

# ***Synthesis and Simulation Design Guide***



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# About This Manual

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This manual provides a general overview of designing Field Programmable Gate Arrays (FPGAs) with Hardware Description Languages (HDLs). It includes design hints for the novice HDL user, as well as for the experienced user who is designing FPGAs for the first time.

The design examples in this manual were created with Verilog and VHSIC Hardware Description Language (VHDL); compiled with various synthesis tools; and targeted for XC4000, Spartan, Spartan-II, Spartan-XL, Virtex, Virtex-E, Virtex-II, Virtex-II Pro, and XC5200 devices. Xilinx equally endorses both Verilog and VHDL. VHDL may be more difficult to learn than Verilog and usually requires more explanation.

The design examples in this manual were created with Verilog and VHSIC Hardware Description Language (VHDL); compiled with various synthesis tools; and targeted for Spartan-II, Virtex, Virtex-E, Virtex-II, Virtex-II Pro, and XC5200 devices. Xilinx equally endorses both Verilog and VHDL. VHDL may be more difficult to learn than Verilog and usually requires more explanation.

This manual does not address certain topics that are important when creating HDL designs, such as the design environment; verification techniques; constraining in the synthesis tool; test considerations; and system verification. Refer to your synthesis tool's reference manuals and design methodology notes for additional information.

Before using this manual, you should be familiar with the operations that are common to all Xilinx software tools.

## Manual Contents

This book contains the following chapters.

- Chapter 1, “[Introduction](#),” provides a general overview of designing Field Programmable Gate Arrays (FPGAs) with HDLs. This chapter also includes installation requirements and instructions.
- Chapter 2, “[Understanding High-Density Design Flow](#),” provides synthesis and Xilinx implementation techniques to increase design performance and utilization.
- Chapter 3, “[General HDL Coding Styles](#),” includes HDL coding hints and design examples to help you develop an efficient coding style.
- Chapter 4, “[Architecture Specific HDL Coding Styles for Spartan-II, Virtex, Virtex-E, Virtex-II, and Virtex-II Pro](#),” includes coding techniques to help you use the latest Xilinx devices.
- Chapter 5 “[Virtex-II Pro Considerations](#),” highlights some of the outstanding features of Xilinx Virtex-II Pro FPGAs.
- Chapter 6, “[Simulating Your Design](#),” describes simulation methods for verifying the function and timing of your designs.

## Additional Resources

For additional information, go to <http://support.xilinx.com>. The following table lists some of the resources you can access from this Web site. You can also directly access these resources using the provided URLs.

Resource	Description/URL
Tutorials	Tutorials covering Xilinx design flows, from design entry to verification and debugging <a href="http://support.xilinx.com/support/techsup/tutorials/index.htm">http://support.xilinx.com/support/techsup/tutorials/index.htm</a>
Answers Database	Current listing of solution records for the Xilinx software tools Search this database using the search function at <a href="http://support.xilinx.com/support/searchtd.htm">http://support.xilinx.com/support/searchtd.htm</a>
Application Notes	Descriptions of device-specific design techniques and approaches <a href="http://support.xilinx.com/apps/appsweb.htm">http://support.xilinx.com/apps/appsweb.htm</a>

Resource	Description/URL
Data Book	Pages from <i>The Programmable Logic Data Book</i> , which contains device-specific information on Xilinx device characteristics, including readback, boundary scan, configuration, length count, and debugging <a href="http://support.xilinx.com/partinfo/databook.htm">http://support.xilinx.com/partinfo/databook.htm</a>
Xcell Journals	Quarterly journals for Xilinx programmable logic users <a href="http://support.xilinx.com/xcell/xcell.htm">http://support.xilinx.com/xcell/xcell.htm</a>
Technical Tips	Latest news, design tips, and patch information for the Xilinx design environment <a href="http://support.xilinx.com/support/techsup/journals/index.htm">http://support.xilinx.com/support/techsup/journals/index.htm</a>



# Conventions

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This manual uses the following conventions. An example illustrates most conventions.

## Typographical

The following conventions are used for all documents.

- `Courier font` indicates messages, prompts, and program files that the system displays.

```
speed grade: - 100
```

- **Courier bold** indicates literal commands that you enter in a syntactical statement. However, braces “{ }” in Courier bold are not literal and square brackets “[ ]” in Courier bold are literal only in the case of bus specifications, such as bus [7:0].

```
rpt_del_net=
```

**Courier bold** also indicates commands that you select from a menu.

**File → Open**

- *Italic font* denotes the following items.
  - ♦ Variables in a syntax statement for which you must supply values

```
edif2ngd design_name
```

- ♦ References to other manuals

See the *Development System Reference Guide* for more information.

- ◆ Emphasis in text

If a wire is drawn so that it overlaps the pin of a symbol, the two nets are *not* connected.

- Square brackets “[ ]” indicate an optional entry or parameter. However, in bus specifications, such as bus [7:0], they are required.

```
edif2ngd [option_name] design_name
```

- Braces “{ }” enclose a list of items from which you must choose one or more.

```
lowpwr = {on | off}
```

- A vertical bar “|” separates items in a list of choices.

```
lowpwr = {on | off}
```

- A vertical ellipsis indicates repetitive material that has been omitted.

```
IOB #1: Name = QOUT'
```

```
IOB #2: Name = CLKIN'
```

```
.  
.   
.
```

- A horizontal ellipsis “...” indicates that an item can be repeated one or more times.

```
allow block block_name loc1 loc2 ... locn;
```

## Online Document

The following conventions are used for online documents.

- [Blue text](#) indicates cross-references within a book. [Red text](#) indicates cross-references to other books. Click the colored text to jump to the specified cross-reference.
- [Blue, underlined text](#) indicates a Web site. Click the link to open the specified Web site. You must have a Web browser and internet connection to use this feature.

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## Introduction

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This chapter provides a general overview of designing Field Programmable Gate Arrays (FPGAs) with HDLs, and also includes installation requirements and instructions. It includes the following sections.

- “Architecture Support”
- “Overview of Hardware Description Languages”
- “Advantages of Using HDLs to Design FPGAs”
- “Designing FPGAs with HDLs”
- “Xilinx Internet Web Sites”

## Architecture Support

The software supports the following architecture families in this release.

- Virtex<sup>™</sup> /-II/-II PRO/
- CoolRunner<sup>™</sup> XPLA3/-II
- XC9500<sup>™</sup> /XL/XV

## Overview of Hardware Description Languages

Hardware Description Languages (HDLs) are used to describe the behavior and structure of system and circuit designs. This chapter includes a general overview of designing FPGAs with HDLs. HDL design examples are provided in subsequent chapters of this book, and design examples can be downloaded from the Xilinx web site. System requirements and installation instructions for designs available from the web are also provided in this chapter.

This chapter also includes a brief description of why using FPGAs is more advantageous than using ASICs for your design needs.

To learn more about designing FPGAs with HDLs, Xilinx recommends that you enroll in the appropriate training classes offered by Xilinx and by the vendors of synthesis software. An understanding of FPGA architecture allows you to create HDL code that effectively uses FPGA system features.

For the latest information on Xilinx parts and software, visit the Xilinx web site at <http://www.xilinx.com>. On the Xilinx home page, click on Products. You can get answers to your technical questions from the Xilinx support web site at <http://www.support.xilinx.com>. On the support home page, click on Advanced Search to set up search criteria that match your technical questions. You can also download software service packs from <http://www.support.xilinx.com>. On the support home page, click on Software, and then Service Packs. Software documentation, tutorials, and design files are available from the [www.support.xilinx.com](http://www.support.xilinx.com) web site.

## Advantages of Using HDLs to Design FPGAs

Using HDLs to design high-density FPGAs is advantageous for the following reasons.

- *Top-Down Approach for Large Projects*—HDLs are used to create complex designs. The top-down approach to system design supported by HDLs is advantageous for large projects that require many designers working together. After the overall design plan is determined, designers can work independently on separate sections of the code.
- *Functional Simulation Early in the Design Flow*—You can verify the functionality of your design early in the design flow by simu-

lating the HDL description. Testing your design decisions before the design is implemented at the RTL or gate level allows you to make any necessary changes early in the design process.

- *Synthesis of HDL Code to Gates*—You can synthesize your hardware description to a design implemented with gates. This step decreases design time by eliminating the need to define every gate. Synthesis to gates also reduces the number of errors that can occur during a manual translation of a hardware description to a schematic design. Additionally, you can apply the automation techniques used by the synthesis tool (such as machine encoding styles or automatic I/O insertion) during the optimization of your design to the original HDL code, resulting in greater efficiency.
- *Early Testing of Various Design Implementations*—HDLs allow you to test different implementations of your design early in the design flow. You can then use the synthesis tool to perform the logic synthesis and optimization into gates. Additionally, Xilinx FPGAs allow you to implement your design at your computer. Since the synthesis time is short, you have more time to explore different architectural possibilities at the Register Transfer Level (RTL). You can reprogram Xilinx FPGAs to test several implementations of your design.
- *Reuse of RTL Code* —You can retarget RTL code to new FPGA architectures with a minimum of recoding.

## Designing FPGAs with HDLs

If you are more familiar with schematic design entry, you may find it difficult at first to create HDL designs. You must make the transition from graphical concepts, such as block diagrams, state machines, flow diagrams, and truth tables, to abstract representations of design components. You can ease this transition by not losing sight of your overall design plan as you code in HDL. To effectively use an HDL, you must understand the syntax of the language; the synthesis and simulator software; the architecture of your target device; and the implementation tools. This section gives you some design hints to help you create FPGAs with HDLs.

## **Using Verilog**

Verilog® is popular for synthesis designs because it is less verbose than traditional VHDL, and it is standardized as IEEE-STD-1364-95. It was not originally intended as an input to synthesis, and many Verilog constructs are not supported by synthesis software. The Verilog examples in this manual were tested and synthesized with current, commonly-used FPGA synthesis software. The coding strategies presented in the remaining chapters of this manual can help you create HDL descriptions that can be synthesized.

## **Using VHDL**

VHSIC Hardware Description Language (VHDL) is a hardware description language for designing Integrated Circuits (ICs). It was not originally intended as an input to synthesis, and many VHDL constructs are not supported by synthesis software. However, the high level of abstraction of VHDL makes it easy to describe the system-level components and test benches that are not synthesized. In addition, the various synthesis tools use different subsets of the VHDL language. The examples in this manual will work with most commonly used FPGA synthesis software. The coding strategies presented in the remaining chapters of this manual can help you create HDL descriptions that can be synthesized.

## **Comparing ASICs and FPGAs**

Xilinx FPGAs are reprogrammable and when combined with an HDL design flow can greatly reduce the design and verification cycle seen with traditional ASICs.

## **Using Synthesis Tools**

Most of the commonly-used FPGA synthesis tools have special optimization algorithms for Xilinx FPGAs. Constraints and compiling options perform differently depending on the target device. There are some commands and constraints in ASIC synthesis tools that do not apply to FPGAs and, if used, may adversely impact your results. You should understand how your synthesis tool processes designs before creating FPGA designs. Most FPGA synthesis vendors include information in their manuals specifically for Xilinx FPGAs.

## Using FPGA System Features

You can improve device performance and area utilization by creating HDL code that uses FPGA system features, such as global reset, wide I/O decoders, and memory. FPGA system features are described in this manual.

## Designing Hierarchy

Current HDL design methods are specifically written for ASIC designs. You can use some of these ASIC design methods when designing FPGAs; however, certain techniques may unnecessarily increase the number of gates or CLB levels. This design guide will train you in techniques for optional FPGA design methodologies.

Design hierarchy is important in the implementation of an FPGA and also during incremental or interactive changes. Some synthesizers maintain the hierarchical boundaries unless you group modules together. Modules should have registered outputs so their boundaries are not an impediment to optimization. Otherwise, modules should be as large as possible within the limitations of your synthesis tool. The “5,000 gates per module” rule is no longer valid, and can interfere with optimization. Check with your synthesis vendor for the current recommendations for preferred module size. As a last resort, use the grouping commands of your synthesizer, if available. The size and content of the modules influence synthesis results and design implementation. This manual describes how to create effective design hierarchy.

## Specifying Speed Requirements

To meet timing requirements, you should understand how to set timing constraints in both the synthesis and placement/routing tools. For more information, see the [“Setting Constraints”](#) section of the [“Understanding High-Density Design Flow”](#) chapter.

## Xilinx Internet Web Sites

You can get product information and product support from the Xilinx internet web sites. Both sites are described in the following sections.

## Xilinx World Wide Web Site

You can reach the Xilinx web site at <http://www.xilinx.com>. The following features can be accessed from the Xilinx web site.

- *Products* — You can find information about new Xilinx products that are being offered, as well as previously announced Xilinx products.
- *Service and Support* — You can jump to the Xilinx technical support site by choosing Service and Support.
- *Xpresso Cafe* — You can purchase Xilinx software, hardware and software tool education classes through Xilinx and Xilinx distributors.

## Technical Support Web Site

Answers to questions, tutorials, Application notes, software manuals and information on using Xilinx products can be found on the technical support web site. You can reach the support web site at <http://www.support.xilinx.com>. The following features can be accessed from the Xilinx support web site.

- *Troubleshoot* — You can do an advanced search on the answers database to troubleshoot questions or issues you have with your design.
- *Software* — You can download the latest software service packs, IP updates, and product information from the Xilinx support website.
- *Library* — You can view the Software manuals from this web site. The manuals are provided in both HTML, viewable through most HTML browsers, and PDF. The Databook, CORE Generator documentation and datasheets are also available.
- *Design* — You can find helpful application notes that illustrate specific design solutions and methodologies.
- *Services* — You can open a support case when you need to have information from a Xilinx technical support person. You can also find information about your hardware or software order.
- *Feedback* — We are always interested in how well we're serving our customers. You can let us know by filling out our customer service survey questionnaire.

You can contact Xilinx technical support and application support for additional information and assistance in the following ways.

## Technical and Applications Support Hotlines

The telephone hotlines give you direct access to Xilinx Application Engineers worldwide. You can also e-mail or fax your technical questions to the same locations.

**Table 1-1 Technical Support**

Location	Telephone	Electronic Mail	Facsimile (Fax)
North America	1-800-255-7778	hotline@xilinx.com	1-408-879-4442
Japan	81-3-3297-9163	jhotline@xilinx.com	81-3-3297-0067
France	33-1-3463-0100	eurosupport@xilinx.com	44-870-7350-620
Germany	49- 180-3-60-60-60	eurosupport@xilinx.com	44-870-7350-620
Sweden	46- 8-33-14-00	eurosupport@xilinx.com	44-870-7350-620
United Kingdom	44-870-7350-610	eurosupport@xilinx.com	44-870-7350-620
Corporate Switchboard	1-408-559-7778		

**Note** When e-mailing or faxing inquiries, provide your complete name, company name, and phone number. Also, provide a complete problem description including your design entry software and design stage.

## Xilinx FTP Site

<ftp://ftp.xilinx.com>

The FTP site provides online access to automated tutorials, design examples, online documents, utilities, and published patches.

## Vendor Support Sites

Vendor support for synthesis and verification products can be obtained at the following locations.

**Table 1-2 Vendor Support Sites**

Vendor Name and Product	Telephone	Electronic Mail	Web Site
Synopsys - XSI	1-800-245-8005	support_center@synopsys.com	www.synopsys.com
Cadence - Concept-HDL	1-877-237-4911	support@cadence.com	sourcelink.cadence.com
Mentor Graphics	1-800-547-4303	support_net@mentor.com	www.mentor.com
Synplicity	1-408-548-6000	support@synplicity.com	www.synplicity.com

## Understanding High-Density Design Flow

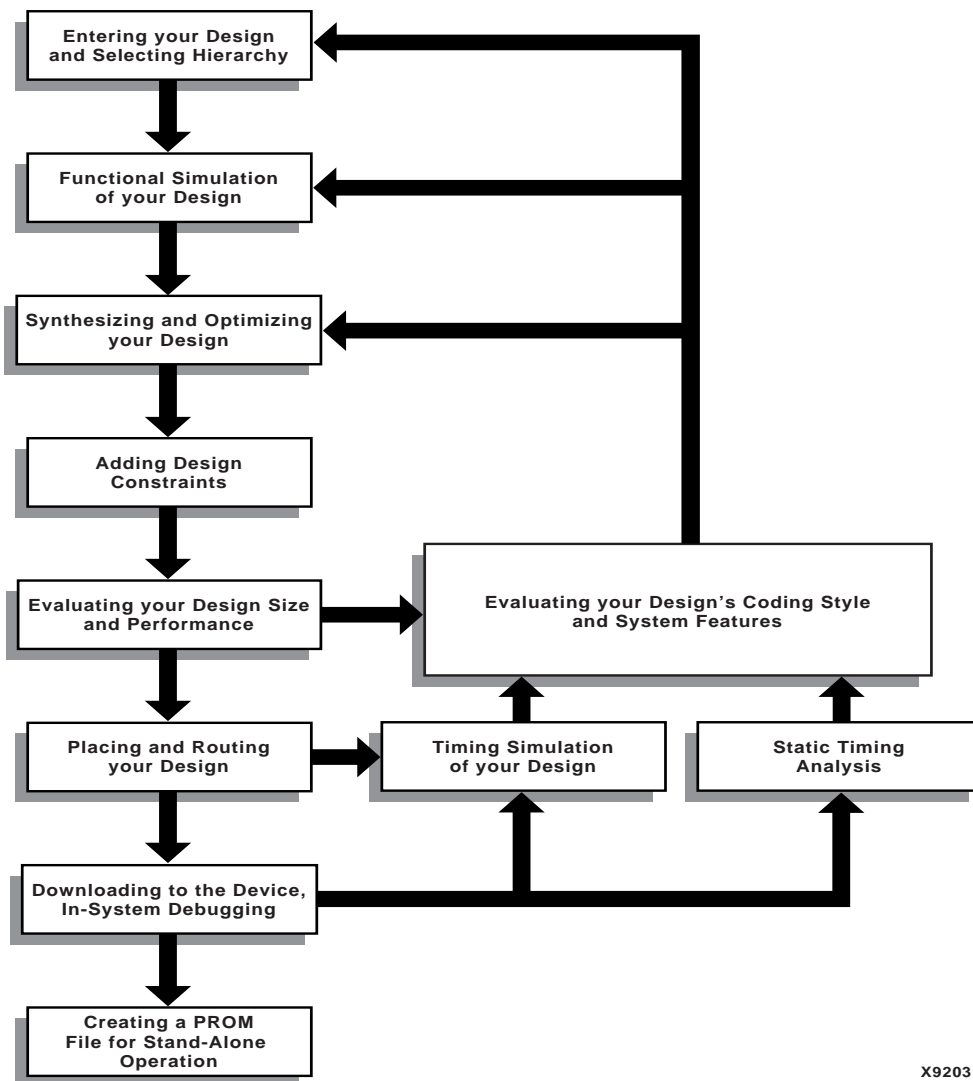
---

This chapter describes the steps in a typical HDL design flow. Although these steps may vary with each design, the information in this chapter is a good starting point for any design. This chapter includes the following sections.

- “Design Flow”
- “Entering your Design and Selecting Hierarchy”
- “Functional Simulation of your Design”
- “Synthesizing and Optimizing your Design”
- “Setting Constraints”
- “Evaluating Design Size and Performance”
- “Evaluating your Design for Coding Style and System Features”
- “Modular Design and Incremental Design (ECO)”
- “Placing and Routing Your Design”
- “Timing Simulation of Your Design”
- “Downloading to the Device and In-system Debugging”
- “Creating a PROM File for Stand-Alone Operation”

### Design Flow

An overview of the design flow steps is shown in the following figure.



X9203

Figure 2-1 Design Flow Overview

## Entering your Design and Selecting Hierarchy

The first step in implementing your design is creating the HDL code based on your design criteria.

### Design Entry Recommendations

The following recommendations can help you create effective designs.

#### Using RTL Code

By using register transfer level (RTL) code and avoiding (when possible) instantiating specific components, you can create designs with the following characteristics.

**Note** In some cases instantiating optimized CORE Generator or Logi-CORE modules is beneficial with RTL.

- Readable code
- Faster and simpler simulation
- Portable code for migration to different device families
- Reusable code for future designs

#### Carefully Select Design Hierarchy

Selecting the correct design hierarchy is advantageous for the following reasons.

- Improves simulation and synthesis results
- Improves debugging and modifying modular designs
- Allows parallel engineering (a team of engineers can work on different parts of the design at the same time)
- Improves the placement and routing of your design by reducing routing congestion and improving timing
- Allows for easier code reuse in the current design, as well as in future designs

## Architecture Wizard

The Architecture Wizard is a graphical application provided in Project Navigator that lets you configure complicated aspects of some Xilinx devices. The Architecture Wizard consists of several components, that you can use to configure specific device features. Each component is presented as an independent wizard. The following is a list of the wizards that make up the Architecture Wizard:

- DCM Wizard
- Rocket I/O Wizard

The Architecture Wizard produces an XAW file, which is an XDM file with .xaw file extension. The Architecture Wizard can create a new XAW file, or it can read in an existing XAW file. When it reads in an existing XAW file, it allows you to modify the settings. When you finish with the wizard, the new data is saved to the same XAW file that was read in.

The Architecture Wizard can also produce a VHDL, Verilog, or EDIF file, depending on the flow type that is passed to it. The generated HDL output is a module (consisting of one or more primitives and the corresponding properties) and not just a code snippet. This allows the output file to be referenced from the HDL Editor. There is no UCF output file, since the necessary attributes are embedded inside the HDL file.

Launch the Architecture Wizard from Project Navigator, from the File dropdown, select **File** → **New Source** → **Architecture Wizard...** menu item.

### DCM Wizard

The DCM Wizard component of the Architecture Wizard provides the following functions.

- Provides the ability to specify Setup information.
- Provides the ability to view DCM component, specify attributes, generate corresponding components and signals, and execute DRC checks.
- Provides the ability to view up to eight clock buffers.
- Provides the ability to setup the Feedback Path information.

- Provides the ability to setup the Clock Frequency Generator information and execute DRC checks.
- Provides the ability to view and edit component attributes.
- Provides the ability to view and edit component constraints.
- Provides the ability to automatically place one component in the XAW file.
- Provides the ability to save component settings in a VHDL file.
- Provides the ability to save component settings in a Verilog file.

### **Rocket I/O Wizard**

The Rocket I/O Wizard component of the Architecture Wizard provides the following functions.

- Provides the ability to specify Gigabit I/O type.
- Provides the ability to define Channel Bonding options.
- Provides the ability to specify General Transmitter Settings including encoding, CRC and clock.
- Provides the ability to specify General Receptor Settings including encoding, CRC and clock.
- Provides the ability to specify Synchronization.
- Provides the ability to specify Equalization, Signal integrity tip (resister, termination mode...).
- Provides the ability to view and edit component attributes.
- Provides the ability to view and edit component constraints.
- Provides the ability to automatically place one component in the xaw file.
- Provides the ability to save component settings to VHDL file.
- Provides the ability to save component settings to Verilog file.

## **Functional Simulation of your Design**

Use functional or RTL simulation to verify the syntax and functionality of your design. Use the following recommendations when simulating your design.

- Typically with larger hierarchical HDL designs, you should perform separate simulations on each module before testing your entire design. This makes it easier to debug your code.
- Once each module functions as expected, create a test bench to verify that your entire design functions as planned. You can use the test bench again for the final timing simulation to confirm that your design functions as expected under worst-case delay conditions.

## **Synthesizing and Optimizing your Design**

This section includes recommendations for compiling your designs to improve your results and decrease the run time.

**Note** Refer to your synthesis tool documentation for more information on compilation options and suggestions.

### **Creating an Initialization File**

Most synthesis tools provide a default initialization with default options. You may modify the initialization file or use the GUI to change compiler defaults, and to point to the applicable implementation libraries. Refer to your synthesis tool documentation for more information.

### **Creating a Compile Run Script**

FPGA Compiler II, LeonardoSpectrum, and Synplify all support TCL scripting. Using TCL scripting can make compiling your design easier and faster while achieving shorter compile times. With more advanced scripting you can run a compile multiple times using different options and write to different directories. You can also invoke and run other command line tools. The following are some sample scripts that can be run from the command line or from the GUI.

#### **FPGA Compiler II**

FPGA Scripting Tool (FST) implements a TCL-based command line interface for FPGA Compiler II. FST can be accessed from a command line by typing the following.

- For FPGA Compiler II

```
fc2_shell -f synth_file.tcl
```

The script will execute and put you back at the UNIX or DOS prompt.

### FPGA Compiler II FST Example

The following FST commands can be run in FPGA Compiler II.

- To create the project, enter the following.  

```
create_project -dir . d_register
```
- To open the project, enter the following.  

```
open_project d_register
```
- To add the files to the project, enter the following.  

```
add_file -format VHDL ../src/d_register.vhd
```
- To analyze the design files enter the following.  

```
analyze_file -progress
```
- To create a chip for a device enter the following.  

```
create_chip -progress -target Virtex -device v50PQ240 -speed -5 -  
name d_register d_register
```
- To set the top level as the current design, enter the following.  

```
current_chip d_register
```
- To optimize the design, enter the following.  

```
set opt_chip [format "%s-Optimized" d_register]  
optimize_chip -progress -name $opt_chip
```
- To write out the messages enter the following.  

```
list_message
```
- To write out the netlist, enter the following.  

```
export_chip -progress -dir .
```
- ```
close_project
```
- ```
quit
```

## LeonardoSpectrum

The following TCL script can be run from LeonardoSpectrum by doing one of the following.

1. Select the **File** → **Run Script** menu item from the LeonardoSpectrum graphical user interface.
2. Type in the Level 3 GUI command line, **source script\_file.tcl**
3. Type in the UNIX/DOS prompt with the EXEMPLAR environment path set up, **spectrum -file script\_file.tcl**
4. Type **spectrum** at the UNIX/DOS prompt. This will put you in a TCL prompt. Then at the TCL prompt type **source script\_file.tcl**

## LeonardoSpectrum TCL Examples

The following TCL commands can be entered in LeonardoSpectrum.

- To set the part type, enter the following.  
**set part v50ecs144**
- To read the HDL files, enter the following.  
**read macro1.vhd macro2.vhd top\_level.vhd**
- To set assign buffers, enter the following.  
**PAD IBUF\_LVDS data(7:0)**
- To optimize while preserving hierarchy, enter the following.  
**optimize -ta xcve -hier preserve**
- To write out the EDIF file, enter the following.  
**auto\_write ./M1/ff\_example.edf**

## Synplify

The following TCL script can be run from Synplify by doing one of the following:

1. Use the **File** → **Run TCL Script** menu item from the GUI
2. Type **synplify -batch script\_file.tcl** at a UNIX/DOS command prompt.

### Synplify TCL Example

The following TCL commands can be entered in Synplify.

- To start a new project, enter the following.  
`project -new`
- To set device options, enter the following.  
`set_option -technology Virtex-E`  
`set_option -part XCV50E`  
`set_option -package CS144`  
`set_option -speed_grade -8`
- To add file options, enter the following.  
`add_file -constraint "watch.sdc"`  
`add_file -vhdl -lib work "macro1.vhd"`  
`add_file -vhdl -lib work "macro2.vhd"`  
`add_file -vhdl -lib work "top_level.vhd"`
- To set compilation/ mapping options, enter the following.  
`set_option -default_enum_encoding onehot`  
`set_option -symbolic_fsm_compiler true`  
`set_option -resource_sharing true`
- To set simulation options, enter the following.  
`set_option -write_verilog false`  
`set_option -write_vhdl false`
- To set automatic place and route (vendor) options, enter the following.  
`set_option -write_apr_constraint true`  
`set_option -part XCV50E`  
`set_option -package CS144`  
`set_option -speed_grade -8`

- To set result format/file options, enter the following.

```
project -result_format "edif"  
project -result_file "top_level.edf"  
project -run  
project -save "watch.prj"
```

- `exit`

## Compiling Your Design

Use the recommendations in this section to successfully compile your design.

### Modifying your Design

You may need to modify your code to successfully compile your design because certain design constructs that are effective for simulation may not be as effective for synthesis. The synthesis syntax and code set may differ slightly from the simulator syntax and code set.

### Compiling Large Designs

Older versions of synthesis tools required incremental design compilations to decrease run times. Some or all levels of hierarchy were compiled with separate compile commands and saved as output or database files. The output netlist or compiled database file for each module was read during synthesis of the top level code. This method is not necessary with new synthesis tools, which can handle large designs from the top down. The 5,000 gates per module rule of thumb no longer applies with the new synthesis tools. Refer to your synthesis tool documentation for details.

### Saving Compiled Design as EDIF

After your design is successfully compiled, save it as an EDIF file for input to the Xilinx software.

## Setting Constraints

You can define timing specifications for your design in the User Constraints File (UCF). You can use the Xilinx Constraints Editor which provides a graphical user interface allowing for easy constraints specification. You can also enter constraints directly into the UCF file. Both methods are described below. Most synthesis tools support an easy to use Constraints Editor interface for entering constraints in your design.

### Using the UCF File

The UCF gives you tight control of the overall specifications by giving you access to more types of constraints; the ability to define precise timing paths; and the ability to prioritize signal constraints. Furthermore, you can group signals together to simplify timing specifications. Some synthesis tools translate certain synthesis constraints to Xilinx implementation constraints. The translated constraints are placed in the NCF/NGC file. For more information on timing specifications in the UCF file, refer to the *Constraints Guide*, and the Answers Database on the Xilinx Support Web site, <http://support.xilinx.com>.

### Using the Xilinx Constraints Editor

The Xilinx Constraints Editor is a GUI based tool that can be accessed from the Processes for Current Source window of the Project Navigator GUI (**Design Entry Utilities -> User Constraints -> Constraints Editor**), or from the command line (`constraints_editor`). The Constraints Editor allows the user to easily enter design constraints in a spreadsheet form and writes out the constraints in the UCF file. This eliminates the need to know the UCF file syntax. The other benefit is the Constraints Editor reads the design and lists all the nets and elements in the design. This is very helpful in the HDL flow when the synthesis tool creates the names.

Some constraints are not available through the Constraints Editor. The unavailable constraints will need to be entered directly in the UCF file using a text editor. The new UCF file needs to be re-run through the Translate step or NGDBuild using the command line method. For more information on using the Xilinx Constraints Editor, please refer to the *Constraints Editor Guide* on the Xilinx Support Web site, <http://support.xilinx.com>.

## **Using Synthesis Tools' Constraints Editor**

The FPGA Compiler II, LeonardoSpectrum, and Synplify synthesis tools all have constraint editors to apply constraints to your HDL design. Refer to your synthesis tool's documentation for information on how to use the constraints editor specific to your synthesis environment. You can add the following constraints:

- Clock frequency or cycle and offset
- Input and Output timing
- Signal Preservation
- Module constraints
- Buffering ports
- Path timing
- Global timing

Generally, the timing constraints will be written out to an NCF file, and all other constraints will be written to the output EDIF file. In XST, all constraints will be written to an NGC file. Please refer to the documentation for your synthesis tool to obtain more information on Constraint Editors.

## **Evaluating Design Size and Performance**

Your design should meet the following requirements.

- Design must function at the specified speed
- Design must fit in the targeted device

After your design is compiled, you can determine preliminary device utilization and performance with your synthesis tool's reporting options. After your design is mapped by the Xilinx tools, you can determine the actual device utilization. At this point in the design flow, you should verify that your chosen device is large enough to incorporate any future changes or additions, and that your design will perform as specified.

## **Using your Synthesis Tool to Estimate Device Utilization and Performance**

Use your synthesis tool's area and timing reporting options to estimate device utilization and performance. After compiling, use the report area command to obtain a report of device resource utilization. Some synthesis tools provide area reports automatically. Refer to your synthesis tool documentation for correct command syntax.

The device utilization and performance report lists the compiled cells in your design, as well as information on how your design is mapped in the FPGA. These reports are generally accurate because the synthesis tool creates the logic from your code and maps your design into the FPGA. However, these reports are different for the various synthesis tools. Some reports specify the minimum number of CLBs required, while other reports specify the "unpacked" number of CLBs to make an allowance for routing. For an accurate comparison, you should compare reports from the Xilinx place and route tool after implementation. Also, any instantiated components, such as CORE Generator modules, EDIF files, or other components that your synthesis tool does not recognize during compilation are not included in the report file. If you include these components in your design, you must include the logic area used by these components when estimating design size. Also, sections of your design may get trimmed during the mapping process, and may result in a smaller design.

### **Using the Timing Report Command**

Use your synthesis tool's timing report command to obtain a report with estimated data path delays. Refer to your synthesis vendor's documentation for command syntax.

The timing report is based on the logic level delays from the cell libraries and estimated wire-load models for your design. This report is an estimate of how close you are to your timing goals; however, it is not the actual timing for your design. An accurate report of your design's timing is only available after your design is placed and routed. This timing report does not include information on any instantiated components, such as CORE Generator modules, EDIF files, or other components that are not recognized by your synthesis tool during compilation.

## Determining Actual Device Utilization and Pre-routed Performance

To determine if your design fits the specified device, you must map it with the Xilinx Map program. The generated report file *design\_name.mrp* contains the implemented device utilization information. The report file can be read by double-clicking on Map Report in the Project Navigator Process Window. You can run the Map program from Project Navigator or from the command line.

### Using Project Navigator to Map Your Design

Use the following steps to map your design using Project Navigator.

**Note** For more information on using the Project Navigator, see *Project Navigator Online Help*.

1. After opening Project Navigator and creating your project, go to the Process Window and click the “+” symbol in front of **Implement Design**.
2. To run the Xilinx Map program, double-click **Map**.
3. To view the Map Report, double-click its name in the Process Window or click its name and then select **Process** → **View**. If the report does not currently exist, it is generated. If a green check mark is in front of the report name, the report is up-to-date and no processing is performed. If the desired report is not up-to-date, you can click the report name and then select **Process** → **Run** to update the report before you view it. The auto-make process automatically runs only the necessary processes to update the report before displaying it. Or, you can select **Process** → **Run All** to re-run all processes— even those processes that are currently up-to-date— from the top of the design to the stage where the report would be.
4. View the Logic Level Timing Report with the Report Browser. This report shows the performance of your design based on logic levels and best-case routing delays.
5. At this point, you may want to start the Timing Analyzer to create a more specific report of design paths.
6. Use the Logic Level Timing Report and any reports generated with the Timing Analyzer or the Map program to evaluate how

close you are to your performance and utilization goals. Use these reports to decide whether to proceed to the place and route phase of implementation, or to go back and modify your design or implementation options to attain your performance goals. You should have some slack in routing delays to allow the place and route tools to successfully complete your design. Use the verbose option in the Timing Analyzer to see block-by-block delay. The timing report of a mapped design (before place and route) shows block delays, as well as minimum routing delays.

**Note** A typical Virtex /E/II/II Pro design should allow 40% of the delay for logic, and 60% of the delay for routing. If most of your time is taken by logic, then most likely, the design will not meet timing after place and route.

## Using the Command Line to Map Your Design

1. Translate your design as follows.

```
ngdbuild -p target_device design_name.edf
```

2. Map your design as follows.

```
map design_name.ngd
```

3. Use a text editor to view the Device Summary section of the *design\_name.mrp* Map Report. This section contains the device utilization information.
4. Run a timing analysis of the logic level delays from your mapped design as follows.

```
trce [options] design_name.ngd
```

**Note** For available options, enter only the `trce` command at the command line without any arguments.

Use the Trace reports to evaluate how close you are to your performance goals. Use the report to decide whether to proceed to the place and route phase of implementation, or to go back and modify your design or implementation options to attain your performance goals. You should have some slack in routing delays to allow the place and route tools to successfully complete your design.

The following is the Design Summary section of a Map Report containing device information.

Release 4.1i - Map HEAD  
Xilinx Mapping Report File for Design 'udcntr'

### Design Information

-----  
Command Line : map udcntr.ngd -o udcntr\_map.ncd  
Target Device : xv300  
Target Package : bg432  
Target Speed : -5  
Mapper Version : virtex -- \$Revision: 1.58 \$  
Mapped Date : Wed May 23 10:32:53 2001

### Design Summary

-----  
Number of errors: 0  
Number of warnings: 1  
Number of Slices: 3 out of 3,072 1%  
Number of Slices containing  
unrelated logic: 0 out of 3 0%  
Number of Slice Flip Flops: 4 out of 6,144 1%  
Number of 4 input LUTs: 6 out of 6,144 1%  
Number of bonded IOBs: 18 out of 316 5%  
Number of Tbufs: 8 out of 3,200 1%  
Number of GCLKs: 1 out of 4 25%  
Number of GCLKIOBs: 1 out of 4 25%  
Number of hard macros: 1  
Total equivalent gate count for design (not including hard macros): 68  
Additional JTAG gate count for IOBs: 912

### Table of Contents

-----  
Section 1 - Errors  
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Section 7 - RPMs  
Section 8 - Guide Report  
Section 9 - Area Group Summary  
Section 10 - Modular Design Summary  
Section 1 - Errors  
-----

### Section 2 - Warnings

-----  
WARNING:MapLib:328 - Block U2 is not a recognized logical block. The mapper will continue to process the design but there may be design problems if this block does

not get trimmed.

### Section 3 - Informational

-----

INFO:MapLib:62 - All of the external outputs in this design are using slew rate limited output drivers. The delay on speed critical outputs can be dramatically reduced by designating them as fast outputs in the schematic.

### Section 4 - Removed Logic Summary

-----

3 block(s) removed  
1 block(s) optimized away  
3 signal(s) removed

### Section 5 - Removed Logic

-----

The trimmed logic report below shows the logic removed from your design due to sourceless or loadless signals, and VCC or ground connections. If the removal of a signal or symbol results in the subsequent removal of an additional signal or symbol, the message explaining that second removal will be indented. This indentation will be repeated as a chain of related logic is removed.

To quickly locate the original cause for the removal of a chain of logic, look above the place where that logic is listed in the trimming report, then locate the lines that are least indented (begin at the leftmost edge).

The signal "VCC" is loadless and has been removed.

Loadless block "VCC" (ONE) removed.

The signal "U1/GND" is sourceless and has been removed.

The signal "U1/VCC" is sourceless and has been removed.

Unused block "U1/GND" (ZERO) removed.

Unused block "U1/VCC" (ONE) removed.

Optimized Block(s):

TYPE BLOCK

GND GND

### Section 6 - IOB Properties

-----

IOB Name	Type	Direction	IO Standard	Drive Strength	Slew Rate	Reg(s)	Resistor	IOB Delay
clock	GCLKIOB	INPUT	LVTTL					
IN[0]	IOB	INPUT	LVTTL					
IN[1]	IOB	INPUT	LVTTL					
IN[2]	IOB	INPUT	LVTTL					
IN[3]	IOB	INPUT	LVTTL					
Q1[0]	IOB	OUTPUT	LVTTL	12	SLOW			
Q1[1]	IOB	OUTPUT	LVTTL	12	SLOW			
Q1[2]	IOB	OUTPUT	LVTTL	12	SLOW			
Q1[3]	IOB	OUTPUT	LVTTL	12	SLOW			
Q2[0]	IOB	OUTPUT	LVTTL	12	SLOW			
Q2[1]	IOB	OUTPUT	LVTTL	12	SLOW			
Q2[2]	IOB	OUTPUT	LVTTL	12	SLOW			
Q2[3]	IOB	OUTPUT	LVTTL	12	SLOW			
clear1	IOB	INPUT	LVTTL					
clear2	IOB	INPUT	LVTTL					
load1	IOB	INPUT	LVTTL					
load2	IOB	INPUT	LVTTL					
triL	IOB	INPUT	LVTTL					
triR	IOB	INPUT	LVTTL					

Section 7 - RPMs

Section 8 - Guide Report

Guide not run on this design.

Section 9 - Area Group Summary

```

AREA_GROUP AG_U1
RANGE: CLB_R1C1.*:CLB_R32C24.*
No COMPRESSION specified for AREA_GROUP AG_U1
  Number of Slices:          3 out of  1,536    1%
  Number of Slice Flip Flops: 4 out of  3,072    1%
  Total Number 4 input LUTs: 6 out of  3,072    1%
  Number used as 4 input LUTs:          6

```

Section 10 - Modular Design Summary

The following logic was added to the design to satisfy the active module's interface. These interface components will be removed during the Modular Design Final Assembly Phase.

0 Flip Flops.

0 LUTs

0 TBUFs

To get a listing of the active module port nets, set the "XIL\_MAP\_LISTPORTNETS" environment variable and rerun map.

The following is a sample Logic Level Timing Report.

Release 4.1i - Trace HEAD

Copyright (c) 1995-2001 Xilinx, Inc. All rights reserved.

trce udcntr.ncd udcntr\_map.pcf

Design file: udcntr.ncd

Physical constraint file: udcntr\_map.pcf

Device,speed: xcv300,-5 (FINAL 1.115 2001-05-14)

Report level: summary report

-----  
WARNING:Timing - No timing constraints found, doing default enumeration.

Asterisk (\*) preceding a constraint indicates it was not met.

Constraint	Requested	Actual	Logic Levels
Default period analysis		5.144ns	3
Default net enumeration		4.326ns	

All constraints were met.

Data Sheet report:

-----  
All values displayed in nanoseconds (ns)

Setup/Hold to clock clock

Source Pad	Setup to clk (edge)	Hold to clk (edge)
IN[0]	2.964(R)	0.000(R)
IN[1]	2.971(R)	0.000(R)
IN[2]	3.068(R)	0.000(R)
IN[3]	2.967(R)	0.000(R)
clear1	1.370(R)	0.654(R)
load1	2.503(R)	0.000(R)

Clock clock to Pad

-----+-----+	
	clk (edge)
Destination Pad	to PAD
-----+-----+	
Q1[0]	11.691(R)
Q1[1]	12.304(R)
Q1[2]	12.164(R)
Q1[3]	12.454(R)
-----+-----+	

Clock to Setup on destination clock clock

-----+-----+-----+-----+				
	Src:Rise	Src:Fall	Src:Rise	Src:Fall
Source Clock	Dest:Rise	Dest:Rise	Dest:Fall	Dest:Fall
-----+-----+-----+-----+				
clock	5.144			
-----+-----+-----+-----+				

Timing summary:

-----

Timing errors: 0 Score: 0

Constraints cover 30 paths, 22 nets, and 43 connections (100.0% coverage)

Design statistics:

Minimum period: 5.144ns (Maximum frequency: 194.401MHz)  
Maximum combinational path delay: 10.442ns  
Maximum net delay: 4.326ns

Analysis completed Wed May 23 10:36:47 2001

-----

## Evaluating your Design for Coding Style and System Features

At this point, if you are not satisfied with your design performance, you can re-evaluate your code and make any necessary improvements. Modifying your code and selecting different compiler options can dramatically improve device utilization and speed.

### Tips for Improving Design Performance

This section includes ways of improving design performance by modifying your code and by incorporating FPGA system features. Most of these techniques are described in more detail in this manual.

#### Modifying Your Code

You can improve design performance with the following design modifications.

- Reduce levels of logic to improve timing
- Redefine hierarchical boundaries to help the compiler optimize design logic
- Pipeline
- Logic replication
- Use of CORE Generator modules
- Resource sharing
- Restructure logic

#### Using FPGA System Features

After correcting any coding style problems, use any of the following FPGA system features in your design to improve resource utilization and to enhance the speed of critical paths.

**Note** Each device family has a unique set of system features. Review the current version of the *The Programmable Logic Data Book* for the system features available for the device you are targeting.

- Use clock enables

- In Virtex family components, modify large multiplexers to use tristate buffers
- Use one-hot encoding for large or complex state machines
- Use I/O registers when applicable
- In Virtex families, use dedicated shift registers
- In Virtex-II families use dedicated multipliers

## Using Xilinx-specific Features of Your Synthesis Tool

Most synthesis tools have special options for the Xilinx-specific features listed in the previous section. Refer to your synthesis tool white papers, application notes, documentation and online help for detailed information on using Xilinx-specific features.

## Modular Design and Incremental Design (ECO)

For information on Incremental Design (ECO), please refer to the following Application Notes:

- XAPP165: “*Using Xilinx and Exemplar for Incremental Designing (ECO)*”, application note, v1.0 (8/9/99) (<http://www.xilinx.com/xapp/xapp165.pdf>).
- XAPP164: “*Using Xilinx and Synplify for Incremental Designing (ECO)*”, application note, v1.0 (8/6/99) (<http://www.xilinx.com/xapp/xapp164.pdf>).

Xilinx Development Systems feature Modular Design to help you plan and manage large designs. Reference the following URL and application note for more information on the Modular Design feature:

- Xilinx Modular Design URL:  
<http://www.xilinx.com/products/software/moddes/moddes.htm>
- XAPP404: “Xilinx Modular Design”, application note.  
<http://www.xilinx.com/xapp/xapp404.pdf>

## Placing and Routing Your Design

**Note** For more information on placing and routing your design, refer to the *Development System Reference Guide*.

The overall goal when placing and routing your design is fast implementation and high-quality results. However, depending on the situation and your design, you may not always accomplish this goal, as described in the following examples.

- Earlier in the design cycle, run time is generally more important than the quality of results, and later in the design cycle, the converse is usually true.
- During the day, you may want the tools to quickly process your design while you are waiting for the results. However, you may be less concerned with a quick run time, and more concerned about the quality of results when you run your designs for an extended period of time (during the night or weekend).
- If the targeted device is highly utilized, the routing may become congested, and your design may be difficult to route. In this case, the placer and router may take longer to meet your timing requirements.
- If design constraints are rigorous, it may take longer to correctly place and route your design, and meet the specified timing.

## Decreasing Implementation Time

The options you select for the placement and routing of your design directly influence the run time. Generally, these options decrease the run time at the expense of the best placement and routing for a given device. Select your options based on your required design performance.

**Note** If you are using the command line, the appropriate command line option is provided in the following procedure.

Use the following steps to decrease implementation time in the Project Navigator. For details on implementing your design in Project Navigator see *Project Navigator Online Help*.

1. In the Project Navigator Process Window, right click **Place & Route** and then select **Properties**.

The Process Properties dialog box appears.

Set options in this dialog box as follows.

- ◆ Place & Route Effort Level

Generally, you can reduce placement times by selecting a less CPU-intensive algorithm for placement. You can set the placement level at one of five settings from Lowest (fastest run time) to Highest (best results) with the default equal to Low. Use the `-l` switch at the command line to perform the same function.

**Note** In some cases, poor placement with a lower placement level setting can result in longer route times.

- ◆ Router Options

You can limit router iterations to reduce routing times by setting the Number of Routing Passes option. However, this may prevent your design from meeting timing requirements, or your design may not completely route. From the command line, you can control router passes with the `-i` switch.

- ◆ Use Timing Constraints During Place and Route

You can improve run times by not specifying some or all timing constraints. This is useful at the beginning of the design cycle during the initial evaluation of the placed and routed circuit. To disable timing constraints in the Project Navigator, uncheck the Use Timing Constraints check box. To disable timing constraints at the command line, use the `-x` switch with PAR.

2. Select **OK** to exit the Process Properties dialog box.
3. Double click **Place & Route** to in the Process Window of Project Navigator to begin placing and routing your design.

## Improving Implementation Results

Conversely, you can select options that increase the run time, but produce a better design. These options generally produce a faster design at the cost of a longer run time. These options are useful when you run your designs for an extended period of time (overnight or over the weekend). The following options can be used to improve

implementation results. Detailed information for these options can be found in the *Development System Reference Guide*.

## Map Timing Option

Use the Xilinx Map program Timing option to improve timing during the mapping phase. This switch directs the mapper to give priority to timing critical paths during packing. To use this feature at the command line, use the `-timing` switch. See the *Development System Reference Guide* for more information.

## Extra Effort Mode in PAR

Use the Xilinx PAR program Extra Effort mode to invoke advanced algorithmic techniques to provide higher quality results. To use this feature at the command line, use the `-xe <level>` switch. The level can be a value from 0 to 5; the default is 1. Using level 0 turns off all extra effort off, and can significantly increase runtime. See the *Development System Reference Guide* for more information.

## Multi-Pass Place and Route

Use this feature to place and route your design with several different cost tables (seeds) to find the best possible placement for your design. This optimal placement results in shorter routing delays and faster designs. This works well when the router passes are limited (with the `-i` option). After an optimal cost table is selected, use the reentrant routing feature to finish the routing of your design. To use this feature double-click on Multi Pass Place & Route in the Process Window of Project Navigator, or specify this option at the command line with the `-n` switch. See the *Development System Reference Guide* for a description of Multi-Pass Place and Route, and how to set the appropriate options.

## Turns Engine Option (UNIX only)

This option is a Unix-only feature that works with the Multi-Pass Place and Route option to allow parallel processing of placement and routing on several Unix machines. The only limitation to how many cost tables are concurrently tested is the number of workstations you have available. To use this option in Project Navigator, see the *Project Navigator Online Help* for a description of the options that can be set under Multi-Pass Place and Route. To use this feature at the

command line, use the `-m` switch to specify a node list, and the `-n` switch to specify the number of place and route iterations.

**Note** For more information on the turns engine option, refer to the *Development System Reference Guide*.

## Reentrant Routing Option

Use the reentrant routing option to further route an already routed design. The router reroutes some connections to improve the timing or to finish routing unrouted nets. You must specify a placed and routed design (.ncd) file for the implementation tools. This option is best used when router iterations are initially limited, or when your design timing goals are close to being achieved.

### From the Project Navigator

To initiate a reentrant route from Project Navigator, follow these steps. See the *Project Navigator Online Help* for details on reentrant routing.

1. In the Project Navigator Process Window, right click **Place & Route** and then select **Properties**.

The Process Properties dialog box appears. Set the Place and Route Mode option to **Reentrant Route**.

2. Select **OK** to exit the Process Properties dialog box.
3. Double click **Place & Route** to in the Process Window of Project Navigator to begin placing and routing your design.

### Using PAR and Cost Tables

The PAR module places in two stages: a constructive placement and an optimizing placement. PAR writes the NCD file after constructive placement and modifies the NCD after optimizing placement.

During constructive placement, PAR places components into sites based on factors such as constraints specified in the input file (for example, certain components must be in certain locations), the length of connections, and the available routing resources. This placement also takes into account “cost tables,” which assign weighted values to each of the relevant factors. There are 100 possible cost tables. Constructive placement continues until all components are placed. PAR writes the NCD file after constructive placement.

For more information on PAR and Cost Tables, refer to Chapter 9 of the *Development System Reference Guide*.

### From the Command Line

To initiate a reentrant route from the command line, you can run PAR with the `-k` and `-p` options, as well as any other options you want to use for the routing process. You must either specify a unique name for the post reentrant routed design (.ncd) file or use the `-w` switch to overwrite the previous design file, as shown in the following examples.

```
par -k -p other_options design_name.ncd new_name.ncd
```

```
par -k -p -w other_options design_name.ncd design.ncd
```

### Cost-Based Clean-up Option

This option specifies clean-up passes after routing is completed to substitute more appropriate routing options available from the initial routing process. For example, if several local routing resources are used to transverse the chip and a longline is available, the longline is substituted in the clean-up pass. The default value of cost-based cleanup passes is 1. You can change the default at the command line with the `-c` switch. To change the default value from Project Navigator, follow these steps. See Chapter 9 of the *Development System Reference Guide* for details on the Cost-Based Clean-up Option.

1. In the Project Navigator Process Window, right click **Place & Route** and then select **Properties**.  
  
The Process Properties dialog box appears. Set the Cost-Based Clean-up Passes option to a value between 0 and 5.
2. Select **OK** to exit the Process Properties dialog box.
3. Double click **Place & Route** to in the Process Window of Project Navigator to begin placing and routing your design.

### Delay-Based Clean-up Option

This option specifies clean-up passes after routing is completed to substitute more appropriate routing options to reduce delays. The default number of passes for delay-based clean-up is 0. You can change the default at the command line with the `-d` switch. To change the default value from Project Navigator, follow these steps. See

Chapter 9 of the *Development System Reference Guide* for details on the Delay-Based Clean-up Option.

1. In the Project Navigator Process Window, right click **Place & Route** and then select **Properties**.

The Process Properties dialog box appears. Set the Delay-Based Clean-up Passes option to a value between 0 and 5.

2. Select **OK** to exit the Process Properties dialog box.
3. Double click **Place & Route** in the Process Window of Project Navigator to begin placing and routing your design.

## Guide Option

This option is generally not recommended for synthesis-based designs, except for modular design flows. Re-synthesizing modules can cause the signal and instance names in the resulting netlist to be significantly different from those in earlier synthesis runs. This can occur even if the source level code (Verilog or VHDL) contains only a small change. Because the guide process is dependent on the names of signals and comps, synthesis designs often result in a low match rate during the guiding process. Generally, this option does not improve implementation results.

For information on guide in modular design flows, refer to XAPP 404 at <http://www.xilinx.com/xapp/xapp404.pdf>.

## Timing Simulation of Your Design

**Note** Refer to the “[Simulating Your Design](#)” chapter for more information on design simulation.

Timing simulation is important in verifying the operation of your circuit after the worst-case placed and routed delays are calculated for your design. In many cases, you can use the same testbench that you used for functional simulation to perform a more accurate simulation with less effort. You can compare the results from the two simulations to verify that your design is performing as initially specified. The Xilinx tools create a VHDL or Verilog simulation netlist of your placed and routed design, and provide libraries that work with many common HDL simulators.

## Timing Analysis Using TRACE

Timing-driven PAR is based upon Xilinx's timing analysis software, an integrated static timing analysis tool (that is, it does not depend on input stimulus to the circuit). This means that placement and routing are executed according to timing constraints that you specify in the beginning of the design process. The timing analysis software interacts with PAR to ensure that the timing constraints you impose on the design are met.

If you have timing constraints, TRACE will generate a report based on your constraints. If there are no constraints, the timing analysis tool has an option to write out a timing report containing the following.

- An analysis that enumerates all clocks and the required OFFSETs for each clock.
- An analysis of paths having only combinatorial logic, ordered by delay.

For more information on TRACE, refer to Chapter 9 of the *Development System Reference Guide*. For more information on Timing Analysis, refer to the *Timing Analyzer Online Help*.

## Downloading to the Device and In-system Debugging

After you have verified the functionality and timing of your placed and routed design, you can create a design data file to download for in-system verification. The design data or bitstream (.bit) file is created from the placed and routed .ncd file.

In Project Navigator, create a bitstream file for your design using the following procedure.

1. Select the top-level source for the project in the Sources window.
2. Click **Create Programming File** in the Processes window.
3. Click **Process .Run** in the Project Navigator menu. (An alternative method is to double-click **Creating Programming File** in the Processes window.)
4. The programming file creation process runs. If there are no errors, the *top\_source\_name.bit* file is created.

5. To view the Programming File Report in the ISE Report Viewer, double-click **View Programming File Generation Report** in the Processes window. The Programming File Report contains information about the BitGen run.

For a complete description of BitGen, see the “BitGen” chapter in the *Development System Reference Guide*.

From the command line, run BitGen on your placed and routed .ncd file to create the .bit file as follows.

```
bitgen [options] design.ncd
```

Use the .bit file with the XChecker cable and iMPACT to download the data to your device. You can run iMPACT from Project Navigator, or from the command line as follows.

```
impact design.bit
```

iMPACT allows you to download the data to the FPGA using your computer's serial port. iMPACT can also synchronously or asynchronously probe external or internal nodes in the FPGA. Waveforms can be created from this data and correlated to the simulation data for true in-system verification of your design.

## Creating a PROM File for Stand-Alone Operation

After verifying that the FPGA works in the circuit, you can create a PROM file from the .bit file to program a PROM or other data storage device. You can then use this file to program the FPGA in-circuit during normal operation.

Use the Prom File Formatter to create the PROM file, or from the command line use PROMGen. You can run the Prom File Formatter from the Project Navigator, or from the command line as follows.

```
promfmtr design.bit
```

Run PROMGen from the command line by typing the following.

```
promgen [options] design.bit
```

**Note** For more information on using these programs, refer to the *Development System Reference Guide*.

## General HDL Coding Styles

---

This chapter contains HDL coding styles and design examples to help you develop an efficient coding style. It includes the following sections.

- “Naming and Labeling Styles”
- “Specifying Constants”
- “Choosing Data Type (VHDL only)”
- “Coding for Synthesis”

HDLs contain many complex constructs that are difficult to understand at first. Also, the methods and examples included in HDL manuals do not always apply to the design of FPGAs. If you currently use HDLs to design ASICs, your established coding style may unnecessarily increase the number of gates or CLB levels in FPGA designs.

HDL synthesis tools implement logic based on the coding style of your design. To learn how to efficiently code with HDLs, you can attend training classes, read reference and methodology notes, and refer to synthesis guidelines and templates available from Xilinx and the synthesis vendors. When coding your designs, remember that HDLs are mainly hardware description languages. You should try to find a balance between the quality of the end hardware results and the speed of simulation.

The coding hints and examples included in this chapter are not intended to teach you every aspect of VHDL or Verilog, but they should help you develop an efficient coding style.

## Naming and Labeling Styles

Because HDL designs are often created by design teams, Xilinx recommends that you agree on a style for your code at the beginning of your project. An established coding style allows you to read and understand code written by your fellow team members. Also, inefficient coding styles can adversely impact synthesis and simulation, which can result in slow circuits. Additionally, because portions of existing HDL designs are often used in new designs, you should follow coding standards that are understood by the majority of HDL designers. This section of the manual provides a list of suggested coding styles that you should establish before you begin your designs.

### Using Xilinx Naming Conventions

Use the Xilinx naming conventions listed in this section for naming signals, variables, and instances that are translated into nets, buses, and symbols.

**Note** Most synthesis tools convert illegal characters to legal ones.

- User-defined names can contain A–Z, a–z, \$, \_, -, <, and >. A “/” is also valid, however, it is not recommended because it is used as a hierarchy separator
- Names must contain at least one non-numeric character
- Names cannot be more than 256 characters long

The following FPGA resource names are reserved and should not be used to name nets or components.

- Components (Comps), Configurable Logic Blocks (CLBs), Input/Output Blocks (IOBs), Slices, basic elements (bels), clock buffers (BUFGs), tristate buffers (BUFTs), oscillators (OSC), CCLK, DP, GND, VCC, and RST
- CLB names such as AA, AB, SLICE\_R1C2, SLICE\_X1Y2, X1Y2, and R1C2
- Primitive names such as TD0, BSCAN, M0, M1, M2, or STARTUP
- Do not use pin names such as P1 and A4 for component names
- Do not use pad names such as PAD1 for component names

Refer to the language reference manual for Verilog or VHDL for language-specific naming restrictions. Xilinx does not recommend using escape sequences for illegal characters. Also, if you plan on importing schematics into your design, use the most restrictive character set.

## Matching File Names to Entity and Module Names

Xilinx recommends the following practices in naming your HDL files.

- Ensure that the VHDL or Verilog source code file name matches the designated name of the entity (VHDL) or module (Verilog) specified in your design file. This is less confusing and generally makes it easier to create a script file for the compilation of your design.
- If your design contains more than one entity or module, each should be contained in a separate file with the appropriate file name.
- It is a good idea to use the same name as your top-level design file for your synthesis script file with either a .do, .scr, .script, or the appropriate default script file extension for your synthesis tool.

## Naming Identifiers, Types, and Packages

You can use long (256 characters maximum) identifier names with underscores and embedded punctuation in your code. Use meaningful names for signals and variables, such as CONTROL\_REGISTER. Use meaningful names when defining VHDL types and packages as shown in the following examples.

```
type LOCATION_TYPE is ...;
package STRING_IO_PKG is
```

## Labeling Flow Control Constructs

You can use optional labels on flow control constructs to make the code structure more obvious, as shown in the following VHDL and Verilog examples. However, you should note that these labels are not translated to gate or register names in your implemented design. Flow control constructs can slow down simulations in some Verilog simulators.

- **VHDL Example**

```
-- D_REGISTER.VHD
-- May 2001

-- Changing Latch into a D-Register

library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;

entity d_register is
    port (CLK, DATA: in STD_LOGIC;
          Q: out STD_LOGIC);
end d_register;
architecture BEHAV of d_register is
begin
My_D_Reg: process (CLK, DATA)
begin
    if (CLK'event and CLK='1') then
        Q <= DATA;
    end if;
end process; --End My_D_Reg
end BEHAV;
```

- **Verilog Example**

```
/* Changing Latch into a D-Register
 * D_REGISTER.V
 * May 2001
 */

module d_register (CLK, DATA, Q);

input CLK;
input DATA;
output Q;

reg Q;

    always @ (posedge CLK)
begin: My_D_Reg
    Q <= DATA;
end

endmodule
```

## Using Named and Positional Association

Use positional association in function and procedure calls, and in port lists only when you assign all items in the list. Use named association when you assign only some of the items in the list. Also, Xilinx suggests that you use named association to prevent incorrect connections for the ports of instantiated components. Do not combine positional and named association in the same statement as illustrated in the following examples.

- VHDL

Incorrect

```
CLK_1: BUFGS port map (I=>CLOCK_IN,CLOCK_OUT);
```

Correct

```
CLK_1: BUFGS port map(I=>CLOCK_IN,O=>CLOCK_OUT);
```

- Verilog

Incorrect

```
BUFGS CLK_1 (.I(CLOCK_IN), CLOCK_OUT);
```

Correct

```
BUFGS CLK_1 (.I(CLOCK_IN), .O(CLOCK_OUT));
```

## Passing Attributes

An attribute is attached to HDL objects in your design. You can pass attributes to HDL objects in two ways; you can predefine data that describes an object, or directly attach an attribute to an HDL object. Predefined attributes can be passed with a command file or constraints file in your synthesis tool, or you can place attributes directly in your HDL code. This section will illustrate passing attributes in HDL code only. For information on passing attributes via the command file, please refer to your synthesis tool manual.

Most vendors adopt identical syntax for passing attributes in VHDL, but not in Verilog. The examples below illustrate the VHDL syntax.

**Note** For FPGA Compiler II, attribute passing is available beginning with version 3.0 and the attributes can only be applied to instantiated components or ports (but not inferred logic and nets).

### VHDL Attribute Examples

The following are examples of VHDL attributes.

- Attribute declaration:

```
attribute <attribute_name> : <attribute_type>;
```

- Attribute use on a port or signal:

```
attribute <attribute_name> of <object_name> : signal is  
  <attribute_value>
```

**Example:**

```
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;

entity d_register is
    port (CLK, DATA: in STD_LOGIC;
          Q: out STD_LOGIC);
    attribute FAST : string;
    attribute FAST of Q : signal is "";
end d_register;
```

- Attribute use on an instance:

**attribute** <attribute\_name> of <object\_name> : label is  
<attribute\_value>

**Example:**

```
architecture struct of spblkrams is
    attribute INIT_00: string;
    attribute INIT_00 of INST_RAMB4_S4: label is
        "1F1E1D1C1B1A191817161514131211100F0E0D0C0B09087
         06050403020100";
begin
    INST_RAMB4_S4 : RAMB4_S4 port map (
        DI => DI(3 downto 0),
        EN => EN,
        WE => WE,
        RST => RST,
        CLK => CLK,
        ADDR => ADDR(9 downto 0),
        DO => DORAMB4_S4
    );
```

- Attribute use on a component:

**attribute** <attribute\_name> of <object\_name> : component is  
<attribute\_value>

Example:

```
architecture xilinx of tenths_ex is
attribute black_box : boolean;

component tenths
    port (
        CLOCK : in STD_LOGIC;
        CLK_EN : in STD_LOGIC;
        Q_OUT : out STD_LOGIC_VECTOR(9
            downto 0));
end component;

attribute black_box of tenths : component is
    true;

begin
```

## Verilog Attribute Examples

The following are examples of attribute passing in Verilog. Note that attribute passing in Verilog is synthesis tool specific.

- Attribute use in FPGA Compiler II syntax:

//synopsys **attribute** <name> <value>

Example:

```
BUFG CLOCKB (.I(oscout), .O(clkint)); //synopsys
attribute LOC "BR"

or

RAMB4_S4 U1 (.WE(w), .EN(en), .RST(r), .CLK(ck)
.ADDR(ad), .DI(di), .DO(do)); /* synopsys
    attribute INIT_00

"AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAABBBBBBBBBBBBBBBBBB" INIT_09

"99999988888888888888777777777766666666" */
```

- Attribute use in LeonardoSpectrum syntax:

```
//exemplar attribute <object_name> <attribute_name>  
<attribute_value>
```

Examples:

```
RAMB4_S8 U0 (.WE(WE), .EN(1'b1), .RST(1'b0),  
.CLK(CLK),.ADDR(ADDR), .DI(DIN), .DO(DOUT));  
  
//exemplar attribute U0 INIT_00  
  
1F1E1D1C1B1A191817161514131211100F0E0D0C0B0A0908  
070605040  
  
3020100
```

- Attribute use in Synplify syntax:

```
// synthesis <directive>  
  
//synthesis <attribute_name>=<value>  
  
or  
  
/* synthesis <directive> */  
  
/* synthesis <attribute_name>=<value> */
```

Examples:

```
FDCE u2(.D (q1),.CE(ce),.C (clk),.CLR (rst),  
.Q (qo)) /* synthesis rloc="r1c0.s0" */;  
  
or  
  
module BUFG(I,O); // synthesis black_box  
input I;  
output O;  
endmodule
```

- Attribute use in XST syntax:

```
// synthesis <attribute_name> of <object_name> is <value>
```

Example:

```
RAMB4_S8 U0 (.WE(WE), .EN(1'b1), .RST(1'b0),
```

```
.CLK(CLK),.ADDR(ADDR), .DI(DIN), .DO(DOUT));
```

```
//synthesis attribute INIT_00 of U0 is
```

```
"1F1E1D1C1B1A191817161514131211100F0E0D0C0B0A09080706  
050403020100"
```

## Understanding Synthesis Tools Naming Convention

Some net and logic names are preserved and some are altered by the synthesis tools during the synthesis process. This may result in a netlist that is hard to read or trace back to the original code.

This section will discuss how different synthesis tools generate names from your VHDL/Verilog codes. This will help you corollate nets and component names appearing in the EDIF netlist. It will also help corollate nets and names during your after-synthesis design view of the VHDL/Verilog source.

**Note** The naming conventions below apply to inferred logic. The names of instantiated components and their connections, and port names are preserved during synthesis.

- FPGA Compiler II Naming Styles:

Register instance: <output\_signal>\_reg

Output of register: <output\_signal>\_reg

Output of clock buffer: <signal>\_BUFGed

Output of tristate: <signal>\_tri

Port names: preserved

Hierarchy notation: '\_', e.g., <hier\_1>\_<hier\_2>

Other inferred component and net names are machine generated.

- LeonardoSpectrum Naming Styles:

Register instance: reg\_<output signal>

Output of register: preserved, except if the output is also external port of the design. In this case, it will be <signal>\_dup0

Clock buffer/ibuf: <driver\_signal>\_ibuf

Output of clock buffer/ibuf: <driver\_signal>\_int

Tristate instance: tri\_<output\_signal>

Driver and output of tristate: preserved

Hierarchy notation: '\_'

Other names are machine generated.

- Synplify Naming Styles:

Register instance: output\_signal

Output of register: output\_signal

Clock buffer instance/ibuf: <portname>\_ibuf

Output of clock buffer: <clkname>\_c

Output/inout tristate instance: <output\_signal>\_obuf or

<output\_signal>\_iobuf

Internal tristate instance: un<n>\_<signal\_name>\_tb, when <n> is any number or <signal\_name>\_tb

Output of tristate driving an output/inout : name of port

Output of internal tristate: <signal\_name>\_tb\_<number>

RAM instance and its output

- ♦ *Dual Port RAM:*

ram instance: <memory\_name>\_<n>.I\_<n>

ram output : DPO-><memory\_name>\_<n>.rout\_bus, SPO->

<memory\_name>\_<n>.wout\_bus

- ♦ *Single Port RAM:*

ram instance: <memory\_name>.I\_<n>

ram output: <memory\_name>

◆ *Single Port Block SelectRAM:*

ram\_instance: <memory\_name>.I\_<n>

ram output: <memory\_name>

◆ *Dual Port Block SelectRAM:*

ram\_instance: <memory\_name>.I\_<n>

ram output: <memory\_name>[the output that is used]

Hierarchy delimiter is usually a ".", however when syn\_hier="hard", the hierarchy delimiter in the edif is "/"

Other names are machine generated.

• XST Naming Styles:

Net Naming Conventions:

These rules are listed in order of naming priority.

1. External pin names are maintained.
2. Hierarchy in signal names is kept, using underscores as hierarchy designators.
3. Output signal names of registers, including state bits, are maintained. The hierarchical name from the level where the register was inferred is used.
4. Output signals of clock buffers get \_clockbuffertype (like \_BUFGP or \_IBUFG) follow the clock signal name.
5. Input nets to registers and tristates names are maintained.
6. Output net names of IBUFs are named *net\_name\_IBUF*. For example, for an IBUF with an output net name of DIN, the output IBUF net name is DIN\_IBUF. Input net names to OBUFs are named *net\_name\_OBUF*. For example, for an OBUF with an input net name of DOUT, the input OBUF net name is DOUT\_OBUF.

### Instance Naming Conventions:

These rules are listed in order of naming priority.

1. Hierarchy in instance names is kept, using underscores as hierarchy designators.
2. Register instances, including state bits, are named for the output signal.
3. Clock buffer instances are named `_clockbuffertype` (like `_BUFGP` or `_IBUFG`) after the output signal.
4. Instantiation instance names of black boxes are maintained.
5. Instantiation instance names of library primitives are maintained.
6. Input and output buffers are named `_IBUF` or `_OBUF` after the pad name.
7. Output instance names of IBUFs are named *instance\_name\_IBUF*. Input instance names to OBUFs are named *instance\_name\_OBUF*.

## Specifying Constants

Use constants in your design to substitute numbers to more meaningful names. The use of constants helps make a design more readable and portable.

### Using Constants to Specify OPCODE Functions (VHDL)

Do not use variables for constants in your code. Define constant numeric values in your code as constants and use them by name. This coding convention allows you to easily determine if several occurrences of the same literal value have the same meaning. In some simulators, using constants allows greater optimization. In the following code example, the OPCODE values are declared as constants, and the constant names refer to their function. This method produces readable code that may be easier to modify.

```
constant ZERO    : STD_LOGIC_VECTOR (1 downto 0):="00";
constant A_AND_B : STD_LOGIC_VECTOR (1 downto 0):="01";
constant A_OR_B  : STD_LOGIC_VECTOR (1 downto 0):="10";
constant ONE     : STD_LOGIC_VECTOR (1 downto 0):="11";

process (OPCODE, A, B)
begin
    if      (OPCODE = A_AND_B)then OP_OUT <= A and B;
    elsif  (OPCODE = A_OR_B) then OP_OUT <= A or B;
    elsif  (OPCODE = ONE) then OP_OUT <= '1';
    else
        OP_OUT <= '0';
    end if;
end process;
```

## Using Parameters to Specify OPCODE Functions (Verilog)

You can specify a constant value in Verilog using the parameter special data type, as shown in the following examples. The first example includes a definition of OPCODE constants as shown in the previous VHDL example. The second example shows how to use a parameter statement to define module bus widths.

- **Example 1**

```
//Using parameters for OPCODE functions

parameter ZERO = 2'b00;
parameter A_AND_B = 2'b01;
parameter A_OR_B = 2'b10;
parameter ONE = 2'b11;

always @ (OPCODE or A or B)
begin
    if (OPCODE=='ZERO)      OP_OUT=1'b0;
    else if(OPCODE=='A_AND_B) OP_OUT=A&B;
    else if(OPCODE=='A_OR_B) OP_OUT=A|B;
    else
        OP_OUT=1'b1;
    end
```

- **Example 2**

```
//Using a parameter for Bus Size  
parameter BUS_SIZE = 8;  
  
output ['BUS_SIZE-1:0] OUT;  
input ['BUS_SIZE-1:0] X,Y;
```

## Choosing Data Type (VHDL only)

Use the Std\_logic (IEEE 1164) standards for hardware descriptions when coding your design. These standards are recommended for the following reasons.

- *Applies as a wide range of state values*—It has nine different values that represent most of the states found in digital circuits.
- *Automatically initializes to an unknown value*—Automatic initialization is important for HDL designs because it forces you to initialize your design to a known state, which is similar to what is required in a schematic design. Do not override this feature by initializing signals and variables to a known value when they are declared because the result may be a gate-level circuit that cannot be initialized to a known value.
- *Easily performs board-level simulation*—For example, if you use an integer type for ports for one circuit and standard logic for ports for another circuit, your design can be synthesized; however, you will need to perform time-consuming type conversions for a board-level simulation.

The back-annotated netlist from Xilinx implementation is in Std\_logic. If you do not use Std\_logic type to drive your top-level entity in the testbench, you cannot reuse your functional testbench for timing simulation. Some synthesis tools can create a wrapper for type conversion between the two top-level entities; however, this is not recommended by Xilinx.

## Declaring Ports

Xilinx recommends that you use the Std\_logic package for all entity port declarations. This package makes it easier to integrate the

synthesized netlist back into the design hierarchy without requiring conversion functions for the ports. A VHDL example using the Std\_logic package for port declarations is shown below.

```
Entity alu is
  port( A : in STD_LOGIC_VECTOR(3 downto 0);
        B : in STD_LOGIC_VECTOR(3 downto 0);
        CLK : in STD_LOGIC;
        C : out STD_LOGIC_VECTOR(3 downto 0) );
end alu;
```

Since the downto convention for vectors is supported in a back-annotated netlist, the RTL and synthesized netlists should use the same convention if you are using the same test bench. This is necessary because of the loss of directionality when your design is synthesized to an EDIF netlist.

## **Minimizing the Use of Ports Declared as Buffers**

Do not use buffers when a signal is used internally and as an output port. In the following VHDL example, signal C is used internally and as an output port.

```
Entity alu is
  port( A : in STD_LOGIC_VECTOR(3 downto 0);
        B : in STD_LOGIC_VECTOR(3 downto 0);
        CLK : in STD_LOGIC;
        C : buffer STD_LOGIC_VECTOR(3 downto 0) );
end alu;
architecture BEHAVIORAL of alu is
begin
  process begin
    if (CLK'event and CLK='1') then
      C <= UNSIGNED(A) + UNSIGNED(B) UNSIGNED(C);
    end if;
  end process;
end BEHAVIORAL;
```

Because signal C is used both internally and as an output port, every level of hierarchy in your design that connects to port C must be declared as a buffer. However, buffer types are not commonly used in VHDL designs because they can cause problems during synthesis. To reduce the amount of buffer coding in hierarchical designs, you can

insert a dummy signal and declare port C as an output, as shown in the following VHDL example.

```
Entity alu is
    port( A : in STD_LOGIC_VECTOR(3 downto 0);
          B : in STD_LOGIC_VECTOR(3 downto 0);
          CLK : in STD_LOGIC;
          C : out STD_LOGIC_VECTOR(3 downto 0));
end alu;

architecture BEHAVIORAL of alu is
    -- dummy signal
    signal C_INT : STD_LOGIC_VECTOR(3 downto 0);
begin
    C <= C_INT;
    process begin
        if (CLK'event and CLK='1') then
            C_INT <= UNSIGNED(A) + UNSIGNED(B) +
                UNSIGNED(C_INT);

            end if;
        end process;
    end BEHAVIORAL;
```

## Comparing Signals and Variables (VHDL only)

You can use signals and variables in your designs. Signals are similar to hardware and are not updated until the end of a process. Variables are immediately updated and, as a result, can affect the functionality of your design. Xilinx recommends using signals for hardware descriptions; however, variables allow quick simulation.

The following VHDL examples show a synthesized design that uses signals and variables, respectively. These examples are shown implemented with gates in the “Gate Implementation of XOR\_VAR” and “Gate Implementation of XOR\_SIG” figures.

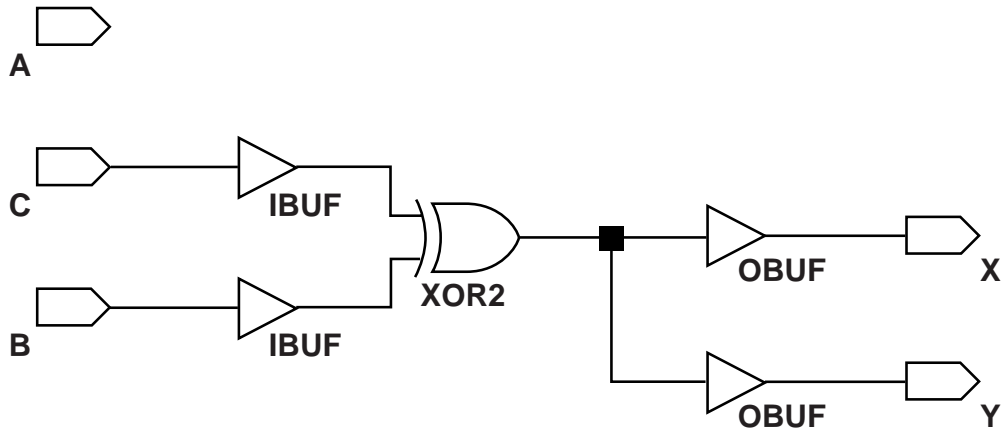
**Note** If you assign several values to a signal in one process, only the final value is used. When you assign a value to a variable, the assignment takes place immediately. A variable maintains its value until you specify a new value.

## Using Signals (VHDL)

```
-- XOR_SIG.VHD
-- May 2001
Library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
entity xor_sig is

    port (A, B, C: in  STD_LOGIC;
          X, Y: out STD_LOGIC);
end xor_sig;

architecture SIG_ARCH of xor_sig is
    signal D: STD_LOGIC;
begin
    SIG:process (A,B,C)
    begin
        D <= A; -- ignored !!
        X <= C xor D;
        D <= B; -- overrides !!
        Y <= C xor D;
    end process;
end SIG_ARCH;
```



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Figure 3-1 Gate implementation of XOR\_SIG

### Using Variables (VHDL)

```
-- XOR_VAR.VHD
-- May 2001

Library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
use IEEE.std_logic_unsigned.all;

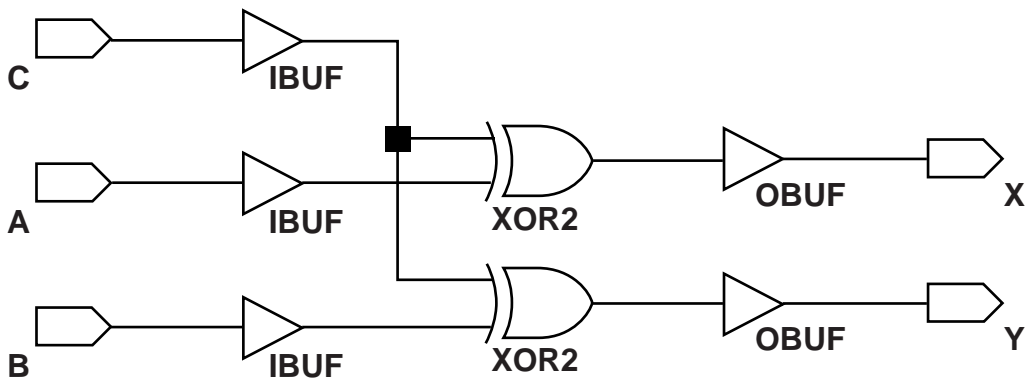
entity xor_var is
  port (A, B, C: in  STD_LOGIC;
        X, Y:      out STD_LOGIC);
end xor_var;
```

```

architecture VAR_ARCH of xor_var is
begin

    VAR:process (A,B,C)
        variable D: STD_LOGIC;
    begin
        D := A;
        X <= C xor D;
        D := B;
        Y <= C xor D;
    end process;
end VAR_ARCH;

```



X8

Figure 3-2 Gate Implementation of XOR\_VAR

## Coding for Synthesis

VHDL and Verilog are hardware description and simulation languages that were not originally intended as inputs to synthesis. Therefore, many hardware description and simulation constructs are not supported by synthesis tools. In addition, the various synthesis tools use different subsets of VHDL and Verilog. VHDL and Verilog semantics are well defined for design simulation. The synthesis tools must adhere to these semantics to ensure that designs simulate the same way before and after synthesis. Follow the guidelines presented below to create code that simulates the same way before and after synthesis.

## Omit the Wait for XX ns Statement

Do not use the Wait for XX ns statement in your code. XX specifies the number of nanoseconds that must pass before a condition is executed. This statement does not synthesize to a component. In designs that include this statement, the functionality of the simulated design does not match the functionality of the synthesized design. VHDL and Verilog examples of the Wait for XX ns statement are as follows.

- VHDL  
wait for XX ns;
- Verilog  
#XX;

## Omit the ...After XX ns or Delay Statement

Do not use the ...After XX ns statement in your VHDL code or the Delay assignment in your Verilog code. Examples of these statements are as follows.

- VHDL  
(Q <=0 after XX ns)
- Verilog  
assign #XX Q=0;

XX specifies the number of nanoseconds that must pass before a condition is executed. This statement is usually ignored by the synthesis tool. In this case, the functionality of the simulated design does not match the functionality of the synthesized design.

## Omit Initial Values

Do not assign signals and variables initial values because initial values are ignored by most synthesis tools. The functionality of the simulated design may not match the functionality of the synthesized design.

For example, do not use initialization statements like the following VHDL and Verilog statements.

- VHDL

```
variable SUM:INTEGER:=0;
```

- Verilog

```
wire SUM=1'b0;
```

## Order and Group Arithmetic Functions

The ordering and grouping of arithmetic functions can influence design performance. For example, the following two VHDL statements are not necessarily equivalent.

```
ADD <= A1 + A2 + A3 + A4;  
ADD <= (A1 + A2) + (A3 + A4);
```

For Verilog, the following two statements are not necessarily equivalent.

```
ADD = A1 + A2 + A3 + A4;  
ADD = (A1 + A2) + (A3 + A4);
```

The first statement cascades three adders in series. The second statement creates two adders in parallel:  $A1 + A2$  and  $A3 + A4$ . In the second statement, the two additions are evaluated in parallel and the results are combined with a third adder. RTL simulation results are the same for both statements, however, the second statement results in a faster circuit after synthesis (depending on the bit width of the input signals).

Although the second statement generally results in a faster circuit, in some cases, you may want to use the first statement. For example, if the  $A4$  signal reaches the adder later than the other signals, the first statement produces a faster implementation because the cascaded structure creates fewer logic levels for  $A4$ . This structure allows  $A4$  to catch up to the other signals. In this case,  $A1$  is the fastest signal followed by  $A2$  and  $A3$ ;  $A4$  is the slowest signal.

Most synthesis tools can balance or restructure the arithmetic operator tree if timing constraints require it. However, Xilinx recommends that you code your design for your selected structure.

## Comparing If Statement and Case Statement

The If statement generally produces priority-encoded logic and the Case statement generally creates balanced logic. An If statement can contain a set of different expressions while a Case statement is evaluated against a common controlling expression. In general, use the Case statement for complex decoding and use the If statement for speed critical paths.

Most current synthesis tools can determine if the if-elsif conditions are mutually exclusive, and will not create extra logic to build the priority tree. The following are points to consider when writing if statements.

- Make sure that all outputs are defined in all branches of an if statement. If not, it can create latches or long equations on the CE signal. A good way to prevent this is to have default values for all outputs before the if statements.
- Limiting the number of input signals into an if statement can reduce the number of logic levels. If there are a large number of input signals, see if some of them can be pre-decoded and registered before the if statement.
- Avoid bringing the dataflow into a complex if statement. Only control signals should be generated in complex if-else statements.

The following examples use an If construct in a 4-to-1 multiplexer design. The “If\_Ex Implementation” figure shows the implementation of these designs.

### 4-to-1 Multiplexer Design with If Construct

- VHDL Example

```
-- IF_EX.VHD
-- May 2001
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
use IEEE.std_logic_unsigned.all;
entity if_ex is
    port (SEL: in STD_LOGIC_VECTOR(1 downto 0);
          A,B,C,D: in STD_LOGIC;
          MUX_OUT: out STD_LOGIC);
end if_ex;

architecture BEHAV of if_ex is
begin

    IF_PRO: process (SEL,A,B,C,D)
    begin
        if      (SEL="00") then MUX_OUT <= A;
        elsif  (SEL="01") then MUX_OUT <= B;
        elsif  (SEL="10") then MUX_OUT <= C;
        elsif  (SEL="11") then MUX_OUT <= D;
        else
            MUX_OUT <= '0';
        end if;
    end process; --END IF_PRO

end BEHAV;
```

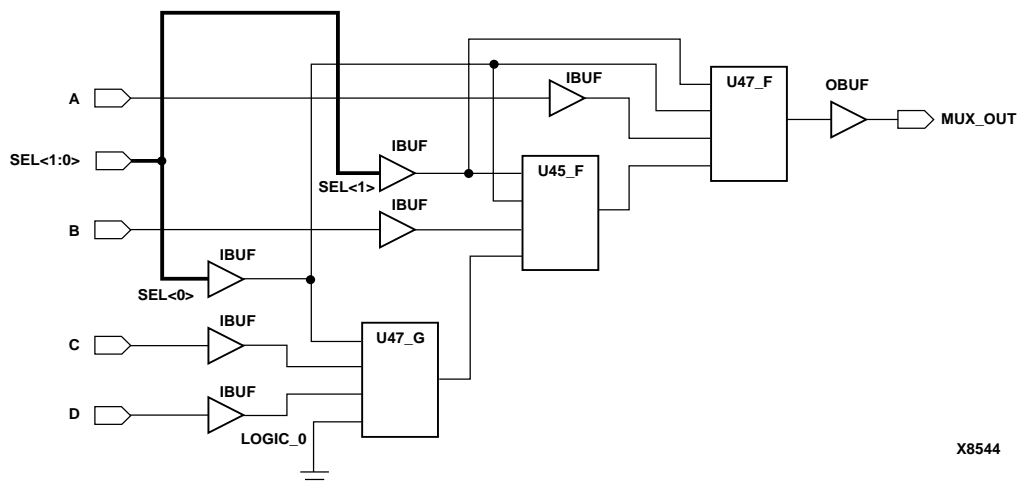
- Verilog Example

```
////////////////////////////////////
// IF_EX.V                                //
// Example of a If statement showing a     //
// mux created using priority encoded logic //
// HDL Synthesis Design Guide for FPGAs    //
// November 2000                           //
////////////////////////////////////

module if_ex (A, B, C, D, SEL, MUX_OUT);

    input      A, B, C, D;
    input  [1:0] SEL;
    output     MUX_OUT;
    reg        MUX_OUT;

    always @ (A or B or C or D or SEL)
    begin
        if (SEL == 2'b00)
            MUX_OUT = A;
        else if (SEL == 2'b01)
            MUX_OUT = B;
        else if (SEL == 2'b10)
            MUX_OUT = C;
        else if (SEL == 2'b11)
            MUX_OUT = D;
        else
            MUX_OUT = 0;
    end
endmodule
```



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**Figure 3-3 If\_Ex Implementation**

The following VHDL and Verilog examples use a Case construct for the same multiplexer. The “Case\_Ex Implementation” figure shows the implementation of these designs. In these examples, the Case implementation requires only one Virtex slice while the If construct requires two slices in some synthesis tools. In this case, design the multiplexer using the Case construct because fewer resources are used and the delay path is shorter.

When writing case statements, make sure all outputs are defined in all branches.

## 4-to-1 Multiplexer Design with Case Construct

- VHDL Example

```
-- CASE_EX.VHD
-- May 2001

library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
use IEEE.std_logic_unsigned.all;

entity case_ex is
    port (SEL: in STD_LOGIC_VECTOR(1 downto 0);
          A,B,C,D: in STD_LOGIC;
          MUX_OUT: out STD_LOGIC);
end case_ex;

architecture BEHAV of case_ex is
begin

    CASE_PRO: process (SEL,A,B,C,D)
    begin
        case SEL is
            when "00" => MUX_OUT <= A;
            when "01" => MUX_OUT <= B;
            when "10" => MUX_OUT <= C;
            when "11" => MUX_OUT <= D;
            when others=> MUX_OUT <= '0';
        end case;
    end process; --End CASE_PRO
end BEHAV;
```

- Verilog Example

```
//////////////////////////////////////////
// CASE_EX.V                               //
// Example of a Case statement showing //
// A mux created using parallel logic //
// HDL Synthesis Design Guide for FPGAs //
// November 2000                           //
//////////////////////////////////////////
module case_ex (A, B, C, D, SEL, MUX_OUT);

    input      A, B, C, D;
    input  [1:0] SEL;
    output      MUX_OUT;
    reg         MUX_OUT;

    always @ (A or B or C or D or SEL)
    begin
        case (SEL)
            2'b00:
                MUX_OUT = A;
            2'b01:
                MUX_OUT = B;
            2'b10:
                MUX_OUT = C;
            2'b11:
                MUX_OUT = D;
            default:
                MUX_OUT = 0;
        endcase
    end
endmodule
```

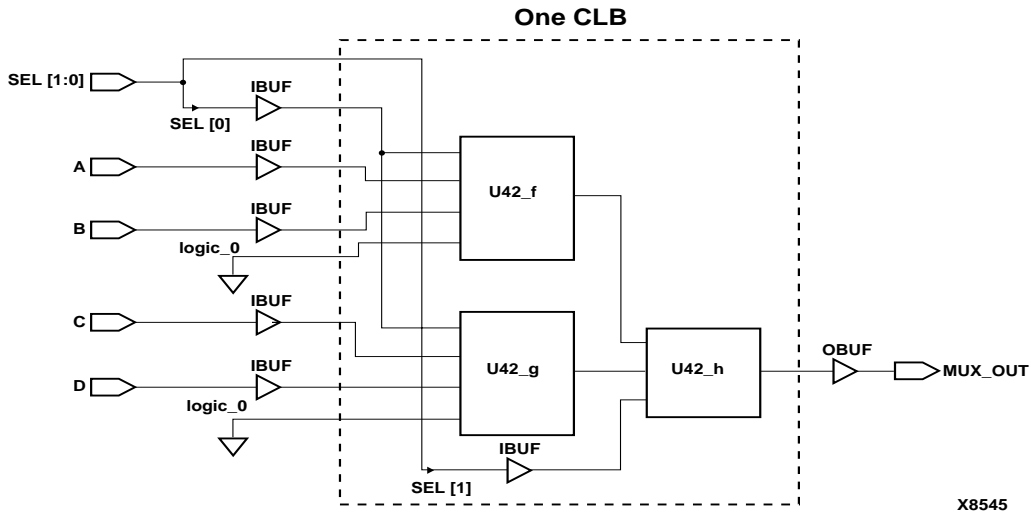


Figure 3-4 Case\_Ex Implementation

## Implementing Latches and Registers

Synthesizers infer latches from incomplete conditional expressions, such as an If statement without an Else clause. This can be problematic for FPGA designs because not all FPGA devices have latches available in the CLBs. In addition, you may think that a register is created, and the synthesis tool actually created a latch. The Spartan-II and Virtex/E/II/II Pro FPGAs do have registers that can be configured to act as latches. For these devices, synthesizers infer a dedicated latch from incomplete conditional expressions.

### D Latch Inference

- **VHDL Example**

```
-- D_LATCH.VHD
-- May 2001

library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;

entity d_latch is
    port (GATE, DATA: in STD_LOGIC;
          Q: out STD_LOGIC);
end d_latch;

architecture BEHAV of d_latch is
begin
    LATCH: process (GATE, DATA)
    begin
        if (GATE = '1') then
            Q <= DATA;
        end if;
    end process; -- end LATCH

end BEHAV;
```

- **Verilog Example**

```
/* Transparent High Latch
 * D_LATCH.V
 * May 2001
 */

module d_latch (GATE, DATA, Q);

input GATE;
input DATA;
output Q;
reg Q;

    always @ (GATE or DATA)
    begin
        if (GATE == 1'b1)
            Q <= DATA;
    end // End Latch

endmodule
```

## **Converting D Latch to D Register**

If your intention is to not infer a latch, but rather to infer a D register, then the following code is the latch code example, modified to infer a D register.

- **VHDL Example**

```
-- D_REGISTER.VHD
-- May 2001

-- Changing Latch into a D-Register

library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;

entity d_register is

    port (CLK, DATA: in STD_LOGIC;
          Q: out STD_LOGIC);
end d_register;

architecture BEHAV of d_register is
begin

MY_D_REG: process (CLK, DATA)
begin
    if (CLK'event and CLK='1') then
        Q <= DATA;
    end if;
end process; --End MY_D_REG
end BEHAV;
```

- **Verilog Example**

```
/* Changing Latch into a D-Register
 * D_REGISTER.V
 * May 2001                                     */

module d_register (CLK, DATA, Q);

input CLK;
input DATA;
output Q;
reg Q;

    always @ (posedge CLK)
    begin: My_D_Reg
        Q <= DATA;
    end

endmodule
```

With some synthesis tools you can determine the number of latches that are implemented in your design. Check the manuals that came with your software for information on determining the number of latches in your design.

You should convert all If statements without corresponding Else statements and without a clock edge to registers. Use the recommended register coding styles in the synthesis tool documentation to complete this conversion.

## Resource Sharing

Resource sharing is an optimization technique that uses a single functional block (such as an adder or comparator) to implement several operators in the HDL code. Use resource sharing to improve design performance by reducing the gate count and the routing congestion. If you do not use resource sharing, each HDL operation is built with

separate circuitry. However, you may want to disable resource sharing for speed critical paths in your design.

The following operators can be shared either with instances of the same operator or with an operator on the same line.

\*  
+ -  
> >= < <=

For example, a + operator can be shared with instances of other + operators or with – operators. A \* operator can be shared only with other \* operators.

You can implement arithmetic functions (+, –, magnitude comparators) with gates or with your synthesis tool's module library. The library functions use modules that take advantage of the carry logic in Spartan-II, Virtex family, and Virtex-II/Pro family CLBs/slices. Carry logic and its dedicated routing increase the speed of arithmetic functions that are larger than 4-bits. To increase speed, use the module library if your design contains arithmetic functions that are larger than 4-bits or if your design contains only one arithmetic function. Resource sharing of the module library automatically occurs in most synthesis tools if the arithmetic functions are in the same process.

Resource sharing adds additional logic levels to multiplex the inputs to implement more than one function. Therefore, you may not want to use it for arithmetic functions that are part of your design's time critical path.

Since resource sharing allows you to reduce the number of design resources, the device area required for your design is also decreased. The area that is used for a shared resource depends on the type and bit width of the shared operation. You should create a shared resource to accommodate the largest bit width and to perform all operations.

If you use resource sharing in your designs, you may want to use multiplexers to transfer values from different sources to a common resource input. In designs that have shared operations with the same output target, the number of multiplexers is reduced as illustrated in the following VHDL and Verilog examples. The HDL example is shown implemented with gates in the [Figure 3-5](#).

- VHDL Example

```
-- RES_SHARING.VHD
-- May 2001

library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
use IEEE.std_logic_unsigned.all;
use IEEE.std_logic_arith.all;

entity res_sharing is
    port (A1,B1,C1,D1: in STD_LOGIC_VECTOR (7 downto 0);
          COND_1: in STD_LOGIC;
          Z1: out STD_LOGIC_VECTOR (7 downto 0));
end res_sharing;

architecture BEHAV of res_sharing is
begin
P1: process (A1,B1,C1,D1,COND_1)
    begin
        if (COND_1='1') then
            Z1 <= A1 + B1;
        else
            Z1 <= C1 + D1;
        end if;
    end process; -- end P1
end BEHAV;
```

- Verilog Example

```
/* Resource Sharing Example
 * RES_SHARING.V
 * May 2001
 */

module res_sharing (A1, B1, C1, D1, COND_1, Z1);

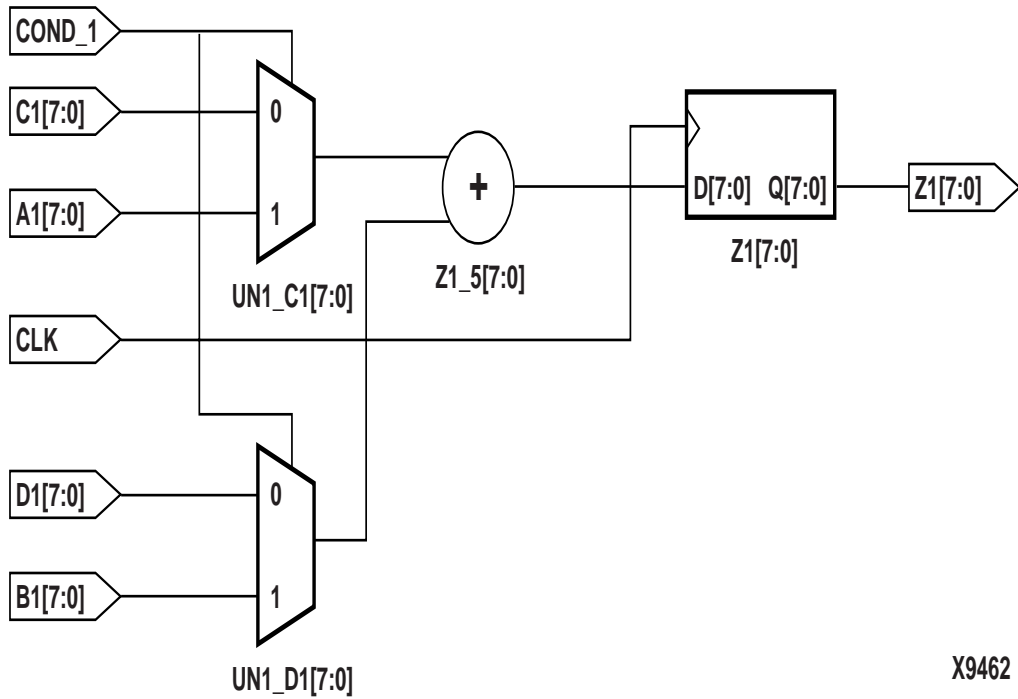
input      COND_1;
input  [7:0] A1, B1, C1, D1;
output [7:0] Z1;

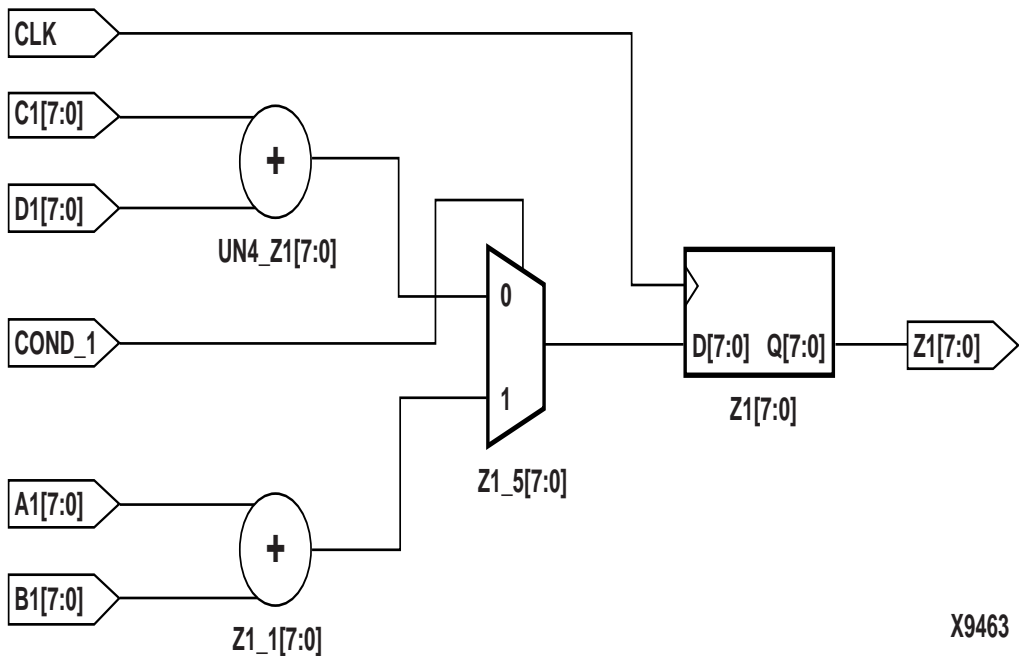
reg [7:0] Z1;

    always @(A1 or B1 or C1 or D1 or COND_1)
    begin
        if (COND_1)
            Z1 <= A1 + B1;
        else
            Z1 <= C1 + D1;
    end

endmodule
```

If you disable resource sharing or if you code the design with the adders in separate processes, the design is implemented using two separate modules as shown in the “Implementation without Resource Sharing” figure.

**Figure 3-5 Implementation of Resource Sharing**



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**Figure 3-6 Implementation without Resource Sharing**

**Note** Refer to the appropriate reference manual for more information on resource sharing.

## Reducing Gate Count

Use the generated module components to reduce the number of gates in your designs. The module generation algorithms use Xilinx carry logic to reduce function generator logic and improve routing and speed performance. Further gate reduction can occur with synthesis tools that recognize the use of constants with the modules.

You can reduce the number of gates further reduced by mapping your design onto dedicated logic blocks such as BlockRAM. This will also reduce the amount of distributed logic.

## Using Preset Pin or Clear Pin

Xilinx FPGAs consist of CLBs that contain function generators and flip-flops. Spartan-II and Virtex/Virtex-E/Virtex-II/Virtex-II Pro registers can be configured to have either or both preset and clear pins.

### Register Inference

The following VHDL and Verilog designs show how to describe a register with a clock enable and either an asynchronous preset or a clear.

- VHDL Example

```
-- FF_EXAMPLE.VHD
-- May 2001
-- Example of Implementing Registers

library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
use IEEE.std_logic_unsigned.all;
entity ff_example is
    port ( RESET, CLOCK, ENABLE: in STD_LOGIC;
          D_IN: in STD_LOGIC_VECTOR (7 downto 0);
          A_Q_OUT: out STD_LOGIC_VECTOR (7 downto 0);
          B_Q_OUT: out STD_LOGIC_VECTOR (7 downto 0);
          C_Q_OUT: out STD_LOGIC_VECTOR (7 downto 0);
          D_Q_OUT: out STD_LOGIC_VECTOR (7 downto 0));
end ff_example;
```

```
architecture BEHAV of ff_example is
begin
    -- D flip-flop
    FF: process (CLOCK)
    begin
        if (CLOCK'event and CLOCK='1') then
            A_Q_OUT <= D_IN;
        end if;
    end process; -- End FF
    -- Flip-flop with asynchronous reset
    FF_ASYNC_RESET: process (RESET, CLOCK)
    begin
        if (RESET = '1') then
            B_Q_OUT <= "00000000";
        elsif (CLOCK'event and CLOCK='1') then
            B_Q_OUT <= D_IN;
        end if;
    end process; -- End FF_ASYNC_RESET
    -- Flip-flop with asynchronous set
    FF_ASYNC_SET: process (RESET, CLOCK)
    begin
        if (RESET = '1') then
            C_Q_OUT <= "11111111";
        elsif (CLOCK'event and CLOCK = '1') then
            C_Q_OUT <= D_IN;
        end if;
    end process; -- End FF_ASYNC_SET
```

```
-- Flip-flop with asynchronous reset
-- and clock enable
    FF_CLOCK_ENABLE: process (ENABLE, RESET,
                              CLOCK)
    begin
        if (RESET = '1') then
            D_Q_OUT <= "00000000";
        elsif (CLOCK'event and CLOCK='1') then
            if (ENABLE='1') then
                D_Q_OUT <= D_IN;
            end if;
        end if;
    end process; -- End FF_CLOCK_ENABLE
-- Flip-flop with asynchronous reset
-- asynchronous set and clock enable
FF_ASR_CLOCK_ENABLE: process (ENABLE, RESET,
                              SET, CLOCK)
begin
    if (RESET = '1') then
        E_Q_OUT <= "00000000";
    elsif (SET = '1') then
        E_Q_OUT <= "11111111";
    elsif (CLOCK'event and CLOCK='1') then
        if (ENABLE='1') then
            E_Q_OUT <= D_IN;
        end if;
    end if;
end process; -- End FF_ASR_CLOCK_ENABLE
end BEHAV;
```

## Using Clock Enable Pin Instead of Gated Clocks

Use the CLB clock enable pin instead of gated clocks in your designs. Gated clocks can introduce glitches, increased clock delay, clock skew, and other undesirable effects. The first two examples in this section (VHDL and Verilog) illustrate a design that uses a gated clock. [Figure 3-7](#) shows this design implemented with gates. Following these examples are VHDL and Verilog designs that show how you can modify the gated clock design to use the clock enable pin of the CLB. [Figure 3-8](#) shows this design implemented with gates.

- VHDL Example

```
-----  
-- GATE_CLOCK.VHD Version 1.1                      --  
-- Illustrates clock buffer control                  --  
-- Better implementation is to use                  --  
-- clock enable rather than gated clock             --  
-- May 2001                                         --  
-----  
  
library IEEE;  
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;  
use IEEE.std_logic_unsigned.all;  
  
entity gate_clock is  
    port (IN1,IN2,DATA,CLK,LOAD: in STD_LOGIC;  
          OUT1: out STD_LOGIC);  
end gate_clock;
```

```
architecture BEHAVIORAL of gate_clock is
    signal GATECLK: STD_LOGIC;

begin
    GATECLK <= (IN1 and IN2 and CLK);
    GATE_PR: process (GATECLK,DATA,LOAD)
    begin
        if (GATECLK'event and GATECLK='1') then
            if (LOAD='1') then
                OUT1 <= DATA;
            end if;
        end if;
    end process; --End GATE_PR
end BEHAVIORAL;
```

- **Verilog Example**

```
//////////////////////////////////////////
// GATE_CLOCK.V Version 1.1              //
// Gated Clock Example                   //
// Better implementation to use clock    //
// enables than gating the clock        //
// May 2001                             //
//////////////////////////////////////////

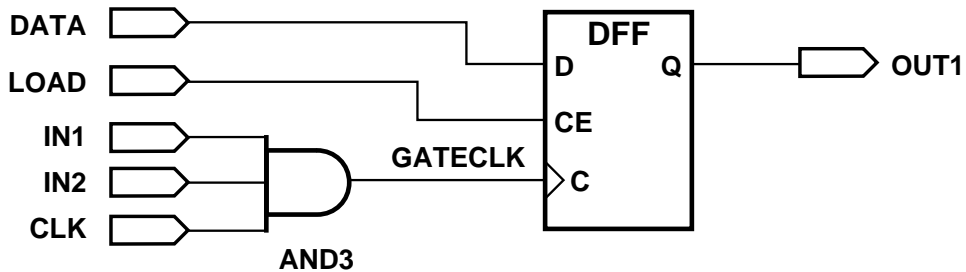
module gate_clock(IN1, IN2, DATA,
                 CLK,LOAD,OUT1);
    input      IN1 ;
    input      IN2 ;
    input      DATA ;
    input      CLK ;
    input      LOAD ;
    output     OUT1 ;
    reg        OUT1 ;

    wire GATECLK ;

    assign GATECLK = (IN1 & IN2 & CLK);

    always @(posedge GATECLK)
    begin
        if (LOAD == 1'b1)
            OUT1 = DATA;
    end

endmodule
```



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**Figure 3-7 Implementation of Gated Clock**

- VHDL Example

```
-- CLOCK_ENABLE.VHD
```

```
-- May 2001
```

```
library IEEE;
```

```
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
```

```
use IEEE.std_logic_unsigned.all;
```

```
entity clock_enable is
```

```
    port (IN1,IN2,DATA,CLOCK,LOAD: in STD_LOGIC;
```

```
          DOUT: out STD_LOGIC);
```

```
end clock_enable;
```

```
architecture BEHAV of clock_enable is
    signal ENABLE: STD_LOGIC;
begin

    ENABLE <= IN1 and IN2 and LOAD;

    EN_PR: process (ENABLE,DATA,CLOCK)
    begin
        if (CLOCK'event and CLOCK='1') then
            if (ENABLE='1') then
                DOUT <= DATA;
            end if;
        end if;
    end process; -- End EN_PR

end BEHAV;
```

- **Verilog Example**

```
/* Clock enable example
 * CLOCK_ENABLE.V
 * May 2001
 */

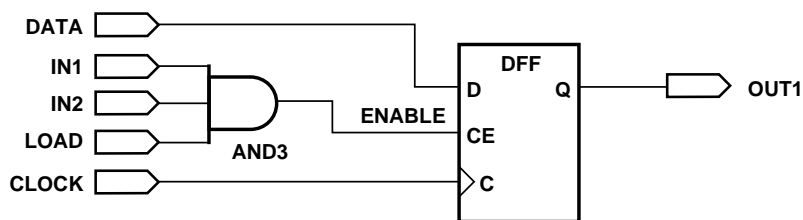
module clock_enable (IN1, IN2, DATA, CLK, LOAD,
                    DOUT);

input IN1, IN2, DATA;
input CLK, LOAD;
output DOUT;

wire ENABLE;
reg DOUT;

assign ENABLE = IN1 & IN2 & LOAD;

always @(posedge CLK)
begin
    if (ENABLE)
        DOUT <= DATA;
    end
endmodule
```



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**Figure 3-8 Implementation of Clock Enable**

## Architecture Specific HDL Coding Styles for Spartan-II, Virtex, Virtex-E, Virtex-II, and Virtex-II Pro

---

This chapter includes coding techniques to help you improve synthesis results. It includes the following sections.

- “Introduction”
- “Instantiating Components”
- “Using Boundary Scan (JTAG 1149.1)”
- “Using Global Clock Buffers”
- “Using Advanced Clock Management”
- “Using Dedicated Global Set/Reset Resource”
- “Implementing Inputs and Outputs”
- “Encoding State Machines”
- “Implementing Operators and Generate Modules”
- “Implementing Memory”
- “Implementing Shift Register (Virtex/E/II and Spartan-II)”
- “Implementing Multiplexers”
- “Using Pipelining”
- “Design Hierarchy”

### Introduction

This chapter highlights the features and synthesis techniques in designing with Xilinx Virtex/E/II/II Pro and Spartan-II FPGAs.

Virtex/E and Spartan-II devices share many architectural similarities. Virtex-II/II Pro provide an architecture that is substantially different from Virtex, Virtex-E, and Spartan-II; however, many of the synthesis design techniques apply the same way to all these devices. Unless otherwise stated, the features and examples in this chapter apply to all Virtex/E/II/II Pro and Spartan-II devices. For details specific to Virtex-II Pro, see the *Virtex II Pro Handbook*.

This chapter covers the following FPGA HDL coding features.

- Advanced clock management
- On-chip RAM and ROM
- IEEE 1149.1 — compatible boundary scan logic support
- Flexible I/O with Adjustable Slew-rate Control and Pull-up/Pull-down Resistors
- Various drive strength
- Various I/O standards
- Dedicated high-speed carry-propagation circuit

You can use these device characteristics to improve resource utilization and enhance the speed of critical paths in your HDL designs. The examples in this chapter are provided to help you incorporate these system features into your HDL designs.

## Instantiating Components

Xilinx provides a set of libraries that your Synthesis tool can infer from your HDL code description. However, architecture specific and customized components must be explicitly instantiated as components in your design.

### Instantiating FPGA Primitives

Architecture specific components that are built in to the implementation software's library are available for instantiation without the need of specifying a definition. These components are marked as *primitive* in the *Libraries Guide*. Components marked as *macro* in the *Libraries Guide* are not built into the implementation software's library so they cannot be instantiated. The macro components in the *Libraries Guide* define the schematic symbols. When macros are used, the schematic

tool decomposes the macros into their primitive elements when the schematic tool writes out the netlist.

FPGA primitives can be instantiated in VHDL and Verilog.

- VHDL Example (declaring component and port map)

```
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
-- Add the following two lines if using Synplify:
-- library virtex;
-- use virtex.components.all;
entity flops is port(
di: in std_logic;
ce : in std_logic;
clk: in std_logic;
qo: out std_logic;
rst: in std_logic);
end flops;
-- remove the following component declaration
-- if using Synplify

architecture inst of flops is
component FDCE port( D: in std_logic;
                    CE: in std_logic;
                    C: in std_logic;
                    CLR: in std_logic;
                    Q: out std_logic);
end component;

begin
U0 : FDCE port map(D => di,
                  CE=> ce,
                  C => clk,
                  CLR => rst,
                  Q => qo);
end inst;
```

**Note** To use this example in Synplify, you need to add the Xilinx primitive library and remove the component declarations as noted above.

The Virtex library contains primitives of Virtex and Spartan-II architectures. Replace 'virtex' with the appropriate device family if you are targeting other Xilinx FPGA architecture

If you are designing with a Virtex-E device, use the **virtexe** library. If you are designing with a Virtex-II/II Pro device, use the **virtex2** library.

- Verilog Example.

```
module flops (d1, ce, clk, q1, rst);
input d1;
input ce;
input clk;
output q1;
input rst;

FDCE u1 (.D(d1),
        .CE(ce),
        .C (clk),
        .CLR(rst),
        .Q (q1));

endmodule
```

## Instantiating CORE Generator Modules

The CORE Generator allows you to generate complex ready-to-use functions such as FIFO, Filter, Divider, RAM, and ROM. CORE Generator will generate EDIF netlist to describe the functionality and a component instantiation template for HDL instantiation. For more information on the use and functions created by the CORE Generator, see the *CORE Generator Guide*.

In VHDL, you can declare the component and port map as shown in the “*Instantiating FPGA Primitives*” section above. Synthesis tools will assume a black box for components that do not have a VHDL functional description.

In Verilog, an empty module must be declared to get port directionality. Synthesis tools will assume a black box for components that do not have a Verilog functional description.

**Example of Black Box Directive and Empty Module Declaration.**

```
module r256x16s (  
    addr,  
    di,  
    clk,  
    we,  
    en,  
    rst,  
    do);  
input [7:0] addr;  
input [15:0] di;  
input clk;  
input we;  
input en;  
input rst;  
output [15:0] do;  
endmodule  
  
module top (addrp, dip, clkp, wep, enp, rstp, dop);  
input [7:0] addrp;  
input [15:0] dip;  
input clkp;  
input wep;  
input enp;  
input rstp;  
output [15:0] dop;  
r256x16s U0(  
    .addr(addrp), .di(dip),  
    .clk(clkp), .we(wep),  
    .en(enp), .rst(rstp),  
    .do(dop));  
endmodule
```

## Using Boundary Scan (JTAG 1149.1)

Virtex/E/II/II Pro and Spartan-II FPGAs contain boundary scan facilities that are compatible with IEEE Standard 1149.1.

You can access the built-in boundary scan logic between power-up and the start of configuration.

In a configured Virtex/E/II/II Pro and Spartan-II device, basic boundary scan operations are always available. BSCAN\_VIRTEX, BSCAN\_VIRTEX2 and BSCAN\_SPARTAN2 are instantiated only if users want to create internal boundary scan chains in a Virtex/Virtex-E /Virtex-II /Virtex-II Pro or Spartan-II device.

For specific information on boundary scan for an architecture, refer to the *Libraries Guide* and *The Programmable Logic Data Book*. For information on configuration and readback of Virtex/Virtex-E/Spartan-II FPGAs refer to XAPP 139 at <http://support.xilinx.com/xapp/xapp139.pdf>.

## Using Global Clock Buffers

For designs with global signals, use global clock buffers to take advantage of the low-skew, high-drive capabilities of the dedicated global buffer tree of the target device. Your synthesis tool automatically inserts a clock buffer whenever an input signal drives a clock signal or whenever an internal clock signal reaches a certain fanout. The Xilinx implementation software automatically selects the clock buffer that is appropriate for your specified design architecture.

Some synthesis tools also limit global buffer insertions to match the number of buffers available on the device. Refer to your synthesis tool documentation for detailed information.

You can instantiate the clock buffers if your design requires a special architecture-specific buffer or if you want to specify how the clock buffer resources should be allocated.

Table 5-1 summarizes global buffer (BUFG) resources in Virtex, Virtex-E, Virtex-II, Virtex-II Pro, and Spartan-II devices.

**Table 4-1 Global Buffer Resources**

Buffer Type	Virtex	Virtex-E	Virtex-II/II Pro	Spartan-II
BUFG	4	4	N/A	4
BUFGMUX	N/A	N/A	16	N/A

Virtex/E/II/II Pro, and Spartan-II devices include two tiers of global routing resources referred to as primary global and secondary local clock routing resources.

**Note** In Virtex-II/II Pro, BUFG is available for instantiation, but will be implemented with BUFGMUX.

- The primary global routing resources are dedicated global nets with dedicated input pins that are designed to distribute high-fanout clock signals with minimal skew. Each global clock net can drive all CLB, IOB, and Block SelectRAM+ clock pins. The primary global nets may only be driven by the global buffers (BUFG), one for each global net. There are four primary global nets in Virtex/E and Spartan-II. There are sixteen in Virtex-II/II Pro.
- The secondary local clock routing resources consist of backbone lines or longlines. These secondary resources are more flexible than the primary resources since they are not restricted to routing clock signal only. These backbone lines are accessed differently between Virtex/E/Spartan-II and Virtex-II/II Pro devices as follows:
  - ◆ In Virtex/E and Spartan-II devices, there are 12 longlines across the top of the chip and 12 across bottom. From these lines, up to 12 unique signals per column can be distributed via the 12 longlines in the column. To use this, you must specify the USELOWSKEWLINES constraint in the UCF file. For more information on the USELOWSKEWLINES constraint syntax, refer to the *Constraints Guide*.
  - ◆ In Virtex-II, longlines resources are more abundant. There are many ways in which the secondary clocks or high fanout signals can be routed using a pattern of resources that result in low skew. The Xilinx Implementation tools will automatically use these resources based on various constraints in your

design. Additionally, the USELOWSKEWLINES constraint can be applied to access this routing resource.

## Inserting Clock Buffers

Many synthesis tools automatically insert a global buffer (BUFG) when an input port drives a register's clock pin or when an internal clock signal reaches a certain fanout. A BUFGP (an IBUFG-BUFG connection) is inserted for the external clock whereas a BUFG is inserted for an internal clock. Most synthesis tools will also allow you to control BUFG insertions manually if you have more clock pins than the available BUFGs resources.

FPGA Compiler II will infer up to four clock buffers for pure clock nets. FPGA Compiler II will not infer a BUFG on a clock line that only drives one flip-flop. You can also instantiate clock buffers or assign them via the Express Constraints Editor.

**Note** Synthesis tools currently insert simple clock buffers, BUFGs, for all Virtex/E/II/II Pro and Spartan-II designs. For Virtex-II/II Pro, some tools provide an attribute to use BUFGMUX as an enabled clock buffer. To use BUFGMUX as a real clock multiplexer in Virtex-II/II Pro, it must be instantiated.

LeonardoSpectrum will force clock signals to global buffers when the resources are available. The best way to control unnecessary BUFG insertions is to turn off global buffer insertion, then use the `buffer_sig` attribute to push BUFGs onto the desired signals. By doing this the user will not have to instantiate any BUFG components. As long as "chip" options are used to optimize the IBUFs, they will be auto-inserted for the input.

The following is a syntax example of the `buffer_sig` attribute.

```
set_attribute -port clk1 -name buffer_sig -value
    BUFG
set_attribute -port clk2 -name buffer_sig -value
    BUFG
```

Synplify will assign a BUFG to any input signal that directly drives a clock. The maximum number of global buffers is defined as 4. Auto-insertion of the BUFG for internal clocks occurs with a fanout threshold of 16 loads. To turn off automatic clock buffers insertion, use the `syn_noclockbuf` attribute. This attribute can be applied to the entire module/architecture or a specific signal. To change the

maximum number of global buffer insertion, you may set an attribute in the .sdc file as follows.

```
define_global_attribute xc_global buffers (8)
```

XST will assign a BUFG to any input signal that directly drives a clock. The default number of global buffers for the Virtex, Virtex-E, and Spartan-II device is 4. The default number of global buffers for the Virtex-II, and Virtex-II Pro device is 8. The number of BUFGs used for a design can be modified by the XST option *bufg* by either inserting it in HDL, the XST constraints file or via a command line switch.

Refer to your synthesis tool documentation for a detailed syntax information.

## Instantiating Global Clock Buffers

You can instantiate global buffers in your code as described in this section.

### Instantiating Buffers Driven from a Port

You can instantiate global buffers and connect them to high-fanout ports in your code rather than inferring them from a synthesis tool script. If you do instantiate global buffers, verify that the Pad parameter is not specified for the buffer.

In Virtex/E/II and Spartan-II designs, synthesis tools insert BUFGP for clock signals which access a dedicated clock pin. To have a regular input pin to a clock buffer connection, you must use an IBUF-BUFG connection. This is done by instantiating BUFG after disabling global buffer insertion.

### Instantiating Buffers Driven from Internal Logic

Some synthesis tools require you to instantiate a global buffer in your code to use the dedicated routing resource if a high-fanout signal is sourced from internal flip-flops or logic (such as a clock divider or multiplexed clock), or if a clock is driven from a non-dedicated I/O pin. If using Virtex/E or Spartan-II devices, the following VHDL and Verilog examples instantiate a BUFG for an internal multiplexed clock circuit

**Note** Synplify will infer a global buffer for a signal that has 16 or greater fanouts.

- **VHDL Example**

```
-----  
-- CLOCK_MUX_BUFG.VHD Version 1.1                      --  
-- This is an example of an instantiation of --  
-- global buffer (BUFG) from an internally --  
-- driven signal, a multiplexed clock.      --  
-- March 2001                                  --  
-----  
  
library IEEE;  
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;  
entity clock_mux is  
    port (DATA, SEL: in STD_LOGIC;  
          SLOW_CLOCK, FAST_CLOCK: in  STD_LOGIC;  
          DOUT: out STD_LOGIC);  
end clock_mux;  
architecture XILINX of clock_mux is  
  
    signal CLOCK: STD_LOGIC;  
    signal CLOCK_GBUF: STD_LOGIC;  
    component BUFG  
        port (I: in  STD_LOGIC;  
              O: out STD_LOGIC);  
    end component;
```

```
begin
Clock_MUX: process (SEL, FAST_CLOCK, SLOW_CLOCK)
begin
    if (SEL = '1') then
        CLOCK <= FAST_CLOCK;
    else
        CLOCK <= SLOW_CLOCK;
    end if;
end process;

GBUF_FOR_MUX_CLOCK: BUFG
port map (I => CLOCK,
          O => CLOCK_GBUF);

Data_Path: process (CLOCK_GBUF)
begin
    if (CLOCK_GBUF'event and CLOCK_GBUF='1')then
        DOUT <= DATA;
    end if;
end process;
end XILINX;
```

- **Verilog Example**

```
////////////////////////////////////////
// CLOCK_MUX_BUFG.V Version 1.1          //
// This is an example of an instantiation of//
// global buffer (BUFG) from an internally //
// driven signal, a multiplied clock.      //
// March 2001                             //
////////////////////////////////////////
module clock_mux(DATA,SEL,SLOW_CLOCK,FAST_CLOCK,
                DOUT);

    input  DATA, SEL;
    input  SLOW_CLOCK, FAST_CLOCK;
    output DOUT;

    reg    CLOCK;
    wire   CLOCK_GBUF;
    reg    DOUT;

    always @ (SEL or FAST_CLOCK or SLOW_CLOCK)
    begin
        if (SEL == 1'b1)
            CLOCK <= FAST_CLOCK;
        else
            CLOCK <= SLOW_CLOCK;
        end

    BUFG GBUF_FOR_MUX_CLOCK (.O(CLOCK_GBUF),
                             .I(CLOCK));

    always @ (posedge CLOCK_GBUF)
        DOUT = DATA;
endmodule
```

If using a Virtex-II device a BUFGMUX can be used to multiplex between clocks. The above examples are rewritten for Virtex-II:

- VHDL Example

```
-----
-- CLOCK_MUX_BUFG.VHD Version 1.2                                --
-- This is an example of an instantiation of                      --
-- a multiplexing global buffer (BUFGMUX)                         --
-- from an internally driven signal                             --
-- May 2002                                                       --
-----

library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;

entity clock_mux is
    port (DATA, SEL          : in  std_logic;
          SLOW_CLOCK, FAST_CLOCK : in  std_logic;
          DOUT                : out std_logic);
end clock_mux;

architecture XILINX of clock_mux is
    signal CLOCK_GBUF : std_logic;
    component BUFGMUX
        port (I0 : in  std_logic;
              I1 : in std_logic;
              S  : in std_logic;
              O  : out std_logic);
    end component;

begin
    GBUF_FOR_MUX_CLOCK : BUFGMUX
        port map (I0 => SLOW_CLOCK,
                  I1 => FAST_CLOCK,
                  S  => SEL,
                  O  => CLOCK_GBUF);
    Data_Path : process (CLOCK_GBUF)
    begin
        if (CLOCK_GBUF'event and CLOCK_GBUF='1') then
            DOUT <= DATA;
        end if;
    end process;
end XILINX;
```

- Verilog Example

```
//////////////////////////////////////////
// CLOCK_MUX_BUFG.V Version 1.2          //
// This is an example of an instantiation of //
// a multiplexing global buffer (BUFGMUX)    //
// from an internally driven signal          //
// May 2002                                 //
//////////////////////////////////////////

module clock_mux
    (DATA,SEL,SLOW_CLOCK,FAST_CLOCK,DOUT);

    input DATA, SEL, SLOW_CLOCK, FAST_CLOCK;
    output DOUT;

    reg CLOCK, DOUT;
    wire CLOCK_GBUF;

    BUFGMUX GBUF_FOR_MUX_CLOCK
        (.O(CLOCK_GBUF),
         .I0(SLOW_CLOCK),
         .I1(FAST_CLOCK),
         .S(SEL));

    always @ (posedge CLOCK_GBUF)
        DOUT <= DATA;

endmodule
```

## Using Advanced Clock Management

Virtex/E, and Spartan-II devices feature Clock Delay-Locked Loop (CLKDLL) for advanced clock management. The CLKDLL can eliminate skew between the clock input pad and internal clock-input pins throughout the device. CLKDLL also provides four quadrature phases of the source clock. With CLKDLL you can eliminate clock-distribution delay, double the clock, or divide the clock. The CLKDLL also operates as a clock mirror. By driving the output from a DLL off-chip and then back on again, the CLKDLL can be used to de-skew a board level clock among multiple Virtex, Virtex-E, and Spartan-II devices. For detailed information on using CLKDLLs, refer to the *Libraries Guide* and application notes, XAPP 132 and XAPP 174 at <http://www.xilinx.com/apps/xapp.htm>.

In Virtex-II devices, the Digital Clock Manager (DCM) is available for advanced clock management. The DCM contains four main features listed below. For more information on the functionality of these features, refer to the *Libraries Guide* and the *Virtex-II Handbook*.

- *Delay Locked Loop (DLL)* — The DLL feature is very similar to CLKDLL.
- *Digital Phase Shifter (DPS)* — The DPS provides a clock shifted by a fixed or variable phase skew.
- *Digital Frequency Synthesizer (DFS)* — The DFS produces a wide range of possible clock frequencies related to the input clock.

**Table 4-2 CLKDLL and DCM Resources**

	<b>Virtex/ Spartan-II</b>	<b>Virtex-E</b>	<b>Virtex-II/II Pro</b>
CLKDLL	4	8	N/A
DCM	N/A	N/A	4 - 12

### Using CLKDLL (Virtex/E, Spartan II)

There are four CLKDLLs in each Virtex/Spartan-II device and eight in each Virtex-E device. There are also four global clock input buffers (IBUFG) in the Virtex/E and Spartan-II devices to bring external clocks in to the CLKDLL. The VHDL/Verilog example below shows a possible connection and usage of CLKDLL in your design. Cascading

three CLKDLLs in the Virtex/Spartan-II device is not allowed due to excessive jitter.

Synthesis tools do not infer CLKDLLs. The following examples show how to instantiate CLKDLLs in your VHDL and Verilog code.

- VHDL Example.

```
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
entity CLOCK_TEST is
  port(
    ACLK          : in  std_logic;
    -- off chip feedback, connected to OUTBCLK on the board.
    BCLK          : in  std_logic;
    --OUT CLOCK
    OUTBCLK       : out std_logic;
    DIN           : in  std_logic_vector(1 downto 0);
    RESET         : in  std_logic;
    QOUT          : out std_logic_vector (1 downto 0);
    -- CLKDLL lock signal
    BCLK_LOCK     : out std_logic
  );
end CLOCK_TEST;
architecture RTL of CLOCK_TEST is
  component IBUFG
    port (
      I : in  std_logic;
      O : out std_logic);
  end component;
  component BUFG
    port (
      I : in  std_logic;
      O : out std_logic);
  end component;
  component CLKDLL
    port (
CLKIN  : in std_logic;
      CLKFB : in std_logic;
      RST   : in std_logic;
      CLK0  : out std_logic;
      CLK90 : out std_logic;
      CLK180 : out std_logic;
```

```
        CLK270 : out std_logic;
        CLKDV  : out std_logic;
        CLK2X   : out std_logic;
        LOCKED  : out std_logic);
end component;
-- Glock signals
signal ACLK_ibufg      : std_logic;
signal BCLK_ibufg      : std_logic;
signal ACLK_2x         : std_logic;
signal ACLK_2x_design  : std_logic;
signal ACLK_lock       : std_logic;
begin
  ACLK_ibufg_inst : IBUFG
    port map (
      I => ACLK,
      O => ACLK_ibufg
    );
  BCLK_ibufg_inst : IBUFG
    port map (
      I => BCLK,
      O => BCLK_ibufg
    );
  ACLK_bufg : BUFG
    port map (
      I => ACLK_2x,
      O => ACLK_2x_design
    );
  ACLK_dll : CLKDLL
    port map (
CLKIN      => ACLK_ibufg,
  CLKFB     => ACLK_2x_design,
  RST       => '0',
  CLK2X     => ACLK_2x,
  CLK0      => OPEN,
  CLK90     => OPEN,
  CLK180    => OPEN,
  CLK270    => OPEN,
  CLKDV     => OPEN,
  LOCKED    => ACLK_lock
    );
  BCLK_dll_out : CLKDLL
    port map (
```

```
        CLKIN      => ACLK_ibufg,
        CLKFB      => BCLK_ibufg,
        RST        => '0',
        CLK2X       => OUTBCLK,
        CLK0        => OPEN,
        CLK90       => OPEN,
        CLK180      => OPEN,
        CLK270      => OPEN,
        CLKDV       => OPEN,
        LOCKED      => BCLK_lock
    );
process (ACLK_2x_design, RESET)
begin
    if RESET = '1' then
        QOUT <= "00";
    elsif ACLK_2x_design'event and ACLK_2x_design = '1' then
        if ACLK_lock = '1' then
            QOUT <= DIN;
        end if;
    end if;
end process;
END RTL;
```

- **Verilog Example.**

```
// Verilog Example
// In this example ACLK's frequency is doubled,
// used inside and outside the chip.
// BCLK and OUTBCLK are connected in the board
// outside the chip.
module clock_test(ACLK, DIN, QOUT, BCLK,
    OUTBCLK, BCLK_LOCK, RESET);

    input    ACLK, BCLK;

    input RESET;

    input [1:0] DIN;

    output [1:0] QOUT;

    output OUTBCLK, BCLK_LOCK;
```

```
reg [1:0] QOUT;

IBUFG CLK_ibufg_A
    (.I (ACLK),
     .O(ACLK_ibufg)
    );

BUFG ACLK_bufg
    (.I (ACLK_2x),
     .O (ACLK_2x_design)
    );

IBUFG CLK_ibufg_B
    (.I (BCLK),          // connected to OUTBCLK
     outside
     .O(BCLK_ibufg)
    );

CLKDLL ACLK_dll_2x    // 2x clock
    (.CLKIN(ACLK_ibufg),
     .CLKFB(ACLK_2x_design),
     .RST(1'b0),
     .CLK2X(ACLK_2x),
     .CLK0(),
     .CLK90(),
     .CLK180(),
     .CLK270(),
     .CLKDV(),
     .LOCKED(ACLK_lock)
    );

CLKDLL BCLK_dll_OUT // off-chip synchronization
    (.CLKIN(ACLK_ibufg),
```

```
.CLKFB(BCLK_ibufg), // BCLK and OUTBCLK is
                        // connected outside the
                        // chip.

.RST(1'b0),

.CLK2X(OUTBCLK), //connected to BCLK outside

.CLK0(),

.CLK90(),

.CLK180(),

.CLK270(),

.CLKDV(),

.LOCKED(BCLK_LOCK)

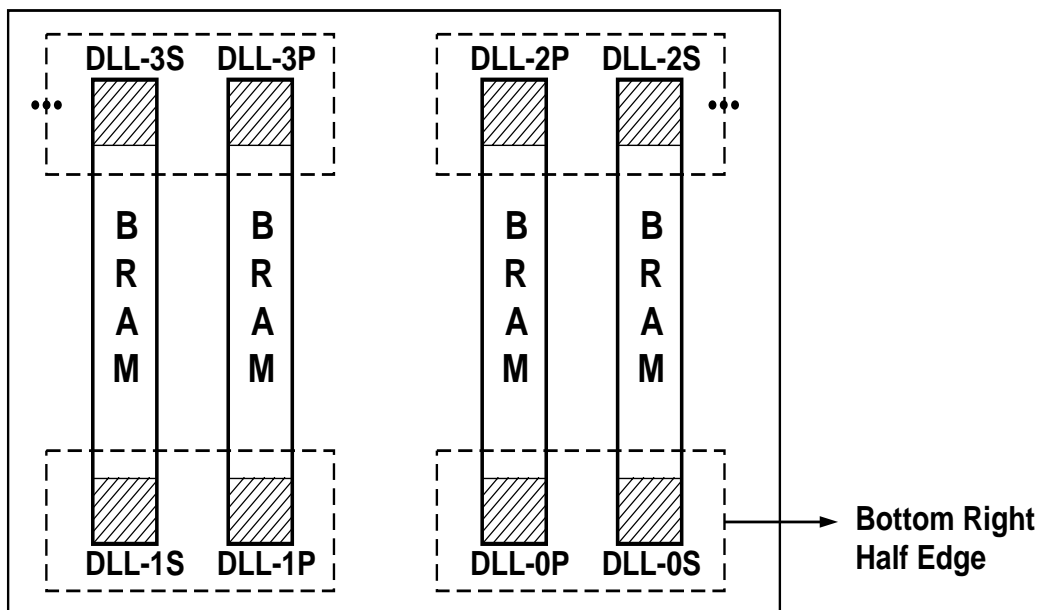
);

always @(posedge ACLK_2x_design or posedge
        RESET)

begin
if (RESET)
    QOUT[1:0] <= 2'b00;
else if (ACLK_lock)
    QOUT[1:0] <= DIN[1:0];
end
endmodule
```

## Using the Additional CLKDLL in Virtex-E

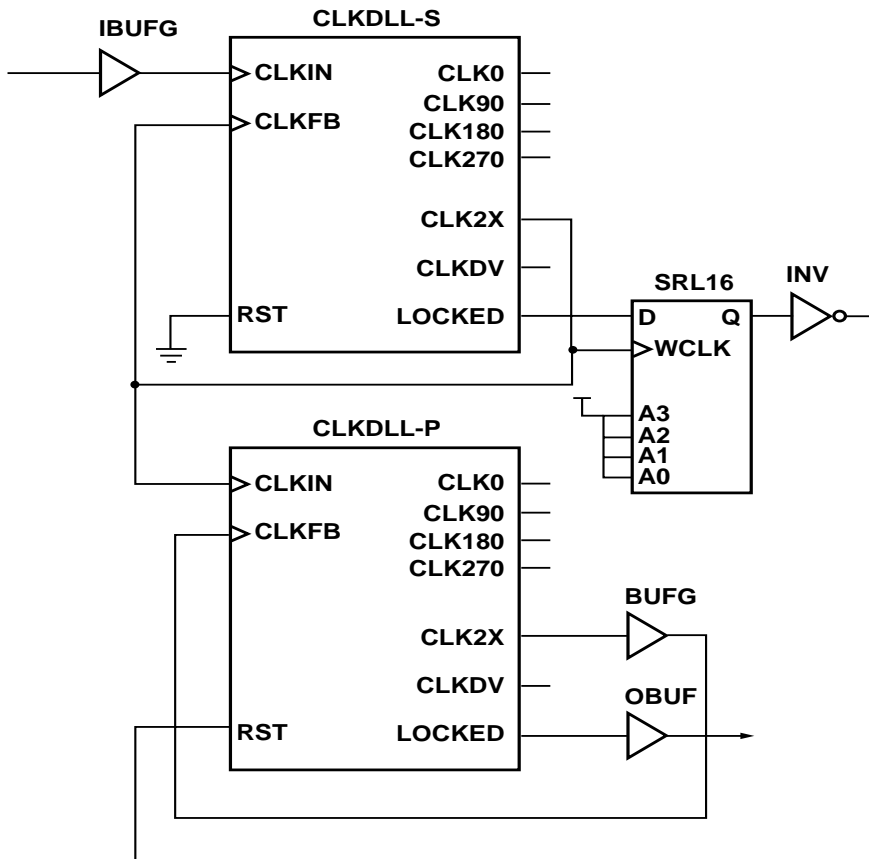
There are eight CLKDLLs in each Virtex-E device, with four located at the top and four at the bottom. Refer to the “DLLs in Virtex-E Devices” figure below. The basic operations of the DLLs in the Virtex-E devices remain the same as in the Virtex and Spartan-II devices, but the connections may have changed for some configurations.



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**Figure 4-1 DLLs in Virtex-E Devices**

Two DLLs located in the same half-edge (top-left, top-right, bottom-right, bottom-left) can be connected together, without using a BUFG between the CLKDLLs, to generate a 4x clock. Refer to the “DLL Generation of 4x Clock in Virtex-E Devices” figure below.



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**Figure 4-2 DLL Generation of 4x Clock in Virtex-E Devices**

Below are examples of coding a CLKDLL in both VHDL and Verilog.

- VHDL Example.

```
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
entity CLOCK_TEST is
    port(
        ACLK : in  std_logic;
        DIN  : in  std_logic_vector(1 downto 0);
```

```

RESET : in  std_logic;
QOUT  : out std_logic_vector (1 downto 0);
      -- CLKDLL lock signal
BCLK_LOCK      : out std_logic
    );
end CLOCK_TEST;
architecture RTL of CLOCK_TEST is
  component IBUFG
    port (
      I : in  std_logic;
      O : out std_logic);
  end component;
  component BUFG
    port (
      I : in  std_logic;
      O : out std_logic);
  end component;
  component CLKDLL
    port (
      CLKIN  : in std_logic;
      CLKFB  : in std_logic;
      RST    : in std_logic;
      CLK0   : out std_logic;
      CLK90  : out std_logic;
      CLK180 : out std_logic;
      CLK270 : out std_logic;
      CLKDV  : out std_logic;
      CLK2X  : out std_logic;
      LOCKED : out std_logic);
  end component;
  -- Clock signals
  signal ACLK_ibufg      : std_logic;
  signal ACLK_2x, BCLK_4x : std_logic;
  signal BCLK_4x_design  : std_logic;
  signal BCLK_lockin     : std_logic;
begin
  ACLK_ibufginst : IBUFG
    port map (
      I => ACLK,
      O => ACLK_ibufg
    );
  BCLK_bufg : BUFG

```

```
    port map (
        I => BCLK_4x, O => BCLK_4x_design);
    ACLK_dll : CLKDLL
    port map (
        CLKIN      => ACLK_ibufg,
        CLKFB      => ACLK_2x,
        RST        => '0',
        CLK2X      => ACLK_2x,
        CLK0       => OPEN,
        CLK90      => OPEN,
        CLK180     => OPEN,
        CLK270     => OPEN,
        CLKDV      => OPEN,
        LOCKED     => OPEN
    );
    BCLK_dll : CLKDLL
    port map (
        CLKIN      => ACLK_2x,
        CLKFB      => BCLK_4x_design,
        RST        => '0',
        CLK2X      => BCLK_4x,
        CLK0       => OPEN,
        CLK90      => OPEN,
        CLK180     => OPEN,
        CLK270     => OPEN,
        CLKDV      => OPEN,
        LOCKED     => BCLK_lockin
    );
    process (BCLK_4x_design, RESET)
    begin
        if RESET = '1' then
            QOUT <= "00";
        elsif BCLK_4x_design'event
            and BCLK_4x_design = '1'
        then
            if BCLK_lockin = '1' then
                QOUT <= DIN;
            end if;
        end if;
    end process;
    BCLK_lock <= BCLK_lockin;
END RTL;
```

- Verilog Example.

```

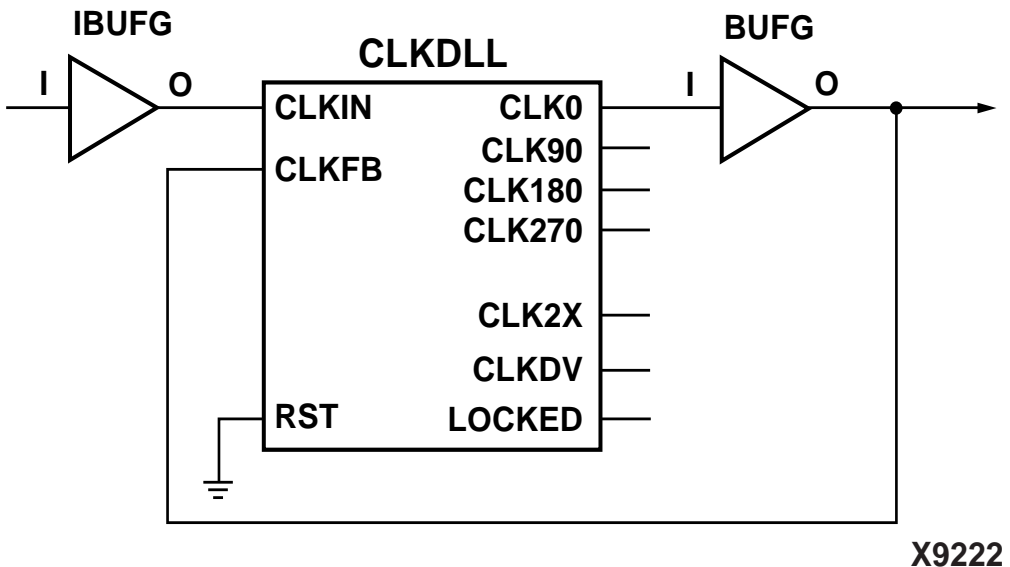
module clock_test(ACLK, DIN, QOUT, BCLK_LOCK,
    RESET);
    input  ACLK;
    input RESET;
    input [1:0] DIN;
    output [1:0] QOUT;
    output BCLK_LOCK;
    reg [1:0] QOUT;
    IBUFG CLK_ibufg_A
        (.I (ACLK),
         .O(ACLK_ibufg)
        );
    BUFG BCLK_bufg
        (.I (BCLK_4x),
         .O (BCLK_4x_design)
        );
    CLKDLL ACLK_dll_2x // 2x clock
        (.CLKIN(ACLK_ibufg),
         .CLKFB(ACLK_2x),
         .RST(1'b0),
         .CLK2X(ACLK_2x),
         .CLK0(),
         .CLK90(),
         .CLK180(),
         .CLK270(),
         .CLKDV(),
         .LOCKED()
        );
    CLKDLL BCLK_dll_4x // 4x clock
        (.CLKIN(ACLK_2x),
         .CLKFB(BCLK_4x_design), // BCLK_4x after bufg
         .RST(1'b0),
         .CLK2X(BCLK_4x),
         .CLK0(),
         .CLK90(),
         .CLK180(),
         .CLK270(),
         .CLKDV(),
         .LOCKED(BCLK_LOCK)
        );

```

```
always @(posedge BCLK_4x_design or posedge RESET)
begin
if (RESET)
QOUT[1:0] <= 2'b00;
else if (BCLK_LOCK)
QOUT[1:0] <= DIN[1:0];
end
endmodule
```

## Using BUFGDLL

BUFGDLL macro is the simplest way to provide zero propagation delay for a high-fanout on-chip clock from the external input. This macro uses the IBUFG, CLKDLL and BUFG primitive to implement the most basic DLL application. Refer to the “BUFGDLL Schematic” figure below.



**Figure 4-3 BUFGDLL Schematic**

In FPGA Compiler II, use the Constraints Editor to change the global buffer insertion to BUFGDLL.

In LeonardoSpectrum, set the following attribute in the command line or TCL script.

```
set_attribute -port <CLOCK_PORT> -name PAD -value
BUFGDLL
```

LeonardoSpectrum supports implementation of BUFGDLL with the CLKDLLHF component. To use this implementation, set the following attribute.

```
set_attribute -port <CLOCK_PORT> -name PAD -value
BUFGDLLHF
```

In Synplify, set the following attribute in the SDC file.

```
define_attribute <port_name> xc_clockbuftype {BUFGDLL}
```

This attribute can be applied to the clock port in HDL code as well.

In XST, the BUFGDLL can be used by the 'clock\_buffer' constraint entered in either HDL or the XST constraints file. For more information on using XST specific constraints see the *XST User Guide*.

## CLKDLL Attributes

To specify how the signal on the CLKDIV pin is frequency divided with respect to the CLK0 pin, the CLKDV\_DIVIDE property can be set. The values allowed for this property are 1.5, 2, 2.5, 3, 4, 5, 8, or 16. The default is 2.

In HDL code, the CLKDV\_DIVIDE property is set as an attribute to the CLKDLL instance.

The following are VHDL and Verilog coding examples of CLKDLL attributes.

- VHDL Example.

```
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
entity CLOCK_TEST is
  port(
    ACLK           : in  std_logic;
    DIN : in  std_logic_vector(1 downto 0);
    RESET         : in  std_logic;
    QOUT : out std_logic_vector (1 downto 0)
  );
end CLOCK_TEST;
architecture RTL of CLOCK_TEST is
  component IBUFG
```

```
    port (
        I : in  std_logic;
        O : out std_logic);
end component;
component BUFG
    port (
        I : in  std_logic;
        O : out std_logic);
end component;
component CLKDLL
    port (
        CLKIN  : in std_logic;
        CLKFB  : in std_logic;
        RST    : in std_logic;
        CLK0   : out std_logic;
        CLK90  : out std_logic;
        CLK180 : out std_logic;
        CLK270 : out std_logic;
        CLKDV  : out std_logic;
        CLK2X  : out std_logic;
        LOCKED : out std_logic);
end component;
-- Clock signals
signal ACLK_ibufg           : std_logic;
signal div_2, div_2_design  : std_logic;
signal ACLK0, ACLK0bufg     : std_logic;
signal logic_0              : std_logic;

attribute CLKDV_DIVIDE: string;
attribute CLKDV_DIVIDE of ACLK_dll : label is "2";

logic_0 <= '0';

begin
    ACLK_ibufginst : IBUFG
        port map (
            I => ACLK,
            O => ACLK_ibufg
        );
    ACLK_bufg: BUFG
        port map (
            I => ACLK0, O => ACLK0bufg);
```

```

DIV_bufg: BUFG
  port map (
    I => div_2, O => div_2_design);
ACLK_dll : CLKDLL
  port map (
    CLKIN      => ACLK_ibufg,
    CLKFB      => ACLK0bufg,
    RST        => logic_0,
    CLK2X      => OPEN,
    CLK0       => ACLK0,
    CLK90      => OPEN,
    CLK180     => OPEN,
    CLK270     => OPEN,
    CLKDV      => div_2,
    LOCKED     => OPEN
  );
process (div_2_design, RESET)
begin
  if RESET = '1' then
    QOUT <= "00";
  elsif div_2_design'event and div_2_design = '1'
  then
    QOUT <= DIN;
  end if;
end process;
END RTL;

```

- **Verilog Example.**

```

module clock_test(ACLK, DIN, QOUT, RESET);
  input  ACLK;
  input  RESET;
  input [1:0] DIN;
  output [1:0] QOUT;
  reg [1:0] QOUT;
  IBUFG CLK_ibufg_A
    (.I (ACLK),
     .O(ACLK_ibufg)
    );
  BUFG div_CLK_bufg
    (.I (div_2),
     .O (div_2_design)
    );

```

```
BUFG clk0_bufg ( .I(clk0), .O(clk_bufg));
CLKDLL ACLK_div_2 // div by 2
    (.CLKIN(ACLK_ibufg),
     .CLKFB(clk_bufg),
     .RST(1'b0),
     .CLK2X(),
     .CLK0(clk0),
     .CLK90(),
     .CLK180(),
     .CLK270(),
     .CLKDV(div_2),
     .LOCKED()
    );

//exemplar attribute ACLK_div_2 CLKDV_DIVIDE 2
//synopsys attribute CLKDV_DIVIDE "2"
//synthesis attribute CLKDV_DIVIDE of ACLK_div_2 is
    "2"
always @(posedge div_2_design or posedge RESET)
begin
if (RESET)
    QOUT[1:0] <= 2'b00;
else
    QOUT[1:0] <= DIN[1:0];
end
endmodule
```

## Using DCM In Virtex-II/II Pro

Using the DCM in your Virtex-II design will improve routability between clock pads and global buffers. Most synthesis tools currently do not automatically infer the DCM. Hence, the DCM has to be instantiated in your VHDL and Verilog designs.

To more easily set up the DCM, use the DCM Wizard. See [“Architecture Wizard” section of the “Understanding High-Density Design Flow” chapter](#) for details on the DCM Wizard.

Please refer to the Design Considerations Chapter of the *Virtex-II Handbook* or the *Virtex-II Pro Handbook*, respectively, for information on the various features in the DCM. This book can be found on the

Xilinx website at  
<http://www.xilinx.com>.

The following examples show how to instantiate DCM and apply a DCM attribute in VHDL and Verilog.

**Note** For more information on passing attributes in the HDL code to different synthesis vendors, refer to the “[General HDL Coding Styles](#)” chapter.

VHDL Example

```
-- Using a DCM for Virtex-II (VHDL)
--
-- This code uses the phased clock output CLK0 of
-- the DCM
-- The Spread Spectrum option is enabled using the
-- attribute DSS_MODE set to SPREAD_8
--
-- The following code passes the attribute for
-- the synthesis tools Synplify, FPGA Compiler II
-- LeonardoSpectrum and XST.
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
entity clock_block is
  port (
    CLK_PAD                : in  std_logic;
    SPREAD_SPECTRUM_YES    : in  std_logic;
    RST_DLL                 : in  std_logic;
    CLK_out                 : out std_logic;
    LOCKED                  : out std_logic
  );
end clock_block;
architecture STRUCT of clock_block is
  signal CLK, CLK_int, CLK_dcm : std_logic;
  attribute CLKIN_PERIOD : string;
  attribute CLKIN_PERIOD of U2: label is "10";
  component IBUFG
    port (
      I : in  std_logic;
      O : out std_logic);
  end component;
  component BUFG
    port (
```

```
        I : in  std_logic;
        O : out std_logic);
end component;
component DCM is
    port (
        CLKFB      : in  std_logic;
        CLKIN       : in  std_logic;
        DSSSEN      : in  std_logic;
        PSCLK       : in  std_logic;
        PSEN        : in  std_logic;
        PSINCDEC    : in  std_logic;
        RST         : in  std_logic;
        CLK0        : out std_logic;
        CLK90       : out std_logic;
        CLK180      : out std_logic;
        CLK270      : out std_logic;
        CLK2X       : out std_logic;
        CLK2X180    : out std_logic;
        CLKDV       : out std_logic;
        CLKFX       : out std_logic;
        CLKFX180    : out std_logic;
        LOCKED      : out std_logic;
        PSDONE      : out std_logic;
        STATUS      : out std_logic_vector
    );
(7 downto 0));
end component;

signal logic_0 : std_logic;

begin

logic_0 <= '0';

U1 : IBUFG port map ( I => CLK_PAD, O => CLK_int);
U2 : DCM port map (
    CLKFB      => CLK,
    CLKIN      => CLK_int,
    DSSSEN     => logic_0,
    PSCLK      => logic_0,
    PSEN       => logic_0,
    PSINCDEC   => logic_0,
    RST        => RST_DLL,
```

```
        CLK0      => CLK_dcm,  
        LOCKED    => LOCKED);  
    U3 : BUFG port map (I => CLK_dcm, O => CLK);  
    CLK_out <= CLK;  
end architecture STRUCT;
```

- **Verilog Example**

```
// Using a DCM for Virtex-II (Verilog)  
//  
// This code uses the phased clock output CLK0 of  
// the DCM  
// The Spread Spectrum option is enabled using the  
// attribute DSS_MODE set to SPREAD_8  
//  
// The following code passes the attribute for the  
// synthesis tools Synplify, FPGA Compiler II,  
// LeonardoSpectrum and XST.  
module clock_top (clk_pad,rst_dll, clk_out,locked);  
    input      clk_pad, spread_spectrum_yes, rst_dll;  
    output     clk_out, locked;  
    wire       clk, clk_int, clk_dcm;  
    IBUFG u1 (.I (clk_pad), .O (clk_int));  
    DCM u2 (.CLKFB      (clk),  
           .CLKIN       (clk_int),  
           .DSSSEN      (spread_spectrum_yes),  
           .PSCLK       (1'b0),  
           .PSEN        (1'b0),  
           .PSINCDEC    (1'b0),  
           .RST         (rst_dll),  
           .CLK0        (clk_dcm),  
           .LOCKED      (locked))  
    /* synthesis CLKIN_PERIOD = "10" */;  
    // synopsys attribute CLKIN_PERIOD 10  
    // exemplar attribute u2 CLKIN_PERIOD 10  
    // synthesis attribute CLKIN_PERIOD of u2 is "10"  
    BUFG u3(.I (clk_dcm), .O (clk));  
    assign clk_out = clk;  
endmodule // clock_top
```

## Attaching Multiple Attributes to CLKDLL and DCM

CLKDLLs and DCMs can be configured to various modes by attaching attributes during instantiation. In some cases, multiple attributes must be attached to get the desired configuration. The following HDL coding examples show how to attach multiple attributes to DCM components. The same method can be used to attach attributes to CLKDLL components.

See the *Libraries Guide* for available attributes for Virtex/Virtex-E CLKDLL. See the *Virtex-II Handbook* for the available attributes for Virtex-II DCM.

- VHDL Example for Synplify

This example attaches multiple attributes to DCM components using the Synplify 'xc\_prop' attribute.

**Note** Do not insert carriage returns between the values assigned to xc\_props. A carriage return could cause Synplify to attach only part of the attributes.

```
-- VHDL code begin --
library IEEE;
library virtex2;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
use virtex2.components.all;

entity DCM_TOP is
    port (
        clock_in : in std_logic;
        clock_out : out std_logic;
        clock_with_ps_out : out std_logic;
        reset : out std_logic
    );
end DCM_TOP;

architecture XILINX of DCM_TOP is
    signal low, high : std_logic;
    signal dcm0_locked: std_logic;
    signal dcm1_locked: std_logic;
    signal clock : std_logic;
    signal clk0: std_logic;
    signal clk1: std_logic;
    signal clock_with_ps : std_logic;
    signal clock_out_int : std_logic;

    attribute xc_props : string;
    attribute xc_props of dcm0: label is
        "DLL_FREQUENCY_MODE = LOW,DUTY_CYCLE_CORRECTION
        = TRUE,STARTUP_WAIT = TRUE,DFS_FREQUENCY_MODE =
        LOW,CLKFX_DIVIDE = 1,CLKFX_MULTIPLY =
        1,CLK_FEEDBACK = 1X,CLKOUT_PHASE_SHIFT =
        NONE,PHASE_SHIFT = 0";
    -- Do not insert any carriage return between the
    -- lines above.
    attribute xc_props of dcm1: label is
        "DLL_FREQUENCY_MODE =LOW,DUTY_CYCLE_CORRECTION =
        TRUE,STARTUP_WAIT = TRUE,DFS_FREQUENCY_MODE =
        LOW,CLKFX_DIVIDE = 1,CLKFX_MULTIPLY =
        1,CLK_FEEDBACK = 1X,CLKOUT_PHASE_SHIFT =
        FIXED,PHASE_SHIFT = 0";
    -- Do not insert any carriage return between the
    -- the lines above.
```

```
begin
    low <= '0';
    high <= '1';
    reset <= not(dcm0_locked and dcm1_locked);
    clock_with_ps_out <= clock_with_ps;
    clock_out <= clock_out_int;

    U1 : IBUFG port map ( I => clock_in, O => clock);

    dcm0 : DCM port map (
        CLKFB => clock_out_int,
        CLKIN => clock,
        DSSSEN => low,
        PSCLK => low,
        PSEN => low,
        PSINCDEC => low,
        RST => low,
        CLK0 => clk0,
        LOCKED => dcm0_locked);

    clk_buf0 : BUFG port map (I => clk0, O =>
        clock_out_int);
    dcm1: DCM port map (
        CLKFB => clock_with_ps,
        CLKIN => clock,
        DSSSEN => low,
        PSCLK => low,
        PSEN => low,
        PSINCDEC => low,
        RST=> low,
        CLK0 => clk1,
        LOCKED => dcm1_locked
    );
    clk_buf1: BUFG port map(
        I => clk1,
        O => clock_with_ps
    );
end XILINX;
```

- Verilog Example for Synplify

This example attaches multiple attributes to DCM components using the Synplify 'xc\_prop' attribute.

**Note** Do not insert carriage returns between the values assigned to xc\_props. A carriage return could cause Synplify to attach only part of the attributes.

```
//Verilog code begin
`include "/path_to/virtex2.v"
module DCM_TOP(
    clock_in,
    clock_out,
    clock_with_ps_out,
    reset
);

input clock_in;
output clock_out;
output clock_with_ps_out;
output reset;

wire low;
wire high;
wire dcm0_locked;
wire dcm1_locked;
wire reset;
wire clk0;
wire clk1;

assign low = 1'b0;
assign high = 1'b1;
assign reset = !(dcm0_locked & dcm1_locked);
IBUFG CLOCK_IN (
    .I(clock_in),
    .O(clock)
);
```

```
DCM DCM0 (
    .CLKFB(clock_out),
    .CLKIN(clock),
    .DSSEN(low),
    .PSCLK(low),
    .PSEN(low),
    .PSINCDEC(low),
    .RST(low),
    .CLK0(clk0),
    .CLK90(),
    .CLK180(),
    .CLK270(),
    .CLK2X(),
    .CLK2X180(),
    .CLKDV(),
    .CLKFX(),
    .CLKFX180(),
    .LOCKED(dcm0_locked),
    .PSDONE(),
    .STATUS()
)
/*synthesis xc_props="DLL_FREQUENCY_MODE =
    LOW,DUTY_CYCLE_CORRECTION = TRUE,STARTUP_WAIT =
    TRUE,DFS_FREQUENCY_MODE = LOW,CLKFX_DIVIDE =
    1,CLKFX_MULTIPLY = 1,CLK_FEEDBACK =
    1X,CLKOUT_PHASE_SHIFT = NONE,PHASE_SHIFT = 0" */
;
//Do not insert any carriage return between the
//lines above.

BUFG CLK_BUF0(
    .O(clock_out),
    .I(clk0)
);
```

```
DCM DCM1 (  
    .CLKFB(clock_with_ps_out),  
    .CLKIN(clock),  
    .DSSEN(low),  
    .PSCLK(low),  
    .PSEN(low),  
    .PSINCDEC(low),  
    .RST(low),  
    .CLK0(clk1),  
    .CLK90(),  
    .CLK180(),  
    .CLK270(),  
    .CLK2X(),  
    .CLK2X180(),  
    .CLKDV(),  
    .CLKFX(),  
    .CLKFX180(),  
    .LOCKED(dcm1_locked),  
    .PSDONE(),  
    .STATUS()  
)  
/*synthesis xc_props="DLL_FREQUENCY_MODE  
    =LOW,DUTY_CYCLE_CORRECTION = TRUE,STARTUP_WAIT =  
    TRUE,DFS_FREQUENCY_MODE = LOW,CLKFX_DIVIDE =  
    1,CLKFX_MULTIPLY = 1,CLK_FEEDBACK =  
    1X,CLKOUT_PHASE_SHIFT = FIXED,PHASE_SHIFT = 0"  
*/;  
//Do not insert any carriage return between the  
//lines above.  
  
BUFG CLK_BUF1(  
    .O(clock_with_ps_out),  
    .I(clk1)  
);
```

```
//synthesis translate_off
defparam DCM0.DLL_FREQUENCY_MODE = "LOW";
defparam DCM0.DUTY_CYCLE_CORRECTION = "TRUE";
defparam DCM0.STARTUP_WAIT = "TRUE";
defparam DCM0.DFS_FREQUENCY_MODE = "LOW";
defparam DCM0.CLKFX_DIVIDE = 1;
defparam DCM0.CLKFX_MULTIPLY = 1;
defparam DCM0.CLK_FEEDBACK = "1X";
defparam DCM0.CLKOUT_PHASE_SHIFT = "NONE";
defparam DCM0.PHASE_SHIFT = "0";

defparam DCM1.DLL_FREQUENCY_MODE = "LOW";
defparam DCM1.DUTY_CYCLE_CORRECTION = "TRUE";
defparam DCM1.STARTUP_WAIT = "TRUE";
defparam DCM1.DFS_FREQUENCY_MODE = "LOW";
defparam DCM1.CLKFX_DIVIDE = 1;
defparam DCM1.CLKFX_MULTIPLY = 1;
defparam DCM1.CLK_FEEDBACK = "1X";
defparam DCM1.CLKOUT_PHASE_SHIFT = "FIXED";
defparam DCM1.PHASE_SHIFT = "0";
//synthesis translate_on
endmodule // DCM_TOP
```

- VHDL Example for LeonardoSpectrum

```
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;

entity DCM_TOP is
  port (
    clock_in : in std_logic;
    clock_out : out std_logic;
    clock_with_ps_out : out std_logic;
    reset : out std_logic
  );
end DCM_TOP;

architecture XILINX of DCM_TOP is
  signal low, high : std_logic;
  signal dcm0_locked: std_logic;
  signal dcm1_locked: std_logic;
  signal clock : std_logic;
  signal clk0: std_logic;
  signal clk1: std_logic;
  signal clock_with_ps : std_logic;
  signal clock_out_int : std_logic;

  attribute DLL_FREQUENCY_MODE : string;
  attribute DUTY_CYCLE_CORRECTION : string;
  attribute STARTUP_WAIT : string;
  attribute DFS_FREQUENCY_MODE : string;
  attribute CLKFX_DIVIDE : string;
  attribute CLKFX_MULTIPLY : string;
  attribute CLK_FEEDBACK : string;
  attribute CLKOUT_PHASE_SHIFT : string;
  attribute PHASE_SHIFT : string;

  attribute DLL_FREQUENCY_MODE of dcm0: label is
    "LOW";
  attribute DUTY_CYCLE_CORRECTION of dcm0: label is
    "TRUE";
  attribute STARTUP_WAIT of dcm0: label is "TRUE";
  attribute DFS_FREQUENCY_MODE of dcm0: label is
    "LOW";
  attribute CLKFX_DIVIDE of dcm0: label is "1";
```

```
attribute CLKFX_MULTIPLY of dcm0: label is "1";
attribute CLK_FEEDBACK of dcm0: label is "1X";
attribute CLKOUT_PHASE_SHIFT of dcm0 : label is
    "NONE";
attribute PHASE_SHIFT of dcm0: label is "0";

attribute DLL_FREQUENCY_MODE of dcm1: label is
    "LOW";
attribute DUTY_CYCLE_CORRECTION of dcm1: label is
    "TRUE";
attribute STARTUP_WAIT of dcm1: label is "TRUE";
attribute DFS_FREQUENCY_MODE of dcm1: label is
    "LOW";
attribute CLKFX_DIVIDE of dcm1: label is "1";
attribute CLKFX_MULTIPLY of dcm1: label is "1";
attribute CLK_FEEDBACK of dcm1: label is "1X";
attribute CLKOUT_PHASE_SHIFT of dcm1 : label is
    "FIXED";
attribute PHASE_SHIFT of dcm1: label is "0";

component IBUFG is
port (
    I : in std_logic;
    O : out std_logic
);
end component;

component BUFG is
port (
    I : in std_logic;
    O : out std_logic
);
end component;
```

```
component DCM is
  port (
    CLKFB : in std_logic;
    CLKIN : in std_logic;
    DSEN : in std_logic;
    PSCLK : in std_logic;
    PSEN : in std_logic;
    PSINCDEC : in std_logic;
    RST : in std_logic;
    CLK0 : out std_logic;
    CLK90 : out std_logic;
    CLK180 : out std_logic;
    CLK270 : out std_logic;
    CLK2X : out std_logic;
    CLK2X180 : out std_logic;
    CLKDV : out std_logic;
    CLKFX : out std_logic;
    CLKFX180 : out std_logic;
    LOCKED : out std_logic;
    PSDONE : out std_logic;
    STATUS : out std_logic_vector (7 downto 0));
end component;

begin
  low <= '0';
  high <= '1';
  reset <= not(dcm0_locked and dcm1_locked);
  clock_with_ps_out <= clock_with_ps;
  clock_out <= clock_out_int;

  U1 : IBUFG port map ( I => clock_in, O => clock);

  dcm0 : DCM port map (
    CLKFB => clock_out_int,
    CLKIN => clock,
    DSEN => low,
    PSCLK => low,
    PSEN => low,
    PSINCDEC => low,
    RST => low,
    CLK0 => clk0,
    LOCKED => dcm0_locked);
```

```
clk_buf0 : BUFG port map (I => clk0, O =>
    clock_out_int);

dcm1: DCM port map (
    CLKFB => clock_with_ps,
    CLKIN => clock,
    DSSEN => low,
    PSCLK  => low,
    PSEN  => low,
    PSINCDEC => low,
    RST=> low,
    CLK0 => clk1,
    LOCKED => dcm1_locked
);

clk_buf1: BUFG port map(
    I => clk1,
    O => clock_with_ps
);

end XILINX;
```

- Verilog Example for LeonardoSpectrum

```

module DCM_TOP(
    clock_in,
    clock_out,
    clock_with_ps_out,
    reset
);

input clock_in;
output clock_out;
output clock_with_ps_out;
output reset;

wire low;
wire high;
wire dcm0_locked;
wire dcm1_locked;
wire reset;
wire clk0;
wire clk1;

assign low = 1'b0;
assign high = 1'b1;
assign reset = !(dcm0_locked & dcm1_locked);

IBUFG CLOCK_IN (
    .I(clock_in),
    .O(clock)
);

DCM DCM0 (
    .CLKFB(clock_out),
    .CLKIN(clock),
    .DSEN(low),
    .PSCLK(low),
    .PSEN(low),
    .PSINCDEC(low),
    .RST(low),
    .CLK0(clk0),
    .CLK90(),
    .CLK180(),

```

```
.CLK270(),
.CLK2X(),
.CLK2X180(),
.CLKDVB(),
.CLKFX(),
.CLKFX180(),
.LOCKED(dcm0_locked),
.PSDONE(),
.STATUS()
);
//exemplar attribute DCM0 DLL_FREQUENCY_MODE LOW
//exemplar attribute DCM0 DUTY_CYCLE_CORRECTION
TRUE
//exemplar attribute DCM0 STARTUP_WAIT TRUE
//exemplar attribute DCM0 DFS_FREQUENCY_MODE LOW
//exemplar attribute DCM0 CLKFX_DIVIDE 1
//exemplar attribute DCM0 CLKFX_MULTIPLY 1
//exemplar attribute DCM0 CLK_FEEDBACK 1X
//exemplar attribute DCM0 CLKOUT_PHASE_SHIFT NONE
//exemplar attribute DCM0 PHASE_SHIFT 0

BUFG CLK_BUF0(
.O(clock_out),
.I(clk0)
);

DCM DCM1 (
.CLKFB(clock_with_ps_out),
.CLKIN(clock),
.DSEN(low),
.PSCLK(low),
.PSEN(low),
.PSINCDEC(low),
.RST(low),
.CLK0(clk1),
.CLK90(),
.CLK180(),
.CLK270(),
.CLK2X(),
.CLK2X180(),
.CLKDVB(),
.CLKFX(),
```

```

.CLKFX180(),
.LOCKED(dcm1_locked),
.PSDONE(),
.STATUS()
);
//exemplar attribute DCM1 DLL_FREQUENCY_MODE LOW
//exemplar attribute DCM1 DUTY_CYCLE_CORRECTION
TRUE
//exemplar attribute DCM1 STARTUP_WAIT TRUE
//exemplar attribute DCM1 DFS_FREQUENCY_MODE LOW
//exemplar attribute DCM1 CLKFX_DIVIDE 1
//exemplar attribute DCM1 CLKFX_MULTIPLY 1
//exemplar attribute DCM1 CLK_FEEDBACK 1X
//exemplar attribute DCM1 CLKOUT_PHASE_SHIFT FIXED
//exemplar attribute DCM1 PHASE_SHIFT 0

BUFG CLK_BUF1(
.O(clock_with_ps_out),
.I(clk1)
);

//exemplar translate_off
defparam DCM0.DLL_FREQUENCY_MODE = "LOW";
defparam DCM0.DUTY_CYCLE_CORRECTION = "TRUE";
defparam DCM0.STARTUP_WAIT = "TRUE";
defparam DCM0.DFS_FREQUENCY_MODE = "LOW";
defparam DCM0.CLKFX_DIVIDE = 1;
defparam DCM0.CLKFX_MULTIPLY = 1;
defparam DCM0.CLK_FEEDBACK = "1X";
defparam DCM0.CLKOUT_PHASE_SHIFT = "NONE";
defparam DCM0.PHASE_SHIFT = "0";
defparam DCM1.DLL_FREQUENCY_MODE = "LOW";
defparam DCM1.DUTY_CYCLE_CORRECTION = "TRUE";
defparam DCM1.STARTUP_WAIT = "TRUE";
defparam DCM1.DFS_FREQUENCY_MODE = "LOW";
defparam DCM1.CLKFX_DIVIDE = 1;
defparam DCM1.CLKFX_MULTIPLY = 1;
defparam DCM1.CLK_FEEDBACK = "1X";
defparam DCM1.CLKOUT_PHASE_SHIFT = "FIXED";
defparam DCM1.PHASE_SHIFT = "0";
//exemplar translate_on
endmodule // DCM_TOP

```

- Verilog Example for FPGA Compiler II

```
module DCM_TOP(  
    clock_in,  
    clock_out,  
    clock_with_ps_out,  
    reset  
);  
  
    input clock_in;  
    output clock_out;  
    output clock_with_ps_out;  
    output reset;  
  
    wire low;  
    wire high;  
    wire dcm0_locked;  
    wire dcm1_locked;  
    wire reset;  
    wire clk0;  
    wire clk1;  
  
    assign low = 1'b0;  
    assign high = 1'b1;  
    assign reset = !(dcm0_locked & dcm1_locked);  
  
    IBUFG CLOCK_IN (  
        .I(clock_in),  
        .O(clock)  
    );  
  
    DCM DCM0 (  
        .CLKFB(clock_out),  
        .CLKIN(clock),  
        .DSEN(low),  
        .PSCLK(low),  
        .PSEN(low),  
        .PSINCDEC(low),  
        .RST(low),  
        .CLK0(clk0),  
        .CLK90(),  
        .CLK180(),
```

```

        .CLK270(),
        .CLK2X(),
        .CLK2X180(),
        .CLKDV(),
        .CLKFX(),
        .CLKFX180(),
        .LOCKED(dcm0_locked),
        .PSDONE(),
        .STATUS()
    );
/*synopsys attribute DLL_FREQUENCY_MODE "LOW"
    DUTY_CYCLE_CORRECTION "TRUE" STARTUP_WAIT "TRUE"
    DFS_FREQUENCY_MODE "LOW" CLKFX_DIVIDE "1"
    CLKFX_MULTIPLY "1" CLK_FEEDBACK "1X"
    CLKOUT_PHASE_SHIFT "NONE" PHASE_SHIFT "0" */

BUFG CLK_BUF0(
    .O(clock_out),
    .I(clk0)
);

DCM DCM1 (
    .CLKFB(clock_with_ps_out),
    .CLKIN(clock),
    .DSSEN(low),
    .PSCLK(low),
    .PSEN(low),
    .PSINCDEC(low),
    .RST(low),
    .CLK0(clk1),
    .CLK90(),
    .CLK180(),
    .CLK270(),
    .CLK2X(),
    .CLK2X180(),
    .CLKDV(),
    .CLKFX(),
    .CLKFX180(),
    .LOCKED(dcm1_locked),
    .PSDONE(),
    .STATUS()
);

```

```
);
/* synopsys attribute DLL_FREQUENCY_MODE "LOW"
   DUTY_CYCLE_CORRECTION "TRUE" STARTUP_WAIT "TRUE"
   DFS_FREQUENCY_MODE "LOW" CLKFX_DIVIDE "1"
   CLKFX_MULTIPLY "1" CLK_FEEDBACK "1X"
   CLKOUT_PHASE_SHIFT "FIXED" PHASE_SHIFT "0" */

BUFG CLK_BUF1(
.O(clock_with_ps_out),
.I(clk1)
);

//synopsys translate_off
defparam DCM0.DLL_FREQUENCY_MODE = "LOW";
defparam DCM0.DUTY_CYCLE_CORRECTION = "TRUE";
defparam DCM0.STARTUP_WAIT = "TRUE";
defparam DCM0.DFS_FREQUENCY_MODE = "LOW";
defparam DCM0.CLKFX_DIVIDE = 1;
defparam DCM0.CLKFX_MULTIPLY = 1;
defparam DCM0.CLK_FEEDBACK = "1X";
defparam DCM0.CLKOUT_PHASE_SHIFT = "NONE";
defparam DCM0.PHASE_SHIFT = "0";

defparam DCM1.DLL_FREQUENCY_MODE = "LOW";
defparam DCM1.DUTY_CYCLE_CORRECTION = "TRUE";
defparam DCM1.STARTUP_WAIT = "TRUE";
defparam DCM1.DFS_FREQUENCY_MODE = "LOW";
defparam DCM1.CLKFX_DIVIDE = 1;
defparam DCM1.CLKFX_MULTIPLY = 1;
defparam DCM1.CLK_FEEDBACK = "1X";
defparam DCM1.CLKOUT_PHASE_SHIFT = "FIXED";
defparam DCM1.PHASE_SHIFT = "0";
//synopsys translate_on

endmodule // DCM_TOP
```

- Verilog Example for XST

```
module DCM_TOP(  
    clock_in,  
    clock_out,  
    clock_with_ps_out,  
    reset  
);  
  
    input clock_in;  
    output clock_out;  
    output clock_with_ps_out;  
    output reset;  
  
    wire low;  
    wire high;  
    wire dcm0_locked;  
    wire dcm1_locked;  
    wire reset;  
    wire clk0;  
    wire clk1;  
  
    assign low = 1'b0;  
    assign high = 1'b1;  
    assign reset = !(dcm0_locked & dcm1_locked);  
  
    IBUFG CLOCK_IN (  
        .I(clock_in),  
        .O(clock)  
    );
```

```
DCM DCM0 (  
  .CLKFB(clock_out),  
  .CLKIN(clock),  
  .DSSEN(low),  
  .PSCLK(low),  
  .PSEN(low),  
  .PSINCDEC(low),  
  .RST(low),  
  .CLK0(clk0),  
  .CLK90(),  
  .CLK180(),  
  .CLK270(),  
  .CLK2X(),  
  .CLK2X180(),  
  .CLKDV(),  
  .CLKFX(),  
  .CLKFX180(),  
  .LOCKED(dcm0_locked),  
  .PSDONE(),  
  .STATUS()  
);  
  
BUFG CLK_BUF0(  
  .O(clock_out),  
  .I(clk0)  
);  
// synthesis attribute DLL_FREQUENCY_MODE of DCM0  
// is "LOW"  
// synthesis attribute DUTY_CYCLE_CORRECTION of  
// DCM0 is "TRUE"  
// synthesis attribute STARTUP_WAIT of DCM0 is  
// "TRUE"  
// synthesis attribute DFS_FREQUENCY_MODE of DCM0  
// is "LOW"  
// synthesis attribute CLKFX_DIVIDE of DCM0 is "1"  
// synthesis attribute CLKFX_MULTIPLY of DCM0 is  
// "1"  
// synthesis attribute CLK_FEEDBACK of DCM0 is "1X"  
// synthesis attribute CLKOUT_PHASE_SHIFT of DCM0  
// is "FIXED"  
// synthesis attribute PHASE_SHIFT of DCM0 is "0"
```

```

DCM DCM1 (
  .CLKFB(clock_with_ps_out),
  .CLKIN(clock),
  .DSSEN(low),
  .PSCLK(low),
  .PSEN(low),
  .PSINCDEC(low),
  .RST(low),
  .CLK0(clk1),
  .CLK90(),
  .CLK180(),
  .CLK270(),
  .CLK2X(),
  .CLK2X180(),
  .CLKDV(),
  .CLKFX(),
  .CLKFX180(),
  .LOCKED(dcm1_locked),
  .PSDONE(),
  .STATUS()
);
// synthesis attribute DLL_FREQUENCY_MODE of DCM1
// is "LOW"
// synthesis attribute DUTY_CYCLE_CORRECTION of
// DCM1 is "TRUE"
// synthesis attribute STARTUP_WAIT of DCM1 is
// "TRUE"
// synthesis attribute DFS_FREQUENCY_MODE of DCM1
// is "LOW"
// synthesis attribute CLKFX_DIVIDE of DCM1 is "1"
// synthesis attribute CLKFX_MULTIPLY of DCM1 is
// "1"
// synthesis attribute CLK_FEEDBACK of DCM1 is "1X"
// synthesis attribute CLKOUT_PHASE_SHIFT of DCM1
// is "FIXED"
// synthesis attribute PHASE_SHIFT of DCM1 is "0"

BUFG CLK_BUF1(
  .O(clock_with_ps_out),
  .I(clk1)
);

```

```
//synthesis translate_off
defparam DCM0.DLL_FREQUENCY_MODE = "LOW";
defparam DCM0.DUTY_CYCLE_CORRECTION = "TRUE";
defparam DCM0.STARTUP_WAIT = "TRUE";
defparam DCM0.DFS_FREQUENCY_MODE = "LOW";
defparam DCM0.CLKFX_DIVIDE = 1;
defparam DCM0.CLKFX_MULTIPLY = 1;
defparam DCM0.CLK_FEEDBACK = "1X";
defparam DCM0.CLKOUT_PHASE_SHIFT = "NONE";
defparam DCM0.PHASE_SHIFT = "0";

defparam DCM1.DLL_FREQUENCY_MODE = "LOW";
defparam DCM1.DUTY_CYCLE_CORRECTION = "TRUE";
defparam DCM1.STARTUP_WAIT = "TRUE";
defparam DCM1.DFS_FREQUENCY_MODE = "LOW";
defparam DCM1.CLKFX_DIVIDE = 1;
defparam DCM1.CLKFX_MULTIPLY = 1;
defparam DCM1.CLK_FEEDBACK = "1X";
defparam DCM1.CLKOUT_PHASE_SHIFT = "FIXED";
defparam DCM1.PHASE_SHIFT = "0";
//synthesis translate_on

endmodule // DCM_TOP
```

## Using Dedicated Global Set/Reset Resource

Using Global Set/Reset Resource (GSR) in Virtex/E/II and Spartan-II devices must be considered carefully. Synthesis tools will not automatically infer GSRs for these devices; however, `STARTUP_VIRTEX`, `STARTUP_VIRTEX2` and `STARTUP_SPARTAN2` can be instantiated in your code in order to access the GSR resource. Xilinx's recommendation for Virtex, Virtex-E, and Spartan-II designs is to write the high fanout set/reset signal explicitly in the HDL code and not use the `STARTUP_VIRTEX`, `STARTUP_VIRTEX2`, or `STARTUP_SPARTAN2` blocks. There are two advantages to this method.

1. This method gives you a faster speed. The set/reset signal will be routed onto the secondary longlines in the device, which are global lines with minimal skews and high speed. Therefore, the reset/set signal on the secondary lines has much faster speed than the speed of the GSR net of the `STARTUP_VIRTEX` block.

Since Virtex is rich in routings, placing and routing this signal on the global lines can be easily done by our software.

2. The `trce` program will analyze the delays of the explicitly written set/reset signal. You can read the `.twr` file (report file of the `trce` program) and find out exactly how fast its speed is. The `trce` program does not analyze the delays on the GSR net of the `STARTUP_VIRTEX`, `STARTUP_VIRTEX2`, or `STARTUP_SPARTAN2`. Hence, using an explicit set/reset signal will improve your design accountability.

For Virtex/E/II and Spartan-II devices, the Global Set/Reset (GSR) signal is, by default, set to active high (globally resets device when logic equals 1). You can change this to active low by inverting the GSR signal before connecting it to the GSR input of the `STARTUP` component.

**Note** See the “[Simulating Your Design](#)” chapter for more information on simulating the Global Set/Reset.

## Startup State

The GSR pin on the `STARTUP` block or the GSRIN pin on the `STARTBUF` block drives the GSR net and connects to each flip-flop’s Preset and Clear pin. When you connect a signal from a pad to the `STARTUP` block’s GSR pin, the GSR net is activated. Because the GSR net is built into the silicon it does not appear in the pre-routed netlist file. When the GSR signal is asserted High (the default), all flip-flops and latches are set to the state they were in at the end of configuration. When you simulate the routed design, the gate simulator translation program correctly models the GSR function.

See the “[Simulating Your Design](#)” chapter for more information on `STARTUP` and `STARTBUF`.

**Note** The following VHDL and Verilog example shows a `STARTUP_VIRTEX` instantiation using both GSR and GTS pins for FPGA Compiler II, LeonardoSpectrum, and XST.

- **VHDL Example.**

```
-- This example uses both GTS and GSR pins.
-- Unconnected STARTUP pins are omitted from
-- component declaration.
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
entity setreset is
    port (CLK: in std_logic;
          DIN1 : in STD_LOGIC;
          DIN2: in STD_LOGIC;
          RESET: in STD_LOGIC;
          GTSInput: in STD_LOGIC;
          DOUT1: out STD_LOGIC;
          DOUT2: out STD_LOGIC;
          DOUT3: out STD_LOGIC);
end setreset ;
architecture RTL of setreset is
    component STARTUP_VIRTEX
        port( GSR, GTS: in std_logic);
    end component;
begin
    startup_inst: STARTUP_VIRTEX port map(GSR =>
        RESET, GTS => GTSInput);
    reset_process: process (CLK, RESET)
```

```
begin
    if (RESET = '1') then
        DOUT1 <= '0';
    elsif ( CLK'event and CLK = '1') then
        DOUT1 <= DIN1;
    end if;
end process;
gtsprocess:process (GTSInput)
begin
    if GTSInput = '0' then
        DOUT3 <= '0';
        DOUT2 <= DIN2;
    else
        DOUT2 <= 'Z';
        DOUT3 <= 'Z';
    end if;
end process;
end RTL;
```

- Verilog example.

```
// This example uses both GTS and GSR pins
// Unused STARTUP pins are omitted from module
// declaration.
module setreset(CLK,DIN1, DIN2,RESET, GTSInput,
    DOUT1,DOUT2,DOUT3);
    input CLK;
    input DIN1;
    input DIN2;
    input RESET;
    input GTSInput;
    output DOUT1;
    output DOUT2;
    output DOUT3;
    reg DOUT1;
    STARTUP_VIRTEX startup_inst(.GSR(RESET),
        .GTS(GTSInput));
    always @(posedge CLK or posedge RESET)
    begin
        if (RESET)
            DOUT1 = 1'b0;
        else
            DOUT1 = DIN1;
    end
    assign DOUT3 = (GTSInput == 1'b0)? 1'b0: 1'bZ;
    assign DOUT2 = (GTSInput == 1'b0)? DIN2: 1'bZ;
endmodule
```

The following VHDL/Verilog examples show a STARTUP\_VIRTEX instantiation using both GSR and GTS pins in Synplify. In the examples, STARTUP\_VIRTEX\_GSR and STARTUP\_VIRTEX\_GTS are instantiated together to get the GSR and GTS pins connected. The resulting EDIF netlist will have only one STARTUP\_VIRTEX block with GTS and GSR connections. The CLK pin of the STARTUP\_VIRTEX will be unconnected. If all pins (GSR, GTS, and CLK) in the STARTUP block are needed, use STARTUP\_VIRTEX to port map the pins.

- **VHDL Example**

```
library IEEE,virtex,synplify;
use synplify.attributes.all;
use virtex.components.all;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
entity setreset is
    port (CLK: in std_logic;
          DIN1 : in STD_LOGIC;
          DIN2: in STD_LOGIC;
          RESET: in STD_LOGIC;
          GTSInput: in STD_LOGIC;
          DOUT1: out STD_LOGIC;
          DOUT2: out STD_LOGIC;
          DOUT3: out STD_LOGIC);
end setreset ;
architecture RTL of setreset is
begin
    u0: STARTUP_VIRTEX_GSR port map(GSR => RESET);
    u1: STARTUP_VIRTEX_GTS port map(GTS =>
        GTSInput);
    reset_process: process (CLK, RESET)
```

```
begin
    if (RESET = '1') then
        DOUT1 <= '0';
    elsif ( CLK'event and CLK = '1') then
        DOUT1  <= DIN1;
    end if;
end process;
gtsprocess:process (GTSInput)
begin
    if GTSInput = '0' then
        DOUT3 <= '0';
        DOUT2 <= DIN2;
    else
        DOUT2 <= 'Z';
        DOUT3 <= 'Z';
    end if;
end process;
end RTL;
```

- Verilog example

```
`include "path/to/virtex.v"

module setreset(CLK,DIN1, DIN2,RESET, GTSInput,
DOUT1,DOUT2,DOUT3);

    input CLK;
    input DIN1;
    input DIN2;
    input RESET;
    input GTSInput;
    output DOUT1;
    output DOUT2;
    output DOUT3;

    reg DOUT1;

STARTUP_VIRTEX_GSR startup_inst(.GSR(RESET));
STARTUP_VIRTEX_GTS startup_2(.GTS(GTSInput));
    always @(posedge CLK or posedge RESET)
    begin
        if (RESET)
            DOUT1 = 1'b0;
        else
            DOUT1 = DIN1;
    end

    assign DOUT3 = (GTSInput == 1'b0)? 1'b0: 1'bZ;
    assign DOUT2 = (GTSInput == 1'b0)? DIN2: 1'bZ;
endmodule
```

## **Preset vs. Clear**

The Virtex, Virtex-E, Virtex-II, Virtex-II Pro, and Spartan-II family flip-flops are configured as either preset (asynchronous set) or clear (asynchronous reset) during startup. Automatic assertion of the GSR net presets or clears each flip-flop after the FPGA is configured. You can assert the GSR pin at any time to produce this global effect. You can also preset or clear individual flip-flops with the flip-flop's dedicated Preset or Clear pin. When a Preset or Clear pin on a flip-flop is connected to an active signal, the state of that signal controls the startup state of the flip-flop. For example, if you connect an active signal to the Preset pin, the flip-flop starts up in the preset state. If you do not connect the Clear or Preset pin, the default startup state is a clear state. To change the default to preset, assign an INIT=1 to the Virtex/E/II or Spartan-II flip-flop.

I/O flip-flops and latches in Virtex, Virtex-E, Virtex-II, Virtex-II Pro, and Spartan-II have an SR pin which can be configured as a synchronous Set, a synchronous Reset, an asynchronous Preset, or an asynchronous Clear. The SR pin can be driven by any user logic, but INIT will also work for these flip-flops.

Below are examples of setting register INIT using ROCBUF. In the HDL code, the instantiated ROCBUF connects the set/reset signal. The Xilinx tools will automatically remove the ROCBUF during implementation leaving the set/reset signal active only during power-up.

- VHDL Example.

```
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
entity d_register is
    port (CLK : in std_logic;
          RESET : in std_logic;
          D0: in std_logic;
          D1: in std_logic;
          Q0 : out std_logic;
          Q1 : out std_logic);
end d_register;
architecture XILINX of d_register is
    signal RESET_int : std_logic;
    component ROCBUF is port (I : in STD_LOGIC;
                             O : out STD_LOGIC);
end component;
begin
    U1: ROCBUF port map (I => RESET, O => RESET_int);
    process (CLK, RESET_int)
    begin
        if RESET_int = '1' then
            Q0 <= '0';
            Q1 <= '1';
        elsif rising_edge(CLK) then
            Q0 <= D0;
            Q1 <= D1;
        end if;
    end process;
end XILINX;
```

- Verilog example

```
/* Note: In Synplify, set blackbox attribute for
ROCBUF as follows:

module ROCBUF(I, O);//synthesis syn_black_box
    input I;
    output O;
endmodule

*/

module ROCBUF (I, O);
    input I;
    output O;
endmodule

module rocbuf_example (reset, clk, d0, d1, q0,
    q1);
    input reset;
    input clk ;
    input d0;
    input d1;
    output q0 ;
    output q1 ;
    reg q0, q1;
    wire reset_int;
    ROCBUF u1 (.I(reset), .O(reset_int));
    always @ (posedge clk or posedge reset_int)
        begin
            if (reset_int) begin
                q0 = 1'b0;
                q1 = 1'b1;
            end
        end
    end
```

```
        else
            begin
                q0 = d0;
                q1 = d1;
            end
        end
    end
endmodule
```

## Implementing Inputs and Outputs

FPGAs have limited logic resources in the user-configurable input/output blocks (IOB). You can move logic that is normally implemented with CLBs to IOBs. By moving logic from CLBs to IOBs, additional logic can be implemented in the available CLBs. Using IOBs also improves design performance by increasing the number of available routing resources.

The Virtex/E/II, and Spartan-II IOBs feature SelectI/O inputs and outputs that support a wide variety of I/O signaling standards. In addition, each IOB provides three storage elements. The following sections discuss IOB features in more detail.

### I/O Standards

The following table summarizes the I/O standards supported in Virtex/E/II and Spartan-II devices. A complete table is available in the *Libraries Guide*.

**Table 4-3 I/O Standard in Virtex/E/II and Spartan-II Devices**

I/O Standard	Virtex/ Spartan-II	Virtex-E	Virtex-II/II Pro
LVTTL (default)	√	√	√
AGP	√	√	√
CTT	√	√	
GTL	√	√	√
GTLP	√	√	√

**Table 4-3 I/O Standard in Virtex/E/II and Spartan-II Devices**

<b>I/O Standard</b>	<b>Virtex/ Spartan-II</b>	<b>Virtex-E</b>	<b>Virtex-II/II Pro</b>
HSTL Class I	√	√	√
HSTL Class II			√
HSTL Class III	√	√	√
HSTL Class IV	√	√	√
LVC MOS2	√		
LVC MOS15			√
LVC MOS18		√	√
LVC MOS25, 33			√
LVCZ_15, 18, 25, 33			√
LVCZ_DV2_15, 18, 25, 33			√
LVDS		√	√
LVPECL		√	√
PCI33_5			
PCI33_3, PCI66_3	√	√	√
PCIX			√
SSTL2 Class I and Class II	√	√	√
SSTL3 Class I and Class II	√	√	√

For Virtex, Virtex-E, and Spartan-II devices, Xilinx provides a set of IBUF, IBUFG, IOBUF, and OBUF with its SelectI/O variants. For

example, IBUF\_GTL, IBUFG\_PCI66\_3, IOBUF\_HSTL\_IV, OBUF\_LVCMOS2. Alternatively, an IOSTANDARD attribute can be set to a specific I/O standard and attached to an IBUF, IBUFG, IOBUF, and OBUF. The IOSTANDARD attribute can be set in the user constraint file (UCF) or in the netlist by the synthesis tool.

The Virtex-II library includes certain SelectI/O components for compatibility with other architectures. However, the recommended method for using SelectI/O components for Virtex-II is to attach an IOSTANDARD attribute to IBUF/IBUFG/IOBUF/OBUF. For example, attach IOSTANDARD=GTLP to an IBUF instead of using the IBUF\_GTLP.

The default for the IOSTANDARD attribute is LVTTTL. For all Virtex/E/II and Spartan-II devices, you must specify IBUF, IBUFG, IOBUF or OBUF on the IOSTANDARD attribute if LVTTTL is not desired.

For more information on I/O standards and components, please refer to the *Libraries Guide*.

## Inputs

Virtex, Virtex-E, Virtex-II, Virtex-II Pro, and Spartan-II inputs can be configured to the I/O standards listed above.

In FPGA Compiler II, these special IOB components exist in the synthesis library and can be instantiated in your HDL code or selected from the FPGA Compiler II constraints GUI. A complete list of components understood by FPGA Compiler II can be found in the lib\virtex directory under the FPGA Compiler II tree (%XILINX%\synth for ISE users). FPGA Compiler II will understand these components and will not attempt to place any I/O logic on these ports. Users will be alerted by this warning:

```
Warning: Existing pad cell '/ver1-Optimized/U1' is
connected to the port 'clk' - no pads cells inserted
at this port. (FPGA-PADMAP-1)
```

In LeonardoSpectrum, insert appropriate buffers on selected ports in the constraints editor. Alternatively, you can set the following attribute in TCL script after the **read** but before the **optimize** options.

```
PAD <IO_standard> <portname>
```

The following is an example of setting an I/O standard in LeonardoSpectrum.

**PAD IBUF\_AGP data (7:0)**

In Synplify, users can set xc\_padtype attribute in SCOPE (Synplify's constraint editor) or in HDL code as shown below:

- **VHDL Example.**

```
library ieee, synplify;
use ieee.std_logic_1164.all;
use synplify.attributes.all;
entity test_padtype is
    port( a : in std_logic_vector(3 downto 0);
          b : in std_logic_vector(3 downto 0);
          clk, rst, en : in std_logic;
          bidir : inout std_logic_vector(3 downto 0);
          q : out std_logic_vector(3 downto 0));
    attribute xc_padtype of a : signal is
        "IBUF_SSTL3_I";
    attribute xc_padtype of bidir : signal is
        "IOBUF_HSTL_III";
    attribute xc_padtype of q : signal is "OBUF_S_8";
end entity;
```

- **Verilog Example**

```
module test_padtype (a, b, clk, rst, en, bidir, q);
input [3:0] a /* synthesis xc_padtype = "IBUF_AGP"
*/;
input [3:0] b;
input clk, rst, en;
inout [3:0] bidir /* synthesis xc_padtype =
"IOBUF_CTT" */;
output [3:0] q /* synthesis xc_padtype =
"OBUF_F_12" */;
```

**Note** Refer to IBUF\_selectIO in the *Libraries Guide* for a list of available IBUF\_selectIO values.

## Outputs

Virtex/E/II and Spartan-II outputs can also be configured to any of I/O standards listed in the I/O standards section. An OBUF that uses

the LVTTTL, LVCMOS15, LVCMOS18, LVCMOS25, or LVCMOS33 signaling standards has selectable drive and slew rates using the DRIVE and SLOW or FAST constraints. The defaults are DRIVE=12 mA and SLOW slew.

In addition, you can control the slew rate and drive power for LVTTTL outputs using `OBUF_<slew>_<drive_power>`.

Refer to `OBUF_selectIO` in the *Libraries Guide* for a list of available `OBUF_selectIO` values. You can use the examples in the Inputs section to configure OBUF to an I/O standard.

## Using IOB Register and Latch

Virtex, Virtex-E, and Spartan-II IOBs contain three storage elements. The three IOB storage elements function either as edge-triggered D-type flip-flops or as level sensitive latches. Each IOB has a clock (CLK) signal shared by the three flip-flops and independent clock enable (CE) signals for each flip-flop.

In addition to the CLK and CE control signals, the three flip-flops share a Set/Reset (SR). However, each flip-flop can be independently configured as a synchronous set, a synchronous reset, an asynchronous preset, or an asynchronous clear. FDCP (asynchronous reset and set) and FDRS (synchronous reset and set) register configurations are not available in IOBs.

Virtex-II IOBs also contain three storage elements with an option to configure them as FDCP, FDRS, and Dual-Data Rate (DDR) registers. Each register has an independent CE signal. The OTCLK1 and OTCLK2 clock pins are shared between the output and tristate enable register. A separate clock (ICLK1 and ICLK2) drives the input register. The set and reset signals (SR and REV) are shared by the three registers.

Virtex, Virtex-E, Virtex-II, and Spartan-II devices no longer have primitives that correspond to the synchronous elements in the IOBs. There are a few ways to infer usage of these FFs if the rules for pulling them into the IOB are followed. The following rules apply.

- All FFs that are to be pulled into the IOB must have a fanout of 1. This applies to output and tristate enable registers. For example, if there is a 32 bit bidirectional bus, then the tristate enable signal must be replicated in the original design so that it will have a fanout of 1.

- In Virtex/E and Spartan-II devices, all FFs must share the same clock and reset signal. They can have independent clock enables.
- In Virtex-II devices, output and tristate enable registers must share the same clock. All FFs must share the same set and reset signals.

One way you can pull FFs into the IOB is to use the `IOB=TRUE` setting. Another way is to pull FFs into the IOB using the `map -pr` command, which will be discussed in a later section. Some synthesis tools will apply the `IOB=TRUE` attribute and allow you to merge an FF to an IOB by setting an attribute. Refer to your synthesis tool documentation for the correct attribute and settings.

In FPGA Compiler II, you can set the attribute through the FPGA Compiler II constraints editor for each port into which a flip-flop should be merged. For tristate enable flip-flops, the default value for 'Use I/O Reg' will need to be set to TRUE. This will cause the `IOB=TRUE` constraint to be written on every flip-flop in the design.

LeonardoSpectrum, through ISE, can push registers into IOBs. Right click on the Synthesize process, select Properties, select the Architecture Options tab and enable the Map to IOB registers setting.

In standalone LeonardoSpectrum, you can select MAP IOB Registers from the Technology tab in the GUI or set the following attribute in your TCL script:

```
set virtex_map_iob_registers TRUE
```

In Synplify, attach the `syn_useioff` attribute to the module or architecture of top-level in one of these ways:

- Add the attribute in SCOPE. The constraint file syntax looks like this:

```
define_global_attribute syn_useioff 1
```

- Add the attribute in the VHDL/Verilog top-level source code as follows:

- ◆ VHDL Example

```
architecture rtl of test is
    attribute syn_useioff : boolean;
    attribute syn_useioff of rtl : architecture
        is true;
```

- ◆ Verilog example

```
module test(d, clk, q)
    /* synthesis syn_useioff = 1 */;
```

In XST, you can use the map -pr option, the -iob option or the IOB constraint in your HDL code or the UCF to place the flip-flops in the IOBs.

In XST, right click on the Synthesis process, select Properties, select the Xilinx Specific Options tab, then select either Auto or Yes for Pack I/O Registers into IOBs. To insert the IOB constraint in the HDL code, refer to the *Constraints Guide*.

## Using Dual Data Rate IOB Registers

The following VHDL and Verilog examples show how to infer dual data rate registers for inputs only. See the [Using IOB Register and Latch](#) section for an attribute to enable I/O register inference in your synthesis tool. The dual data rate register primitives (the synchronous set/reset with clock enable FDDRRSE, and asynchronous set/reset with clock enable FDDRCPE) must be instantiated in order to utilize the dual data rate registers in the outputs. Please refer to the [Instantiating Components](#) section for information on instantiating primitives.

- VHDL Example

```
library ieee;
    use ieee.std_logic_1164.all;

entity ddr_input is
    port (clk : in std_logic;
          d   : in std_logic;
          rst : in std_logic;
          q1  : out std_logic;
          q2  : out std_logic);
end ddr_input;
```

```
architecture behavioral of ddr_input is
begin
  q1reg : process (clk, rst)
  begin
    if rst='1' then
      q1 <= '0';
    elsif clk'event and clk='1' then
      q1 <= d;
    end if;
  end process;
  q2reg : process (clk, rst)
  begin
    if rst='1' then
      q2 <= '0';
    elsif clk'event and clk='0' then
      q2 <= d;
    end if;
  end process;
end behavioral;
```

- **Verilog Example**

```
module ddr_input (data_in, data_out, clk, rst);
  input data_in, clk, rst;
  output data_out;
  reg q1, q2;

  always @ (posedge clk or posedge rst)
  begin
    if (rst)
      q1=1'b0;
    else
      q1 = data_in;
    end
end
```

```
always @ (negedge clk or posedge rst)
begin
    if (rst)
        q2=1'b0;
    else
        q2 = data_in;
    end
assign data_out = q1 & q2;
end module
```

## **Using Output Enable IOB Register**

The following VHDL and Verilog examples illustrate how to infer an output enable register. See the above section for an attribute to turn I/O register inference in synthesis tools.

**Note** If using FPGA Compiler II to synthesize the examples below, open up FPGA Compiler II's constraints editor, select the Ports tab and change the default Use I/O Reg option from NONE to TRUE. Doing so will place an IOB=TRUE constraint on every flip-flop in the design. There is no option to specify only the output enable registers.

- **VHDL Example**

```
library IEEE;
use IEEE.STD_LOGIC_1164.ALL;
entity tri_state is
Port ( data_in_p : in std_logic_vector(7 downto 0);
      clk : in std_logic;
      tri_state_a: in std_logic;
      tri_state_b :in std_logic;
      data_out : out std_logic_vector(7 downto 0));
end tri_state;
architecture behavioral of tri_state is
signal data_in : std_logic_vector(7 downto 0);
signal data_in_r :std_logic_vector(7 downto 0);
signal tri_state_cntrl:std_logic_vector(7 downto 0);
signal temp_tri_state:std_logic_vector(7 downto 0);
begin
  G1:  for I in 0 to 7 generate
    temp_tri_state(I) <= tri_state_a AND
    tri_state_b;    -- create duplicate input signal
  end generate;
  process (tri_state_cntrl, data_in_r) begin
    G2:  for J in 0 to 7 loop
      if (tri_state_cntrl(J) = '0') then
        -- tri-state data_out
        data_out(J) <= data_in_r(J);
      else data_out(J) <= 'Z';
      end if;
    end loop;
  end process;
  process(clk) begin
    if clk'event and clk='1' then
      data_in <= data_in_p;-- register for input
      data_in_r <= data_in;-- register for output
      for I in 0 to 7 loop
        tri_state_cntrl(I) <= temp_tri_state(I);
        -- register tri-state
      end loop;
    end if;
  end process;
end behavioral;
```

- Verilog Example

```
//////////////////////////////////////////
// Inferring output enable register //
// October 2000 //
//////////////////////////////////////////
module tri_state (data_in_p, clk, tri_state_a,
tri_state_b, data_out);
    input[7:0] data_in_p;
    input clk;
    input tri_state_a;
    input tri_state_b;
    output[7:0] data_out;
    reg[7:0] data_out;
    reg[7:0] data_in;
    reg[7:0] data_in_r;
    reg[7:0] tri_state_cntrl;
    wire[7:0] temp_tri_state;
    assign temp_tri_state[0] = tri_state_a &
tri_state_b ; // create duplicate input signal
    assign temp_tri_state[1] = tri_state_a &
tri_state_b ;
    assign temp_tri_state[2] = tri_state_a &
tri_state_b ;
    assign temp_tri_state[3] = tri_state_a &
tri_state_b ;
    assign temp_tri_state[4] = tri_state_a &
tri_state_b ;
    assign temp_tri_state[5] = tri_state_a &
tri_state_b ;
    assign temp_tri_state[6] = tri_state_a &
tri_state_b ;
    assign temp_tri_state[7] = tri_state_a &
tri_state_b ;
    // exemplar attribute temp_tri_state
preserve_signal TRUE
```

```
always @(tri_state_cntrl or data_in_r)
begin
    begin : xhdl_1
        integer J;
        for(J = 0; J <= 7; J = J + 1)
            begin : G2
                if (!(tri_state_cntrl[J]))
                    begin
                        data_out[J] <= data_in_r[J] ;
                    end
                else // tri-state data_out
                    begin
                        data_out[J] <= 1'bz ;
                    end
                end
            end
        end
    end
end
always @(posedge clk)
begin
    data_in <= data_in_p ;
    // register for input
    data_in_r <= data_in ;
    // register for output
    tri_state_cntrl[0] <= temp_tri_state[0] ;
    tri_state_cntrl[1] <= temp_tri_state[1] ;
    tri_state_cntrl[2] <= temp_tri_state[2] ;
    tri_state_cntrl[3] <= temp_tri_state[3] ;
    tri_state_cntrl[4] <= temp_tri_state[4] ;
    tri_state_cntrl[5] <= temp_tri_state[5] ;
    tri_state_cntrl[6] <= temp_tri_state[6] ;
    tri_state_cntrl[7] <= temp_tri_state[7] ;
end
endmodule
```

## Using -pr Option with MAP

Use the `-pr` (pack registers) option when running MAP. The `-pr {i | o | b}` (input | output | both) option specifies to the MAP program to move registers into IOBs when possible. For example: `map -pr b <design_name.ngd>`

## **Virtex-E IOBs**

Virtex-E has the same IOB structure and features as Virtex and Spartan-II devices except for the available I/O standards.

### **Additional I/O Standards**

Virtex-E devices have two additional I/O standards: LVPECL and LVDS.

Because LVDS and LVPECL require two signal lines to transmit one data bit, it is handled differently from any other I/O standards. A UCF or an NGC file with complete pin loc information must be created to ensure that the I/O banking rules are not violated. If a UCF or NGC file is not used, PAR will issue errors.

The input buffer of these two I/O standards may be placed in a wide number of IOB locations. The exact locations are dependent on the package that is used. The Virtex-E package information lists the possible locations as IO\_L#P for the P-side and IO\_L#N for the N-side where # is the pair number. Only one input buffer is required to be instantiated in the design and placed on the correct IO\_L#P location. The N-side of the buffer will be reserved and no other IOB will be allowed to be placed on this location.

The output buffer may be placed in a wide number of IOB locations. The exact locations are dependent on the package that is used. The Virtex-E package information lists the possible locations as IO\_L#P for the P-side and IO\_L#N for the N-side where # is the pair number. However, both output buffers are required to be instantiated in the design and placed on the correct IO\_L#P and IO\_L#N locations. In addition, the output (O) pins must be inverted with respect to each other. (one HIGH and one LOW). Failure to follow these rules will lead to DRC errors in the software.

The following examples show VHDL and Verilog coding for LVDS I/O standards targeting a V50ECS144 device. An AUCF example is also provided.

- **VHDL Example.**

```
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
entity LVDSIO is
```

```
        port (CLK, DATA, Tin: in STD_LOGIC;
              IODATA_p, IODATA_n: inout STD_LOGIC;
              Q_p, Q_n : out STD_LOGIC
        );
end LVDSIO;

architecture BEHAV of LVDSIO is
    component IBUF_LVDS is port (I : in STD_LOGIC;
                                O : out STD_LOGIC);
    end component;
    component OBUF_LVDS is port (I : in STD_LOGIC;
                                O : out STD_LOGIC);
    end component;
    component IOBUF_LVDS is port (I : in STD_LOGIC;
                                T : in STD_LOGIC;
                                IO : inout STD_LOGIC;
                                O : out STD_LOGIC);
    end component;
    component INV is port (I : in STD_LOGIC;
                           O : out STD_LOGIC);
    end component;
    component IBUFG_LVDS is port(I : in STD_LOGIC;
                                O : out STD_LOGIC);
    end component;
    component BUFG is port(I : in STD_LOGIC;
                           O : out STD_LOGIC);
    end component;
    signal iodata_in : std_logic;
    signal iodata_n_out: std_logic;
```

```
signal iodata_out: std_logic;
signal DATA_int : std_logic;
signal Q_p_int   : std_logic;
signal Q_n_int   : std_logic;
signal CLK_int   : std_logic;
signal CLK_ibufgout : std_logic;
signal Tin_int   : std_logic;
begin
UI1: IBUF_LVDS port map ( I => DATA, O =>
    DATA_int);
UI2: IBUF_LVDS port map (I => Tin, O =>
    Tin_int);
UO_p: OBUF_LVDS port map ( I => Q_p_int, O =>
    Q_p);
UO_n: OBUF_LVDS port map ( I => Q_n_int, O =>
    Q_n);
UIO_p: IOBUF_LVDS port map ( I => iodata_out, T
    => Tin_int, IO => iodata_p,
    O => iodata_in);
UIO_n: IOBUF_LVDS port map ( I => iodata_n_out,
    T => Tin_int, IO => iodata_n,
    O => open);
UINV: INV port map ( I => iodata_out, O =>
    iodata_n_out);
UIBUF : IBUFG_LVDS port map ( I => CLK, O =>
    CLK_ibufgout);
UBUFG : BUF : BUF port map (I => CLK_ibufgout, O =>
    CLK_int);

My_D_Reg: process (CLK_int, DATA_int)
```

```
begin
    if (CLK_int'event and CLK_int='1') then
        Q_p_int <= DATA_int;
    end if;
end process; -- End My_D_Reg
iodata_out <= DATA_int and iodata_in;
Q_n_int <= not Q_p_int;
end BEHAV;
```

- **Verilog Example.**

```
module LVDSIOinst (CLK, DATA, Tin,
    IODATA_p, IODATA_n, Q_p, Q_n) ;
input    CLK, DATA, Tin;
inout    IODATA_p, IODATA_n;
output    Q_p, Q_n;

wire iodata_in;
wire iodata_n_out;
wire iodata_out;
wire DATA_int;
reg Q_p_int;
wire Q_n_int;
wire CLK_int;
wire CLK_ibufgout;
wire Tin_int;

IBUF_LVDS UI1 ( .I(DATA), .O( DATA_int));
IBUF_LVDS UI2 ( .I(Tin), .O (Tin_int));
OBUF_LVDS UO_p ( .I(Q_p_int), .O(Q_p));
```

```

OBUF_LVDS UO_n ( .I(Q_n_int), .O(Q_n));
IOBUF_LVDS UIO_p ( .I(iodata_out),.T(Tin_int),
    .IO(IODATA_p),.O (iodata_in));
IOBUF_LVDS UIO_n ( .I (iodata_n_out),
    .T(Tin_int),.IO(IODATA_n),.O ());
INV UINV ( .I(iodata_out), .O(iodata_n_out));
IBUFG_LVDS UIBUFG ( .I(CLK), .O(CLK_ibufgout));
BUFG UBUFFG (.I(CLK_ibufgout), .O(CLK_int));

always @ (posedge CLK_int)
begin
    Q_p_int <= DATA_int;
end

assign iodata_out = DATA_int && iodata_in;
assign Q_n_int = ~Q_p_int;
endmodule

```

- **UCF example targeting V50ECS144**

```

NET CLK LOC = A6;          #GCLK3
NET DATA LOC = A4;        #IO_L0P_YY
NET Q_p LOC = A5;          #IO_L1P_YY
NET Q_n LOC = B5;          #IO_L1N_YY
NET iodata_p LOC = D8;     #IO_L3P_YY
NET iodata_n LOC = C8;     #IO_L3N_YY
NET Tin LOC = F13;         #IO_L10P

```

The following examples use the IOSTANDARD attribute on I/O buffers as a work around for LVDS buffers. This example can also be used with other synthesis tools to configure I/O standards with the IOSTANDARD attribute.

- **VHDL Example**

```
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
entity flip_flop is
port(d: in std_logic;
      clk : in std_logic;
      q : out std_logic;
      q_n : out std_logic);
end flip_flop;

architecture flip_flop_arch of flip_flop is

component IBUF
port(I: in std_logic;
      O: out std_logic);
end component;

component OBUF
port(I: in std_logic;
      O: out std_logic);
end component;

attribute IOSTANDARD : string;
attribute LOC : string;
attribute IOSTANDARD of u1 : label is "LVDS";
attribute IOSTANDARD of u2 : label is "LVDS";
attribute IOSTANDARD of u3 : label is "LVDS";
```

```
-----  
-- Pin location A5 on the cs144  
-- package represents the  
-- 'positive' LVDS pin.  
-- Pin location D8 represents the  
-- 'positive' LVDS pin.  
-- Pin location C8 represents the  
-- 'negative' LVDS pin.  
-----  
  
attribute LOC of u1 : label is "A5";  
attribute LOC of u2 : label is "D8";  
attribute LOC of u3 : label is "C8";  
signal d_lvds, q_lvds, q_lvds_n : std_logic;  
begin  
u1: IBUF port map (d,d_lvds);  
u2: OBUF port map (q_lvds,q);  
u3: OBUF port map (q_lvds_n,q_n);  
    process (clk) begin  
        if clk'event and clk = '1' then  
            q_lvds <= d_lvds;  
        end if;  
    end process;  
q_lvds_n <= not(q_lvds);  
end flip_flop_arch;
```

- Verilog Example.

```
module flip_flop (d, clk, q, q_n);
  /***/
  // Pin location A5 on the cs144
  // package represents the
  // 'positive' LVDS pin.
  // Pin location D8 represents the
  // 'positive' LVDS pin.
  // Pin location C8 represents the
  // 'negative' LVDS pin.
  /***/
  input d;//synopsys attribute LOC "A5"
  input clk;
  output q;//synopsys attribute LOC "D8"
  output q_n;//synopsys attribute LOC "C8"
  wire d,clk,d_lvds,q;
  reg q_lvds;
  IBUF u1 (.I(d), .O(d_lvds));
  //synopsys attribute IOSTANDARD "LVDS"
  OBUF u2 (.I(q_lvds), .O(q));
  //synopsys attribute IOSTANDARD "LVDS"
  OBUF u3 (.I(q_lvds_n), .O(q_n));
  //synopsys attribute IOSTANDARD "LVDS"
  always @(posedge clk) q_lvds=d_lvds;
  assign q_lvds_n=~q_lvds;
endmodule
```

Reference Xilinx Answer Database in <http://support.xilinx.com> for more information.

In LeonardoSpectrum and Synplify, you can instantiate the selectI/O components or use the attribute discussed in the “*Inputs*” section, but make sure that the output and its inversion are declared and configured properly.

## Virtex-II IOBs

Virtex-II offers more Select I/O configuration than Virtex/E and Spartan-II as shown in Table 5-3. IOSTANDARD and synthesis tools’ specific attributes can be used to configure the Select I/O.

Additionally, Virtex-II provides digitally controlled impedance (DCI) I/Os which are useful in improving signal integrity and avoiding the use of external resistors. This option is only available for most of the single ended I/O standards. To access this option you can instantiate the 'DCI' suffixed I/Os from the library such as HSTL\_IV\_DCI.

For low-voltage differential signaling, additional IBUFDS, OBUFDS, OBUFTDS, and IOBUFDS components are available. These components simplify the task of instantiating the differential signaling standard.

### Differential Signaling in Virtex-II

Differential signaling in Virtex-II can be configured using IBUFDS, OBUFDS, and OBUFTDS. The IBUFDS is a two-input one-output buffer. The OBUFDS is a one-input two-output buffer. Refer to the *Libraries Guide* for the component diagram and description.

LVDS\_25, LVDS\_33, LVDSEXT\_33, and LVPECL\_33 are valid IOSTANDARD values to attach to differential signaling buffers. If no IOSTANDARD is attached, the default is LVDS\_33.

The following is the VHDL and Verilog example of instantiating differential signaling buffers.

- **VHDL Example**

```
-----  
-- LVDS_33_IO.VHD Version 1.0 --  
-- Example of a behavioral description of --  
-- differential signal I/O standard using --  
-- LeonardoSpectrum attribute.--  
-- HDL Synthesis Design Guide for FPGAs --  
-- October 2000 --  
-----  
  
library IEEE;  
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;  
--use exemplar.exemplar_1164.all;  
entity LVDS_33_IO is  
    port (CLK_p, CLK_n, DATA_p, DATA_n, Tin_p,  
Tin_n: in STD_LOGIC;  
        datain2_p, datain2_n : in STD_LOGIC;  
        ODATA_p, ODATA_n: out STD_LOGIC;  
        Q_p, Q_n : out STD_LOGIC);  
end LVDS_33_IO;  
architecture BEHAV of LVDS_33_IO is  
    component IBUFDS is port (I : in STD_LOGIC;  
        IB: in STD_LOGIC;  
        O : out STD_LOGIC);  
    end component;  
    component OBUFDS is port (I : in STD_LOGIC;  
        O : out STD_LOGIC;  
        OB : out STD_LOGIC);  
    end component;
```

```

component OBUFTDS is port (I : in STD_LOGIC;
    T : in STD_LOGIC;
    O : out STD_LOGIC;
    OB: out STD_LOGIC);
end component;

component IBUFGDS is port(I : in STD_LOGIC;
    IB: in STD_LOGIC;
    O : out STD_LOGIC);
end component;

component BUFG is port(I : in STD_LOGIC;
    O : out STD_LOGIC);
end component;

signal datain2 : std_logic;
signal odata_out: std_logic;
signal DATA_int : std_logic;
signal Q_int : std_logic;
signal CLK_int : std_logic;
signal CLK_ibufgout : std_logic;
signal Tin_int : std_logic;
begin

UI1: IBUFDS port map ( I => DATA_p, IB => DATA_n,
    O => DATA_int);

UI2: IBUFDS port map ( I => datain2_p,
    IB => datain2_n, O => datain2);

UI3: IBUFDS port map (I => Tin_p, IB => Tin_n,
    O => Tin_int);

UO1: OBUFDS port map ( I => Q_int, O => Q_p,
    OB => Q_n);

UO2: OBUFTDS port map ( I => odata_out,
    T => Tin_int, O => odata_p, OB => odata_n);

```

```
UIBUFG : IBUFGDS port map ( I => CLK_p,
                             IB => CLK_n, O => CLK_ibufgout);
UBUFG : BUFG port map (I => CLK_ibufgout,
                       O => CLK_int);
My_D_Reg: process (CLK_int, DATA_int)
begin
    if (CLK_int'event and CLK_int='1') then
        Q_int <= DATA_int;
    end if;
end process; -- End My_D_Reg
odata_out <= DATA_int and datain2;
end BEHAV;
```

- **Verilog Example**

```
//-----
// LVDS_33_IO.v Version 1.0          --
// Example of a behavioral description of --
// differential signal I/O standard    --
// HDL Synthesis Design Guide for FPGAs --
// October 2000                       --
//-----

module LVDS_33_IO (CLK_p, CLK_n, DATA_p, DATA_n,
DATAIN2_p, DATAIN2_n, Tin_p, Tin_n, ODATA_p,
ODATA_n, Q_p, Q_n) ;
input    CLK_p, CLK_n, DATA_p, DATA_n,
        DATAIN2_p, DATAIN2_n, Tin_p, Tin_n;
output    ODATA_p, ODATA_n;
output    Q_p, Q_n;
wire datain2;
wire odata_in;
wire odata_out;
wire DATA_int;
reg Q_int;
wire CLK_int;
wire CLK_ibufgout;
wire Tin_int;

IBUFDS UI1 ( .I(DATA_p), .IB(DATA_n),
.O( DATA_int));

IBUFDS UI2 (.I(Tin_p), .IB(Tin_n),
.O (Tin_int));

IBUFDS UI3 (.I(DATAIN2_p), .IB(DATAIN2_n),
.O(datain2));
```

```
OBUFDS UO1 ( .I(Q_int), .O(Q_p), .OB(Q_n));  
OBUFTDS UO2 ( .I(odata_out), .T(Tin_int),  
              .O(ODATA_p), .OB(ODATA_n));  
IBUFGDS UIBUFG ( .I(CLK_p), .IB(CLK_n),  
                 .O(CLK_ibufgout));  
BUFG UBUFFG (.I(CLK_ibufgout), .O(CLK_int));  
always @ (posedge CLK_int)  
begin  
    Q_int <= DATA_int;  
end  
assign odata_out = DATA_int && datain2;  
endmodule
```

## Encoding State Machines

The traditional methods used to generate state machine logic result in highly-encoded states. State machines with highly-encoded state variables typically have a minimum number of flip-flops and wide combinatorial functions. These characteristics are acceptable for PAL and gate array architectures. However, because FPGAs have many flip-flops and narrow function generators, highly-encoded state variables can result in inefficient implementation in terms of speed and density.

One-hot encoding allows you to create state machine implementations that are more efficient for FPGA architectures. You can create state machines with one flip-flop per state and decreased width of combinatorial logic. One-hot encoding is usually the preferred method for large FPGA-based state machine implementation. For small state machines (fewer than 8 states), binary encoding may be more efficient. To improve design performance, you can divide large (greater than 32 states) state machines into several small state machines and use the appropriate encoding style for each.

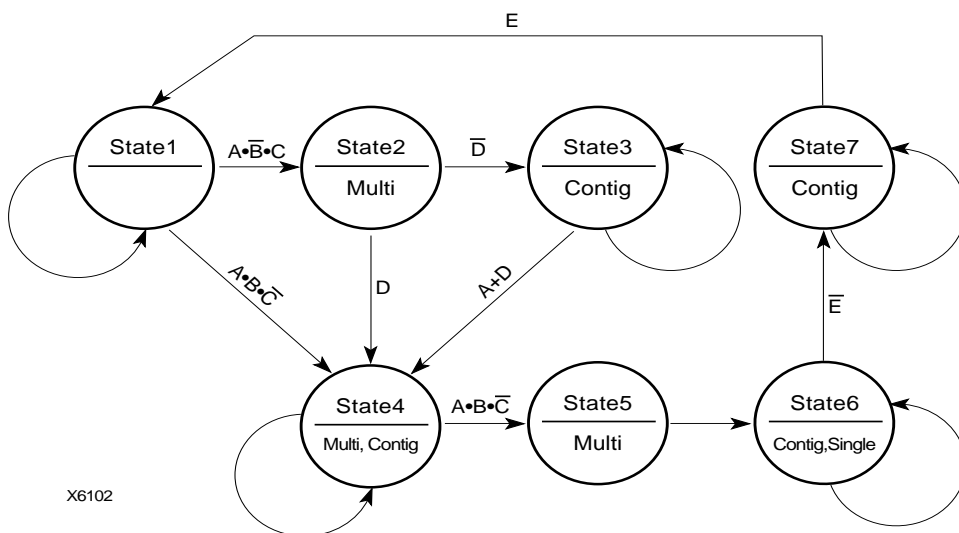
Three design examples are provided in this section to illustrate the three coding methods (binary, enumerated type, and one-hot) you can use to create state machines. All three examples contain the same Case statement. To conserve space, the complete Case statement is

only included in the binary encoded state machine example; refer to this example when reviewing the enumerated type and one-hot examples.

Some synthesis tools allow you to add an attribute, such as `type_encoding_style`, to your VHDL code to set the encoding style. This is a synthesis vendor attribute (not a Xilinx attribute). Refer to your synthesis tool documentation for information on attribute-driven state machine synthesis.

## Using Binary Encoding

The state machine bubble diagram in the following figure shows the operation of a seven-state machine that reacts to inputs A through E as well as previous-state conditions. The binary encoded method of coding this state machine is shown in the VHDL and Verilog examples that follow. These design examples show you how to take a design that has been previously encoded (for example, binary encoded) and synthesize it to the appropriate decoding logic and registers. These designs use three flip-flops to implement seven states.



**Figure 4-4 State Machine Bubble Diagram**

## Binary Encoded State Machine VHDL Example

The following is a binary encoded state machine VHDL example.

```
-----
-- BINARY.VHD Version 1.0                                --
-- Example of a binary encoded state machine              --
-- May 2001                                              --
-----

Library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
use IEEE.std_logic_unsigned.all;

entity binary is
  port (CLOCK, RESET : in STD_LOGIC;
        A, B, C, D, E: in BOOLEAN;
        SINGLE, MULTI, CONTIG: out STD_LOGIC);
end binary;

architecture BEHV of binary is

  type STATE_TYPE is (S1, S2, S3, S4, S5, S6, S7);
  attribute ENUM_ENCODING: STRING;
  attribute ENUM_ENCODING of STATE_TYPE: type is "001 010 011 100 101
  110 111";

  signal CS, NS: STATE_TYPE;

begin
  SYNC_PROC: process (CLOCK, RESET)
  begin
    if (RESET='1') then
      CS <= S1;
    elsif (CLOCK'event and CLOCK = '1') then
      CS <= NS;
    end if;
  end process; --End REG_PROC

  COMB_PROC: process (CS, A, B, C, D, E)
  begin
    case CS is
      when S1 =>
        MULTI  <= '0';

```

```
    CONTIG <= '0';
    SINGLE <= '0';
    if (A and not B and C) then
        NS <= S2;
    elsif (A and B and not C) then
        NS <= S4;
    else
        NS <= S1;
    end if;

when S2 =>
    MULTI  <= '1';
    CONTIG <= '0';
    SINGLE <= '0';
    if (not D) then
        NS <= S3;
    else
        NS <= S4;
    end if;

when S3 =>
    MULTI  <= '0';
    CONTIG <= '1';
    SINGLE <= '0';
    if (A or D) then
        NS <= S4;
    else
        NS <= S3;
    end if;
when S4 =>
    MULTI  <= '1';
    CONTIG <= '1';
    SINGLE <= '0';
    if (A and B and not C) then
        NS <= S5;
    else
        NS <= S4;
    end if;
when S5 =>
    MULTI  <= '1';
    CONTIG <= '0';
    SINGLE <= '0';
```

```
        NS <= S6;
    when S6 =>
        MULTI   <= '0';
        CONTIG  <= '1';
        SINGLE  <= '1';
        if (not E) then
            NS <= S7;
        else
            NS <= S6;
        end if;
    when S7 =>
        MULTI   <= '0';
        CONTIG  <= '1';
        SINGLE  <= '0';
        if (E) then
            NS <= S1;
        else
            NS <= S7;
        end if;
    end case;
end process; -- End COMB_PROC
end BEHV;
```

## Binary Encoded State Machine Verilog Example

```
////////////////////////////////////////
// BINARY.V Version 1.0                      //
// Example of a binary encoded state machine //
// May 2001                                  //
////////////////////////////////////////
module binary (CLOCK, RESET, A, B, C, D, E, SINGLE, MULTI, CONTIG);

input    CLOCK, RESET;
input    A, B, C, D, E;
output   SINGLE, MULTI, CONTIG;

reg      SINGLE, MULTI, CONTIG;
// Declare the symbolic names for states
parameter [2:0]
    S1 = 3'b001,
    S2 = 3'b010,
    S3 = 3'b011,
    S4 = 3'b100,
    S5 = 3'b101,
    S6 = 3'b110,
    S7 = 3'b111;

// Declare current state and next state variables
reg [2:0] CS;
reg [2:0] NS;

// state_vector CS

    always @ (posedge CLOCK or posedge RESET)
    begin
        if (RESET == 1'b1)
            CS = S1;
        else
            CS = NS;
    end
    always @ (CS or A or B or C or D or D or E)
    begin
        case (CS)
            S1 :
```

```
begin
    MULTI   = 1'b0;
    CONTIG  = 1'b0;
    SINGLE  = 1'b0;
    if (A && ~B && C)
        NS = S2;
    else if (A && B && ~C)
        NS = S4;
    else
        NS = S1;
    end
S2 :
begin
    MULTI   = 1'b1;
    CONTIG  = 1'b0;
    SINGLE  = 1'b0;
    if (!D)
        NS = S3;
    else
        NS = S4;
    end
S3 :
begin
    MULTI   = 1'b0;
    CONTIG  = 1'b1;
    SINGLE  = 1'b0;
    if (A || D)
        NS = S4;
    else
        NS = S3;
    end

S4 :
begin
    MULTI   = 1'b1;
    CONTIG  = 1'b1;
    SINGLE  = 1'b0;
    if (A && B && ~C)
        NS = S5;
    else
        NS = S4;
    end
end
```

```
S5 :
begin
    MULTI   = 1'b1;
    CONTIG  = 1'b0;
    SINGLE  = 1'b0;
    NS = S6;
end
S6 :
begin
    MULTI   = 1'b0;
    CONTIG  = 1'b1;
    SINGLE  = 1'b1;
    if (!E)
        NS = S7;
    else
        NS = S6;
    end
S7 :
begin
    MULTI   = 1'b0;
    CONTIG  = 1'b1;
    SINGLE  = 1'b0;
    if (E)
        NS = S1;
    else
        NS = S7;
    end
end
endcase
end
endmodule
```

## Using Enumerated Type Encoding

The recommended encoding style for state machines depends on which synthesis tool you are using. Some synthesis tools encode better than others depending on the device architecture and the size of the decode logic. You can explicitly declare state vectors or you can allow your synthesis tool to determine the vectors. Xilinx recommends that you use enumerated type encoding to specify the states and use the Finite State Machine (FSM) extraction commands to extract and encode the state machine as well as to perform state minimization and optimization algorithms. The enumerated type method

of encoding the seven-state machine is shown in the following VHDL and Verilog examples. The encoding style is not defined in the code, but can be specified later with the FSM extraction commands. Alternatively, you can allow your compiler to select the encoding style that results in the lowest gate count when the design is synthesized. Some synthesis tools automatically find finite state machines and compile without the need for specification.

**Note** Refer to the previous VHDL and Verilog Binary Encoded State Machine examples for the complete Case statement portion of the code.

## **Enumerated Type Encoded State Machine VHDL Example**

```
Library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
entity enum is
    port (CLOCK, RESET : in STD_LOGIC;
          A, B, C, D, E: in BOOLEAN;
          SINGLE, MULTI, CONTIG: out STD_LOGIC);
end enum;

architecture BEHV of enum is

    type STATE_TYPE is (S1, S2, S3, S4, S5, S6, S7);

    signal CS, NS: STATE_TYPE;

begin
    SYNC_PROC: process (CLOCK, RESET)
    begin
        if (RESET='1') then
            CS <= S1;
        elsif (CLOCK'event and CLOCK = '1') then
            CS <= NS;
        end if;
    end process; --End SYNC_PROC
    COMB_PROC: process (CS, A, B, C, D, E)
```

```

begin
    case CS is
    when S1 =>
        MULTI  <= '0';
        CONTIG <= '0';
        SINGLE <= '0';
    .
    .
    .

```

## Enumerated Type Encoded State Machine Verilog Example

```

/////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////
// ENUM.V Version 1.0                                     //
// Example of an enumerated encoded state machine//
// May 2001                                              //
/////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////

module enum (CLOCK, RESET, A, B, C, D, E,
             SINGLE, MULTI, CONTIG);

    input  CLOCK, RESET;
    input  A, B, C, D, E;
    output SINGLE, MULTI, CONTIG;

    reg    SINGLE, MULTI, CONTIG;

    // Declare the symbolic names for states
    parameter [2:0]
        S1 = 3'b000,
        S2 = 3'b001,
        S3 = 3'b010,
        S4 = 3'b011,
        S5 = 3'b100,
        S6 = 3'b101,
        S7 = 3'b110;

    // Declare current state and next state variables
    reg [2:0] CS;

```

```
reg [2:0] NS;

// state_vector CS

always @ (posedge CLOCK or posedge RESET)
begin
    if (RESET == 1'b1)
        CS = S1;
    else
        CS = NS;
end

always @ (CS or A or B or C or D or D or E)
begin
    case (CS)
        S1 :
            begin
                MULTI  = 1'b0;
                CONTIG = 1'b0;
                SINGLE = 1'b0;
                if (A && ~B && C)
                    NS = S2;
                else if (A && B && ~C)
                    NS = S4;
                else
                    NS = S1;
            end
        .
        .
        .
    endcase
end
```

## Using One-Hot Encoding

One-hot encoding allows you to create state machine implementations that are more efficient for FPGA architectures. One-hot encoding is usually the preferred method for large FPGA-based state machine implementation.

The following examples show a one-hot encoded state machine. Use this method to control the state vector specification or when you want to specify the names of the state registers. These examples use one flip-flop for each of the seven states. If you are using FPGA Compiler II, use enumerated type, and avoid using the “when others” construct in the VHDL Case statement. This construct can result in a very large state machine.

**Note** Refer to the previous VHDL and Verilog Binary Encoded State Machine examples for the complete Case statement portion of the code.

### One-hot Encoded State Machine VHDL Example

```
Library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
use IEEE.std_logic_unsigned.all;

entity one_hot is
    port (CLOCK, RESET : in STD_LOGIC;
          A, B, C, D, E: in BOOLEAN;
          SINGLE, MULTI, CONTIG: out STD_LOGIC);
end one_hot;

architecture BEHV of one_hot is

    type STATE_TYPE is (S1, S2, S3, S4, S5, S6, S7);
    attribute ENUM_ENCODING: STRING;
    attribute ENUM_ENCODING of STATE_TYPE: type is
        "0000001 0000010 0000100 0001000 0010000 0100000 1000000 ";

    signal CS, NS: STATE_TYPE;

begin
```

```
SYNC_PROC: process (CLOCK, RESET)
begin
    if (RESET='1') then
        CS <= S1;
    elsif (CLOCK'event and CLOCK = '1') then
        CS <= NS;
    end if;
end process; --End SYNC_PROC
COMB_PROC: process (CS, A, B, C, D, E)
begin
    case CS is
    when S1 =>
        MULTI  <= '0';
        CONTIG <= '0';
        SINGLE <= '0';
    if (A and not B and C) then
        NS <= S2;
    elsif (A and B and not C) then
        NS <= S4;
    else
        NS <= S1;
    end if;
    .
    .
    .
```

## One-hot Encoded State Machine Verilog Example

```
//////////////////////////////////////////
// ONE_HOT.V Version 1.0                      //
// Example of a one-hot encoded state machine' //
// Xilinx HDL Synthesis Design Guide for FPGAs //
// May 2001                                   //
//////////////////////////////////////////

module one_hot (CLOCK, RESET, A, B, C, D, E,
               SINGLE, MULTI, CONTIG);

input  CLOCK, RESET;
input  A, B, C, D, E;
output SINGLE, MULTI, CONTIG;

reg SINGLE, MULTI, CONTIG;

// Declare the symbolic names for states
parameter [6:0]
    S1 = 7'b0000001,
    S2 = 7'b0000010,
    S3 = 7'b0000100,
    S4 = 7'b0001000,
    S5 = 7'b0010000,
    S6 = 7'b0100000,
    S7 = 7'b1000000;

// Declare current state and next state variables
reg [2:0] CS;
reg [2:0] NS;

// state_vector CS

always @ (posedge CLOCK or posedge RESET)
begin
    if (RESET == 1'b1)
        CS = S1;
    else
        CS = NS;
end
```

```
always @ (CS or A or B or C or D or D or E)
begin
    case (CS)
        S1 :
            begin
                MULTI  = 1'b0;
                CONTIG = 1'b0;
                SINGLE = 1'b0;
                if (A && ~B && C)
                    NS = S2;
                else if (A && B && ~C)
                    NS = S4;
                else
                    NS = S1;
            end
    end
    .
    .
    .
```

## Accelerating FPGA Macros with One-Hot Approach

Most synthesis tools provide a setting for finite state machine (FSM) encoding. This setting will prompt synthesis tools to automatically extract state machines in your design and perform special optimizations to achieve better performance. The default option for FSM encoding is “One-Hot” for most synthesis tools. However, this setting can be changed to other encoding such as binary, gray, sequential, etc.

In FPGA Compiler II, FSM encoding is set to “One-Hot” by default. To change this setting, select Synthesis-> Options -> Project Tab. Available options are: One-Hot, Binary, and Zero One-Hot.

In LeonardoSpectrum, FSM encoding is set to “Auto” by default, which differs depending on the Bit Width of your state machine. To change this setting to a specific value, select the Input tab. Available options are: Binary, One-Hot, Random, Gray, and Auto.

In Synplify, the Symbolic FSM Compiler option can be accessed from the main GUI. When set, the FSM Compiler extracts the state machines as symbolic graphs, and then optimizes them by re-encoding the state representations and generating a better logic optimization starting point for the state machines. This usually results in one-hot encoding. However, you may override the default on a

register by register basis with the `syn_encoding` directive/attribute. Available options are: One-Hot, Gray, Sequential, and Safe.

In XST, FSM encoding is set to Auto by default. Available options are: Auto, One-Hot, Compact, Gray, Johnson, Sequential, and User.

**Note** XST will only recognize enumerated encoding if the encoding option is set to User.

## Summary of Encoding Styles

In the three previous examples, the state machine's possible states are defined by an enumeration type. Use the following syntax to define an enumeration type.

```
type type_name is (enumeration_literal {, enumeration_literal} );
```

After you have defined an enumeration type, declare the signal representing the states as the enumeration type as follows.

```
type STATE_TYPE is (S1, S2, S3, S4, S5, S6, S7);  
signal CS, NS: STATE_TYPE;
```

The state machine described in the three previous examples has seven states. The possible values of the signals CS (Current\_State) and NS (Next\_State) are S1, S2, ... , S6, S7.

To select an encoding style for a state machine, specify the state vectors. Alternatively, you can specify the encoding style when the state machine is compiled. Xilinx recommends that you specify an encoding style. If you do not specify a style, your compiler selects a style that minimizes the gate count. For the state machine shown in the three previous examples, the compiler selected the binary encoded style: S1="000", S2="001", S3="010", S4="011", S5="100", S6="101", and S7="110".

You can use the FSM extraction tool to change the encoding style of a state machine. For example, use this tool to convert a binary-encoded state machine to a one-hot encoded state machine.

**Note** Refer to your synthesis tool documentation for instructions on how to extract the state machine and change the encoding style.

## Initializing the State Machine

When creating a state machine, especially when you use one-hot encoding, add the following lines of code to your design to ensure that the FPGA is initialized to a Set state.

- **VHDL Example**

```
SYNC_PROC: process (CLOCK, RESET)
begin
    if (RESET='1') then
        CS <= s1;
```

- **Verilog Example**

```
always @ (posedge CLOCK or posedge RESET)
begin
    if (RESET == 1'b 1)
        CS = S1;
```

Alternatively, you can assign an INIT=S attribute to the initial state register to specify the initial state. Refer to your synthesis tool documentation for information on assigning this attribute.

In the Binary Encode State Machine example, the RESET signal forces the S1 flip-flop to be preset (initialized to 1) while the other flip-flops are cleared (initialized to 0).

## Implementing Operators and Generate Modules

Xilinx FPGAs feature carry logic elements that can be used for optimal implementation of operators and generate modules. Synthesis tools infer the carry logic automatically when a specific coding style or operator is used.

### Adder and Subtractor

Synthesis tools will infer carry logic in Virtex/E/II and Spartan-II devices when an adder and Subtractor is described (+ or - operator).

## Multiplier

Synthesis tools will utilize the carry logic by inferring XORCY, MUXCY, and MULT\_AND for Virtex, Virtex-E and Spartan-II when a multiplier is described.

When a Virtex-II/II Pro part is being targeted an embedded 18x18 two's complement multiplier primitive called a MULT18X18 will be inferred by the synthesis tools. For synchronous multiplications, LeonardoSpectrum, Synplify, and XST will infer a MULT18X18S primitive.

LeonardoSpectrum features a pipeline multiplier that involves putting levels of registers in the logic to introduce parallelism and, as a result, improve speed. A certain construct in the input RTL source code description is required to allow the pipelined multiplier feature to take effect. This construct will infer XORCY, MUXCY, and MULT\_AND primitives for Virtex, Virtex-E, Spartan-II, Virtex-II, and Virtex-II Pro. The following example shows this construct.

- VHDL Example

```
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
use IEEE.std_logic_arith.all;

entity multiply is
generic (size :integer := 16; level:integer:=4);
  port (
    clk : in std_logic;
    Ain : in std_logic_vector (size-1 downto 0);
    Bin : in std_logic_vector (size-1 downto 0);
    Qout : out std_logic_vector (2*size-1 downto 0));
end multiply;

architecture RTL of multiply is
type levels_of_registers is array (level-1 downto
  0) of unsigned (2*size-1 downto 0);
  signal reg_bank :levels_of_registers;
  signal a, b : unsigned (size-1 downto 0);
begin
  Qout <= std_logic_vector (reg_bank (level-1));
  process
  begin
    wait until clk'event and clk = '1';
```

```
        a <= unsigned(Ain);
        b <= unsigned(Bin);
        reg_bank (0) <= a * b;
        for i in 1 to level-1 loop
            reg_bank (i) <= reg_bank (i-1);
        end loop;
    end process;
end architecture RTL;
```

The following is a Synchronous Multiplier VHDL Example coded for Synplify and XST:

```
library ieee;
use ieee.std_logic_1164.all;
use ieee.std_logic_arith.all;
use ieee.std_logic_unsigned.all;

entity xcv2_mult18x18s is
    Port (a : in std_logic_vector(7 downto 0);
          b : in std_logic_vector(7 downto 0);
          clk : in std_logic;
          prod : out std_logic_vector(15 downto 0));
end xcv2_mult18x18s;

architecture arch_ xcv2_mult18x18s of
    xcv2_mult18x18s is

begin
    process(clk) is begin
        if clk'event and clk = '1' then
            prod <= a*b;
        end if;
    end process;
end arch_ xcv2_mult18x18s;
```

The following is a Synchronous Multiplier VHDL Example coded for LeonardoSpectrum:

```
library ieee;
use ieee.std_logic_1164.all;
use ieee.std_logic_arith.all;
use ieee.std_logic_unsigned.all;

entity xcv2_mult18x18s is
    port(clk: in std_logic;
         a: in std_logic_vector(7 downto 0);
         b: in std_logic_vector(7 downto 0);
         prod: out std_logic_vector(15 downto 0));
end xcv2_mult18x18s;

architecture arch_xcv2_mult18x18s of
    xcv2_mult18x18 is
    signal reg_prod : std_logic_vector(15 downto 0);
begin
    process(clk)
    begin
        if(rising_edge(clk))then
            reg_prod <= a * b;
            prod <= reg_prod;
        end if;
    end process;
end arch_xcv2_mult18x18s;
```

- Verilog Example.

```
module multiply (clk, ain, bin, q);
    parameter size = 16;
    parameter level = 4;
    input      clk;
    input [size-1:0] ain, bin;
    output [2*size-1:0] q;
    reg [size-1:0]      a, b;
    reg [2*size-1:0]    reg_bank [level-1:0];
    integer             i;
    always @(posedge clk)
        begin
            a <= ain;
            b <= bin;
        end
    always @(posedge clk)
        reg_bank[0] <= a * b;
    always @(posedge clk)
        for (i = 1; i < level; i=i+1)
            reg_bank[i] <= reg_bank[i-1];
        assign q = reg_bank[level-1];
endmodule // multiply
```

The following is a Synchronous Multiplier Verilog Example coded for Synplify and XST:

```
module mult_sync(a,b,clk,prod);
    input [7:0] a;
    input [7:0] b;
    input clk;
    output [15:0] prod;
    reg [15:0] prod;

    always @(posedge clk) prod <= a*b;
endmodule
```

The following is a Synchronous Multiplier Verilog Example coded for LeonardoSpectrum:

```
module xcv2_mult18x18s (a,b,clk,prod);
    input [7:0] a;
    input [7:0] b;
    input clk;
    output [15:0] prod;
    reg [15:0] reg_prod, prod;

    always @(posedge clk) begin
        reg_prod <= a*b;
        prod <= reg_prod;
    endmodule
```

## Counters

When describing a counter in HDL, the arithmetic operator '+' will infer the carry chain. The synthesis tools will then infer the MUXCY element for the counter.

```
count <= count + 1; -- This will infer MUXCY
```

This implementation will provide a very effective solution especially for all purpose counters.

Below is an example of a loadable binary counter:

- **VHDL Example**

```
library ieee;
use ieee.std_logic_1164.all;
use ieee.std_logic_unsigned.all;

entity counter is
  port (d : in std_logic_vector (7 downto 0);
        ld, ce, clk, rst : in std_logic;
        q : out std_logic_vector (7 downto 0));
end counter;

architecture behave of counter is
  signal count : std_logic_vector (7 downto 0);
begin
  process (clk, rst)
  begin
    if rst = '1' then
      count <= (others => '0');
    elsif rising_edge(clk) then
      if ld = '1' then
        count <= d;
      elsif ce = '1' then
        count <= count + '1';
      end if;
    end if;
  end process;
  q <= count;
end behave;
```

- Verilog Example

```
module counter(d, ld, ce, clk, rst, q);
    input [7:0] d;
    input ld, ce, clk, rst;
    output [7:0] q;
    reg [7:0] count;
    always @(posedge clk or posedge rst)
        begin
            if (rst)
                count <= 0;
            else if (ld)
                count <= d;
            else if (ce)
                count <= count + 1;
        end
    assign q = count;
endmodule
```

For applications that require faster counters, LFSR can implement high performance and area efficient counters. LFSR will require very minimal logic (only an XOR or XNOR feedback).

For smaller counters it is also effective to use the Johnson encoded counters. This type of counter does not use the carry chain but provides a fast performance.

The following is an example of a sequence for a 3 bit johnson counter.

000

001

011

111

110

100

- **VHDL Example**

```
library IEEE;
use IEEE.STD_LOGIC_1164.all;
entity johnson is
    generic (size : integer := 3);
    port (clk:in std_logic;
          reset:in std_logic;
          qout:out std_logic_vector(size-1 downto 0));
end johnson;
architecture RTL of johnson is
    signal q : std_logic_vector(size-1 downto 0);
begin -- RTL
    process(clk, reset)
    begin
        if reset = '1' then
            q <= (others => '0');
        elsif clk'event and clk='1' then
            for i in 1 to size - 1 loop
                q(i) <= q(i-1);
            end loop; -- i
            q(0) <= not q(size-1);
        end if;
    end process;
    qout <= q;
end RTL;
```

- Verilog Example

```
module johnson (clk, reset, q);
parameter size = 4;
input      clk, reset;
output [size-1:0] q;
reg [size-1:0]    q;
integer          i;
always @(posedge clk or posedge reset)
  if (reset)
    q <= 0;
  else
    begin
      for (i=1;i<size;i=i+1)
        q[i] <= q[i-1];
        q[0] <= ~q[size-1];
      end
    endmodule // johnson
```

## Comparator

Magnitude comparators '>' or '<' will infer carry chain logic and result in fast implementations in Xilinx devices. Equality comparator '==' will be implemented using LUTs.

- **VHDL Example**

```
-- Unsigned 8-bit greater or equal comparator.
library ieee;
use ieee.std_logic_1164.all;
use ieee.std_logic_unsigned.all;
entity compar is
    port(A,B : in std_logic_vector(7 downto 0);
         cmp : out std_logic);
end compar;
architecture archi of compar is
begin
    cmp <= '1' when A >= B else '0';
end archi;
```

- **Verilog example**

```
// Unsigned 8-bit greater or equal comparator.
module compar(A, B, cmp);
input [7:0] A;
input [7:0] B;
output cmp;
assign cmp = A >= B ? 1'b1 : 1'b0;
endmodule
```

## Encoder and Decoders

Synthesis tools might infer MUXF5 and MUXF6 for encoder and decoder in Virtex/E/II and Spartan-II devices. Virtex-II devices feature additional components, MUXF7 and MUXF8 to use with the encoder and decoder.

LeonardoSpectrum will infer MUXCY when an if-then-else priority encoder is described in the code. This will result in a faster encoder.

### LeonardoSpectrum Priority Encoding HDL Example

- VHDL Example.

```
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
entity prior is
    generic (size: integer := 8);
    port(
        clk: in std_logic;
        cond1 : in std_logic_vector(size downto 1);
        cond2 : in std_logic_vector(size downto 1);
        data  : in std_logic_vector(size downto 1);
        q      : out std_logic);
end prior;

architecture RTL of prior is
    signal      data_ff,  cond1_ff,  cond2_ff:  std_logic_vector(size
downto 1);
begin
    process(clk)
    begin
        if clk'event and clk= '1' then
            data_ff <= data;
            cond1_ff <= cond1;
            cond2_ff <= cond2;
        end if;
    end process;
    process(clk)
begin
    if (clk'event and clk = '1') then
        if (cond1_ff(1)= '1' and cond2_ff(1)= '1') then
            q <= data_ff(1);
```

```
    elsif (cond1_ff(2)= '1' and cond2_ff(2)= '1') then
        q <= data_ff(2);
    elsif (cond1_ff(3)= '1' and cond2_ff(3)='1') then
        q <= data_ff(3);
    elsif (cond1_ff(4)= '1' and cond2_ff(4)= '1') then
        q <= data_ff(4);
    elsif (cond1_ff(5)= '1' and cond2_ff(5)='1') then
        q <= data_ff(5);
    elsif (cond1_ff(6)= '1' and cond2_ff(6)='1') then
        q <= data_ff(6);
    elsif (cond1_ff(7)= '1' and cond2_ff(7)= '1') then
        q <= data_ff(7);
    elsif (cond1_ff(8)= '1' and cond2_ff(8)='1') then
        q <= data_ff(8);
    else
        q <= '0';
    end if;
end if;
end process;
end RTL;
```

- Verilog Example.

```
module prior(clk, cond1, cond2, data, q);
    parameter size = 8;
    input clk;
    input [1:size] data, cond1, cond2 ;
    output q;
    reg [1:size] data_ff, cond1_ff, cond2_ff;
    reg q;
    always @(posedge clk)
    begin
        data_ff = data;
        cond1_ff = cond1;
        cond2_ff = cond2;
    end
    always @(posedge clk)
    if (cond1_ff[1] && cond2_ff[1])
        q = data_ff[1];
    else if (cond1_ff[2] && cond2_ff[2])
        q = data_ff[2];
    else if (cond1_ff[3] && cond2_ff[3])
        q = data_ff[3];
    else if (cond1_ff[4] && cond2_ff[4])
        q = data_ff[4];
    else if (cond1_ff[5] && cond2_ff[5])
        q = data_ff[5];
    else if (cond1_ff[6] && cond2_ff[6])
        q = data_ff[6];
    else if (cond1_ff[7] && cond2_ff[7])
        q = data_ff[7];
    else if (cond1_ff[8] && cond2_ff[8])
        q = data_ff[8];
    else q = 1'b0;
endmodule // prior
```

## Implementing Memory

Virtex/E and Spartan-II FPGAs provide distributed on-chip RAM or ROM memory capabilities. CLB function generators can be configured as ROM (ROM16X1, ROM32X1); edge-triggered, single-port (RAM16X1S, RAM32X1S) RAM; or dual-port (RAM16x1D) RAM. Level sensitive RAMs are not available for the Virtex/E and Spartan-II families.

Virtex-II CLB function generators are much larger and can be configured as larger ROM and edge-triggered, single port and dual port RAM. Available ROM primitive components in Virtex-II are ROM16X1 and ROM32X1. Available single port RAM primitives components in Virtex-II are RAM16X1S, RAM16X2S, RAM16X4S, RAM16X8S, RAM32X1S, RAM32X2S, RAM32X4S, RAM32X8S, RAM64X1S, RAM64X2S, and RAM128X1S. Available dual port RAM primitive components in Virtex-II are RAM16X1D, RAM32X1D, and RAM64X1D.

In addition to distributed RAM and ROM capabilities, Virtex/E/II and Spartan-II FPGAs provide edge-triggered Block SelectRAM+ in large blocks. Virtex/E and Spartan-II devices provide 4096(4k) bits: RAMB4\_Sn and RAMB4\_Sm\_Sn. Virtex-II devices provide larger Block SelectRAM+ in 16384 (16k) bit size: RAMB16\_Sn and RAMB16\_Sm\_Sn, where Sm and Sn are configurable port widths. See the “*Libraries Guide*” for more information on these components.

The edge-triggered capability simplifies system timing and provides better performance for RAM-based designs. This RAM can be used for status registers, index registers, counter storage, constant coefficient multipliers, distributed shift registers, LIFO stacks, latching, or any data storage operation. The dual-port RAM simplifies FIFO designs.

## Implementing Block SelectRAM+

Virtex/E/II and Spartan-II FPGAs incorporate several large Block SelectRAM+ memories. These complement the distributed SelectRAM+ that provide shallow RAM structures implemented in CLBs. The Block SelectRAM is a True Dual-Port RAM which allows for large, discrete blocks of memory.

Block SelectRAM+ memory blocks are organized in columns. All Virtex and Spartan-II devices contain two such columns, one along

each vertical edge. In Virtex-E, the Block SelectRAM+ column is inserted every 12 CLB columns. In Virtex-EM (Virtex-E with extended memory), the Block SelectRAM+ column is inserted every 4 CLB columns. In Virtex-II, there are at least four Block SelectRAM+ columns and a column is inserted every 12 CLB columns in larger devices.

## Instantiating Block SelectRAM+

The following coding examples provide VHDL and Verilog coding styles for FPGA Compiler II, LeonardoSpectrum, Synplify, and XST.

### Instantiating Block SelectRAM+ VHDL Example

- FPGA Compiler II, LeonardoSpectrum, and XST

With FPGA Compiler II, LeonardoSpectrum, and XST you can instantiate a RAMB\* cell as a blackbox. The INIT\_\*\* attribute can be passed as a string in the HDL file as well as the script file. The VHDL Code Example below shows how to pass INIT in the VHDL file.

- ♦ LeonardoSpectrum

With LeonardoSpectrum you can pass an INIT string in a LeonardoSpectrum command script. The following code sample illustrates this method.

```
set_attribute -instance "inst_ramb4_s4" -name
INIT_00 -type string -value
"1F1E1D1C1B1A191817161514131211100F0E0D0C0B0A09
80706050403020100"
```

```
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
```

```
entity spblkrams is
  port(CLK : in std_logic;
        EN : in std_logic;
        ST : in std_logic;
        WE : in std_logic;
        ADDR : in std_logic_vector(11 downto 0);
        DI : in std_logic_vector(15 downto 0);
```

```
        DORAMB4_S4 : out std_logic_vector(3 downto 0);
        DORAMB4_S8 : out std_logic_vector(7 downto 0));
end;
architecture struct of spblkrams is
component RAMB4_S4
port (DI      : in STD_LOGIC_VECTOR (3 downto 0);
      EN      : in STD_ULOGIC;
      WE      : in STD_ULOGIC;
      RST     : in STD_ULOGIC;
      CLK     : in STD_ULOGIC;
      ADDR    : in STD_LOGIC_VECTOR (9 downto 0);
      DO      : out STD_LOGIC_VECTOR (3 downto 0));
end component;
component RAMB4_S8
port (DI      : in STD_LOGIC_VECTOR (7 downto 0);
      EN      : in STD_ULOGIC;
      WE      : in STD_ULOGIC;
      RST     : in STD_ULOGIC;
      CLK     : in STD_ULOGIC;
      ADDR    : in STD_LOGIC_VECTOR (8 downto 0);
      DO      : out STD_LOGIC_VECTOR (7 downto 0));
end component;
attribute INIT_00: string;
attribute INIT_00 of INST_RAMB4_S4: label is
"1F1E1D1C1B1A191817161514131211100F0E0D0C0B0A09
80706050403020100";
attribute INIT_00 of INST_RAMB4_S8: label is
"1F1E1D1C1B1A191817161514131211100F0E0D0C0B0A09
80706050403020100";
begin
    INST_RAMB4_S4 : RAMB4_S4 port map (
        DI => DI(3 downto 0),
        EN => EN,
        WE => WE,
        RST => RST,
        CLK => CLK,
        ADDR => ADDR(9 downto 0),
        DO => DORAMB4_S4
    );
    INST_RAMB4_S8 : RAMB4_S8 port map (
        DI => DI(7 downto 0),
        EN => EN,
```

```

        WE => WE,
        RST => RST,
        CLK => CLK,
        ADDR => ADDR(8 downto 0),
        DO => DORAMB4_S8
    );
end struct;

```

## ◆ Synplify

With Synplify you can instantiate the RAMB\* cells by using the Xilinx family library supplied with Synplify. The following code example will illustrate instantiation of a RAMB\* cell.

[illegible]



### Instantiating Block SelectRAM+ Verilog Example

Verilog examples of Block SelectRAM+ instantiation are described below.

- **FPGA Compiler II**

With FPGA Compiler II the INIT attribute has to be set in the HDL code. See the following example.

```
module block_ram_ex (CLK, WE, ADDR, DIN, DOUT);
    input CLK, WE;
    input [8:0] ADDR;
    input [7:0] DIN;
    output [7:0] DOUT;
RAMB4_S8 U0 (.WE(WE), .EN(1'b1), .RST(1'b0),
    .CLK(CLK),
    .ADDR(ADDR), .DI(DIN), .DO(DOUT));
//synopsys attribute
    INIT_00 "1F1E1D1C1B1A1918171615141312111
    00F0E0D0C0B0A0980706050403020100"
endmodule
```

- **LeonardoSpectrum**

With LeonardoSpectrum the INIT attribute can be set in the HDL code or in the command line. See the following example.

```
set_attribute -instance "inst_ramb4_s4" -name
INIT_00 -type string value
"1F1E1D1C1B1A191817161514131211100F0E0D0C0B0A09080
06050403020100"
```

- **LeonardoSpectrum block\_ram\_ex Verilog example**

```
module block_ram_ex (CLK, WE, ADDR, DIN, DOUT);
    input CLK, WE;
    input [8:0] ADDR;
    input [7:0] DIN;
    output [7:0] DOUT;
RAMB4_S8 U0 (.WE(WE), .EN(1'b1), .RST(1'b0),
    .CLK(CLK),
    .ADDR(ADDR), .DI(DIN), .DO(DOUT));
```

```
//exemplar attribute U0 INIT_00
1F1E1D1C1B1A191817161514131211100F0E0D0C0B0A090
80706050403020100
endmodule
```

- Synplicity block\_ram\_ex Verilog example.

```
module block_ram_ex (CLK, WE, ADDR, DIN, DOUT);
input CLK, WE;
input [8:0] ADDR;
input [7:0] DIN;
output [7:0] DOUT;
// synthesis translate_off
defparam
    U0.INIT_00 =
        256'h0123456789ABCDEF0123456789ABCDEF0
        123456789ABCDEF0123456789ABCDEF,
    U0.INIT_01 =
        256'hFEDCBA9876543210FEDCBA9876543210FED
        CBA9876543210FEDCBA9876543210;
// synthesis translate_on
RAMB4_S8 U0 (.WE(WE), .EN(1'b1), .RST(1'b0),
    .CLK(CLK),.ADDR(ADDR), .DI(DIN), .DO(DOUT))
/* synthesis
xc_props="INIT_00=0123456789ABCDEF0123
456789ABCDEF0123456789ABCDEF0123456789ABCDEF,
INIT_01=FEDCBA9876543210FEDCBA9876543210FEDCBA
9876543210FEDCBA9876543210"*;
endmodule
```

- XST

With XST, the INIT attribute must set in the HDL code. See the following example.

```
module block_ram_ex (CLK, WE, ADDR, DIN, DOUT);
    input CLK, WE;
    input [8:0] ADDR;
    input [7:0] DIN;
    output [7:0] DOUT;
    RAMB4_S8 U0 (.WE(WE), .EN(1'b1), .RST(1'b0),
        .CLK(CLK), .ADDR(ADDR), .DI(DIN), .DO(DOUT));
    //synthesis attribute INIT_00 of U0 is
    "1F1E1D1C1B1A1918171615141312111
    00F0E0D0C0B0A0980706050403020100"
endmodule
```

## Instantiating Block SelectRAM+ in Virtex-II

Virtex-II devices provide 16384-bit data memory and 2048-bit parity memory, totaling to 18Mbit memory in each Block SelectRAM+. These RAMB16\_Sn (single port) and RAMB16\_Sm\_Sn (dual port) blocks are configurable to various width and depth. The *Virtex-II Handbook* provides VHDL and Verilog templates for Virtex-II Block SelectRAM+ instantiations. You can also refer to the “*Libraries Guide*” for a more detailed component and attribute description.

## Inferring Block SelectRAM+

The following coding examples provide VHDL and Verilog coding styles for FPGA Compiler II, LeonardoSpectrum, Synplify, and XST. For Virtex/E and Spartan-II devices, the RAMB4\_Sn or RAMB4\_Sm\_Sn will be inferred. For Virtex-II devices, RAMB16\_Sn or RAMB16\_Sm\_Sn will be inferred.

### **Inferring Block SelectRAM VHDL Example**

Block SelectRAM+ can be inferred by some synthesis tools. Inferred RAM must be initialized in the UCF file. Not all Block SelectRAM+ features can be inferred. Those features will be pointed out in this section.

- **FPGA Compiler II**

RAM inference is not supported by FPGA Compiler II.

- **LeonardoSpectrum**

LeonardoSpectrum can map your memory statements in Verilog or VHDL to the Block SelectRAMs on all Virtex devices. The following is a list of the details for Block SelectRAM+ in LeonardoSpectrum.

- ◆ Virtex Block SelectRAMs are completely synchronous - both read and write operations are synchronous.
- ◆ LeonardoSpectrum infers single port RAMs - RAMs with both read and write on the same address - and dual port RAMs - RAMs with separate read and write addresses.
- ◆ Virtex Block SelectRAMs support RST (reset) and ENA (enable) pins. Currently, LeonardoSpectrum does not infer RAMs which use the functionality of the RST and ENA pins.
- ◆ By default, RAMs will be mapped to Block SelectRAM+ if possible. You can disable mapping to Block SelectRAM+ by setting the attribute `block_ram` to false.

- LeonardoSpectrum VHDL Example.

```
library ieee, exemplar;
use ieee.std_logic_1164.all;
use ieee.numeric_std.all;

entity ram_example1 is
generic(data_width: integer:= 8;
        address_width:integer := 8;
        mem_depth: integer:= 256);
port (
    data: in std_logic_vector(data_width-1 downto 0);
    address: in unsigned(address_width-1 downto 0);
    we, clk: in std_logic;
    q: out std_logic_vector(data_width-1 downto 0)
);
end ram_example1;

architecture ex1 of ram_example1 is

    type mem_type is array (mem_depth-1 downto 0) of
        std_logic_vector (data_width-1 downto 0);
    signal mem: mem_type;
    signal raddress : unsigned(address_width-1
        downto 0);
    begin
    l0: process (clk, we, address)
    begin
        if (clk = '1' and clk'event) then
            raddress <= address;
            if (we = '1') then
                mem(to_integer(raddress)) <= data;
            end if;
        end if;
    end process;
    l1: process (clk, address)
    begin
        if (clk = '1' and clk'event) then
            q <= mem(to_integer(address));
        end if;
    end process;
end ex1;
```

- LeonardoSpectrum VHDL Example dual port Block SelectRAM,

```
library ieee;
use ieee.std_logic_1164.all;
use ieee.std_logic_unsigned.all;

entity dualport_ram is
  port (clka : in std_logic;
        clkb : in std_logic;
        wea : in std_logic;
        addra : in std_logic_vector(4 downto 0);
        addrb : in std_logic_vector(4 downto 0);
        dia : in std_logic_vector(3 downto 0);
        dob : out std_logic_vector(3 downto 0));
end dualport_ram;

architecture dualport_ram_arch of dualport_ram is
  type ram_type is array (31 downto 0) of
    std_logic_vector (3 downto 0);
  signal ram : ram_type;

  attribute block_ram : boolean;
  attribute block_ram of RAM : signal is TRUE;

begin
  write: process (clka)
  begin
    if (clka'event and clka = '1') then
      if (wea = '1') then
        ram(conv_integer(addra)) <= dia;
      end if;
    end if;
  end process write;

  read: process (clkb)
  begin
    if (clkb'event and clkb = '1') then
      dob <= ram(conv_integer(addrb));
    end if;
  end process read;

end dualport_ram_arch;
```

- Synplify

You can enable the usage of Block SelectRAMs by setting the attribute `syn_ramstyle` to `"block_ram"`. Place the attribute on the output signal driven by the inferred RAM. Remember to include the range of the output signal (bus) as part of the name.

For example,

```
define_attribute {a|dout[3:0]} syn_ramstyle  
"block_ram"
```

The following are limitations of inferring Block selectRAMs:

- ◆ ENA/ENB pins currently are inaccessible. They are always tied to "1".
- ◆ RSTA/RSTB pins currently are inaccessible. They are always inactive.
- ◆ Automatic inference is not yet supported. The `syn_ramstyle` attribute is required for inferring Block SelectRAMs.
- ◆ Initialization of RAMs is not supported.
- ◆ Dual port with Read-Write on a port is not supported.

- Synplify VHDL Example.

```
library ieee;  
use ieee.std_logic_1164.all;  
use ieee.std_logic_unsigned.all;  
  
entity ram_example1 is  
generic(data_width: integer:= 8;  
        address_width:integer := 8;  
        mem_depth: integer:= 256);  
port (data: in std_logic_vector(data_width-1  
downto 0);  
      address: in std_logic_vector(address_width-1  
downto 0);  
      we, clk: in std_logic;  
      q: out std_logic_vector(data_width-1 downto  
0));  
end ram_example1;  
  
architecture rtl of ram_example1 is
```

```
type mem_array is array (mem_depth-1 downto 0)
of std_logic_vector (data_width-1 downto 0);
  signal mem: mem_array;
  attribute syn_ramstyle : string;
  attribute syn_ramstyle of mem : signal is
"block_ram";
  signal raddress :
std_logic_vector(address_width-1
downto 0);
  begin
    l0: process (clk)
    begin
      if (clk = '1' and clk'event) then
        raddress <= address;
        if (we = '1') then
          mem(CONV_INTEGER(address)) <= data;
        end if;
      end if;
    end process;
    q <= mem(CONV_INTEGER(raddress));
end rtl;
```

- **VHDL Example for Synplify 7.0**

In Synplify 7.0, the same conditions exist as with the previous release except that there is a new coding style for Block Select RAM inference in VHDL.

The following is a Synplify 7.0 VHDL Example.

```
library ieee;
use ieee.std_logic_1164.all;
use ieee.std_logic_unsigned.all;

entity ram_example1 is
generic(data_width: integer:= 8;
        address_width:integer := 8;
        mem_depth: integer:= 256);
port (data: in std_logic_vector(data_width-1 downto
0);
      address: in std_logic_vector(address_width-1
downto 0);
      en, we, clk: in std_logic;
      q: out std_logic_vector(data_width-1 downto
0));
end ram_example1;

architecture rtl of ram_example1 is

type mem_array is array (mem_depth-1 downto 0) of
  std_logic_vector (data_width-1 downto 0);
signal mem: mem_array;
attribute syn_ramstyle : string;
attribute syn_ramstyle of mem : signal is
  "block_ram";
signal raddress : std_logic_vector(address_width-1
downto 0);

begin
l0: process (clk) begin

  if (clk = '1' and clk'event) then
    if (we = '1') then
      mem(CONV_INTEGER(address)) <= data;
      q <= mem(CONV_INTEGER(address));
    end if;
  end if;
end process;
end rtl;
Add after the first Synplify example:
```

- Verilog Example for Synplify 7.0

In Synplify 7.0, the same conditions exist as with the previous release except that there is a new coding style for Block Select RAM inference in Verilog.

The following is a Synplify 7.0 VHDL Example.

```
module sp_ram(din, addr, we, clk, dout);

parameter data_width=16,address_width=10,
          mem_elements=600;

input [data_width-1:0] din;
input [address_width-1:0] addr;
input rst, we, clk;
output [data_width-1:0] dout;

reg [data_width-1:0] mem[mem_elements-1:0]
    /*synthesis syn_ramstyle = "block_ram" */;
reg [data_width-1:0] dout;

always @(posedge clk)
begin
    if (we)
        mem[addr] <= din;
    dout <= mem[addr];
end
endmodule
```

- XST

XST can infer both dual and single port Block Select RAM+.

- ◆ Single Port Block Memory Inference:

XST does not infer single port block memory if a reset pin has been used, or an enable pin has been used.

The following is an XST single port Block Select RAM+ VHDL example:

```
library ieee;
use ieee.std_logic_1164.all;
use ieee.numeric_std.all;

entity ram_example1 is
generic(data_width: integer:= 8;
        address_width:integer := 9;
        mem_depth: integer:= 512);
port (data: in std_logic_vector(data_width-1 downto 0);
      address: in unsigned(address_width-1 downto 0);
      we, clk: in std_logic;
      q: out std_logic_vector(data_width-1 downto 0));
end ram_example1;
architecture ex1 of ram_example1 is
type mem_type is array (mem_depth-1 downto 0) of std_logic_vector
(data_width-1 downto 0);
signal mem: mem_type;
signal raddress : unsigned(address_width-1 downto 0);

begin
l0: process (clk, we, address)
begin
if (clk'event and clk = '1') then
raddress <= address;
if (we = '1') then
mem(to_integer(address)) <= data;
end if;
end if;
end process;

q <= mem(to_integer(raddress));
end ex1;
```

◆ Dual Port Block Memory Inference :

XST infers some functions of Dual Port Block SelectRAM. In general, XST does not infer Block SelectRAMs if aspect ratios of port A and port B are different; if independent clocks have been used for port A and port B; if an enable pin or a reset pin has been used in the memory blocks; or if a write enable pin is used in both the ports.

The following is an XST dual port Block Select RAM+ VHDL example:

```
library ieee;
use ieee.std_logic_1164.all;
use ieee.numeric_std.all;

entity dual_port_ram_example1 is
generic (data_width : integer := 48;
        address_width : integer := 8;
        mem_depth : integer := 256);
port (dia: in std_logic_vector(data_width-1 downto 0);
      address_a, address_b: in unsigned(address_width-1 downto 0);
      we, clk: in std_logic;
      doa : out std_logic_vector(data_width-1 downto 0);
      dob : out std_logic_vector(data_width-1 downto 0));
end dual_port_ram_example1;
architecture ex1 of dual_port_ram_example1 is
type mem_type is array (mem_depth-1 downto 0) of
    std_logic_vector(data_width-1 downto 0);
signal mem : mem_type;
signal raddress_a : unsigned(address_width-1 downto 0);
signal raddress_b : unsigned(address_width-1 downto 0);
begin
process (clk)
begin
    if (clk'event and clk = '1') then
        raddress_a <= address_a;
        raddress_b <= address_b;
        if (we = '1') then
            mem(to_integer(address_a)) <= dia;
        end if;
    end if;
end process;
```

```
    doa <= mem(to_integer(raddress_a));
    dob <= mem(to_integer(raddress_b));
end ex1;
```

### Inferring Block SelectRAM Verilog Example

The following coding examples provide Verilog coding styles for FPGA Compiler II, LeonardoSpectrum, Synplify, and XST.

- **FPGA Compiler II**

FPGA Compiler II does not infer RAMs. All RAMs must be instantiated via primitives or cores.

- **LeonardoSpectrum**

Refer to the VHDL example in the section above for restrictions in inferring Block SelectRAM+.

- **LeonardoSpectrum Verilog Example**

```
module ram(din, we, addr, clk, dout);
    parameter data_width=7,
              address_width=6,mem_elements=64;
    input [data_width-1:0] din;
    input [address_width-1:0] addr;
    input we, clk;
    output [data_width-1:0] dout;
    reg [data_width-1:0] mem[mem_elements-1:0];
    /* Exemplar attribute mem block_ram FALSE. This
    comment sets the block_ram attribute to FALSE on
    the signal mem.The block_ram attribute must be
    set on the memory signal.*/

    reg [address_width - 1:0] addr_reg;
    always @(posedge clk)
    begin
        addr_reg <= addr;
        if (we)
            mem[addr] <= din;
        end
        assign dout = mem[addr_reg];
    endmodule
```

- Synplify Verilog Example

```
module sp_ram(din, addr, we, clk, dout);
    parameter data_width=16,
    address_width=10,mem_elements=600;
    input [data_width-1:0] din;
    input [address_width-1:0] addr;
    input we, clk;
    output [data_width-1:0] dout;
    reg [data_width-1:0] mem[mem_elements-1:0] /
    *synthesis syn_ramstyle = "block_ram" */;
    reg [address_width - 1:0] addr_reg;
    always @(posedge clk)
    begin
        addr_reg <= addr;
        if (we)
            mem[addr] <= din;
        end
        assign dout = mem[addr_reg];
    endmodule
```

- XST

Refer to the VHDL example in the section above for restrictions in inferring Block SelectRAM+.

- ♦ The following is an XST single port Block select RAM+ Verilog example:

```
module ram(din, we, addr, clk, dout);
    parameter data_width=7,
              address_width=6,mem_elements=64;
    input [data_width-1:0] din;
    input [address_width-1:0] addr;
    input we, clk;
    output [data_width-1:0] dout;
    reg [data_width-1:0] mem[mem_elements-1:0];
    reg [address_width - 1:0] addr_reg;

    always @(posedge clk)
    begin
        addr_reg <= addr;
        if (we) mem[addr] <= din;
    end

    assign dout = mem[addr_reg];
endmodule
```

- ◆ The following is an XST Dual port Block Select RAM+ Verilog example:

```
module dp_ram(din, we, addr_a, addr_b, clk, doa, dob);
    parameter data_width=48,
              address_width=8,
              mem_depth=256;
    input [data_width-1:0] din;
    input [address_width-1:0] addr_a, addr_b;
    input we, clk;
    output [data_width-1:0] doa, dob;

    reg [data_width-1:0] mem[mem_depth-1:0];
    reg [address_width - 1:0] addr_reg_a, addr_reg_b;

    always @(posedge clk)
    begin
        addr_reg_a <= addr_a;
        addr_reg_b <= addr_b;
        if (we) mem[addr_a] <= din;
    end

    assign doa = mem[addr_reg_a];
    assign dob = mem[addr_reg_b];
endmodule
```

## Implementing Distributed SelectRAM+

Distributed SelectRAM+ can either be instantiated or inferred. The following sections describe and give examples of both instantiating and inferring distributed SelectRAM+.

The following RAM Primitives are available for instantiation.

- Static synchronous single-port RAM (RAM16x1S, RAM32x1S)  
Additional single-port RAM available for Virtex-II devices only: RAM16X2S, RAM16X4S, RAM16X8S, RAM32X1S, RAM32X2S, RAM32X4S, RAM32X8S, RAM64X1S, RAM64X2S, and RAM128X1S.
- Static synchronous dual-port RAM (RAM16x1D, RAM32x1D)  
Additional dual-port RAM available dual port RAM available for Virtex-II devices only: RAM64X1D.

For more information on distributed SelectRAM, refer to the *"Libraries Guide"*.

## Instantiating Distributed SelectRAM+ in VHDL

The following coding examples provide VHDL coding hints for FPGA Compiler II, LeonardoSpectrum, Synplify and XST.

- FPGA Compiler II and XST

```
-- This example shows how to create a
-- 16x4s RAM using xilinx RAM16x1S component.
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
--use IEEE.std_logic_unsigned.all;
entity ram_16x4s is
    port (o: out std_logic_vector(3 downto 0));
        we : in std_logic;
        clk: in std_logic;
        d: in std_logic_vector(3 downto 0);
        a: in std_logic_vector(3 downto 0));
```

```
end ram_16x4s;
architecture xilinx of ram_16x4s is
component RAM16x1S is
    port (O : out std_logic;
          D : in std_logic;
              A3, A2, A1, A0 : in std_logic;
              WE, WCLK : in std_logic);
end component;
attribute INIT: string;
attribute INIT of U0: label is "FFFF";
attribute INIT of U1: label is "ABCD";
attribute INIT of U2: label is "BCDE";
attribute INIT of U3: label is "CDEF";
begin
U0 : RAM16x1S
    port map (O => o(0), WE => we, WCLK => clk, D
=> d(0), A0 =>
    a(0), A1 => a(1), A2 => a(2), A3 => a(3));
U1 : RAM16x1S
    port map (O => o(1), WE => we, WCLK => clk, D
=> d(1), A0 => a(0), A1 => a(1), A2 => a(2),
    A3 => a(3));
U2 : RAM16x1S
    port map (O => o(2), WE => we, WCLK => clk, D
=> d(2), A0 => a(0), A1 => a(1), A2 => a(2),
    A3 => a(3));
U3 : RAM16x1S
    port map (O => o(3), WE => we, WCLK => clk, D
=> d(3), A0 =>
```

```
        a(0), A1 => a(1), A2 => a(2), A3 => a(3));  
end xilinx;
```

- **LeonardoSpectrum**

```
-- This example shows how to create a  
-- 16x4s RAM using xilinx RAM16x1S component.
```

```
library IEEE;  
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;  
entity ram_16x1s is  
    generic (init_val : string := "0000" );  
    port (O : out std_logic;  
          D : in std_logic;  
          A3, A2, A1, A0: in std_logic;  
          WE, CLK : in std_logic);  
end ram_16x1s;  
architecture xilinx of ram_16x1s is  
    attribute INIT: string;  
    attribute INIT of u1 : label is init_val;  
    component RAM16X1S is port (O : out std_logic;  
                                D : in std_logic;  
                                WE: in std_logic;  
                                WCLK: in std_logic;  
                                A0: in std_logic;  
                                A1: in std_logic;  
                                A2: in std_logic;  
                                A3: in std_logic);  
    end component;  
begin
```

```
U1 : RAM16X1S port map (O => O,WE => WE,WCLK =>
    CLK,D => D,A0 => A0,A1 => A1,A2 => A2,A3 =>
    A3);
end xilinx;

library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
--use IEEE.std_logic_unsigned.all;
entity ram_16x4s is
    port (o: out std_logic_vector(3 downto 0);
        we : in std_logic;
        clk: in std_logic;
        d: in std_logic_vector(3 downto 0);
        a: in std_logic_vector(3 downto 0));
end ram_16x4s;
architecture xilinx of ram_16x4s is
    component ram_16x1s
        generic (init_val: string := "0000");
        port (O : out std_logic;
            D : in std_logic;
                A3, A2, A1, A0 : in std_logic;
                WE, CLK : in std_logic);
    end component;
begin
    U0 : ram_16x1s generic map ("FFFF")
        port map (O => o(0), WE => we, CLK => clk,
            D => d(0), A0 => a(0), A1 => a(1),
            A2 => a(2),A3 => a(3));
    U1 : ram_16x1s generic map ("ABCD")
```

```

    port map (O => o(1), WE => we, CLK => clk,
              D => d(1), A0 => a(0), A1 => a(1),
              A2 => a(2), A3 => a(3));
U2 : ram_16x1s generic map ("BCDE")
    port map (O => o(2), WE => we, CLK => clk,
              D => d(2), A0 => a(0), A1 => a(1),
              A2 => a(2), A3 => a(3));
U3 : ram_16x1s generic map ("CDEF")
    port map (O => o(3), WE => we, CLK => clk,
              D => d(3), A0 => a(0), A1 => a(1),
              A2 => a(2), A3 => a(3));
end xilinx;
```

- **Synplify**

```

-- This example shows how to create a
-- 16x4s RAM using xilinx RAM16x1S component.
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
library virtex;
use virtex.components.all;
library synplify;
use synplify.attributes.all;

entity ram_16x1s is
    generic (init_val : string := "0000" );
    port (O : out std_logic;
          D : in std_logic;
          A3, A2, A1, A0: in std_logic;
          WE, CLK : in std_logic);
```

```
end ram_16x1s;

architecture xilinx of ram_16x1s is
attribute xc_props: string;
attribute xc_props of u1 : label is "INIT=" &
    init_val;

begin

U1 : RAM16X1S port map (O => O, WE => WE,  WCLK
    =>
CLK, D => D, A0 => A0, A1 => A1, A2 => A2, A3 =>
    A3);
end xilinx;

library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
use IEEE.std_logic_unsigned.all;

entity ram_16x4s is
port (o: out std_logic_vector(3 downto 0);
    we : in std_logic;
    clk : in std_logic;
    d: in std_logic_vector(3 downto 0);
    a: in std_logic_vector(3 downto 0));
end ram_16x4s;

architecture xilinx of ram_16x4s is
```

```
component ram_16x1s
    generic (init_val: string := "0000");
    port (O : out std_logic;
          D : in std_logic;
              A3, A2, A1, A0 : in std_logic;
              WE, CLK : in std_logic);
end component;

begin
U0 : ram_16x1s generic map ("FFFF")
    port map (O => o(0), WE => we, CLK => clk,
              D => d(0), A0 => a(0), A1 => a(1),
              A2 => a(2), A3 => a(3));
U1 : ram_16x1s generic map ("ABCD")
    port map (O => o(1), WE => we, CLK => clk,
              D => d(1), A0 => a(0), A1 => a(1),
              A2 => a(2), A3 => a(3));
U2 : ram_16x1s generic map ("BCDE")
    port map (O => o(2), WE => we, CLK => clk,
              D => d(2), A0 => a(0), A1 => a(1),
              A2 => a(2), A3 => a(3));
U3 : ram_16x1s generic map ("CDEF")
    port map (O => o(3), WE => we, CLK => clk,
              D => d(3), A0 => a(0), A1 => a(1),
              A2 => a(2), A3 => a(3));
end xilinx;
```

### Instantiating Distributed SelectRAM+ in Verilog

The following coding provides Verilog coding hints for FPGA Compiler II, Synplify, LeonardoSpectrum, Synplify, and XST.

- FPGA Compiler II

```
// This example shows how to create a
// 16x4 RAM using Xilinx RAM16X1S component.
module RAM_INIT_EX1 (DATA_BUS, ADDR, WE, CLK);
input [3:0] ADDR;
inout [3:0] DATA_BUS;
input WE, CLK;
wire [3:0] DATA_OUT;
// Only for Simulation
// -- the defparam will not synthesize
// Use the defparam for RTL simulation.
// There is no defparam needed for
// Post P&R simulation.
// synopsys translate_off
defparam RAM0.INIT="0101", RAM1.INIT="AAAA",
          RAM2.INIT="FFFF", RAM3.INIT="5555";
// synopsys translate_on
assign DATA_BUS = !WE ? DATA_OUT : 4'hz;
// Instantiation of 4 16X1 Synchronous RAMs
// Use the xc_props attribute
// to pass the INIT property
RAM16X1S RAM3 (.O (DATA_OUT[3]), .D
              (DATA_BUS[3]),
              .A3 (ADDR[3]), .A2 (ADDR[2]), .A1 (ADDR[1]),
              .A0 (ADDR[0]), .WE (WE), .WCLK (CLK)) ;
/* synopsys attribute INIT "5555" */
```

```
RAM16X1S RAM2 (.O (DATA_OUT[2]),
    .D (DATA_BUS[2]),.A3 (ADDR[3]),
    .A2 (ADDR[2]), .A1 (ADDR[1]),
    .A0 (ADDR[0]), .WE (WE), .WCLK (CLK));

/* synopsys attribute INIT "FFFF" */

RAM16X1S RAM1 (.O (DATA_OUT[1]),
    .D (DATA_BUS[1]),.A3 (ADDR[3]),
    .A2 (ADDR[2]), .A1 (ADDR[1]),.A0 (ADDR[0]),
    .WE (WE), .WCLK (CLK));

/* synopsys attribute INIT "AAAA" */

RAM16X1S RAM0 (.O (DATA_OUT[0]), .D
    (DATA_BUS[0]),.A3 (ADDR[3]), .A2 (ADDR[2]),
    .A1 (ADDR[1]),.A0 (ADDR[0]), .WE (WE),
    .WCLK (CLK));

/* synopsys attribute INIT "0101" */

endmodule

module RAM16X1S (O,D,A3, A2, A1, A0, WE, WCLK);
output O;
input D;
input A3;
input A2;
input A1;
input A0;
input WE;
input WCLK;
endmodule
```

- **LeonardoSpectrum**

```
// This example shows how to create a
// 16x4 RAM using Xilinx RAM16X1S component.
module RAM_INIT_EX1 (DATA_BUS, ADDR, WE, CLK);
input [3:0] ADDR;
inout [3:0] DATA_BUS;
input WE, CLK;
wire [3:0] DATA_OUT;
// Only for Simulation
// -- the defparam will not synthesize
// Use the defparam for RTL simulation.
// There is no defparam needed for
// Post P&R simulation.
// exemplar translate_off
defparam RAM0.INIT="0101", RAM1.INIT="AAAA",
        RAM2.INIT="FFFF", RAM3.INIT="5555";
// exemplar translate_on
assign DATA_BUS = !WE ? DATA_OUT : 4'hz;
// Instantiation of 4 16X1 Synchronous RAMs
RAM16X1S RAM3 (.O (DATA_OUT[3]), .D
        (DATA_BUS[3]), .A3 (ADDR[3]), .A2 (ADDR[2]),
        .A1 (ADDR[1]), .A0 (ADDR[0]), .WE (WE),
        .WCLK (CLK))
        /* exemplar attribute RAM3 INIT 5555 */;
RAM16X1S RAM2 (.O (DATA_OUT[2]), .D
        (DATA_BUS[2]), .A3 (ADDR[3]), .A2 (ADDR[2]),
        .A1 (ADDR[1]), .A0 (ADDR[0]), .WE (WE),
        .WCLK (CLK))
        /* exemplar attribute RAM2 INIT FFFF */;
RAM16X1S RAM1 (.O (DATA_OUT[1]), .D
        (DATA_BUS[1]), .A3 (ADDR[3]), .A2 (ADDR[2]),
```

```

        .A1 (ADDR[1]),.A0 (ADDR[0]), .WE (WE),
        .WCLK (CLK))

    /* exemplar attribute RAM1 INIT AAAA */;
RAM16X1S RAM0 (.O (DATA_OUT[0]), .D
    (DATA_BUS[0]),.A3 (ADDR[3]), .A2 (ADDR[2]),
    .A1 (ADDR[1]),.A0 (ADDR[0]), .WE (WE),
    .WCLK (CLK))

    /* exemplar attribute RAM0 INIT 0101 */;
endmodule

module RAM16X1S (O,D,A3, A2, A1, A0, WE, WCLK);
output O;
input D;
input A3;
input A2;
input A1;
input A0;
input WE;
input WCLK;
endmodule

```

- Synplify

```

// This example shows how to create a
// 16x4 RAM using Xilinx RAM16X1S component.
`include "virtex.v"

module RAM_INIT_EX1 (DATA_BUS, ADDR, WE, CLK);
input [3:0] ADDR;
inout [3:0] DATA_BUS;
input WE, CLK;
wire [3:0] DATA_OUT;
// Only for Simulation

```

```
// -- the defparam will not synthesize
// Use the defparam for RTL simulation.
// There is no defparam needed for
// Post P&R simulation.
// synthesis translate_off
defparam RAM0.INIT="0101", RAM1.INIT="AAAA",
          RAM2.INIT="FFFF", RAM3.INIT="5555";
// synthesis translate_on
assign DATA_BUS = !WE ? DATA_OUT : 4'hz;
// Instantiation of 4 16X1 Synchronous RAMs
// Use the xc_props attribute to pass the INIT
// property
RAM16X1S RAM3 (.O (DATA_OUT[3]), .D
               (DATA_BUS[3]),
               .A3 (ADDR[3]), .A2 (ADDR[2]), .A1 (ADDR[1]),
               .A0 (ADDR[0]), .WE (WE), .WCLK (CLK))
/* synthesis xc_props="INIT=5555" */;
RAM16X1S RAM2 (.O (DATA_OUT[2]), .D
               (DATA_BUS[2]),
               .A3 (ADDR[3]), .A2 (ADDR[2]), .A1 (ADDR[1]),
               .A0 (ADDR[0]), .WE (WE), .WCLK (CLK))
/* synthesis xc_props="INIT=FFFF" */;
RAM16X1S RAM1 (.O (DATA_OUT[1]), .D
               (DATA_BUS[1]),
               .A3 (ADDR[3]), .A2 (ADDR[2]), .A1 (ADDR[1]),
               .A0 (ADDR[0]), .WE (WE), .WCLK (CLK))
/* synthesis xc_props="INIT=AAAA" */;
RAM16X1S RAM0 (.O (DATA_OUT[0]), .D
               (DATA_BUS[0]),
```

```

        .A3 (ADDR[3]), .A2 (ADDR[2]), .A1 (ADDR[1]),
        .A0 (ADDR[0]), .WE (WE), .WCLK (CLK))

    /* synthesis xc_props="INIT=0101" */;
endmodule

```

- **XST**

```

// This example shows how to create a
// 16x4 RAM using Xilinx RAM16X1S component.
module RAM_INIT_EX1 (DATA_BUS, ADDR, WE, CLK);
input [3:0] ADDR;
inout [3:0] DATA_BUS;
input WE, CLK;
wire [3:0] DATA_OUT;

// Only for Simulation --
// the defparam will not synthesize
// Use the defparam for RTL simulation.
// There is no defparam needed for
// Post P&R simulation.
// synthesis translate_off
defparam RAM0.INIT="0101", RAM1.INIT="AAAA",
        RAM2.INIT="FFFF", RAM3.INIT="5555";
// synthesis translate_on
assign DATA_BUS = !WE ? DATA_OUT : 4'hz;

// Instantiation of 4 16X1 Synchronous RAMs
// Use the xc_props attribute to
// pass the INIT property

// synthesis attribute INIT of RAM2 is "FFFF"
// synthesis attribute INIT of RAM1 is "AAAA"

```

```
// synthesis attribute INIT of RAM0 is "0101"

RAM16X1S RAM3 (.O (DATA_OUT[3]),
  .D (DATA_BUS[3]), .A3 (ADDR[3]), .A2 (ADDR[2]),
  .A1 (ADDR[1]), .A0 (ADDR[0]), .WE (WE),
  .WCLK (CLK))

/* synthesis xc_props="INIT=5555" */;

RAM16X1S RAM2 (.O (DATA_OUT[2]),
  .D (DATA_BUS[2]), .A3 (ADDR[3]), .A2 (ADDR[2]),
  .A1 (ADDR[1]), .A0 (ADDR[0]), .WE (WE),
  .WCLK (CLK));

RAM16X1S RAM1 (.O (DATA_OUT[1]),
  .D (DATA_BUS[1]), .A3 (ADDR[3]), .A2 (ADDR[2]),
  .A1 (ADDR[1]), .A0 (ADDR[0]), .WE (WE),
  .WCLK (CLK));

RAM16X1S RAM0 (.O (DATA_OUT[0]),
  .D (DATA_BUS[0]), .A3 (ADDR[3]), .A2 (ADDR[2]),
  .A1 (ADDR[1]), .A0 (ADDR[0]), .WE (WE),
  .WCLK (CLK));

endmodule
```

### **Inferring Distributed SelectRAM+ in VHDL**

The following coding examples provide VHDL and Verilog coding styles for FPGA Compiler II, LeonardoSpectrum, Synplify, and XST.

- **FPGA Compiler II**

FPGA Compiler II does not infer RAMs.

- **LeonardoSpectrum, Synplify, and XST**

The following is a 32x8 (32 words by 8 bits per word) synchronous, dual-port RAM example.

```
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
use IEEE.std_logic_unsigned.all;
```

```

entity ram_32x8d_infer is
    generic( d_width : integer := 8;
             addr_width : integer := 5;
             mem_depth : integer := 32);
    port (o : out STD_LOGIC_VECTOR(d_width - 1
downto 0);
          we, clk : in STD_LOGIC;
          d : in STD_LOGIC_VECTOR(d_width - 1
downto 0);
          raddr, waddr : in
STD_LOGIC_VECTOR(addr_width - 1 downto 0));
end ram_32x8d_infer;

architecture xilinx of ram_32x8d_infer is
    type mem_type is array (mem_depth - 1 downto
0) of STD_LOGIC_VECTOR (d_width - 1 downto 0);
    signal mem : mem_type;
begin
    process(clk, we, waddr)
    begin
        if (rising_edge(clk)) then
            if (we = '1') then
                mem(conv_integer(waddr)) <= d;
            end if;
        end if;
    end process;
    process(raddr)
    begin
        o <= mem(conv_integer(raddr));
    end process;
end xilinx;

```

- The following is a 32x8 (32 words by 8 bits per word) synchronous, single-port RAM example.

```

library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
use IEEE.std_logic_unsigned.all;

entity ram_32x8s_infer is
    generic( d_width : integer := 8;
             addr_width : integer := 5;
             mem_depth : integer := 32);

```

```
        port (o : out STD_LOGIC_VECTOR(d_width - 1
downto 0));
            we, wclk : in STD_LOGIC;
            d : in STD_LOGIC_VECTOR(d_width - 1
downto 0);
            addr : in STD_LOGIC_VECTOR(addr_width - 1
downto 0));
end ram_32x8s_infer;

architecture xilinx of ram_32x8s_infer is
    type mem_type is array (mem_depth - 1 downto
0) of STD_LOGIC_VECTOR (d_width - 1 downto 0);
    signal mem : mem_type;
    begin
        process(wclk, we, addr)
        begin
            if (rising_edge(wclk)) then
                if (we = '1') then
                    mem(conv_integer(addr)) <= d;
                end if;
            end if;
        end process;
        o <= mem(conv_integer(addr));
    end xilinx;
```

### **Inferring Distributed SelectRAM+ in Verilog**

The following coding examples provide Verilog coding hints for FPGA Compiler II, Synplify, LeonardoSpectrum, and XST.

- **FPGA Compiler II**

FPGA Compiler II does not infer RAMs.

- **LeonardoSpectrum, Synplify, and XST**

The following is a 32x8 (32 words by 8 bits per word) synchronous, dual-port RAM example.

```
module ram_32x8d_infer (o, we, d, raddr, waddr,
    clk);
    parameter d_width = 8, addr_width = 5;
    output [d_width - 1:0] o;
    input we, clk;
    input [d_width - 1:0] d;
```

```
input [addr_width - 1:0] raddr, waddr;

reg [d_width - 1:0] o;
reg [d_width - 1:0] mem [(1 << addr_width) 1:0];

always @(posedge clk)
    if (we)
        mem[waddr] = d;

always @(mem or raddr)
    o = mem[raddr];
endmodule
```

The following is a 32x8 (32 words by 8 bits per word) synchronous, single-port RAM example.

```
module ram_32x8s_infer (o, we, d, addr, wclk);
parameter d_width = 8, addr_width = 5;
output [d_width - 1:0] o;
input we, wclk;
input [d_width - 1:0] d;
input [addr_width - 1:0] addr;

reg [d_width - 1:0] mem [(1 << addr_width) 1:0];

always @(posedge wclk)
    if (we)
        mem[addr] = d;
assign o = mem[addr];
endmodule
```

## Implementing ROMs

ROMs can be implemented as follows.

- Use RTL descriptions of ROMs
- Instantiate 16x1 and 32x1 ROM primitives

The following examples are RTL VHDL and Verilog ROM coding examples.

## RTL Description of a Distributed ROM VHDL Example

**Note** LeonardoSpectrum does not infer ROM.

Use the following coding example for FPGA Compiler II, Synplify, and XST.

```
--
-- Behavioral 16x4 ROM Example
--          rom_rtl.vhd
--
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;

entity rom_rtl is
    port (ADDR: in INTEGER range 0 to 15;
          DATA: out STD_LOGIC_VECTOR (3 downto 0));
end rom_rtl;

architecture XILINX of rom_rtl is
    subtype ROM_WORD is STD_LOGIC_VECTOR (3 downto 0);
    type ROM_TABLE is array (0 to 15) of ROM_WORD;
    constant ROM: ROM_TABLE := ROM_TABLE'(
        ROM_WORD'("0000"),
        ROM_WORD'("0001"),
        ROM_WORD'("0010"),
        ROM_WORD'("0100"),
        ROM_WORD'("1000"),
        ROM_WORD'("1100"),
        ROM_WORD'("1010"),
        ROM_WORD'("1001"),
        ROM_WORD'("1001"),
        ROM_WORD'("1010"),
        ROM_WORD'("1100"),
        ROM_WORD'("1001"),
        ROM_WORD'("1001"),
        ROM_WORD'("1101"),
        ROM_WORD'("1011"),
        ROM_WORD'("1111"));

    begin
        DATA <= ROM(ADDR);  -- Read from the ROM
    end XILINX;
```

## RTL Description of a Distributed ROM Verilog Example

**Note** LeonardoSpectrum does not infer ROM.

Use the following coding example for FPGA Compiler II, Synplify, and XST.

```
/*
 * ROM_RTL.V
 * Behavioral Example of 16x4 ROM
 */

module rom_rtl(ADDR, DATA) ;
input [3:0] ADDR ;
output [3:0] DATA ;
reg [3:0] DATA ;

// A memory is implemented
// using a case statement

always @(ADDR)
begin
    case (ADDR)
        4'b0000 : DATA = 4'b0000 ;
        4'b0001 : DATA = 4'b0001 ;
        4'b0010 : DATA = 4'b0010 ;
        4'b0011 : DATA = 4'b0100 ;
        4'b0100 : DATA = 4'b1000 ;
        4'b0101 : DATA = 4'b1000 ;
        4'b0110 : DATA = 4'b1100 ;
        4'b0111 : DATA = 4'b1010 ;
        4'b1000 : DATA = 4'b1001 ;
        4'b1001 : DATA = 4'b1001 ;
        4'b1010 : DATA = 4'b1010 ;
        4'b1011 : DATA = 4'b1100 ;
        4'b1100 : DATA = 4'b1001 ;
        4'b1101 : DATA = 4'b1001 ;
        4'b1110 : DATA = 4'b1101 ;
        4'b1111 : DATA = 4'b1111 ;
    endcase
end
endmodule
```

With the VHDL and Verilog examples above, synthesis tools create ROMs using function generators (LUTs and MUXFs) or the ROM primitives.

Another method for implementing ROMs is instantiating the 16x1 or 32x1 ROM primitives. To define the ROM value, use the Set Attribute or equivalent command to set the INIT property on the ROM component.

**Note** Refer to your synthesis tool documentation for the correct syntax.

This type of command writes the ROM contents to the netlist file so the Xilinx tools can initialize the ROM. The INIT value should be specified in hexadecimal values. See the VHDL and Verilog RAM examples in the following section for examples of this property using a RAM primitive.

## Implementing ROMs Using Block SelectRAM

FPGA Compiler II, LeonardoSpectrum and Synplify can infer ROM using Block SelectRAM.

FPGA Compiler II:

FPGA Compiler II can infer ROMs using Block SelectRAM instead of LUTs for Virtex, Virtex-E, Virtex-II, and Virtex-II Pro in the following cases:

- The inference is synchronous.
- For Virtex and Virtex-E, Block SelectRAM will be used to infer ROM when the address line is at least ten bits, and the data line is three bits or greater. Also, Block SelectRAM will be used when the address line is 11 or 12 bits; no minimum data width is required.
- For Virtex-II and Virtex-II Pro, Block SelectRAM will be used to infer ROM if the address line is between 10 and 14 bits; no minimum data width is required.

LeonardoSpectrum:

- In LeonardoSpectrum, synchronous ROMs with address widths greater than eight bits are automatically mapped to Block SelectRAM.

- Asynchronous ROMs and synchronous ROMs (with address widths less than eight bits) are automatically mapped to distributed SelectRAM.

Synplify:

Synplify can infer ROMs using Block SelectRAM instead of LUTs for Virtex, Virtex-E, Virtex-II and Virtex-II Pro in the following cases:

- For Virtex/Virtex-E, the address line must be between 8 to 12 bits.
- For Virtex-II/Pro, the address line must be between 9 to 14 bits.
- The address lines must be registered with a simple flip-flop (no resets or enables, etc.) or the ROM output can be registered with enables or sets/resets. However, not both sets/resets and enables. The flip-flops' sets/resets can be either synchronous or asynchronous. In the case where asynchronous sets/resets are used, Synplify will create registers with the sets/resets and then either AND or OR these registers with the output of the BlockRAM.

## RTL Description of a ROM VHDL Example Using Block SelectRAM

Below is some incomplete VHDL that demonstrates the above inference rules.

```
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
entity rom_rtl is
port (ADDR: in INTEGER range 0 to 1023;
      CLK : in std_logic;
      DATA: out STD_LOGIC_VECTOR (3 downto 0));
end rom_rtl;

architecture XILINX of rom_rtl is

  subtype ROM_WORD is STD_LOGIC_VECTOR (3 downto 0);
  type ROM_TABLE is array (0 to 1023) of ROM_WORD;
  constant ROM: ROM_TABLE := ROM_TABLE'(
    ROM_WORD'("0000"),
    ROM_WORD'("0001"),
    ROM_WORD'("0010"),
    ROM_WORD'("0100"),
    ROM_WORD'("1000"),
    ROM_WORD'("1100"),
    ROM_WORD'("1010"),
    ROM_WORD'("1001"),
    ROM_WORD'("1001"),
    ROM_WORD'("1010"),
    ROM_WORD'("1100"),
    ROM_WORD'("1001"),
    ROM_WORD'("1001"),
    ROM_WORD'("1101"),
    ROM_WORD'("1011"),
    ROM_WORD'("1111")
    :
    :
    :
  );
```

```
begin
process (CLK) begin
if clk'event and clk = '1' then
DATA <= ROM(ADDR); -- Read from the ROM
end if;
end process;
end XILINX;
```

## **RTL Description of a ROM Verilog Example using Block SelectRAM**

Below is some incomplete Verilog that demonstrates the above inference rules:

```
/*
* This code is incomplete but demonstrates the
* rules for inferring Block RAM for ROMs
* ROM_RTL.V
* Block RAM ROM Example
*/
module rom_rtl(ADDR, CLK, DATA) ;
    input [9:0] ADDR ;
    input CLK ;
    output [3:0] DATA ;
    reg [3:0] DATA ;
    // A memory is implemented
    // using a case statement
    always @(posedge CLK)
    begin
        case (ADDR)
            9'b000000000 : DATA = 4'b0000 ;
            9'b000000001 : DATA = 4'b0001 ;
            9'b000000010 : DATA = 4'b0010 ;
            9'b000000011 : DATA = 4'b0100 ;
            9'b000000100 : DATA = 4'b1000 ;
            9'b000000101 : DATA = 4'b1000 ;
            9'b000000110 : DATA = 4'b1100 ;
            9'b000000111 : DATA = 4'b1010 ;
            9'b000001000 : DATA = 4'b1001 ;
            9'b000001001 : DATA = 4'b1001 ;
            9'b000001010 : DATA = 4'b1010 ;
            9'b000001011 : DATA = 4'b1100 ;
```

```
        9'b000001100 : DATA = 4'b1001 ;
        9'b000001101 : DATA = 4'b1001 ;
        9'b000001110 : DATA = 4'b1101 ;
        9'b000001111 : DATA = 4'b1111 ;
        :
        :
        :
    endcase
end
endmodule
```

## Implementing FIFO

FIFO can be implemented with FPGA RAMs. Xilinx provide several Application Notes describing the use of FIFO when implementing FPGAs. Please refer to the following Xilinx Application Notes for more information:

- Xilinx XAPP175: “*High Speed FIFOs in Spartan-II FPGAs*”, application note, v1.0 (11/99) (<http://www.xilinx.com/xapp/xapp175.pdf>)
- Xilinx XAPP131: “*170MHz FIFOs using the Virtex Block SelectRAM+ Feature*”, v 1.2 (9/99) (<http://www.xilinx.com/xapp/xapp131.pdf>)

## Implementing CAM

Content Addressable Memory (CAM) or associative memory is a storage device which can be addressed by its own contents.

Xilinx provides several Application Notes describing CAM designs in Virtex FPGAs. Please refer to the following Xilinx Application Notes for more information:

- XAPP201: “*An Overview of Multiple CAM Designs in Virtex Family Devices*” v 1.1(9/99) (<http://www.xilinx.com/xapp/xapp201.pdf>)
- XAPP202: “*Content Addressable Memory (CAM) in ATM Applications*” v 1.1 (9/99) (<http://www.xilinx.com/xapp/xapp202.pdf>)
- XAPP203: “*Designing Flexible, Fast CAMs with Virtex Family FPGAs*” v 1.1 (9/99) (<http://www.xilinx.com/xapp/xapp203.pdf>)

- XAPP204: “Using Block SelectRAM+ for High-Performance Read/Write CAMs” v1.1 (10/99) (<http://www.xilinx.com/xapp/xapp204.pdf>)

## Using CORE Generator to Implement Memory

If you must instantiate memory, use the CORE Generator to create a memory module larger than 32X1 (16X1 for Dual Port). Implementing memory with the CORE Generator is similar to implementing any module with CORE Generator except for defining the Memory initialization file. Please reference the memory module datasheets that come with every CORE Generator module for specific information on the initialization file.

## Implementing Shift Register (Virtex/E/II and Spartan-II)

The SRL16 is a very efficient way to create shift registers without using up flip-flop resources. You can create shift registers that vary in length from one to sixteen bits. The SRL16 is a shift register look up table (LUT) whose inputs (A3, A2, A1,A0) determine the length of the shift register. The shift register may be of a fixed, static length or it may be dynamically adjusted. The shift register LUT contents are initialized by assigning a four-digit hexadecimal number to an INIT attribute. The first, or the left-most, hexadecimal digit is the most significant bit. If an INIT value is not specified, it defaults to a value of four zeros (0000) so that the shift register LUT is cleared during configuration. The data (D) is loaded into the first bit of the shift register during the Low-to-High clock (CLK) transition. During subsequent Low-to-High clock transitions data is shifted to the next highest bit position as new data is loaded. The data appears on the Q output when the shift register length determined by the address inputs is reached.

The Static Length Mode of SRL16 implements any shift register length from 1 to 16 bits in one LUT. Shift register length is (N+1) where N is the input address. Synthesis tools will implement longer shift registers with multiple SRL16 and additional combinatorial logic for multiplexing.

In Virtex-II devices, additional cascading shift register LUTs (SRLC16) are available. SRLC16 supports synchronous shift-out

output of the last (16th) bit. This output has a dedicated connection to the input of the next SRLC16 inside the CLB. With four slices and dedicated multiplexers (MUXF5, MUXF6, and so forth) available in one Virtex-II CLB, up to a 128-bit shift register can be implemented effectively using SRLC16. Synthesis tools, Synplify 7.1, LeonardoSpectrum 2002a, and XST can infer the SRLC16. For more information, please refer to the *Virtex-II Handbook*.

Dynamic Length Mode can be implemented using SRL16 or SRLC16. Each time a new address is applied to the 4-input address pins, the new bit position value is available on the Q output after the time delay to access the LUT. LeonardoSpectrum, Synplify, and XST can infer a shift register component. A coding example for a dynamic SRL is included following the SRL16 inferencing example.

## Inferring SRL16 in VHDL

- FPGA Compiler II, LeonardoSpectrum, Synplify, and XST

```
-- VHDL example design of SRL16
-- inference for Virtex
-- This design infer 16 SRL16
-- with 16 pipeline delay
library ieee;
use ieee.std_logic_1164.all;
use ieee.std_logic_arith.all;
use ieee.std_logic_unsigned.all;
entity pipeline_delay is generic (cycle :integer
:= 16;
    width :integer := 16);
    port (input :in std_logic_vector(width - 1
downto 0);
        clk :in std_logic;
        output :out std_logic_vector(width - 1 downto
0));
end pipeline_delay;
architecture behav of pipeline_delay is
    type my_type is array (0 to cycle -1) of
        std_logic_vector(width -1 downto 0);
    signal int_sig :my_type;

begin
    main :process (clk)
    begin
        if clk'event and clk = '1' then
            int_sig <= input & int_sig(0 to cycle - 2);
        end if;
    end process main;
    output <= int_sig(cycle -1);
end behav;
```

## Inferring SRL16 in Verilog

Use the following coding example for FPGA Compiler II, LeonardoSpectrum, Synplify, and XST.

- FPGA Compiler II, LeonardoSpectrum, Synplify, and XST

```
// Verilog Example SRL
//This design infer 3 SRL16 with 4 pipeline delay
module srle_example (clk, enable, data_in,
result);
parameter cycle=4;
parameter width = 3;
input clk, enable;
input [0:width] data_in;
output [0:width] result;
reg [0:width-1] shift [cycle-1:0];
integer i;
always @(posedge clk)
begin
    if (enable == 1) begin
        for (i = (cycle-1); i >0; i=i-1) shift[i] =
shift[i-1];
        shift[0] = data_in;
    end
end
assign result = shift[cycle-1];
endmodule
```

## Inferring Dynamic SRL16 in VHDL

- LeonardoSpectrum, Synplify and XST

```
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;

entity srltest is
port ( inData: std_logic_vector(7 downto 0);
      clk, en : in std_logic;
      outStage : in integer range 3 downto 0;
      outData: out std_logic_vector(7 downto 0));
end srltest;

architecture rtl of srltest is

type dataAryType is array(3 downto 0) of
  std_logic_vector(7 downto 0);
signal regBank : dataAryType;

begin
  outData <= regBank(outStage);
  process(clk, inData) begin

    if (clk'event and clk = '1') then
      if (en='1') then
        regBank <= (regBank(2 downto 0) & inData);
      end if;
    end if;
  end process;
end rtl;
```

## Inferring Dynamic SRL16 in Verilog

- LeonardoSpectrum, Synplify and XST

```
module test_srl(clk, enable, dataIn, result, addr);

    input clk, enable;
    input [3:0] dataIn;
    input [3:0] addr;
    output [3:0] result;

    reg [3:0] regBank[15:0];
    integer i;

    always @(posedge clk) begin
        if (enable == 1) begin
            for (i=15; i>0; i=i-1) begin
                regBank[i] <= regBank[i-1];
            end
            regBank[0] <= dataIn;
        end
    end
    assign result = regBank[addr];
endmodule
```

## Implementing LFSR

The SRL (Shift Register LUT) implements very efficient shift registers and can be used to implement Linear Feedback Shift Registers. Xilinx Application Note XAPP 210 describes the implementation of Linear Feedback Shift Registers (LFSR) using the Virtex SRL macro. One half of a CLB can be configured to implement a 15-bit LFSR, one CLB can implement a 52-bit LFSR, and with two CLBs a 118-bit LFSR is implemented.

The XApp 210 can be downloaded from the following Xilinx web site.

<http://support.xilinx.com/xapp/xapp210.pdf>

## Implementing Multiplexers

A 4-to-1 multiplexer can be efficiently implemented in a single Virtex/E/II and Spartan-II family slice. The six input signals (four inputs, two select lines) use a combination of two LUTs and MUXF5 available in every slice. Up to 9 input functions can be implemented with this configuration.

In the Virtex/E and Spartan-II families, larger multiplexers can be implemented using two adjacent slices in one CLB with its dedicated MUXF5s and a MUXF6.

Virtex-II slices contain dedicated two-input multiplexers (one MUXF5 and one MUXFX per slice). MUXF5 is used to combine two LUTs. MUXFX can be used as MUXF6, MUXF7, and MUXF8 to combine 4, 8, and 16 LUTs, respectively. Please refer to the *Virtex-II Handbook* for more information on designing large multiplexes in Virtex-II. This book can be found on the Xilinx website at <http://www.xilinx.com>.

In addition, you can use internal tristate buffers (BUFTs) to implement large multiplexers. Large multiplexers built with BUFTs have the following advantages.

- Can vary in width with only minimal impact on area and delay
- Can have as many inputs as there are tristate buffers per horizontal longline in the target device
- Have one-hot encoded selector inputs

This last point is illustrated in the following VHDL and Verilog designs of a 5-to-1 multiplexer built with gates. Typically, the gate version of this multiplexer has binary encoded selector inputs and requires three select inputs (SEL<2:0>). The schematic representation of this design is shown in the “5-to-1 MUX Implemented with Gates” figure.

Some synthesis tools include commands that allow you to switch between multiplexers with gates or with tristates. Check with your synthesis vendor for more information.

The VHDL and Verilog designs provided at the end of this section show a 5-to-1 multiplexer built with tristate buffers. The tristate buffer version of this multiplexer has one-hot encoded selector inputs and requires five select inputs (SEL<4:0>). The schematic representa-

tion of these designs is shown in the “5-to-1 MUX Implemented with Gates” figure.

## **Mux Implemented with Gates VHDL Example**

The following example shows a MUX implemented with Gates.

```
-- MUX_GATE.VHD
-- 5-to-1 Mux Implemented in Gates
-- May 2001

library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
use IEEE.std_logic_arith.all;

entity mux_gate is

port (SEL: in STD_LOGIC_VECTOR (2 downto 0);
A,B,C,D,E: in STD_LOGIC;
      SIG: out STD_LOGIC);
end mux_gate;

architecture RTL of mux_gate is
begin
  SEL_PROCESS: process (SEL,A,B,C,D,E)
  begin
    case SEL is
      when "000" => SIG <= A;
      when "001" => SIG <= B;
      when "010" => SIG <= C;
      when "011" => SIG <= D;
      when others => SIG <= E;
    end case;
  end process SEL_PROCESS;
end RTL;
```

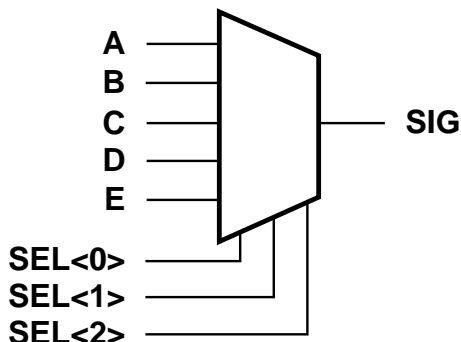
## Mux Implemented with Gates Verilog Example

The following example shows a MUX implemented with Gates.

```
/* MUX_TBUF.V
 * May 2002 */
module mux_tbuf (A,B,C,D,E,SEL,SIG);
    input A,B,C,D,E;
    input [4:0] SEL;
    output SIG;

    assign SIG = (SEL[0]==1'b0) ? A : 1'bz;
    assign SIG = (SEL[1]==1'b0) ? B : 1'bz;
    assign SIG = (SEL[2]==1'b0) ? C : 1'bz;
    assign SIG = (SEL[3]==1'b0) ? D : 1'bz;
    assign SIG = (SEL[4]==1'b0) ? E : 1'bz;

endmodule
```



**X6229**

**Figure 4-5 5-to-1 MUX Implemented with Gates**

## **Wide MUX Mapped to MUXFs**

Synthesis tools will use MUXF5 and MUXF6, and for Virtex-II and Virtex-II Pro will use MUXF7 and MUXF8 to implement wide multiplexers. These MUXes can, respectively, be used to create a 5, 6, 7 or 8 input function or a 4-to-1, 8-to-1, 16-to-1 or a 32-to-1 multiplexer.

## Mux Implemented with BUFTs VHDL Example

The following example shows a MUX implemented with BUFTs.

```
-- MUX_TBUDF.VHD
-- 5-to-1 Mux Implemented in 3-State Buffers
-- May 2001

library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
use IEEE.std_logic_arith.all;

entity mux_tbuf is
port (SEL: in STD_LOGIC_VECTOR (4 downto 0);
      A,B,C,D,E: in STD_LOGIC;
      SIG: out STD_LOGIC);
end mux_tbuf;

architecture RTL of mux_tbuf is
begin

    SIG <= A when (SEL(0)='0') else 'Z';
    SIG <= B when (SEL(1)='0') else 'Z';
    SIG <= C when (SEL(2)='0') else 'Z';
    SIG <= D when (SEL(3)='0') else 'Z';
    SIG <= E when (SEL(4)='0') else 'Z';
end RTL;
```

## Mux Implemented with BUFTs Verilog Example

The following example shows a MUX implemented with BUFTs.

```
/* MUX_TBUDF.V
 * May 2001 */

module mux_tbuf (A,B,C,D,E,SEL,SIG);

input A,B,C,D,E;
input [4:0] SEL;
output SIG;
reg SIG;

    always @ (SEL or A)
```

```
begin
    if (SEL[0]==1'b0)
        SIG=A;
    else
        SIG=1'bz;
    end

always @ (SEL or B)
begin
    if (SEL[1]==1'b0)
        SIG=B;
    else
        SIG=1'bz;
    end

always @ (SEL or C)
begin
    if (SEL[2]==1'b0)
        SIG=C;
    else
        SIG=1'bz;
    end

always @ (SEL or D)
begin
    if (SEL[3]==1'b0)
        SIG=D;
    else
        SIG=1'bz;
    end

always @ (SEL or E)
begin
    if (SEL[4]==1'b0)
        SIG=E;
    else
        SIG=1'bz;
    end
endmodule
```

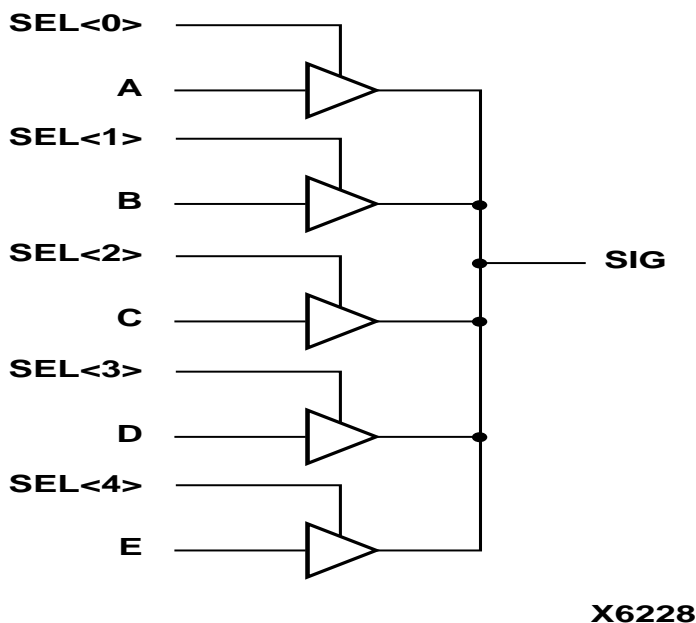


Figure 4-6 5-to-1 MUX Implemented with BUFTs

## Using Pipelining

You can use pipelining to dramatically improve device performance. Pipelining increases performance by restructuring long data paths with several levels of logic and breaking it up over multiple clock cycles. This method allows a faster clock cycle and, as a result, an increased data throughput at the expense of added data latency. Because the Xilinx FPGA devices are register-rich, this is usually an advantageous structure for FPGA designs because the pipeline is created at no cost in terms of device resources. Because data is now on a multi-cycle path, special considerations must be used for the rest of your design to account for the added path latency. You must also be careful when defining timing specifications for these paths.

Some synthesis tools have limited capability for constraining multi-cycle paths or translating these constraints to Xilinx implementation constraints. Check your synthesis tool documentation for information on multi-cycle paths. If your tool cannot translate the constraint but can synthesize to a multi-cycle path, you can add the constraint to the UCF file.

## Before Pipelining

In the following example, the clock speed is limited by the clock-to-out-time of the source flip-flop; the logic delay through four levels of logic; the routing associated with the four function generators; and the setup time of the destination register.

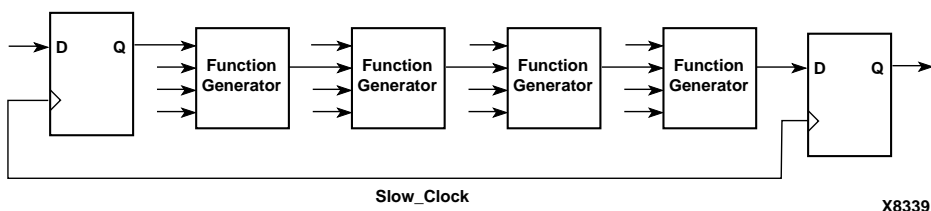


Figure 4-7 Before Pipelining

## After Pipelining

This is an example of the same data path in the previous example after pipelining. Because the flip-flop is contained in the same CLB as the function generator, the clock speed is limited by the clock-to-out time of the source flip-flop; the logic delay through one level of logic; one routing delay; and the setup time of the destination register. In this example, the system clock runs much faster than in the previous example.

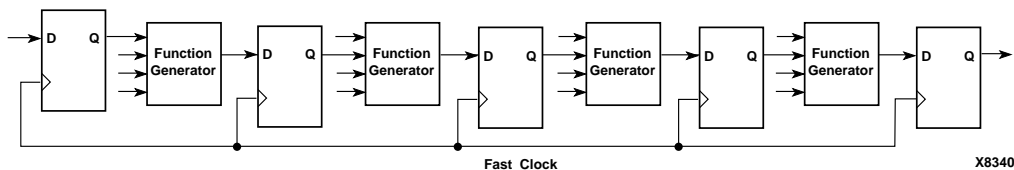


Figure 4-8 After Pipelining

## Design Hierarchy

HDL designs can either be synthesized as a flat module or as many small modules. Each methodology has its advantages and disadvantages, but as higher density FPGAs are created, the advantages of hierarchical designs outweigh any disadvantages.

Advantages to building hierarchical designs are as follows.

- Easier and faster verification/simulation
- Allows several engineers to work on one design at the same time
- Speeds up design compilation
- Reduces design time by allowing design module re-use for this and future designs.
- Allows you to produce designs that are easier to understand
- Allows you to efficiently manage the design flow

Disadvantages to building hierarchical designs are as follows.

- Design mapping into the FPGA may not be as optimal across hierarchical boundaries; this can cause lesser device utilization and decreased design performance
- Design file revision control becomes more difficult
- Designs become more verbose

Most of the disadvantages listed above can be overcome with careful design consideration when choosing the design hierarchy.

## **Using Synthesis Tools with Hierarchical Designs**

By effectively partitioning your designs, you can significantly reduce compile time and improve synthesis results. Here are some recommendations for partitioning your designs.

### **Restrict Shared Resources to Same Hierarchy Level**

Resources that can be shared should be on the same level of hierarchy. If these resources are not on the same level of hierarchy, the synthesis tool cannot determine if these resources should be shared.

### **Compile Multiple Instances Together**

You may want to compile multiple occurrences of the same instance together to reduce the gate count. However, to increase design speed, do not compile a module in a critical path with other instances.

### **Restrict Related Combinatorial Logic to Same Hierarchy Level**

Keep related combinatorial logic in the same hierarchical level to allow the synthesis tool to optimize an entire critical path in a single operation. Boolean optimization does not operate across hierarchical boundaries. Therefore, if a critical path is partitioned across boundaries, logic optimization is restricted. In addition, constraining modules is difficult if combinatorial logic is not restricted to the same level of hierarchy.

### **Separate Speed Critical Paths from Non-critical Paths**

To achieve satisfactory synthesis results, locate design modules with different functions at different levels of the hierarchy. Design speed is the first priority of optimization algorithms. To achieve a design that efficiently utilizes device area, remove timing constraints from design modules.

### **Restrict Combinatorial Logic that Drives a Register to Same Hierarchy Level**

To reduce the number of CLBs used, restrict combinatorial logic that drives a register to the same hierarchical block.

## **Restrict Module Size**

Restrict module size to 100 - 200 CLBs. This range varies based on your computer configuration; the time required to complete each optimization run; if the design is worked on by a design team; and the target FPGA routing resources. Although smaller blocks give you more control, you may not always obtain the most efficient design. For the final compilation of your design, you may want to compile fully from the top down. Check with your synthesis vendor for guidelines.

## **Register All Outputs**

Arrange your design hierarchy so that registers drive the module output in each hierarchical block. Registering outputs makes your design easier to constrain because you only need to constrain the clock period and the ClockToSetup of the previous module. If you have multiple combinatorial blocks at different levels of the hierarchy, you must manually calculate the delay for each module. Also, registering the outputs of your design hierarchy can eliminate any possible problems with logic optimization across hierarchical boundaries.

## **Restrict One Clock to Each Module or to Entire Design**

By restricting one clock to each module, you only need to describe the relationship between the clock at the top level of the design hierarchy and each module clock. By restricting one clock to the entire design, you only need to describe the clock at the top level of the design hierarchy.

**Note** See your synthesis tool documentation for more information on optimizing logic across hierarchical boundaries and compiling hierarchical designs.



## Virtex-II Pro Considerations

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This chapter includes coding techniques to help you improve synthesis results. It includes the following sections.

- [“Introduction”](#)
- [“Using Smart Models to Simulate Virtex-II Pro Designs”](#)
- [“Virtex-II Pro Board Support Package”](#)
- [“Debugging Tools for Virtex-II Pro Designs”](#)

### Introduction

This chapter highlights some of the outstanding features of Xilinx Virtex-II Pro FPGAs. The Virtex-II Pro family is a platform FPGA for designs that are based on IP cores and customized modules. The family incorporates multi-gigabit transceivers and PowerPC CPU cores in Virtex-II Pro Series FPGA architecture. The intent of this chapter is to point the user to the information necessary to take advantage of these features.

The programmable logic portion of the Virtex-II Pro family is based on Virtex-II. While it is not bitstream or pin compatible, it can be programmed using the same methods as Virtex-II, and Virtex-II designs can be into Virtex-II Pro devices. In general, for details specific to Virtex-II Pro, see the *Virtex II Pro Handbook* and the *Rocket I/O Transceiver User Guide*.

## **Summary of Virtex-II Pro Features**

- High-performance Platform FPGA solution including
  - ◆ Up to sixteen Rocket I/O embedded multi-gigabit transceiver blocks (based on Mindspeed's SkyRail technology)
  - ◆ Up to four IBM® PowerPC® RISC processor blocks
- Based on Virtex-II Platform FPGA technology
  - ◆ Flexible logic resources
  - ◆ SRAM-based in-system configuration
  - ◆ Active Interconnect technology
  - ◆ SelectRAM memory hierarchy
  - ◆ Dedicated 18-bit x 18-bit multiplier blocks
  - ◆ High-performance clock management circuitry
  - ◆ SelectI/O-Ultra technology
  - ◆ Digitally Controlled Impedance (DCI) I/O

## **Using Smart Models to Simulate Virtex-II Pro Designs**

Smart Models are an encrypted version to the actual HDL code. These models allow the user to simulate with the actual functionality without having access to the code itself. The Xilinx Virtex-II Pro family of devices gives the designer many new features, such as IBM's PowerPC microprocessor and the GigaBit I/O. However, simulation of these new features requires the use of Bus-Functional models and Synopsys Smart Models along with the user design. This section gives the Virtex-II Pro simulation flow. It is assumed that the reader is familiar with the Xilinx FPGA simulation flow.

## **Simulation Components**

The Virtex-II Pro device consists of several components. Each component has its own simulation model, and the individual simulation models must be correctly interconnected to get the

simulation to work as expected. Following are the components that need to be simulated:

- **FPGA Logic:** This consists of either the RTL design constructed by the designer, or the back-annotated structural design created by the Xilinx implementation tools.
- **IBM PowerPC microprocessor:** The microprocessor is simulated using SWIFT interface.
- **IBM CoreConnect bus:** This Processor Local Bus (PLB) is simulated using HDL simulation models.
- **GigaBit I/O:** This is simulated using SWIFT interface.

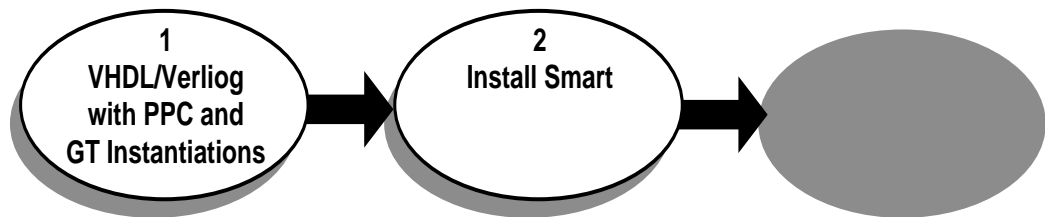
## Overview of Virtex-II Pro Simulation Flow

The HDL simulation flow comprising Synopsys Smart Models consists of three steps:

1. Instantiate the PowerPC and/or Gigabit I/O wrapper used for simulation and synthesis. During synthesis, the transceiver is treated as a "black box." This requires that a wrapper be used that describes the modules port.
2. Install the Verilog Model Compiler (VMC) Smart Models, if needed. See [“Installing Smart Models from Xilinx Implementation Tools”](#) section for details on installing Smart Models. The Smart Models are included in the Virtex-II Pro Design Kit and the Xilinx software.
  - a) The IBM PowerPC and GigaBit I/O Smart models come installed with the Virtex-II Pro Design Kit.
  - b) The Xilinx software includes the Smart Model image, however the Smart Models are not installed. The user must install the Smart Models in the Xilinx Software tree in order to perform a simulation using the Smart Models. Finally, the models must be installed if your simulator is not currently supported or if additional Smart Models are needed.
3. Use the VMC models along with your design in an HDL simulator that supports the SWIFT interface.

You can find The Instantiation wrapper files for the PowerPC and Gigabit I/O can in the Virtex-II Pro Development Kit, and the Rocket I/O User Guide.

The flow is shown in Figure 1.



X9821

**Figure 5-1 Figure 1: HDL Simulation Flow for Virtex-II Pro Devices**

## Smart Models

The Xilinx Virtex-II Pro simulation flow uses the Synopsys VMC models (Smart Models) for simulating the IBM PowerPC microprocessor and GigaBit I/O. VMC models are simulator-independent models that are derived from the actual design and are therefore accurate evaluation models. To simulate these models, a simulator that supports the SWIFT interface must be used.

Synopsys Logic Modeling uses the SWIFT interface to deliver models. SWIFT is a simulator- and platform-independent API developed by Synopsys and adopted by all major simulator vendors, including Synopsys, Cadence, Mentor Graphics, Model Technology and others, as a way of linking simulation models to design tools.

When running a back-annotated simulation, the precompiled Smart Models support gate-level, pin-to-pin, and back-annotation timing. Gate-level timing distributes the delays throughout the design, and all internal paths are accurately distributed. Multiple timing versions can be provided for different speed parts. Pin-to-pin timing is less accurate, but is faster since only a few top-level delays must be processed. Back-annotation timing allows the model to accurately process the interconnect delays between the model and the rest of the design. It can be used with either gate-level or pin-to-pin timing, or by itself.

You can find more details about Smart Models and the SWIFT interface in "Design Flow" volume of the *Virtex-II Pro Platform FPGA Developers Kit*, and on the Synopsys web site at <http://www.synopsys.com/products/lm/doc/smartmodel.html>.

## Supported Simulators

A simulator with Smart Model capability is required to use the Smart Models. While any HDL simulator that supports the Synopsys SWIFT interface should be able to handle the Virtex-II Pro simulation flow, the following HDL simulators are officially supported by Xilinx for Virtex-II Pro simulation.

### Solaris

- MTI Modelsim SE (5.5 and newer)
- Cadence NC-Verilog
- Cadence Verilog-XL
- Synopsys VCS

### NT or 2000

- MTI Modelsim SE (5.5 and newer)

## Required Software

To setup the simulation, install the Xilinx implementation tools and the Xilinx Virtex-II Pro Design kit along with the simulator you will be using.

### **Solaris 2.6/2.7**

- Xilinx Implementation Tools
- Xilinx Virtex-II Pro Software Kit. Details are available at <http://www.xilinx.com/virtex2pro>
- IBM CoreConnect Software. Details are available at [http://www.xilinx.com/ipcenter/processor\\_central/register\\_coreconnect.htm](http://www.xilinx.com/ipcenter/processor_central/register_coreconnect.htm)
- HDL Simulator that can simulate both VHDL/Verilog and SWIFT interface.

### **Windows NT, 2000**

- Xilinx Implementation Tools
- Xilinx Virtex-II Pro software kit. Details are available at <http://www.xilinx.com/virtex2pro>
- IBM CoreConnect Software. Details are available at [http://www.xilinx.com/ipcenter/processor\\_central/register\\_coreconnect.htm](http://www.xilinx.com/ipcenter/processor_central/register_coreconnect.htm)
- HDL Simulator that can simulate both VHDL/Verilog and SWIFT interface.

## **Installing Smart Models from Xilinx Implementation Tools**

The Smart Models come precompiled with the Xilinx implementation tools, but they are not installed. This allows you to install the PPC405 and GT Smart models with additional Smart Models incorporated in the design. Compile all Smart models into a common library for the simulator to use.

**Note** The Smart Models are installed as part of the Virtex-II Pro Development Kit. If additional Smart Models are not required, do not reinstall the models.

### **Solaris 2.6/2.7/2.8**

#### **STEP 1 - BEGIN SMART MODEL INSTALLATION**

Run the `sl_admin.csh` program from the `$XILINX/verilog/smartmodel/sol/image` directory using the following commands:

```
$ cd $XILINX/verilog/smartmodel/sol/image
$ sl_admin.csh
```

#### **STEP 2 - SELECT SMART MODELS TO INSTALL**

- a) The `sl_admin` GUI and Set Library Directory popup will appear. Change the default directory from "image/pcnt" to "installed". Click **OK**. If the directory does not exist, the program will ask if you want to create it, click **OK**.
- b) The `sl_admin` GUI and the Install From... popup will appear. Click **Open** to use the default directory.

- c) Next, the Select Models to Install popup will appear. Click **Add All** to select all models. Click **Continue**.
- d) Next, the Select Platforms for Installation popup will appear. For Platforms, select **Sun-4**. For EDAV Packages, select **Other**. Click **Install**.
- e) When the words "Install complete" appear, and the status line (bottom line of the sl\_admin GUI) goes to Ready, installation is complete.

At this point the Smart Models have been installed. Exit the GUI by using the **File->Exit** pull down menu, or use the GUI to perform other operations such as accessing documentation and running checks on your newly installed library.

To properly use the newly compiled models, set the LMC\_HOME variable to the image directory. For example:

```
Setenv LMC_HOME $XILINX/verilog/smartmodel/sol/  
installed
```

## Windows NT, 2000

### STEP 1 - BEGIN SMART MODEL INSTALLATION

Run the sl\_admin.exe program from the verilog\smartmodel\nt\image\pcnt directory.

### STEP 2 - SELECT SMART MODELS TO INSTALL

- The sl\_admin GUI and a popup for "Set Library Directory" will appear. Change the default directory from "image\pcnt" to "installed". Click **OK**. If the directory does not exist, the program will ask if you want to create it, click **OK**.
- Next, click **Install** on the left side of the sl\_admin window. This will allow you choose the models to install.
- When the Install From... pop up appears, click **Browse**, and select sim\_models\xilinx\verilog\smartmodel\nt\image directory. Click **OK** to select that directory
- The Select Models to Install popup will appear. Click **Add All**, then **OK**

- Then the Choose Platform window will appear. For Platforms, select **wintel**. For EDAV Packages, select **Other**. Click **OK** to install.
- From the sl\_admin window, you should see "Loading: gt\_swift", and "Loading: ppc405\_swift". When the words "Install complete" appear, installation is complete.

At this point, the smart models have been installed. Exit the GUI using the **File->Exit** menu, or use the GUI to perform other operations such as bringing up documentation and running checks on your newly installed library.

To properly use the newly compiled models, set the LMC\_HOME variable to the image directory. For example:

```
Set LMC_HOME=$Xilinx$\verilog\smartmodel  
    \nt\installed
```

For details specific to Virtex-II Pro, see the *Virtex II Pro Handbook*.

## Running Simulation

This section describes how to setup and run simulation on the various supported simulators.

### MTI Modelsim SE - Solaris 2.6/2.7/2.8

#### ***Simulator Setup***

Although Modelsim SE supports the SWIFT interface, some modifications must be made to the default Modelsim setup to enable this feature. The Modelsim install directory contains an initialization file called modelsim.ini. In this initialization file, users can edit GUI and Simulator settings to default to their preferences. Parts of this modelsim.ini file must be edited to work properly along with the Virtex-II Pro device simulation models.

The following changes are needed in the modelsim.ini file. These changes can be made to the modelsim.ini file located in the \$MODEL\_Tech directory. An alternative to making these edits is to change the MODELSIM environment variable setting in the MTI setup script to point to the modelsim.ini file located in the each example's design directory.

1. After the lines

```
; Simulator resolution  
  
; Set to fs, ps, ns, us, ms, or sec with optional  
  prefix of 1, 10, or 100.
```

Edit the Statement that follows from Resolution = ns to  
Resolution = ps

2. After the lines

```
; Specify whether paths in simulator commands  
  should be described  
  
; in VHDL or Verilog format. For VHDL,  
  PathSeparator = /  
  
; for Verilog, PathSeparator = .
```

Comment the following statement called PathSeparator = / by  
adding a ";" at the start of the line.

3. After the line

```
; List of dynamically loaded objects for Verilog  
  PLI applications add the following statement:  
  
Veriuser = $MODEL_TECH/libswiftpli.sl ;;  
$DENALI/mtipli.so
```

4. After the line

```
; Logic Modeling's SmartModel SWIFT software  
  (Sun4 Solaris 2.x)add the following  
  statements:  
  
libsm = $MODEL_TECH/libsm.sl  
  
libswift = $LMC_HOME/lib/sun4Solaris.lib/  
  libswift.so
```

**Note** It is important to make the changes in the order in which the  
commands appear in the modelsim.ini. The simulation may not work  
if the order recommended above is not followed.

After editing the modelsim.ini file, add the following Environment  
variable to the MTI Modelsim SE setup script:

```
setenv MODELSIM /<path_to_modelsim.ini_script>/  
  modelsim.ini
```

If the MODELSIM environment variable is not set properly, MTI might not use this .ini file, due to which the initialization settings required for simulation will not be read by the simulator. Set up the MTI SE simulation environment by sourcing the MTI SE setup script from the terminal.

### **Running Simulation**

In the \$xilinx/verilog/smartmodel/sol/simulation/mtiverilog directory there are several files to help setup and run a simulation utilizing the SWIFT interface.

- **modelsim.ini** - example modelsim.ini file used to setup Modelsim for SWIFT interface support. This file contains the changes outlined above. We suggest that you make the changes to the modelsim.ini file located in the \$MODEL\_Tech directory, because of the library mappings included in this file.
- **Setup** - Script used to set the user environment for simulation and implementation. Here is an example of the variables set:

```
setenv XILINX <Xilinx path>
setenv MODEL_Tech <MTI path>
setenv LM_LICENSE_FILE
    <modelsim_license.dat>;$LM_LICENSE_FILE
setenv LMC_HOME ${XILINX}/verilog/smartmodel/
    sol/image
setenv PATH ${LMC_HOME}/bin:${LMC_HOME}/lib/
    pcnt.lib:${MODEL_Tech}/bin:${XILINX}/bin/
    sol:${PATH}
```

The user is responsible for changing the parameters included <> to match the systems configuration.

- **Simulate** - An example Modelsim simulation script. Illustrates which files need to be compiled and loaded for simulation. This file can be modified to simulate a design by including the design and testbench files appropriately. If the users modelsim.ini file is being used, which contains the system mappings, the vmap commands can be commented out or deleted from this file.
- **run.do** - used by the simulate script to run the complete simulation.

Once each of these files has been properly updated, the simulation can be run by sourcing the setup and simulate files.

## **MTI Modelsim SE - Windows NT/2000**

### ***Simulator Setup***

Although Modelsim SE supports the SWIFT interface, some modifications must be made to the default Modelsim setup to enable this feature. The Modelsim install directory contains an initialization file called modelsim.ini. In this initialization file, users can edit GUI and Simulator settings to default to their preferences. Parts of this modelsim.ini file must be edited to work properly along with the Virtex-II Pro device simulation models.

The following changes are needed in the modelsim.ini file. These changes can be made to the modelsim.ini file located in the MODEL\_TECH directory. An alternative to making these edits is to change the MODELSIM environment variable setting in the MTI setup script to point to the modelsim.ini file located in the each example's design directory.

#### **1. After the lines**

```
; Simulator resolution
; Set to fs, ps, ns, us, ms, or sec with optional prefix of 1, 10,
or 100.
```

Change the Statement that follows from:

```
Resolution = ns
```

to:

```
Resolution = ps
```

#### **2. After the lines:**

```
; Specify whether paths in simulator commands should be described
; in VHDL or Verilog format. For VHDL, PathSeparator = /
; for Verilog, PathSeparator = .
```

Comment out the following statement

```
PathSeparator = /
```

by adding a ";" at the start of the line.

#### **3. After the line:**

; List of dynamically loaded objects for Verilog PLI applications

Add the following statement:

```
Veriuser = %MODEL_Tech%/libswiftpli.dll
```

4. After the line:

```
; Logic Modeling's SmartModel SWIFT software (Windows NT)
```

add the following statements:

```
libsm = %MODEL_Tech%/libsm.dll
```

```
libswift = %LMC_HOME%/lib/pcent.lib/libswift.dll
```

**Note** It is important to make these changes in the order in which the commands appear in the modelsim.ini. The simulation may not work if the order recommended is not followed.

After editing the modelsim.ini file, add the following Environment variable to the MTI Modelsim SE setup script:

```
set MODELSIM=<path_to_modelsim.ini_script>\modelsim.ini
```

If the MODELSIM environment variable is not set properly, MTI might not use this .ini file, due to which the initialization settings required for simulation will not be read by the simulator. Set up the MTI SE simulation environment by sourcing the MTI SE setup script from the terminal.

### Running Simulation

In the \$XILINX\verilog\smartmodel\sol\simulation\mtiverilog directory there are several files to help setup and run a simulation utilizing the SWIFT interface.

- modelsim.ini - example modelsim.ini file used to setup Modelsim for SWIFT interface support. This file contains the changes outlined above. We suggest that you make the changes to the modelsim.ini file located in the \$MODEL\_Tech directory, because of the library mappings included in this file.
- setup - Description of variables, which a user must set for correct simulation and implementation. Here is an example of the variables set:

```
set XILINX <Xilinx path>
```

```
set LMC_HOME
  %XILINX%\verilog\smartmodel\sol\image

set MODEL_TECH <MTI path>

set LM_LICENSE_FILE
  <license.dat>;%LM_LICENSE_FILE%

set path
  %LMC_HOME%\bin;%LMC_HOME%\lib\pcnt.lib;%MODEL_
  _TECH%\bin;%XILINX%\bin\nt;%path%
```

**Note** The user is responsible for changing the parameters included <> to match the systems configuration.

- **simulate.bat** - An example Modelsim simulation script. Illustrates which files must be compiled and loaded for simulation. This file can be modified to simulate a design by including the design and testbench files appropriately. If the users modelsim.ini file is being used, which contains the system mappings, the vmap commands can be commented out or deleted from this file.
- **run.do** - used by the simulate script to run the complete simulation.

Once each of these files has been properly updated, run the simulation run by double clicking on simulate.bat.

## Cadence Verilog-XL - Solaris 2.6/2.7/2.8

### *Running Simulation*

A Verilog-XL simulation incorporating the SWIFT interface can initiated in two ways.

1. In the \$XILINX/verilog/smartmodel/sol/simulation/verilogxl directory there are several files to help setup and run a simulation utilizing the SWIFT interface.

setup - Description of variables, which a user must set for correct simulation and implementation. Here is an example of the variables set:

```
setenv XILINX <Xilinx path>

setenv LM_LICENSE_FILE
  <verilogxl_license.dat>:${LM_LICENSE_FILE}
```

```
setenv CDS_INST_DIR <Cadence path>

setenv LD_LIBRARY_PATH ${V2PRO}/source/
    sim_models/Xilinx/verilog/smartmodel/sol/
    installed/lib/
    sun4Solaris.lib:${LD_LIBRARY_PATH}

setenv LMC_CDS_VCONFIG ${CDS_INST_DIR}/
    tools.sun4v/verilog/bin/vconfig

setenv LM_LICENSE_FILE
    <license.dat>:${LM_LICENSE_FILE}

setenv PATH ${LMC_HOME}/bin ${CDS_INST_DIR}/
    tools/bin $PATH

setenv PATH ${XILINX}/bin/sol ${PATH}
```

The user is responsible for changing the parameters included <> to match the systems configuration. The LD\_LIBRARY\_PATH variable must be pointing to the Smart Model installation directory.

- ◆ simulate - An example Verilog-XL compilation simulation script. Illustrates which files need to be compiled and loaded for simulation. This file can be modified to simulate a design by including the design and testbench files appropriately. The user should add +loadpli1=swiftpli:swift\_boot a verilog directive to the simulate script. For example:

```
verilog +loadpli1=swiftpli:swift_boot \
```

Once each of these files has been properly updated, the simulation can be run.

2. This flow is requires administrative privileges and is not recommended.

In the \$XILINX/verilog/smartmodel/sol/simulation/verilogxl directory there are several files to help setup and run a simulation utilizing the smart models. A description of each file follows.

- ◆ readme - Outlines the steps of the secondary flow to utilize the SWIFT interface.
- a) edit the setup file, as described below, to setup environment for Verilog-XL.

```
source setup
```

**Note** The following step is not required if the models have been installed.

b)

```
cd $XILINX/verilog/smartmodel/sol/image
Enter: sl_admin.csh
```

c)

```
Enter: pliwiz
Config Session Name - xilinx
Verilog-XL
Stand Alone
SWIFT Interface
Finish
No
```

d)

```
cp -p $CDS_INST_DIR/tools/pliwizard/src/
    Makefile.xl.sun4v .
```

e)

```
edit Makefile_pliwiz.xl
```

f)

```
change $(INSTALL_DIR)/tools/pliwizard/src/
    Makefile.xl.sun4v to ./Makefile.xl.sun4v
```

g)

```
edit Makefile.xl.sun4v
Change CC = cc to CC = gcc
```

h)

```
make all
```

i) edit the simulate file

```
source simulate
```

- ◆ setup - Description of variables, which a user must set for correct simulation and implementation. Here is an example of the variables set:

```
setenv XILINX <Xilinx path>

setenv LM_LICENSE_FILE
    <verilogxl_license.dat>:${LM_LICENSE_FILE}

setenv CDS_INST_DIR <Cadence path>
```

```
setenv LD_LIBRARY_PATH ${V2PRO}/source/
    sim_models/Xilinx/verilog/smartmodel/sol/
    installed/lib/
    sun4Solaris.lib:${LD_LIBRARY_PATH}
```

```
setenv LMC_CDS_VCONFIG ${CDS_INST_DIR}/
    tools.sun4v/verilog/bin/vconfig

setenv LM_LICENSE_FILE
    <license.dat>:${LM_LICENSE_FILE}
```

```
setenv PATH ${LMC_HOME}/bin ${CDS_INST_DIR}/
    tools/bin $PATH

setenv PATH ${XILINX}/bin/sol ${PATH}
```

The user is responsible for changing the parameters included <> to match the systems configuration. The LD\_LIBRARY\_PATH variable must be pointing to the Smart Model installation directory.

- ◆ " simulate - An example Verilog-XL compilation simulation script. Illustrates which files need to be compiled and loaded for simulation. This file can be modified to simulate a design by including the design and testbench files appropriately.

## Cadence NC-Verilog - Solaris 2.6/2.7/2.8

### ***Running Simulation***

In the \$XILINX/verilog/smartmodel/sol/simulation/ncverilog directory there are several files to help setup and run a simulation utilizing the SWIFT interface.

- Setup - Description of variables, which a user must set for correct simulation and implementation. Here is an example of the variables set:

```
setenv XILINX <Xilinx path>
setenv CDS_INST_DIR <Cadence path>
setenv LM_LICENSE_FILE
    <license.dat>:$LM_LICENSE_FILE

setenv LMC_HOME $XILINX/verilog/smartmodel/sol/
    image
setenv LMC_CONFIG $LMC_HOME/data/solaris.lmc

setenv LD_LIBRARY_PATH $CDS_INST_DIR/
    tools.sun4v/lib:$LD_LIBRARY_PATH
setenv LMC_CDS_VCONFIG $CDS_INST_DIR/
    tools.sun4v/verilog/bin/vconfig

setenv PATH ${LMC_HOME}/bin ${CDS_INST_DIR}/
    tools/bin ${PATH}
setenv PATH ${XILINX}/bin/sol ${PATH}
```

The user is responsible for changing the parameters included <> to match the systems configuration.

- " Simulate - An example NC-Verilog compilation simulation script. Illustrates which files need to be compiled and loaded for simulation. This file can be modified to simulate a design by including the design and testbench files appropriately.

Once each of these files has been properly updated, the simulation can be run.

## **Synopsys VCS - Solaris 2.6/2.7/2.8**

### ***Running Simulation***

In the `$XILINX/verilog/smartmodel/sol/simulation/vcs` directory there are several files to help setup and run a simulation utilizing the SWIFT interface.

- Setup - Description of variables, which a user must set for correct simulation and implementation. Here is an example of the variables set:

```
setenv XILINX <Xilinx path>
setenv VCS_HOME <VCS path>
setenv LM_LICENSE_FILE
    <license.dat>:${LM_LICENSE_FILE}
setenv LMC_HOME ${XILINX}/verilog/smartmodel/
    sol/image
setenv LMC_CONFIG ${LMC_HOME}/data/solaris.lmc
setenv VCS_CC gcc
setenv PATH ${LMC_HOME}/bin ${VCS_HOME}/bin
    ${PATH}
setenv PATH ${XILINX}/bin/sol ${PATH}
```

The user is responsible for changing the parameters included `<>` to match the systems configuration.

- Simulate - Example Verilog-XL compilation simulation script. Illustrates which files need to be compiled and loaded for simulation. This file can be modified to simulate a design by including the design and testbench files appropriately.

Once each of these files has been properly updated, the simulation can be run.

## Virtex-II Pro Board Support Package

The Virtex-II Pro Board Support Package (BSP) is located in the \$V2PRO/source/sw/libs/bsp installation directory. The BSP is a set of software modules combined into the bsp.a library. On one hand, the BSP offers an interface to peripheral devices and to low-level PowerPC core functions. A stand-alone application uses this interface to access the hardware. On the other hand, the BSP is required when an application is linked with the C library. In this case the BSP provides functionality that allows the C library to access the hardware.

For details on the BSP, see the "Software IP and Applications" volume of the *Virtex-II Pro Platform FPGA Developer's Kit*.

## Debugging Tools for Virtex-II Pro Designs

### Xilinx GNU Embedded Software Tools

Xilinx has created a specific version of the popular GNU compiler/debugger tool chain for the Virtex-II Pro Platform FPGA. This tool technology has world-wide support via the internet, open community and the general public license (GPL) process. Xilinx supports the general installation of this tool chain. An abundance of documentation is available on the web and third party companies can offer consulting services for supporting GNU. This strategy allows Xilinx to support software design for both the IBM PPC405 hard core and Xilinx MicroBlaze soft core processors with one tool chain technology. Xilinx provides separate compiler/debugger versions for both the PowerPC and for the Xilinx MicroBlaze processor cores based on the same GNU technology.

For more information on the GNU Software tools, see the "Software Development Tools" volume of the *Virtex-II Pro Platform FPGA Developer's Kit*. Also, see the GNU Project website at <http://www.gnu.org>.

### GDB Debugger

GDB, or the GNU Project Debugger, is a source code debugging tool for C/C++ language design. The public has access to this technology via a general public license process which promotes the advancement and improvement of the technology.

Xilinx has created a specific version of the GDB debugger to be mated up with the GCC C/C++ compiler for the Virtex-II Pro Platform FPGA with embedded PPC405. This debugger is used with GCC designs to start, stop and step through one's C/C++ program to debug its behavior. The debugger provides the user with visibility into the program's execution and helps the engineer identify bugs. This tool also allows the user to attempt to correct some types of problems without necessarily recompiling all of the code. Without an effective debugger, the engineer is left to experiment with the code in a trial and error fashion when they encounter a problem.

The GDB software debugger for the Virtex-II Pro with embedded PPC405 will be matched up with a Xilinx version of the GNU GCC C/C++ software compiler. Code can be downloaded and debugged on an embedded target via the Xilinx Parallel Cable IV.

Xilinx will provide GDB customer support on the installation process for those engineers using the Xilinx GDB with the Virtex-II Pro. Broad based support for the GNU technology is available at <http://www.gnu.org/>. Or, for more general information, try <http://www.fsf.org/software/gdb/gdb.html>. More information is also available in the "Software Development Tools" volume of the Virtex-II Pro Platform FPGA Developer's Kit.

## **ChipScope Pro**

As the density of FPGA devices increases, so does the impracticality of attaching test equipment probes to these devices under test. The ChipScope™ Pro tools integrate key logic analyzer hardware components with the target design inside the Virtex-II device. The ChipScope Pro tools communicate with these components and provide the designer with a complete logic analyzer, without the need for cumbersome probes or expensive test equipment. For details on using the ChipScope Pro tools, see the ChipScope Pro Software and Cores User Manual

Tool	Description
ChipScope Pro Core Generator	Provides netlists and instantiation templates for the Integrated Controller Pro (ICON Pro) core and the Integrated Logic Analyzer Pro (ILA Pro) core.
ChipScope Pro Analyzer	Provides device configuration, trigger setup, and trace display for the ILA Pro core. The ILA Pro core provides the trigger and trace capture capability. The ICON Pro core communicates to the dedicated Boundary Scan pins.

## Wind River Embedded Tools

Xilinx worked with Wind River Systems to provide a set of software tools for targeting the PPC405 in the Platform FPGAs. A specific Xilinx-Edition (XE) version of the Wind River tools (compiler, software debugger and JTAG run control hardware probe) has been created for Xilinx distribution via an OEM agreement.

Wind River provides end-to-end development and debugging solutions for IBM PowerPC microprocessors. The WindRiver solution includes real-time operating systems, embedded middle-ware, a optimized Diab compiler, a SingleStep debug tool suite, Tornado Tools 2 and Tornado Tools 3 development environments, high performance visionPROBE II and visionICE On-Chip hardware, reference design boards, board support packages, visionWARE boot services, professional services and integrated vertical market solutions.

The Wind River Xilinx Edition includes the leading embedded software development tools SingleStep Debugger, Diab C/C++ Compiler and the visionPROBE II target connection.

## **SingleStep Debugger - Xilinx Edition**

The SingleStep Debugger - Xilinx Edition provides all the embedded IBM Power PC 405 processor SW debugging functionality, including a high-level of hardware awareness

SingleStep Debugger with vision, Xilinx Edition, from Wind River is a comprehensive hardware/software debugging solution. It includes the following features:

- A complete hardware-assisted debugging solution for board bring-up, driver/firmware development and C/C++ application debugging in control via
- BDM/JTAG port
- Unique processor specific register interface to enable configuring and initializing integrated peripherals
- On-chip hardware breakpoint support
- Real-time target control via on-chip debugging technology
- High-speed binary downloads to target
- Built in hardware diagnostics
- Flash memory programming
- Statistical performance analysis (Full Edition)
- Support for Diab and gnu compilers
- Available LA TRACE option provides real-time trace through integration with logic analyzers
- RTOS API kit enables creation of kernel awareness libraries for the RTOS of your choice (Full Edition)
- Off the shelf, kernel awareness libraries available for VxWorks, pSOS+ and other third party RTOS (Full Edition)
- Rich command line interface plus a powerful scripting language for automated tests
- JTAG programming window to debug multiple devices on a scan chain
- Integrated support for task-aware debugging with dedicated window per task views enables effective debugging of multitasking applications

**IBM PowerPC 405GP Specific Features**

- Register Definition File to display all IBM PowerPC 405 registers in the register window
- Hardware Breakpoints: Full support for hardware breakpoints as implemented by the PPC405GP including 4 hardware instruction address, 2 data instruction address and 2 data value breakpoints
- On-Chip trace: Support for instruction completion, branch taken, interrupt, trap, instruction stream exceptions in SingleStep with vision
- Support for instruction completion, branch taken, exception taken, trap instruction, unconditional, instruction address compare, data address compare, data value compare and imprecise debug events

**Other Software Tools**

The following are other useful software development/debugging tools. Contact the individual tool vendors for information on these tools.

- Endeavor Interactive Co-simulation Model for Virtex-II Pro Post-simulation Environment. More information on Endeavor is available at <http://www.endeav.com>
- Mentor Graphics Seamless Hardware/Software Co-Verification Environment.

Embedded systems rely on an integrated relationship between software and hardware. To address this problem, Mentor Graphics has developed the Seamless Co-Verification Environment (CVE). Seamless CVE enables designers to link software execution to the hardware simulation and co-simulate the hardware and software. This tool allows software integration early in the design cycle, without having to wait for the hardware prototype to be built. More information on Seamless is available at <http://www.mentor.com/seamless/>.



## Simulating Your Design

---

This chapter describes the basic HDL simulation flow using the Alliance software. It includes the following sections.

- “Introduction”
- “Adhering to Industry Standards”
- “Simulation Points”
- “VHDL/Verilog Libraries and Models”
- “Compiling HDL Libraries”
- “Running NGD2VHDL and NGD2VER”
- “Understanding the Global Reset and Tristate for Simulation”
- “Simulating VHDL”
- “Simulating Verilog”
- “RTL Simulation Using Xilinx Libraries”
- “Timing Simulation”
- “Simulation Flows”
- “IBIS”
- “STAMP”
- “Debugging Timing Problems”

## Introduction

Increasing design size and complexity, as well as recent improvements in design synthesis and simulation tools, have made HDL the preferred design language of most integrated circuit designers. The two leading HDL synthesis and simulation languages today are Verilog and VHDL. Both of these languages have been adopted as IEEE standards.

The Xilinx implementation tools software is designed to be used with several HDL synthesis and simulation tools that provide a solution for programmable logic designs from beginning to end. The Xilinx software provides libraries, netlist readers, and netlist writers along with the powerful place and route software that integrates with your HDL design environment on PC and UNIX workstation platforms.

## Adhering to Industry Standards

The standards in the following table are supported by the Xilinx simulation flow.

**Table 6-1 Standards Supported by Xilinx Simulation Flow**

Description	Version
VHDL Language	IEEE-STD-1076-1993
VITAL Modeling Standard	IEEE-STD-1076.4-2000
Verilog Language	IEEE-STD-1364-2001
Standard Delay Format (SDF)	OVI 3.0
Std_logic Data Type	IEEE-STD-1164-93

The Xilinx Series software currently supports the Verilog IEEE 1364 2001 Standard, VHDL IEEE Standard 1076-1993 and IEE Standard 1076.4-2000 for Vital (Vital 2000), and SDF version 3.0.

**Note** Although the Xilinx HDL netlisters produce IEEE-STD-1076-93 VHDL code or IEEE-STD-1364-2001 Verilog code, that does not restrict the use of newer or older standards for the creation of testbenches or other simulation files. If the simulator being used supports both older and newer standards, then generally, both standards can be used in these simulation files. Be sure to indicate to the simulator during code compilation which standard was used for the creation of the file.

Xilinx currently tests and supports the following simulators for VHDL and Verilog simulation:

- VHDL
  - ♦ Model Technology ModelSim
  - ♦ Cadence NC-VHDL
  - ♦ Synopsys Scirocco
- Verilog
  - ♦ Model Technology ModelSim
  - ♦ Cadence Verilog-XL
  - ♦ Cadence NC-Verilog
  - ♦ Synopsys VCS

In general, you should run the most current version of the simulator available to you.

Xilinx develops its libraries and simulation netlists using IEEE standards so you should be able to use most modern VHDL and Verilog simulators. Check with your simulator vendor before you start to confirm that the proper standards are supported by your simulator, and to verify the proper settings for your simulator.

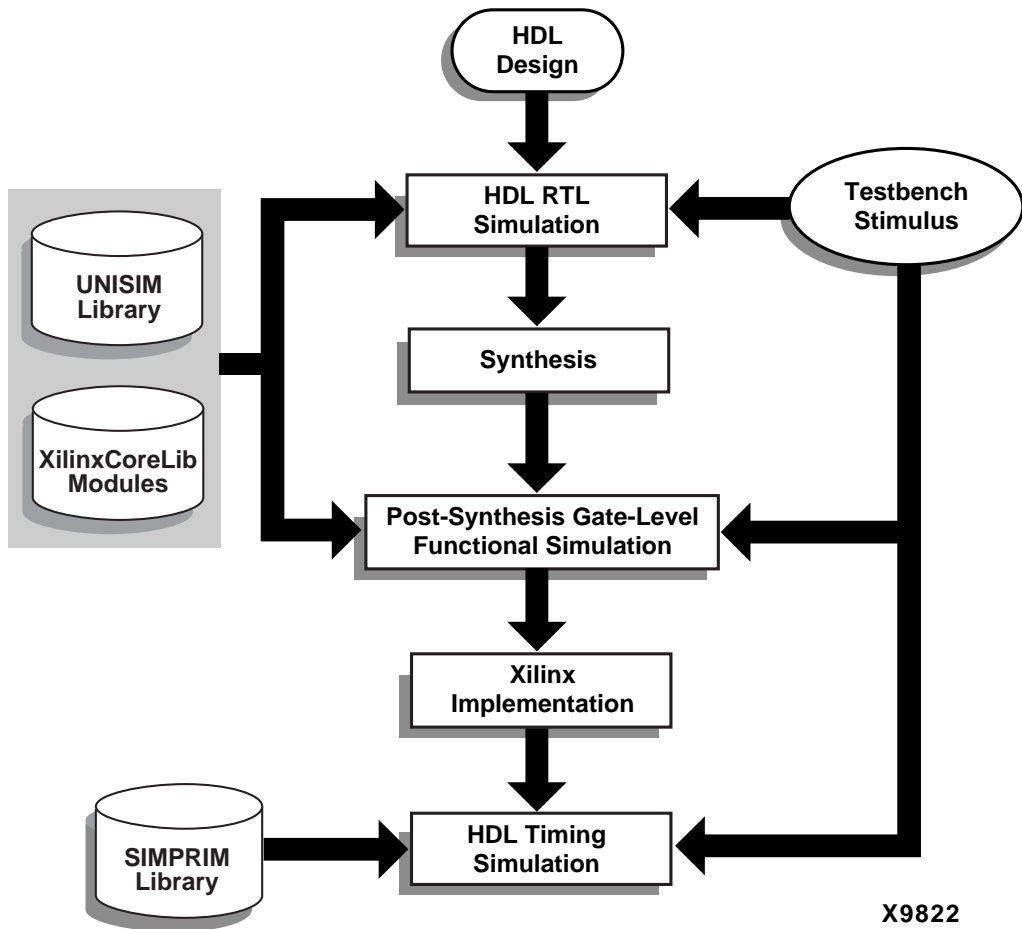
The Xilinx VHDL libraries are tied to the IEEE-STD-1076.4-2000 VITAL standard for simulation acceleration. This VITAL 2000 is in turn based on the IEEE-STD-1076-93 VHDL language. Because of this the Xilinx libraries must be compiled as 1076-93.

VITAL libraries include some additional processing for timing checks and back-annotation styles. The UNISIM library turns these timing checks off for unit delay functional simulation. The SIMPRIM back-annotation library keeps these checks on by default to allow accurate timing simulations.

## Simulation Points

Xilinx supports functional and timing simulation of HDL designs at five points in the HDL design flow. The “Primary Simulation Points for HDL Designs” figure below shows the points of the design flow. All five points are described in the following section.

1. Register Transfer Level (RTL) simulation, which may include the following:
  - ◆ RTL Code
  - ◆ Instantiated UNISIM library components
  - ◆ XilinxCoreLib models (CORE Generator)
2. Post-synthesis functional simulation, which may include one of the following (Optional):
  - ◆ Gate-level netlist containing UNISIM library components (written by the synthesis tool)
  - ◆ XilinxCoreLib models (CORE Generator)
3. Post-NGDBUILD Simulation (Optional):
  - ◆ Gate-level netlist containing SIMPRIM library components
4. Post-Map with partial back-annotated timing without routing delays, which may include the following (Optional):
  - ◆ Gate-level netlist containing SIMPRIM library components
  - ◆ Standard Delay Format (SDF) files
5. Post-Place and Route with full back-annotated timing, which may include the following:
  - ◆ Gate-level netlist containing SIMPRIM library components
  - ◆ Standard Delay Format (SDF) files



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Figure 6-1 Primary Simulation Points for HDL Designs

The Post-NGDBuild and Post-MAP simulations can be used when the synthesis tool either cannot write VHDL or Verilog, or if the netlist is not in terms of UNISIM components.

**Table 6-2 Five Simulation Points in HDL Design Flow**

Simulation		UNISIM	XilinxCoreLib Models	SIMPRIM	SDF
1.	RTL	X	X		
2.	Post-Synthesis (Optional)	X	X		
3.	Functional Post-NGDBuild (Optional)			X	
4.	Functional Post-MAP (Optional)			X	X
5.	Post-Route Timing			X	X

These Xilinx simulation points are described in detail in the following sections. The libraries required to support the simulation flows are described in detail in the “[VHDL/Verilog Libraries and Models](#)” section. The flows and libraries now support closer functional equivalence of initialization behavior between functional and timing simulations.

Different simulation libraries are used to support simulation before and after running NGDBuild. Prior to NGDBuild, your design is expressed as a UNISIM netlist containing Unified Library components that represents the logical view of the design. After NGDBuild, your design is a netlist containing SIMPRIMs represents the physical view of the design. Although these library changes are fairly transparent, there are two important considerations to keep in mind: first, you must specify different simulation libraries for pre- and post-implementation simulation, and second, there are different gate-level cells in pre- and post-implementation netlists.

For Verilog, the Standard Delay Format (SDF) file is automatically read when the simulator compiles the Verilog simulation netlist. Within the simulation netlist there is the Verilog system task \$sdf\_annotate, which specifies the name of the SDF file to be read.

For VHDL, the user specifies the location of the SDF file and the instance to annotate it to. The method for doing so is different depending on the simulator being used. Typically, a command line or GUI switch is used to read the SDF file.

## Register Transfer Level (RTL)

The RTL-level (behavioral) simulation allows the user to verify or simulate a description at the system or chip level. This first pass simulation is typically performed to verify code syntax and to confirm that the code is functioning as intended. At this step, no timing information is provided and simulation should be performed in unit-delay mode to avoid the possibility of a race condition.

RTL simulation is not architecture-specific unless the design contains instantiated UNISIM, or CORE Generator components. To support these instantiations, Xilinx provides the UNISIM and XilinxCoreLib libraries. The user can instantiate CORE Generator components if the user does not want to rely on the module generation capabilities of the synthesis tool, or if the design requires larger memory structures.

A general suggestion for the initial design creation is to keep the code behavioral. Avoid instantiating specific components unless necessary. This allows for more readable code, faster and simpler simulation, code portability (the ability to migrate to different device families), and code reuse (the ability to use the same code in future designs). However, you may find it necessary to instantiate components if the component is not inferrable (i.e. DCM, GT, PPC405, etc.), or in order to control the mapping, placement or structure of a function.

## Post-Synthesis (Pre-NGDBuild) Gate-Level Simulation

Most synthesis tools have the ability to write out a post-synthesis HDL netlist for a design. If the VHDL or Verilog netlists are written for UNISIM library components, you may then use the netlists to simulate the design and evaluate the synthesis results. However, Xilinx does not support this method if the netlists are written in terms of the vendor's own simulation models.

The instantiated CORE Generator models are used for any post-synthesis simulation because these modules are processed as a “black box” during synthesis. It is important that you maintain the consistency of the initialization behavior with the behavioral model used for RTL, post-synthesis simulation, and the structural model used after implementation. In addition, the initialization behavior must work with the method used for synthesized logic and cores.

## **Post-NGDBuild (Pre-Map) Gate-Level Simulation**

The post-NGDBuild (pre-map) gate-level functional simulation is used when it is not possible to simulate the direct output of the synthesis tool. This occurs when the tool cannot write UNISIM-compatible VHDL or Verilog netlists. In this case, the NGD file produced from NGDBUILD is the input into one of the Xilinx simulation netlisters, NGD2VER or NGD2VHDL. NGD2VER and NGD2VHDL create a structural simulation netlist based on SIMPRIM models.

Like post-synthesis simulation, pre-NGDBuild simulation allows you to verify that your design has been synthesized correctly, and you can begin to identify any differences due to the lower level of abstraction. Unlike the post-synthesis pre-NGDBuild simulation, there are GSR and GTS nets that must be initialized, just as for post-map and post-par simulation.

## **Post-Map Partial Timing (CLB and IOB Block Delays)**

You may also perform simulation after mapping the design. Post-Map simulation occurs before placing and routing. This simulation will include the block delays for the design but not the routing delays. This is generally a good metric to test whether the design is meeting the timing requirements before additional time is spent running the design through a complete place and route.

As with the post-NGDBuild simulation, NGD2VER or NGD2VHDL is used to create the structural simulation netlist based on SIMPRIM models.

When you run one of the simulation netlister tools, NGD2VER or NGD2VHDL, an SDF file is created. The delays for the design are stored in the SDF file which contains all block or logic delays. However, it will not contain any of the routing delays for the design since the design has not yet been placed and routed.

## **Timing Simulation Post-Place and Route Full Timing (Block and Net Delays)**

After your design has completed the place and route process in the Xilinx Implementation Tools, a timing simulation netlist can be created. It is not until this stage of design implementation that you

will start to see how your design will behave in the circuit. The overall functionality of the design was defined in the beginning stages, but it is not until the design has been placed and routed that all of the timing information of the design can be accurately calculated.

The previous simulations that used NGD2VER or NGD2VHDL created a structural netlist based on SIMPRIM models. However, this netlist will come from the placed and routed NCD file. This netlist has GSR and GTS nets that must be initialized. For more information on initializing the GSR and GTS nets, please refer to the [“Understanding the Global Reset and Tristate for Simulation”](#) section in this chapter.

When you run timing simulation, an SDF file is created as with the post-MAP simulation. However, this SDF file contains all block and routing delays for the design.

## Providing Stimulus

Before simulation is performed, you should create a testbench or test fixture to apply the stimulus to the design. A testbench is HDL code written for the simulator that will instantiate the design netlist(s), initialize the design and then apply stimuli to verify the functionality of the design. You can also set up the testbench to display the desired simulation output to a file, waveform or screen.

The testbench has many advantages over interactive simulation methods. For one, it allows repeatable simulation throughout the design process. It also provides documentation of the test conditions.

There are several methods to create a testbench and simulate a design. A testbench can be very simple in structure and sequentially apply stimulus to specific inputs. A testbench may also be very complex, including subroutine calls, stimulus read in from external files, conditional stimulus or other more complex structures.

The ISE tools will create a template testbench containing the proper structure, library references, and design instantiation based on your design files from Project Navigator. This greatly eases testbench development at the beginning stages of the design.

Alternately, you may use the HDL Bencher tool in ISE to automatically create a testbench by drawing the intended stimulus

and the expected outputs in a waveform viewer. Please refer to the ISE and/or HDL Benchers Online Help for more information.

With yet another method, you can use NGD2VER and NGD2VHDL to create a testbench file. The `-tf` switch for NGD2VER or `-tb` switch for NGD2VHDL will create the test fixture or testbench template. The Verilog test fixture file has a `.tv` extension, and the VHDL test bench file has a `.tvhd` extension.

Xilinx recommends giving the name `testbench` to the main module or entity name in the testbench file. This name is consistent with the default name used by ISE for calling the testbench when it invokes the simulator.

## **VHDL/Verilog Libraries and Models**

The five simulation points listed previously require the UNISIM, CORE Generator (XilinxCoreLib), and SIMPRIM libraries.

The first point, RTL simulation, is a behavioral description of your design at the register transfer level. RTL simulation is not architecture-specific unless your design contains instantiated UNISIM, or CORE Generator components. To support these instantiations, Xilinx provides a functional UNISIM library and a CORE Generator Behavioral XilinxCoreLib library. You can also instantiate CORE Generator components if you do not want to rely on the module generation capabilities of your synthesis tool, or if your design requires larger memory structures.

The second simulation point is post-synthesis (pre-NGDBuild) gate-level simulation. If the UNISIM library and CORE Generator components are used, then both the UNISIM and the XilinxCoreLib libraries must be used. The synthesis tool must write out the HDL netlist using UNISIM primitives. Otherwise, the synthesis vendor will provide its own post-synthesis simulation library.

The third, fourth, and fifth points (post-NGDBuild, post-map, and post-route) use the SIMPRIM library. The following table indicates what library is required for each of the five simulation points

**Table 6-3 Simulation Phase Library Information**

Simulation Point	Compilation Order of Library Required
RTL	UNISIM XilinxCoreLib
Post-Synthesis	UNISIM XilinxCoreLib
Post-NGDBuild	SIMPRIM
Post-MAP	SIMPRIM
Post-Route	SIMPRIM

## Locating Library Source Files

The following table provides information on the location of the simulation library source files, as well as the order for a typical compilation.

**Table 6-4 Simulation Library Source Files**

Library	Location of Source Files		Compile Order	
	Verilog	VITAL VHDL	Verilog	VITAL VHDL
UNISIM Spartan-II, Spartan-IIE, Virtex, Virtex-E, Virtex-II, Virtex-II Pro	\$XILINX/ verilog/src/ unisims	\$XILINX/ vhdl/src/ unisims	No special compilation order required for Verilog libraries	Required; typical compilation order: unisim_VCOMP.vhd unisim_VPKG.vhd unisim_VITAL.vhd
UNISIM 9500, CoolRunner, CoolRunner-II	\$XILINX/ verilog/src/ uni9000	\$XILINX/ vhdl/src/ unisims	No special compilation order required for Verilog libraries	Required; typical compilation order: unisim_VCOMP.vhd unisim_VPKG.vhd unisim_VITAL.vhd

**Table 6-4 Simulation Library Source Files**

Library	Location of Source Files		Compile Order	
	Verilog	VITAL VHDL	Verilog	VITAL VHDL
XilinxCoreLib (FPGA Families only)	\$XILINX/ verilog/src/ XilinxCoreLib	\$XILINX/ vhdl/src/ XilinxCoreLib	No special compilation order required for Verilog libraries	Compilation order required; See the vhdl_analyze_order file located in \$XILINX/ vhdl/src/Xilinx-CoreLib/ for the required compile order
SIMPRIM (Device Independent)	\$XILINX/ verilog/src/ simprims	\$XILINX/ vhdl/src/ simprims	No special compilation order required for Verilog libraries	Required; typical compilation order: simprim_Vcomponents.vhd simprim_Vpackage.vhd simprim_VITAL.vhd

## Using the UNISIM Library

The UNISIM Library, used for functional simulation only, contains default delays of 100 ps for most components. This library includes all of the Xilinx Unified Library primitives that are inferred by most synthesis tools. In addition, the UNISIM Library includes primitives that are commonly instantiated, such as DCMs, BUFGs and GTs. You should generally infer most design functionality using behavioral RTL code unless the desired component is not inferable by your synthesis tool, or you wish to take manual control of mapping and/or placement of a function.

### UNISIM Library Structure

The UNISIM library directory structure is different for VHDL and Verilog. There is only one VHDL library for all Xilinx technologies because the implementation differences between architectures are not important for unit delay functional simulation. There are only a few cases where functional differences occur.

For Verilog, each library component is specified in a separate file. The reason for this is to allow automatic library expansion within Verilog-XL using the ``uselib` compiler directive or the `-y` library specification switch. All Verilog module names and file names are all upper case (i.e. module BUFG would be BUFG.v, module IBUF would be IBUF.v). Since Verilog is a case-sensitive language, ensure that all UNISIM primitive instantiations adhere to this upper-case naming convention.

The VHDL UNISIM Library source files are found in `$XILINX/vhdl/src/unisims`. The following is a list of VHDL UNISIM Library files.

- `unisim_VCOMP.vhd` (component declaration file)
- `unisim_VPKG.vhd` (package file)
- `unisim_VITAL.vhd` (model file)

The following is a list of Verilog UNISIM Library locations.

- `$XILINX/verilog/src/unisims` (used for Spartan-II, Spartan-IIE, Virtex, Virtex-E, Virtex-II, Virtex-II Pro designs)
- `$XILINX/verilog/src/uni9000` (used for CPLDs (9500XL/XV, XPLA3, CoolRunner-II))

## Using the CORE Generator XilinxCoreLib Library

The Xilinx CORE Generator is a graphical intellectual property design tool for creating high-level modules like FIR Filters, FIFOs, CAMs as well as other advanced IP. You can customize and pre-optimize modules to take advantage of the inherent architectural features of Xilinx FPGA devices, such as block multipliers, SRLs, fast carry logic and on-chip, single-port or dual-port RAM. You can also select the appropriate HDL model type as output to integrate into your HDL design.

The CORE Generator HDL library models are used for RTL simulation. The models do not use library components for global signals.

### CORE Generator Library Structure

The VHDL CORE Generator library source files are found in `$XILINX/vhdl/src/XilinxCoreLib`.

The Verilog CORE Generator library source files are found in `$XILINX/verilog/src/XilinxCoreLib`.

## Using the SIMPRIM Library

The SIMPRIM library is used for post Ngdbuild (gate level functional), post-Map (partial timing), and post-place-and-route (full timing) simulations. This library is architecture independent.

### SIMPRIM Library Structure

The VHDL SIMPRIM Library source files are found in \$XILINX/vhdl/src/simprims.

The Verilog SIMPRIM Library source files are found in \$XILINX/verilog/src/simprims.

## Compiling HDL Libraries

Most simulators require you to compile the HDL libraries before you can use them for design simulations. The advantages of compiling HDL libraries are speed of execution and economy of memory.

Xilinx provides an application, to specifically compile the HDL libraries for all Xilinx-supported simulators. This utility will compile the UNISIM, XilinxCoreLib and SIMPRIM libraries for all supported device architectures.

## Using compxlib

To compile your HDL libraries using compxlib, follow these steps:

1. Set the XILINX environment variable (if not already set), using the following command:

Unix:

```
setenv XILINX path_to_xilinx_software
```

Windows:

Open the "System Properties/Environment Variables" dialog box and set the XILINX to

```
path_to_XILINX_software
```

**Note** Compxlib also supports multiple paths in the XILINX variable. The multiple paths can be defined by separating each path with a colon ":" as in the following example.

2. Add \$XILINX/bin/sol to the PATH variable (if not already set) as in the following example:

Unix:

```
set path = ($XILINX/bin/platform $path)
```

**Note** *platform* can be either **sol** for 32-bit Solaris, **sol64** for 64-bit Solaris or **nt** if using Windows or Linux OS.

Windows:

In the "System Properties/Environment Variables" dialog box, add %XILINX%\bin\nt to the PATH variable.

3. Run compxlib by using the following command:

```
compxlib -help
```

**Note** The -help option displays a brief description for the options available.

**Note** Each simulator uses certain environment variables which must be set before invoking compxlib. Consult your simulator documentation to ensure that the environment is properly set up to run your simulator.

4. Run compxlib tool using the following syntax:

```
compxlib [-h] -s simulator -f [family[:<lib>]],  
          family[:<lib>], ... | all] [-l <language>]  
          [-o output_directory] [-p <simulator_path>]  
          [-w]
```

The following is an example of a command for compiling Xilinx libraries for MTI\_SE:

```
compxlib -s mti_se -f virtex -l verilog -o
```

This command will compile all Verilog based libraries on ModelSim SE for the Virtex family in the current working directory.

The compiled results will be saved in the following directories:

```
./unisim_ver  
./XilinxCoreLib_ver  
./simprim_ver
```

## Running NGD2VHDL and NGD2VER

Xilinx provides programs that will create a netlist file from your VHDL or Verilog NGD file. You can run either netlist writer from the Project Navigator, XFLOW, or the command line. Each method is described below.

### Creating a Simulation Netlist

You can create a timing simulation netlist from Project Navigator, XFLOW, or from the command line, as described in this section.

#### From Project Navigator

1. Highlight the top level design in the **Sources in Project** window.
2. In the **Processes for Current Source** window, click on the “+” sign next to the **Implement Design** process, and then click on the “+” sign next to the **Place & Route** process.
3. Double-click on **Generate Post Place & Route Simulation Model**. Project Navigator will now run through the steps required to produce the back-annotated simulation netlist.
4. If any default options need to be changed, right-click on the **Generate Post Place & Route Simulation Model** process and select **Properties**. The following options can be chosen from this window:

**Note** Project Navigator will only show the options that apply to your specific design flow (i.e if you have created a Verilog project, it will only show you options for creating a Verilog netlist).

- ◆ **Simulation Model Target**

The Simulation Model Target property allows you to select the target simulator for the simulation netlist. All supported simulators are listed as well as a "generic" Verilog netlist for other simulators.

- ◆ **Post Translate/Map/Place & Route Simulation Model Name**

The Post Translate Simulation Model Name property allows you to designate a name for the generated Simulation netlist. This only effects the file name for the written netlist and does not effect the entity or module name.

By default, this field is left blank, and the simulation netlist name will be `top_level_name_timesim`.

- ◆ Correlate Simulation Data to Input Design

The Correlate Simulation Data to Input Design property uses an optional `ngm_file` file during the back-annotation process. This is a design file produced by MAP, that contains information about the original design hierarchy specified by the `KEPP_HIERARCHY` constraint.

The By default, this property is set to On (checkbox is checked)

- ◆ Bring Out Global Set/Reset Net as a Port

The Bring Out Global Set/Reset Net as a Port property causes ISE to bring out the Global Reset signal (which is connected to all flip-flops and latches in the physical design) as a port on the top-level entity in the output VHDL file. Specifying the port name allows you to match the port name you used in the front-end if a `ROCBUF` component was used. This option should only be used if the global set/reset net is not driven by a `STARTUP/STARTBUF` block. For more information on this option, refer to the [“Understanding the Global Reset and Tristate for Simulation”](#) section in this manual.

- ◆ Global Set/Reset Port Name

The Global Set/Reset Port Name property allows you to specify a port name to match the port name you used in the front-end if a `ROCBUF` component was used.

- ◆ Bring Out Global Tristate Net as a Port

The Bring out Global Tristate Net as a Port option causes ISE to bring out the global tristate signal (which forces all FPGA outputs to the high-impedance state) as a port on the top-level entity in the output simulation file. Specifying the port name allows you to match the port name you used in the front-end if being driven by a `TOCBUF`. This option should only be used if the global tristate net is not driven by a `STARTUP/STARTBUF` block. For more information on this option, refer to the [“Understanding the Global Reset and Tristate for Simulation”](#) section in this manual.

- ◆ Global Tristate Port Name

The Global Tristate Port Name property allows you to specify a port name to match the port name you used in the front-end if a TOCBUF component was used.

- ◆ Generate Testbench File (VHDL Only)

The Generate Testbench File property will create a test bench file. The file has a .tb extension and will display in the "Sources in Project" window.

- ◆ Generate Testfixture File (Verilog Only)

The Generate Testfixture File property generates a test fixture file. The file has a .tv extension, and it is a ready-to-use template test fixture Verilog file bases on the input NGD or NGA file.

The following options will appear if the Advanced Process Settings are enabled in Project Navigator.

- ◆ Rename Top Level Entity to (VHDL Only)

This option allows you to change the name of the top-level entity in the structural VHDL file. By default, the output files inherit the top entity name from the input design file.

- ◆ Rename Top Level Module to (Verilog only)

This option allows you to change the name of the top-level module in the structural Verilog file. By default, the output files inherit the top module name from the input design file.

- ◆ Rename Top Level Architecture To (VHDL Only)

This option allows you to rename the architecture name generated by ISE. The default architecture name for each entity in the netlist is STRUCTURE.

- ◆ Change Device Speed To

This option allows you to change the targeted speed grade for the output simulation netlist without re-running place and route.

- ◆ Retain Hierarchy

This option, when disabled, will remove all hierarchy in the output simulation, and write out a flat design.

The default for this option is ON.

- ◆ Rename Design Instance in Testbench File To

This option specifies the name of the top-level design instance name appearing within the output testbench file if the "Generate Testbench/Testfixture File" option is selected. The option allows you to match the top-level instance name to the name specified in your RTL testbench file. The default name for the testbench instance is UUT.

- ◆ Reset on Configuration (ROC) Pulse Width (VHDL Only)

This option specifies the pulse width, in nanoseconds, for the ROC component in the simulation netlist. You must specify a positive integer to stimulate the component properly. This option is disabled if you are controlling the global reset via a port (using the "Bring Out Global Set/Reset Net as a Port" option). For more information on this option, refer to the [“Understanding the Global Reset and Tristate for Simulation”](#) section in this manual. By default, the ROC pulse width is set to 100 ns.

- ◆ Tristate on Configuration (TOC) Pulse Width (VHDL Only)

This option specifies the pulse width, in nanoseconds, for the TOC component. You must specify a positive integer to stimulate the component properly. This option is disabled if you are controlling the global tristate via a port (using the "Bring Out Global Tristate Net as a Port" option). For more information on this option, refer to the [“Understanding the Global Reset and Tristate for Simulation”](#) section in this manual. By default, the TOC pulse width is set to 0 ns.

- ◆ Include 'uselib Directive in Verilog File (Verilog Only)

The Include 'uselib Directive in Verilog File property causes ISE to write a library path pointing to the SIMPRIM library into the output Verilog (.v) file. In general, Xilinx only suggests that you use this option with the Verilog-XL simulator when simulations will be performed on the same network as where the ISE software exists. By default this field is set to off (checkbox is blank)

- ◆ Path Used in \$\$SDF\_annotate (Verilog Only)

This option allows you to specify a path to the SDF file that you want written to the \$sdf\_annotate function in the Verilog netlist file. If a full path is not specified, it writes the full path of the current work directory and the SDF file name to the \$sdf\_annotate file.

ISE only generates an SDF file if the input is an NGA file, which contains timing information. This option is allowed on an NGA file but not an NGD file.

The default path for the SDF file is in the same directory in which the Verilog simulation netlist resides.

- ◆ Global Disable of X-generation for Simulation (VHDL Only)

This option is used to disable X-generation by all registers in the design when a timing violation occurs. If this option is set, all registers in the design will retain their last value when a timing violation occurs. For more information on this option, refer to the [“Disabling ‘X’ Propagation”](#) section in this manual. The default value for this option is OFF.

## From XFLOW

To display the available options for XFLOW, and for a complete list of the XFLOW option files, type "flow" at the prompt without any arguments. For complete descriptions of the options and the option files, see the *Development System Reference Guide*.

1. Open a command terminal and change directory to the project directory.

2. Type the following at the command prompt:

- ◆ To create a functional simulation (Post NGD) netlist:

```
> xflow -fsim <option_file>.opt <design_name>
```

- ◆ To create a timing simulation (Post PAR) netlist:

```
> xflow -tsim <option_file>.opt <design_name>
```

XFLOW will run the appropriate programs with the options specified in the option file. To change the options, run xflow first with the -norun switch to have xflow copy the option file(s) to the project directory. Then edit the appropriate option file to modify the run parameters for the flow. For more information on running XFLOW, see the *Development System Reference Guide*.

## From Command Line

- ◆ Post-NGD simulation

To run a post NGD simulation, perform the following command line operations:

```
ngdbuild options design
```

For Verilog:

```
ngd2ver options design.ngd
```

For VHDL:

```
ngd2vhdl options design.ngd
```

- ◆ Post MAP simulation

To run a post MAP simulation perform the following command-line operations:

```
ngdbuild options design
```

```
map options design.ngd
```

```
ngdanno options design.ncd [design.ngm]
```

For Verilog:

```
ngd2ver options design.nga
```

For VHDL:

```
ngd2vhdl options design.nga
```

- ◆ Post PAR simulation

To run a post PAR simulation the following command line operations should be performed:

```
ngdbuild options design
map options design.ngd
par options design_map.ncd
ngdanno options design.ncd [design.ngm]
```

For Verilog:

```
ngd2ver options design.nga
```

For VHDL:

```
ngd2vhdl options design.nga
```

## Disabling 'X' Propagation

During a timing simulation, when a timing violation occurs, the default behavior of a latch, register, RAM or other synchronous element is to output an 'X' to the simulator. The reason for this is that when a timing violation occurs, it is not known what the actual output value should be. The output of the register could retain its previous value, update to the new value, or perhaps go metastable in which a definite value is not settled upon until sometime after the clocking of the synchronous element. Since this value cannot be determined, accurate simulation results cannot be guaranteed, and so the element will output an 'X' to represent an unknown value. The 'X' output will remain until the next clock cycle in which the next clocked value will update the output if another violation does not occur.

Sometimes this situation can have a drastic effect on simulation. For example, an 'X' generated by one register can be propagated to others on subsequent clock cycles, causing large portions of the design under test to become 'unknown'. If this happens on a synchronous path in the design, you can ensure a properly operating circuit by analyzing the path, and fixing any timing problems associated with this or other paths in the design. If however, this path is an asynchronous path in the design, and you cannot avoid timing violations, you can disable the 'X' propagation on synchronous elements during timing violations, so that these elements will not output an 'X'. When

'X' propagation is disabled, the previous value is retained at the output of the register. Please understand that in the actual silicon, the register may have very well changed to the 'new' value, and that disabling 'X' propagation may yield simulation results that do not match the silicon behavior. Exercise caution when using this option; you should only use it when you cannot otherwise avoid timing violations.

## Using the ASYNC\_REG Attribute

ASYNC\_REG is a new constraint in the Xilinx software that helps identify asynchronous registers in the design and disable 'X' propagation for those particular registers. If the attribute ASYNC\_REG is attached to a register in the front-end design by either an attribute in HDL code or by a constraint in the UCF, during timing simulation, those registers will retain the previous value, and will not output an 'X' to simulation. A timing violation error should still occur, so use caution as the new value may have very well been clocked in.

The following are limitations to the ASYNC\_REG attribute for this release:

- Applies only to Virtex-II and Virtex-II Pro architectures.
- Applies only to CLB and IOB registers and latches.
- It is invalid on RAMS, SRLs or other synchronous elements.

If clocking in asynchronous data cannot be avoided, it is suggested that you only do so on IOB or CLB registers. Clocking in asynchronous signals to RAM or SRL elements has less deterministic results, and therefore should be avoided. Refer to the *Constraints Guide* for more information on using the ASYNC\_REG constraint.

## Using Global Switches

Use global switches that disable 'X' propagation for all components in the simulation.

### Verilog

For Verilog, use the +no\_notifier switch from within your simulator. When a timing violation occurs, the simulator puts out a message, but the synchronous element will retain its previous value.

## **VHDL**

For VHDL if the simulator does not have a switch to disable 'X' propagation, NGD2VHDL can create a netlist in which this behavior is disabled. By invoking NGD2VHDL with the `-xon FALSE` switch, the previous value should be retained during a timing violation. If the simulation netlist is created within the ISE environment, use the "Global Disable of X-generation for Simulation" option in the advanced process properties options for Generate Post-Map Simulation Model.

## **Use With Care**

Xilinx highly recommends that you only disable 'X' propagation on paths that are truly asynchronous where it is impossible to meet synchronous timing requirements. This capability is present for simulation in the event that timing violation cannot be avoided, such as when a register must input asynchronous data. Use extreme caution when disabling 'X' propagation as simulation results may no longer properly reflect what is happening in the silicon.

## **MIN/TYP/MAX Simulation**

The Standard Delay Format (SDF) file allows you to specify three sets of delay values for simulation. These are Minimum, Typical, and Maximum (worst case), typically abbreviated as MIN:TYP:MAX. Set the appropriate switch in your simulator to specify which set of delay values the simulator will use. Consult your simulator's documentation to determine the appropriate switch. By default, Xilinx uses two sets of delay values generated by NGD2VHDL or NGD2VER and written to the SDF files. Xilinx uses the worst case values for the speed grade of the target architecture at the maximum operating temperature, the minimum voltage, and various process variations to populate the MAX and TYP delay sets in the SDF file. Use this value set for most timing simulation runs to test circuit operation and timing.

The MIN field in the SDF file contains values derived from the relative minimums for the device architecture if they are available.

Relative minimum delays are minimum delays calculated for the target architecture and speed grade at the specified temperature and voltage parameters for the design. By default, the worst case values are used in which case the relative minimum reported will be the

fastest a particular path can travel when the device is operating at the worst case temperature and voltage requirements. If the designer specifies pro-rated values for temperature and/or voltage, the relative minimum value will adjust accordingly so that it will report the minimum delays when operating at the specified voltage and/or temperature. Relative minimums are not supported for all architectures.

To check to see if a particular device does support the reporting of relative minimums, execute the *speedprint* utility from a command prompt:

```
speedprint target_device
```

After running *speedprint* for the appropriate target device, you should see a line like the following if relative minimum data is available:

```
Relative Min data
```

```
This speedfile has relative minimum delay data that  
is used to compute external and internal setup  
and hold requirements.
```

Use the MIN delay values when doing a MIN simulation, as the relative MIN delays should give more meaningful results. These values should be closer to the practical minimum delays seen in most design scenarios. However, MIN values should not be used if absolute process minimum values are needed for verification. In that case, NGDANNO should be run with the *-s min* switch.

When an NGA file is created from NGDANNO using the *-s min* switch, the resulting SDF file produced from NGD2VER or NGD2VHDL will have the absolute process minimums in all three SDF fields: MIN, TYP and MAX. Absolute process MIN values are the absolute fastest delays that a path can run in the target architecture given the best operating conditions: lowest temperature, highest voltage, best possible silicon. Generally, these process minimum delay values are only useful for checking board-level, chip-to-chip timing for high-speed data paths in best/worst case conditions.

By default, the worst case delay values are derived from the worst temperature, voltage, and silicon process for a particular target architecture. If better temperature and voltage characteristics can be ensured during the operation of the circuit, you can use prorated worst case values in the simulation to gain better performance

results. The default would apply worst case timing values over the specified TEMPERATURE and VOLTAGE within the operating conditions recommended for the device.

Prorating is a linear scaling operation. It applies to existing speed file delays, and is applied globally to all delays. The prorating constraints, VOLTAGE and TEMPERATURE, provide a method for determining timing delay characteristics based on known environmental parameters.

The VOLTAGE constraint provides a means of prorating delay characteristics based on the specified voltage applied to the device. The UCF syntax is as follows:

**VOLTAGE=***value*[V]

Where *value* is an integer or real number specifying the voltage and units is an optional parameter specifying the unit of measure.

The TEMPERATURE constraint provides a means of prorating device delay characteristics based on the specified junction temperature. The UCF syntax is as follows:

**TEMPERATURE=***value*[C | F | K]

Where *value* is an integer or a real number specifying the temperature. C, K, and F are the temperature units: F is degrees Fahrenheit, K is degrees Kelvin, and C is degrees Celsius, the default.

The resulting values in the SDF fields when using prorated TEMPERATURE and/or VOLTAGE values are prorated, relative minimums in the MIN field and prorated worst case values for the TYP and MAX fields.

Refer to the *The Programmable Logic Data Book* to determine the specific range of valid operating temperatures and voltages for the target architecture. If the temperature or voltage specified in the constraint does not fall within the supported range, the constraint is ignored and an architecture specific default value is used instead. Not all architectures support prorated timing values. For simulation, the VOLTAGE and TEMPERATURE constraints will be processed from the UCF file into the PCF file. The PCF file must then be referenced when running NGDANNO in order to pass the operating conditions to the delay annotator.

To generate a simulation netlist using prorating, type the following:

```
ngdanno -p design.pcf design.ncd
```

For VHDL, enter the following:

```
ngd2vhdl [options] design.nga
```

For Verilog, enter the following:

```
ngd2ver [options] design.nga
```

**Note** Do not combine both minimum timing and prorating (-s min and -p). Combining both minimum values would override prorating, and result in issuing only absolute process MIN values for the simulation SDF file. Prorating may only be available for select FPGA families, and it is not intended for military and industrial ranges. It is applicable only within the commercial operating ranges.

NGDANNO Option	MIN:TYP:MAX Field in SDF File Produced by NGD2VER or NGD2VHDL
default	Relative-MIN:MAX:MAX
-s min	Process MIN: Process MIN: Process MIN
Prorated voltage/ temperature in UCF/PCF	Prorated Relative MIN: Prorated: MAX: Prorated MAX

## Understanding the Global Reset and Tristate for Simulation

Xilinx FPGAs have dedicated routing and circuitry that connects to every register (flip-flops and latches) in the device. The set/reset circuitry pulses at the end of the configuration mode. This pulse is automatic and does not need to be programmed. All the flip-flops and latches receive this pulse through a dedicated global GSR (Global Set-Reset) net. The registers either set or reset, depending on how the registers are defined.

For some device families, it is important to address the built-in reset circuitry behavior in your designs starting with the first simulation to ensure that the simulations agree at the three primary points.

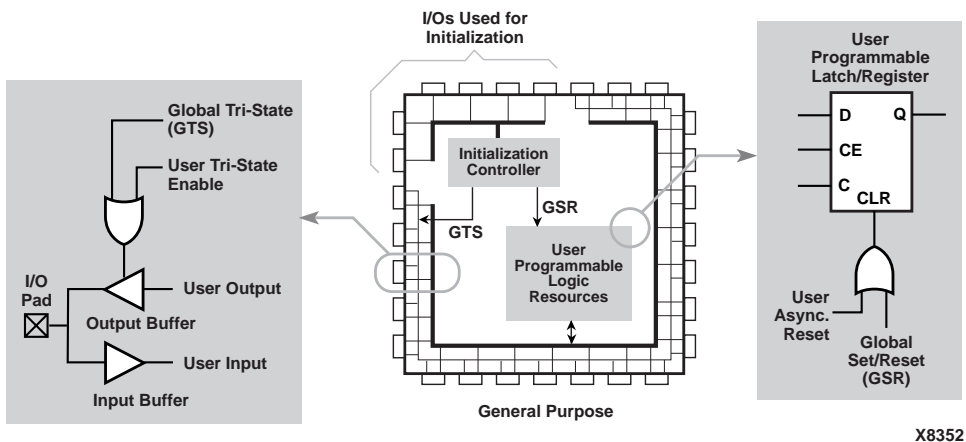
Xilinx recommends using a local reset instead of the dedicated GSR circuitry. This is because the implementation tools use the high-speed

backbone routing for Reset signals, thus making them faster and easier to analyze than the dedicated global routing that transports the GSR signal.

If GSR behavior is not described, the chip will initialize during configuration, and the post-route netlist will include this net that must be driven during simulation. This section includes the methodology to describe this behavior, as well as the GTS behavior for output buffers.

In addition to the set/reset pulse, all output buffers are set to a high impedance state during configuration mode with the dedicated global output tristate enable (GTS) net.

The GSR net receives a reset-on-configuration pulse from the initialization controller, as shown in the following figure.



**Figure 6-2 Built-in FPGA Initialization Circuitry**

This pulse occurs during the configuration mode of the FPGA. However, for ease of simulation, it is usually inserted at time zero of the test bench, before logical simulation is initiated. The pulse width is device-dependent and can vary widely, depending on process voltage and temperature changes. The pulse is guaranteed to be long enough to overcome all net delays on the reset special-purpose net.

The parameter for the pulse width is TPOR, as described in *The Programmable Logic Data Book*.

The tristate-on-configuration circuit shown in the “Built-in FPGA Initialization Circuitry” also occurs during the configuration mode of the FPGA. Just as for the reset-on-configuration simulation, it is usually inserted at time zero of the test bench before logical simulation is initiated. The pulse drives all outputs to the tristate condition they are in during the configuration of the FPGA. All general-purpose outputs are affected whether they are regular, tristate, or bi-directional outputs during normal operation. This ensures that the outputs do not erroneously drive other devices as the FPGA is being configured. The pulse width is device-dependent and can vary widely with process and temperature changes. The pulse is guaranteed to be long enough to overcome all net delays on the GTS net. The generating circuitry is separate from the reset-on-configuration circuit. The pulse width parameter is T<sub>POR</sub>, as described in *The Programmable Logic Data Book*. Simulation models use this pulse width parameter for determining HDL simulation for global reset and tristate circuitry.

If a global set/reset is desired for behavioral simulation, it must be included in the behavioral code. Any described register in the code must have a common signal that will asynchronously set or reset the register depending on the desired result. Similarly, if a global tristate-state is desired for simulation, it should be described in the code as well.

## Simulating VHDL

### Defining Global Signals in VHDL

In VHDL designs, any signals that are stimulated or monitored from outside a module must be declared as ports. Global GSR and GTS signals are used to initialize the simulation and require access ports if controlled from the test bench. However, the addition of these ports makes the pre- and post-implementation versions of your design different, and your original test bench is no longer applicable to both versions of your design. Since the port lists for the two versions of your design are different, the socket in the test bench matches only one of them. To address this issue, five new cells are provided for

VHDL simulation: ROC, ROCBUF, TOC, TOCBUF, and STARTBUF architecture.

Verilog can simulate global signals, and these signals can be driven directly from the test bench. However, interpretive Verilog (such as Verilog-XL) and compiled Verilog (such as MTI, VCS or NC-Verilog) require a different approach for handling the libraries.

The VHDL global signal simulation methodology does not incorporate any ports into designs for simulators to mimic the device's global reset (GSR) or global tristate (GTS) networks. These signals are not part of the cell's pin list, do not appear in the netlist, and are not implemented in the resulting design. These global signals are mapped into the equivalent signals in the back-end simulation model. Using this methodology with schematic designs, you can fully simulate the silicon's built-in global networks and implement your design without causing congestion of the general-purpose routing resources and degrading the clock speed.

## **Setting VHDL Global Set/Reset Emulation in Functional Simulation**

When using the VHDL UNISIM library, it is important to control the global signals for reset and output tristate enable. If you do not control these signals, your timing simulation results may not match your functional simulation results because of initialization differences.

VHDL simulation does not directly support test bench driven internal global signals. If the test bench drives the global signal, a port is required. Otherwise, the global net must be driven by a component within the architecture.

Also, the register components do not have pins for the global signals because you do not want to wire to these special pre-laid nets. Instead, you want implementation to use the dedicated network on the chip.

The VHDL UNISIM library uses special components to drive the local reset and tristate enable signals. These components use the local signal connections to emulate the global signal, and also provide the implementation directives to ensure that the pre-routed wires are used.

You can instantiate these special components in the RTL description to ensure that all functional simulations match the timing simulation with respect to global signal initialization.

For functional simulation, the global reset and output tristate enable signals can be emulated in two ways:

- Instantiating the STARTUP *architecture* library component. This component is available for the Virtex, Virtex-E, Virtex-II, Virtex-II Pro, and Spartan-II families.
- Using local reset and tristate enable signals in the design. Special implementation directives are put on the nets to move them to special pre-routed nets for global signals.

## Global Signal Considerations (VHDL)

The following are important considerations for VHDL simulation, synthesis, and implementation of global signals in FPGAs.

- The global signals have automatically generated pulses that always occur even if the behavior is not described in the front-end description. The back-annotated netlist has these global signals, to match the silicon, even if the source design does not.
- Xilinx does not recommend using the GSR circuitry in place of the manual reset. This is because the Virtex, Virtex-II and Spartan-II device families offer a high-speed backbone routing for high fanout signals like system reset. This backbone route is faster than the dedicated GSR circuitry.
- The simulation and synthesis models for registers (flip-flops and latches) and output buffers do not contain pins for the global signals. This is necessary to maintain compatibility with schematic libraries that do not require the pin to model the global signal behavior.
- VHDL does not have a standardized method for handling global signals that is acceptable within a VITAL-compatible library.
- Intellectual property cores from the CORE Generator are represented as behavioral models and require a different way to handle the global signal, yet still maintain compatibility with the method used for general user-defined logic.

- The design is represented at different levels of abstraction during the pre- and post-synthesis and implementation phases of the design process. The solutions work for all three levels and give consistent results.
- The place and route tools must be given special directives to identify the global signals in order to use the built-in circuitry instead of the general-purpose logic.

## GSR Network Design Cases

When defining a methodology to control a device's global set/reset (GSR) network, you should consider the following three general cases.

**Table 6-5 GSR Design Cases**

Name	Description
Case 1	Reset-On-Configuration pulse only; no user control of GSR
Case 1A	Simulation model ROC initializes synchronous elements
Case 1B	User initializes synchronous elements with ROCBUF model and simulation vectors
Case 2	User control of GSR after Power-on-Reset using an external port driving GSR
Case 3	Don't Care

**Note** Reset-on-Configuration for FPGAs is similar to Power-on-Reset for ASICs except it occurs during power-up and during configuration of the FPGA.

Case 1 is defined as follows.

- Automatic pulse generation of the Reset-On-Configuration signal
- No control of GSR through a test bench
- Involves initialization of the sequential elements in a design during power-on, or initialization during configuration of the device
- Need to define the initial states of a design's sequential elements, and have these states reflected in the implemented and simulated design

- Two sub-cases
  - ◆ In Case 1A, you do not provide the simulation with an initialization pulse. The simulation model provides its own mechanism for initializing its sequential elements (such as the real device does when power is first applied).
  - ◆ In Case 1B, you can control the initializing power-on reset pulse from a test bench without a global reset pin on the FPGA. This case is applicable when system-level issues make your design's initialization synchronous to an off-chip event. In this case, you provide a pulse that initializes your design at the start of simulation time, and possibly provide further pulses as simulation time progresses (perhaps to simulate cycling power to the device). Although you are providing the reset pulse to the simulation model, this pulse is not required for the implemented device. A reset port is not required on the implemented device, however, a reset port is required in the behavioral code through which your reset pulse can be applied with test vectors during simulation.

### Using VHDL Reset-On-Configuration (ROC) Cell (Case 1A)

For Case 1A, the ROC (Reset-On-Configuration) instantiated component model is used. This model creates a one-shot pulse for the global set/reset signal. The pulse width is a generic and can be configured to match the device and conditions specified. The ROC cell is in the post-routed netlist and, with the same pulse width, it mimics the pre-route global set/reset net. The following is an example of an ROC cell.

The default value for the ROC one-shot pulse is 100 ns. If you wish to mimic worst case time for Reset on Configuration, you should change the pulse width to match the TPOR parameter for the target device from *The Programmable Logic Data Book*.

```
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
use IEEE.std_logic_unsigned.all;
library UNISIM;
use UNISIM.all;
entity EX_ROC is
    port (CLOCK, ENABLE : in std_logic;
          CUP, CDOWN : out std_logic_vector (3 downto 0));
end EX_ROC;
architecture A of EX_ROC is
    signal GSR : std_logic;
    signal COUNT_UP, COUNT_DOWN : std_logic_vector (3 downto 0);
    component ROC
        port (O : out std_logic);
    end component;
begin
    U1 : ROC port map (O => GSR);

    UP_COUNTER : process (CLOCK, ENABLE, GSR)
    begin
        if (GSR = '1') then
            COUNT_UP <= "0000";
        elsif (CLOCK'event AND CLOCK = '1') then
            if (ENABLE = '1') then
                COUNT_UP <= COUNT_UP + "0001";
            end if;
        end if;
    end process UP_COUNTER;
    DOWN_COUNTER : process (CLOCK, ENABLE, GSR, COUNT_DOWN)
    begin
        if (GSR = '1' OR COUNT_DOWN = "0101") then
            COUNT_DOWN <= "1111";
        elsif (CLOCK'event AND CLOCK = '1') then
            if (ENABLE = '1') then
                COUNT_DOWN <= COUNT_DOWN - "0001";
            end if;
        end if;
    end process DOWN_COUNTER;
    CUP <= COUNT_UP;
    CDOWN <= COUNT_DOWN;
end A;
```

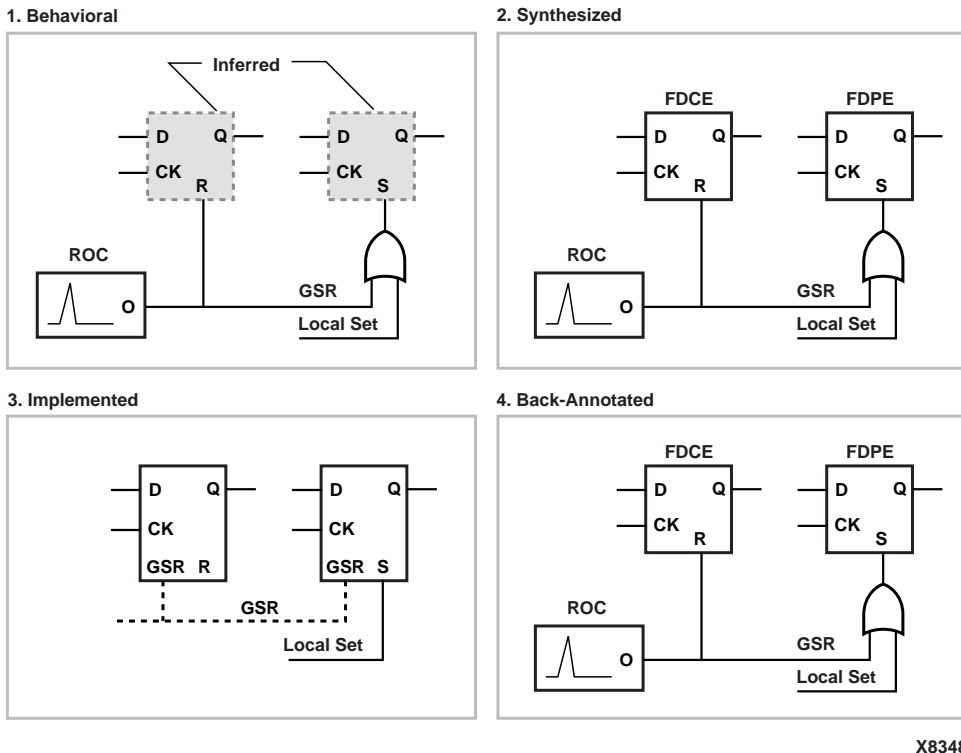
## Using ROC Cell Implementation Model (Case 1A)

Complementary to the previous VHDL model is an implementation model that guides the place and route tool to connect the net driven by the ROC cell to the special purpose net.

Timing simulation for the ROC cell is automatically created during back-annotation if you do not use the `-gp` or are driving the GSR/GSRIN pin of an instantiated STARTUP/STARTBUF block in the design. The ROC component can be instantiated in the front end to match functionality with GSR (in both functional and timing simulation.) During back-annotation, the entity and architecture for the ROC cell is placed in your design's output VHDL file. In the front end, the entity and architecture are in the UNISIM Library, requiring only a component instantiation. The ROC cell generates a one-time initial pulse to drive the GSR net starting at time zero for a specified pulse width. You can set the pulse width with a generic in the component declaration, instantiation mapping or a configuration statement. The default value of the pulse width is 100 ns. The polarity of this signal is active high. (Active low resets are handled within the netlist itself and need to be inverted before using.) Generally, when using the ROC cell you can perform a timing simulation with the same test-bench that you used in RTL simulation as long as the driving stimulus is held off for the time the ROC pulse is active.

## ROC Model in Four Design Phases (Case 1A)

The following figure shows the progression of the ROC model and its interpretation in the four main design phases.



**Figure 6-3 ROC Simulation and Implementation**

- Behavioral Phase**—In this phase, the behavioral or RTL description registers are inferred from the coding style, and the ROC cell can be instantiated. If it is not instantiated, the signal is not driven during simulation or is driven within the architecture by code that cannot be synthesized. Xilinx recommends instantiation of the ROC cell during RTL coding because the global signal is easily identified. This also ensures that GSR behavior at the RTL level matches the behavior of the post-synthesis and implementation netlists.
- Synthesized Phase**—In this phase, inferred registers are mapped to a technology and the ROC instantiation is carried from the RTL to the implementation tools. As a result, consistent global set/reset

behavior is maintained between the RTL and synthesized structural descriptions during simulation.

- *Implemented Phase*—During implementation, the ROC is removed from the logical description that is placed and routed as a pre-existing circuit on the chip. All set/resets for the registers are automatically assumed to be driven by the global set/reset net so data is not lost.
- *Back-annotated Phase*—In this phase, the Xilinx VHDL netlist program assumes all registers are driven by the GSR net and replaces the ROC cell if the -gp switch is not used during netlisting. NGD2VHDL rewires it to the GSR nets in the back-annotated netlist. The GSR net is a fully wired net and the ROC cell is inserted to drive it. You can control the ROC pulse width by using the -rpw switch for NGD2VHDL or by using a VHDL configuration statement to modify the generic value of the instantiated ROC in the simulation netlist.

## Using VHDL ROCBUF Cell (Case 1B)

For Case 1B, the ROCBUF (Reset-On-Configuration Buffer) instantiated component is used. This component creates a buffer for the global set/reset signal, and provides an input port on the buffer to drive the global set/reset line. This port must be declared in the entity list and driven in RTL simulation. During the place and route process, this port is removed so it is not implemented on the chip. ROCBUF does not by default reappear in the post-routed netlist unless the -gp switch is used during NGD2VHDL netlisting. The nets driven by a ROCBUF must be an active High set/reset.

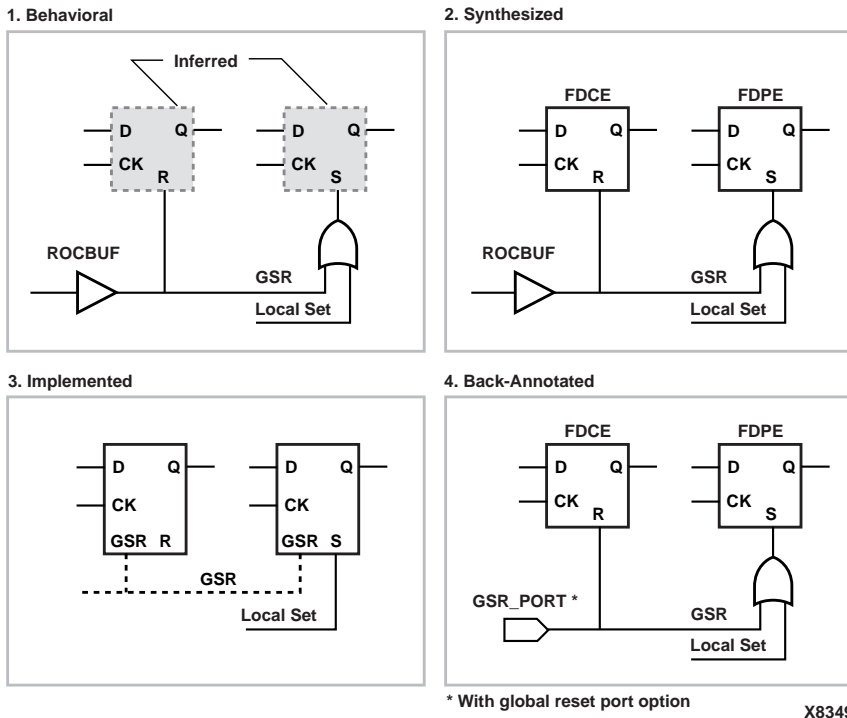
The following example illustrates how to use the ROCBUF in your designs.

```
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
use IEEE.std_logic_unsigned.all;

library UNISIM;
use UNISIM.all;
entity EX_ROCBUF is
    port (CLOCK, ENABLE, SRP : in std_logic;
          CUP, CDOWN : out std_logic_vector (3 downto 0));
end EX_ROCBUF;
architecture A of EX_ROCBUF is
    signal GSR : std_logic;
    signal COUNT_UP, COUNT_DOWN : std_logic_vector (3 downto 0);
    component ROCBUF
        port (I : in std_logic;
              O : out std_logic);
    end component;
begin
    U1 : ROCBUF port map (I => SRP, O => GSR);
    UP_COUNTER : process (CLOCK, ENABLE, GSR)
    begin
        if (GSR = '1') then
            COUNT_UP <= "0000";
        elsif (CLOCK'event AND CLOCK = '1') then
            if (ENABLE = '1') then
                COUNT_UP <= COUNT_UP + "0001";
            end if;
        end if;
    end process UP_COUNTER;
    DOWN_COUNTER : process (CLOCK, ENABLE, GSR, COUNT_DOWN)
    begin
        if (GSR = '1' OR COUNT_DOWN = "0101") then
            COUNT_DOWN <= "1111";
        elsif (CLOCK'event AND CLOCK = '1') then
            if (ENABLE = '1') then
                COUNT_DOWN <= COUNT_DOWN - "0001";
            end if;
        end if;
    end process DOWN_COUNTER;
    CUP <= COUNT_UP;
    CDOWN <= COUNT_DOWN;
end A;
```

## ROCBUF Model in Four Design Phases (Case 1B)

The following figure shows the progression of the ROCBUF model and its interpretation in the four main design phases.



**Figure 6-4 ROCBUF Simulation and Implementation**

- *Behavioral Phase*—In this phase, the behavioral or RTL description registers are inferred from the coding style, and the ROCBUF cell is instantiated. Use the ROCBUF cell instead of the ROC cell when you want test bench control of GSR simulation.
- *Synthesized Phase*—In this phase, inferred registers are mapped to a technology and the ROCBUF instantiation is carried from the RTL to the implementation tools. As a result, consistent global set/reset behavior is maintained between the RTL and synthesized structural descriptions during simulation.

- *Implemented Phase*—During implementation, the ROCBUF is removed from the logical description of the design and the global resources are used for the set/reset function.
- *Back-annotated Phase*—In this phase, use the NGD2VHDL option, -gp to replace the port that was previously occupied by the ROCBUF in the RTL description of the design.

## Using VHDL STARTBUF\_VIRTEX, STARTBUF\_VIRTEX2 Block or the STARTBUF\_SPARTAN2 Block (Case 2)

The STARTUP\_VIRTEX, STARTUP\_VIRTEX2 and STARTUP\_SPARTAN2 blocks can be instantiated to identify the GSR signals for implementation if the global reset or tristate is connected to a chip pin. However, these cells cannot be simulated as there is no simulation model for them.

**Table 6-6 Virtex/E and Spartan-II STARTBUF/STARTUP Pins**

<b>STARTBUF Pin Names</b>	<b>Connection Points</b>	<b>Virtex/E STARTUP Pin Names</b>	<b>Spartan-II STARTUP Pin Names</b>
GSRIN	Global Set/ Reset Port of Design	GSR	GSR
GTSIN	Global Tristate Port of Design	GTS	GTS
CLKIN	Port or Internal Logic	CLK	CLK
GTSOUT	All Output Buffers Tristate Control	N/A	N/A

Xilinx recommends that you use the local routing for Virtex devices as opposed to using the dedicated GSR. If the design resources are available, using this method will provide better performance performance and more predictable design behavior.

If you do not plan on bringing the GSR pin out to a device pin, but want to have access to it for simulation, Xilinx suggests that you use the ROC or ROCBUF.

## GTS Network Design Cases

Just as for the global set/reset net there are three cases for using your device's output tristate enable (GTS) network, as shown in the following table.

**Table 6-7 GTS Design Cases**

Name	Description
Case A Case A1 Case A2	Tristate-On-Configuration only; no user control of GTS Simulation Model TOC tristates output buffers during configuration or power-up User initializes sequential elements with TOCBUF model and simulation vectors
Case B	User control of GTS after Tristate-On-Configuration external PORT driving GTS
Case C	Don't Care

Case A is defined as follows.

- Tristating of output buffers during power-on or configuration of the device
- Output buffers are tristated and reflected in the implemented and simulated design
- Two sub-cases
  - ◆ In Case A1, you do not provide the simulation with an initialization pulse. The simulation model provides its own mechanism for initializing its sequential elements (such as the real device does when power is first applied).
  - ◆ In Case A2, you can control the initializing Tristate-On-Configuration pulse. This case is applicable when system-level issues make your design's configuration synchronous with an off-chip event. In this case, you provide a pulse to tristate the output buffers, via the testbench file, at the start of simulation time, and possibly provide further pulses as simu-

lation time progresses (perhaps to simulate cycling power to the device).

## **Using VHDL Tristate-On-Configuration (TOC)**

The timing for the TOC cell is automatically created if you do not use NGD2VHDL option `-tp` or you drive the GTS/GTSIN port of an instantiated STARTUP/STARTBUF block. The entity and architecture for the TOC cell is placed in the design's output VHDL file. The TOC cell generates a one-time initial pulse to drive the GSR net starting at time '0' for a user-defined pulse width. The pulse width can be modified either by using the `-tpw` switch for NGD2VHDL or by using a configuration statement to modify the WIDTH generic for the instantiated TOC component in the simulation netlist. The default WIDTH value is 0 ns, which disables the TOC cell and holds the tristate enable low. (Active low tristate enables are handled within the netlist; you must invert this signal before using it.)

The TOC cell enables you to simulate with the same test bench as in the RTL simulation, and also allows you to control the width of the tristate enable signal in your implemented design.

## **VHDL TOC Cell (Case A1)**

For Case A1, use the TOC (Tristate-On-Configuration) instantiated component. This component creates a one-shot pulse for the global Tristate-On-Configuration signal. The pulse width is a generic and can be selected to match the device and conditions you want. The TOC cell is in the post-routed netlist and, with the same pulse width set, it mimics the pre-route Tristate-On-Configuration net.

## **TOC Cell Instantiation (Case A1)**

The following is an example of how to use the TOC cell.

```
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
use IEEE.std_logic_unsigned.all;
library UNISIM;
use UNISIM.all;
entity EX_TOC is
    port (CLOCK, ENABLE : in std_logic;
          CUP, CDOWN : out std_logic_vector (3 downto 0));
end EX_TOC;
```

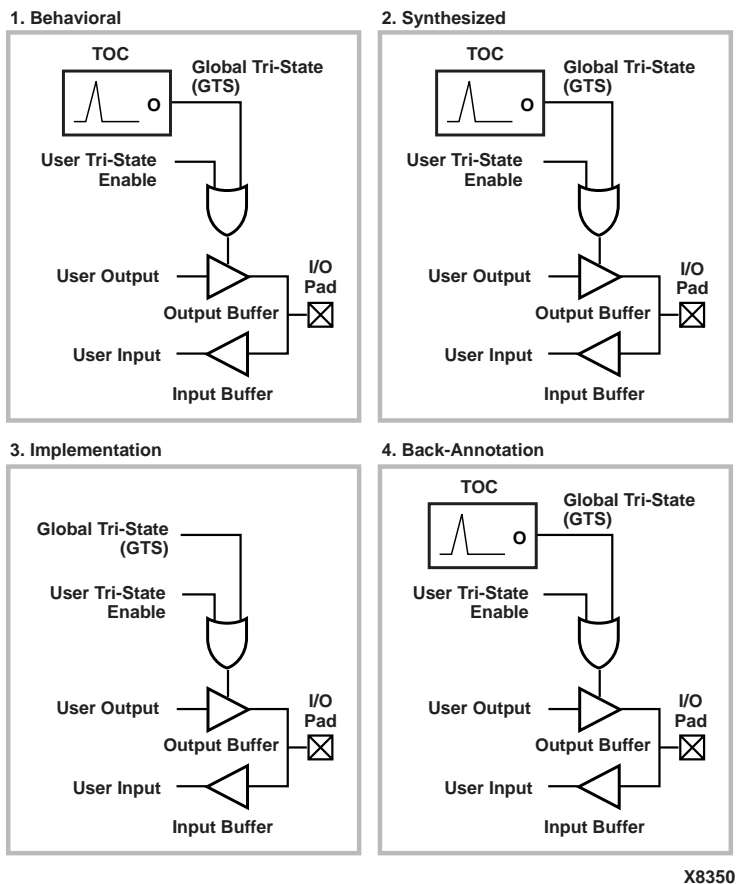
```

architecture A of EX_TOC is
    signal GSR, GTS : std_logic;
    signal COUNT_UP, COUNT_DOWN : std_logic_vector (3 downto 0);
    component ROC
        port (O : out std_logic);
    end component;
    component TOC
        port (O : out std_logic);
    end component;
begin
    U1 : ROC port map (O => GSR);
    U2 : TOC port map (O => GTS);
    UP_COUNTER : process (CLOCK, ENABLE, GSR)
    begin
        if (GSR = '1') then
            COUNT_UP <= "0000";
        elsif (CLOCK'event AND CLOCK = '1') then
            if (ENABLE = '1') then
                COUNT_UP <= COUNT_UP + "0001";
            end if;
        end if;
    end process UP_COUNTER;
    DOWN_COUNTER : process (CLOCK, ENABLE, GSR, COUNT_DOWN)
    begin
        if (GSR = '1' OR COUNT_DOWN = "0101") then
            COUNT_DOWN <= "1111";
        elsif (CLOCK'event AND CLOCK = '1') then
            if (ENABLE = '1') then
                COUNT_DOWN <= COUNT_DOWN - "0001";
            end if;
        end if;
    end process DOWN_COUNTER;
    CUP <= COUNT_UP when (GTS = '0' AND COUNT_UP /= "0000") else
    "ZZZZ";
    CDOWN <= COUNT_DOWN when (GTS = '0') else "ZZZZ";
end A;

```

## TOC Model in Four Design Phases (Case A1)

The following figure shows the progression of the TOC model and its interpretation in the four main design phases.



X8350

Figure 6-5 TOC Simulation and Implementation

- *Behavioral Phase*—In this phase, the behavioral or RTL description of the output buffers is inferred from the coding style. The TOC cell can be instantiated and connected to all tristate outputs in the design. If it is not instantiated, the GTS signal is not driven during RTL simulation. Instantiation of the TOC cell in the RTL description is recommended if you wish to simulate the pre-configuration behavior of the device I/Os.
- *Synthesized Phase*—In this phase, the inferred I/Os are mapped to a device, and the TOC instantiation is carried from the RTL to the implementation tools. This results in maintaining consistent global output tristate enable behavior between the RTL and the synthesized structural descriptions during simulation.
- *Implemented Phase*—During implementation, the TOC is removed from the logical description and the global tristate net resource is used.
- *Back-annotation Phase*—In this phase, the VHDL netlist tool re-inserts a TOC component for simulation purposes. The GTS net is a fully wired net and the TOC cell is inserted in the simulation netlist. You can use the NGD2VHDL -tpw switch or a configuration statement to set the generic for the pulse width.

## Using VHDL TOCBUF (Case A2)

For Case A2, use the TOCBUF (Tristate-On-Configuration Buffer) instantiated component model. This model creates a buffer for the global output tristate enable signal. You now have an input port on the buffer to drive the global tristate line. The implementation model directs the place and route tool to remove the port so it is not implemented on the actual chip. The TOCBUF cell does not reappear in the post-routed netlist unless the -tp switch is used during NGD2VHDL.

## TOCBUF Model Example (Case A2)

The following is an example of the TOCBUF model.

```
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
use IEEE.std_logic_unsigned.all;
library UNISIM;
use UNISIM.all;
```

```
entity EX_TOCBUF is
    port (CLOCK, ENABLE, SRP, STP : in std_logic;
          CUP, CDOWN : out std_logic_vector (3 downto 0));
end EX_TOCBUF;
architecture A of EX_TOCBUF is
    signal GSR, GTS : std_logic;
    signal COUNT_UP, COUNT_DOWN : std_logic_vector (3 downto 0);
    component ROCBUF
        port (I : in std_logic;
              O : out std_logic);
    end component;
    component TOCBUF
        port (I : in std_logic;
              O : out std_logic);
    end component;
begin
    U1 : ROCBUF port map (I => SRP, O => GSR);
    U2 : TOCBUF port map (I => STP, O => GTS);
    UP_COUNTER : process (CLOCK, ENABLE, GSR)
    begin
        if (GSR = '1') then
            COUNT_UP <= "0000";
        elsif (CLOCK'event AND CLOCK = '1') then
            if (ENABLE = '1') then
                COUNT_UP <= COUNT_UP + "0001";
            end if;
        end if;
    end process UP_COUNTER;
    DOWN_COUNTER : process (CLOCK, ENABLE, GSR, COUNT_DOWN)
    begin
        if (GSR = '1' OR COUNT_DOWN = "0101") then
            COUNT_DOWN <= "1111";
        elsif (CLOCK'event AND CLOCK = '1') then
            if (ENABLE = '1') then
                COUNT_DOWN <= COUNT_DOWN - "0001";
            end if;
        end process DOWN_COUNTER;
    CUP <= COUNT_UP when (GTS = '0' AND COUNT_UP /= "0000") else
    "ZZZZ";
    CDOWN <= COUNT_DOWN when (GTS = '0') else "ZZZZ";
end A;
```

## TOCBUF Model in Four Design Phases (Case A2)

The following figure shows the progression of the TOCBUF model and its interpretation in the four main design phases.

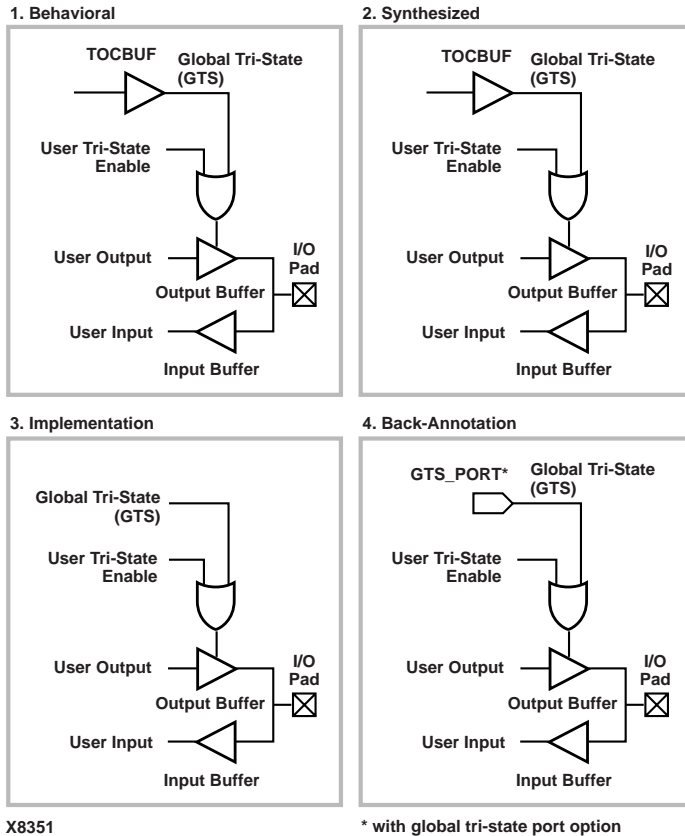


Figure 6-6 TOCBUF Simulation and Implementation

- *Behavioral Phase*—In this phase, the behavioral or RTL description of the output buffers is inferred from the coding style and may be inserted. You can instantiate the TOCBUF cell. If it is not instantiated, the GTS signal is not driven during simulation or it is driven within the architecture by code that cannot be synthesized.
- *Synthesized Phase*—In this phase, the inferred output buffers are mapped to a device and the TOCBUF instantiation is carried from the RTL to the implementation tools. This maintains consistent global output tristate enable behavior between the RTL and the synthesized structural descriptions during simulation.
- *Implemented Phase*—In this phase, the TOCBUF is removed from the logical description and the global resources are used for this function.
- *Back-annotated Phase*—In this phase, the TOCBUF cell does not reappear in the post-routed netlist unless the -tp switch is used during NGD2VHDL. If the option is not selected, the VHDL netlist tool inserts a TOC component for simulation purposes.

### **Using VHDL STARTBUF\_VIRTEX, STARTBUF\_VIRTEX2 or STARTBUF\_SPARTAN2 Block (Case B)**

The STARTUP\_VIRTEX, STARTUP\_VIRTEX2 and STARTUP\_SPARTAN2 blocks can be instantiated to identify the GTS signal for implementation if the global reset or tristate is connected to a chip pin. However, these cells cannot be simulated as there is no simulation model for them.

The VHDL STARTBUF\_VIRTEX, STARTBUF\_VIRTEX2 and STARTBUF\_SPARTAN2 blocks can do a pre-NGDBuild UNISIM simulation of the GTS signal. You can also correctly back-annotate a GTS signal by instantiating a STARTUP\_VIRTEX, STARTBUF\_VIRTEX, STARTUP\_SPARTAN2, or STARTBUF\_SPARTAN2 symbol and correctly connect the GTSIN input signal of the component.

See the following table for Virtex, Virtex-II and Spartan-II correspondence of pins between STARTBUF and STARTUP.

**Table 6-8 Virtex/II/E and Spartan-II STARTBUF/STARTUP Pins**

<b>STARTBUF Pin Names</b>	<b>Connection Points</b>	<b>STARTUP Pin Names</b>
GSRIN	Global Set/ Reset Port of Design	GSR
GTSIN	Global Tristate Port of Design	GTS
CLKIN	Port of Internal Logic	CLK
GTSOUT	All Output Buffers Tristate Control	N/A

## STARTBUF\_VIRTEX Model Example (Case B2)

The following is an example of the STARTBUF\_VIRTEX model.

```
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
use IEEE.std_logic_unsigned.all;
library UNISIM;
use UNISIM.all;
entity EX_STARTBUF is
    port (CLOCK, ENABLE, RESET, STP : in std_logic;
          CUP, CDOWN : out std_logic_vector (3 downto 0));
end EX_STARTBUF;

architecture A of EX_STARTBUF is
    signal GTS_sig : std_logic;
    signal COUNT_UP, COUNT_DOWN : std_logic_vector (3 downto 0);
    signal ZERO : std_ulogic := '0';

    component STARTBUF_VIRTEX
        port (GSRIN, GTSIN, CLKIN : in std_logic;
              GSROUT, GTSOUT : out std_logic);
    end component;

begin
    U1 : STARTBUF_VIRTEX port map (GTSIN=>STP, GSRIN=>ZERO,
                                   CLKIN=>ZERO,
                                   GTSOUT=>GTS_sig);
    UP_COUNTER : process (CLOCK, ENABLE, RESET)
    begin
        if (RESET = '1') then
            COUNT_UP <= "0000";
        elsif (CLOCK'event AND CLOCK = '1') then
            if (ENABLE = '1') then
                COUNT_UP <= COUNT_UP + "0001";
            end if;
        end if;
    end process UP_COUNTER;
    DOWN_COUNTER : process (CLOCK, ENABLE, RESET, COUNT_DOWN)
    begin
        if (RESET = '1' OR COUNT_DOWN = "0101") then
            COUNT_DOWN <= "1111";
        end if;
    end process DOWN_COUNTER;
end architecture A;
```

```

    elsif (CLOCK'event AND CLOCK = '1') then
        if (ENABLE = '1') then
            COUNT_DOWN <= COUNT_DOWN - "0001";
        end if;
    end if;
end process DOWN_COUNTER;
CUP <= COUNT_UP when (GTS_sig='0' AND COUNT_UP /= "0000") else
"ZZZZ";
CDOWN <= COUNT_DOWN when (GTS_sig = '0') else "ZZZZ";
end A;

```

## Simulating Special Components in VHDL

The following section provides a description and examples of using special components such as the Block SelectRAM for Virtex.

### Simulating CORE Generator Components in VHDL

For CORE Generator model simulation flows see the *CORE Generator Guide*.

### Boundary Scan and Readback

The Boundary Scan and Readback circuitry cannot be simulated at this time. Efforts are being made to create models for these components.

### Differential I/O (LVDS, LVPECL)

When targeting a Virtex-E or Spartan-IIE device, the inputs of the differential pair are currently modeled with only the positive side, whereas the outputs have both pairs, positive and negative. For details, please refer to Xilinx Answer #8187 on <http://support.xilinx.com> for more details. This is not an issue for the Virtex-II architecture as the differential buffers for Virtex-II and later architectures have been updated to accept both the positive and negative inputs.

The following is an example of an instantiated differential I/O in a Virtex-E or Spartan-IIE design.

```
entity lvds_ex is
port (data: in std_logic;
      data_op: out std_logic;
      data_on: out std_logic);
end entity lvds_ex;
architecture lvds_arch of lvds_ex is
  signal data_n_int : std_logic;
  component OBUF_LVDS port (
    I : in std_logic;
    O : out std_logic);
  end component;
  component IBUF_LVDS port (
    I : in std_logic;
    O : out std_logic);
  end component;
begin
  --Input side
  IO: IBUF_LVDS port map (I => data), O =>data_int);
  --Output side
  OP0: OBUF_LVDS port map (I => data_int, O =>
    data_op);
  data_n_int = not(data_int);
  ON0: OBUF_LVDS port map (I => data_n_int, O =>
    data_on);
end arch_lvds_ex;
```

## **Simulating a LUT**

The LUT (look-up table) component is initialized for simulation by a generic mapping to the INIT attribute. If the synthesis tool being used can accept generics in order to pass attributes, then a generic specification is all that is needed to specify the INIT value. If the synthesis tool cannot pass attributes via generics, then the generic and generic map portions of the code must be omitted for synthesis by the use of `translate_off` and `translate_on` synthesis directives. The INIT values must be passed using attribute notation.

The following is an example in which a LUT is initialized. This code written with the assumption that the synthesis tool can understand and pass the INIT attribute using the generic notation.

```

entity lut_ex is
  port (LUT1_IN, LUT2_IN : in std_logic_vector(1 downto 0);
        LUT1_OUT, LUT2_OUT : out std_logic_vector(1 downto 0));
end entity lut_ex;
architecture lut_arch of lut_ex is
  component LUT1
    generic (INIT: std_logic_vector(1 downto 0) := "10");
    port (O : out std_logic;
          I0 : in std_logic);
  end component;
  component LUT2
    generic (INIT: std_logic_vector(3 downto 0) := "0000");
    port (O : out std_logic;
          I0, I1: in std_logic);
  end component;
begin
  -- LUT1 used as an inverter
  U0: LUT1 generic map (INIT => "01")
    port map (O => LUT1_OUT(0), I0 => LUT1_IN(0));
  -- LUT1 used as a buffer
  U1: LUT1 generic map (INIT => "10")
    port map (O => LUT1_OUT(1), I0 => LUT1_IN(1));
  --LUT2 used as a 2-input AND gate
  U2: LUT2 generic map (INIT => "1000")
    port map (O => LUT2_OUT(0), I1 => LUT2_IN(1), I0 => LUT2_IN(0));
  --LUT2 used as 2-input NAND gate
  3: LUT2 generic map (INIT => "0111")
    port map (O => LUT2_OUT(1), I1 => (LUT2_IN(1), I0 => LUT2_IN(0));
end lut_arch;

```

## Simulating Virtex Block SelectRAM

By default, the Virtex Block SelectRAMs will come up initialized to zero in all data locations starting at time zero. For a post-NGDBuild, post-MAP, or Post-PAR (timing) simulation the Block SelectRAMs will initialize to the value the user specifies in the UCF, or if an INIT\_XX value was given in the input design file to NGDBuild. For a pre-synthesis or post-synthesis (Pre-NGDBuild) functional simulation you must modify the generic in either the component declaration, generic mapping of the instance or use a configuration statement to apply a non-zero initial value to the Block SelectRAM.

If the synthesis tool being used can accept generics in order to pass attributes, then a generic specification is all that is needed to specify the INIT value. If the synthesis tool cannot pass attributes via generics, then the generic and generic map portions of the code must be omitted for synthesis by the use of `translate_off` and `translate_on` synthesis directives and the INIT values must be passed using attribute notation.

The following is an example of using a configuration statement to apply an initial value to a Block SelectRAM. This code was written with the assumption that the synthesis tool can understand and pass the INIT attribute using the generic notation.

```
LIBRARY ieee;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
Library UNISIM;
use UNISIM.vcomponents.all;
entity ex_blkram is
    port(CLK, EN, RST, WE : in std_logic;
        ADDR : in std_logic_vector(9 downto 0);
        DI : in std_logic_vector(3 downto 0);
        DORAMB4_S4 : out std_logic_vector(3 downto 0));
end;

architecture struct of ex_blkram is

    component RAMB4_S4
        generic (INIT_00, INIT_01, INIT_02 : bit_vector;
            INIT_03, INIT_04, INIT_05 : bit_vector;
            INIT_06, INIT_07, INIT_08 : bit_vector;
            INIT_09, INIT_0A, INIT_0B : bit_vector;
            INIT_0C, INIT_0D, INIT_0E : bit_vector;
            INIT_0F : bit_vector);
        port (DI : in STD_LOGIC_VECTOR (3 downto 0);
            EN : in STD_ULOGIC;
            WE : in STD_ULOGIC;
            RST : in STD_ULOGIC;
            CLK : in STD_ULOGIC;
            ADDR : in STD_LOGIC_VECTOR (9 downto 0);
            DO : out STD_LOGIC_VECTOR (3 downto 0));
    end component;

begin
```

```

INST_RAMB4_S4 : RAMB4_S4
generic map (
    INIT_00 => X"new_hex_value",
    INIT_01 => X"new_hex_value",
    INIT_02 => X"new_hex_value",
    INIT_03 => X"new_hex_value",
    INIT_04 => X"new_hex_value",
    INIT_05 => X"new_hex_value",
    INIT_06 => X"new_hex_value",
    INIT_07 => X"new_hex_value",
    INIT_08 => X"new_hex_value",
    INIT_09 => X"new_hex_value",
    INIT_0A => X"new_hex_value",
    INIT_0B => X"new_hex_value",
    INIT_0C => X"new_hex_value",
    INIT_0D => X"new_hex_value",
    INIT_0E => X"new_hex_value",
    INIT_0F => X"new_hex_value" );

port map (
    DI => DI,
    EN => EN,
    WE => WE,
    RST => RST,
    CLK => CLK,
    ADDR => ADDR,
    DO => DORAMB4_S4 );

end struct;

```

## Simulating the Virtex Clock DLL

When functionally simulating the Virtex Clock DLL, generic maps are used to specify the CLKDV\_DIVIDE and DUTY\_CYCLE\_CORRECTION values. By default, the CLKDV\_DIVIDE is set to 2 and DUTY\_CYCLE\_CORRECTION is set to **TRUE**. The following example will set the CLKDV\_DIVIDE to 4, and set the DUTY\_CYCLE\_CORRECTION to **FALSE**.

You must use a UCF file to pass the CLKDV\_DIVIDE and DUTY\_CYCLE\_CORRECTION values to the Xilinx implementation tools. This code was written with the assumption that the synthesis

tool can understand and pass the INIT attribute using generic notation.

```
library IEEE;
use IEEE.STD_LOGIC_1164.all;
use IEEE.std_logic_arith.all;
use IEEE.std_logic_unsigned.all;
Library UNISIM;
use UNISIM.vcomponents.all;
entity clkdlls is
    port(CLK_LF, RST_LF : in std_logic;
         CLK90_LF, CLK180_LF : out std_logic;
         CLK270_LF, CLK2X_LF : out std_logic;
         CLKDV_LF, LOCKED_LF : out std_logic;
         LFCount : out std_logic_vector(3 downto 0));
end;
architecture struct of clkdlls is
    component CLKDLL
        generic (FACTORY_JF : bit_vector := X"00";
                 STARTUP_WAIT : boolean := false;
                 DUTY_CYCLE_CORRECTION: boolean := TRUE;
                 CLKDV_DIVIDE : real := 2.0);

        port (CLKIN : in std_logic;
              CLKFB : in std_logic;
              RST : in std_logic;
              CLK0 : out std_logic;
              CLK90 : out std_logic;
              CLK180 : out std_logic;
              CLK270 : out std_logic;
              CLK2X : out std_logic;
              CLKDV : out std_logic;
              LOCKED : out std_logic);
    end component;
    component IBUFG
        port (I : in std_logic;
              O : out std_logic);
    end component;
    component BUFG
        port (I : in std_logic;
              O : out std_logic);
    end component;
```

```

signal COUNT: integer range 0 to 15 := 0;
signal sigCLK_LF, sigCLK0_LF, sigCLKFB_LF,
      CLK0_LF : std_logic;
signal sigLFCount:std_logic_vector (3 downto 0);

begin
  INST_IBUFGGLF : IBUFG port map (I => CLK_LF, O =>
    sigCLK_LF);
  INST_BUFGGLF : BUFG port map (I => sigCLK0_LF, O =>
    sigCLKFB_LF);
  INST_CLKDLL : CLKDLL
  generic map (DUTY_CYCLE_CORRECTION => FALSE,
    CLKDV_DIVIDE => 4.0)
  port map (CLKIN => sigCLK_LF,
    CLKFB => sigCLKFB_LF,
    RST    => RST_LF,
    CLK0   => sigCLK0_LF,
    CLK90  => CLK90_LF,
    CLK180 => CLK180_LF,
    CLK270 => CLK270_LF,
    CLK2X  =>CLK2X_LF,
    CLKDV  => CLKDV_LF,
    LOCKED => LOCKED_LF);
  CLK0_LF <= sigCLK0_LF;

  procCLKDLLCount: process (CLK0_LF)

  begin
    if (CLK0_LF'event and CLK0_LF = '1') then
      sigLFCount <= sigLFCount + "0001";
    end if;
    LFCount <= sigLFCount;
  end process;
end struct;

```

## Simulating the Virtex-II/ II Pro DCM

The Virtex-II/ Virtex-II Pro DCM is a super set of the Virtex CLKDLL. It provides more clock options, including fine phase shifting and digital clock synthesis. The DCM attributes, like all UNISIM components, are specified via generics for simulation purposes and

some synthesis tools can read in the generics for passing to the implementation tools.

Following is an example of the DCM instantiation. Note the component declaration of the DCM, as the parameters are defined in the “generic” section of the component declaration. In order to use some of the DCM features, these generic values must be modified.

```
library ieee;
use ieee.std_logic_1164.all;

library unisim;
use unisim.vcomponents.all;

entity clock_gen is
    port (clkin, rst_dll: in std_logic;
          clk, clk_not, locked : out std_logic;
          psen, psclk, psincdec : in std_logic;
          psdone : out std_logic);
end clock_gen;

architecture structural of clock_gen is
    signal clk_ibufg, clk_dcm, clk_dcm_not :
        std_logic;
    signal clk0_bufg, clk180_bufg : std_logic;
    signal GND : std_logic;

    component IBUFG
        port (
            I : in  std_logic;
            O : out std_logic);
    end component;

    component BUFG
        port (
            I : in  std_logic;
            O : out std_logic);
    end component;

    component DCM
        generic (DFS_FREQUENCY_MODE : string := "LOW";
                 DLL_FREQUENCY_MODE : string := "LOW";
                 DUTY_CYCLE_CORRECTION: boolean := TRUE;
                 CLKIN_DIVIDE_BY_2 : boolean := FALSE;
```

```

        CLK_FEEDBACK : string := "1X";
        CLKOUT_PHASE_SHIFT : string := "NONE";
        FACTORY_JF : bit_vector := X"00";
        STARTUP_WAIT : boolean := FALSE;
        DSS_MODE : string := "NONE";
        PHASE_SHIFT : integer := 0 ;
        CLKFX_MULTIPLY : integer := 4 ;
        CLKFX_DIVIDE : integer := 1;
        CLKDV_DIVIDE : real := 2.0;
        DESKEW_ADJUST:string:=
            "SYSTEM_SYNCHRONOUS"
    );
port (CLKIN : in std_ulogic;
      CLKFB : in std_ulogic;
      DSSSEN : in std_ulogic;
      PSINCDEC : in std_ulogic;
      PSEN : in std_ulogic;
      PSCLK : in std_ulogic;
      RST : in std_ulogic;
      CLK0 : out std_ulogic;
      CLK90 : out std_ulogic;
      CLK180 : out std_ulogic;
      CLK270 : out std_ulogic;
      CLK2X : out std_ulogic;
      CLK2X180 : out std_ulogic;
      CLKDV : out std_ulogic;
      CLKFX : out std_logic;
      CLKFX180 : out std_logic;
      LOCKED : out std_ulogic;
      PSDONE : out std_ulogic;
      STATUS : out std_logic_vector(7 downto 0)
    );
end component;

begin
    GND <= '0';
    U1 : IBUFG port map (
        I => clk_in,
        O => clk_ibufg
    );

```

```
U2 : DCM
  generic map (
    DFS_FREQUENCY_MODE => "LOW",
    DLL_FREQUENCY_MODE => "LOW",
    DUTY_CYCLE_CORRECTION => TRUE,
    CLKIN_DIVIDE_BY_2 => FALSE,
    CLK_FEEDBACK => "1X",
    CLKOUT_PHASE_SHIFT => "VARIABLE",
    FACTORY_JF => X"00",
    STARTUP_WAIT => FALSE,
    DSS_MODE=> "NONE",
    PHASE_SHIFT => 0,
    CLKFX_MULTIPLY => 4,
    CLKFX_DIVIDE => 1,
    CLKDV_DIVIDE => 2.0,
    DESKEW_ADJUST => "SYSTEM_SYNCHRONOUS")

  port map (
    CLKIN      => clk_ibufg,
    CLKFB      => clk0_bufg,
    DSSSEN      => '0',
    PSINCDEC    => psincdec,
    PSEN        => psen,
    PSCLK        => psclk,
    PSDONE      => psdone,
    RST          => rst_dll,
    CLK0         => clk_dcm,
    CLKDV        => open,
    CLKFX        => open,
    CLK180       => clk_dcm_not,
    LOCKED       => locked
  );

U3 : BUFG port map (
  I => clk_dcm,
  O => clk0_bufg
);
```

```

U4 : BUFG port map (
    I => clk_dcm_not,
    O => clk180_bufg
);

clk      <= clk0_bufg;
clk_not <= clk180_bufg;

end structural;

```

## Simulating SRLs

Most synthesis tools infer the SRL16 from behavioral VHDL. For these designs, no special simulation steps are needed for the SRLs. However, when the SRL component is instantiated, the INIT attribute can be used to initialize the contents of the component. Also, to use the select lines of the SRL component, instantiation is generally necessary. Refer to the [“Implementing Shift Register \(Virtex/E/II and Spartan-II\)” section](#) for more details on inferring SRLs correctly in the design.

Following is an example of passing the INIT attribute to the SRL for functional simulation:

**Note** If the synthesis tool being used can accept generics to pass attributes, then a generic specification is all that is needed to specify the INIT value to the implementation tools. If the synthesis tool cannot pass attributes via generics, then the generic and generic map portions of the code must be omitted for synthesis by the use of `translate_off` and `translate_on` synthesis directives and the INIT values must be passed using the attribute notation.

```
entity design is
- - port list goes here
end entity design;
architecture toplevelof designs
  component SRL16
    generic (INIT : BIT_VECTOR := X"0000");
    port (D      : in STD_ULOGIC;
          CLK    : in STD_ULOGIC;
          A0     : in STD_ULOGIC;
          A1     : in STD_ULOGIC;
          A2     : in STD_ULOGIC;
          A3     : in STD_ULOGIC;
          Q      : out STD_ULOGIC
          );
  end component;
- - signal declarations go here
begin
  U0 : SRL16 generic map (INIT => X"1100");
  port map (CLK => CLK,
    - - rest of port maps
  );
end toplevel;
```

In the example above, the INIT attribute is passed down to the simulation model through the generic map.

# Simulating Verilog

## Defining Global Signals in Verilog

To specify the global set/reset or global reset, you must first define them in the \$XILINX/verilog/src/glbl.v module. The VHDL UNISIMS library contains the ROC, ROCBUF, TOC, TOCBUF, and STARTBUF cells to assist in VITAL VHDL simulation of the global set/reset and tristate signals. However, Verilog allows a global signal to be modeled as a wire in a global module, and, thus, does not contain these cells.

## Using the glbl.v Module

The glbl.v module connects the global signals to the design, which is why it is necessary to compile this module with the other design files and load it along with the design.v file and the testfixture.v file for simulation.

The following is the definition of the glbl.v file.

```
`timescale 1 ns / 1 ps
module glbl();
  wire GR;
  wire GSR;
  wire GTS;
  wire PRLD;
endmodule
```

## Defining GSR/GTS in a Test Bench

There are two cases to consider when defining a GSR or GTS in a test bench: designs without a STARTUP block and designs with a STARTUP block.

**Note** The terms “test bench” and “test fixture” are used synonymously throughout this manual.

### Designs Without a Startup Block

When you use the UNISIM libraries for RTL simulation, you must set the value of the appropriate Verilog global signals (glbl.GSR or

glbl.GTS) to the name of the GSR or GTS net, qualified by the appropriate scope identifiers.

The global set/reset net is present in your implemented design even if you do not instantiate the STARTUP block in your design. The function of STARTUP is to give you the option to control the global reset net from an external pin. The following example should be added to your design code and test fixture to set the GSR and GTS pin for all FPGA devices:

```
reg GSR;
assign glbl.GSR = GSR;
reg GTS;
assign glbl.GTS = GTS;
initial begin
    GSR = 1; GTS = 1;
    #100 GSR = 0; GTS = 0;
end
```

### **Example 1: No STARTUP With GSR Defined**

The following design shows how to drive the GSR signal in a testfixture file at the beginning of a pre-NGDBuild Unified Library functional simulation.

In the design code, declare the GSR as a Verilog wire. The GSR will not be specified in the port list for the module. Describe the GSR to reset or set every inferred register or latch in your design. GSR does not need to be connected to any instantiated registers or latches, as shown in the following example.

```

module my_counter (CLK, D, Q, COUT);
input CLK, D;
output Q;
output [3:0] COUT;

wire GSR;
reg [3:0] COUT;

always @(posedge GSR or posedge CLK)
begin
    if (GSR == 1'b1)
        COUT = 4'h0;
    else
        COUT = COUT + 1'b1;
    end
// GSR is modeled as a wire within a global module.
// So, CLR does not need to be connected to GSR and
// the flop will still be reset with GSR.
FDCE U0 (.Q (Q), .D (D), .C (CLK), .CE (1'b1), .CLR
(1'b0));
endmodule

```

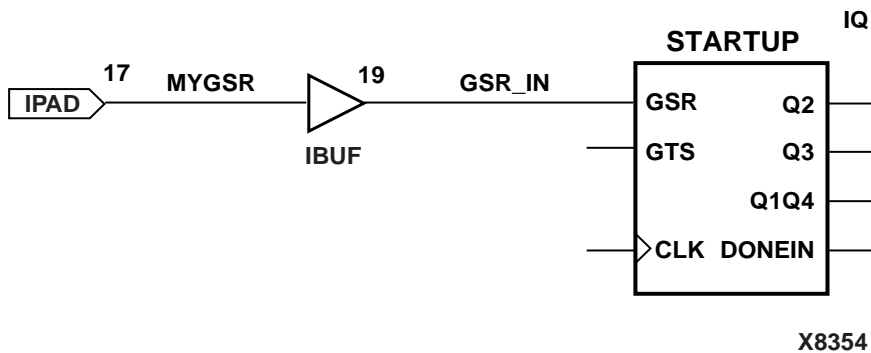
Since GSR is declared as a floating wire and is not in the port list, the synthesis tool optimizes the GSR signal out of the design. GSR is replaced later by the implementation software for all post-implementation simulation netlists.

In the test fixture file, set GSR to test.uut.GSR (the name of the global set/reset signal, qualified by the name of the design instantiation instance name and the test fixture instance name). Since there is no STARTUP block, a connection to GSR is made in the testfixture via an assign statement. See the following example:

```
`timescale 1 ns / 1 ps
module testbench;
    reg CLK, D;
    wire Q;
    wire [3:0] COUT;
    reg GSR;
    assign glbl.GSR = GSR;
    assign test.uut.GSR = GSR;
    my_counter uut (.CLK (CLK), .D (D), .Q (Q), .COUT
        (COUT));
    initial begin
        $timeformat(-9,1,"ns",12);
        $display("\t    T C G D Q C");
        $display("\t    i L S      O");
        $display("\t    m K R      U");
        $display("\t    e          T");
        $monitor("%t %b %b %b %b %h", $time, CLK, GSR,
            D, Q, COUT);
    end
    initial begin
        CLK = 0;
        forever #25 CLK = ~CLK;
    end
    // Global Ste/Reset of the Design
    initial begin
        GSR = 1'b1;
        #100 GSR = 1'b0;
    end
    // Apply Design Stimulus here
    initial begin
        D = 1'b1;
        #100 D = 1'b0;
        #200 D = 1'b1;
        #100 $finish;
    end
endmodule
```

## Designs with a STARTUP Block

For RTL simulation using the UNISIM libraries, asserting global set/reset and global tristate when the STARTUP block is specified in the design is similar to asserting global set/reset and global tristate without a STARTUP block in the design. See the “User-Controlled GSR” figure.



**Figure 6-7 User-Controlled GSR**

To set the GSR pin to set an external input port, the testfixture would be written as the following:

```
reg MYGSR;
initial begin
    MYGSR = 1;
    #100 MYGSR = 0;
end
```

There is no need for the assign statement as without the STARTUP block since the GSR signal can be pulsed from the external port connected to the GSR pin of the STARTUP component. This is because a the global signal, gbl.GSR, is defined within the STARTUP block to make the connection between the user logic and the global GSR net embedded in the UNISIM models for RTL simulation. For post-NGDBuild, GSR is connected in the netlist created by NGD2VER. Retaining the assign definition causes a possible conflict with these connections.

### Example 1: STARTUP with GSR Pin Connector

In the following Verilog code, GSR is listed as a top-level port. Synthesis sees a connection of GSR to the STARTUP and as well to the behaviorally described counter. Although this is correct in the hardware, it is actually an implicit connection, and GSR is only listed as a connection to the STARTUP in the implementation netlist.

```
module my_counter (MYGSR, CLK, D, Q, COUT);
    input MYGSR, CLK, D;
    output Q;
    output [3:0] COUT;

    reg [3:0] COUT;

    always @(posedge MYGSR or posedge CLK)
        begin
            if (MYGSR == 1'b1)
                COUT = 4'h0;
            else
                COUT = COUT + 1'b1;
        end
    // GSR is modeled as a wire within a global
    // module. So, CLR does not need to be connected
    // to GSR and the flop will still be reset with GSR.
    FDCE U0 (.Q (Q), .D (D), .C (CLK), .CE (1'b1),
    .CLR (1'b0));
    STARTUP U1 (.GSR (MYGSR), .GTS (1'b0), .CLK
    (1'b0));
endmodule
```

The following is an example of controlling the global set/reset signal by driving the external MYGSR input port in a test fixture file at the beginning of an RTL or post-synthesis functional simulation when there is a STARTUP block. Since the GSR signal is declared as a port, it can be treated like a normal port in the testbench only at the beginning of simulation. It should be activated to properly initialize the design.

The global set/reset control signal should be toggled High, then Low in an initial block from the testbench file.

```
reg MYGSR;
initial begin
    MYGSR = 1; // To reset/set the device
    #100 MYGSR = 0; // To deactivate GSR
end
```

In addition, the global signal, `glbl.GSR`, is defined within the **STARTUP** block to make the connection between the user logic and the global GSR net embedded in the UNISIM models for RTL simulation. For post-NGDBuild functional simulation, post-Map timing simulation, and post-route timing simulation, GSR is connected in the Verilog netlist that is created by NGD2VER.

### Example 2: STARTUP with GTS Pin Connected

In the following figure, MYGTS is an external user signal that controls GTS.

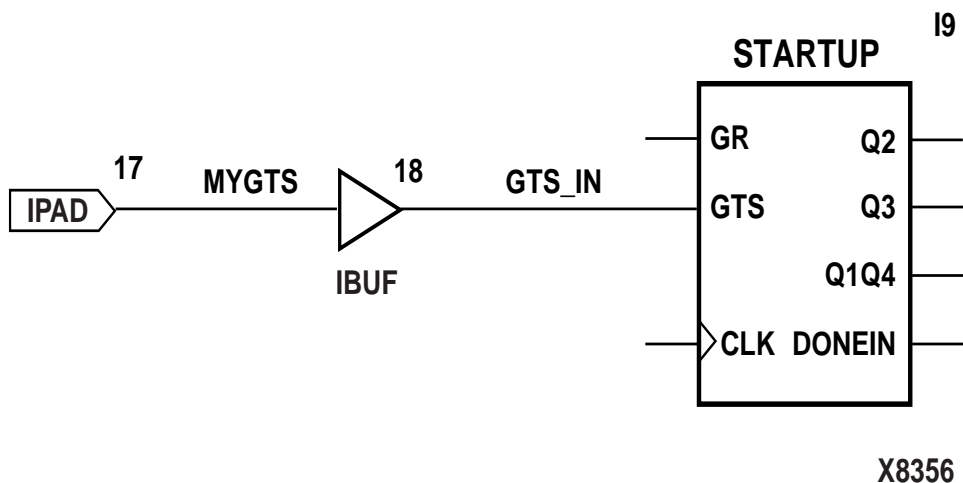


Figure 6-8 User-Controlled GTS

The following is an example of controlling the global tristate signal by driving the external MYGTS input port in a test fixture file at the beginning of an RTL or post-synthesis functional simulation when there is a STARTUP block. The global GTS signal is modeled in all UNISIM simulation models for output buffers (OBUF, OBUFT) so that when these models are instantiated in the code, they will go tristate when the glbl.GTS signal is high.

The global tristate control signal should be toggled High, then Low in an initial block from the testbench file.

```
reg MYGTS;
initial begin
    MYGTS = 1;           // To 3-state the device;
    #100 MYGTS = 0;      // To deactivate GTS
end
```

### **Example 3: STARTUP with GTS Pin Not Connected**

A Verilog global signal called glbl.GTS is defined within the STARTUP\_VIRTEX, STARTUP\_VIRTEX2 and STARTUP\_SPARTAN2 blocks to make the connection between the user logic and the global GTS net embedded in the Unified models. For post-NGDBuild functional simulation, post-map timing simulation, and post-route timing simulation, glbl.GTS is defined in the Verilog netlist that is created by NGD2VER.

When using a STARTUP block in the design to control GTS function, simply toggle the port connected to the GTS pin of the STARTUP block to activate and de-activate the global tristate function.

## **Simulating Special Components in Verilog**

The following section provides a description and examples of simulating special components for Virtex.

### **Boundary Scan and Readback**

The Boundary Scan and Readback circuitry cannot be simulated at this time. Efforts are being made to create models for these components and should be available in the near future.

## Differential I/O (LVDS, LVPECL)

For Virtex-E and Spartan-IIE families, the inputs of the differential pair are currently modeled with only the positive side, whereas the outputs have both pairs, positive and negative. For details, please see <http://support.xilinx.com/techdocs/8187.htm>.

This is not an issue for the Virtex-II architecture because the differential buffers for Virtex-II and later architectures have been updated to accept both the positive and negative inputs.

The following is an example of an instantiated differential I/O in a Virtex-E or Spartan-IIE design.

```
module lvds_ex (data, data_op, data_on);
    input data;
    output data_op, data_on;

    // Input side
    IBUF_LVDS IO (.I (data), .O (data_int));

    // Output side
    OBUF_LVDS OP0 (.I (data_int), .O (data_op));
    wire data_n_int = ~data_int;
    OBUF_LVDS ON0 (.I (data_n_int), .O (data_on));

endmodule
```

## LUT

For simulation, the INIT attribute passed by the defparam statement is used to initialize contents of the LUT for functional simulation.

The following is an example of the defparam statement being used to initialize the contents of a LUT.

```

module lut_ex (LUT1_OUT, LUT1_IN);
    input  [1:0] LUT1_IN;
    output [1:0] LUT1_OUT;

    // For RTL simulation only.
    // The defparam will not synthesize.

    // synthesis translate_off
    defparam U0.INIT = 2'b01;
    defparam U1.INIT = 2'b10;
    // synthesis translate_on

    // LUT1 used as an inverter
    LUT1 U0 (.O (LUT1_OUT[0]), .IO (LUT1_IN[0]));

    // LUT1 used as a buffer
    LUT1 U1 (.O (LUT1_OUT[1]), .IO (LUT1_IN[1]));

endmodule

```

However, passing the INIT attribute in this manner does not initialize the contents for synthesis. All synthesis tools have their own mechanism for passing attributes to the implementation netlist. For references on today's popular synthesis tools, refer to the *LUT Instantiation and Initialization for Synthesis* table.

**Table 6-9 LUT Instantiation and Initialization for Synthesis**

Synthesis Tool	Information Location
XST	<a href="http://support.xilinx.com/techdocs/11069.htm">http://support.xilinx.com/techdocs/11069.htm</a>
FPGA Compiler II	<a href="http://support.xilinx.com/techdocs/5334.htm">http://support.xilinx.com/techdocs/5334.htm</a>
Synplify	<a href="http://support.xilinx.com/techdocs/1992.htm">http://support.xilinx.com/techdocs/1992.htm</a>
LeonardoSpectrum	<a href="http://support.xilinx.com/techdocs/8207.htm">http://support.xilinx.com/techdocs/8207.htm</a>

## SRL16

For inferred SRL16s, no attributes need to be passed to the simulator. However, if the SRL16 component is being instantiated, and if non-zero contents are desired for initialization, the INIT attribute passed by the defparam statement is used to initialize contents of the SRL16.

The following is an example of the defparam statement being used to initialize the contents of a SRL16.

```
module srl16_ex (CLK, DIN, QOUT);
    input CLK, DIN;
    output QOUT;

    // For RTL simulation only.
    // The defparam will not synthesize.

    // synthesis translate_off
    defparam U0.INIT = 16'hAAAA;
    // synthesis translate_on

    // Static length - 16-bit SRL
    SRL16 U0 (.D (DIN), .Q (QOUT), .CLK (CLK),
        .A0 (1'b1), .A1 (1'b1), .A2 (1'b1), .A3 (1'b1));
endmodule
```

However, passing the INIT attribute in this manner does not initialize the contents for synthesis. Please refer to your synthesis vendor's documentation since all synthesis tools have their own mechanism for passing attributes to the implementation netlist.

## BlockRAM

For simulation, the INIT\_0x attributes passed by the defparam statement are used to initialize contents of the BlockRAM.

```
module bram512x4 (CLK, DATA_BUSA, ADDRA, WEA,
    DATA_BUSB, ADDR_B, WEB);
    input [9:0] ADDRA, ADDR_B;
    input CLK, WEA, WEB;
    inout [3:0] DATA_BUSA, DATA_BUSB;

    wire [3:0] DOA, DOB;

    assign DATA_BUSA = !WEA ? DOA : 4'hz;
    assign DATA_BUSB = !WEB ? DOB : 4'hz;

    // For RTL simulation only. The defparam will not
    // synthesize.

    // synthesis translate_off
    defparam
        U0.INIT_00 = 256'hnew_hex_value,
        U0.INIT_01 = 256'hnew_hex_value,
        U0.INIT_02 = 256'hnew_hex_value,
        U0.INIT_03 = 256'hnew_hex_value,
        U0.INIT_04 = 256'hnew_hex_value,
        U0.INIT_05 = 256'hnew_hex_value,
        U0.INIT_06 = 256'hnew_hex_value,
        U0.INIT_07 = 256'hnew_hex_value,
        U0.INIT_08 = 256'hnew_hex_value,
        U0.INIT_09 = 256'hnew_hex_value,
        U0.INIT_0A = 256'hnew_hex_value,
        U0.INIT_0B = 256'hnew_hex_value,
        U0.INIT_0C = 256'hnew_hex_value,
        U0.INIT_0D = 256'hnew_hex_value,
        U0.INIT_0E = 256'hnew_hex_value,
        U0.INIT_0F = 256'hnew_hex_value;

    // synthesis translate_on

    RAMB4_S4_S4 U0 (.DOA (DOA), .DOB (DOB),
        .ADDRA (ADDRA), .DIA (DATA_BUSA), .ENA (1'b1),
        .CLKA (CLK), .WEA (WEA), .RSTA (1'b0),
        .ADDRB (ADDR_B), .DIB (DATA_BUSB), .ENB (1'b1),
        .CLKB (CLK), .WEB (WEB), .RSTB (1'b0));
endmodule
```

However, passing the INIT\_0x attributes in this manner does not initialize the memory contents for synthesis since all synthesis tools have their own mechanism for passing attributes to the implementation netlist. For references on today's synthesis tools, refer to the *BlockRAM Instantiation and Initialization for Synthesis* table.

**Table 6-10 BlockRAM Instantiation and Initialization for Synthesis**

Synthesis	Information Location
XST	<a href="http://support.xilinx.com/techdocs/10695.htm">http://support.xilinx.com/techdocs/10695.htm</a>
FPGA Compiler II	<a href="http://support.xilinx.com/techdocs/4392.htm">http://support.xilinx.com/techdocs/4392.htm</a>
Synplify	<a href="http://support.xilinx.com/techdocs/2022.htm">http://support.xilinx.com/techdocs/2022.htm</a>
LeonardoSpectrum	<a href="http://support.xilinx.com/techdocs/7947.htm">http://support.xilinx.com/techdocs/7947.htm</a>

Another method for passing the INIT\_0x attributes to the Alliance tools is through the use of a UCF file. For example, the following statement defines the initialization string for the code example above.

```
INST U0 INIT_00 =
    5555aaaa5555aaaa5555aaaa5555aaaa5555aaaa;
INST U0 INIT_01 =
    5555aaaa5555aaaa5555aaaa5555aaaa5555aaaa;
```

The value of the INIT\_0x string is a hexadecimal number that defines the initialization string.

## CLKDLL

The duty cycle of the CLK0 output is 50-50 unless the DUTY\_CYCLE\_CORRECTION attribute is set to FALSE, in which case the duty cycle is the same as that of the CLKIN.

The frequency of CLKDV is determined by the value assigned to the CLKDV\_DIVIDE attribute. The default is 2.

The STARTUP\_WAIT is not implemented in the model. To hold off simulation until the DLL is locked, this example will monitor the LOCK signal and use it to trigger the release of the GSR signal.

```
module clkdll_ex (CLKIN_P, RST_P, CLK0_P, CLK90_P,
                  CLK180_P, CLK270_P, CLK2X_CLKDV_P,
                  LOCKED_P);
    input CLKIN_P, RST_P;
    output CLK0_P, CLK90_P, CLK180_P, CLK270_P,
           CLK2X_P;
    output CLKDV_P;
    // Active high indication that DLL is
    // LOCKED to CLKIN
    output LOCKED_P;
    wire CLKIN, CLK0;

    // Input buffer on the clock
    IBUFG U0 (.I (CLKIN_P), .O (CLKIN));

    // GLOBAL CLOCK BUFFER on the
    // delay compensated output
    BUFG U2 (.I (CLK0), .O (CLK0_P));

    // For RTL simulation only.
    // The defparam will not synthesize.
    // synthesis translate_off
    // CLK0 divided by
    // 1.5 2.0 2.5 3.0 4.0 5.0 8.0 or 16.0
    defparam DLL0.CLKDV_DIVIDE = 4.0;
    defparam DLL0.DUTY_CYCLE_CORRECTION = "FALSE";
    // synthesis translate_on

    // Instantiate the DLL primitive cell
    CLKDLL DLL0 (.CLKIN (CLKIN), .CLKFB (CLK0_P),
                .RST (RST_P), .CLK0 (CLK0),
                .CLK90 (CLK90_P), .CLK180 (CLK180_P),
                .CLK270 (CLK270_P), .CLK2X (CLK2X_P),
                .CLKDV (CLKDV_P), .LOCKED (LOCKED_P));
endmodule
```

However, passing the CLKDLL attributes in this manner does not initialize the contents for synthesis. Please refer to your synthesis vendor's documentation since all synthesis tools have their own mechanism for passing attributes to the implementation netlist.

Another method for passing the CLKDLL attributes to the Alliance tools is through the use of an UCF file. For example, the following statement defines the initialization string for the code example above.

```
INST DLL0 CLKDV_DIVIDE = 4;
INST DLL0 DUTY_CYCLE_CORRECTION = FALSE;
```

## DCM

The DCM (Digital Clock Management) component, available in Virtex-II and Virtex-II Pro, is an enhancement over the Virtex-E CLKDLL. The following example shows how to pass the attributes to the DCM component using the defparam statement in Verilog.

```
module DCM_TEST( clock_in, clock_out, clock_with_ps_out,
                 reset );
    input clock_in;
    output clock_out;
    output clock_with_ps_out;
    output reset;

    wire low, high, dcm0_locked, reset, clk0;

    assign low = 1'b0;
    assign high = 1'b1;
    assign reset = !dcm0_locked;

    IBUFG CLOCK_IN ( .I(clock_in), .O(clock) );

    DCM DCM0 (
        .CLKFB(clock_out), .CLKIN(clock), .DSSEN(low), .PSCLK(low),
        .PSEN(low), .PSINCDEC(low), .RST(low), .CLK0(clk0), .CLK90(),
        .CLK180(), .CLK270(), .CLK2X(), .CLK2X180(), .CLKDV(), .CLKFX(),
        .CLKFX180(), .LOCKED(dcm0_locked), .PSDONE(), .STATUS() );
    BUFG CLK_BUF0( .O(clock_out), .I(clk0) );
```

```
//synthesis translate_off
defparam DCM0.DLL_FREQUENCY_MODE = "LOW";
defparam DCM0.DUTY_CYCLE_CORRECTION = "TRUE";
defparam DCM0.STARTUP_WAIT = "TRUE";
defparam DCM0.DFS_FREQUENCY_MODE = "LOW";
defparam DCM0.CLKFX_DIVIDE = 1;
defparam DCM0.CLKFX_MULTIPLY = 1;
defparam DCM0.CLK_FEEDBACK = "1X";
defparam DCM0.CLKOUT_PHASE_SHIFT = "NONE";
defparam DCM0.PHASE_SHIFT = "0";
defparam DCM0.CLK_FEEDBACK = "1X";
defparam DCM0.CLKIN_DIVIDE_BY_2 = FALSE;
defparam DCM0.CLKIN_PERIOD = 0.0;
defparam DCM0.DESKEW_ADJUST = "SYSTEM_SYNCHRONOUS";
defparam DCM0.DFS_FREQUENCY = "LOW";
defparam DCM0.DLL_FREQUENCY = "LOW";
//synthesis translate_on

endmodule // DCM_TEST
```

### Simulation CORE Generator Components

The simulation flow for CORE Generator models is described in the *CORE Generator Guide*.

## Design Hierarchy and Simulation

Most FPGA designs are partitioned into levels of hierarchy for many advantageous reasons. A few of the reasons hierarchy makes the design easier to read, easier to re-use, allows partitioning for a multi-engineer team, and improves verification. To improve design utilization and performance, many times the synthesis tool or the Xilinx implementation tools will flatten or modify the design hierarchy. After this flattening and restructuring of the design hierarchy in synthesis and implementation, the hierarchy can be reconstructed during back annotation and final gate-level simulation netlisting. Many times this reconstruction will cause a flattened or somewhat distorted view of the original design hierarchy for back-end timing verification. Because of this distortion, much of the advantage of using the original design hierarchy in RTL verification is lost in back-end verification. The distortion decreases the visibility into the structural design netlist, and increases the difficulty of

verifying the end function of the design. In an effort to improve visibility of the design for back-end simulation, retention of the original design hierarchy has been improved in the Xilinx design flow.

To allow preservation of the design hierarchy through the implementation process with little or no degradation in performance or increase in design resources, stricter design rules should be followed so that optimization is not necessary across the design hierarchy.

Some good design practices to follow are:

- Register all outputs exiting a preserved entity or module.
- Do not allow critical timing paths to span multiple entities or modules.
- Keep related or possibly shared logic in the same entity or module.
- Place all logic that is to be placed/merged into the I/O (IOB registers, three state buffers, instantiated I/O buffers, etc.) in the top-level module or entity for the design. This includes double-data rate registers used in the I/O.
- Manually duplicate high-fanout registers at hierarchy boundaries if improved timing is necessary.

Generally, it is good practice to follow the guidelines in the *FPGA Reuse Field Guide*.

To maintain the entire hierarchy or specified parts of the hierarchy during synthesis, the synthesis tool must first be instructed to preserve hierarchy for all levels or each selected level of hierarchy. This may be done with a global switch, compiler directive in the source files, or a synthesis command. Consult your synthesis tool documentation for details on how to retain hierarchy. After taking the necessary steps to preserve hierarchy, and properly synthesizing the design, a hierarchical implementation file (EDIF or NGC) should be created by the synthesis tool that will retain the hierarchy.

Before implementing the design with the Xilinx software, place a `KEEP_HIERARCHY` constraint on each instance in the design in which the hierarchy is to be preserved. This tells the Xilinx software exactly which parts of the design should not be flattened or modified to maintain proper hierarchy boundaries. This constraint may be

passed in the source code as an attribute, as an instance constraint in the NCF or UCF file, or may be automatically generated by the synthesis tool. See your synthesis vendor documentation to see how your synthesis tool handles this. More information on the KEEP\_HIERARCHY constraint can be found in the *Constraints Guide*.

Alternatively, if the design was compiled using a bottom-up methodology where individual implementation files (EDIF or NGC) were created for each level of design hierarchy, the KEEP\_HIERARCHY constraint may be automatically generated. A KEEP\_HIERARCHY constraint will be generated for each separate design file passed to the Xilinx software by the use of a switch during input netlist translation. During the ngdbuild netlist translation stage, if the `-insert_keep_hierarchy` switch is enabled, the hierarchy for each individual input file for the design will be preserved during implementation.

After the design is mapped, placed, and routed, run `ngdanno` with the resulting NGM file from map during delay annotation to properly back-annotate the hierarchy of the design. Then run the netlister on the output NGA file from `ngdanno` using the following syntax:

```
ngdanno design_name.ncd design_name_map.ngm
ngd2ver/ngd2vhdl design_name.nga output_name
```

This is the default way `ngdanno` is run when using ISE or XFLOW to generate the simulation files. It is only necessary to know this if you plan to execute the `ngdanno` outside of ISE or XFLOW. When you run the netlister on the resulting back-annotated NGA file, and using the NGM file, all hierarchy that was specified to KEEP\_HIERARCHY should be reconstructed in the resulting VHDL or Verilog netlist.

**Note** Hierarchy created by generate statements may not match the original simulation due to naming differences between the simulator and synthesis engines for generated instances. The back-end Verilog and VHDL netlist could have additional ports in the user hierarchy called GSR and GTS as part of the hierarchy interface for instances with the KEEP\_HIERARCHY attribute. These ports are necessary for connecting the GSR and GTS global nets that are needed for the correct simulation of the design.

## **RTL Simulation Using Xilinx Libraries**

Since Xilinx simulation libraries are VHDL-93 and Verilog-2001 compliant, they can be simulated using any simulator that supports these language standards. However, certain delay and modelling information is built into the libraries, which is required to correctly simulate the Xilinx hardware devices.

Xilinx recommends not changing data signals at clock edges, even for functional simulation. The simulators add a unit delay between the signals that change at the same simulator time. If the data changes at the same time as a clock, it is possible that the data input will be scheduled by the simulator to occur after the clock edge. Thus, the data will not go through until the next clock edge, although it is possible that the intent was to have the data get clocked in before the first clock edge. To avoid any such unintended simulation results, Xilinx recommends not switching data signals (for registered components) and clock signals simultaneously.

The UNISIMS VHDL BlockRAM simulation models have a 10 picosecond setup time built in. Since the ideal simulation environment calls for using the same testbench in both RTL and timing simulation, this default setup time warns the user when a stimulus that will not work in timing simulation or hardware is passed by the testbench. This is desirable since it gives the user an early warning before the design goes into the implementation stage. Similarly, the UNISIMS VHDL CLKDLL and DCM simulation models have a 100 picosecond default skew between the input and output clocks, which is the skew seen on average in timing simulation and board-level simulation.

## **Timing Simulation**

In back annotated (timing) simulation, the introduction of delays can cause the behavior to be different from what is expected. Most problems are caused due to timing violations in the design, and are reported by the simulator. However, there are a few other problems that can occur.

### **Glitches in your Design**

When a glitch (small pulse) occurs in an FPGA circuit or any integrated circuit, the glitch may be passed along by the transistors

and interconnect (transport) in the circuit, or it may be swallowed and not passed (internal) to the next resource in the FPGA. This depends on the width of the glitch and the type of resource the glitch passes through. To produce more accurate simulation of how signals are propagated within the silicon, Xilinx models this behavior in the timing simulation netlist. For Verilog simulation, this information is passed by the PATHPULSE construct in the SDF file. This construct is used to specify the size of pulses to be rejected or swallowed on components in the netlist. For VHDL, there are two library components called X\_BUF\_PP and X\_TRI\_PP in which proper values are annotated for pulse rejection in the simulation netlist. The result of these constructs in our simulation netlists is a more true-to-life simulation model, and so a more accurate simulation.

## **CLKDLL/DCM Clocks do not appear de-skewed**

The CLKDLL and DCM components remove the clock delay from the clock entering into the chip. As a result, the incoming clock and the clocks feeding the registers in the device have a minimal skew within the range specified in the Databook for any given device. However, in timing simulation, the clocks may not appear to be de-skewed within the range specified. This is due to the way the delays in the SDF file are handled by some simulators.

The SDF file annotates the CLOCK PORT delay on the X\_FF components. However, some simulators may show the clock signal before taking this delay into account. If this CLOCK PORT delay on the X\_FF is added to the internal clock signal, then it should line up within the device specifications in the waveform viewer with the input port clock. Currently there is no work around to this problem for Verilog designs. Therefore, in order to verify the correct functioning of the CLKDLL/DCM, delays from the SDF file need to be accounted for manually to calculate the actual skew between the input and internal clocks. For VHDL designs, probe the internal signals of the simulation models to see the PORT delays being annotated. The internal signals have a "\_int" annotated to the external port name.

## **Simulating the DLL/DCM**

Although the functionality of the Xilinx DLL and DCM components may seem easy to understand, the simulation of these components can be easily misinterpreted. The purpose of this section is to clarify

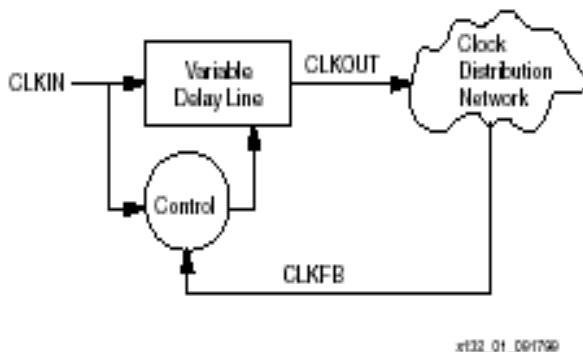
how the DLL/DCM is supposed to simulate, and to identify some of the common problems designers face when simulating these components.

## TRACE/Simulation Model Differences

To fully understand the simulation model, you must first understand that there are differences in the way the DLL and DCM are built in silicon and the way TRACE reports them compared to the DLL/DCM simulation model. The DLL/DCM simulation model attempts to replicate the functionality of the DLL/DCM in the Xilinx silicon, but it does not always do it exactly how it is implemented in the silicon. In the silicon, the DLL/DCM uses a tapped delay line to delay the clock signal. This accounts for input delay paths and global buffer delay paths to the feedback in order to accomplish the proper clock phase adjustment. TRACE or Timing Analyzer reports the phase adjustment as a simple delay (usually negative) so that you can adjust the clock timing for static timing analysis. As for simulation, the DLL/DCM simulation model itself, attempts to align the input clock to the clock coming back into the feedback input. Instead of putting the delay in the DLL or DCM itself, the delays are handled by combining some of them into the feedback path as clock delay on the clock buffer (component) and clock net (port delay). The remainder is combined with the port delay of the CLKFB pin. While this is different from the way TRACE or Timing Analyzer reports it, and the way it is implemented in the silicon, the end result is the same functionality. TRACE and simulation both use a simple delay model rather than an adjustable delay tap line similar to silicon.

**Note** Note that we do not currently support jitter and clock arrival differences in the simulation model or static timing analysis.

The primary job of the DLL/DCM is to remove the clock delay from the internal clocking circuit as shown in the following figure.



**Figure 6-9 Delay Locked Loop Block Diagram**

Do not confuse this with the function of de-skewing the clock. Clock skew is generally associated with delay variances in the clock tree, which is a different matter. By removing the clock delay, the input clock to the device pin should be properly phase aligned with the clock signal as it arrives at each register it is sourcing. This means that observing signals at the DLL/DCM pins generally does not give the proper view point to observe the removal of the clock delay. The place to see if the DCM is doing its job is to compare the input clock (at the input port to the design) with the clock pins of one of the sourcing registers. If these are aligned (or shifted to the desired amount) then the DLL/DCM has accomplished its job.

## Non-LVTTL Input Drivers

When using non-LVTTL input buffer drivers to drive the clock, the DCM does not make adjustments as to the type of input buffer chosen, but instead has a single delay value to provide the best amount of clock delay across all I/O standards. If you are using the same input standard for the data, the delay values should track, and generally not cause a problem. Even if you are not using the same input standard, the amount of delay variance will generally not cause hold time failures because the delay variance is small compared to the amount of input delay. The delay variance is calculated in both static timing analysis and simulation so you should see proper setup time values during static timing analysis, as well as during simulation.

## Viewer Considerations

Depending on which simulator you use, the waveform viewer may not depict the delay timing the way you expect to see it. Some simulators, including the current version of MTI ModelSim, will combine interconnect delays (either interconnect or port delays) with the input pins of the component delays when you view the waveform on the waveform viewer. In terms of the simulation, the results are correct, but in terms of what you see in the waveform viewer, this may not always be what you expect to see. Since interconnect delays are combined, when you look at a pin using the MTI ModelSim viewer, you do not see the transition as it happens on the pin. In terms of functionality, the simulation acts properly, and this is not very relevant, but when attempting to calculate clock delay, the interconnect delays before the clock pin must be taken into account if the simulator you are using combines these interconnect delays with component delays. Please refer to <http://support.xilinx.com/techdocs/11067.htm> on the Xilinx support Web site at for the most current information on this issue.

## Attributes for Simulation and Implementation

Ensure that the same attributes are passed for simulation and implementation. During implementation of the design, DLL/DCM attributes may be passed either by the synthesis tool via a synthesis attribute, or within the UCF file. For RTL simulation of the UNISIM models, the simulation attributes must be passed via a generic if you are using VHDL, or a defparam if you are using Verilog. If you do not use the default setting for the DLL/DCM, and you use the UCF file or a different synthesis attribute to pass the attribute values, you must ensure that the attributes for RTL simulation are the same as those used for implementation. If not, there may be differences between RTL simulation and the actual device implementation.

## Simulating the DCM in Digital Frequency Synthesis Mode Only

To simulate the DCM in Digital Frequency Synthesis Mode only, set the CLK\_FEEDBACK attribute to NONE and leave the CLKFB unconnected. The CLKFX and CLKFX180 will be generated based on CLKFX\_MULTIPLY and CLKFX\_DIVIDE attributes. These outputs will not have phase correction with respect to CLKIN.

## Negative Hold Times

In previous versions of Xilinx simulation models, negative hold times were truncated and specified as zero hold times. While this does not cause inaccuracies for simulation, it does reveal a more pessimistic model in terms of timing than is possible in the actual FPGA. Therefore this made it more difficult to meet stringent timing requirements. With the current release, negative hold times are now specified in the timing models to provide a wider, yet more accurate representation of the timing window. This is accomplished by combining the setup and hold parameters for the synchronous models into a single setuphold parameter in which the timing for the setup/hold window can be expressed. This should not change the timing simulation methodology in any way, however when using Cadence Verilog-XL or NC-Verilog, there will no longer be separate violation messages for setup and hold as they are now combined into a single setuphold violation.

## Simulation Flows

When simulating, compile the Verilog source files in any order since Verilog is compile order independent. However, VHDL components must be compiled bottom-up due to order dependency. Xilinx recommends that you specify the test fixture file before the HDL netlist of your design, as in the following examples.

Xilinx recommends giving the name *testbench* to the main module in the test fixture file. This name is consistent with the name used by default in the ISE Project Navigator. If this name is used, no changes are necessary to the option in ISE in order to perform simulation from that environment.

## ModelSim Vcom

The following is information regarding ModelSim Vcom.

## Using Shared Precompiled Libraries

Simulation Libraries have to be compiled to *compiled\_lib\_dir* before using ModelSim Vcom. See the “[Compiling HDL Libraries](#)” section for instruction on how to compile the Xilinx VHDL libraries.

Depending on the makeup of the design (Xilinx instantiated primitives, or CORE Generator components), for RTL simulation, specify the following at the command-line.

```
vlib work

vcom lower_level_files.vhd top_level.vhd testbench.vhd
(testbench_cfg.vhd)

vsim testbench_cfg
```

For timing simulation or post-Ngd2vhdl, the SIMPRIMS-based libraries are used. Specify the following at the command-line:

```
vlib work

vcom -work work design.vhd testbench.vhd [testbench_cfg.vhd]

vsim -sdfmax instance_name=design.sdf testbench_cfg
```

## Scirocco

The following is information regarding Scirocco.

### Using Shared Precompiled Libraries

Simulation Libraries have to be compiled to *compiled\_lib\_dir* before using Scirocco. See the “[Compiling HDL Libraries](#)” section for instruction on how to compile the Xilinx VHDL libraries.

Depending on the makeup of the design (Xilinx instantiated components, or CORE Generator components), for RTL simulation, specify the following at the command-line.

```
mkdir work

vhdlan work_macro1.vhd top_level.vhd testbench.vhd testbench_cfg.vhd

scs testbench_cfg

scsim
```

For timing simulation or post-Ngd2vhdl, the SIMPRIMS-based libraries are used. Specify the following at the command-line:

```
mkdir work  
vhdlan work_design.vhd testbench.vhd  
scs testbench  
scsim -sdf testbench:design.sdf
```

## NC-VHDL

The following is information regarding NC-VHDL.

### Using Shared Precompiled Libraries

Simulation Libraries have to be compiled to *compiled\_lib\_dir* before using NC\_VHDL. See the [“Compiling HDL Libraries”](#) section for instruction on how to compile the Xilinx VHDL libraries. It is assumed that the proper mapping and setup files are present before simulation. If you are unsure that you have the simulator properly setup, please consult the simulator vendor documentation.

Depending on the makeup of the design (Xilinx instantiated components, or CORE Generator components), for RTL simulation, specify the following at the command-line.

1. Create a working directory.

```
mkdir test
```

2. Compile design files and workbench.

```
ncvhd1 -work test testwork_macro1.vhd top_level.vhd  
testbench.vhd testbench_cfg.vhd
```

3. Elaborate the design at the proper scope

```
ncelab testbench_cfg:A
```

4. Invoke the simulation.

```
ncsim testbench_cfg:A
```

For timing simulation or post-Ngd2vhdl, the SIMPRIMS-based libraries are used. Specify the following at the command-line:

1. Compile the SDF annotation file:  

```
ncsdfc design.sdf
```
2. Create an SDF command file, *sdf.cmd*, the following data in it:  

```
COMPILED_SDF_FILE = design.sdf.X  
  
SCOPE = uut,  
  
MTM_CONTROL = 'MINIMUM';
```
3. Create a working directory.  

```
mkdir test
```
4. Compile design files and workbench.  

```
ncvhdl -work test work_design.vhd testbench.vhd
```
5. Elaborate the design at the proper scope  

```
ncelab -sdf_cmd_file.cmd testbench_cfg:A
```
6. Invoke the simulation.  

```
ncsim testbench_cfg:A
```

## Verilog-XL

Depending on the makeup of the design (Xilinx instantiated primitives, or CORE Generator components), for RTL simulation, specify the following at the command-line.

```
verilog -y $XILINX/verilog/src/unisims  
+libext+.v  
<testfixture>.v <design>.v $XILINX/verilog/src/glbl.v
```

The `-y` switch points the simulator to the HDL models.

For timing simulation or post-NGD2VER, the Simprims-based libraries are used. Specify the following at the command-line:

```
verilog -y $XILINX/verilog/src/simprims \
+libext+.v <testfixture>.v <design>.v $XILINX/verilog/src/glbl.v
```

For more information on specifying the Xilinx SIMPRIMs library using the -ul switch with NGD2VER instead of using the -y switch in Verilog-XL, go to <http://support.xilinx.com/techdocs/3167.htm>.

**Note** You do not need to compile the libraries for Verilog-XL because it uses an interpretive compilation of the libraries.

## NC-Verilog

There are two methods to run simulation with NC-Verilog.

1. Using library source files with compile time options (similar to Verilog-XL).
2. Using shared precompiled libraries.

### Using Library Source Files With Compile Time Options

Depending on the makeup of the design (Xilinx instantiated primitives, or CORE Generator components), for RTL simulation, specify the following at the command-line:

```
ncxlmde +libext+.v -y $XILINX/verilog/src/unisims -y
<testfixture>.v <design>.v $XILINX/verilog/src/glbl.v
```

For timing simulation or post-NGD2VER, the Simprims-based libraries are used. Specify the following at the command-line.

```
ncxlmde -y $XILINX/verilog/src/simprims $XILINX/verilog/src/glbl.v
+libext+.v <testfixture>.v time_sim.v
```

### Using Shared Precompiled Libraries

Simulation Libraries have to be compiled to *compiled\_lib\_dir* before using NC-Verilog. See the “[Compiling HDL Libraries](#)” section for instruction on how to compile the Xilinx Verilog libraries.

Depending on the makeup of the design (Xilinx instantiated primitives, or CORE Generator components), for RTL simulation, edit the hdl.var and cds.lib files to specify the library mapping.

```
# cds.lib
DEFINE simprims_ver <compiled_lib_dir>/simprims_ver
DEFINE xilinxcorelib_ver <compiled_lib_dir>/xilinxcorelib_ver
DEFINE worklib worklib

# hdl.var
DEFINE VIEW_MAP ($VIEW_MAP, .v => v) DEFINE LIB_MAP ($LIB_MAP,
<compiled_lib_dir>/unisims_ver => unisims_ver)
DEFINE LIB_MAP ($LIB_MAP, <compiled_lib_dir>/simprims_ver =>
simprims_ver)
DEFINE LIB_MAP ($LIB_MAP, <compiled_lib_dir>/simprims_ver =>
xilinxcorelib_ver)
DEFINE LIB_MAP ($LIB_MAP, + => worklib)
// After setting up the libraries, now compile and simulate the design:

ncvlog -messages -update $XILINX/verilog/src/glbl.v <testfixture>.v
<design>.v
ncelab -messages testfixture_name glbl
ncsim -messages testfixture_name
```

The `-update` option of Ncvlog enables incremental compilation.

For timing simulation or post-Ngd2ver, the Simprims-based libraries are used. Specify the following at the command-line:

```
ncvlog -messages -update $XILINX/verilog/src/glbl.v
<testfixture>.v time_sim.v
ncelab -messages -autosdf testfixture_name glbl
ncsim -messages testfixture_name
```

For more information on how to back-annotate the SDF file for timing simulation, go to <http://support.xilinx.com/techdocs/947.htm>.

## VCS/VCSi

VCS and VCSi are identical except that VCS is more highly optimized, resulting in greater speed for RTL and mixed level designs. Pure gate level designs run with comparable speed. However, VCS and VCSi are guaranteed to provide the exact same simulation results. VCSi is invoked using the `vcsi` command rather than the `vcs` command.

There are two methods to run simulation with VCS/VCSi.

1. Using library source files with compile time options (similar to Verilog-XL).
2. Using shared precompiled libraries.

## **Using Library Source Files With Compile Time Options**

Depending on the makeup of the design (Xilinx instantiated primitives, or CORE Generator components), for RTL simulation, specify the following at the command-line.

```
vcs -y $XILINX/verilog/src/unisims  
incdir+$XILINX/verilog/src +libext+.v $XILINX/verilog/src/glbl.v  
-Mupdate -R <testfixture>.v <design>.v
```

For timing simulation or post-NGD2VER, the Simprims-based libraries are used. Specify the following at the command-line.

```
vcs +compsdf -y $XILINX/verilog/src/simprims $XILINX/verilog/src/glbl.v  
+libext+.v -Mupdate -R <testfixture>.v time_sim.v
```

The -R option automatically simulates the executable after compilation .

The -Mupdate option enables incremental compilation. Modules will be recompiled because of one of the following reasons:

1. Target of a hierarchical reference has changed.
2. Some compile time constant such as a parameter has changed.
3. Ports of a module instantiated in the module have changed.
4. Module inlining. For example, merging, internally in VCS, of a group of module definitions into a larger module definition which leads to faster simulation. These affected modules are again recompiled. This is done only once.

For more information on how to back-annotate the SDF file for timing simulation, go to <http://support.xilinx.com/techdocs/6349.htm>.

## Using Shared Precompiled Libraries

Simulation Libraries have to be compiled to *compiled\_lib\_dir* before using VCS/VCSi. See the “[Compiling HDL Libraries](#)” section for instruction on how to compile the Xilinx Verilog libraries.

Depending on the makeup of the design (Xilinx instantiated primitives, or CORE Generator components), for RTL simulation, specify the following at the command-line.

```
vcs -Mupdate -Mlib=<compiled_dir>/unisims_ver -y $XILINX/verilog/src/
unisims -Mlib=<compiled_dir>/simprims_ver -y $XILINX/verilog/src/simprims
-Mlib=<compiled_dir>/xilinxcorelib_ver
+libext+.v $XILINX/verilog/src/glbl.v -R <testfixture>.v <design>.v
```

For timing simulation or post-NGD2VER, the Simprims-based libraries are used. Specify the following at the command-line.

```
vcs +compsdf -y $XILINX/verilog/src/simprims $XILINX/verilog/src/glbl.v
+libext+.v-Mupdate -R <testfixture>.v time_sim.v
```

The -R option automatically simulates the executable after compilation. Finally, the -Mlib=<compiled\_lib\_dir> option provides VCS with a central place to look for the descriptor information before it compiles a module and a central place to get the object files when it links together the executable.

The -Mupdate option enables incremental compilation. Modules will be recompiled because of one of the following reasons:

1. Target of a hierarchical reference has changed.
2. Some compile time constant such as a parameter has changed.
3. Ports of a module instantiated in the module have changed.
4. Module inlining. For example, merging, internally in VCS, of a group of module definitions into a larger module definition which leads to faster simulation. These affected modules are again recompiled. This is done only once.

For more information on how to back-annotate the SDF file for timing simulation, go to <http://support.xilinx.com/techdocs/6349.htm>.

## ModelSim Vlog

There are two methods to run simulation with ModelSim Vlog.

1. Using library source files with compile time options (similar to Verilog-XL).
2. Using shared precompiled libraries.

### Using Library Source Files With Compile Time Options

Depending on the makeup of the design (Xilinx instantiated primitives, or CORE Generator components), for RTL simulation, specify the following at the ModelSim prompt:

```
set XILINX $env(XILINX)
vlog -y $XILINX/verilog/src/unisims
+libext+.v $XILINX/verilog/src/glbl.v -incr
<testfixture>.v <design>.v
vsim <testfixture> glbl
```

For timing simulation or post-NGD2VER, the Simprims-based libraries are used. Specify the following at the ModelSim prompt:

```
vlog -y $XILINX/verilog/src/simprims $XILINX/verilog/src/glbl.v
+libext+.v <testfixture>.v time_sim.v -incr
vsim <testfixture> glbl +libext+.v <testfixture>.v
```

The **-incr** option enables incremental compilation.

### Using Shared Precompiled Libraries

Simulation Libraries have to be compiled to *compiled\_lib\_dir* before using ModelSim Vlog. See the [“Compiling HDL Libraries”](#) section for instruction on how to compile the Xilinx Verilog libraries.

Depending on the makeup of the design (Xilinx instantiated primitives, or CORE Generator components), for RTL simulation, specify the following at the ModelSim prompt:

```
set XILINX $env(XILINX)
vlog $XILINX/verilog/src/glbl.v <testfixture>.v time_sim.v -incr
vsim -L unisims_ver -L simprims_ver -L xilinxcorelib_ver <testfixture>
glbl
```

For timing simulation or post-NGD2VER, the SIMPRIM-based libraries are used. Specify the following at the ModelSim prompt:

```
vlog $XILINX/verilog/src/glbl.v <testfixture>.v time_sim.v -incr
vsim -L simprims_ver <testfixture> glbl
```

The -incr option enables incremental compilation. The -L <compiled\_lib\_dir> option provides VSIM with a library to search for design units instantiated from Verilog.

## IBIS

The Xilinx IBIS models provide information on I/O characteristics. The IBIS models can be used for the following.

IBIS models provide information about I/O driver and receiver characteristics without disclosing proprietary knowledge of the IC design (as unencrypted SPICE models do). However, there are some limitations on the information that IBIS models can provide. Please note that these are limitations imposed by the IBIS specification itself.

IBIS models can be used for the following:

1. Model best-case and worst-case conditions (best-case = strong transistors, low temperature, high voltage; worst-case = weak transistors, high temperature, low voltage). Best-case conditions are represented by the "fast/strong" model, while worst-case conditions are represented by the "slow/weak" model. Typical behavior is represented by the "typical" model.
2. Model varying drive strength and slew rate conditions for Xilinx I/Os that support such variation.

IBIS **cannot** be used for any of the following:

1. Provide internal timing information (propagation delays and skew).
2. Model power and ground structures.
3. Model pin-to-pin coupling.
4. Provide detailed package parasitic information. Package parasitics are provided in the form of lumped RLC data. This is typically not a significant limitation, as package parasitics have an almost negligible effect on signal transitions.

The implications of (2) and (3) above are that ground bounce, power supply droop, and simultaneous switching output (SSO) noise CANNOT be simulated with IBIS models. To ensure that these effects do not harm the functionality of your design, Xilinx provides device/package-dependent SSO guidelines based on extensive lab measurements. The locations of these guidelines are as follows:

Virtex-II - The "Design Considerations" section of the Virtex-II Handbook: <http://www.xilinx.com/products/virtex/handbook/index.htm>.

Virtex-II Pro - The "PCB Design Considerations" section of the Virtex-II Pro Handbook: <http://support.xilinx.com/publications/products/v2pro/handbook/index.htm>.

Virtex/-E - Xilinx Application Note 133: "Using the Virtex Select I/O Resource" (Xilinx XAPP133)

Spartan-II/-IIE - Xilinx Application Note 179: "Using Select I/O Interfaces in Spartan-II FPGAs" (Xilinx XAPP179)

IBIS models for Xilinx devices can be found at: [http://support.xilinx.com/support/sw\\_ibis.htm](http://support.xilinx.com/support/sw_ibis.htm)

For more information about the IBIS specification, please see the IBIS Home Page at <http://www.eigroup.org/ibis/ibis.htm>

The Xilinx IBIS models are available for download at:  
<ftp://ftp.xilinx.com/pub/swhelp/ibis/>

## **STAMP**

The Xilinx development system supports Stamp Model Generation. This feature supports the use of board level Static Timing Analysis tools, such as Mentor Graphics' Tau and Innoveda's Blast. With these tools, users of Xilinx programmable logic products can accelerate board level design verification.

Using the -stamp switch in the Xilinx program Trace, will write out the stamp models.

For more information on creating the STAMP files, options to use in Trace, and integrating it with Tau and Blast, please see the Application note at <http://support.xilinx.com/xapp/xapp166.pdf>

## Debugging Timing Problems

In back-annotated (timing) simulation, the simulator takes into account timing information that resides in the standard delay format (SDF) file. This may lead to eventual timing violations issued by the simulator. This section explains some of the more common timing violations, and gives advice on how to debug and correct them.

### Identifying Timing Violations

After you run timing simulation, check the messages generated by your simulator. If you have timing violations, they will be indicated by error messages.

The following example is a typical setup violation message from MTI ModelSim for a Verilog design. Message formats will vary from simulator to simulator, but will all contain the same basic information. See your simulator documentation for details.

```
# ** Error:/path/to/xilinx/verilog/src/simprims/X_RAMD16.v(96):
$setup(negedge WE:29138 ps, posedge CLK:29151 ps, 373 ps);
# Time:29151 ps Iteration:0 Instance: /test_bench/u1/\U1/X_RAMD16\
```

- The first line points to the line in the simulation model that is in error. In the example above, the failing line would be line 96 of the verilog file, X\_RAMD16.
- The second line gives information about the two signals that are the cause of the error. This line states the following.
  - ◆ The type of violation (\$setup, \$hold, \$recovery, etc.). The above example is a \$setup violation.
  - ◆ The name of each signal involved in the violation followed by the simulation time at which that signal last changed values. In the above example, the failing signals would be negative-going edge of the signal WE which last changed at 29138 picoseconds, and the positive-going edge of the signal CLK which last changed at 29151 picoseconds.
  - ◆ The third value is the allotted amount of time for the setup. For this example, the signal on WE should be 'stable for 373 pico seconds before the clock transitions. Since WE changed only 13 pico seconds before the clock, this violation was reported.

- The third line gives the simulation time at which the error was reported, and the instance in the structural design (time\_sim) in which the violation occurred.

## Verilog System Timing Tasks

Verilog system tasks and functions are used to perform simulation related operations such as monitoring and displaying simulation time and associated signal values at a specific time during simulation. All system tasks and functions begin with a dollar sign, for example \$setup. See the Verilog Language Reference Manual (available from IEEE) for details about specific system tasks.

Timing check tasks may be invoked in specific blocks to verify the timing performance of a design by making sure critical events occur within given time limits. Timing checks perform the following steps:

- Determine the elapsed time between two events.
- Compare the elapsed time to a specified limit.
- If the elapsed time does not fall within the specified time window, report timing violation.

The following system tasks may be used for performing timing checks:

\$hold	\$setup
\$nochange	\$setphold
\$period	\$skew
\$recovery	\$width

## VITAL Timing Checks

VITAL (VHDL Initiative Towards ASIC Libraries) is an addition to the VHDL specification that deals with adding timing information to VHDL models. One of the key aspects of VITAL is the specification of the package vital\_timing. This package, in addition to other things, provides standard procedures for performing timing checks.

The package `vital_timing` defines the following timing check procedures:

- `VitalSetupHoldCheck`
- `VITALRecoveryRemovalCheck`
- `VitalInPhaseSkewCheck`
- `VitalOutPhaseSkewCheck`
- `VITALPeriodPulseCheck`.

`VitalSetupHoldCheck` is overloaded for use with test signals of type `Std_Ulogic` or `Std_Logic_Vector`. Each defines a `CheckEnabled` parameter that supports the modeling of conditional timing checks. See the VITAL Language Reference Manual (available from IEEE) for details about specific VITAL timing checks.

## Timing Problem Root Causes

Timing violations, such as `$setuphold`, occur any time data changes at a register input (either data or clock enable) within the setup or hold time window for that particular register. There are a few typical causes for timing violations; the most common are the following.

- The design is not constrained
- A path in the design is not constrained
- The design does not meet timespecs
- The design simulation clock does not match what is called for in the timespecs
- Clock skew is unaccounted for in a particular data path
- A path in the design has asynchronous inputs, crosses out-of-phase clock domains or has asynchronous clock boundaries

## Design Not Constrained

Timing constraints are essential to help you meet your design goals or obtain the best implementation of your circuit. Global timing constraints cover most constrainable paths in a design. These global constraints cover clock definitions, input and output timing requirements, and combinatorial path requirements. Specify global constraints like `PERIOD`, `OFFSET_IN_BEFORE`, and

OFFSET\_OUT\_AFTER to match your simulator with the timespecs of the devices used in the design.

In general, keep in mind the following two points when constraining a design:

- **PERIOD:** Can be quickly applied to a design. It also leads in the support of OFFSET, which you can use to specify your I/O timing. This works well for a single-clock, or multi-clock design that is not multi-cycle.
- **FROM-TO:** This constraint works well with more complicated timing paths. Designs that are multi-cycle or have paths that cross clock domains are better handled this way. For I/O, however, you must add/subtract the delay of the global buffer. Note that using an OFFSET before for input and an OFFSET after for output is supported without the need to specify a period, so you can use the advantages of both.

For detailed information on constraining your design, consult any or all of the following resources.

- *Constraints Guide:*

The *Constraints Guide* lists all of the Xilinx constraints along with explanations and guides to their usage.

The Timing Constraint Strategies chapter in the *Constraints Guide* gives detailed information on the best ways to constrain the timing on your design to get optimum results.

- *Timing and Constraints* area on the Xilinx home page:

The *Timing and Constraints* area on the Xilinx home page provides a presentation of *Basic Timing Concepts and Syntax Examples*. This presentation gives an overview of how to constrain your design, and has examples of how to code various constraints.

- The *Timing Improvement Wizard*:

The *Timing Improvement Wizard* provides suggestions for improving failing paths, and can help you find answers to your specific timing questions. You can find the Timing Improvement Wizard at:

<http://support.xilinx.com/support/troubleshoot/psolvers.htm>

## Path Not or Improperly Constrained

Unconstrained or improperly constrained data and clock paths are the most common sources of setup and hold violations. Because data and clock paths can cross domain boundaries, global constraints are not always adequate to ensure that all paths are constrained. For example, a global constraint, such as PERIOD, does not constrain paths that originate at an input pin, and data delays along these paths could cause setup violations.

Use Timing Analyzer to determine the length of an individual data or clock path. For input paths to the design, if the length of a data path minus the length of the corresponding clock path, plus any data delay, is greater than the clock period, you will get a setup violation.

$$\text{clock period} < \text{data path} - \text{clock path} + \text{data delay value setup value for register}$$

For detailed information on constraining paths driven by input pins, see the Timing Constraint Strategies chapter of the *Constraints Guide*. Also see the Design Not Constrained section above for other constraints resources.

## Design Does Not Meet Timespec

Xilinx software enables you to specify precise timing requirements for your Xilinx FPGA designs. Specify the timing requirements for any nets or paths in your design. The primary method of specifying timing requirements is by assigning timing constraints. You can enter timing constraints through your synthesis tool, the Xilinx Constraints Editor, or by editing the User Constraint File (UCF). For detailed information on entering timing specifications, see the *Development System Reference Guide*. For detailed information about the constraints you can use with your schematic entry software, see the *Constraints Guide*.

Once you define timing specifications, use TRACE (Timing Report, Circuit Evaluator, and TSI Report) or Timing Analyzer to analyze the results of your timing specifications. Review the timing report carefully to ensure that all paths are constrained, and that the constraints are specified properly. Be sure to check for any error messages in the report.

If after applying timing constraints your design still does not meet timespec, there are several things you can do. Generally, your

synthesis and implementation tools have options intended to improve timing performance. Check with your tool's documentation to see what options can be applied to your design.

If refining your tool options is not sufficient, it may be necessary to go back to your source code to reconfigure parts of your design. Reducing levels of logic will reduce timing delays, as well as arranging your floor plan so that related logic is grouped together.

## **Simulation Clock Does Not Meet Timespec**

If the frequency of the clock that was specified during simulation is greater than that specified in the timing constraints, then this over-clocking of the design could cause timing violations. For example, if your simulation clock has a frequency of 5 ns, and you have a PERIOD constraint set at 10 ns, a timing violation could occur. This situation can also be complicated by the presence of DLL or DCM in the clock path.

Generally, this problem is caused by an error either in the testbench or in the constraint specification. Check to ensure that the constraints match the conditions in the testbench, and correct any inconsistencies. If you modify the constraints, be sure to re-run the design through place and route to ensure that all constraints are met.

## **Unaccounted Clock Skew**

Clock skew is the difference between the amount of time the clock signal takes to reach the destination register, and the amount of time the clock signal takes to reach the source register. The data must reach the destination register within a single clock period plus or minus the amount of clock skew. Clock skew is generally not a problem when you use global buffers; however, clock skew can be a concern if you use the local routing network for your clock signals.

To find out if clock skew is your problem, use TRACE to do a setup test. See the TRACE chapter of the *Development Systems Reference Guide* for directions on how to run a setup check, and read the TRACE report. You can also use Timing Analyzer to determine clock skew. See the *Timing Analyzer Online Help* for instructions.

Be aware that clock skew will be modeled in the simulation, but not in TRACE unless you invoke TRACE using the "-skew" switch. Simulation results may not equal TRACE results if the skew is

significant (as when a non-BUFG clock is used). To account for skew in TRACE, use the following command:

```
trce -skew
```

or set the following environment variable:

```
setenv XILINX_DOSKEWCHECK yes
```

If your design has clock skew, consider redesigning your path so that all registers are tied to the same global buffer. If that is not possible, consider using the USELOWSKEWLINES constraint to minimize skew. Refer to the *Constraints Guide* for detailed information on the USELOWSKEWLINES constraint.

**Note** Avoid using the XILINX\_DOSKEWCHECK environment variable with PAR. If you have clocks on local routing, the PAR timing score may oscillate. This is because the timing score will be a function of both a clock delay and the data delay, and attempts to make the data path faster may make the clock path slower, or vice versa. It should only be used within PAR on designs with paths that make use of global clock resources.

## Asynchronous Inputs, Asynchronous Clock Domains, Crossing Out-of-phase

Timing violations can be caused by data paths that are not controlled by the simulation clock, or are not clock controlled at all. Timing violations also include data paths that cross asynchronous clock boundaries, have asynchronous inputs, or cross data paths out of phase.

- **Asynchronous Clocks**

If the design has two or more clock domains defined, any path that crosses data from one domain to another could cause timing problems. Although data paths that cross from one clock domain to another are not always asynchronous, it is always best to be cautious with these situations. If two clocks have unrelated frequencies, they should certainly be treated as asynchronous. Any clocking signal that is coming from off-chip should also be treated as asynchronous. Note that anytime a register's clock is gated, it should be treated as asynchronous unless extreme caution is used.

Check the source code and the Timing Analyzer report to see if the path in question crosses asynchronous clock boundaries. If your design does not allow enough time for the path to be properly clocked into the other domain, you may have to redesign your clocking scheme. Consider using an asynchronous FIFO as a better way to pass data from one clock domain to another.

- **Asynchronous Inputs**

Data paths that are not controlled by a clocked element are asynchronous inputs. Because they are not clock controlled, they can easily violate setup and hold time specifications.

Check the source code to see if the path in question is synchronous to the input register. If synchronization is not possible, you can use the ASYNC\_REG constraint to work around the problem. See the [“Using the ASYNC\\_REG Attribute” section](#) in this chapter.

- **Out of Phase Data Paths**

Data paths can be clock controlled at the same frequency, but nevertheless can have setup or hold violations because the clocks are out of phase. Even if the clock frequencies are a derivative of each other, improper phase alignment could cause setup violations.

Check the source code and the Timing Analyzer report to see if the path in question crosses another path with an out of phase clock.

## Debugging Tips

When you are faced with a timing violation, the following questions may give valuable clues as to what went wrong.

- Was the clock path analyzed by TRACE or Timing Analyzer?
- Did TRACE or Timing Analyzer report that the data path can run at speeds being clocked in simulation?
- Is clock skew being accounted for in this path delay?
- Does subtracting the clock path delay from the data path delay still allow clocking speeds?

- Will slowing down the clock speeds eliminate the \$setup/\$hold time violations?
- Does this data path cross clock boundaries (from one clock domain to another)? Are the clocks synchronous to each other? Is there appreciable clock skew or phase difference between these clocks?
- If this path is an input path to the device, does changing the time at which the input stimulus is applied eliminate the \$setup/\$hold time violations?

Based on the answers to these questions, you may need to make changes to your design or testbench to accommodate the simulation conditions.

## Special Considerations for Setup and Hold Violations

### ***Zero Hold Time Considerations***

While Xilinx data sheets report that there are zero hold times on the internal registers and I/O registers with the default delay and using a global clock buffer, it is still possible to receive a \$hold violation from the simulator. This \$hold violation is really a \$setup violation on the register. However, in order to get an accurate representation of the CLB delays, part of the setup time must be modeled as a hold time. For more information on this modeling, please refer to [Xilinx Answer 782](#) at the Xilinx Support web site.

### ***RAM Considerations***

Xilinx devices contain two types of memories, BlockRAM and Distributed RAM. Both BlockRAM and Distributed RAM are synchronous elements when you write data to them, so the same precautions must be taken as with all synchronous elements to avoid timing violations. The data input, address lines, and enables all must be stable before the clock signal arrives to guarantee proper data storage. BlockRAMs also perform synchronous read operations. This means that during a read cycle, the addresses and enables must be stable before the clock signal arrives or a timing violation may occur.

When using Distributed RAM or BlockRAM in dual-port mode, special care must be taken to avoid memory collisions. A memory

collision occurs when one port is being written to while the other port is either read or write is attempted to the same address at the same time, or within a very short period of time thereafter. The model will warn you if a collision occurs. If the RAM is being read on one port as it is being written to on the other, the model will output an 'X' value signifying an unknown output. If the two ports are writing data to the same address at the same time, the model can write unknown data into memory. Special care should be taken to avoid this situation as unknown results may occur from this action.

## Calculating Setup and Hold Times

### ***Guaranteed External Setup Times***

The external setup time is defined as the setup time of the DATAPAD within the IOB, relative to the CLKPAD within the CLKIOB.

When a guaranteed external setup time exists in the speed files for a particular DATAPAD/CLKPAD pair and configuration, an X\_SUH component will be added to the netlist to annotate this value to the design. When no guaranteed external setup time exists in the speed files for a particular DATAPAD/CLKPAD pair, no X\_SUH components will be added and the external setup time will be reported as the maximum path delay from DATAPAD to the IFD, plus the maximum IFD setup time, less the minimum of maximum path delay(s) from the CLKPAD to the IFD.

### ***Setup Time Calculations***

Calculate the external setup time for a pad-to-register path using the following equation:

$$T_{su}(ext) = T(data\_path) + T_{su}(int) - T(clock\_path)$$

where:

- ◆  $T(data\_path)$  = maximum data path delay
- ◆  $T_{su}(int)$  = setup time of an internal register
- ◆  $T(clock\_path)$  = minimum clock path delay

### ***Hold Times***

The external hold time is defined as the hold time of the DATAPAD within the IOB, relative to the CLKPAD within the CLKIOB.

When a guaranteed external hold time exists in the speed files for a particular DATAPAD/CLKPAD pair and configuration, an X\_SUH component will be added to the netlist to annotate this value to the design. When no guaranteed external hold time exists in the speed files for a particular DATAPAD and CLKPAD pair, no X\_SUH components will be added and the external hold time will be reported as the maximum path delay from CLKPAD to the IFD, plus the maximum IFD hold time, less the minimum of maximum path delay(s) from the DATAPAD to the IFD.

### **Hold Time Calculations**

Calculate the external hold time for a pad-to-register path using the following equation:

$$Th(ext) = T(clock\_path) + Th(int) - T(data\_path)$$

where:

- ◆  $T(data\_path)$  = minimum data path delay
- ◆  $Th(int)$  = hold time of an internal register
- ◆  $T(clock\_path)$  = maximum clock path delay

## **\$Width Violations**

The \$width Verilog system task monitors the width of signal pulses. When the pulse width of a specific signal is less than what is required for the device being used, the simulator issues a \$width violation. Generally, \$width violations are only specified for clock signals and asynchronous set or reset signals.

Consult the online version of *The Programmable Logic Data Book* for the device switching characteristics for your device. Find the minimum pulse width requirements, and ensure that the device stimulus conforms to these specifications.

## **\$Recovery Violations**

The \$recovery Verilog system task specifies a time constraint between an asynchronous control signal and a clock signal (for example, between clearbar and the clock for a flip-flop). A \$recovery violation occurs when a change to the signal occurs within the specified time constraint.

The \$recovery Verilog system task is used to check for one of two dual-port block RAM conflicts:

- If both ports write to the same memory cell simultaneously, violating the clock-to-setup requirement, the data stored will be invalid.
- If one port attempts to read from the same memory cell to which the other is simultaneously writing (also violating the clock setup requirement) the write will be successful, but the data read will be invalid.

Recovery tasks are also used to detect if an asynchronous set/reset signal is released just before a clock event occurs. If this happens, the result is similar to a setup violation in that it is undetermined whether the new data should be clocked in or not.