Institutionen för datavetenskap
Department of Computer and Information Science

Master’s Thesis

An LLVM Back-end for REPLICA
Code Generation for a Multi-core VLIW Processor with Chaining

by

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LIU-IDA/LITH-EX-A-12/007-SE

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Supervisor: Erik Hansson
Examiner: Christoph Kessler
Ett LLVM Back-end för REPLICA
Kodgenerering för en Flerkärning VLIW Processor med Kedjade Instruktioner
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There are plans in the REPLICA project to develop a new C-based programming language, compilers and libraries to speed up development of parallel programs. We have developed a LLVM back-end as a part of the REPLICA project that can be used to generate code for the REPLICA architecture. We have also created a simple optimization algorithm to make better use of REPLICA's support for instruction level parallelism. Some changes to Clang, LLVM's front-end for C/C++/Objective-C, was also necessary so that we could use assembler in-lining in our REPLICA programs.

Using Clang to compile C-code to LLVMs internal representation and LLVM with our REPLICA back-end to transform LLVMs internal representation into MBTAC* assembler.

REPLICA, LLVM, PRAM, compilers, MBTAC

*MBTAC is the processor in the REPLICA architecture
Abstract

REPLICA is a PRAM-NUMA hybrid architecture, with support for instruction level parallelism as a VLIW architecture. REPLICA can also chain instructions so that the output from an earlier instruction can be used as input to a later instruction in the same execution step.

There are plans in the REPLICA project to develop a new C-based programming language, compilers and libraries to speed up development of parallel programs. We have developed a LLVM back-end as a part of the REPLICA project that can be used to generate code for the REPLICA architecture. We have also created a simple optimization algorithm to make better use of REPLICA's support for instruction level parallelism. Some changes to Clang, LLVM's front-end for C/C++/Objective-C, was also necessary so that we could use assembler in-lining in our REPLICA programs.

Using Clang to compile C-code to LLVM's internal representation and LLVM with our REPLICA back-end to transform LLVM's internal representation into MBTAC\(^1\) assembler.

\(^1\)MBTAC is the processor in the REPLICA architecture

Sammanfattning

REPLICA är en VLIW liknande PRAM-NUMA arkitektur, med möjlighet för att kedja ihop instruktioner så att resultat från tidigare instruktioner kan användas som indata till nästa instruktion i samma exekveringssteg.

Inom REPLICA projektet finns planer på att utveckla ett nytt C-baserat programmeringspråk, kompilatorer och bibliotek för att snabba upp utvecklingen av parallella program. Som en del av REPLICA projektet har vi utvecklat ett kompilator back-end för LLVM som kan användas för att generera kod till REPLICA. Vi har även utvecklat en enklare optimerings algoritm för att bättre utnyttja REPLICA:s förmåga för instruktions parallellisering. Vi har även gjort ändringar i Clang, LLVM's front-end för C/C++/Objective-C, så att vi kan använda inline assembler i REPLICA program.

Med Clang kan man kompilera C-kod till LLVM:s interna representation som i sin tur genom LLVM och REPLICA back-end kan omvandlas till MBTAC\(^3\) assembler.

\(^3\)MBTAC är processorn i REPLICA
Acknowledgments

To Erik Hansson for supervision and comments on this thesis.

To Martti Forsell for comments on this thesis.

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# Contents

| 1 Introduction | 1 |
| 1.1 Motivation | 2 |
| 2 Background | 3 |
| 2.1 PRAM Model of computation | 4 |
| 2.2 REPLICA | 4 |
| 2.2.1 REPLICA Language System | 5 |
| 2.2.2 REPLICA Architecture | 9 |
| 2.3 LLVM | 16 |
| 2.3.1 Clang | 17 |
| 2.3.2 LLVM passes | 17 |
| 2.3.3 Back-ends | 17 |
| 2.3.4 LLVM internal representation | 18 |
| 2.3.5 TableGen | 19 |
| 2.4 Alternative Compilers | 20 |
| 2.5 Related work | 22 |
| 3 Implementation | 23 |
| 3.1 Code generation | 25 |
| 3.1.1 Instruction selection | 25 |
| 3.1.2 SSA based optimization | 26 |
| 3.1.3 Register allocation | 26 |
| 3.1.4 Prolog/Epilog code insertion | 27 |
| 3.1.5 Late machine code optimizations | 27 |
| 3.1.6 Code emission | 27 |
| 3.2 Target machine description | 27 |
| 3.2.1 Sub-targets | 29 |
| 3.3 Registers | 30 |
| 3.4 Instructions | 32 |
| 3.4.1 Calling conventions | 32 |
| 3.5 Assembly printer | 33 |
| 3.6 Clang basic target information | 34 |
Chapter 1

Introduction

This thesis project is part of the REPLICA\(^1\) project. The focus has been to create a compiler back-end that generates assembler code for the REPLICA architecture. This compiler back-end is only a part in what is to become a whole tool-chain for developing programs for the REPLICA architecture, including a high level language specialized for creating parallelized programs, a C-based baseline language described in this report, an assembler language (that this back-end generates code in), support libraries and a simulator for the architecture to run programs on.

The REPLICA architecture is a realization of the PRAM, Parallel Random Access Machine, which is the ideal parallel computer. PRAM is based on the normal Random Access Machine, which consists of a memory and one processor, but with more than one processors sharing the same memory [17]. REPLICA does not follow the definition of a PRAM exactly as it also has a private memory module attached to each processor.

MBTAC, the processor in the REPLICA architecture, can have several functional units so it is a VLIW\(^2\) architecture. This creates some opportunities for instruction level parallelism, ILP, i.e. we can run several instructions in parallel. So we have also adapted a simple optimization algorithm for finding instructions that can be executed in parallel and relocating them so they are.

LLVM, the Low Level Virtual Machine compiler framework, was given as a recommendation to implement a compiler back-end for. We investigated alternatives but in the end LLVM was chosen mainly because it is popular, has many users and industry support making it unlikely to cease developing and disappear.

First we will give some background information on the REPLICA project and LLVM in chapter 2. Then we will describe the implementation in chapter 3. How the optimization is done is described in chapter 4. In chapter 5 we run some benchmark programs and analyze the results. At last, chapter 6 contains some general thoughts on the project and possible future work.

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\(^1\)Project full name: Removing Performance and Programmability Limitations of Chip Multi-processor Architectures

\(^2\)Very Large Instruction Word
1.1 Motivation

With a high level programming language it is often easier to write large and/or complex programs than with a target specific low level language (for example an assembler language). A compiler is needed to convert the high level language into a low level language.

Optimization of the generated code is needed to utilize the potential speedup from the combination of instruction level parallelism and thread level parallelism possible on the REPLICA architecture. This is an interesting problem with many solutions; we have chosen a simpler greedy algorithm for optimizing programs in this project.
Chapter 2

Background

The REPLICA project is developing a configurable emulated shared memory machine architecture [24]. As a proof of concept an FPGA based prototype machine, a new programming language, compilation- and optimization-tools and sample programs are being developed [24].

The REPLICA language has a C-style syntax with some modifications [24]. Code written in REPLICAs language is first to be compiled into C which is in turn compiled into MBTAC assembler [24].

A compiler is a computer program that reads a program in one language and translates it to another language [9]. A compiler usually works in several phases (the number of phases varies between compilers) [9]. As an example [9] uses the following compiler phases:

- **Lexical analyzer**: Reads the source program and outputs a stream of tokens. When the lexical analyzer encounter for example a variable declaration it stores information such as name and type in the symbol table.

- **Syntax analyzer**: Reads the tokens a creates a syntax tree where each interior node in the tree represents an operation and the children of that node represents the arguments to the operation.

- **Semantic analyzer**: Uses the syntax tree and symbol table to check that the program is consistent with the language definition.

- **Intermediate code generator**: Compilers usually generate a machine like intermediate representation of the program. The intermediate representation should be easy to produce and to translate into the target machine.

- **Machine independent code optimizer**: In this phase the compiler tries to optimize the intermediate code. The goal is to get better target code.

- **Code generator**: This step translates the intermediate code into the target language.
• Machine dependent code optimizer: In this phase the compiler tries to do further optimizations. For example in our case scheduling instructions that can be executed in parallel.

We have in this project used the LLVM compiler framework to construct a compiler for REPLICA.

2.1 PRAM Model of computation

PRAM, Parallel Random Access Machine, is a generalization of the RAM (Random Access Machine) model [17]. Instead of just one processor connected to memory let us have \( n \) processors [17]. In each execution step all processors perform one instruction this could be either memory access, ALU operations, comparisons and branch instructions [17]. Because several processors can perform memory accesses simultaneously, several processors can also try to access the same memory cell simultaneously. There exists many PRAM variants for how such memory accesses are handled [17].

• EREW, Exclusive Read Exclusive Write, several processors may not read or write from/to the same memory cell simultaneously [17].

• CREW, Concurrent Read Exclusive Write, several processors may read from the same cell simultaneously. But only one processor is allowed to write to the same memory cell in each step [17].

• CRCW, Concurrent Read Concurrent Write, several processors may read or write to same memory cell in each step. What happens when several processors write to the same cell varies between CRCW PRAM sub-variants [17].

NUMA, Non-Uniform Memory Access, consists of multiple processors with a local memory bank each [13]. All processors are interconnected with a communication network so that non-local memory access will take longer time [13].

REPLICA implements the PRAM-NUMA model of computation that has \( P \) processors grouped as \( P_T \) processor groups [13, 24]. All processors are connected to a shared memory as a PRAM would and each group of processors are connected their own interconnected local memory block as in NUMA [13, 24]. REPLICA also uses a arbitrary CRCW memory model, all threads participating in a concurrent read will obtain the same result and for all threads participating in a concurrent write some arbitrary thread will write to the memory location [15]. REPLICA's multi-prefix instructions can be used to control concurrent operations on any location in the shared memory, see section 2.2.1.

2.2 REPLICA

REPLICA is the short name for Removing Performance and Programmability Limitations of Chip Multiprocessor Architectures [24]. The project aims to develop
2.2 REPLICA

a complete language system from high-level programming language to assembler, support libraries and hardware to run the programs on [24].

2.2.1 REPLICA Language System

The REPLICA language system is to contain a high level parallel programming language, support libraries, a low level baseline language, unoptimized MBTAC assembler for a minimal REPLICA configuration and optimized MBTAC assembler for a specific REPLICA configuration [24], see Figure 2.1.

![Figure 2.1. The REPLICA language system](image)

REPLICA Language

The REPLICA language is supposed to have a C-style syntax with various extensions. It uses the same parallelism style as the e-language [24], the e-language lets the programmer declare shared and private variables, synchronous control structures and mix both a synchronous and asynchronous programming style [12]. The REPLICA language specification is still in development so it will not be used in this thesis.

Baseline Language

The baseline language is C with e-/fork-style parallelism [24]. Code written in the baseline language can be compiled with LLVM together with the REPLICA backend [24]. The current implementation of the baseline language is basically C with assembler in-lining and macros for handling REPLICA’s multi-prefix instructions.

Figure 2.2 shows a program that calculates the sum of an array with 8096 integers. Note that shared variables end with a ‘_’ and built-in macros and variables start with an ‘_’.
Shared and private variables

The simulator, IPSMSimX86, sees data labels ending with a `_' as data that belongs in the shared memory so to be able to differentiate between a shared and a private variable in a C program a simple naming convention was used. The names of shared variables need to end with a `_' because then the variables label name in the generated assembler code will also end with a `_' and IPSMSimX86 will see that variable as shared, see Figure 2.3 for how shared and private variables are declared.

Each thread has a copy of a private variable so in Figure 2.3 where `private_var` is set to zero each thread running the program with this declaration will get its own version of `private_var` in its own private memory space and this variable will be set to zero.

The shared variable, `shared_var`, on the other hand will be stored in the shared memory space so all threads running the program with this declaration will access the same instance of the shared variable `shared_var`. 
2.2 REPLICA

Built-in variables

There are some built-in variables for accessing information such as thread id and total number of threads. As simple naming convention that we used is to let all built-in REPLICA specific variables and macros start with an '_'. This helps us differentiate between generic library functions and machine specific functions.

Table 2.1. Built-in variables containing information about the currently running configuration.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>_private_space_start</td>
<td>Start of the current threads private memory space. Also stored in register R32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_thread_id</td>
<td>The current thread's id number.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_number_of_threads</td>
<td>The total number of threads.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Built-in macros

IPSMSimX86, the simulator used to simulate the REPLICA architecture, has some built-in traps for using timers and halting the program. By naming convention these macros should start with an '_'.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>_start_timer</td>
<td>Issues an OP 176 TRAP 00 that starts the simulator's timer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_stop_timer</td>
<td>Issues an OP 180 TRAP 00 that stops the simulator's timer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_exit</td>
<td>Issues an OP 0 TRAP 00 that halts the simulator</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Library functions

Some help functions that we created during development of the back-end ended up in this library. The longterm goal is that this should be compiled into a runtime library that can be used to replace the current ECLIPSE runtime library.

types.h

This header only defines different types with more obvious size information:

- 8, 16 and 32 bit unsigned integers (uint8,uint16,uint32).
- 8, 16 and 32 bit signed integers (int8,int16,int32).
- A size type (size_t).
string.h

Currently only contains an implementation of memcpy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>memcpy(void*, const void*, size_t)</td>
<td>Copies data.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

stdlib.h

Allocating memory with malloc does not currently work because the statically and dynamically allocated memory collides in the shared memory space so they end up overwriting each other. Event though its called malloc and free memory allocation currently only works in shared memory.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>void init_mem()</td>
<td>Initializes the allocated memory list.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>void* malloc(size_t)</td>
<td>Allocates memory in the shared memory space.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>void free(void*)</td>
<td>Frees allocated memory.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MBTAC Assembler

The MBTAC processor lets us chain sub-instructions so that we can use the output of one sub-instruction as an input operand for the next sub-instruction [24]. There are different types of sub-instructions depending on which functional unit it uses. In our REPLICA configurations we have the following sub-instruction types. See appendix B for descriptions of each sub-instruction.

- Memory unit sub-instructions: Load, store and multi-prefix instructions.
- ALU sub-instructions: Instructions like add and subtract etc. and also compare instructions where the result is stored in a register.
- Compare unit: Compare sub-instructions where the result sets status register flags. There is always only one compare unit.
- Sequencer: Program flow altering sub-instructions i.e. jump and branch. There is always only one sequencer.
-Operand: One sub-instruction only. Used to load a constant or label etc. into an operand slot.
-Writeback: Also only one sub-instruction. Used to copy register contents.

When writing code for MBTAC, sub-instructions that are to be issued in the same execution step are written on the same line, see the code example in Figure 2.4.
Line 1 in example 2.4 calculates an address by adding 16 to R1, the result is stored in A0 and is used to load a word. The calculated address is then copied to R1 and the loaded word is copied to R2 with a WBn sub-instruction (where n is the destination register). In the next execution step R2 is multiplied by 2 and the result of that multiplication is stored to the memory address contained in R1. These two lines also show how chaining works because each line is executed in one step per thread. The result from previous sub-instructions must thus be used in the next sub-instruction in the same clock cycle.

Multi-prefix instructions are special instructions where several threads can interact with the same memory cell simultaneously. This is achieved by a so-called “active memory unit” where the memory unit contains a simple ALU so that ALU operations can be performed on the active memory cell i.e. the address we provide to the multi-prefix instruction. An example of a multi-prefix operation is Figure 2.5 where all threads will add 1 to the memory cell pointed to by R1.

There are also assembler directives available both to control actions by the simulator and for marking code and data sections. The compiler inserts directives where needed in the generated code except for FILE, SAVE, DEFAULT and RANDOM directives which are left to the user to insert where needed. See Table 2.2 [24].

2.2.2 REPLICA Architecture

REPLICA is a TOTAL ECLIPSE based architecture [24] that implements the PRAM-NUMA model of computation [24]. A REPLICA can have a configurable number of processors, threads and functional units (consisting of ALUs and other functional units) [24].

A REPLICA has P MBTAC processors, each processor has Tp threads, F functional units and R registers. The functional units are A ALUs, M memory units (MU), one compare unit and one sequencer\(^1\). We have been able to test our compiler on simulated versions of the processor with the configurations given in table 2.3.

We had access to three ideal PRAM configurations and two ECLIPSE configurations. The difference between them is that the ECLIPSE configurations are not

---

\(^1\) Handles program flow altering instructions, like branch sub-instructions BNEZ.
Table 2.2. REPLICA assembler directives.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALIGN n</td>
<td>Move the location to the next multiple of n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASCII str</td>
<td>Place the string str in the data segment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BYTE n</td>
<td>Place a 8-bit byte with value n in the data segment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DATA</td>
<td>Mark the start of a data segment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEFAULT</td>
<td>Define a storage area in the data segment, which is filled with ordinal words</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HALF n</td>
<td>Place a 16-bit halfword with value n in the data segment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROC name</td>
<td>Declare the start of procedure name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENDPROC name</td>
<td>Declare the end of procedure name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RANDOM</td>
<td>Define a storage area in the data segment, which is filled with random words</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPACE n</td>
<td>Reserve n bytes in the data segment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEXT</td>
<td>Mark the start of a code segment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WORD n</td>
<td>Place 32-bit word with value n in the data segment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLOBAL name</td>
<td>Declare a global variable or procedure with name name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FILE filename</td>
<td>Fill this memory location with data from filename</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAVE size filename</td>
<td>write size number of bytes from this location to filename</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ideal PRAM so they are a bit slower (using more cycles) than the PRAM configurations. For the PRAM configurations we had 4, 16, and 64 processors with each processor having 512 threads while the two ECLIPSE configurations both had 4 processors with 4 and 512 threads.

Table 2.3. REPLICA configuration names and number of processors/threads.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Processors</th>
<th>Threads</th>
<th>ALUs</th>
<th>Memory units</th>
<th>Registers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ECLIPSE_CRCW-T5-4-512+</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECLIPSE_CRCW-T5-16-512+</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>512</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECLIPSE_CRCW-T5-64-512+</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>512</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The memory space on the REPLICA architecture is divided between a dedicated program memory space, shared memory space and a thread private memory.
space for each thread [24]. The simulator for the whole architecture, IPSMSimX86, currently only works on Mac OS X. We had some problems with the current simulator and file encodings, even though both files are in UTF-8 the file generated by our compiler lacks the internal file type signatures used by the simulator. We solved this by copying the content of our generated assembler files into a file with the correct flags set.

**Simulator**

For testing programs compiled for REPLICA we use a simulator, IPSMSimX86, that was originally written for the ECLIPSE project [15] but also can be used for running REPLICA programs. The simulator view is divided into several windows showing what is going on in the simulated computer while executing our program. The command window shows us a history of commands, see figure 2.6, that we have issued to the simulator like loading a program or executing a program.

![Figure 2.6. IPSMSimX86, command window showing a history of step thread (Step T) commands.](image)

The simulator uses the output window to print out error messages about the assembler code we are trying to run. Messages are only printed when the simulator tries to execute the part of the generated assembler code that contains the error so the simulator must run the program to be able to find any errors in it. Possible error messages are listed in table 2.4 [24].

Figure 2.7 shows the output window of the simulator. Output messages are usually error messages but could also be information about issued traps and other general information.

The window labeled with the currently loaded configuration, see Figure 2.8, shows us the state and contents of registers in the simulated machine. When single stepping a thread, processor or the whole machine, this window is updated in every step, otherwise it only shows the content from when the machine was last halted.
Table 2.4. IPSMSimX86 assembler error messages.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Message</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>101</td>
<td>Illegal ALU number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>102</td>
<td>Illegal memory bus number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>103</td>
<td>Illegal memory bus number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>104</td>
<td>Illegal register number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>105</td>
<td>Illegal operand number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>106</td>
<td>Illegal mnemonic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>107</td>
<td>Missing directive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>108</td>
<td>End of line ignored</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>109</td>
<td>Illegal label</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110</td>
<td>Illegal label</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>111</td>
<td>Missing directive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>112</td>
<td>End of line ignored</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>114</td>
<td>Symbol Table overflow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>115</td>
<td>Unknown operand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>116</td>
<td>Unknown instruction class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>117</td>
<td>Program too large to fit in instruction memory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The memory content window, see figure 2.9, is a bit hard to read, but it shows the content of the complete memory in the current configuration. The memory address to the first memory cell on a line is written on the left side, each row then has 8 memory slots.

The code window, see figure 2.10, shows which instructions are currently executed, the numbers to the left of the marked line show how many threads are
executing that line. All threads do not have to be executing the same line of code as the program runs and when threads become more fragmented the numbers to the left will decrease and spread out to other lines.

The global variables window, see figure 2.11, is very helpful when checking if a program performs as expected. The memory content window is quite hard to read and to locate the correct location to check the content of a variable. On the other hand the global variables window shows the name address and content of global variables making it perfect for checking the results from a program. The only problem is that in the case of an array only the first couple of elements in
the array are shown; if we want to get the whole array we are forced to dump the array variable to a file.

Processor

MBTAC, short for Multi-bunched/threaded Architecture with Chaining, is a dual mode VLIW architecture [24]. The two modes are PRAM and NUMA. In PRAM mode each MBTAC has A ALUs, M memory units, M hash address calculation units, a compare unit, a sequencer and R registers per thread [24]. On the other hand in NUMA-mode processors can be configured to execute a common instruction stream and share their state among each other each other [24]. Each thread bunch then has a local ALU, a local memory unit, a local sequencer and R registers [24].

Most of the hardware is shared between PRAM mode and NUMA mode [24]. The processor also includes a step cache and a scratch-pad to implement concurrent memory access and multi-operations.

- A step cache is an associative memory buffer. In the step cache data is only
valid until the end of an ongoing multi-threaded execution [15].

• **Scratch-pads** are addressable memory buffers used in conjunction with step caches to implement multi-operations [15].

MBTAC has a VLIW style instruction format so the compiler will have to issue sub-instructions to each functional unit [24]. Chaining allows us to use the result of a sub-instruction as input to the next sub-instruction [24].

**Memory organization**

REPLICA uses three types of memory modules: local data memory, shared data memory and instruction data memory [24]. From the compiler’s point of view this becomes a program memory space, a shared memory space and a thread private memory space.

The shared memory module consists of an active memory unit and a standard memory module [24]. The active memory unit contains a simple ALU and a fetcher, this allows us to perform multi-prefix operations [24].

The simulator automatically copies private variables to each thread’s private memory space and shared variables to the shared memory space. When executing a program different offsets for each thread has to be used to access data stored in thread private memory space. For jump addresses and shared data no offset needs to be added. See figure 2.12 for how the memory is organized according to the compiler.
2.3 LLVM

LLVM, *Low Level Virtual Machine*, is a compiler framework that once started as a research project at the University of Illinois [20]. It has since then grown to become a full fledged compiler framework used in industry applications and now includes front-ends for several languages and back-ends for several architectures [19]. The version of LLVM used in this project is LLVM 3.0.

LLVM front-ends parse and compile source code into LLVM’s internal representation [19]. LLVM then does target independent optimizations on this internal form [19]. It is then the task of the LLVM back-end to lower this internal representation into machine code [19].
2.3 LLVM

2.3.1 Clang
Clang is the LLVM native C/C++ and Objective C front-end. The front-end is responsible for parsing the source code and generating LLVM internal representation for later stages in the compilation process. The version of Clang used in this project is Clang 3.0.

2.3.2 LLVM passes
LLVM provides interfaces for inserting code analysis and transformation passes into the compilation pipeline. The different interfaces decide on which level the pass will work, this includes modules (file level), functions, loops, basic blocks and more.

2.3.3 Back-ends
LLVM has several back-ends for generating machine code for different architectures and for generating C or C++ code. LLVM provides interfaces that need to be implemented and registered with the compiler during runtime for lowering LLVM internal representation to target machine code.
2.3.4 LLVM internal representation

The LLVM internal representation is a complete strongly typed programming language with a [19]. Figure 2.15 shows a function taking two integer arguments and sums them to a global variable sum. The code was generated from the C code in Figure 2.14.

```c
int sum = 0;

void func(int x, int y)
{
    sum = x + y;
}
```

**Figure 2.14.** Baseline language example.

```llvm
@sum = common global i32 0, align 4
define void @func(i32 %x, i32 %y) nounwind uwtable {
  entry:
    %x.addr = alloca i32, align 4
    %y.addr = alloca i32, align 4
    store i32 %x, i32∗ %x.addr, align 4
    store i32 %y, i32∗ %y.addr, align 4
    %0 = load i32∗ %x.addr, align 4
    %1 = load i32∗ %y.addr, align 4
    %add = add nsw i32 %0, %1
    store i32 %add, i32∗ @sum, align 4
    ret void
}
```

**Figure 2.15.** LLVM IR language.

The program in figure 2.15 was compiled with ‘-O0’ so the generated code lacks most optimizations. The program works as follows.

- **Line 1:** Declare a global variable `@sum` which is of type 32-bit integer.
- **Line 3:** Declare the function `@func` which takes two 32-bit integers as arguments and returns nothing, void.
- **Lines 5-6:** Allocate space on the stack for two 32-bit integer variables.
- **Lines 7-8:** Store the function arguments to the stack.
- **Lines 9-10:** Load the arguments into registers %1 and %2.
- **Line 11:** Add %1 and %2 into register %add.
2.3 LLVM

- Line 12: Store %add to global variable @sum.
- Line 13: Return nothing.

LLVM was chosen for this project because it is open source, has a large developer community and is supported by the industry [19]. This guarantees that the LLVM project will continue even if individual developers leave the project.

LLVM also has a very modular design and has back-ends for many architectures. It has also earlier been re-targeted to a VLIW architecture [1]. This shows us that it is not impossible to re-target LLVM to a new VLIW-like architecture.

2.3.5 TableGen

TableGen is a language used to describe records holding domain specific information. In this case information about CPU features, registers, instructions and calling conventions. TableGen descriptions are used to generate C++ code that can be used in our back-end later. Expansion of TableGen into C++ is done during compilation of the back-end.

TableGen supports inheritance so common information shared between all instances of the record we are trying to implement can be stored in the base class of that record type to reduce work. Figure 2.16 shows how registers in the REPLICA back-end have been implemented using inheritance. The TableGen definitions look very much like C++ templates.

- Line 1: Defines registers in the REPLICA back-end.
- Line 8: Defines the specialization integer registers from REPLICAReg.
- Line 12: Defines the integer register R0 from Ri.

```cpp
class REPLICAReg<string n> : Register<n> {
  field bits<6> Num;
  let Namespace = "RP";
}

// Registers are identified with 6-bit ID numbers.
// Ri - 32-bit integer registers
class Ri<bits<6> num, string n> : REPLICAReg<n> {
  let Num = num;
}

def R0 : Ri< 0, "R0">, DwarfRegNum<[0]>;
```

Figure 2.16. REPLICA registers defined in TableGen.

Multiclass is a special TableGen feature; it lets us define a common name to inherit from that contains several classes. This is heavily used when defining
instructions because, for example, most ALU instructions have several formats but only differ in the instruction name being used.

Note that we decided to encode several REPLICA sub-instructions in so called super-instructions so that it became easier to map REPLICA sub-instructions to LLVM IR.

```c
multiclass Instr_ALU<string OpcStr, SDNode OpNode> {
  let Uses = [A0], Defs = [A0], TSFlags = 0x1000 in {
    def rr : InstRP<(outs IntRegs: $dst),
      (ins IntRegs: $src1, IntRegs: $src2),
      !strconcat(OpcStr, "0 $src1,$src2 WB$dst A0"),
      [(set IntRegs :$dst,
        (OpNode IntRegs: $src1, IntRegs: $src2))]>;

    let Uses = [O0], Defs = [O0] in {
      def ri : InstRP<(outs IntRegs: $dst),
        (ins IntRegs: $src1, i32imm: $val),
        !strconcat("OP0 $val ",
        !strconcat(OpcStr, "0 $src1,O0 WB$dst A0")),
        [(set IntRegs:$dst,
          (OpNode IntRegs:$src1, imm:$val))]>;
    }
  }

  defm ADD : Instr_ALU<"ADD", add>;
}
```

Figure 2.17 defines a multiclass `Instr_ALU` which contains two variants of an ALU super-instruction: An ALU operation between two registers and an ALU operation between a register and an immediate. To use this multiclass for an add instruction in these two variants we use `defm` on line 19. This will create an `ADDrr` and an `ADDri`, which follows the definitions on line 3 and line 9 with `OpcStr` replaced with `ADD` and `OpNode` replaced with `add`.

As can be seen in Figure 2.17 each TableGen instruction definition consists of several REPLICA sub-instructions, so called super-instructions. For example `ADDri` contains three REPLICA sub-instructions, `OP`, `ADD` and `WB`. We decided to use this implementation style so that we could let LLVMs code generation algorithm select and order instructions without any modifications.

### 2.4 Alternative Compilers

If it for some reason would not be possible to use LLVM for this project we have looked into some other compilers that could be used instead. The compilers we have studied are Open64, Trimaran, ROSE, COINS, fcc, VEX and GCC.
2.4 Alternative Compilers

Open64

SGI released their MIPSpro compiler under an open source license in 2000 under the name Pro64. This later became the Open64 compiler. The compiler supports C/C++, Fortran95 and can generate code for many architectures such as IA-64 etc.\cite{22}.

According to Ming Lin et al.\cite{22} re-targeting the Open64 compiler to a new architecture is a hard and error-prone task as no automated tools for re-targeting exist.

Trimaran

Trimaran is a compiler made for research in computer architecture and compiler optimizations\cite{8}. Trimaran can target a wide range of architectures such as VLIW processors\cite{8}.

Trimarans modular nature should make it relatively easy to add support for a new architecture. But as a research compiler framework it has limited user group.

ROSE

ROSE is a source-to-source compiler infrastructure that can read and write source code in multiple languages\cite{7}. ROSE is primarily for software analysis and transformation tools and code generation tools\cite{7}.

COINS

COINS (a COmpiler INfraStructure), is a research project aiming to create a base for constructing other compilers\cite{26}. COINS is written in Java and has two forms of intermediate representation HIR (High-level Intermediate Representation) and LIR (Low-level Intermediate Representation)\cite{26}.

fcc

The Fork95 compiler for SB-PRAM. SB-PRAM is a realization of PRAM built at Saarbrücken University\cite{17}. SB-PRAM has up to 4096 RISC-style processors and up to 2 GB of shared memory\cite{17}. The shared memory is accessible in one CPU cycle by any processor.

Fork95 is based on ANSI C with additional constructs for creating parallel processes, dividing groups of processors into subgroups, managing shared and private address subspaces\cite{17}.

REPLICA is also a PRAM realization so fcc might be an alternative to LLVM.

VEX

VEX, short for “VLIW example”, is an example architecture that accompanies the book “Embedded computing - a VLIW approach to architecture, compilers and tools” by Joseph A. Fisher et al.\cite{11}. The architecture and compiler is based on HPs/STs Lx/ST200 family of VLIW processors and their compiler\cite{11}.
The VEX C compiler has some support for dynamic reconfiguration [11]. Available resources (ALUs, issue slots, memory-ports and multipliers), issue-use delay (the time between instructions issue and output ready) and the number of registers [11].

GCC

GCC, short for GNU Compiler Collection, is a collection of compilers and tools for several languages such as C, C++, Objective-C, Objective-C++, Java, Fortran, Ada and Go [3]. GCC is a part of the GNU project and licensed under the GNU General Public License [3]. GCC uses an internal representation called RTL (Register Transfer Language) [2]. The process is similar to LLVM, a source program is parsed and transformed into a parse tree [2]. The parse tree is then matched against instruction patterns [2]. The instruction patterns are then matched against RTL templates to generate assembler [2].

We believe that writing a back-end for LLVM will probably be simpler than writing a back-end for GCC.

2.5 Related work

EPICOpt\(^2\) is a project at the Vienna University of Technology that aims to develop new algorithms that try to maintain the advantages of integer linear programming code generation techniques while still being computationally feasible for real world programs [1]. An LLVM back-end for Texas Instrument’s TMS320C64X family of VLIW processors is being developed for the EPICOpt project [4]. TMS320C6455, is currently the fastest processor in the TMS320C64X family. It has eight functional units and can execute up to eight 32 bit instructions per clock cycle [27].

There is also an LLVM back-end for Intel Itanium (IA-64) [5], but the author has not been able to find more information about it than an almost empty wiki [6] and a project page at Sourceforge with source code [5].

Because LLVM’s IR format does not match that well with REPLICA’s instruction format a compromise was to let the back-end generate code for a default REPLICA configuration and later reschedule and optimize the generated code for the REPLICA implementation at hand. Basic block scheduling (i.e. scheduling of instructions within basic blocks) seemed like a good starting point. There is a lot of research available on basic block scheduling.

Kessler et al. show in [18] a dynamic programming based algorithm which produces optimal or highly optimized code. Leupers et al. give an integer linear programming based algorithm in [21] which produces high quality optimized code. Lorenz et al. show an genetic algorithm for code generation in [23]. Eriksson et al. show in [10] both an algorithm based on a genetic algorithm which produces code one or two clock-cycles from optimum (in the cases where an optimal schedule is known) and a integer linear programming based algorithm.

\(^2\)Optimal Code Generation for Explicitly Parallel Processors [1]
Chapter 3

Implementation

Our LLVM back-end converts LLVM internal representation to MBTAC assembler for a minimal REPLICA configuration. We also have an optimization pass that tries to restructure our generated assembler so that we use available functional units more effectively. The LLVM framework provides generic algorithms for code generation, that when necessary use parts of the target machine’s back-end.

To generate code for REPLICA we need to describe it to LLVM, information such as instructions, registers, calling conventions and how LLVM IR is to be lowered to MBTAC assembler is needed. This is done with a combination of C++ and TableGen (see section 2.3.5, LLVMs target description language. Almost all source code for our back-end is located in `<llvm-source-dir>/lib/Target/REPLICA`. Some modifications outside of this directory were needed i.e. we needed to add our new back-end to `<llvm-source-dir>/include/ADT/Triple.h` and `<llvm-source-dir>/lib/Support/Triple.cpp` so that it becomes a selectable target.

When adding a new back-end to LLVM we also need to register it at runtime so that LLVM knows it exists. Most classes in our LLVM back-end are accessed through the `REPLICATargetMachine` class so that has to be registered with the LLVM target registry. We also need some output method from the back-end, in our case we only have the assembler printer so that also needs to be registered with LLVM and this is done separately from the target machine registry. See Figure 3.1 for an architectural overview of the back-end.

We also modified the Clang front-end so that it knows about REPLICA’s register names and available in-line assembler constraints.
Figure 3.1. Architectural overview of the REPLICA back-end.
3.1 Code generation

The main objective of this project was to generate assembler code for the REPLICA architecture. LLVM provides a target independent framework for code generation where the target architectures only have to add handling and descriptions of target specific features.

The code generation process starts with the program in LLVM internal representation format and ends with the finished assembler code being printed to a file. During this process the code passes through many stages where the output of each stage is one step closer to the final assembler code. The following sections detail the code generation process and the steps needed to transform LLVM internal representation to MBTAC assembler.

3.1.1 Instruction selection

LLVM uses a selection DAG, Directed Acyclic Graph, based instructions selector to translate LLVM internal representation to target specific code. Parts used by the instruction selector are generated from TableGen files. Parts that need custom handling are written in C++.

A DAG based instruction selector basically keeps the programs internal representation in a tree structure and then tries to match subtrees of this to the TableGen defined instructions. If a match is found the subtree is converted to the target specific node of the matched instruction.

SelectionDAG construction

This pass constructs a DAG from the LLVM internal representation version of the program we are compiling. Most of this is done by the built in TableGen definitions of LLVM internal representation but the DAG constructor needs custom handling for some constructs, mainly function calls and returns.

This step uses the REPLICATargetLowering class to find out what to do with function calls. REPLICATargetLowering is accessible through the main class of the REPLICA back-end, REPICALTargetMachine, see figure 3.1.

SelectionDAG legalize types

LLVM internal representation is a very generalized machine so data types used in LLVM internal representation may not be supported on the target machine. The sub-target class provides LLVM with a TargetData description of what types and sizes are supported on the target architecture.

The code generation process uses the target data layout to convert the instructions in the DAG to only use data types supported by our version of REPLICA.

SelectionDAG legalize

This pass converts the DAG to only use instructions supported by the target architecture. This pass uses REPLICATargetLowering to determine if an instruction
Implementation

is legal or need to be expanded, promoted or needs custom handling.

- Expand: LLVM tries to generate simpler instructions that would produce the same result as the expanded instruction.
- Promote: The instruction is promoted to a more general instruction.
- Custom: This instruction is too complex for TableGen. Instead call a function in REPLICATargetLowering that will take care it.

SelectionDAG optimization

The focus of the earlier passes is to generate legal code. This pass cleans up the code from the earlier passes. It also performs some optimizations on the code generated by earlier passes. An important optimization that is performed by LLVM at this stage is optimization of the automatically inserted sign-/zero-extension code.

SelectionDAG instruction selection

This pass uses our instruction definitions generated from TableGen to select REPLICA instructions that match the LLVM internal representation instructions already in the DAG. LLVM uses pattern matching on subtrees of the selection DAG to pick which REPLICA instructions to use.

The instruction selection pass uses REPLICAInstrInfo whose base class was generated from TableGen. The output of the instruction selection pass is a DAG with only target specific nodes.

SelectionDAG scheduling and formation

In the earlier passes the order between instructions has not been specified only the dependencies between nodes in the DAG. The Scheduling and formation pass in LLVM assigns order to all instructions and transforms the DAG to a list of instructions.

The DAG is destroyed after scheduling and formation is done and the list of machine instructions is sent to the next pass.

3.1.2 SSA based optimization

This pass allows for target specific optimization before register allocation. We do not use this pass because we will insert more code in the prolog and epilog of functions and we would like to optimize that inserted code as well.

3.1.3 Register allocation

Until this pass instructions have used virtual registers. Now it is time to assign physical registers to these virtual registers. For this LLVM uses a target independent register allocation algorithm that uses information about REPLICA registers
3.2 Target machine description

that we defined in TableGen, see the REPLICARegisterInfo class in figure 3.1. There are several register allocation algorithms available to the developer to choose from. By default the register allocator is chosen according to optimization level but this can be changed with command-line options to the LLVM compiler (llc).

3.1.4 Prolog/Epilog code insertion

The prolog/epilog code insertion pass handles calculating a new stack pointer and restoring the old stack pointer when leaving the function. We also must save and restore registers that are used by the callee and the called function. This is done in C++ by the REPLICAFrameLowering class, see figure 3.1.

3.1.5 Late machine code optimizations

The late machine code optimization pass is used to perform target specific optimizations on the finished machine code before outputting it. This is where we perform our optimizations for instruction level parallelism. We also implemented a debug pass here that would print all machine instructions in a tree like structure to ease debugging.

3.1.6 Code emission

The last pass in the code generation process is code emission. This is were the generated machine code is outputted to file, in our case that is assembler code printing. Code emission is registered separately from the back-end for LLVM, see REPLICAAsmPrinter and REPLICAMCAsmStreamer in figure 3.1. The generated machine instructions are printed to a .s file.

3.2 Target machine description

The REPLICATargetMachine class, see figure 3.1, is the main component of our REPLICA back-end implementation. It implements the LLVMTargetMachine interface that LLVM uses to access classes holding target specific information such as instructions, registers, sub-targets, target lowering, target data layout and selection DAG information.

- **REPLICAINstrInfo**: Instructions are described in TableGen with some additional C++ code to handle register to register copy DAG nodes. This is handled by the REPLICAINstrInfo class which is accessed through the REPLICATargetMachine class.

- **REPLICARRegisterInfo**: LLVM needs to know what registers we have available and what data types they support. This information is described in TableGen and in the REPLICARRegisterInfo class that is accessed through the REPLICATargetMachine class.
- **REPLICAFrameLowering**: Takes care of prolog/epilog code insertion, saving, and restoring registers at function calls. This is handled by the REPLICAFrameLowering class that is accessed through the REPLICATargetMachine class.

- **Data layout**: Supported data types are implemented in the sub-targets because this could vary between sub-targets. For the moment we only have one generic sub-target. Data layout is a string describing supported data types on the REPLICA architecture, explained in detail in the sub-target section.

- **REPLICATargetLowering**: Describes how LLVM internal representation instructions should be lowered and if instructions need custom handling. This is handled by the REPLICATargetLowering class which is accessed through the REPLICATargetMachine class.

- **Sub-targets**: Additional information about sub-targets. In our case we only have one implemented sub-target: The generic 32 bit REPLICA machine with no additional features.

The Target also needs to be registered with the TargetRegistry so that LLVM is able to find and use our target during runtime. To make our REPLICA target available to LLVM we need to first register our target name so that it becomes selectable at compile time. The two code fragments in figure 3.2 and 3.3 are needed to register our REPLICA target machine and the generic REPLICA sub-target.

```
1 RegisterTarget<Triple::replica>
2 X(TheREPLICATarget, "replica", "REPLICA");
```

**Figure 3.2.** Register the REPLICA target with LLVM’s TargetRegistry.

```
1 RegisterTargetMachine<REPLICA32TargetMachine>
2 X(TheREPLICATarget);
```

**Figure 3.3.** Register the generic sub-target with the TargetRegistry.

We also need to add our assembler printer as an output method and we have also modified the raw printing of assembler instructions to handle the possibility of chaining assembler instructions. The two code fragments in Figure 3.4 and 3.5 registers our assembler printer and assembler streamer.
3.2 Target machine description

RegisterAsmPrinter<REPLICAAsmPrinter> X(TheREPLICATarget);

Figure 3.4. Register the assembler printer with LLVM's TargetRegistry.

TargetRegistry::RegisterAsmStreamer(TheREPLICATarget,
createREPLICAAsmStreamer);

Figure 3.5. Register the assembler streamer used by our assembler printer.

3.2.1 Sub-targets

There is currently only one sub-target for the REPLICA target machine, which is the default 32 bit REPLICA machine. This sub-targets define a machine with support for 32 bit addresses, 32, 16 and 8 bit integers and no floating point support. The data layout definition is just a string returned by the sub-target, see figure 3.6.

std::string getDataLayout() const
{
}

Figure 3.6. The sub-targets data layout definition.

The E in the data layout string tells LLVM that this architecture is big-endian. The p is pointer information, the first value being pointer size, the next two values are ABI\(^1\) and preferred alignment. We also have support for 32-, 16- and 8-bit integers with 32-, 16- and 8-bit ABI and alignments.

Source code for this part can be found in the following files.

- REPLICA.td
- REPLICATargetMachine.h
- REPLICATargetMachine.cpp
- REPLICASubtarget.h
- REPLICASubtarget.cpp

\(^1\)Application Binary Interface
3.3 Registers

Register set and register classes are described using LLVM’s TableGen language which is transformed to C++ during compilation of the compiler. In our version of the processor all registers are 32-bit integer registers but there are still some differences between them. Some are associated with specific functional units. Currently there are four register classes: IntRegs, ALURegs, MEMRegs and OPRegs, see Table 3.1.

Table 3.1. Register classes for REPLICA.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Register class</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IntRegs</td>
<td>General purpose 32-bit integer registers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALURegs</td>
<td>Registers holding results of ALU operations. For example the result of an add instruction in ALU 0 will be placed in ALU register 0.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEMRegs</td>
<td>Registers holding results from memory operations. For example the result of a load in memory unit 0 will be placed in memory register 0.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPRegs</td>
<td>OPRegs can be used to insert constants in assembler code. These are volatile registers as they don’t keep their value between clock cycles.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Super instructions that are generated before our ILP optimization do only use the general purpose integer registers and implicitly define and/or use registers from other register classes. This is later addressed by our instruction splitter.

The REPLICARegisterInfo class, see Figure 3.1, implements functions for handling reserved registers, callee saved registers, handling of pseudo instructions generated during function call lowering and frame index handling.

- Callee saved registers is a list of registers used by LLVM when emitting prolog/epilog code. If a register in this list is used inside a function we need to generate code for saving this register in the prolog of the function. We also need to generate code for restoring this register in the epilog of the function.

- Removal of pseudo instructions are also done by REPLICARegisterInfo. The call frame pseudo instructions (callseq_start and callseq_end) were used to group instructions belonging to a function call together so that they are handled as a single unit by later optimization passes. These pseudo instructions also contain the size of arguments put on the stack; this information would be useful if we were to implement handling of variable sized arguments. For now we only remove these instructions. This is implemented in eliminateCallFramePseudoInstructions.

- During compilation instructions using data in a stack slot access that stack slot with an abstract offset (0, -1, -2, etc.) so before emitting assembler
3.3 Registers

we need to replace these abstract offsets with the real offset. For this the *eliminateFrameIndex* function is used.

Reserved registers is a vector of IntRegs that are used for special purposes, for example the register holding the stack pointer is a special purpose register.

Table 3.2. Special purpose registers, note \( n \) is the total number of registers. The number inside the parentheses is the number used in our version of the processor.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Register</th>
<th>Back-end internal name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R0</td>
<td>RP::R0</td>
<td>A constant zero.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R29</td>
<td>RP::SP</td>
<td>Stack pointer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R30</td>
<td>RP::TID</td>
<td>Thread ID.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R31</td>
<td>RP::RA</td>
<td>Return address.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R( n-1 ) (32)</td>
<td>RP::TPA</td>
<td>Thread private address space start.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R( n ) (33)</td>
<td>RP::SR</td>
<td>Status register.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3.2 gives a short list of the registers currently in the special purpose register list.

- R29, the stack pointer, is used for accessing data stored on the stack, for example local variables, function arguments or spilled registers.

- R30 holds the current thread ID. The ID of the current thread can also be found in the built-in variable _thread_id, see Section 2.2.1 for more information about the baseline language and built-in variables.

- R31 holds the return address of the previously executed jump and link instruction (“JMPL”). The return address register is used when returning from a function call.

- The special purpose register holding the starting address of the thread private memory space varies with configuration and is used by load and store instructions when accessing data in a thread’s private memory space.

- The status register holds the result of the latest compare instruction and is used by branch instructions.

Source code for this part can be found in the following files.

- REPLICARegisterInfo.td
- REPLICARegisterInfo.h
- REPLICARegisterInfo.cpp
- REPLICAFrameLowering.h
- REPLICAFrameLowering.cpp
3.4 Instructions

The REPLICA instructions are described using TableGen. The description includes output registers, input registers, assembler string and the DAG pattern that the instruction should be matched against. If several DAG patterns can be used for the same instruction then each pattern would need a separate TableGen definition of the instruction.

Because of the strange instruction format for this architecture we decided to encode several instructions into super-instructions that would be matched against DAG patterns. We then later split these super-instructions into the sub-instructions they encode. With this method we avoid much of the custom lowering we otherwise would have needed to correctly schedule all sub-instructions. Some instructions need custom lowering; for example function calls, returns and global address calculation.

Function calls are described in the next section. Global addresses need custom handling because of the architecture’s memory organization. A private variable will be located in the thread private memory space, a shared variable will be located in the shared memory space and a text label will be located in the program memory space. No offset is needed for the shared memory and program memory, here we can use the label directly. If the variable is thread private then we must offset the location with the start of private address space which is conveniently stored in a register.

Source code for this part can be found in the following files.

- REPLICAInstrInfo.td
- REPLICAInstrInfo.h
- REPLICAInstrInfo.cpp
- REPLICAISelLowering.h
- REPLICAISelLowering.cpp
- REPLICAISelSelectionDAGInfo.h
- REPLICAISelSelectionDAGInfo.cpp

3.4.1 Calling conventions

The basic calling convention information is defined with TableGen in REPLICACallingConvention.td. That file defines how many registers we have to pass arguments in and their types; it also defines what should happen with arguments that do not match the type of the registers used and what should be done if there are more arguments than registers.

We decided to use a calling convention where the first argument to a function is put in register R2 and any subsequent arguments are pushed to the stack. Arguments on the stack are put in slots with a size of 4 bytes that are 4 byte aligned. The return value of a function is put in register R1.

There are three methods that are responsible for handling calls and return values. LowerCall, LowerFormalArguments and LowerReturn.
3.5 Assembly printer

- LowerCall checks the number of arguments and allocates room on the stack if needed. LowerCall then creates instructions for moving arguments to their correct place and, when all the arguments are in place, generates a call instruction. LowerCall is also responsible for taking care of the return value if any.
- LowerFormalArguments checks the number of arguments and generates instructions for moving arguments from the stack to registers.
- LowerReturn moves the return value into register R1 and then generates a return instruction.

Source code for this part can be found in the following files.
- REPLICACallingConv.td
- REPLICAISelLowering.h
- REPLICAISelLowering.cpp

3.5 Assembly printer

The printing of assembler code is split into three classes, one low level printing, one for handling machine instructions and one for holding settings.
- REPLICAAsmPrinter: Splits a machine instruction into its operands and calls the function needed to print the operand. REPLICAAsmPrinter is also responsible for printing assembler directives around functions.
- REPLICAMCAsmStreamer: Does the raw printing to file and is also responsible for printing assembler directives for variables.
- REPLICAMCAsmInfo: Defines directive texts and features available for the assembler printer.

Because MBTAC assembler is different from how assembler languages are structured in general we decided to implement a custom assembler streamer i.e. the class responsible for the low level writing of assembler to file. The most important change is the handling for printing chained sub-instructions. To encode that the current sub-instruction being printed has more chained subsequent sub-instructions we added an ending ‘!’ to the assembler string. See Figure 3.7. An empty delimiter instruction is used to end the chain, see line 4 in Figure 3.7.

Figure 3.7. The assembler string on line 3 ends with a ‘!’ so that the assembler streamer does not automatically insert a newline after the sub-instruction.

The assembler printer is also currently printing the initialization function “_ProgramStart” that initializes built-in variables. This function ought to be moved into the runtime library for future releases of the REPLICA back-end.

Source code for this part can be found in the following files.
- REPLICAAsmPrinter.cpp
• REPLICAAsmStreamer.h
• REPLICAAsmStreamer.cpp
• REPLICAAsmInfo.h
• REPLICAAsmInfo.cpp

3.6 Clang basic target information

Because our REPLICA back-end relies on inline assembler for using the special multi-

prefix instructions we need to give clang, the compiler front-end, information about the

REPLICA architecture, such as:

• Available registers. To use constraints in assembler inlining we would need to define
  the available register names for Clang.

• Useable constraints. Currently only register constraints, “r”.

• Built-in defines.

Assembler inlines in Clang follow the same style as gcc although our back-end is fairly

limited in the amount of available assembler constraints.

The built-in defines can be used by the programmer to check that we are compiling

for REPLICA. Thus can be useful to separate REPLICA specific code from platform

independent code. The defines are given in the list below and can be used with for example “#ifdef”.

• __replica_
• __ARCH_REPLICA
• __replica_mbtac_
• __REPLICA_MBTAC_

Source code for this part can be found in the following file.

• <llvm-source-dir>/tools/clang/lib/Basic/Targets.cpp
Chapter 4

Optimization

To handle the configurable number of functional units we decided to implement an optimization pass that would work on the almost finished machine code. By doing this division we can have the compiler generating code for a minimal configuration by default and then letting the optimization pass handle rescheduling of instructions for specific REPLICA configurations. The optimization algorithm used for rescheduling was based on the virtual ILP algorithm in [14] by M. Forsell.

LLVM lets us insert new compiler passes for code transformation and analysis at different stages in the compiler. We added an optimization pass at the pre-emit stage i.e. just before instruction printing. An advantage with this approach is that all generated code like prolog/epilog stack adjustments has already been added. A disadvantage is that all instruction are now in list-form so we need to construct a dependence graph out of this list with instructions and also because registers have already been assigned we could have introduced artificial dependencies between instructions.

Because of the decision to map LLVM internal representation to REPLICA super-instructions we first need to divide these super-instructions so that the optimizer can try to reorder them.

4.1 Instruction splitter

Before the generated code is sent to the assembler printer it passes through the instruction splitter. The instruction splitter is a LLVM pre-emit pass where each super-instruction is divided into the sub-instructions it encodes.

As an exampled, before instruction splitting (line 1 in figure 4.1) is seen as one instruction by the compiler. After instruction splitting on the other hand OP0 2, ADD0 00, R1 and WBI A0 are seen as separate instructions.

Source code for this part can be found in the following file.
4.2 Dependence DAG

A general scheduling approach is to construct a dependency graph to represent the constraints on instruction schedules i.e. in which order instructions need to be scheduled [25]. As control flow through a basic block is always from the first instruction in the block to the last instruction in the block with no branches in-between, the dependency graph for a basic block always becomes a DAG (Directed Acyclic Graph) [25].

The nodes in the dependence DAG are REPLICA machine instructions and there is an edge between two nodes \( N_1 \) and \( N_2 \) if \( N_2 \) depends on \( N_1 \). The REPLICA back-end’s implementation of a dependence DAG for pre-emit rescheduling of instructions transforms REPLICA machine instructions in list form to a graph with dependencies.

Figure 4.2. Basic block for the conditional check in a for loop.

Figure 4.2 shows a basic block for the conditional check in a for loop. The instructions in this basic block are read from the \( \text{OP0 0} \) on line 1 to \( \text{BNEZ 00} \) on line 3 and from this the dependence DAG in figure 4.3 is constructed.

![Figure 4.2. Basic block for the conditional check in a for loop.](image)

Figure 4.3. Dependence DAG from the conditional check in a for loop.

Figure 4.3 is a graphical representation of the dependencies between instructions in a basic block. The dependencies between instructions are either register dependencies or
additional dependencies our dependence DAG construction algorithm uses the following rules for deciding if there is a dependency or not.

1. If instruction $I_1$ defines register $r$ and instruction $I_2$ uses register $r$ then $I_2$ depends on $I_1$.
2. If instruction $I_1$ uses register $r$ and instruction $I_2$ defines register $r$ then $I_2$ depends on $I_1$.
3. If instruction $I_1$ defines register $r$ and instruction $I_2$ also defines register $r$ then $I_2$ depends on $I_1$.
4. Aside from the register conflicts there is also other dependencies to look out for when scheduling instructions. We look for the following additional dependencies when creating our dependence DAG.
   - Load/store instructions we can not know if the address that the load instruction loads from is the same as a later store instruction saves to. So if $I_1$ is a load instruction and $I_2$ is a store instruction then $I_2$ depends on $I_1$.
   - An inline assembler DAG node is given dependencies so that it is not moved during optimization i.e. it is dependent on all previous instructions and all instructions following the inline assembler node is dependent on it.
   - An instruction using the result of an OP instruction must be executed in the same step as the OP instruction therefore the edge between such DAG nodes is given the special edge weight $-1$.
   - An instruction using the result from a writeback (WB) instruction can not be scheduled in the same step as the writeback so the edge between such DAG nodes is given the weight $2$.

Source code for this part can be found in the following file.

- REPLICAMCDependenceDAG.cpp

4.3 Optimizations for instruction level parallelism

The REPLICA architecture has several functional units so to effectively use the hardware we need to make sure that the utilization of functional units is high. The ILP\textsuperscript{1} optimization pass tries to reschedule instructions to increase functional unit utilization. At the same time it must also take into account the dependencies between instructions so that we do not for example try to use a calculated result before it is calculated. Therefore the ILP optimization pass uses the dependence DAG described earlier to find which instructions are available to schedule at the given time. The algorithm was based on M. Forsells virtual ILP algorithm [14], this implementation is visualized in figure 4.4.

The algorithm works on basic blocks so we know that the program flow always will enter the block at the first sub-instruction in the block and leave the block at the last sub-instruction in the block. As an effect of this we also always know that the dependencies between sub-instructions will not have any cycles so therefor the algorithm will always terminate.

\textsuperscript{1}Instruction Level Parallelism
Figure 4.4. Flowchart over the ILP optimization algorithm.
4.3 Optimizations for instruction level parallelism

4.3.1 Data structures and algorithm details

There are three important data structures in the algorithm, aside from the dependence DAG described earlier. Note that free sub-instructions are those sub-instructions that have all their dependencies fulfilled.

- **Ready list:** Tracks the free sub-instructions that our algorithm can try to schedule. Called `can_be_scheduled_now` in the source code.
- **Priority list:** Tracks sub-instructions that use the result from an OP sub-instruction and therefore must be inserted in the same execution step as the OP. Called `must_be_scheduled_now` in the source code.
- **Delay list:** Tracks sub-instructions that are delayed by a WB sub-instruction. These sub-instructions can be moved to the ready list when scheduling the next execution step. Called `can_be_scheduled_next` in the source code.
- **Current sub-instruction:** Not a data structure but the index in the ready list where the sub-instruction we are currently trying to schedule is.

The optimization pass is given a machine function containing several basic blocks and the algorithm is called once for each basic block in the machine function. The basic block is used to build a dependence DAG and in this dependence DAG the initial free sub-instructions are found and added to the ready list. Figure 4.4 contains a flowchart of the algorithm, the numbers on the decision boxes corresponds to the numbers in the following list.

1. Check if all sub-instructions in the basic block have been scheduled.
   - Yes, then the algorithm is finished.
   - No, then we need to continue with another loop through the algorithm.

2. Are there any sub-instructions on the priority list.
   - Yes, then schedule those sub-instructions. Resources for those sub-instructions are checked by the OP sub-instruction that they depend on. We know that a sub-instruction on the priority list is schedulable because its preconditions and resources were checked in the previous iteration when adding the OP sub-instruction.
   - No, then continue.

3. Have we filled all functional units or are there no more sub-instructions that can be scheduled in this execution step.
   - Yes, then finalize the sub-instructions in this execution step and output them to their new places in the basic block, output any inline assembler that now have all their preconditions met, copy all sub-instructions on the delay list to the ready list and reset the current sub-instruction to the first sub-instruction on the ready list.
   - No, then continue.

4. Check if the current sub-instruction can be scheduled in the current execution step.
   - Yes, then schedule the current sub-instruction in this execution step and go to step 5.
   - No, then increment the current sub-instruction to the next free sub-instruction and go to step 1.
5. Was the recently scheduled sub-instruction an $\text{OP}$ sub-instruction?

- Yes, then add the following sub-instruction that uses the result from the $\text{OP}$ sub-instruction to the priority list. The resources needed by the sub-instruction were checked when the $\text{OP}$ sub-instruction was scheduled. Go to step 6.
- No, then go to step 6.

6. Get the sub-instructions freed by scheduling the current sub-instruction and add them to the ready list or, if the current sub-instruction was a $\text{WB}$, to the delay list. Go to step 1.

4.3.2 Similarities to task scheduling

The algorithm is similar to Grahams task scheduling algorithm [16]. In Grahams task scheduling algorithm we have a system with $m$ tasks that should be processed by $n$ processors [16]. There can be dependencies between tasks so if task $T_j$ is dependent on task $T_i$ then $T_j$ must be processed later than $T_i$ [16]. Tasks are kept on a list ordered according to dependencies so for example $T_i$ would come before $T_j$ on this list [16]. A processor searches the list from beginning to end looking for a task that can be processed. If no task was found then the processor becomes idle until another processor finishes and new tasks becomes available [16].

If we let Grahams processors correspond to our functional units and let tasks correspond to our sub-instructions then we can compare it to our scheduling approach for REPLICA. REPLICA has several functional units that are assigned sub-instructions by our algorithm. Our sub-instructions are ordered so that a sub-instruction $I_1$ must be executed before sub-instruction $I_2$ if $I_2$ depends on $I_1$. Functional units that are not assigned any sub-instruction can be seen as idle until a sub-instruction that matches that functional unit is found.

Grahams processors can execute any task [16] while REPLICA sub-instructions are keyed to a specific type of functional unit. Either operator, ALU, memory unit, compare unit, sequencer or writeback. Hence functional units may be idle even though free sub-instructions are available.

MBTACs chaining capability lets dependent sub-instructions be executed in parallel in most cases. Writebacks is an exception where the sub-instruction dependent on the writeback needs to wait until the next execution step. Grahams tasks on the other hand have no chaining capability so if two tasks are dependent then the second task will have to wait until the first has been executed before it can be scheduled [16].

The tasks in Grahams list scheduling algorithm do not have the constraint that certain tasks must be executed in parallel [16] as REPLICA's $\text{OP}$ sub-instructions have.

4.3.3 Time complexity

In any given basic block there would always be at least one sub-instruction that can be scheduled in the current execution step. In a worst case scenario we could have a basic block with $n$ sub-instructions which consists of first $k$ independent sub-instructions, that uses the same functional unit, and then $m$ sub-instructions where each sub-instruction is dependent on the previous. Figure 4.5 shows how a worst case dependence DAG might look like.

- At the start of the algorithm the $k$ sub-instructions and the first of the $m$ sub-instructions are added to the ready list.
Now the algorithm would first schedule the first of the \( k \) sub-instructions and then search through \( k - 1 \) sub-instructions until the last sub-instruction on the ready list which are one of the \( m \).

Scheduling the last sub-instruction on the ready list would complete that execution step and add another of the \( m \) sub-instructions to ready list (inserted last).

The check to see if all sub-instructions have been scheduled loops through all sub-instructions one time in each iteration of the main optimization loop. There are two cases \( m \geq k \) and \( m < k \), \( k + m = n \).

- \( m \geq k \):
  - We would have to iterate through \( k + 1 \) sub-instructions to schedule the first execution step.
  - For scheduling the second execution step we would have to iterate through \( k \) sub-instructions.
  - The sum would look something like: \((k+1) + k + (k-1) + ... + 2 + 1 + 1 + ... + 1\). The last part where the ready list only have length 1 is for scheduling the remainder of the \( m \) sub-instructions.
  - Calculating this as an arithmetic series we get \((k + 1) \times \frac{k+2}{2} + m\) which is \(O(k^2 + m)\). Introducing the check to see if all sub-instructions have been scheduled we get \(O(n(k^2 + m))\). Assuming that \( k > 0 \) and \( m > 0 \).

- \( m < k \):
  - Again we would have to iterate through \( k + 1 \) sub-instructions to schedule the first execution step.
  - At step \( m \) all the \( m \) sub-instructions have been scheduled so there is \( k - m \) sub-instructions left on the ready list.
  - To schedule the remaining sub-instructions the algorithm would pick and schedule the first sub-instruction on the ready list and then iterate through the remaining only to find that no more sub-instructions could be scheduled in this execution step. At step \( k \) the scheduling would be complete.
  - The sum would look something like: \((k + 1) + k + (k - 1) + ... + 1\).
  - Calculating this as an arithmetic series we get \( \frac{(k+1)(k+2)}{2} = \frac{k^2 + 3k + 2}{2} \) which is \(O(k^2)\). Introducing the check to see if all sub-instructions have been scheduled we get \(O(n(k^2))\). Assuming that \( k > 0 \) and \( m > 0 \).

The worst case time is obtained with \( k = m = \frac{n}{2} \) and therefor is \(O(n^3)\).

In the best case we would be given a basic block such that the first sub-instruction on the ready list can be scheduled in each iteration of the algorithm and there is only one sub-instruction on the ready list in each iteration. In such a case we would only have to go through the loop \( n \) times. Multiply that with the finish check and we get that the best case time is \(\Theta(n^2)\).

The check to see if we have scheduled all sub-instructions is very inefficient. The check can be done in constant time thereby bringing the worst case time complexity down to \(O(n^2)\) and the best case time down to \(\Theta(n)\).
4.3.4 Practical example

As an example the code in figure 4.6 can be compressed, using the ILP optimization algorithm, to the assembler code in figure 4.7, assuming the target REPLICA configuration has one ALU, one memory unit and two operator slots. We gained two execution steps (lines of assembler code) with this optimization.

**Figure 4.6.** Unoptimized MBTAC assembler.

```
1 | OP0 28 ADD0 R29, O0 WB1 A0
2 | LD0 R1 WB1 M0
3 | OP0 20 ADD0 R29, O0 WB2 A0
4 | LD0 R2 WB2 M0
5 | ADD0 R2, R1 WB1 A0
6 | OP0 12 ADD0 R29, O0 WB2 A0
7 | ST0 R1, R2
8 | OP0 0 WB2 O0
9 | SLT R1, R2 OP0 _BB1_14 BNEZ O0
```

**Figure 4.7.** Optimized MBTAC assembler.

```
1 | OP0 28 ADD0 R29, O0 WB1 A0
2 | OP0 20 ADD0 R29, O0 LD0 R1 WB1 M0 WB2 A0
3 | LD0 R2 WB2 M0
4 | ADD0 R2, R1 WB1 A0
5 | OP0 12 ADD0 R29, O0 WB2 A0
6 | OP0 0 ST0 R1, R2 WB2 O0
7 | SLT R1, R2 OP0 _BB1_14 BNEZ O0
```
4.3 Optimizations for instruction level parallelism

Source code for this part can be found in the following file.

- REPLICAVirtualILP.cpp
Chapter 5

Evaluation

We created a number of benchmark programs to test our backed and also to see how effective our optimization approach is. All of these programs were compiled with the makefile in appendix C with ILP optimizations both on and off. We have to use inline assembler in some parts of our benchmark programs because that is the only way to use multi-prefix instructions. To get away from the use of inline assembler we would have to add internal representation nodes that matches to these instructions.

The compiler was running on Ubuntu Linux 11.10 and the simulator was running on Mac OS X 10.6 for all benchmarks. Source code for the benchmarks is located in appendix C. Note that there is no sequential case for these benchmarks, the smallest configuration used in the benchmarks has 4 processors with 512 threads each.

5.1 Parallel max/min value

The parallel max/min benchmark locates the maximum and minimum value in an array consisting of 32768 unsigned integers. This program uses the MMAXU and MMINU multi-prefix instructions so that several threads can work on the same data simultaneously.

Results

The results from the Parallel max/min value benchmark shows a small speedup both using the ILP optimization algorithm from chapter 4 and from adding more threads. The optimized version of the benchmark is roughly 21.8% faster than the unoptimized version on the 4 processor configuration, on the 16 processor configuration the optimized version is 16.9% faster than the unoptimized program and on the 64 processor configuration the optimized program is only 11.7% faster than the unoptimized. Table 5.1 contains the number of execution steps for running the whole program and the total number of clock cycles.
Table 5.1. Running time for the parallel max/min example.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Configuration</th>
<th>Unoptimized</th>
<th>Optimized</th>
<th>ILP Speedup</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Steps</td>
<td>Cycles</td>
<td>Steps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRAM-T5-4-512+</td>
<td>480</td>
<td>245760</td>
<td>394</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRAM-T5-16-512+</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>92160</td>
<td>154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRAM-T5-64-512+</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>53760</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The low gain from optimization for larger configurations of the REPLICA machine may be because the initialization part of the program, that initializes global- and builtin-variables, is hard-coded in assembler and might have longer running time than the actual calculation part of the program. Note that the steps is the number of assembler lines executed and clock cycles is the total number of clock-cycles the program was running. For a processor with 512 threads one step would equal 512 clock cycles.

Table 5.2 gives the speedup for the unoptimized and optimized version. The speedup from running the program with configurations with more threads are quite low. But a possible explanation for that could be because as earlier stated that the calculation part of the program is so small compared to the initialization part.

Table 5.2. Parallel speedup for the parallel max/min example.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Configuration</th>
<th>Unoptimized</th>
<th>Optimized</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PRAM-T5-4-512+</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRAM-T5-16-512+</td>
<td>2.67</td>
<td>2.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRAM-T5-64-512+</td>
<td>4.57</td>
<td>4.19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For a graphical comparison between the execution times of the parallel max/min value benchmark see figure 5.1.
Figure 5.1. The parallel max/min value benchmark cycles comparison.
5.2 Parallel array sum

The parallel array sum benchmark is similar to the parallel max/min value benchmark but instead of using the MMINU and MMAXU multi-prefix instructions it uses the MMADD instruction to add every element in an array to a summation variable.

Results

Maybe because of the similarities with the parallel min/max benchmark the gain from optimization is not that visible because of the small size of the calculation part of the program compared to the static part doing initialization. The optimized version is 22.3% faster than the unoptimized version on the 4 processor configuration, 16.5% faster than the unoptimized version on the 16 processor configuration and only 11.4% faster than the unoptimized version on the largest 64 processor configuration.

Table 5.3 contains the executions times for the array sum benchmark. We believe that these results have the same explanation as the parallel max/min value benchmark.

Table 5.3. Running time for the parallel sum benchmark.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Configuration</th>
<th>Unoptimized</th>
<th>Optimized</th>
<th>ILP Speedup</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PRAM-T5-4-512+</td>
<td>383</td>
<td>196096</td>
<td>313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRAM-T5-16-512+</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>79360</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRAM-T5-64-512+</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>50176</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 5.4 contains the speedup for the unoptimized and optimized version of the parallel array sum benchmark depending on configuration. The speedup from adding more threads to the program shows a worse speed increase than the parallel max/min value benchmark, probably because the summation algorithm has only one instruction for each thread in the PRAM-T5-64-512+ configuration.

Table 5.4. Parallel speedup for the parallel sum benchmark.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Configuration</th>
<th>Unoptimized</th>
<th>Optimized</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PRAM-T5-4-512+</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRAM-T5-16-512+</td>
<td>2.47</td>
<td>2.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRAM-T5-64-512+</td>
<td>3.91</td>
<td>3.56</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For a graphical comparison of the execution times for the parallel array sum benchmark see figure 5.2.
5.2 Parallel array sum

Figure 5.2. The parallel sum benchmark cycles comparison.

Figure 5.3. The original image used in the image filter benchmarks.
5.3 Threshold image filter

The threshold image filter benchmark was the first larger program that we tried to implement for REPLICA. This benchmark program needs some modifications to the compiler generated assembler code. We need to add input and output directives manually for the image.

An image file in the ppm image format is read with the “.FILE” directive and the result is written to an output file with the “.SAVE” directive, see figure 5.4 for how the directives are used in the generated assembler. The benchmark program uses the MMADD multi-prefix instruction to quickly calculate the sum of pixel values in the image then each thread divides that with the total number of pixels in the image to find the threshold value.

```
1 .DATA ; @inImage_
2 .ALIGN 1
3 .GLOBAL _inImage_
4 _inImage_:
 5 .FILE im4.ppm
6 .DATA ; @outImage_
7 .ALIGN 1
8 .GLOBAL _outImage_
9 _outImage_:
10 .SAVE 921654 im4.threshold.ppm
11 .SPACE 921654
```

Figure 5.4. Fill memory _inImage with data from a file and write memory content _outImage to file.

Each thread now performs the threshold filter algorithm on its group of pixels and, when the exit trap is triggered, the simulator writes the filtered image to the file in the “.SAVE” directive. Figure 5.3 was used as input and the produced result can be seen in figure 5.6.

Result

The speed increase from optimizing the threshold filter is much better than the earlier benchmark programs. The optimized version is 31.5% faster than the unoptimized version on the 4 processor configuration, 34.5% faster than the unoptimized version on the 16 processor configuration and 40% faster on the 64 processor configuration. The speed up from optimization is better maybe because the program is larger than any of the earlier benchmarks so the initialization part of the program does not become the largest part of the compiled program. The different speed increases for the same program on different configurations is very strange maybe it is something else in the configurations that differentiates them, see section 5.5. Table 5.5 contains the times for the threshold benchmark.

Table 5.6 show us that the speedup for the threshold benchmark is much larger than for the earlier benchmarks. This is probably because the data set that the program works on is also larger so the benefit from adding more processors and threads to the simulation is better.
5.3 Threshold image filter

Table 5.5. Running time for the threshold image filter example.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Configuration</th>
<th>Unoptimized</th>
<th></th>
<th>Optimized</th>
<th></th>
<th>ILP Speedup</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Steps</td>
<td>Cycles</td>
<td>Steps</td>
<td>Cycles</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRAM-T5-4-512+</td>
<td>12382</td>
<td>6340044</td>
<td>9414</td>
<td>4819968</td>
<td>31.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRAM-T5-16-512+</td>
<td>3924</td>
<td>2009597</td>
<td>2917</td>
<td>1494015</td>
<td>34.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRAM-T5-64-512+</td>
<td>1811</td>
<td>927320</td>
<td>1293</td>
<td>662527</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 5.6. Parallel speedup for the threshold image filter benchmark.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Configuration</th>
<th>Unoptimized</th>
<th>Optimized</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRAM-T5-4-512+</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRAM-T5-16-512+</td>
<td>3.15</td>
<td>3.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRAM-T5-64-512+</td>
<td>6.84</td>
<td>7.27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 5.5 shows a graphical representation of the execution times for the unoptimized and optimized versions of the program.

Figure 5.5. The threshold benchmark cycles comparison.
5.4 Blur image filter

The blur image filter must load image data in the same way as the threshold image filter. The blur image filter is the most advanced benchmark program that we built for testing the compiler. The filter works by adding each separate color value from the pixels in a cross around the current pixel and dividing them by the total number of pixels added as in the equation below (an unweighted average), where \( p_f(x, y) \) is a pixel in the filtered image and \( p_o(x, y) \) is a pixel in the original image.

\[
p_f(x_0, y_0) = \frac{\sum_{x=x_0-s}^{x_0+s} p_o(x, y_0) + \sum_{y=y_0-s}^{y_0+s} p_o(x_0, y) - p_o(x_0, y_0)}{T}
\]

Where \( s \) is the blur filter size and \( T \) is the total number of pixels in the cross. Note that the \(-p_o(x_0, y_0)\) is because each pixel should be added only once to the sum. We set the blur filter size to 3 in our benchmark program so that there is some notable difference between the original image and the blurred image. Figure 5.3 was used as input and the produced result can be seen in figure 5.8.

Result

The blur image filter benchmark is the largest program that we have written and thanks to the shared memory on the REPLICA architecture the blur filter really works well with many threads. The speed up between the unoptimized and optimized version is 23.1% for the 4 processor configuration, 23.6% for the 16 processor configuration and 25.4% for the 64 processor configuration. Table 5.7 contains the execution times for the blur benchmark program.

Table 5.8 contains the speedup for the unoptimized and optimized versions of the benchmark and because of the shared memory in the REPLICA architecture we do not lose any time sending data so all threads always have data to work on.
### 5.4 Blur image filter

#### Table 5.7. Running time for the blur image filter benchmark.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Configuration</th>
<th>Unoptimized</th>
<th>Optimized</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Steps</td>
<td>Cycles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRAM-T5-4-512+</td>
<td>120005</td>
<td>61443069</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRAM-T5-16-512+</td>
<td>31194</td>
<td>15971836</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRAM-T5-64-512+</td>
<td>8962</td>
<td>4589052</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Table 5.8. Parallel speedup for the blur image filter benchmark.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Configuration</th>
<th>Unoptimized</th>
<th>Optimized</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PRAM-T5-4-512+</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRAM-T5-16-512+</td>
<td>3.85</td>
<td>3.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRAM-T5-64-512+</td>
<td>13.39</td>
<td>13.63</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 5.7 gives a graphical comparison of the execution times of the blur image filter benchmark.
Figure 5.7. The blur benchmark cycles comparison.

Figure 5.8. The resulting image from the blur benchmark.
5.5 Discussion

It is possible to create fast parallel algorithms for the REPLICA architecture using the REPLICA LLVM back-end. The optimization algorithm gives varying results but for the large benchmark programs the speed-up after optimization is quite good (roughly 10% to 20%) for the smaller benchmark programs and very good (roughly 20% to 40%) for the larger benchmark programs. Note that the programs have some optimization already because LLVM chooses super-instructions when trying to find the best match for internal representation against target machine instructions.

The blur image filter also shows an algorithm that, thanks to the shared memory, becomes very easy to parallelize from the sequential algorithm and the speedup result from parallelization seems very good.

The total number of elements in the datasets for the max/min value and sum benchmarks was chosen to equal the total number of threads for the largest REPLICA configuration (32768). This number should maybe be larger so that the running time of those benchmarks becomes longer and the initialization part of the benchmarks does not become such a large portion of the total execution time.

It is strange that speedup from ILP optimization increases when adding more processors and threads to the configuration because the program is the same independent of configuration (it is the same file with assembler code that is loaded into the simulator). The cause of this is hard to find, it might have something to do with the configurations or the simulator.

Programs using the back-end are currently very primitive because there is no standard C library support for REPLICA yet and there is a very limited amount of REPLICA specific library definitions and code skeletons.

Other sample programs written for the compiler back-end that are not shown here include programs for testing function calls, loop constructs and other functional testing. In conclusion, when writing a parallel program for REPLICA, one should have in mind that:

- The dataset for the algorithm need to be sufficiently large to get a good speed up from optimization.
- The same applies to when adding more threads to a problem.
- Synchronization was done by hand after each loop. The synchronization function was created using inline assembler and multi-prefix instructions.
- Synchronization is needed to guarantee that the result calculated in the loop is finished when threads start to execute sub-instructions outside the loop.
Chapter 6

Conclusion

We have in this project created an LLVM back-end for generating code for the REPLICA architecture, a PRAM-NUMA hybrid architecture with the interesting chaining VLIW feature for instructions. Thanks to LLVM’s TableGen repetitive tasks such as defining available instructions and how these map to LLVM’s internal representation was made simpler.

Early in the project we decided to create so-called super-instructions to find easier mappings between LLVM’s internal representation and REPLICA’s sub-instructions. The downside of this was that we would have to split these super-instructions to make any reordering possible because we could have unused functional units that some later sub-instruction could use with some reordering. Therefor the instruction splitter was added.

With the instruction splitter implemented a dependence DAG needed to be constructed to find the dependencies between sub-instructions that could be used by the later optimization pass to check which instructions were free to schedule. The optimization algorithm is based on Forsell’s virtual ILP algorithm [14] and tries to fill functional units with any free sub-instruction (a sub-instruction is counted as free if it does not depend on any unscheduled sub-instruction).

We also needed to modify Clang so that the compiler front-end knew about the REPLICA architecture and what data layout and register names it had. The register names were used in the inline assembler that was needed for using multi-prefix instructions.

An early problem we had was with stack handling in conjunction with function calls. We needed to adjust the stack pointer in a function so that it had room for function arguments and local variables. The shared stack that REPLICA can have is not implemented due to the difficulty with multiple threads in multiple functions all using the same stack. It was more pressing for the author to generate working code than to implement more specialized features.

The optimization results seem very promising: we gained a speedup ranging between 10% to 40% from simple re-ordering of sub-instructions. Using more invasive optimization algorithms may yield even better results.

The compiler back-end is not complete but it is useable. We will in the next section give some thoughts on possible improvements aside from the usual testing and extending the already implemented features.
Chapter 7

Future work

A compiler back-end is only a part in the tool-chain for creating and compiling programs for a computer. Other parts include front-ends, libraries, linkers and assemblers. They are all needed to create the complete tool-chain while this back-end can be used to compile programs for a specific REPLICA configuration. All parts of the tool-chain are needed for this compiler to actually be useful.

- Add internal representation for multi-prefix instructions in both the Clang front-end and to LLVM so that the multi-prefix instructions can be optimized as any other instruction.
- Improve the current optimization algorithm to find and eliminate unnecessary sub-instructions and build longer chains of sub-instructions.
- Improve the optimization algorithm and add another optimization algorithm that uses e.g. integer linear programming to find the optimal schedule for a given basic block.
- Create build scripts that automatically generate part of the back-end for a specific REPLICA configuration so that we can, for example, compile a new compiler that generates code for a REPLICA configuration with 5 ALUs.
- Implement vararg support in the back-end so that the printf family of C functions can be compiled for the back-end.
- Implement the C standard library for REPLICA and a library with useful functions for parallelization.
- A platform independent simulator for the REPLICA architecture.
Appendix A

Building and using the compiler

This appendix contains a small guide for compiling LLVM and Clang, and using it to compile programs with the REPLICA back-end. These instructions should help you build LLVM with Clang and the REPLICA back-end on Linux based systems.

- First make sure that you have LLVM with the REPLICA back-end and Clang with the basic REPLICA target in `<llvm-replica-src>/tools/clang`.
- Create a separate build directory outside `<llvm-replica-src>` with: `mkdir build`.
- Switch to the new build directory, `cd build` and run cmake with `cmake <llvm-replica-src>`.
- Run `make` and wait for the compiler to compile.
- The compiler and all compiler tools should end up in `build/bin` when the compilation is finished.

Some command line options that are useful when compiling for REPLICA are given below. First the option to tell Clang we are compiling for REPLICA.

- `-ccc-host-triple replica-unknown-unknown`, this will tell Clang to compile the program as if we were running on REPLICA.
- `-nostdinc`, may be useful so that Clang does not try to include standard library from the usual path.

To tell LLVM that we would like to generate assembler for REPLICA we use the following command line options.

- `-march=replica -mcpu=generic`, our target is machine architecture REPLICA and CPU model generic.
- `-enable-replica-ilp`, enables the ILP optimization pass.
- `-disable-replica-instr-splitter`, disables the instruction splitter. The ILP optimization pass only works with sub-instructions so with the instruction splitter off the ILP optimization does not work.
- `-enable-replica-instr-printer`, prints the machine instructions in a more readable structure which is useful when debugging the optimization pass.
#include "replica.h"

int main()
{
    int a = 1;
    int b = 2;
    int c = a + b;

    return c;
}

Figure A.1. Sample program to compile for REPLICA, sample.c.

Because we do not have a linker for REPLICA an LLVM IR linker, llvm-link, is quite useful when compiling programs spread over several files. The program in figure A.1 is compiled with the command in figure A.2.

```bash
clang -S -O0 -emit-llvm -ccc-host-triple replica-unknown-unknown \ sample.c
```

Figure A.2. Use clang to convert our C program to LLVM IR.

The command in figure A.2 will produce a file sample.s containing the program from figure A.1 translated to LLVM IR. We use the commands in figure A.3 to compile this into LLVM bit-code, line 1, and link with other files, line 2, if needed.

```bash
llvm-as sample.s
llvm-link -o program.s.bc sample.s.bc other_file.s.bc
```

Figure A.3. Use llvm-as and llvm-link to convert our LLVM IR to LLVM bit-code and to link several bit-code files into one large bit-code file.

And finally, in figure A.4, we compile the bit-code file with our program to assembler that can be run in IPSMSimX86.

```bash
llc -march=replica -mcpu=generic -asm-verbose \ -enable-replica-ilp program.s.bc
```

Figure A.4. Use llc to compile our program bit-code file to MBTAC assembler.

Now our compiled program is in the file program.s.s.
Appendix B

Assembler Language

This appendix contain a list of assembler sub-instructions for the first version of the REPLICA architecture. These sub-instruction descriptions were taken from Martti Forsells “Baseline language, assembler and architecture” [24].

The sub-instructions are grouped according to which functional unit they belong to.

B.1 Memory unit sub-instructions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instruction</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LDBn Xx</td>
<td>Load byte from memory n address Xx in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LDBUn Xx</td>
<td>Load byte from memory n address Xx unsigned in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LDHn Xx</td>
<td>Load halfword from memory n address Xx in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LDHU n Xx</td>
<td>Load halfword from memory n address Xx unsigned in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LDn Xx</td>
<td>Load word from memory n address Xx unsigned in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STBn Xx,Xy</td>
<td>Store byte Xx to memory n address Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STHn Xx,Xy</td>
<td>Store halfword Xx to memory n address Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STn Xx,Xy</td>
<td>Store word Xx to memory n address Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Assembler Language

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instruction</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>MADDn Xx,Xy</code></td>
<td>Add multiple Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>MSUBn Xx,Xy</code></td>
<td>Subtract multiple Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>MANDn Xx,Xy</code></td>
<td>And multiple Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>MORn Xx,Xy</code></td>
<td>Or multiple Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>MMAxn Xx,Xy</code></td>
<td>Max multiple Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>MMAXUn Xx,Xy</code></td>
<td>Max unsigned multiple Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>MMInn Xx,Xy</code></td>
<td>Min multiple Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>MMINU n Xx,Xy</code></td>
<td>Min unsigned multiple Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instruction</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>MPADDn Xx,Xy</code></td>
<td>Arbitrary multiprefix add Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>MPSUBn Xx,Xy</code></td>
<td>Arbitrary multiprefix subtract Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>MPANDn Xx,Xy</code></td>
<td>Arbitrary multiprefix and Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>MPORn Xx,Xy</code></td>
<td>Arbitrary multiprefix or Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>MPMAXn Xx,Xy</code></td>
<td>Arbitrary multiprefix max Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>MPMAXUn Xx,Xy</code></td>
<td>Arbitrary multiprefix max unsigned Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>MPMINn Xx,Xy</code></td>
<td>Arbitrary multiprefix min Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>MPMINUn Xx,Xy</code></td>
<td>Arbitrary multiprefix min multiple Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instruction</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>BMADDn Xx,Xy</code></td>
<td>Begin add multiple Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>BMSUBn Xx,Xy</code></td>
<td>Begin subtract multiple Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>BMANDn Xx,Xy</code></td>
<td>Begin and multiple Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>BMORn Xx,Xy</code></td>
<td>Begin or multiple Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>BMMAXn Xx,Xy</code></td>
<td>Begin max multiple Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>BMMAXUn Xx,Xy</code></td>
<td>Begin max unsigned multiple Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>BMMINn Xx,Xy</code></td>
<td>Begin min multiple Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>BMMINU n Xx,Xy</code></td>
<td>Begin min unsigned multiple Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### B.1 Memory unit sub-instructions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instruction</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EMADDn</td>
<td>End add multiple Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMSUBn</td>
<td>End subtract multiple Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMANDn</td>
<td>End and multiple Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMORn</td>
<td>End or multiple Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMMAXn</td>
<td>End max multiple Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMMAXUn</td>
<td>End max unsigned multiple Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMMINn</td>
<td>End min multiple Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMMINU n</td>
<td>End min unsigned multiple Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMPADDn</td>
<td>Begin arbitrary multiprefix add Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMPSUBn</td>
<td>Begin arbitrary multiprefix subtract Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMPANDn</td>
<td>Begin arbitrary multiprefix and Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMPORn</td>
<td>Begin arbitrary multiprefix or Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMPMAXn</td>
<td>Begin arbitrary multiprefix max Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMPMAXUn</td>
<td>Begin arbitrary multiprefix max unsigned Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMPMINn</td>
<td>Begin arbitrary multiprefix min Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMPMINUn</td>
<td>Begin arbitrary multiprefix min multiple Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instruction</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMPADD&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt; X&lt;sub&gt;x&lt;/sub&gt;,X&lt;sub&gt;y&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
<td>End arbitrary multiprefix add X&lt;sub&gt;x&lt;/sub&gt; to active memory X&lt;sub&gt;y&lt;/sub&gt; in MU&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMPSUB&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt; X&lt;sub&gt;x&lt;/sub&gt;,X&lt;sub&gt;y&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
<td>End arbitrary multiprefix subtract X&lt;sub&gt;x&lt;/sub&gt; to active memory X&lt;sub&gt;y&lt;/sub&gt; in MU&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMPAND&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt; X&lt;sub&gt;x&lt;/sub&gt;,X&lt;sub&gt;y&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
<td>End arbitrary multiprefix and X&lt;sub&gt;x&lt;/sub&gt; to active memory X&lt;sub&gt;y&lt;/sub&gt; in MU&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMPOR&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt; X&lt;sub&gt;x&lt;/sub&gt;,X&lt;sub&gt;y&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
<td>End arbitrary multiprefix or X&lt;sub&gt;x&lt;/sub&gt; to active memory X&lt;sub&gt;y&lt;/sub&gt; in MU&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMPMAX&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt; X&lt;sub&gt;x&lt;/sub&gt;,X&lt;sub&gt;y&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
<td>End arbitrary multiprefix max X&lt;sub&gt;x&lt;/sub&gt; to active memory X&lt;sub&gt;y&lt;/sub&gt; in MU&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMPMAXU&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt; X&lt;sub&gt;x&lt;/sub&gt;,X&lt;sub&gt;y&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
<td>End arbitrary multiprefix max unsigned X&lt;sub&gt;x&lt;/sub&gt; to active memory X&lt;sub&gt;y&lt;/sub&gt; in MU&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMPMIN&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt; X&lt;sub&gt;x&lt;/sub&gt;,X&lt;sub&gt;y&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
<td>End arbitrary multiprefix min X&lt;sub&gt;x&lt;/sub&gt; to active memory X&lt;sub&gt;y&lt;/sub&gt; in MU&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMPMINU&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt; X&lt;sub&gt;x&lt;/sub&gt;,X&lt;sub&gt;y&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
<td>End arbitrary multiprefix min multiple X&lt;sub&gt;x&lt;/sub&gt; to active memory X&lt;sub&gt;y&lt;/sub&gt; in MU&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OMPADD&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt; X&lt;sub&gt;x&lt;/sub&gt;,X&lt;sub&gt;y&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
<td>End ordered multiprefix add X&lt;sub&gt;x&lt;/sub&gt; to active memory X&lt;sub&gt;y&lt;/sub&gt; in MU&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OMPSUB&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt; X&lt;sub&gt;x&lt;/sub&gt;,X&lt;sub&gt;y&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
<td>End ordered multiprefix subtract X&lt;sub&gt;x&lt;/sub&gt; to active memory X&lt;sub&gt;y&lt;/sub&gt; in MU&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OMPAND&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt; X&lt;sub&gt;x&lt;/sub&gt;,X&lt;sub&gt;y&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
<td>End ordered multiprefix and X&lt;sub&gt;x&lt;/sub&gt; to active memory X&lt;sub&gt;y&lt;/sub&gt; in MU&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
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<td>OMPOR&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt; X&lt;sub&gt;x&lt;/sub&gt;,X&lt;sub&gt;y&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
<td>End ordered multiprefix or X&lt;sub&gt;x&lt;/sub&gt; to active memory X&lt;sub&gt;y&lt;/sub&gt; in MU&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OMPMAX&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt; X&lt;sub&gt;x&lt;/sub&gt;,X&lt;sub&gt;y&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
<td>End ordered multiprefix max X&lt;sub&gt;x&lt;/sub&gt; to active memory X&lt;sub&gt;y&lt;/sub&gt; in MU&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OMPMAXU&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt; X&lt;sub&gt;x&lt;/sub&gt;,X&lt;sub&gt;y&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
<td>End ordered multiprefix max unsigned X&lt;sub&gt;x&lt;/sub&gt; to active memory X&lt;sub&gt;y&lt;/sub&gt; in MU&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OMPMIN&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt; X&lt;sub&gt;x&lt;/sub&gt;,X&lt;sub&gt;y&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
<td>End ordered multiprefix min X&lt;sub&gt;x&lt;/sub&gt; to active memory X&lt;sub&gt;y&lt;/sub&gt; in MU&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OMPMINU&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt; X&lt;sub&gt;x&lt;/sub&gt;,X&lt;sub&gt;y&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
<td>End ordered multiprefix min multiple X&lt;sub&gt;x&lt;/sub&gt; to active memory X&lt;sub&gt;y&lt;/sub&gt; in MU&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
B.2 Write back subinstructions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instruction</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SMPADDn</td>
<td>Send multiprefix add Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMPSUBn</td>
<td>Send multiprefix subtract Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMPANDn</td>
<td>Send multiprefix and Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMPORn</td>
<td>Send multiprefix or Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMPMAXn</td>
<td>Send multiprefix max Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMPMAXUn</td>
<td>Send multiprefix max unsigned Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMPMINn</td>
<td>Send multiprefix min Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMPMINUn</td>
<td>Send multiprefix min multiple Xx to active memory Xy in MU n</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B.2 Write back subinstructions

WBn Xx  Write Xx to register Rn

B.3 ALU subinstructions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instruction</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADDn Xx,Xy</td>
<td>Add Xx to Xy in ALU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUBn Xx,Xy</td>
<td>Subtract Xx from Xy in ALU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MULn Xx,Xy</td>
<td>Multiply Xx by Xy in ALU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MULUn Xx,Xy</td>
<td>Multiply Xx by Xy in ALU n unsigned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIVn Xx,Xy</td>
<td>Divide Xx by Xy in ALU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIVUn Xx,Xy</td>
<td>Divide Xx by Xy in ALU n unsigned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MODn Xx,Xy</td>
<td>Determine Xx modulo Xy in ALU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MODUn Xx,Xy</td>
<td>Determine Xx modulo Xy in ALU n unsigned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOGDn Xx</td>
<td>Determine rounddown($\log_2(Xx)$) in ALU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOGUn Xx</td>
<td>Determine roundup($\log_2(Xx)$) in ALU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opcode</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SELn</td>
<td>Select Xx or Xy according to the result of the last compare operation (Xx if res=1, Xy if res=0)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAXUn</td>
<td>Determine maximum of Xx and Xy in ALU n unsigned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAXn</td>
<td>Determine maximum of Xx and Xy in ALU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MINUn</td>
<td>Determine minimum of Xx and Xy in ALU n unsigned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MINn</td>
<td>Determine minimum of Xx and Xy in ALU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHRn</td>
<td>Shift right Xx by Xy in ALU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHLn</td>
<td>Shift left Xx by Xy in ALU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHRA n</td>
<td>Shift right Xx by Xy in ALU n arithmetic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RORn</td>
<td>Rotate right Xx by Xy in ALU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROLn</td>
<td>Rotate left Xx by Xy in ALU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANDn</td>
<td>And of Xx and Xy in ALU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ORn</td>
<td>Or of Xx and Xy in ALU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XORn</td>
<td>Exclusive or of Xx and Xy in ALU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANDNn</td>
<td>And not of Xx and Xy in ALU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ORNn</td>
<td>Or not of Xx and Xy in ALU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XNORn</td>
<td>Exclusive nor of Xx and Xy in ALU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSYNCn</td>
<td>Set up barrier synchronization group Xx in ALU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEQn</td>
<td>Set result -1 if Xx = Xy else result 0 in ALU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SNEn</td>
<td>Set result -1 if Xx ≠ Xy else result 0 in ALU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLTn</td>
<td>Set result -1 if Xx &lt; Xy else result 0 in ALU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLEUn</td>
<td>Set result -1 if Xx ≤ Xy unsigned else result 0 in ALU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SGTn</td>
<td>Set result -1 if Xx &gt; Xy else result 0 in ALU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SGEUn</td>
<td>Set result -1 if Xx ≥ Xy unsigned else result 0 in ALU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLTU n</td>
<td>Set result -1 if Xx &lt; Xy unsigned else result 0 in ALU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLEUn</td>
<td>Set result -1 if Xx ≤ Xy unsigned else result 0 in ALU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SGTU n</td>
<td>Set result -1 if Xx &gt; Xy unsigned else result 0 in ALU n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SGEU n</td>
<td>Set result -1 if Xx ≥ Xy unsigned else result 0 in ALU n</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### B.4 Immediate operand input subinstructions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OP&lt;sub&gt;n&lt;/sub&gt;</th>
<th>d</th>
<th>Input value d into operand n</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### B.5 Compare unit subinstructions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instruction</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SEQ Xx, Xy</td>
<td>Set IC if Xx = Xy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SNE Xx, Xy</td>
<td>Set IC if Xx (\neq) Xy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLT Xx, Xy</td>
<td>Set IC if Xx &lt; Xy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLE Xx, Xy</td>
<td>Set IC if Xx (\leq) Xy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SGT Xx, Xy</td>
<td>Set IC if Xx &gt; Xy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SGE Xx, Xy</td>
<td>Set IC if Xx (\geq) Xy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLTU Xx, Xy</td>
<td>Set IC if Xx &lt; Xy unsigned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLEU Xx, Xy</td>
<td>Set IC if Xx (\leq) Xy unsigned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SG TU Xx, Xy</td>
<td>Set IC if Xx &gt; Xy unsigned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SGEU Xx, Xy</td>
<td>Set IC if Xx (\geq) Xy unsigned</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### B.6 Sequencer subinstructions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instruction</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BEQZ Ox</td>
<td>Branch to Ox if IC equals zero</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BNEZ Ox</td>
<td>Branch to Ox if IC not equals zero</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JMP Xx</td>
<td>Jump to Xx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JMPL Xx</td>
<td>Jump and link PC+1 to register RA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRAP Xx</td>
<td>Trap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOIN Xx</td>
<td>Join all threads to a NUMA bunch Xx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPLIT Xx</td>
<td>Split all the current NUMA bunches back to PRAM mode threads</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix C

Benchmark code

C.1 Makefile

This is the makefile we used to compile the benchmark programs.

```bash
CC=build/bin/clang
LLC=build/bin/llc
LD=build/bin/llvm-link
LA=build/bin/llvm-as
CFLAGS=--sysroot=/include/ -S -O0 -emit-llvm -cc-host-triple replica -unknown -unknown -nostdlib -nodefaultlib -nostdinc
LLCFLAGS=--march=replica -mcpu=generic -stats -asm-verbose -enable-replica-ilp

SOURCES=prog.c
LLVMIR=$(SOURCES:. c=.s)
BITCODE=$(LLVMIR:. s=.s .bc)
LINKIR=prog.s.bc

all:
	$(CC) $(CFLAGS) $(SOURCES)
	for i in $(LLVMIR); do \
		$(LA) $$i; \
	done
	$(LD) -o $(LINKIR) $(BITCODE)
	$(LLC) $(LLCFLAGS) $(LINKIR)
```
C.2 Initialization function

This is the hardcoded assembler function used to initialize the simulator. The function was written by Martti Forsell.

```assembly
.PROC _ProgramStart
.TEXT
.ALIGN 2
.GLOBAL _ProgramStart

_PROGRAMSTART

OP0 MEMSTART WB1 O0
OP0 MEMSIZE WB2 O0
ADD0 R1,R2 WB3 A0
OP0 1 SHR0 R3,0 O0 WB3 A0
OP0 __alignmentMask_LF1 ADD0 O0,R32 WB4 A0
LD0 R4 WB4 M0
AND0 R3,R4 WB3 A0
OP0 __shared_space_start ADD0 O0,R32 WB5 A0
ST0 R1,R5
OP0 HEAPEND WB5 O0
OP0 __shared_heap ADD0 O0,R32 WB6 A0
ST0 R5,R6
WB1 R3
OP0 4 SUB0 R3,O0 WB3 A0
OP0 __shared_space_end ADD0 O0,R32 WB5 A0
ST0 R3,R5
OP0 4 SUB0 R3,O0 WB3 A0
OP0 __shared_stack ADD0 O0,R32 WB6 A0
ST0 R3,R6
WB17 R3
OP0 THREAD WB7 O0
OP0 __absolute_thread_id ADDO O0,R32 WB8 A0
ST0 R30,R8
OP0 __thread_id ADD0 O0,R32 WB8 A0
ST0 R30,R8
WB9 R30
SUB0 R2,R1 WB3 A0
DIVU0 R3,R7 WB3 A0
AND0 R3,R4 WB3 A0
```
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instruction</th>
<th>Register</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Flags</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MUL0 R3,R9 WB10 A0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADD0 R10,R1 WB10 A0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADD0 R10,R3 WB11 A0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OP0 4 SUB0 R11,O0 WB11 A0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OP0 __private_space_start ADD0 O0,R32 WB12 A0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ST0 R10,R12</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OP0 __private_space_end ADD0 O0,R32 WB13 A0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ST0 R11,R13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WB30 R11</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OP0 8 SUB0 R30,O0 WB29 A0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OP0 __absolute_number_of_threads ADD0 O0,R32 WB14 A0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ST0 R7,R14</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OP0 __number_of_threads ADD0 O0,R32 WB15 A0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ST0 R7,R15</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OP0 __group_id ADD0 O0,R32 WB16 A0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ST0 R17,R16</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ST0 R7,R17</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OP0 _<em>group_table</em> WB18 O0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ST0 R7,R18</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OP0 __main JMPL O0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

```
.CODE

MEMSTART:

MEMSIZE:

THREAD:

HEAPEND:
```

```
.DAT

.GLOBAL MEMSTART

.GLOBAL MEMSIZE

.GLOBAL THREAD

.GLOBAL HEAPEND
```
C.3 pmaxmin

The parallel max/min value program uses REPLICA multi-prefix instructions to speed up the execution.

```c
#include "replica.h"
#include "types.h"
#include "sync.h"

#define SIZE 32768

uint32 _array_[SIZE];
uint32 _max_ = 0;
uint32 _min_ = 32768;

int main()
{
    uint32 i;
    for (i = _thread_id; i < SIZE; i += _number_of_threads)
    {
        asm("MMAXU0␣%0,%1" :
            "r"(_array_[i]) , "r"(&_max_)
            : );
        asm("MMINU0␣%0,%1" :
            "r"(_array_[i]) , "r"(&_min_)
            : );
    }
    _synchronize;
    _exit;
    return 0;
}
```
C.4  psum

The parallel sum program uses multi-prefix instructions to speed up adding all elements of the array to a summation variable.

```
#include "replica.h"
#include "types.h"
#include "sync.h"

#define SIZE 32768

uint32 _array_[SIZE];
uint32 _sum_;

int main()
{
    uint32 i;

    for (i = _thread_id; i < SIZE; i += _number_of_threads)
    {
        asm("MADD0,%0,%1" :
            "r"(_array_[i]) , "r"(&_sum_)
        :
            "r"(_array_[i]) , "r"(&_sum_)
        :);

    _synchronize;

    _exit;
    return 0;
}
```
C.5 threshold

The threshold benchmark is hard coded for the image used in the benchmark: the size of the image and image metadata has been calculated before outside of the program.

```c
#include "replica.h"
#include "sync.h"
#define SIZE 307200

struct pixel
{
  unsigned char r, g, b;
};

struct image
{
  char meta[54];
  struct pixel data[SIZE];
};

struct image inImage_;
struct image outImage_;
unsigned int sum_ = 0;
unsigned int sum = 0;

int main()
{
  unsigned int i;
  unsigned int psum = 0;

  if (_thread_id == 0)
  {
    for (i = 0; i < 54; i++)
    {
      outImage_.meta[i] = inImage_.meta[i];
    }
  }
  _synchronize;

  for (i = _thread_id; i < SIZE; i += _number_of_threads)
  {
    sum = inImage_.data[i].r + inImage_.data[i].g
         + inImage_.data[i].b;
    asm("MADD0␣%0,%1" : : "r"(sum) , "r"(&sum_));
  }
  _synchronize;
  sum = sum_ / SIZE;

  for (i = _thread_id; i < SIZE; i += _number_of_threads)
  {
    psum = inImage_.data[i].r + inImage_.data[i].g
           + inImage_.data[i].b;
  }
```
if (sum > psum)
{
    outImage__.data[i].r = outImage__.data[i].g
    = outImage__.data[i].b = 0;
}
else
{
    outImage__.data[i].r = outImage__.data[i].g
    = outImage__.data[i].b = 255;
}
__synchronize;
__exit;
return 0;
C.6 blur

We also precalculated the image size and metadata size, as in the previous program for the blur program.

```c
#include "replica.h"
#include "sync.h"

#define XSIZE 640
#define YSIZE 480
#define SIZE 307200

struct pixel
{
    unsigned char r, g, b;
};

struct image
{
    char meta[54];
    struct pixel data[SIZE];
};

struct image inImage_;
struct image outImage_;
unsigned int blur_size = 3;

void blur(const unsigned int i)
{
    int j;
    int x = i % XSIZE;
    int y = i / XSIZE;
    int xt;
    int yt;
    unsigned int r = 0;
    unsigned int g = 0;
    unsigned int b = 0;

    r += inImage_.data[i].r;
    g += inImage_.data[i].g;
    b += inImage_.data[i].b;

    for (j = 1; j <= blur_size; j++)
    {
        xt = x - j;
        yt = y;
        if (xt >= 0 && xt < XSIZE)
        {
            r += inImage_.data[xt + yt*XSIZ].r;
            g += inImage_.data[xt + yt*XSIZ].g;
            b += inImage_.data[xt + yt*XSIZ].b;
        }
        xt = x + j;
    }
```
```c
if (xt >= 0 && xt < XSIZE)
{
    r += inImage_.data[xt + yt*XSIZE].r;
    g += inImage_.data[xt + yt*XSIZE].g;
    b += inImage_.data[xt + yt*XSIZE].b;
}
xt = x;
yt = y - j;
if (yt >= 0 && yt < YSIZE)
{
    r += inImage_.data[xt + yt*XSIZE].r;
    g += inImage_.data[xt + yt*XSIZE].g;
    b += inImage_.data[xt + yt*XSIZE].b;
}
yt = y + j;
if (yt >= 0 && yt < YSIZE)
{
    r += inImage_.data[xt + yt*XSIZE].r;
    g += inImage_.data[xt + yt*XSIZE].g;
    b += inImage_.data[xt + yt*XSIZE].b;
}
}

j = 4*blur_size + 1;
outImage_.data[i].r = r / j;
outImage_.data[i].g = g / j;
outImage_.data[i].b = b / j;
}

int main()
{
    unsigned int i;
    unsigned int psum = 0;
    if (_thread_id == 0)
    {
        for (i = 0; i < 54; i++)
        {
            outImage_.meta[i] = inImage_.meta[i];
        }
    }
    _synchronize;
    for (i = _thread_id; i < SIZE; i += _number_of_threads)
    {
        blur(i);
    }
    _synchronize;
    _exit;
    return 0;
}
```
Bibliography


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