80C51 ARCHITECTURE

MEMORY ORGANIZATION

All 80C51 devices have separate address spaces for program and data memory, as shown in Figures 1 and 2. The logical separation of program and data memory allows the data memory to be accessed by 8-bit addresses, which can be quickly stored and manipulated by an 8-bit CPU. Nevertheless, 16-bit data memory addresses can also be generated through the DPTR register.

Program memory (ROM, EPROM) can only be read, not written to. There can be up to 64k bytes of program memory. In the 80C51, the lowest 4k bytes of program are on-chip. In the ROMless versions, all program memory is external. The read strobe for external program memory is the PSEN (program store enable).

Data Memory (RAM) occupies a separate address space from Program Memory. In the 80C51, the lowest 128 bytes of data memory are on-chip. Up to 64k bytes of external RAM can be addressed in the external Data Memory space. In the ROMless version, the lowest 128 bytes are on-chip. The CPU generates read and write signals, RD and WR, as needed during external Data Memory accesses.

External Program Memory and external Data Memory may be combined if desired by applying the RD and PSEN signals to the inputs of an AND gate and using the output of the gate as the read strobe to the external Program/Data memory.

Program Memory

Figure 3 shows a map of the lower part of the Program Memory. After reset, the CPU begins execution from location 0000H. As shown in Figure 3, each interrupt is assigned a fixed location in Program Memory. The interrupt causes the CPU to jump to that location, where it commences execution of the service routine. External Interrupt 0, for example, is assigned to location 0003H. If External Interrupt 0 is going to be used, its service routine must begin at location 0003H. If the interrupt is not going to be used, its service location is available as general purpose Program Memory.

The interrupt service locations are spaced at 8-byte intervals: 0003H for External Interrupt 0, 000BH for Timer 0, 0013H for External Interrupt 1, 001BH for Timer 1, etc. If an interrupt service routine is short enough (as is often the case in control applications), it can reside entirely within that 8-byte interval. Longer service routines can use a jump instruction to skip over subsequent interrupt locations, if other interrupts are in use.

The lowest 4k bytes of Program Memory can either be in the on-chip ROM or in an external ROM. This selection is made by strapping the EA (External Access) pin to either VCC, or VSS. In the 80C51, if the EA pin is strapped to VCC, then the program fetches to addresses 0000H through 0FFFH are directed to the internal ROM. Program fetches to addresses 1000H through FFFFH are directed to external ROM.

If the EA pin is strapped to VSS, then all program fetches are directed to external ROM. The ROMless parts (8031, 80C31, etc.) must have this pin externally strapped to VSS to enable them to execute from external Program Memory.

The read strobe to external ROM, PSEN, is used for all external program fetches. PSEN is not activated for internal program fetches.

The hardware configuration for external program execution is shown in Figure 4. Note that 16 I/O lines (Ports 0 and 2) are dedicated to bus functions during external Program Memory fetches. Port 0 (P0 in Figure 4) serves as a multiplexed address/data bus. It emits the low byte of the Program Counter (PCL) as an address, and then goes into a float state awaiting the arrival of the code byte from the Program Memory. During the time that the low byte of the Program Counter is valid on Port 0, the signal ALE (Address Latch Enable) clocks this byte into an address latch. Meanwhile, Port 2 (P2 in Figure 4) emits the high byte of the Program Counter (PCH). Then PSEN strobes the EPROM and the code byte is read into the microcontroller.

Program Memory addresses are always 16 bits wide, even though the actual amount of Program Memory used may be less than 64k bytes. External program execution sacrifices two of the 8-bit ports, P0 and P2, to the function of addressing the Program Memory.

Figure 1   80C51 Block Diagram

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