

M8 - 460SX / 460GTx implementation

This course covers AMCC 460SX and 460GTx Power processors

Objectives

- The course explains how to design a 440GTX board.
- DDR2 SDRAM operation is described in order to understand both the electrical interface and the memory controller initialization.
- Note that this course contains only an overview of the IBM Microelectronics PPC464 PowerPC core.
- The architecture of the 440GTX, based on CoreConnect, is explained in order to understand how to tune the performance of the internal crossbar.
- The Gigabit Ethernet controller is viewed in detail.
- The training explains how to optimize the data paths that interconnect PPC core, PCIe bridge and memory interface.
- The course also details the operation of the cryptographic engine.

Labs are compiled with Diab Data compiler and run under Lauterbach debugger.

A more detailed course description is available on request at formation@ac6-formation.com

Prerequisites

- Experience of a 32 bit processor or DSP is mandatory.
- Knowledge of PCI Express is recommended, see our course reference [IC4 - PCI Express 3.0course](#) .

Course Environment

- Theoretical course
 - PDF course material (in English) supplemented by a printed version for face-to-face courses.
 - Online courses are dispensed using the Teams video-conferencing system.
 - The trainer answers trainees' questions during the training and provide technical and pedagogical assistance.
- At the start of each session the trainer will interact with the trainees to ensure the course fits their expectations and correct if needed

Target Audience

- Any embedded systems engineer or technician with the above prerequisites.

Evaluation modalities

- The prerequisites indicated above are assessed before the training by the technical supervision of the trainee in his company, or by the trainee himself in the exceptional case of an individual trainee.
- Trainee progress is assessed by quizzes offered at the end of various sections to verify that the trainees have assimilated the points presented
- At the end of the training, each trainee receives a certificate attesting that they have successfully completed the course.
 - In the event of a problem, discovered during the course, due to a lack of prerequisites by the trainee a different or additional training is offered to them, generally to reinforce their prerequisites, in agreement with their company manager if applicable.

Plan

INTRODUCTION TO 460GTx

SOC ARCHITECTURE

- Internal bus organization: dual PLB, OPB, DCR
- 2-way 12 master crossbar
- Internal concurrent transfers examples
- Hardware implementation: pinout, GPIOs configuration
- 440GTx mapping
- Programming model

CORECONNECT

- Primary PLB segment, Low Latency slaves and High Bandwidth slaves
- Secondary PLB segment
- PLB Master and Slave Assignments
- Bus errors recovery from syndrome registers
- Target Directed Completion

PPC464 CORE

THE CORE ARCHITECTURE

- 7-stage pipeline operation
- Speculative execution, guarded memory
- Serialization
- Cache basics
- Data flow between external memory and caches
- Process vs thread
- Memory Management Unit
- Translation Lookaside Buffer initialization
- Speculative loads, msync and mbar instructions

BOOK E COMPLIANT CORE

- Branch instructions
- Addressing modes, load & store instructions
- Integer instructions
- 16-bit mac instructions to develop DSP algorithms
- Exception management
- Core timers
- PowerPC EABI
- Real time trace

THE FLOATING POINT UNIT

- IEEE754 basics, floating points numbers encoding
- The 440GTx FPU features, compatibility with the IEEE754 standard
- Support for single and double precision
- Floating point load / store instructions
- Performance of multiply-accumulate instructions
- Management of denormalized numbers
- FPU exceptions

ON-CHIP SRAM / L2 CACHE

- Write-through look-aside cache
- Understanding the data / instruction path between memory, L2 cache and L1 instruction and data caches
- Hardware cache coherency
- Configuration as SRAM to accelerate the processing of incoming Ethernet packets
- Dedicated on-chip SRAM

SOC PLATFORM

CLOCKS, RESET AND POWER MANAGEMENT

- Clocks synthesizer, PLL multipliers definition during SysReset, IIC bootstrap controller clocking
- PCIe clocking
- Low power modes
- Reset signals, reset types, processor state according to the reset type
- Initialization software requirements
- IIC bootstrap controller

INTERRUPT CONTROLLER & GENERAL PURPOSE TIMERS

- Interrupt source enumeration
- Interrupt masking and acknowledgement explanation, UICx_ER and UICx_SR registers
- Critical interrupt handlers using vectorization
- Interrupts priority
- General Purpose Timers

THE DDR-SDRAM CONTROLLER

- Memory subsystem, Memory Queue Module (MQ)
- Three parallel paths from PLB to memory
- DDR2-SDRAM operation
- Differences between DDR1 and DDR2, On-Die Terminations
- Jedec specification
- Hardware interface, SSTL-2 termination logic
- Bank activation, read, write and precharge timing diagrams
- ECC error correction
- Introduction to the 440GTX DDR-SDRAM controller
- Initial configuration following Power-on-Reset
- Look-ahead request queue
- Page mode
- Initialization routine

THE EXTERNAL BUS CONTROLLER

- The bridge between external bus and PLB
- Address decoding in bank registers to control the chip-select signals
- Timing parameters initialization for either bursting or non bursting devices
- Boot ROM size definition
- Device-paced transfers
- Special cycle, error reporting
- The NAND Flash controller
- Boot from NAND

THE PCI EXPRESS BRIDGES

- Bridge features, 8-lane or two 4-lane port
- Configuration as Root Complex or EndPoint

- Inbound transactions handling, Outbound transactions handling
- Setting translations between local memory space and PCI MEM space
- Interrupt management (legacy INT, MSI, MSI-X)
- Advanced error reporting
- Boot modes, initialization / Reset sequence
- Synchronizing CPUs through I2O controller, messages and doorbells

THE 4 DMA CHANNELS

- The buffered transfer mode
- Burst mode support
- Related signals, *DMMAck signal timing programming
- Channels bus priority
- Data packing / unpacking
- Buffers chaining through the scatter / gather mode, descriptors table initialization

THE SECURITY MODULE

- Introduction to encryption
- On-chip Ipsec / SSL Security acceleration engine
- Encryption DES, 3-DES, AES, ARC-4
- Storage encryption engine

ENHANCED DMA CONTROLLER

- Description of the 3 channels
- RAID acceleration on DMA channels 0 and 1 (460SX only)
- Encryption support on DMA 0
- Command descriptor block structure

INPUTS / OUTPUTS

THE GIGABIT ETHERNET CONTROLLERS

- 802.3 specification fundamentals: the 3 layers PHY, MAC and control
- Frame format with and without VLAN option
- 440GTX Ethernet controller organization: EMAC and MAL modules, reasons of their independence
- PHY interface: GMII, RGMII interfaces
- Frame filtering: unicast, multicast, broadcast and promiscuous
- Hash table utilization in switch applications
- Buffer descriptors mechanism, wrapping
- Errors management
- Two ports support TCP/IP acceleration, checksum processing
- Interrupt coalesces support
- IEEE1588 timestamp and clock synchronization support

THE UARTS

- NS16570-like UART description
- Transmission and reception FIFOs usage
- Flow control signals management
- Moving transmit / received data with DMA

THE IIC PORTS

- IIC protocol fundamentals: addressing, multimaster operation
- Transmission and reception sequence
- Port 0 supports serial Bootstrap ROM with default override parameters at initialization

Renseignements pratiques

Duration : 5 days

Cost : 2100 € HT