

6.111 Project Checklist - NES Emulation (Team 19)

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Commitment:

Both main modules (PPU and CPU) functioning separately and with methods to demonstrate said functionality by showing instructions are implemented either on the screen or on a test bench.

- PPU outputting background: single background scene rendered from preloaded VRAM. No scrolling. (VGA output)
- PPU outputting sprites: single moving sprite rendered from preloaded VRAM (VGA output)
- CPU running simple test program with no interrupt functionality. Values of registers displayed on the hex display. Program can be manually stepped through with a button (simulate clock input).

Goal:

- Sufficient Interface between PPU and CPU for soundless 1st generation game functionality (no mappers, no scrolling, probably Donkey Kong or Galaga)
 - Having full control of player sprite using FPGA buttons as controller input
 - Game background fully loaded and updating correctly
 - Non-player sprites moving how they should be
- Correct interrupt behavior on VBLANK
 - Test program that increments the accumulator (shown on the hex display) every time a VBLANK interrupt occurs. Should count at about 60 increments/second

Stretch Goals:

We would consider this an exceptional project if we can implement any of the following stretch goals, possibly multiple if we have the time.

- Running a complex game (Super Mario Bros for example) on our system
 - Having a game with scrolling backgrounds
- Being able to play with a fully functional NES controller
- Scaled video out
 - Larger than 240x256 game screen (x2?)
- APU integration into CPU
 - Hearing the correct sound effect and background music for each action