ALLIANCE TUTORIAL

PART 2
Logical synthesis

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The goal of this tutorial is to allow a rapid use of some **ALLIANCE** tools, developed at the LIP6 laboratory of Pierre and Marie Curie University.

The tutorial is composed of 3 great parts independent from each other:

- VHDL modeling and simulation
- Logical synthesis
- Place and route

Before any handling you must ensure that all the environment variables are correctly positioned and that the Alliance tools are readily available when invoking them at the prompt. All the tools used in this tutorial are documented at least with a manual page.

Contents

PART 2 :
Logical Synthesis

All the files used in this part are located under
`/tutorial/synthesis/src` directory.
This directory contents four subdirectories and one Makefile :

- Makefile
- amdbug

  – Makefile
  – amdfindbug.pat : tests file
  – several files amd.vbe : behavioral description

- meter

  – Makefile
  – cpt5.fsm : description in fsm
  – cpt5.pat : tests file

- digicode

  – Makefile
  – digicode.fsm : description in fsm
  – paramfile.lax : use to modify the fan-out
  – digicode.pat : tests file
  – scan.path : make it possible to observe registers contents

- amd2901

  – Makefile
  – amd2901_ctl.vbe : behavioral description of control part
  – amd2901_dpt.vbe : behavioral description of data-path
  – amd2901_ctl.c : file .c of control part
  – amd2901_dpt.c : file .c of data-path
  – amd2901_core.c : file .c of heart
  – amd2901_chip.c : file .c of the circuit with their pads
  – pattern.pat : tests file

1   Introduction

The goal of this section is to present some ALLIANCE tools which are:

- Logical synthesis tools **SYF, BOOM, BOOG, LOON, SCAPIN** ;
- Data-path generation tool**GENLIB** ;
- *netlist* graphic visual display **XSCH** ;
- formal proof Tools **FLATBEH, PROOF**;
- The simulator **ASIMUT** ;

The first two sections will relate to the *netlist* **generation and validation** methods of predefined cells. Indeed, even if it is acquired that the tools for ALLIANCE generation function correctly, the validation of each generated view is **essential** . It makes it possible to limit the cost and the time of the design.

The two other sections will be reserved for the **data-path generation and the control part** of AMD2901.

2   Finite states machine Synthesis

2.1   Introduction

A pure combinative circuit does not have internal registers. So its outputs depend only on its primary inputs. Conversely, a synchronous sequential circuit having internal registers sees its outputs changing according to its inputs but also memorized values in its registers. Consequently, the circuit state at the moment t+1 also depends on its state at the moment t. This type of circuit can be modelled by a **finite states machine**.

Figure 1: Automat

2.2 MOORE and MEALY automaton

The MOORE automaton sees the state of its outputs changing only on
clock-edges. The inputs can thus move between two clock-edges with-
out modifying the outputs. But in the case of MEALY automaton, the
variation of the inputs can modify at any time the value of the outputs.
It will be essential to separate the generation function from the transi-
tion function (Moore automaton). For that, two distinct processes will
materialize the next state calculation and its update.

Figure 2: Automats

2.3   SYF and VHDL

In order to describe the automatons, we use a particular **VHDL** style description that defines architecture "fsm" (**finite-state machine**).

The corresponding file also has the extension **fsm** . From this file, the tool **SYF** makes the automaton synthesis and transforms this abstracted automaton into a Boolean network. **SYF** thus generates a **VHDL** file with the format **vbe** . Like the majority of the tools used in alliance, it is necessary to position some variables before using **SYF** . To know them, you defer to the **man** of **syf** .

2.4   Example

In order to familiarize with the syntax description of a **fsm** file, an example of **three** "1" successive meter is presented. Its vocation is to detect for example on a connection series, a sequence of **three** "1" successive. The states graph is represented on the figure 3.

The **fsm** format is also described in a **man** . Think of consulting it.

```
      entity circuit is
            port (
                    ck, i, reset, vdd, vss : in bit;
                    o : out bit
            );
      end circuit;
      architecture MOORE of circuit is
            type ETAT  _TYPE is (E0, E1, E2, E3);
            signal EF, EP : ETAT  _TYPE;
- - pragma CURRENT  _STATE EP
- - pragma NEXT  _STATE EF
- - pragma CLOCK CK
      begin
            process (EP, i, reset)
            begin
                  if (reset='1') then
                        EF<=E0;
                  else
                        case EP is
                              when E0 =
                                    if (i='1') then
                                          EF <= E1;
                                    else
                                          EF <= E0;
                                    end if;
                              when E1 =
                                    if (i='1') then
                                          EF <= E2;
                                    else
                                          EF <= E0;
                                    end if;
                              when E2 =
                                    if (i='1') then
                                          EF <= E3;
                                    else
                                          EF <= E0;
                                    end if;
                              when E3 =
                                    if (i='1') then
                                          EF <= E3;
                                    else
                                          EF <= E0;
                                    end if;
                              when others =  assert ('1')
                                    report "etat illegal";
                        end case;
                  end if;
                  case EP is
                        when E0 =
                              o <= '0' ;
                        when E1 =
                              o <= '0' ;
                        when E2 =
                              o <= '0' ;
                        when E3 =
                              o <= '1' ;
                        when others =  assert ('1')
                              report "etat illegal";
                  end case;
            end process;
            process(ck)
            begin
                  if (ck='1' and not ck'stable) then
                        EP <= EF;
                  end if;
            end process;
      end MOORE;
```

Figure 3: states graph of three "1" successive meter

2.5   Step to follow

Now used the example to write the description of a **five** "1" successive meter in a**Moore** automaton.

- position the environment variables .
- launch **SYF** with the coding options **-a, -J, -m, -O, -R** and by using the options **-CEV** .

  -a Uses "Asp" as encoding algorithm.

  -j Uses "Jedi" as encoding algorithm.

  -m Uses "Mustang" as encoding algorithm.

  -o Uses the one hot encoding algorithm.

  -r Uses distinct random numbers for state encoding.

  ```
  > syf -CEV -a <fsm_source>
  ```

- visualize the files **enc** . Those files contains one state name followed by its hexadecimal code.
- write test vectors and simulate under **ASIMUT** .

3   Automaton for digicode

We want to realize a chip for digicode whose keyboard is represented on the figure 4. The specifications are as follows:

Figure 4: Clavier

- The numbers from 0 to 9 are coded in natural binary on 4 bits. A and B are coded in the following way:

  - A: 1010
  - B: 1011

- The digicode work in two modes:

  - Day Mode: The door opens while pressing on "O" or if entering the good code
  - Night Mode: The door opens only if the code is correct.

  To distinguish the two cases an external "timer" calculates the signal **day** which is equal to ′ 1 ′ between 8h00 and 20h00 and ′ 0 ′ otherwise.
- The digicode order an alarm as soon as one of the entered numbers is not the good.
- The digicode automaton returns in idle state if nothing returned to the keyboard at the end of 5 seconds or if alarm sounded during 2mn - signal **reset** -. For that it receives a signal from **reset** external timer.

- The chip work at 10MHz.
- Any pressure of a key of the keyboard is accompanied by the signal **press_kbd** . This one announces to the chip that the output data of the keyboard is valid. This signal is to 1 during a clock-edge.

The code is **53A17** (but you can take the code who agrees to you). The interface of the automaton is as follows:

- in **ck**
- in **reset**
- in **day**
- in **i[3:0]**
- in **O**
- in **press_kbd**
- out **door**
- out **alarm**

Figure 5: Digicode states graph

3.1 Step to follow

- draw the states graph .
- write it in the **fsm** format .

- synthesize with **SYF** by using the coding options **-a, -j, -m, -o, -r** and by using the options **-CEV**.

```
> syf -CEV -a <fsm_source>
```

- write test vectors.
- simulate with **ASIMUT** all the behavioral views obtained.

4 Logical synthesis and structural optimization

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 Logical synthesis

The logical synthesis makes it possible to obtain a *netlist* gates starting from a Boolean network (format **vbe**). Several tools are available:

- The tool **BOOM** allows the Boolean network optimization before synthesis.
- The tool **BOOG** makes it possible to synthesize a *netlist* by using a library with predefined cells such as **SXLIB** . The *netlist* can be either with the format **vst** or with the format **al** . Check the environment variable **MBK_OUT_LO**=vst.

4.1.2 Solve fan-out problems

The *netlist*s generated contain sometimes intern signals attacking a significant number of gates (large FAN-OUT). This results in a clock edges deterioration . In order to solve these problems, the tool **LOON** replaces the cells having a fan-out too large by more powerful cells or insert buffers.

4.1.3 Long path visualization

At any moment, the *netlist*s can be graphically edited . The tool **XSCH** makes it possible to visualize the longest path thanks to the files **xsc** and **vst** generated at the same time by **BOOG** and **LOON** .

Figure 6: Simplified timing diagram

Equivalent resistor R of the *figure 6* is calculated on the totality of the transistors of the *AND* belonging to the active way. In the same way, the capacity C is calculated on the busy transistors of the *NOR* corresponding to the way between *i0* and the output of the cell.

4.1.4   Netlist Checking

The netlist must be validated. For that, you have **ASIMUT** , but also the tool **PROOF** which proceeds to a formal comparison of two behavioral descriptions (**vbe**). The tool **FLATBEH** makes it possible to obtain the new behavioral file starting from the *netlist* .

4.1.5   Scan-path insertion

With **SCAPIN** its possible to introduce a scan-path into the netlist. The scan-path allow you to observe in test mode the contains of all registers of your circuit. The path is created by changing the registers into mux_register or inserting a multiplexer in front of these registers.

4.2   Step to follow

4.2.1   *Mapping* **on predefined cells**

For each Boolean network obtained previously:

- position the environment variables;
- synthesize the structural view:

```
> boog <vbe_source>
```

- launch **BOOG** on different *netlist*s to observe **SYF** options influence .
- validate the work of **BOOG** with **ASIMUT** , the *netlist*s obtained with test vectors which were used to validate the initial Boolean network.

4.2.2   Netlist visualization

- The long path is described in the **xsc** file produced by **boog** . The **XSCH** tool will use it to colour its way. To launch the graphic editor:

```
>xsch -I vst -l <vst_source>
```

- The red color indicates the critical path.
- If you use the option ' - *slide* ' which makes it possible to post a whole of netlists, do not forget to press on the keys ' + ' or ' - ' to edit your files!

4.2.3   Boolean network optimization

To analyze Boolean optimization effect :

- launch Boolean optimization with the tool **BOOM** by asking an optimization in **surface** then in **delay** ;

```
>boom -V <vbe_source> <vbe_destination>
```

- test **BOOM** with the various algorithms - S, - J, - B, - G, - p..., the options specifie which algorithm has to be used for the boolean optimization.

- compare the literal number after factorization.
- remake the Boolean networks synthesis with the tool **BOOG** and compare the results.

4.2.4   Netlist optimization

For all the structural view obtained previously:

- launch **LOON** with the command:

```
>loon <vst_source> <vst_destination> <lax_param>
```

- carry out an fanout optimization by modifying the fanout factor in the option file **.lax** .The optimization mode and level are able to be change in this file.
- impose capacities values on the outputs.

4.2.5   Netlist checking

to carry out on the best of your *netlist*s:

- validate the work of **LOON** by using under **ASIMUT** the *netlist*s obtained with the test vectors which were used to validate the initial behavioral view.
- Make a formal checking of your netlist by comparing it with the origin behavioral file resulting from **SYF** :

```
>flatbeh <vst_source> <vbe_dest>
```

```
>proof -d <vbe_origine> <vbe_dest>
```

Compare if the files are quite identical.

4.2.6   Scan-path insertion in the netlist

to carry out on the best of your *netlist*s:

- insert a scan-path connecting all the digicode registers.

```
>scapin -VRB <vst_source> <path_file> <vst_dest>
```

Example of .path file

```
BEGIN_PATH_REG

cs_0
cs_1
cs_2
END_PATH_REG

BEGIN_CONNECTOR

SCAN_IN      scin
SCAN_OUT     scout
SCAN_TEST    test
END_CONNECTOR
```

• build ten patterns to test the scan-path and simulate with **ASIMUT**
.

5 AMD 2901

5.1 exercise

For beginning here is an exercise to understand AMD2901 functionality, to conceive it in the continuation of this tutorial. To explore all the functionalities, you will have to validate the behavioral view that will be provided. The DATA will be find in appendix.

The validation will have to be carried out using test vectors generated with **genpat**. The vectors must be carefully written to enable you to detect a **BUG** insidiously inserted in your behavioral file **.vbe** . Approximately 500 patterns will be enough for debugging your AMD 2901.

5.2 step to follow

It is necessary to generate test vectors which methodically test all the parts and function of the AMD following the specifications contained in the documentation.

- filling and reading the 16 boxes memories of the RAM .
- test the RAM shifter
- filling and reading of the accumulator.
- test the accumulator shifter .
- test the arithmetic and logical operations (addition, subtraction, overflow, carry, propagation, etc...) .
- exhaustive test of the inputs conditioned by I[2:0].
- data-path test vectors

5.3 error found

you can notice that for the RAM shifter values "101" and "111" of i[8:6], the AMD causes a shift of the accumulator that should not take place.

for the values "000" and "001" of i[8:6], we have the writing of ALU in the RAM .

The AMD carries out the operation R xor S for I[5:3]=111 instead of carrying out the operation for I[5:3]=110.

It carries out the operation /(R Xor S) for I[5:3]=110 instead of I[5:3]=111.

6   AMD2901 structure

We break up Amd2901 into 2 blocks:

Figure 7: Amd2901 Organization

- The data-path contains the Amd2901 regular parts , the registers and the arithmetic logic unit.
- The control part contains irregular logic, the instructions decoding and the flags calculation.

We will use the following hierarchical description:

Figure 8: Hierarchy

The provided files are as follows:

- amd2901_ctl.vbe, behavioral description of the part controls
- amd2901_dpt.vbe, behavioral description of the part data-path
- amd2901_ctl.c, file **C** of the part controls
- amd2901_dpt.c, file **C** of the part of data path
- amd2901_core.c, file **C** of the heart
- amd2901_chip.c, file **C** of the circuit containing the pads
- pattern.pat, tests file
- CATAL, file listing the behavioral files, to be modify
- Makefile, to automate the generation

7   Part controls realization

This part of irregular logic will be carried out with the cells of the library **SXLIB**.

Description in VHDL netlist (i.e *.vst*) of the various gates hazardous when the circuit contain several thousands of them. there exists a tool for procedural signals lists generation , **genlib** . It is then enough to describe in C using macro-functions the *signals list* in gates of the block. The library of macro-functions C is called **genlib** . The **genlib** execution produces a description VHDL with the format *.VST* . For more details, consult the manual (man) on **genlib** .

7.1   genlib description example

here a simple circuit:

The file **genlib** correspondent is as follows:

```
#include <genlib.h>
    main()
    {
    GENLIB_DEF_LOFIG("circuit");

    /* Connectors declaration */
    GENLIB_LOCON("a",IN,"a1");
    GENLIB_LOCON("b",IN,"b1");
    GENLIB_LOCON("c",IN,"c1");
    GENLIB_LOCON("d",IN,"d1");
    GENLIB_LOCON("e",IN,"e1");
    GENLIB_LOCON("s",OUT,"s1");

    GENLIB_LOCON("vdd",IN,"vdd");
    GENLIB_LOCON("vss",IN,"vss");

    /* Logical gates instanciation */
    GENLIB_LOINS("na2_x1","nand2","a1","c1","f1","vdd","vss",0);
    GENLIB_LOINS("no2_x1","nor2","b1","e1","g1","vdd","vss",0);
    GENLIB_LOINS("o2_x2","or2","d1","f1","h1","vdd","vss",0);
    GENLIB_LOINS("inv_x1","inv","g1","i1","vdd","vss",0);
    GENLIB_LOINS("a2_x2","and2","h1","i1","s1","vdd","vss",0);

    /* Save of the figure */
    GENLIB_SAVE_LOFIG();
    exit(0);
    }
```

Save it under the name " circuit.c " then compile the file with the command :

```
> genlib circuit
```

You obtain the file " circuit.vst ". (if is not it, it may be that your environment is badly configured for **genlib**). In this case, pass to the section " Part controls description ".

7.2   provided files checking

Create the file **CATAL** in your simulation directory . It must contain the following lines:

```
amd2901_ctl C
amd2901_dpt C
```

That causes to indicate to the simulator which should be taken the behavioral files (.vbe) of " amd2901_ctl " and of " amd2901_dpt '".

```
> asimut amd2901_chip pattern result
```

You can control the result by using **xpat** on the file " result ".

7.3   Part controls description

The diagrams corresponding to the signals list to realize are provided to you. compile it by using the steps below.

Generate the signals list **vst** starting from the file **c** by the command:

```
> genlib amd2901_ctl
```

Then validate the structural view obtained by simulating the complete circuit with the tests vectors which are provided to you. Replace the behavioral view of the part controls by his structural view by removing the name *amd2901_ctl* of **CATAL** file.

```
> asimut -zerodelay amd2901_chip vecteurs result
```

Note that one carries out a simulation " without delay " of the netlist. In the event of problem, do not hesitate to use **xpat** .

```
> asimut amd2901_chip pattern result
```

After having validated the functional behavior of the netlist, simulate with delay. Modify times between the patterns. Indeed, **asimut** is able to evaluate the propagation times for each gates of the netlist. but beware asimut can just evaluate and the route cannot be considered.This is not of course possible step for a behavioral file.

8   Data-path realization

The data path is formed by the regular logic of the circuit. In order to benefit from this regularity, we generates the signals list in the vectorial operators form (or columns) *via* the macro-functions of the tool **genlib** . That makes it possible to save place by using several times the same material . For example, the *NOT* of a mux of *N* bits is instanciate only once for these *N* bits...

8.1   Example of description with genlib macro-functions

Let us consider the following circuit:

Here the corresponding data-path structure :

Each gate occupies a column, a column making it possible to treat a whole of bits for the same operator. The first line represents bit 3, the last bit 0 .

The file **genlib** correspondent is as follows:

```
#include <genlib.h>
    main()
      {
      GENLIB_DEF_LOFIG("data_path");

      /* connectors declaration */
      GENLIB_LOCON("a[3:0]",IN,"a[3:0]");
      GENLIB_LOCON("b[3:0]",IN,"b[3:0]");
      GENLIB_LOCON("c[3:0]",IN,"c[3:0]");
      GENLIB_LOCON("v",IN,"w");
      GENLIB_LOCON("cout",OUT,"ct");
      GENLIB_LOCON("s[3:0]",OUT,"s[3:0]");
      GENLIB_LOCON("cmd",IN,"cmd");
      GENLIB_LOCON("vdd",IN,"vdd");
      GENLIB_LOCON("vss",IN,"vss");

      /* operators creation */
      GENLIB_MACRO(GEN_NAND2, "model_nand2_4bits", F_PLACE, 4, 1);
      GENLIB_MACRO(GEN_OR2, "model_or2_4bits", F_PLACE, 4);
      GENLIB_MACRO(GEN_ADSB2F, "model_add2_4bits", F_PLACE, 4);

      /* operators Instanciation */
      GENLIB_LOINS("model_nand2_4bits", "model_nand2_4bits",
                      "v", "v", "v", "v",
                      "a[3:0]",
                      "d_aux[3:0]",
                      vdd, vss, NULL);
      GENLIB_LOINS("model_or2_4bits", "model_or2_4bits",
                      "d_aux[3:0]",
                      "b[3:0]",
                      "e_aux[3:0]",
                      vdd, vss, NULL);
      GENLIB_LOINS("model_add2_4bits", "model_add2_4bits",
                      "cmd",
                      "cout",
                      "ovr",
                      "e_aux[3:0]",
                      "c[3:0]",
                      "s[3:0]",
                      vdd, vss, NULL);

      /* Save of figure */
      GENLIB_SAVE_LOFIG();
      exit(0);
      }
```

Save it under the name " data_path.c ", then compile the file with the command:

```
> genlib data_path
```

You obtain the file " data_path.vst " (in the contrary case, it may be that your environment is badly configured for **genlib**).In this case, pass to the section " Data path description".

Note: **genlib** can also create the physical placement (the drawing) of structural description .

8.2 Data-path description

The diagrams corresponding to the signals list to realize are provided to you. compile it by using the steps below .

Generate the signals list **vst** starting from the file **c** by the command:

```
> genlib amd2901_dpt
```

Validate the netlist in the same way as for the part controls. Remove file CATAL and simulate the circuit with **asimut** .

```
> asimut -zerodelay amd2901_chip pattern result
```

9   The *Makefile* or how to manage tasks dependency

The synthesis under **Alliance** breaks up into several tools being carried out chronologically on a data flow. Each tool has its own options giving the results more or less adapted according to the use of the circuit.

Figure 9: the synthesis

The data dependency in the flow are materialized in reality by file dependency. The file **Makefile** carried out using the command **make** makes it possible to manage these dependencies.

9.0.1   Rules

A **Makefile** is a file containing one or more rules translating the dependency between the actions and the files.
example :

```
target1 : dependence1 dependence2 ....
        #Rq: each command must be preceded by a tabulation
        command_X
        command_Y
           .
           .
           .
```

The dependencies and targets represent files in general.
Only the first rule (except the models cf 9.0.2) of the **Makefile** is examined. The following rules are ignored if they are not implied by the first. So some dependencies of a rule **X** are themselves of the rules in the **Makefile** then these last will be examined before the appealing rule **X**. For each rule **X** examined, so at least one of its dependencies is more recent than its target then the commands of the rule **X** will be carried

out. *Note::* the commands are generally used to produce the target (i.e a new file).
A target should not represent a file. In this case, the commands of this rule will be always carried out.

9.0.2   models Rules

These rules are more general-purpose because you can specify more complex dependency rules. A model rule be similar to a normal rule, except a symbol (%) appears in the target name. The dependencies also employ (%) to indicate the relation between the dependency name and the target name. The following model rule specifies how all the files **vst** are formed starting from the **vbe** .

```
#example of rule for the synthesis
%.vst : %.vbe
        boog $*
```

9.0.3   Variables definitions

You can define variables in any place of the file **Makefile** , but for legibility we will define them at the beginning of file.

```
#variables definitions
MY_COPY   = cp -r
MY_NUM    = 42
MY_STRING ="hello"
```

They are usable in any place of the **Makefile** . They must be preceded by the character **$**

```
#use a variable in a rule

copy:
        ${MY_COPY} digicode.vbe tmp/
```

9.0.4 Predefined variables

- **$@** Complete target name.
- **$*** Name of the targets file without the extension.
- **$<** Name of the first dependent file.
- **$+**   Names of all the dependent files with double dependencies indexed in their order of appearance.
- **$^**   Names of all the dependent files. The doubles are remote.
- **$?** Names of all the dependent files more recent than the target.
- **$%** Name of member for targets which are archives (language C). If, for example, the target is *libDisp.a(image.o)* , **$%** is *image.o* and **$@** is *libDisp.a* .

10   Appendix: Diagrams as an indication but not-in conformity with the behavioral