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# Instruction Set Simulator generic API

This new API is an evolution of the ISS API. New features are:

- Use structs rather than arguments, this eases API evolution (which can be accomplished through carefully choosed default values);
- support for CPU modes;
- support for generic Memory management unit.

## Structures and values

### Enumerated values

Execution mode for any Instruction/Data access, checked by mode-enabled caches

```
enum ExecMode {  
    MODE_HYPER,  
    MODE_KERNEL,  
    MODE_USER,  
};
```

Operation type on Data cache access

```
enum DataOperationType {  
    DATA_READ,  
    DATA_WRITE,  
    DATA_LL,  
    DATA_SC,  
    XTN_WRITE,  
    XTN_READ,  
};
```

When operation is XTN\_READ or XTN\_WRITE, address field must be one of these values, it determines the extended access type.

```
enum ExternalAccessType {
    XTN_PTPR,
    XTN_TLB_EN,
    XTN_ICACHE_FLUSH,
    XTN_DCACHE_FLUSH,
    XTN_ITLB_INVALID,
    XTN_DTLB_INVALID,
    XTN_ICACHE_INVALID,
    XTN_DCACHE_INVALID,
    XTN_ICACHE_PREFETCH,
    XTN_DCACHE_PREFETCH,
    XTN_SYNC,
    XTN_INS_ERROR_TYPE,
    XTN_DATA_ERROR_TYPE,
    XTN_INS_BAD_VADDR,
    XTN_DATA_BAD_VADDR,
};
```

## Instruction request and response

Instruction request, only significant if `valid` is asserted. addr must be 4-byte aligned.

```
struct InstructionRequest {
    bool valid;
    addr_t addr;
    enum ExecMode mode;
};
```

Instruction response.

Valid is asserted when query has been satisfied, if no request is pending, valid is not asserted.

instruction is only valid if no error is signaled.

```
struct InstructionResponse {
    bool valid;
    bool error;
    data_t instruction;
};
```

## Data request and response

Data request, only significant if `valid` is asserted. addr must be 4-byte aligned. wdata is only significant for be-masked bytes.

- wdata[7:0] is at ![addr], masked by be[0]
- wdata[15:8] is at [addr+1], masked by be[1]
- wdata[23:16] is at [addr+2], masked by be[2]
- wdata[31:24] is at [addr+3], masked by be[3]

When type is XTN\_READ or XTN\_WRITE, addr must be an opcode of enum ExternalAccessType. For extended access types needing an address, address is passed through the wdata field.

```
struct DataRequest {
    bool valid;
    addr_t addr;
};
```

```

        data_t wdata;
        enum DataOperationType type;
        be_t be;
        enum ExecMode mode;
    };

```

Data response.

Valid is asserted when query has been satisfied, if no request is pending, valid is not asserted.

data is only valid if no error is signaled.

Read data is aligned with the same semantics than the wdata field in struct DataRequest. Only bytes asserted in the BE field upon request are meaningful, others have an undefined value, they may be non-zero.

```

struct DataResponse {
    bool valid;
    bool error;
    data_t rdata;
};

```

## Functions

### void reset()

Reset operation, Iss must behave like the processor receiving a reset cycle.

Tell the Iss to execute \*at most\* ncycle cycles, knowing the value of all the irq lines. Each irq is a bit in the irq\_bit\_field word.

### uint32\_t executeNCycles( uint32\_t ncycle, const struct InstructionResponse &, const struct DataResponse &, uint32\_t irq\_bit\_field )

- Iss is given back the responses. They may not be valid.
- Iss must return the number of cycles it actually executed knowing the inputs (responses and irqs) won't change.
  - ◆ This is at most ncycle.
- ncycle may be 0 if wrapper only wants the ISS to handle its inputs, but not actually simulate anything. This is mostly used on GDB breakpoints.

### void getRequests( struct InstructionRequest &, struct DataRequest & )

Iss must populate the request fields.

### void setWriteBerr()

The cache received an imprecise write error condition, this signalling is asynchronous.

## Other APIs

## Sideband signals

In order to inform the ISS about some cache characteristics, those functions have been defined.

Their implementation is optional.

**void setICacheInfo( size\_t line\_size, size\_t assoc, size\_t n\_lines )**

Inform the Iss about the instruction cache characteristics

**void setDCacheInfo( size\_t line\_size, size\_t assoc, size\_t n\_lines )**

Inform the Iss about the data cache characteristics

## Debugger API

This API is optional, it serves to expose the internal ISS registers to a debugger.

The debugger API is ISS-architecture independant.

**unsigned int debugGetRegisterCount()**

Iss must return the count of registers known to GDB. This must follow GDB protocol for this architecture.

**debug\_register\_t debugGetRegisterValue(unsigned int reg)**

Accessor for an Iss register, register number meaning is defined in GDB protocol for this architecture.

**void debugSetRegisterValue(unsigned int reg, debug\_register\_t value)**

Accessor for an Iss register, register number meaning is defined in GDB protocol for this architecture.

**size\_t debugGetRegisterSize(unsigned int reg)**

Get the size for a given register. This is defined in GDB protocol for this architecture.

## Implementation notes

### executeNCycles semantics

When executeNCycles is called, instruction and data requests previously retrieved through getRequests() may not be satisfied yet.

As executeNCycles ensures responses MUST NOT change for at least ncycle:

- an ISS frozen because of I or D miss SHOULD do nothing externally visible for at least ncycle. Iss SHOULD internally simulate a stall of ncycle and return ncycle.
- an ISS running because all its instruction and data accesses are satisfied SHOULD run as long as no other request needs to be answered by cache.