state. Many aspects of Abstract Commands are optional in the RISC-V Debug Spec and are implemented as described below.

cmdtype	Feature	Support
Access Register	GPR registers	Access Register command, register number `0x1000` - `0x101F`
	CSR registers	Not supported. CSRs are accessed using the Program Buffer.
	FPU registers	Not supported. FPU registers are accessed using the Program Buffer.
	Autoexec	Both `autoexecprogbuf` and `autoexecdata` are supported.
	Post-increment	Not supported.
	Core Register Access	Not supported.
Quick Access		Not supported.
Access Memory		Not supported. Memory access is accomplished using the Program Buffer.

Table 47: Debug Abstract Commands

Chapter 12

Appendix

12.1 Appendix A

This section lists the key configuration options of the SiFive E2 Series core. The configuration for the E21 is listed in `docs/core_complex_configuration.txt`.

12.1.1 E2 Series

The E2 Series comes with the following set of configuration options:

Modes and ISA

- Optional support for RISC-V user mode
- Optional M, A, and F extensions
- Configurable Multiplication performance (1-cycle or 4-cycle)
- Shared or Separate Core Instruction and Data Interface(s)
- Configurable base ISA (RV32I or RV32E)
- Optional SiFive Custom Instruction Extension (SCIE)

On-Chip Memory

- 1 or 2 optional Tightly-Integrated Memories (TIMs), configurable up to 512 KiB
- Optional μInstruction Cache, configurable up to 16 KiB

Ports

- Optional second System Port, Peripheral Port, and Front Port
    - Each port has a configurable base address, size, and protocol (AHB, AHB-Lite, APB, AXI4)

Security

- Number of Physical Memory Protection registers (2 to 16)

Debug

- Configurable debug interface (JTAG, cJTAG, APB)
- Number of Hardware Breakpoints (0 to 16) and External Triggers (0 to 16)
- Optional System Bus Access
- Optional Core Register Access
- Configurable number of performance counters (0 to 8)
- Optional Raw Instruction Trace Port
- Optional Nexus Trace Encoder with the following options:
  - Trace Sink (SRAM, ATB Bridge, SWT)
  - Optional Timestamp capabilities with configurable width and source
  - External Trigger Inputs (0 to 8) and Outputs (0 to 8)
  - Trace Buffer size (256 KiB to 64 KiB)
  - Optional Instrumented Trace

Interrupts

- Optional Core-Local Interrupt Controller (CLIC) with the following parameters:
  - Priority Bits (2 to 8)
  - Number of interrupts (1 to 511)
- If no CLIC, then a configurable number of Core-Local Interruptor (CLINT) interrupts (0 to 16)

Design For Test

- Optional SRAM Macro Extraction
- Optional Clock Gate Extraction
- Optional Grouping and Wrapping of extracted macros

Power Management

- Optional Clock Gating
- Separate Reset for Core and Uncore

Clock and Reset

- Configurable Reset Scheme (Synchronous, Asynchronous, Full Asynchronous)
- Optional Separate GPR Reset

Note that the configuration may be limited to a fixed set of discrete options.

Chapter 13

References

Visit the SiFive forums for support and answers to frequently asked questions: https://forums.sifive.com

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