# Py2HWSW

# A Python Framework for HW/SW Co-design

May 28, 2025



# **Py2HWSW, A Python Framework for HW/SW Co-design** USER GUIDE, 0.81, BUILD CA7BD0D8







# **Document Version History**

Version	Date	Person	Changes from previous version
0.81	May 28, 2025	JTS	Unrelased

# **Py2HWSW, A Python Framework for HW/SW Co-design** USER GUIDE, 0.81, BUILD CA7BD0D8





# **Contents**

٠.		Dauction	•
	1.1	What Is Py2HWSW?	1
	1.2	What Is Py2HWSW For?	1
	1.3	What Problem Does Py2HWSW Solve?	1
	1.4	What Design Principles Underlie Py2HWSW?	2
	1.5	How Does Py2HWSW Accomplish Its Goals?	2
2	Get	ting Started	2
	2.1	Setup Directory	2
	2.2	Create An AND Gate Core: iob_and	4
	2.3	Setup And Build	5
	2.4	Installation	5
	2.5	Basic Usage	6
	2.6	Universal Testbench	6
3	How	v It Works	13
3	<b>How</b> 3.1	VIt Works Overview	
3			13
3	3.1	Overview	13 14
3	3.1	Overview	13 14 15
3	3.1 3.2 3.3	Overview	13 14 15 17
3	3.1 3.2 3.3 3.4	Overview	13 14 15 17
3	3.1 3.2 3.3 3.4 3.5	Overview	13 14 15 17 19 20
3	3.1 3.2 3.3 3.4 3.5 3.6	Overview Technical Details Setup Flow Chart Standard Interfaces Block hierarchy Main launch script: py2hwsw.py	13 14 15 17 19 20 22
3	3.1 3.2 3.3 3.4 3.5 3.6	Overview Technical Details Setup Flow Chart Standard Interfaces Block hierarchy Main launch script: py2hwsw.py Simulate with Verilator	13 14 15 17 19 20 22 22
3	3.1 3.2 3.3 3.4 3.5 3.6	Overview Technical Details Setup Flow Chart Standard Interfaces Block hierarchy Main launch script: py2hwsw.py Simulate with Verilator 3.7.1 IP core simulation	13 14 15 17 19 20 22 22 22

# **Py2HWSW, A Python Framework for HW/SW Co-design** USER GUIDE, 0.81, BUILD CA7BD0D8



	4.1	Main class for core representation: iob_core.py	23
	4.2	Configuration class: iob_conf.py	24
	4.3	Signal class: iob_signal.py	28
	4.4	Wire class: iob_wire.py	28
	4.5	Port class: iob_port.py	30
	4.6	Interface class: if_gen.py	31
	4.7	Special cases	55
	4.8	Core library	56
5	How	v To Use	59
	5.1	Setup	58
	5.2	Simulation	61
	5.3	End to End Examples	61
		5.3.1 iob_aoi Example	61
		5.3.2 iob_pulse_gen Example	62
		5.3.3 iob_soc Example	62
	5.4	Customizing Py2HWSW	63
	5.5	Troubleshooting	64
		5.5.1 Error Messages	64
		5.5.2 Debugging Options	64
		5.5.3 Build Process Errors	65
		5.5.4 Overriding Py2HWSW Generated Files	65



# **List of Tables**

1	Standard <i>Python Parameters</i> passed by Py2HWSW to every core's "setup" function	17
2	Table of supported Py2HWSW attributes in the <b>Core Dictionary</b> . The <i>Data Type</i> column specifies the type of internal object that the Py2HWSW will convert the attribute's value to (usually the user inputs a string, list, or dictionary value and then py2 converts it to an internal object)	19
3	Table of cores available in the library of the Py2HWSW framework. The <i>Directory</i> column is the path to the core's setup directory relative to the Py2HWSW lib directory py2hwsw/lib/	59

# **Py2HWSW, A Python Framework for HW/SW Co-design** USER GUIDE, 0.81, BUILD CA7BD0D8



# **List of Figures**

1	High-Level Flow Chart of Py2HWSW Setup Procedure	16
2	Block Hierarchy of a Py2HWSW Project	20



#### 1 Introduction

Open-source Python framework for managing files, automating project flows of embedded hardware/software codesign projects, and partially generating Verilog hardware components. The framework simplifies the project structure, addresses challenges in Hardware Design Languages like Verilog and VHDL, and automates emulation, simulation, FPGA, and ASIC flows. The proposed Verilog generator offers flexibility, user control, and ease of use, producing human-readable code compatible across FPGAs and ASICs.

### 1.1 What Is Py2HWSW?

In the rapidly evolving landscape of hardware design, the need for efficient and flexible tools is paramount. Enter py2hwsw, a powerful tool designed to streamline the process of generating Verilog cores from high-level descriptions provided in Python or JSON dictionaries. With py2hwsw, engineers can easily translate their design specifications into functional hardware components, significantly reducing development time and complexity.

### 1.2 What Is Py2HWSW For?

Py2HWSW is designed to do the following:

- Core Generation: Generates Verilog cores from descriptions in Python or JSON dictionaries.
- Framework Compatibility: Integrates seamlessly with existing Verilog cores and frameworks.
- High-Level Configuration: Allows configuration of cores via high-level Python parameters.
- **Automated Resources**: Produces scripts and Makefiles for deployment in various FPGAs, simulators, and synthesis tools, along with documentation.
- Readable Code: Generates legible Verilog code with comments for better understanding and maintenance.

### 1.3 What Problem Does Py2HWSW Solve?

Py2hwsw addresses several key challenges in the hardware design process:

- Complexity of Verilog Coding: Writing Verilog code can be intricate and error-prone, especially for those who may not be deeply familiar with hardware description languages. Py2hwsw simplifies this by allowing designers to specify their hardware requirements using high-level Python or JSON dictionaries, reducing the need for extensive Verilog knowledge.
- Integration of Existing Designs: Many projects involve legacy Verilog cores that need to be integrated with new designs. Py2hwsw facilitates this integration, enabling users to leverage existing components while still benefiting from the tool's advanced features.
- Configuration Challenges: Customizing hardware components often requires deep dives into low-level code. Py2hwsw allows for high-level configuration through Python parameters, making it easier for designers to adjust their designs without getting bogged down in the details of Verilog.



- Resource Generation: The process of preparing scripts and Makefiles for various deployment environments can be tedious and time-consuming. Py2hwsw automates this process, providing users with the necessary resources to run their designs on different FPGAs, simulators, and synthesis tools.
- Code Readability and Maintenance: Maintaining and debugging hardware designs can be challenging, especially when the code is not well-documented. Py2hwsw generates legible Verilog code with comments, enhancing readability and making it easier for teams to collaborate and maintain their designs over time.

In summary, Py2hwsw streamlines the hardware design workflow, making it more accessible, efficient, and manageable for engineers and designers.

### 1.4 What Design Principles Underlie Py2HWSW?

Py2HWSW works by:

- Standard Py2HWSW syntax: Use a standard Py2HWSW syntax to describe each core.
- Support Python dictionaries and JSON files: Supports Python dictionaries to generate dynamic cores based on python parameters. And supports JSON files to describe fixed cores and for compatibily with cores generated by external tools.
- Support custom verilog snippets: Each core may include custom verilog snippets for any edge-case which cannot be described using Py2HWSW syntax.
- Internal Object-Oriented structure: Py2HWSW converts core descriptions into its internal object-oriented system, creating high-level abstractions of Verilog building blocks.

#### 1.5 How Does Py2HWSW Accomplish Its Goals?

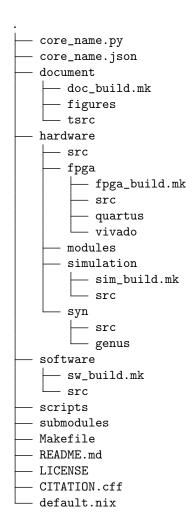
- Two-Step Development Process: The core development is divided into two distinct phases: the setup phase and the build phase. During the setup phase, Verilog source files are generated based on high-level descriptions provided in Python or JSON format. The build phase then utilizes these Verilog sources to produce the necessary FPGA bitstreams, netlists, and other deployment files.
- Independent Setup Folders: Each core is organized within its own independent setup folder, containing high-level description files and, if needed, low-level files as well.
- Core Description Input: The core's specifications are provided to Py2hwsw in the form of JSON or a Python dictionary, utilizing standard Py2hwsw attributes.
- Flexible Attribute Handling: When generating the cores dictionary via a Python script, users can include a set of standard Py2hwsw attributes alongside their own custom-defined attributes.

## 2 Getting Started

#### 2.1 Setup Directory

The setup directory of a core may have the following structure:





Only the core\_name.py or core\_name.json file is needed to pass the core's description to Py2HWSW. The remaining directories and files are optional.

If the document, hardware, and software directories exist, they will be copied to the build directory, overriding any files already present there, such as standard ones or files from other cores.

The \*\_build.mk files allow the user to include core specific Makefile targets and variables from the build process. These will be copied to the build directory and included in the standard build process Makefiles.

The src directories contain manually written Verilog/C/TeX sources for the core, should they be needed.

The following directories and files do not follow a mandatory structure, but are typically used for the following purposes:

The hardware/modules and submodules directories typically contain setup directories of other cores.

The scripts directory contains scripts specific to the core, and may be called by the user or from the core\_name.py script.

A simple example of a core's setup directory is available for the iob\_and core.

A more complex example of a core's setup directory is available for the iob\_soc core.



#### 2.2 Create An AND Gate Core: iob\_and

The simplest core description for Py2HWSW is as follows:

```
# SPDX-FileCopyrightText: 2025 IObundle
 #
2
 # SPDX-License-Identifier: MIT
 def setup(py_params_dict):
      attributes_dict = {
           "generate_hw": True,
8
           "confs": [
9
                {
10
                     "name": "general",
11
                     "descr": "General group of confs",
12
                     "confs": [
                         {
14
                              "name": "W",
15
                              "type": "P",
16
                              "val": "21",
17
                              "min": "1",
18
                              "max": "32"
19
                              "descr": "IO width",
20
                         },
21
                    ],
22
                },
23
           ],
24
           "ports": [
25
                {
26
                     "name": "a_i",
27
                     "descr": "Input port",
28
                     "signals": [
29
                         {"name": "a_i", "width": "W"},
30
                    ],
31
                },
33
                     "name": "b_i",
34
                     "descr": "Input port",
35
                     "signals": [
                         {"name": "b_i", "width": "W"},
37
                    ],
38
                },
39
40
                     "name": "y_o",
"descr": "Output port",
41
42
                     "signals": [
43
                         {"name": "y_o", "width": "W"},
                    ],
45
                },
46
           ],
47
           "snippets": [{"verilog_code": " assign y_o = a_i & b_i;"}],
48
      }
49
50
      return attributes_dict
```

USER GUIDE, 0.81, BUILD CA7BD0D8

#### **View Source**

A set of basic cores to showcase the various Py2HWSW features can be found in the basic\_tests directory.

### 2.3 Setup And Build

To checkout the source and setup the example iob\_and core:

To do a clean setup:

```
py2hwsw iob_and clean
py2hwsw iob_and setup --no_verilog_lint
```

The setup process will generate a build directory containing the core's verilog sources and build files. By default, the build directory is '../[core\_name]\_V[core\_version]'.

To build and run the core in simulation:

```
$ make -C ../iob_and_V* sim-run
```

#### 2.4 Installation

Py2HWSW uses a Nix-shell environment to handle dependencies. The full list of dependencies is available as Nix packages in the default.nix file, which can be found at https://github.com/IObundle/py2hwsw/blob/main/py2hwsw/lib/default.nix.

The recommended way to install Py2HWSW is by using Nix-shell. Most Makefiles in IObundle projects call Nix-shell by default, so it is expected that a user will install Py2HWSW via Nix-shell. To do this, simply install Nix by following the instructions at <a href="https://nixos.org/download.html#nix-install-linux">https://nixos.org/download.html#nix-install-linux</a>. Then, navigate to a directory that contains the Py2HWSW default.nix file and run nix-shell. Py2HWSW will self-install, and all dependencies will be installed automatically.

Alternatively, it is possible to install Py2HWSW manually by removing the Nix-shell commands from the Makefiles and installing the dependencies manually. After doing so, the user can call Py2HWSW by adding the py2hwsw file from the bin/ folder to the PATH environment variable. The py2hwsw file can be found at https://github.com/I0bundle/py2hwsw/blob/main/bin/py2hwsw.

Another option is to install Py2HWSW using pip with the following command:

```
pip install -e path/to/py2hwsw_directory
```

However, please note that this method is not officially supported, and dependencies will still need to be handled manually or by using Nix.

Py2HWSW is primarily maintained and tested on Linux, but it should also work on macOS and Windows Subsystem for Linux (WSL) since Nix is supported on these platforms.



#### 2.5 Basic Usage

To use Py2HWSW, you can run the following command:

```
nix-shell --run "py2hwsw $(CORE) setup --build_dir '$(BUILD_DIR)' --
py_params 'param1=param1_val:param2=param2_val"
```

This command sets up a core using Py2HWSW, where (CORE) is the name of the core, (BUILD DIR) is the directory where the build files will be generated, and (param1=param1\_val:param2=param2\_val) are optional Python parameters that can be used to customize the core.

The -build\_dir option allows you to specify the location of the generated build directory. If not specified, the build directory will be generated in the parent directory of where the Py2HWSW command is called.

You can also use the -help option to list all available options and a brief description of each:

```
py2hwsw --help
```

To create a new core, you will need to create a setup directory with the same name as the core. This directory should contain at least one file with the same name as the core, either with a .py or .json extension, that describes the core using attributes of the core dictionary. The setup directory may also contain other files and folders following a standard hierarchy, which is described in more detail in other sections of this document.

For examples of simple cores, you can refer to the basic\_tests folder in the Py2HWSW library: https://github.com/IObundle/py2hwsw/tree/main/py2hwsw/lib/hardware/basic\_tests. For creating System On Chips, you can use the iob-soc repository as a template: https://github.com/IObundle/iob-soc/tree/main.

Some key concepts to understand when using Py2HWSW include:

- Setup directory: The folder that contains the core description and base files, templates, scripts, and sources.
- Build directory: The folder generated by the Py2HWSW setup process, which contains a standard file
  hierarchy and all the necessary makefiles to build and run the core on various simulators, FPGA, ASIC
  tools, and linters.
- Core: An IP core that contains Verilog sources, documentation, scripts, high-level attributes, and possibly software.
- Module: Sometimes used as an alternative to core, but it is recommended to use the term "core" instead.
   May also refer to Verilog modules and Python modules.

Py2HWSW can be used to create a wide variety of cores, from simple to complex. One of the main advantages of using Py2HWSW is that it generates readable Verilog code and all the necessary makefiles to run the core on various flows, making it a powerful tool for hardware design and development.

#### 2.6 Universal Testbench

Py2HWSW supports a Universal Test Bench.

To use the *Universal Test Bench*, the core needs to provide the following files:



- · iob\_v\_tb.vh
- iob\_uut.v
- · iob\_core\_tb.c
- sw\_build.mk

Create the <code>iob\_v\_tb.vh</code> testbench header source and define the <code>IOB\_CSRS\_ADDR\_W</code> macro to specify the address width of the simulation wrapper's CSRs bus (the width must be large enough address all CSRs from all verification instruments). For example, the <code>iob\_uart</code> core's simulation wrapper only uses one verification instrument (the <code>iob\_uart</code> core itself). Therefore, the testbench should define the <code>IOB\_CSRS\_ADDR\_W</code> macro to have the same width as the <code>iob\_uart</code> core's CSRs bus. The <code>iob\_uart</code> core's CSRs header files are also included because we can obtain the CSRs bus width from the auto-generated macro <code>IOB\_UART\_CSRS\_ADDR\_W</code>

```
1 // SPDX-FileCopyrightText: 2025 IObundle
2 //
3 // SPDX-License-Identifier: MIT
4
5 'include "iob_uart_csrs.vh"
6 'include "iob_uart_csrs_conf.vh"
7 'define IOB_CSRS_ADDR_W 'IOB_UART_CSRS_ADDR_W
```

#### **View Source**

Create **iob\_uut.v** simulation wrapper and instantiate the verification instruments. For example, the iob\_uart core is also used as a verification instrument to test itself. It is instantiated in the uart's iob\_uut.v file, and its RS232 ports are connected in loopback. The iob\_uut.v file is generated from the iob\_uart\_sim.py core's attributes (using the Py2HWSW attribute: "name": "uut").

```
# SPDX-FileCopyrightText: 2025 IObundle
 #
 # SPDX-License-Identifier: MIT
 def setup(py_params_dict):
      params = {
          # Type of interface for CSR bus
          "csr_if": "iob",
      }
10
      # Update params with values from py_params_dict
12
      for param in py_params_dict:
13
          if param in params:
14
               params[param] = py_params_dict[param]
15
16
      attributes_dict = {
17
          "name": "iob_uut",
18
          "generate_hw": True,
19
          "confs": [
20
               {
21
                   "name": "DATA_W",
22
                   "descr": "Data bus width",
23
                   "type": "P",
24
                   "val": "32",
25
               },
```

7



```
],
27
      }
28
      #
29
      # Ports
30
31
      attributes_dict["ports"] = [
32
           {
                "name": "clk_en_rst_s",
34
                "descr": "Clock, clock enable and reset",
35
                "signals": {
36
                    "type": "iob_clk",
37
               },
38
           },
39
           {
                "name": "uart_s",
41
                "descr": "Testbench uart csrs interface",
42
                "signals": {
43
                    "type": "iob",
44
                    "ADDR_W": 3,
45
               },
46
           },
47
      ]
      #
49
      #
        Wires
50
      #
51
      attributes_dict["wires"] = [
52
           {
53
                "name": "rs232_loopback",
54
                "descr": "Uart loopback wires",
55
                "signals": {
56
                    "type": "rs232",
57
               },
58
           },
           {
60
                "name": "uart_cbus",
61
                "descr": "Testbench uart csrs bus",
62
                "signals": {
63
                    "type": params["csr_if"],
                    "prefix": "internal_",
65
                    "ADDR_W": 3 - 2, # Does not include 2 LSBs
66
67
               },
           },
68
      ]
69
      #
70
      # Blocks
71
72
      attributes_dict["subblocks"] = [
73
           {
74
                "core_name": "iob_uart",
                "instance_name": "uart_inst",
76
                "instance_description": f"Unit Under Test (UUT) UART instance
77
                   with '{params['csr_if']}' interface.",
                "csr_if": params["csr_if"],
78
                "connect": {
79
                    "clk_en_rst_s": "clk_en_rst_s",
80
```



```
"iob_csrs_cbus_s": "uart_cbus",
81
                     "rs232_m": "rs232_loopback",
82
                },
83
           },
84
       1
85
       if params["csr_if"] == "wb":
86
           # "Wishbone" CSR_IF
           attributes_dict["subblocks"].append(
88
                {
89
                     "core_name": "iob_iob2wishbone",
                     "instance_name": "iob_iob2wishbone_coverter",
                     "instance_description": "Convert IOb port from testbench
92
                        into Wishbone interface for UART CSRs bus",
                     "parameters": {
                         "ADDR_W": 3 - 2,
94
                         "DATA_W": "DATA_W",
95
                    },
96
                     "connect": {
97
                         "clk_en_rst_s": "clk_en_rst_s",
                         "wb_m": "uart_cbus",
99
                         "iob_s": (
100
                              "uart_s",
102
                                  "iob_addr_i[3-1:2]",
103
104
                             ],
                         ),
                    },
106
                }
107
           )
108
       elif params["csr_if"] == "apb":
109
           # "APB" CSR_IF
110
           attributes_dict["subblocks"].append(
111
                {
112
                     "core_name": "iob_iob2apb",
113
                     "instance_name": "iob_iob2apb_coverter",
114
                     "instance_description": "Convert IOb port from testbench
115
                        into APB interface for UART CSRs bus",
                     "parameters": {
                         "APB_ADDR_W": 3 - 2,
117
                         "APB_DATA_W": "DATA_W",
118
                         "ADDR_W": 3 - 2,
119
                         "DATA_W": "DATA_W",
120
                    },
121
                     "connect": {
122
                         "clk_en_rst_s": "clk_en_rst_s",
123
                         "apb_m": "uart_cbus",
124
                         "iob_s": (
125
                              "uart_s",
126
                              "iob_addr_i[3-1:2]",
128
                             ],
129
                         ),
130
                    },
131
                }
132
133
```



```
elif params["csr_if"] == "axil":
134
           # "AXI_Lite" CSR_IF
135
           attributes_dict["subblocks"].append(
137
                     "core_name": "iob_iob2axil",
138
                     "instance_name": "iob_iob2axil_coverter",
139
                     "instance_description": "Convert IOb port from testbench
                        into AXI-Lite interface for UART CSRs bus",
                     "parameters": {
141
                         "AXIL_ADDR_W": 3 - 2,
142
                         "AXIL_DATA_W": "DATA_W",
                    },
144
                     "connect": {
145
                         "clk_en_rst_s": "clk_en_rst_s",
                         "axil_m": "uart_cbus",
147
                         "iob_s": (
148
                              "uart_s",
149
                              Г
150
                                   "iob_addr_i[3-1:2]",
151
                              ],
152
                         ),
153
                    },
                }
155
156
       elif params["csr_if"] == "axi":
157
           # "AXI" CSR_IF
           attributes_dict["subblocks"].append(
159
                {
160
                     "core_name": "iob_iob2axi",
161
                     "instance_name": "iob_iob2axi_coverter",
162
                     "instance_description": "Convert IOb port from testbench
163
                        into AXI interface for UART CSRs bus",
                     "parameters": {
164
                         "ADDR_WIDTH": 3 - 2,
165
                         "DATA_WIDTH": "DATA_W",
166
                         "AXI_ID_WIDTH": "AXI_ID_W",
167
                         "AXI_LEN_WIDTH": "AXI_LEN_W",
168
                     },
169
                     "connect": {
170
                         "clk_en_rst_s": "clk_en_rst_s",
171
                         "axi_m": (
172
                              "uart_cbus",
173
                              174
                                   "axi_awlock_i[0]",
175
                                   "axi_arlock_i[0]",
                              ],
177
                         ),
178
                         "iob_s": (
179
                              "uart_s",
                              Γ
181
                                   "iob_addr_i[3-1:2]",
182
                              ],
183
                         ),
184
                    },
185
186
```



```
187
      #
188
      # Snippets
190
      attributes_dict["snippets"] = []
191
      snippet_code = """
192
      assign rs232_rxd = rs232_txd;
     assign rs232_cts = rs232_rts;
194
195
      if params["csr_if"] == "iob":
196
           snippet_code += """
197
     // Directly connect cbus IOb port to internal IOb wires
198
     assign internal_iob_valid = iob_valid_i;
199
     assign internal_iob_addr = iob_addr_i[3-1:2]; // Ignore 2 LSBs
     assign internal_iob_wdata = iob_wdata_i;
201
     assign internal_iob_wstrb = iob_wstrb_i;
202
     assign internal_iob_rready = iob_rready_i;
203
     assign iob_rvalid_o = internal_iob_rvalid;
     assign iob_rdata_o = internal_iob_rdata;
205
     assign iob_ready_o = internal_iob_ready;
206
207
      attributes_dict["snippets"] += [
           {"verilog_code": snippet_code},
209
210
211
      return attributes_dict
```

Create the **iob\_core\_tb.c** source to drive the verification instruments (instantiated in the simulation wrapper). For example, the iob\_uart core's testbench drives this core, writing data to it, and reading back the data received from the loopback.

```
* SPDX-FileCopyrightText: 2025 IObundle
  * SPDX-License-Identifier: MIT
 #include "iob_uart_csrs.h"
 #include <stdio.h>
 #define FREQ 10000000
 #define BAUD 3000000
 int iob_core_tb() {
13
14
   int failed = 0;
15
16
   // print welcome message
17
   printf("IOB UART testbench\n");
18
   // print the reset message
20
   printf("Reset complete\n");
21
```



```
// hold soft reset low
23
    iob_uart_csrs_set_softreset(0);
24
25
    // print the soft reset message
26
    printf("Soft reset set to 0\n");
27
    // disable TX and RX
    iob_uart_csrs_set_txen(0);
31
    iob_uart_csrs_set_rxen(0);
32
33
    // set the divisor
34
35
    int div = FREQ / BAUD;
37
    iob_uart_csrs_set_div(div);
38
    // print the baud rate
39
    printf("Baud rate set to %d\n", BAUD);
40
    // assert tx and rx not ready
42
    uint8_t tx_ready = iob_uart_csrs_get_txready();
43
    if (tx_ready != 0) {
44
      printf("Error: TX ready initially\n");
45
      failed = 1;
46
47
48
    uint8_t rx_ready = iob_uart_csrs_get_rxready();
49
    if (rx_ready != 0) {
50
      printf("Error: RX ready initially");
51
52
      failed = 1;
53
54
    printf("TX and RX ready deasserted\n");
55
56
    // pulse soft reset
57
    iob_uart_csrs_set_softreset(1);
58
    iob_uart_csrs_set_softreset(0);
59
    // enable RX
61
    iob_uart_csrs_set_rxen(1);
62
    unsigned int version;
64
    int i;
65
    // read version 20 times to burn time
    for (i = 0; i < 20; i++) {</pre>
      version = iob_uart_csrs_get_version();
68
69
    printf("Version is %d\n", version);
70
71
    // enable TX
72
    iob_uart_csrs_set_txen(1);
73
74
    printf("TX and RX enabled\n");
75
 // data send/receive loop
```



```
printf("Starting data send/receive loop\n");
78
    for (i = 0; i < 4; i++) {</pre>
79
      // wait for tx ready
      while (!iob_uart_csrs_get_txready())
81
82
83
      // write word to send
      iob_uart_csrs_set_txdata(i);
85
      // wait for rx ready
86
      while (!iob_uart_csrs_get_rxready())
87
89
      // read received word
90
      uint8_t rx_data = iob_uart_csrs_get_rxdata();
92
      // check if received word is the same as sent word
93
      if (rx_data != i) {
94
        // signal error printing expected and received word
95
        printf("Error: expected %d, received %d\n", i, rx_data);
        failed += 1;
97
98
    printf("Data send/receive loop complete\n");
100
    return failed;
101
102 }
```

Create the **sw\_build.mk** makefile segment and add the 'tb' target to the 'UTARGETS' list. Adding this target will cause the testbench software to be built. This testbench software will run on the host machine in parallel to the simulation. Also add the verification instrument's CSRs sources to the 'CSRS' list. Also update the 'TB\_INCLUDES' list as needed.

```
# SPDX-FileCopyrightText: 2025 IObundle
# # SPDX-License-Identifier: MIT

UTARGETS=tb
```

View Source

### 3 How It Works

This section gives a detailed description of the Py2HWSW framework.

#### 3.1 Overview

The Py2HWSW framework is organized into a repository with several key folders and scripts. The repository contains the main Py2HWSW module, as well as a library of cores and peripherals. The framework uses



a combination of Python scripts and Makefiles to automate the generation of build directories for hardware components.

The setup process in Py2HWSW begins with the user providing a description of the core, which can be in the form of a Python script or a JSON file, in a setup directory. This description is then used to trigger the setup process, which involves gathering all dependency cores and generating the necessary Verilog code. The setup process creates a build directory, where all the generated Verilog modules are stored, correctly connected and structured based on the user's description. The build directory is independent of Py2HWSW and can be used on any machine with the necessary toolchain.

The build process is a separate step that takes the generated build directory as input and uses the Makefiles to run the toolchain for a specific flow, such as simulation or FPGA synthesis. For example, in the case of FPGA synthesis, the build process takes the generated Verilog sources as input, generates a bitstream, uploads it to the FPGA, and runs the design. In the case of simulation, the build process takes the Verilog sources and generates a simulator executable (for Verilator) or runs the simulation directly. The build process can be run on any machine with the necessary toolchain, without requiring Py2HWSW to be installed.

The main launch script, py2hwsw.py, serves as the entry point for the framework, and is responsible for orchestrating the setup process. The script takes care of setting up the build environment, generating Verilog code, and creating the build directory. Once the build directory is generated, the user can run the build process independently of Py2HWSW, using the Makefiles to automate the simulation, synthesis, and compilation of the hardware components.

#### 3.2 Technical Details

From the user's perspective, interacting with Py2HWSW is straightforward and intuitive. Users describe cores using dictionaries, lists, and strings, which are then converted internally into object representations of the correct class. The main attributes of Py2HWSW, such as ports, wires, and configuration, each have their own class, organizing the properties of each attribute. These attributes are described by a dictionary, where each key is a property, and are converted to the corresponding property of the class for the internal object representation when calling the Py2HWSW process.

As described in the "Standard Interfaces" section, users only need to interact with Py2HWSW using standard interfaces based on dictionaries, lists, and strings. Internally, Py2HWSW converts these inputs into object representations, but these are usually only modified by developers. A typical user does not need to understand the inner workings of Py2HWSW, making it easy to use and focus on designing and developing hardware components.

The iob\_core.py class is the central component of Py2HWSW, aggregating all the properties of an IP core. Its constructor is responsible for the setup process of the core, which involves converting and initializing the attributes of the core, setting up submodules (each one a new iob\_core instance), setting up superblocks (only if the current core is the top module or another superblock), and generating the sources for the current core in the build directory. If the current core is the top module, the setup process terminates by formatting and linting the code, as well as cleaning up temporary files from the build directory.

In terms of dependencies, Py2HWSW itself has a minimal set of requirements, including Python and certain Python libraries, as well as optional dependencies such as formatters and linters like Black, Verible, and Verilator. These formatters can be skipped if the user chooses not to use formatting and linting during setup. The generated build directory, on the other hand, may have additional dependencies specific to the build process, such as Makefiles, Verilog compilers and simulators. However, these dependencies are independent of Py2HWSW and are only required for the build process. Makefiles are not a required dependency of Py2HWSW



itself, but can be useful for automating the setup process and integrating Py2HWSW into a larger project work-

## 3.3 Setup Flow Chart

Figure 1 presents a high-level flow chart of the Py2HWSW setup procedure.



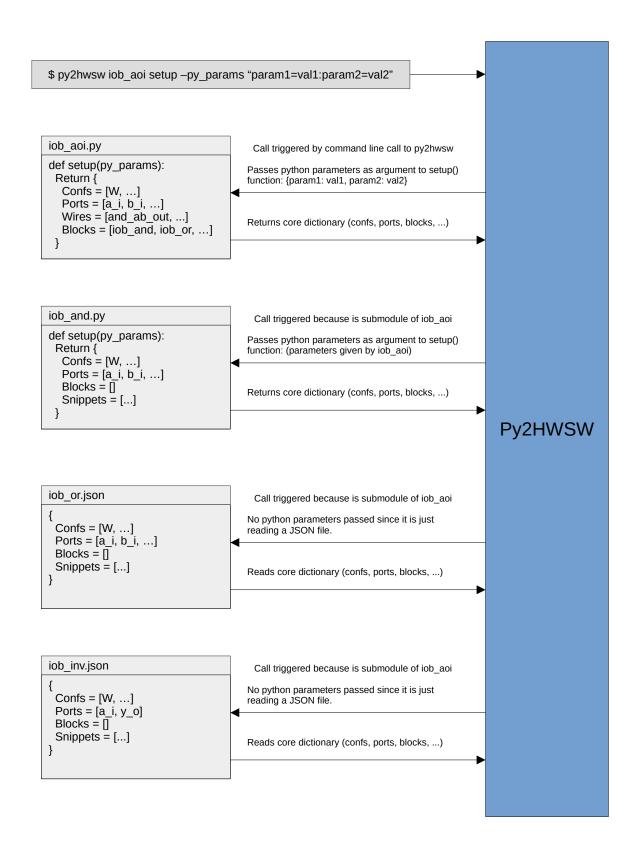


Figure 1: High-Level Flow Chart of Py2HWSW Setup Procedure



#### 3.4 Standard Interfaces

The Py2HWSW framework provides the following two standard interfaces:

- 1. **Python Parameters**: Core "setup" function receives information from Py2HWSW via a dictionary in its first argument, referred to as *Python Parameters*.
- 2. **Core Dictionary**: Core "setup" function returns a core description dictionary to Py2HWSW, referred to as *Core Dictionary*.

The core's "setup" function is the python function defined by the user in the ¡core\_name¿.py file.

If the core is described by a JSON file, then the *Python Parameters* interface is not available. The JSON file gives a dictionary to Py2HWSW, similar to the python dictionary of the "setup" function. This allows the user to use external tools to generate cores in JSON format.

The *Python Parameters* received by the core's "setup" function is a dictionary containing both parameters passed by its instantiator and standard parameters passed by Py2HWSW. Each key, value pair in the dictionary is a *Python Parameter*. The value of the python parameter may be of any data type.

Name	Data Type	Description	
core_name <class 'str'=""></class>		Name of current core (determined by the core's file name).	
build_dir	<class 'str'=""></class>	Build directory of this core. Usually defined by '-build-dir' flag or instantiator.	
py2hwsw_target <class 'str'=""></class>		The reason why py2hwsw is invoked. Usually 'setup' meaning the Py2HWSW is calling the core's script to obtain information on how to generate the core. May also be other targets like 'clean', 'print_attributes', or 'deliver'. These are usually to obtain information about the core for various purposes, but not to generate the build directory.	
•		Core dictionary with attributes of the instantiator core (if any). Allows subblocks to obtain information about their instantiator core.	
py2hwsw_version   <class 'str'="">   Version of Py2HWSV</class>		Version of Py2HWSW.	

Table 1: Standard Python Parameters passed by Py2HWSW to every core's "setup" function.

The standard python parameters passed by Py2HWSW are listed in Table 1.

The python parameters supported by each core is available in the respective core's user guide, as long as they have the *Python Parameters* attribute defined. Instructions on how to build a core's user guide can be found in Section 4.8.

Name	Data Type	Description
original_name	<class 'str'=""></class>	Original name of the module. (The module name commonly used in the files of the setup dir.)
name	<class 'str'=""></class>	Name of the generated module.
description	<class 'str'=""></class>	Description of the module
reset_polarity	<class 'str'=""></class>	Global reset polarity of the module. Can be 'positive' or 'negative'. (Will override all subblocks' reset polarities).



Name	Data Type	Description
confs	<pre><class 'list'=""></class></pre>	List of module macros and Verilog (false-
551115		)parameters.
ports	<class 'list'=""></class>	List of module ports.
wires	<pre><class 'list'=""></class></pre>	List of module wires.
snippets	<class 'list'=""></class>	List of core Verilog snippets.
comb	<class 'iob_comb.iob_comb'=""></class>	Verilog combinatory circuit.
fsm	<pre><class 'iob_fsm.iob_fsm'=""></class></pre>	Verilog finite state machine.
subblocks	<pre><class 'list'=""></class></pre>	List of instances of other cores inside this core.
superblocks	<class 'list'=""></class>	List of wrappers for this core. Will only be setup
caporbioono	Coldoo not	if this core is a top module, or a wrapper of the
		top module.
sw_modules	<class 'list'=""></class>	List of software modules required by this core.
instance_name	<class 'str'=""></class>	Name of an instance of this class.
instance_description	<class 'str'=""></class>	Description of the instance
parameters	typing.Dict	Verilog parameter values
if_defined	<pre><class 'str'=""></class></pre>	Only use this instance in Verilog if this Verilog
		macro is defined
if_not_defined	<class 'str'=""></class>	Only use this instance in Verilog if this Verilog
		macro is not defined
instantiate	<class 'bool'=""></class>	Select if should intantiate the module inside an-
		other Verilog module.
build_dir	<class 'str'=""></class>	Path to folder of build directory to be generated
		for this project.
version	<class 'str'=""></class>	Core version. By default is the same as
		Py2HWSW version.
previous_version	<class 'str'=""></class>	Core previous version.
setup_dir	<class 'str'=""></class>	Path to root setup folder of the core.
use_netlist	<class 'bool'=""></class>	Copy ' <setup_dir>/CORE.v' netlist instead of</setup_dir>
		' <setup_dir>/hardware/src/*'</setup_dir>
is_system	<class 'bool'=""></class>	Sets 'IS_FPGA=1' in config_build.mk
board_list	<class 'list'=""></class>	List of FPGAs supported by this core. A stan-
		dard folder will be created for each board in this
		list.
dest_dir	<class 'str'=""></class>	Relative path inside build directory to copy
		sources of this core. Will only sources from
		'hardware/src/*'
ignore_snippets	<class 'list'=""></class>	List of '.vs' file includes in verilog to ignore.
generate_hw	<class 'bool'=""></class>	Select if should try to generate ' <corename>.v'</corename>
		from py2hwsw dictionary. Otherwise, only gen-
		erate '.vs' files.
parent	<class 'dict'=""></class>	Select parent of this core (if any). If parent is set,
		that core will be used as a base for the current
		one. Any attributes of the current core will over-
		ride/add to those of the parent.
is_top_module	<class 'bool'=""></class>	Selects if core is top module. Auto-filled. DO
		NOT CHANGE.
is_superblock	<class 'bool'=""></class>	Selects if core is superblock of another. Auto-
'a lasta.	and a second second	filled. DO NOT CHANGE.
is₋tester	<class 'bool'=""></class>	Generates makefiles and depedencies to run
		this core as if it was the top module. Used for
		testers (superblocks of top moudle).

18



Name	Data Type	Description
python_parameters	<class 'list'=""></class>	List of core Python Parameters. Used for documentation.
license	<class 'iob_license.iob_license'=""></class>	License for the core.
doc_conf	<class 'str'=""></class>	CSR Configuration to use

Table 2: Table of supported Py2HWSW attributes in the **Core Dictionary**. The *Data Type* column specifies the type of internal object that the Py2HWSW will convert the attribute's value to (usually the user inputs a string, list, or dictionary value and then py2 converts it to an internal object).

The list of attributes supported by the Py2HWSW framework is given in Table 2. If a core provides a dictionary with keys not listed in Table 2, then the Py2HWSW framework will raise an error. Each key, value pair in the dictionary is a *Core Attribute*. The data type of the core attribute may be of any data type, but are usually a string, list, or dictionary. If the data type is a string, it may also represent an object using Py2HWSW's *Short Notation*.

## 3.5 Block hierarchy

Figure 2 presents an example block hierarchy for a Py2HWSW project. Superblocks are only used if they are superblocks of the project's top module or of one of its wrappers.



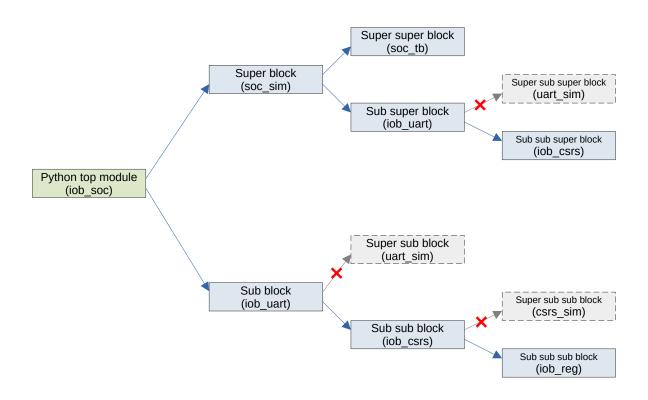


Figure 2: Block Hierarchy of a Py2HWSW Project

#### 3.6 Main launch script: py2hwsw.py

The main launch script for the Py2HWSW progam is the 'py2hwsw.py' script.

The following code snippet from that script processes the command line arguments and launches the program for the specified "target".

```
iob_core.global_build_dir = args.build_dir
      iob_core.global_project_root = args.project_root
      iob_core.global_project_vformat = args.verilog_format
      iob_core.global_project_vlint = args.verilog_lint
      iob_core.global_clang_format_rules_filepath = args.clang_rules
     iob_base.debug_level = args.debug_level
     if args.py2hwsw_docs:
          iob_core.setup_py2_docs(PY2HWSW_VERSION)
          exit(0)
10
      elif args.print_py2hwsw_attributes:
          iob_core.print_py2hwsw_attributes()
12
          exit(0)
13
      elif args.print_lib_cores:
14
          iob_core.print_lib_cores()
```



```
exit(0)
16
      elif args.browse_lib:
17
          iob_core.browse_lib()
          exit(0)
19
20
      # Browse/Copy/Manage py2hwsw files
21
      # https://github.com/IObundle/iob-soc/pull/975#discussion_r1843025005
      for dir in dirs:
23
          py2hwsw_dir = os.path.join(
24
              os.path.dirname(os.path.realpath(__file__)), "..", dirs[dir]
25
          )
          if args.__dict__[f"{dir}_ls"]:
27
              list_dir(os.path.join(py2hwsw_dir, args.__dict__[f"{dir}_ls"]))
              exit(0)
          if args.__dict__[f"{dir}_cp"]:
30
              copy_dir(
31
                   os.path.join(py2hwsw_dir, args.__dict__[f"{dir}_cp"][0]),
32
                   args.__dict__[f"{dir}_cp"][1],
33
              )
              exit(0)
35
          if args.__dict__[f"{dir}_cat"]:
              cat_file(os.path.join(py2hwsw_dir, args.__dict__[f"{dir}_cat"]))
              exit(0)
38
39
      if not args.core_name:
40
          parser.print_usage(sys.stderr)
41
          exit(1)
42
43
      py_params = {}
44
45
      if args.py_params:
          for param in args.py_params.split(":"):
46
              k, v = param.split("=")
47
              py_params[k] = v
48
49
      if args.target == "setup":
50
          iob_core.get_core_obj(args.core_name, **py_params)
51
      elif args.target == "clean":
52
          iob_core.clean_build_dir(args.core_name)
      elif args.target == "print_build_dir":
54
          iob_core.print_build_dir(args.core_name, **py_params)
55
      elif args.target == "print_core_name":
          iob_core.print_core_name(args.core_name, **py_params)
57
      elif args.target == "print_core_version":
58
          iob_core.print_core_version(args.core_name, **py_params)
59
      elif args.target == "print_core_dict":
          iob_core.print_core_dict(args.core_name, **py_params)
      elif args.target == "deliver":
62
          iob_core.deliver_core(args.core_name, **py_params)
```



#### 3.7 Simulate with Verilator

With mandatory structured IOs, the testbench behaves like a processor reading and writing to its CSR. A universal Verilator testbench has been developed for an IP with a structured IOb native interface (bridges to standard AXI-Lite, APB or Wishbone are supplied). The testbench is a C++ program provides hardware reset and CSR read and write functions.

#### 3.7.1 IP core simulation

The IP cores using this testbench must provide a C function called <code>iob\_core\_tb()</code>, the IP core's specific test. They also must provide a C header called <code>iob\_vlt\_tb.h</code> that defines the Device Under Test (DUT) as a Verilator type called <code>dut\_t</code>. With knowledge of the DUT and its test, the universal Verilator testbench will exercise any IP core. Interestingly, <code>iob\_core\_tb()</code> also runs, without modifications, on a RISC-V processor with the IP as a submodule, for example, for FPGA testing or emulation.

The iob\_uart core is used as an example, located in the py2hwsw/lib/peripherals/iob\_uartiob-uart directory.

```
$ git clone --recursive git@github.com:IObundle/py2hwsw.git
$ cd py2hwsw/lib
$ make sim-run CORE=iob\_uart SIMULATOR=verilator
```

The make sim-run command will run core setup, creating the build directory at ../../iob\_uart\_V0.1. The Verilator simulator will be run in the build directory. The testbench will be compiled and run, and the output will be displayed on the console.

#### 3.7.2 Subsystem simulation

To illustrate system test capabilities with the universal Verilator testbench, the iob\_system subsystem core is used as an example, located in the py2hwsw/lib/iob\_system directory.

```
$ git clone --recursive git@github.com:IObundle/py2hwsw.git
$ cd py2hwsw/lib
$ make sim-run CORE=iob\_uart SIMULATOR=verilator
```

In this case the iob\_core\_tb() function is running on the desktop, emualting a system tester. The console output comes from teh system itself running its embedded test, a more elaborated form of a hello world program.

#### 3.8 Deliver an IP core

From the build directory, we select the essential files to create a tarball, all containing a Makefile-driven environment for the user who, in this way, will not need any ancillary tools beyond the standard EDA tools.

```
$ git clone --recursive git@github.com:IObundle/py2hwsw.git
$ cd py2hwsw/
$ nix-shell py2hwsw/lib/ # Optional step to install environment with
    necessary dependencies
$ py2hwsw iob_uart setup --no_verilog_lint
$ py2hwsw iob_uart deliver
```



The tarball will be created in the ../iob\_uart\_V0.1 directory, which is also the home of the default build directory.

## 4 Py2HWSW Classes

#### 4.1 Main class for core representation: iob\_core.py

The iob\_core class is a central component of the Py2HWSW framework, responsible for representing and managing IP cores. The class provides a structured way to describe and generate IP cores, making it easier to create and integrate complex digital designs. At the heart of the iob\_core class is its constructor, which plays a crucial role in setting up and initializing the core.

The constructor of the iob\_core class is responsible for converting and initializing the attributes of the core, setting up subblocks, and generating the sources for the current core in the build directory. When the constructor is called, it distinguishes between two situations: when it is the top module, it creates a build directory for users with all the dependencies and project flows, and when it is a subblock, it provides all the information necessary for instantiation and integration. The constructor takes care of setting up the build environment, generating Verilog code, and creating the build directory, making it a key component of the Py2HWSW framework.

The iob\_core constructor also handles the setup process for subblocks and superblocks. When a subblock is encountered, the constructor is called recursively to set up the subblock's attributes and generate its sources. Similarly, when a superblock is encountered, the constructor sets up the superblock's attributes and generates its sources, ensuring that the entire hierarchy of modules and subblocks is properly initialized and configured, as detailed in Section 3.5

Overall, the iob\_core class and its constructor provide a powerful and flexible way to represent and manage IP cores, making it a fundamental component of the Py2HWSW framework.

It inherits attributes from its parent classes iob\_module and iob\_instance.

The get\_core\_obj function is used to generate an instance of a core based on a given core name and python parameters. This method will search for the corresponding Python or JSON file of the core, and generate a python object based on info stored in that file, and info passed via python parameters.

```
def get_core_obj(core_name, **kwargs):
          """Generate an instance of a core based on given core_name and
             python parameters
          This method will search for the .py and .json files of the core, and
              generate a
          python object based on info stored in those files, and info passed
             via python
          parameters.
5
          Calling this method may also begin the setup process of the core,
             depending on
          the value of the 'global_special_target' attribute.
          core_dir, file_ext = find_module_setup_dir(core_name)
10
          if file_ext == ".py":
11
              import_python_module(
```



```
os.path.join(core_dir, f"{core_name}.py"),
13
              )
14
               core_module = sys.modules[core_name]
15
               instantiator = kwargs.pop("instantiator", None)
16
              # Call 'setup(<py_params_dict>)' function of '<core_name>.py' to
17
               # obtain the core's py2hwsw dictionary.
18
               # Give it a dictionary with all arguments of this function,
                  since the user
               # may want to use any of them to manipulate the core attributes.
20
               core_dict = core_module.setup(
21
                   {
                       # "core_name": core_name,
23
                       "build_dir": __class__.global_build_dir,
24
                       "py2hwsw_target": __class__.global_special_target or "
                           setup",
                       "instantiator": (
26
                            instantiator.attributes_dict if instantiator else ""
27
28
                       "py2hwsw_version": PY2HWSW_VERSION,
29
                       **kwargs,
30
                   }
31
              )
               py2_core_dict = {
33
                   "original_name": core_name,
34
                   "name": core_name,
35
                   "setup_dir": core_dir,
37
              py2_core_dict.update(core_dict)
38
               instance = __class__.py2hw(
39
                   py2_core_dict,
                   instantiator=instantiator,
41
                   # Note, any of the arguments below can have their values
42
                      overridden by
                   # the py2_core_dict
43
                   **kwargs,
44
45
          elif file_ext == ".json":
               instance = __class__.read_py2hw_json(
                   os.path.join(core_dir, f"{core_name}.json"),
48
                   # Note, any of the arguments below can have their values
49
                      overridden by
                   # the json data
                   **kwargs,
51
              )
52
          return instance
```

#### 4.2 Configuration class: iob\_conf.py

The iob\_conf class is used to represent a configuration option of the core. This class contains a set of attributes, each preceded by a comment describing the purpose of the attribute.



```
class iob_conf_group:
     """Class to represent a group of configurations."""
2
     # Identifier name for the group of configurations.
     name: str = ""
5
     # Description of the configuration group.
     descr: str = "Default description"
     # List of configuration objects.
     confs: list = field(default_factory=list)
     # If enabled, configuration group will only appear in documentation. Not
          in the verilog code.
     doc_only: bool = False
11
     # If enabled, the documentation table for this group will be terminated
12
         by a TeX '\clearpage' command.
     doc_clearpage: bool = False
```

The iob\_conf\_group class is used to represent a group of configuration options. This class contains a set of attributes, each preceded by a comment describing the purpose of the attribute.

```
class iob_conf_group:
     """Class to represent a group of configurations."""
3
     # Identifier name for the group of configurations.
     name: str = ""
     # Description of the configuration group.
     descr: str = "Default description"
     # List of configuration objects.
     confs: list = field(default_factory=list)
     # If enabled, configuration group will only appear in documentation. Not
10
          in the verilog code.
     doc_only: bool = False
     # If enabled, the documentation table for this group will be terminated
12
         by a TeX '\clearpage' command.
     doc_clearpage: bool = False
```

#### View Source

The py2hwsw tool uses methods from the config\_gen.py script to generate the '\*\_conf.vh' file, which contains all the Verilog macros that must be held for every design instance of the core.

Each generated Verilog macro is based on the attributes from the corresponding instance of the 'iob\_conf' class.



```
# These ifndefs cause issues when this file is included in multiple
10
         files and it contains other ifdefs inside this block.
      # For example, assume this file is included in another one that does not
          have 'MACRO1' defined. Now assume that inside this block there is an
          'ifdef MACRO1' block.
      # Since 'MACRO1' is not defined in the file that is including this, the
         'ifdef MACRO1' wont be executed.
      # Now assume this file is included in another file that has 'MACRO1'
13
         defined. Now, this block
      # wont execute because of the 'ifndef' added here, therefore the 'ifdef
         MACRO1' block will also not execute when it should have.
      # file2create.write(f"'ifndef VH_{fname}_VH\n")
15
      # file2create.write(f"'define VH_{fname}_VH\n\n")
17
      for group in macros:
18
          # If group has 'doc_only' attribute set to True, skip it
19
          if group.doc_only:
20
              continue
22
          file2create.write(f"// {group.name}: {group.descr}\n")
23
          # Sort macros macros by type, P first, M second, C third, D last
25
          sorted_macros = []
26
          for macro in group.confs:
27
              if macro.type == "P":
                  sorted_macros.append(macro)
29
          for macro in group.confs:
30
              if macro.type == "M":
31
                  sorted_macros.append(macro)
32
          for macro in group.confs:
33
              if macro.type == "C":
34
                  sorted_macros.append(macro)
35
          for macro in group.confs:
36
              if macro.type == "D":
37
                  sorted_macros.append(macro)
38
          prev_type = ""
          for macro in sorted_macros:
41
              macro_type = macro.type
42
              # If the type of the macro is different from the previous one,
                  add a comment
              if macro_type != prev_type:
44
                  if macro_type == "P":
45
                       file2create.write(
                           "// Core Configuration Parameters Default Values\n"
48
                  elif macro_type == "M":
49
                       file2create.write("// Core Configuration Macros.\n")
                  elif macro_type == "C":
51
                       file2create.write("// Core Constants. DO NOT CHANGE\n")
52
                  elif macro_type == "D":
53
                       file2create.write("// Core Derived Parameters. DO NOT
                          CHANGE\n")
                  prev_type = macro_type
```



```
# If macro has 'doc_only' attribute set to True, skip it
57
              if macro.doc_only:
                  continue
59
              if macro.if defined:
60
                  file2create.write(f"'ifdef {macro.if_defined}\n")
              if macro.if_not_defined:
                  file2create.write(f"'ifndef {macro.if_not_defined}\n")
63
64
              # Only insert macro if its is not a bool define, and if so only
                  insert it if it is true
              if type(macro.val) is not bool:
66
                  m_name = macro.name.upper()
                  m_default_val = macro.val
                  file2create.write(f"'define {core_prefix}{m_name} {
                     m_default_val}\n")
              elif macro.val:
70
                  m_name = macro.name.upper()
71
                  file2create.write(f"'define {core_prefix}{m_name} 1\n")
              if macro.if_defined or macro.if_not_defined:
73
                  file2create.write("'endif\n")
74
75
      # file2create.write(f"\n'endif // VH_{fname}_VH\n")
```

The py2hwsw tool uses methods from the param\_gen.py script to generate the Verilog parameters code that is automatically inserted in the core's Verilog module and instances.

Each generated Verilog parameter is based on the attributes from the corresponding instance of the 'iob\_conf' class.

```
def generate_params(core):
      """Generate verilog code with verilog parameters of this module.
2
     returns: Generated verilog code
3
      core_parameters = get_core_params(core.confs)
     if not core_parameters:
          return ""
     lines = []
10
      core_prefix = f"{core.name}_".upper()
11
      for idx, parameter in enumerate(core_parameters):
12
          # If parameter has 'doc_only' attribute set to True, skip it
13
          if parameter.doc_only:
14
              continue
15
16
          p_name = parameter.name.upper()
17
          p_comment = ""
18
          if parameter.type == "D":
19
              p_comment = " // Don't change this parameter value!"
20
          lines.append(f"
                              parameter {p_name} = '{core_prefix}{p_name},{
21
             p_comment}\n")
```



```
# Remove comma from last line
if lines:
    lines[-1] = lines[-1].replace(",", "", 1)

return "".join(lines)
```

#### 4.3 Signal class: iob\_signal.py

The iob\_signal class is used to represent a signal for a hardware wire or port. This class contains a set of attributes, each preceded by a comment describing the purpose of the attribute.

#### **View Source**

The py2hwsw tool uses the 'get\_verilog\_wire'/'get\_verilog\_port' methods from the 'iob\_signal' class to generate the Verilog code for the hardware wire/port based on the attributes from the corresponding instance of the 'iob\_signal' class.

```
def get_verilog_wire(self):
    """Generate a verilog wire string from this signal"""
    if "'" in self.name or self.name.lower() == "z":
        return None
    wire_type = "reg" if self.isvar else "wire"
    width_str = "" if self.get_width_int() == 1 else f"[{self.width } -1:0] "
    return f"{wire_type} {width_str}{self.name};\n"
```

#### View Source

```
def get_verilog_port(self, comma=True):
    """Generate a verilog port string from this signal"""
    if "'" in self.name or self.name.lower() == "z":
        return None
    self.assert_direction()
    comma_char = "," if comma else ""
    port_type = " reg" if self.isvar else ""
    width_str = "" if self.get_width_int() == 1 else f"[{self.width } -1:0] "
    return f"{self.direction}{port_type} {width_str}{self.name}{
        comma_char}\n"
```

**View Source** 

## 4.4 Wire class: iob\_wire.py

The iob\_wire class is used to represent a group of hardware wires (signals) used to interconnect components automatically generated. This class contains a set of attributes, each preceded by a comment describing the purpose of the attribute.



```
class iob_wire:
     """Class to represent a wire in an iob module"""
2
     # Identifier name for the wire.
     name: str = ""
     # Name of the standard interface to auto-generate with 'if_gen.py'
         script.
     interface: if_gen.interface = None
     # Description of the wire.
     descr: str = "Default description"
     # Conditionally define this wire if the specified Verilog macro is
         defined/undefined.
     if_defined: str = ""
11
     if_not_defined: str = ""
     # List of signals belonging to this wire
13
     # (each signal represents a hardware Verilog wire).
14
     signals: List = field(default_factory=list)
```

The 'signals' attribute stores a list of signal objects, represented by the 'iob\_signal' class (Section 4.3).

The py2hwsw tool uses the 'generate\_wires' method from the 'wire\_gen.py' script to generate the Verilog code for the wire based on the attributes from the corresponding instance of the 'iob\_wire' class.

```
def generate_wires(core):
     """Generate verilog code with wires of this module.
     returns: Generated verilog code
3
     0.00
     code = ""
5
     for wire in core.wires:
         # Open ifdef if conditional interface
         if wire.if_defined:
             code += f"'ifdef {wire.if_defined}\n"
         if wire.if_not_defined:
10
             code += f"'ifndef {wire.if_not_defined}\n"
11
12
         signals_code = ""
         for signal in wire.signals:
14
             if isinstance(signal, iob_signal):
15
                 if signal.get_verilog_wire():
16
                     17
         if signals_code:
18
             # Add description for the wire if it is not the default one
19
             if wire.descr != "" and wire.descr != "Default description":
20
                 code += f"// {wire.descr}\n"
21
             code += signals_code
22
23
         # Close ifdef if conditional interface
24
         if wire.if_defined or wire.if_not_defined:
             code += "'endif\n"
26
27
     return code
```

#### **View Source**



# 4.5 Port class: iob\_port.py

The iob\_port class is used to represent an interface for the core. An interface is a group of hardware ports (signals) that may be generic or follow a standard. Due to the similarities between a port and a wire, this class inherits the attributes from the 'iob\_wire' class (Section 4.4). Besides the inherited attributes, the class contains a set of new port specific attributes, each preceded by a comment describing the purpose of the attribute.

```
class iob_port(iob_wire):
    """Describes an IO port."""

# External wire that connects this port
    e_connect: iob_wire | None = None

# Dictionary of bit slices for external connections. Name: signal name;
    Value: bit slice

# connect_bit_slices: list = field(default_factory=list)

# If enabled, port will only appear in documentation. Not in the verilog code.

# doc_only: bool = False

# If enabled, the documentation table for this port will be terminated by a TeX '\clearpage' command.

# doc_clearpage: bool = False
```

#### **View Source**

Similar to the 'iob\_wire' class, the 'signals' attribute stores a list of signal objects, represented by the 'iob\_signal' class (Section 4.3).

The py2hwsw tool uses the 'generate\_ports' method from the 'io\_gen.py' script to generate the Verilog code for the port based on the attributes from the corresponding instance of the 'iob\_port' class.

```
def generate_ports(core):
      """Generate verilog code with ports of this module.
     returns: Generated verilog code
     lines = []
     for port_idx, port in enumerate(core.ports):
          # If port has 'doc_only' attribute set to True, skip it
          if port.doc_only:
              continue
          # Open ifdef if conditional interface
11
          if port.if_defined:
12
              lines.append(f"'ifdef {port.if_defined}\n")
          if port.if_not_defined:
14
              lines.append(f"'ifndef {port.if_not_defined}\n")
15
16
          lines.append(f"
                            // {port.name}: {port.descr}\n")
17
18
          for signal_idx, signal in enumerate(port.signals):
19
              if isinstance(signal, iob_signal):
20
                  if signal.get_verilog_port():
21
                                        " + signal.get_verilog_port())
                      lines.append("
22
23
          # Close ifdef if conditional interface
24
          if port.if_defined or port.if_not_defined:
```



```
lines.append("'endif\n")

# Remove comma from last port line
if lines:
    i = -1
    while lines[i].startswith("'endif") or lines[i].startswith(" // "
    ):
    i -= 1
    lines[i] = lines[i].replace(",", "", 1)

return "".join(lines)
```

# 4.6 Interface class: if\_gen.py

The Py2HWSW tool uses the if\_gen.py script to generate the signals of standard interfaces.

The list of standard interfaces currenlty supported by the if\_gen.py script are listed below.

```
mem_if_details = [
      {
2
           "name": "rom_2p",
3
           "vendor": "IObundle",
           "lib": "MEM",
5
           "version": "1.0",
6
           "full_name": "ROM 2 Port",
      },
8
      {
9
           "name": "rom_atdp",
           "vendor": "IObundle",
11
           "lib": "MEM",
12
           "version": "1.0",
13
           "full_name": "ROM Asynchronous True Dual Port",
      },
15
16
           "name": "rom_sp",
17
           "vendor": "IObundle",
18
           "lib": "MEM",
19
           "version": "1.0",
20
           "full_name": "ROM Single Port",
21
      },
22
23
           "name": "rom_tdp",
24
           "vendor": "IObundle",
25
           "lib": "MEM",
           "version": "1.0",
27
           "full_name": "ROM True Dual Port",
28
      },
29
30
           "name": "ram_2p",
31
           "vendor": "IObundle",
32
           "lib": "MEM",
```



```
"version": "1.0",
34
           "full_name": "RAM 2 Port",
35
      },
36
      {
37
           "name": "ram_at2p",
38
           "vendor": "IObundle",
39
           "lib": "MEM",
           "version": "1.0",
41
           "full_name": "RAM Asynchronous True 2 Port",
42
      },
43
      {
           "name": "ram_atdp",
45
           "vendor": "IObundle",
46
           "lib": "MEM",
47
           "version": "1.0",
48
           "full_name": "RAM Asynchronous True Dual Port",
49
      },
50
      {
51
           "name": "ram_atdp_be",
52
           "vendor": "IObundle",
53
           "lib": "MEM",
54
           "version": "1.0",
           "full_name": "RAM Asynchronous True Dual Port with Byte Enable",
56
      },
57
      {
58
           "name": "ram_sp",
           "vendor": "IObundle",
60
           "lib": "MEM",
61
           "version": "1.0",
62
           "full_name": "RAM Single Port",
63
      },
64
65
           "name": "ram_sp_be",
           "vendor": "IObundle",
67
           "lib": "MEM",
68
           "version": "1.0",
69
           "full_name": "RAM Single Port with Byte Enable",
70
      },
71
72
           "name": "ram_sp_se",
73
           "vendor": "IObundle",
74
           "lib": "MEM",
75
           "version": "1.0",
76
           "full_name": "RAM Single Port with Single Enable",
77
      },
79
           "name": "ram_t2p",
80
           "vendor": "IObundle",
81
           "lib": "MEM",
           "version": "1.0",
83
           "full_name": "RAM True 2 Port",
84
      },
85
86
           "name": "ram_t2p_be",
87
           "vendor": "IObundle",
```



```
"lib": "MEM",
89
           "version": "1.0",
90
           "full_name": "RAM True 2 Port with Byte Enable",
91
       },
92
       {
93
           "name": "ram_t2p_tiled",
94
           "vendor": "IObundle",
           "lib": "MEM",
96
           "version": "1.0",
97
           "full_name": "RAM True 2 Port Tiled",
       },
99
       {
100
           "name": "ram_tdp",
101
           "vendor": "IObundle",
           "lib": "MEM",
103
           "version": "1.0",
104
           "full_name": "RAM True Dual Port",
105
       },
106
       {
107
           "name": "ram_tdp_be",
108
           "vendor": "IObundle",
109
           "lib": "MEM",
           "version": "1.0",
111
           "full_name": "RAM True Dual Port with Byte Enable",
112
       },
113
           "name": "ram_tdp_be_xil",
115
           "vendor": "IObundle",
116
           "lib": "MEM",
117
           "version": "1.0",
118
           "full_name": "RAM True Dual Port with Byte Enable Xilinx",
119
       },
120
       {
121
           "name": "regfile_2p",
122
           "vendor": "IObundle",
123
           "lib": "MEM",
124
           "version": "1.0",
125
           "full_name": "Register File 2 Port",
       },
127
128
           "name": "regfile_at2p",
           "vendor": "IObundle",
130
           "lib": "MEM",
131
           "version": "1.0",
132
           "full_name": "Register File Asynchronous True 2 Port",
       },
134
135
           "name": "regfile_sp",
136
           "vendor": "IObundle",
           "lib": "MEM",
138
           "version": "1.0",
139
           "full_name": "Register File Single Port",
140
       },
142 ]
```



```
if_details = [
      {
2
           "name": "iob_clk",
           "vendor": "IObundle",
4
           "lib": "CLK",
5
           "version": "1.0",
6
           "full_name": "Clock (configurable)",
      },
      {
9
           "name": "iob",
10
           "vendor": "IObundle",
11
           "lib": "IOb",
12
           "version": "1.0",
13
           "full_name": "IOb",
14
      },
15
      {
16
           "name": "axil_read",
17
           "vendor": "ARM",
18
           "lib": "AXI",
19
           "version": "4.0",
20
           "full_name": "AXI-Lite Read",
21
      },
      {
23
           "name": "axil_write",
24
           "vendor": "ARM",
25
           "lib": "AXI",
           "version": "4.0",
27
           "full_name": "AXI-Lite Write",
28
      },
29
30
      {
           "name": "axil",
31
           "vendor": "ARM",
32
           "lib": "AXI",
33
           "version": "4.0",
           "full_name": "AXI-Lite",
35
      },
36
      {
37
           "name": "axi_read",
38
           "vendor": "ARM",
39
           "lib": "AXI",
40
           "version": "4.0",
41
           "full_name": "AXI Read",
42
      },
43
      {
44
           "name": "axi_write",
45
           "vendor": "ARM",
           "lib": "AXI",
47
           "version": "4.0",
48
           "full_name": "AXI Write",
49
      },
50
      {
51
           "name": "axi",
52
           "vendor": "ARM",
```



```
"lib": "AXI",
54
           "version": "4.0",
55
           "full_name": "AXI",
      },
57
      {
58
           "name": "apb",
59
           "vendor": "ARM",
           "lib": "APB",
61
           "version": "4.0",
62
           "full_name": "APB",
      },
64
       {
65
           "name": "ahb",
66
           "vendor": "ARM",
           "lib": "AHB",
68
           "version": "4.0",
69
           "full_name": "AHB",
70
      },
71
      {
72
           "name": "axis",
73
           "vendor": "ARM",
74
           "lib": "AXI",
           "version": "4.0",
76
           "full_name": "AXI Stream",
77
      },
78
      {
           "name": "rs232",
80
           "vendor": "Generic",
81
           "lib": "RS232",
82
           "version": "1.0",
83
           "full_name": "RS232",
84
      },
85
      {
           "name": "wb",
87
           "vendor": "OPENCORES",
88
           "lib": "Wishbone",
89
           "version": "B4",
90
           "full_name": "Wishbone",
91
      },
92
      {
93
           "name": "wb_full",
           "vendor": "OPENCORES",
95
           "lib": "Wishbone",
96
           "version": "B4",
97
           "full_name": "Wishbone Full",
      },
99
100 ]
```

When a user specifies a standard interface for a port 4.5 or a wire 4.4, a new instance of the 'interface' class is created to represent it.

```
class interface:
"""Class to represent an interface for generation"""
```



```
# Type/Name of interface to generate
4
     type: str = ""
     # Prefix for signals of the interface
     prefix: str = ""
     # Width multiplier. Used when concatenating multiple instances of the
         interface.
     mult: str | int = 1
9
     # Generic string parameter that is passed to "get_<interface>_ports"
10
         function
     params: str = None
     # Dictionary of width properties of interface
12
     widths: Dict[str, str] = field(default_factory=dict)
13
     # Prefix for generated "Verilog Snippets" of this interface
     file_prefix: str = ""
15
     # Prefix for "Verilog snippets" of portmaps of this interface:
16
     portmap_port_prefix: str = ""
```

This class stores the interface properties which will then be used by interface specific functions to generate the signals. Each attribute of the interface class is preceded by a comment describing the purpose of the attribute.

Each interface supported by if\_gen.py contains its own 'get\_<interface>\_ports' function, and returns a list of signals for the interface.



#### **AXI Stream**

The AXI Stream interface uses the 'get\_axis\_ports' function of the if\_gen.py script.

```
def get_axis_ports(params: str = None):
      if params is None:
          params = ""
      params = params.split("_")
      signals = [
          iob_signal(
              name="axis_tvalid_o",
              width=1,
               descr="axis stream valid.",
          ),
          iob_signal(
              name="axis_tready_i",
              width=1,
              descr="axis stream ready.",
          ),
          iob_signal(
              name="axis_tdata_o",
              width=DATA_W,
19
               descr="axis stream data.",
20
          ),
21
      ]
22
      if "tlast" in params:
23
          signals += [
24
               iob_signal(
                   name="axis_tlast_o",
26
                   width=1,
27
                   descr="axis stream last.",
28
              ),
29
          ]
30
      return signals
```

# **View Source**

It has the configurable width: DATA\_W

For example, to add an AXI Stream port to a core, add the following python dictionary to the core's ports list:

```
"name": "example_port_m",
"descr": "AXI Stream manager port",
"signals": {
    "type": "axis",
    "DATA_W": 32,
```

# **Py2HWSW, A Python Framework for HW/SW Co-design** USER GUIDE, 0.81, BUILD CA7BD0D8



}, 8 },



#### **AXI Lite**

The AXI Lite interface uses the 'get\_axil\_ports' function of the if\_gen.py script.

```
def get_axil_ports(params: str = None):
    return get_axil_read_ports(params=params) +
        get_axil_write_ports(params=params)
```

#### **View Source**

```
def get_axil_read_ports(params: str = None):
      if params is None:
          params = ""
      params = params.split("_")
      signals = [
          iob_signal(
              name="axil_araddr_o",
              width = ADDR_W,
              descr="Address read channel address.",
10
          ),
11
      1
12
      if "prot" in params:
13
          signals += [
               iob_signal(
15
                   name="axil_arprot_o",
                   width=PROT_W,
17
                   descr="Address read channel protection type. Set
                      to 000 if manager output; ignored if
                      subordinate input.",
              ),
19
20
      signals += [
21
          iob_signal(
22
              name="axil_arvalid_o",
23
              width=1,
24
              descr="Address read channel valid.",
25
          ),
          iob_signal(
              name="axil_arready_i",
              width=1,
              descr="Address read channel ready.",
          ),
          iob_signal(
              name="axil_rdata_i",
              width=DATA_W,
              descr="Read channel data.",
          ),
```



```
iob_signal(
37
               name="axil_rresp_i",
38
               width=RESP_W,
39
               descr="Read channel response.",
          ),
          iob_signal(
               name="axil_rvalid_i",
43
               width=1,
               descr="Read channel valid.",
45
          ),
          iob_signal(
               name="axil_rready_o",
               width=1,
               descr="Read channel ready.",
          ),
      return signals
```

```
def get_axil_write_ports(params: str = None):
      if params is None:
          params = ""
     params = params.split("_")
      signals = [
          iob_signal(
              name="axil_awaddr_o",
              width = ADDR_W,
              descr="Address write channel address.",
10
          ),
     ]
12
      if "prot" in params:
13
          signals += [
14
              iob_signal(
15
                   name="axil_awprot_o",
16
                   width=PROT_W,
17
                   descr="Address write channel protection type. Set
18
                       to 000 if manager output; ignored if
                      subordinate input.",
              ),
          ٦
      signals += [
          iob_signal(
              name="axil_awvalid_o",
              width=1,
24
              descr="Address write channel valid.",
```



```
),
          iob_signal(
27
               name="axil_awready_i",
28
               width=1,
29
               descr="Address write channel ready.",
30
          ),
31
          iob_signal(
32
               name="axil_wdata_o",
33
               width = DATA_W,
34
               descr="Write channel data.",
35
          ),
          iob_signal(
               name="axil_wstrb_o",
               width=try_math_eval(f"{DATA_W}/{DATA_SECTION_W}"),
               descr="Write channel write strobe.",
          ),
          iob_signal(
               name="axil_wvalid_o",
               width=1,
               descr="Write channel valid.",
          ),
          iob_signal(
               name="axil_wready_i",
               width=1,
               descr="Write channel ready.",
          ),
51
          iob_signal(
               name="axil_bresp_i",
               width=RESP_W,
               descr="Write response channel response.",
55
          ),
          iob_signal(
57
               name="axil_bvalid_i",
               width=1,
59
               descr="Write response channel valid.",
60
          ),
61
          iob_signal(
               name="axil_bready_o",
63
               width=1,
               descr="Write response channel ready.",
65
          ),
      ]
67
      return signals
```

It has the configurable widths:



- ADDR\_W
- DATA\_W
- PROT\_W
- RESP\_W

The AXI Lite interface also supports the the following 'params':

• prot: Include "prot" signal

For example, to add an AXI Lite port to a core, add the following python dictionary to the core's ports list:

```
"name": "example_port_m",
"descr": "AXI Lite manager port",
"signals": {
    "type": "axil",
    "ADDR_W": 32,
    "DATA_W": 32,
    "PROT_W": 3,
    "RESP_W": 2,
},
```



#### **AXI**

The AXI interface uses the 'get\_axi\_ports' function of the if\_gen.py script.

```
def get_axi_ports(params: str = None):
    return get_axi_read_ports(params=params) +
        get_axi_write_ports(params=params)
```

# **View Source**

```
def get_axi_read_ports(params: str = None):
      axil_read = get_axil_read_ports(params=params)
     for port in axil_read:
          port.name = port.name.replace("axil", "axi")
      return axil_read + [
          iob_signal(
              name="axi_arid_o",
              width=ID_W,
10
              descr="Address read channel ID.",
          ),
12
          iob_signal(
              name="axi_arlen_o",
14
              width=LEN_W,
15
              descr="Address read channel burst length.",
16
          ),
          iob_signal(
18
              name="axi_arsize_o",
19
              width=SIZE_W,
20
              descr="Address read channel burst size. This signal
21
                 indicates the size of each transfer in the burst."
          ),
22
          iob_signal(
23
              name="axi_arburst_o",
24
              width=BURST_W,
              descr="Address read channel burst type.",
          ),
          iob_signal(
              name="axi_arlock_o",
              width=LOCK_W,
              descr="Address read channel lock type.",
          ),
          iob_signal(
              name="axi_arcache_o",
34
              width = CACHE_W,
```



```
descr="Address read channel memory type. Set to 0000
                 if manager output; ignored if subordinate input.",
          ),
37
          iob_signal(
38
              name="axi_arqos_o",
39
              width=QOS_W,
              descr="Address read channel quality of service.",
          ),
          iob_signal(
43
              name="axi_rid_i",
              width=ID_W,
              descr="Read channel ID.",
          ),
          iob_signal(
              name="axi_rlast_i",
              width=1,
              descr="Read channel last word.",
          ),
```

```
def get_axi_write_ports(params: str = None):
     axil_write = get_axil_write_ports(params=params)
     for port in axil_write:
          port.name = port.name.replace("axil", "axi")
     return axil_write + [
          iob_signal(
              name="axi_awid_o",
              width=ID_W,
10
              descr="Address write channel ID.",
          ),
12
          iob_signal(
13
              name="axi_awlen_o",
14
              width=LEN_W,
15
              descr="Address write channel burst length.",
16
          ),
          iob_signal(
18
              name="axi_awsize_o",
              width=SIZE_W,
              descr="Address write channel burst size. This signal
                 indicates the size of each transfer in the burst."
          ),
22
          iob_signal(
```



```
name="axi_awburst_o",
              width=BURST_W,
25
              descr="Address write channel burst type.",
26
          ),
27
          iob_signal(
28
              name="axi_awlock_o",
29
              width=LOCK_W,
30
              descr="Address write channel lock type.",
31
          ),
          iob_signal(
33
              name="axi_awcache_o",
              width=CACHE_W,
              descr="Address write channel memory type. Set to 0000
                  if manager output; ignored if subordinate input."
          ),
          iob_signal(
              name="axi_awqos_o",
              width=QOS_W,
              descr="Address write channel quality of service.",
          ),
          iob_signal(
              name="axi_wlast_o",
              width=1,
              descr="Write channel last word flag.",
          ),
47
          iob_signal(
              name="axi_bid_i",
49
              width=ID_W,
50
              descr="Write response channel ID.",
51
          ),
52
```

The AXI interface extends configurable widths of the AXI Lite interface, with the following additions:

- ID\_W
- SIZE\_W
- BURST\_W
- LOCK\_W
- CACHE\_W
- QOS\_W



# • LEN\_W

The AXI interface supports the same 'params' as the AXI Lite interface.

For example, to add an AXI port to a core, add the following python dictionary to the core's ports list:

```
1 {
      "name": "example_port_m",
      "descr": "AXI manager port",
      "signals": {
           "type": "axi",
           "ADDR_W": 32,
           "DATA_W": 32,
           "PROT_W": 3,
           "RESP_W": 2,
           "ID_W": 4,
10
           "SIZE_W": 3,
           "BURST_W": 2,
12
           "LOCK_W": 2,
13
           "CACHE_W": 4,
14
           "QOS_W": 4,
15
           "LEN_W": 8,
16
      },
17
<sub>18</sub> },
```



#### **APB**

The APB interface uses the 'get\_apb\_ports' function of the if\_gen.py script.

```
def get_apb_ports():
      return [
          iob_signal(
              name="apb_addr_o",
              width = ADDR_W,
              descr="Byte address of the transfer.",
          ),
          iob_signal(
              name="apb_sel_o",
              width=1,
              descr="Subordinate select.",
          ),
          iob_signal(
              name="apb_enable_o",
              width=1,
15
              descr="Enable. Indicates the number of clock cycles
                 of the transfer.",
          ),
17
          iob_signal(
18
              name="apb_write_o",
19
              width=1,
20
              descr="Write. Indicates the direction of the
                 operation.",
          ),
22
          iob_signal(
23
              name="apb_wdata_o",
              width=DATA_W,
25
              descr="Write data.",
          ),
27
          iob_signal(
              name="apb_wstrb_o",
29
              width=try_math_eval(f"{DATA_W}/{DATA_SECTION_W}"),
              descr="Write strobe.",
31
          ),
          iob_signal(
              name="apb_rdata_i",
              width=DATA_W,
35
              descr="Read data.",
          ),
          iob_signal(
              name="apb_ready_i",
              width=1,
              descr="Ready. Indicates the end of a transfer.",
          ),
```



The APB interface has the configurable widths:

- ADDR\_W
- DATA\_W

For example, to add an APB port to a core, add the following python dictionary to the core's ports list:

```
"name": "example_port_m",
"descr": "APB manager port",
"signals": {
        "type": "apb",
        "ADDR_W": 32,
        "DATA_W": 32,
},
```



#### **AHB**

The AHB interface uses the 'get\_ahb\_ports' function of the if\_gen.py script.

```
def get_ahb_ports():
      return [
          iob_signal(
              name="ahb_addr_o",
              width = ADDR_W,
              descr="Byte address of the transfer.",
          ),
          iob_signal(
              name="ahb_burst_o",
              width = AHB_BURST_W,
              descr="Burst size.",
          ),
          iob_signal(
              name="ahb_mastlock_o",
              width=1,
              descr="Current transfer is locked sequence.",
          ),
          iob_signal(
              name="ahb_prot_o",
19
              width = AHB_PROT_W,
              descr="Byte address of the transfer.",
21
          ),
          iob_signal(
23
              name="ahb_size_o",
              width=SIZE_W,
25
              descr="Size of transfer.",
          ),
27
          iob_signal(
              name="ahb_trans_o",
              width = AHB_TRANS_W,
              descr="Transfer type.",
31
          ),
          iob_signal(
33
              name="ahb_wdata_o",
              width = DATA_W,
              descr="Write data.",
          ),
          iob_signal(
              name="ahb_wstrb_o",
              width=try_math_eval(f"{DATA_W}/{8}"),
              descr="Write strobe.",
          ),
          iob_signal(
              name="ahb_write_o",
```



```
width=1,
45
              descr="Transfer direction: (1) Write; (0) Read.",
46
          ),
47
          iob_signal(
              name="ahb_rdata_i",
49
              width = DATA_W,
              descr="Read data.",
51
          ),
          iob_signal(
53
              name="ahb_readyout_i",
              width=1,
              descr="Transfer finished on the bus.",
          ),
          iob_signal(
              name="ahb_resp_i",
              width=1,
              descr="Transfer response: (0) Okay; (1) Error.",
          ),
          iob_signal(
              name="ahb_sel_o",
              width=1,
              descr="Subordinate select.",
          ),
```

The AHB interface has the configurable widths:

- ADDR\_W
- DATA\_W
- BURST\_W
- PROT\_W
- SIZE\_W
- TRANS\_W

For example, to add an AHB port to a core, add the following python dictionary to the core's ports list:

```
"name": "example_port_m",
"descr": "AHB manager port",
"signals": {
    "type": "ahb",
```



```
"ADDR_W": 32,
            "DATA_W": 32,
            "BURST_W": 3,
           "PROT_W": 4,
           "SIZE_W": 3,
10
           "TRANS_W": 2,
      },
<sub>13</sub> },
```



#### Wishbone

The Wishbone interface uses the 'get\_wb\_ports' function of the if\_gen.py script.

```
def get_wb_ports():
      ports = [
          iob_signal(
              name="wb_dat_i",
              width = DATA_W,
               descr="Data input.",
          ),
          iob_signal(
              name="wb_datout_o",
              width=DATA_W,
              descr="Data output.",
          ),
          iob_signal(
              name="wb_ack_i",
               width=1,
15
              descr="Acknowledge input. Indicates normal
                  termination of a bus cycle.",
          ),
17
          iob_signal(
18
              name="wb_adr_o",
19
              width=ADDR_W,
20
               descr="Address output. Passes binary address.",
          ),
22
          iob_signal(
23
              name="wb_cyc_o",
24
              width=1,
25
               descr="Cycle output. Indicates a valid bus cycle.",
26
          ),
27
          iob_signal(
28
              name="wb_sel_o",
               width=try_math_eval(f"{DATA_W}/{DATA_SECTION_W}"),
30
               descr="Select output. Indicates where valid data is
31
                  expected on the data bus.",
          ),
32
          iob_signal(
33
              name="wb_stb_o",
               width=1,
35
               descr="Strobe output. Indicates valid access.",
          ),
          iob_signal(
              name="wb_we_o",
              width=1,
               descr="Write enable. Indicates write access.",
          ),
```



```
3 ]
4 return ports
```

The Wishbone interface has the configurable widths:

- ADDR\_W
- DATA\_W

For example, to add an Wishbone port to a core, add the following python dictionary to the core's ports list:

```
"name": "example_port_m",
"descr": "Wishbone manager port",
"signals": {
        "type": "wb",
        "ADDR_W": 32,
        "DATA_W": 32,
},
```



#### **IOb Native**

The IOb Native interface is an open source interface developed by IObundle. It simplifies the connections between core components due to its reduced amount of signals when compared to other standard interfaces. The Py2HWSW core library 4.8 provides core's to convert between the IOb and other standard interfaces. A description of the IOb interface is available at: https://github.com/IObundle/py2hwsw/blob/main/py2hwsw/lib/hardware/buses/iob\_tasks/README.md

The IOb interface uses the 'get\_iob\_ports' function of the if\_gen.py script.

```
def get_iob_ports():
      return [
          iob_signal(
               name="iob_valid_o",
               width=1,
               descr="Request address is valid.",
          ),
          iob_signal(
               name="iob_addr_o",
               width=ADDR_W,
10
               descr="Address.",
          ),
12
          iob_signal(
13
               name="iob_wdata_o",
14
               width=DATA_W,
15
               descr="Write data.",
16
          ),
17
          iob_signal(
18
               name="iob_wstrb_o",
19
               width=try_math_eval(f"{DATA_W}/{DATA_SECTION_W}"),
20
               descr="Write strobe.",
21
          ),
22
          iob_signal(
23
               name="iob_rvalid_i",
24
               width=1,
25
               descr="Read data valid.",
          ),
          iob_signal(
               name="iob_rdata_i",
               width = DATA_W,
               descr="Read data.",
          ),
          iob_signal(
33
               name="iob_ready_i",
               width=1,
               descr="Interface ready.",
          ),
```



The IOb interface has the configurable widths:

- ADDR W
- DATA\_W

For example, to add an IOb port to a core, add the following python dictionary to the core's ports list:

```
"name": "example_port_m",
"descr": "IOb manager port",
"signals": {
        "type": "iob",
        "ADDR_W": 32,
        "DATA_W": 32,
        "]
},
```

# 4.7 Special cases

Most of the cores provived by the py2hwsw's library are built using the standard interfaces mentioned in section 3.4.

However, there are some cores that due to limitations of the standard interfaces, rely instead on internal py2hwsw methods for extra features. The following list describes the cores don't rely solely on the standard interfaces.

- iob\_system: This core uses the 'is\_system' attribute to enable an internal py2hwsw
  method that automatically fixes the address widths of the cbus interfaces of the system's
  peripherals.
- iob\_csrs: The py2hwsw tool contains an internal method to automatically search for the "iob\_csrs" subblock and insert a "<prefix>\_cbus\_s" port on the instantiator core of this subblock. It then connects this newly created "cprefix>\_cbus\_s" port of the instantiator core to the iob\_csrs "control\_if\_s" port. The 'cprefix>' is replaced by instance name of iob csrs subblock.



# 4.8 Core library

The Py2HWSW framework includes a library of cores ready for use.

Name	Directory
iob_system	iob_system
iob_csrs	hardware/iob_csrs
iob_inv	hardware/basic_tests/iob_inv
iob_inv	hardware/basic_tests/iob_inv
iob_aoi	hardware/basic_tests/iob_aoi
iob₋aoi	hardware/basic_tests/iob_aoi
iob_2to1mux	hardware/basic_tests/iob_2to1mux
iob_2to1mux	hardware/basic_tests/iob_2to1mux
iob_rom_acc	hardware/basic_tests/iob_rom_acc
iob₋and	hardware/basic_tests/iob_and
iob_and	hardware/basic_tests/iob_and
iob_fsm_defaults	hardware/basic_tests/iob_fsm_defaults
iob_csrs_demo	hardware/basic_tests/iob_csrs_demo
iob_fsm3	hardware/basic_tests/iob_fsm3
iob_or	hardware/basic_tests/iob_or
iob_or	hardware/basic_tests/iob_or
iob_reg	hardware/registers/iob_reg
iob_clkmux	hardware/clocks_resets/iob_clkmux
iob_clkbuf	hardware/clocks_resets/iob_clkbuf
iob_pulse_gen	hardware/clocks_resets/iob_pulse_gen
iob_reset	hardware/clocks_resets/iob_reset
iob_clock	hardware/clocks_resets/iob_clock
iob_neg2posedge_sync	hardware/synchronizers/iob_neg2posedge_sync
iob_sync	hardware/synchronizers/iob_sync
iob_reset_sync	hardware/synchronizers/iob_reset_sync
iob_f2s_1bit_sync	hardware/synchronizers/iob_f2s_1bit_sync
iob_altera_clk_buf_altclkctrl	hardware/altera/iob_altera_clk_buf_altclkctrl
iob_altddio_out	hardware/altera/iob_altddio_out
iob_altera_ddio_out_clkbuf	hardware/altera/iob_altera_ddio_out_clkbuf
iob_altera_alt_ddr3	hardware/altera/iob_altera_alt_ddr3
iob_altddio_in	hardware/altera/iob_altddio_in
iob_alt_iobuf	hardware/altera/iob_alt_iobuf
iob_unpack	hardware/shifters/iob_unpack
iob_piso_reg	hardware/shifters/iob_piso_reg
iob_sipo_reg	hardware/shifters/iob_sipo_reg
iob_pack	hardware/shifters/iob_pack
iob_shift_reg	hardware/shifters/iob_shift_reg
iob_modcnt	hardware/arith_logic/counter/iob_modcnt
iob_counter	hardware/arith_logic/counter/iob_counter
iob_counter_ld	hardware/arith_logic/counter/iob_counter_ld



Name	Directory
iob_fp_fpu	hardware/arith_logic/iob_fp/iob_fp_fpu
iob_fp_div	hardware/arith_logic/iob_fp/iob_fp_div
iob_fp_dq	hardware/arith_logic/iob_fp/iob_fp_dq
iob_fp_uint2float	hardware/arith_logic/iob_fp/iob_fp_uint2float
iob_fp_round	hardware/arith_logic/iob_fp/iob_fp_round
iob_fp_add	hardware/arith_logic/iob_fp/iob_fp_add
iob_fp_special	hardware/arith_logic/iob_fp/iob_fp_special
iob_fp_minmax	hardware/arith_logic/iob_fp/iob_fp_minmax
iob_fp_sqrt	hardware/arith_logic/iob_fp/iob_fp_sqrt
iob_fp_float2uint	hardware/arith_logic/iob_fp/iob_fp_float2uint
iob_fp_cmp	hardware/arith_logic/iob_fp/iob_fp_cmp
iob_fp_int2float	hardware/arith_logic/iob_fp/iob_fp_int2float
iob_fp_mul	hardware/arith_logic/iob_fp/iob_fp_mul
iob_fp_clz	hardware/arith_logic/iob_fp/iob_fp_clz
iob_fp_float2int	hardware/arith_logic/iob_fp/iob_fp_float2int
iob_add2	hardware/arith_logic/iob_add2
iob_diff	hardware/arith_logic/iob_diff
iob_ctls	hardware/arith_logic/iob_ctls
iob_int_sqrt	hardware/arith_logic/iob_int_sqrt
iob_functions	hardware/arith_logic/iob_functions
iob_add	hardware/arith_logic/iob_add
iob_acc	hardware/arith_logic/accumulators/iob_acc
iob_acc_ld	hardware/arith_logic/accumulators/iob_acc_ld
iob_prio_enc	hardware/arith_logic/iob_prio_enc
iob_edge_detect	hardware/arith_logic/iob_edge_detect
iob_div_subshift	hardware/arith_logic/div/iob_div_subshift
iob_div_pipe	hardware/arith_logic/div/iob_div_pipe
iob_div_subshift_frac	hardware/arith_logic/div/iob_div_subshift_frac
iob_div_subshift_signed	hardware/arith_logic/div/iob_div_subshift_signed
iob_xor	hardware/arith_logic/iob_xor
iob_iob2axil	hardware/buses/iob_iob2axil
iob_wishbone2iob	hardware/buses/iob_wishbone2iob
iob_demux	hardware/buses/iob_demux
iob_axis2fifo	hardware/buses/iob_axis2fifo
iob_axis_interconnect	hardware/buses/iob_axi_interconnect
iob_axi_full_xbar	hardware/buses/iob_axi_full_xbar
iob_axis_tasks	hardware/buses/iob_axis_tasks
iob_address_translator	hardware/buses/iob_address_translator
iob_iob2wishbone	hardware/buses/iob_iob2wishbone
iob_axi2axil	hardware/buses/iob_axi2axil
	hardware/buses/iob_axi2axii hardware/buses/iob_reverse
iob_reverse iob_fifo2axis	hardware/buses/iob_file2axis
iob_split	hardware/buses/iob_split
iob_axi_interconnect_wrapper	hardware/buses/iob_axi_interconnect_wrapper



Name	Directory
iob_axis_s_axi_m	hardware/buses/iob_axis_s_axi_m
iob_axi2iob	hardware/buses/iob_axi2iob
iob_bus_demux	hardware/buses/iob_bus_demux
iob_tasks	hardware/buses/iob_tasks
iob_asym_converter	hardware/buses/iob_asym_converter
iob_axil_split	hardware/buses/iob_axil_split
iob_iob2apb	hardware/buses/iob_iob2apb
iob_mux	hardware/buses/iob_mux
iob₋merge	hardware/buses/iob_merge
iob_arbiter	hardware/buses/iob_arbiter
iob_bus_width_converter	hardware/buses/iob_bus_width_converter
iob_axi_merge	hardware/buses/iob_axi_merge
iob_axis2ahb	hardware/buses/iob_axis2ahb
iob_iob_s_axi_m	hardware/buses/iob_iob_s_axi_m
iob₋axil2iob	hardware/buses/iob_axil2iob
iob_axi_crossbar	hardware/buses/iob_axi_crossbar
iob_apb2iob	hardware/buses/iob_apb2iob
iob_axi_split	hardware/buses/iob_axi_split
iob_fifo_sync	hardware/fifo/iob_fifo_sync
iob_gray_counter	hardware/fifo/iob_gray_counter
iob_gray2bin	hardware/fifo/iob_gray2bin
iob₋bfifo	hardware/fifo/iob_bfifo
iob_fifo_async	hardware/fifo/iob_fifo_async
iob_memwrapper	hardware/memories/iob_memwrapper
iob_ahb_ram	hardware/memories/iob_ahb_ram
iob_rom_2p	hardware/memories/rom/iob_rom_2p
iob_rom_tdp	hardware/memories/rom/iob_rom_tdp
iob_rom_sp	hardware/memories/rom/iob_rom_sp
iob_rom_atdp	hardware/memories/rom/iob_rom_atdp
iob_regfile_sp	hardware/memories/regfile/iob_regfile_sp
iob_regfile_at2p	hardware/memories/regfile/iob_regfile_at2p
iob_regfile_2p	hardware/memories/regfile/iob_regfile_2p
iob_axi_ram	hardware/memories/iob_axi_ram
iob_ram_t2p	hardware/memories/ram/iob_ram_t2p
iob_ram_2p	hardware/memories/ram/iob_ram_2p
iob_ram_atdp_be	hardware/memories/ram/iob_ram_atdp_be
iob_ram_sp_se	hardware/memories/ram/iob_ram_sp_se
iob_ram_tdp_be_xil	hardware/memories/ram/iob_ram_tdp_be_xil
iob_ram_sp_be	hardware/memories/ram/iob_ram_sp_be
iob_ram_at2p	hardware/memories/ram/iob_ram_at2p
iob_ram_tdp_be	hardware/memories/ram/iob_ram_tdp_be
iob_ram_t2p_be	hardware/memories/ram/iob_ram_t2p_be
iob_ram_atdp	hardware/memories/ram/iob_ram_atdp
iob_ram_sp	hardware/memories/ram/iob_ram_sp
	a. 5 a. 6, 6 6 6 6 6 6



Name	Directory
iob_ram_t2p_tiled	hardware/memories/ram/iob_ram_t2p_tiled
iob_ram_tdp	hardware/memories/ram/iob_ram_tdp
iob_iobuf	hardware/iob_iobuf
iob_xilinx_ibufg	hardware/amd/iob_xilinx_ibufg
iob_xilinx_oddre1	hardware/amd/iob_xilinx_oddre1
iob_xilinx_ddr4_ctrl	hardware/amd/iob_xilinx_ddr4_ctrl
iob_xilinx_clock_wizard	hardware/amd/iob_xilinx_clock_wizard
iob_xilinx_axi_interconnect	hardware/amd/iob_xilinx_axi_interconnect
iob_str	software/iob_str
iob_printf	software/iob_printf
iob₋uart	peripherals/iob_uart
iob_axistream_out	peripherals/iob_axistream_out
iob_axistream_in	peripherals/iob_axistream_in
iob_regfileif	peripherals/iob_regfileif
iob_timer	peripherals/iob_timer
iob_bootrom	peripherals/iob_bootrom
iob_dma	peripherals/iob_dma
iob_nco	peripherals/iob_nco
iob_gpio	peripherals/iob_gpio

Table 3: Table of cores available in the library of the Py2HWSW framework. The *Directory* column is the path to the core's setup directory, relative to the Py2HWSW lib directory py2hwsw/lib/.

Table 3 lists the cores available in the Py2HWSW framework's core library.

Each core contains its own user guide, which can be built using the following commands:

```
py2hwsw <core_name > setup
make -C ../<core_name > V < core_version > / doc-build
doc-build
doc-build
doc-build
```

# 5 How To Use

### 5.1 Setup

To set up a core with Py2HWSW, you'll need to have Nix installed on your system. You can download and install Nix from the official Nix website. Once Nix is installed, you can clone the Py2HWSW repository using the command git clone --recursive git@github.com:I0bundle/py2hwa



Next, navigate to the Py2HWSW directory and run the command nix-shell to enter the Nix-shell environment. This will ensure that all dependencies required by Py2HWSW are installed and available.

To set up a core, you can use the command:

```
nix-shell --run "py2hwsw $(CORE) setup --build_dir '$(BUILD_DIR)'
--py_params 'param1=param1_val:param2=param2_val'"
```

This command will generate the necessary files and directories for your core in the specified build directory.

You can customize the setup process by passing additional options to the py2hwsw command. For example, you can disable format and linting checks by adding the options --no\_verilog\_lint and --no\_verilog\_format to the command.

Here's an example of a setup directory structure:

```
mycore/
mycore.py
hardware/
src/
mycore.v
```

In this example, the mycore.py file contains the core description, and the hardware/src directory contains the Verilog source files for the core.

In some cases, the Verilog source file (mycore.v) may not be necessary, as the mycore.py file can describe the entire core, including its ports, wires, components, and even custom Verilog code. This allows for a high degree of flexibility and customization, as users can define their core's architecture and behavior entirely within the Python description file.

The Python description is particularly useful because it enables the creation of higher-level abstractions, making it easier to design and work with complex hardware components. Additionally, the use of Python parameters allows for dynamic modification of cores, enabling users to easily customize and adapt their designs to different use cases and applications.

To set up this core, you would run the command:

```
nix-shell --run "py2hwsw mycore setup --build_dir './build' --
py_params 'param1=param1_val:param2=param2_val'"
```

This would generate the necessary files and directories for the core in the ./build directory.

Note that you can customize the setup process to fit your specific needs by modifying the core description, Verilog source files, and setup command options.



#### 5.2 Simulation

To simulate a core using Py2HWSW, you can use the make sim-run command inside the generated build directory. This command will run the simulation using the default simulator (Icarus Verilog). You can specify the simulator to be used using the SIMULATOR variable.

For example, to simulate the core using Verilator, you can run the command make sim-run SIMULATOR=verilator inside the core's build directory. This will compile the testbench and run the simulation, displaying the output on the console.

Py2HWSW also provides a universal Verilator testbench that can be used to simulate IP cores. The testbench behaves like a processor reading and writing to the core's control and status registers (CSRs), allowing for easy testing and verification of the core's functionality.

You can customize the simulation process by modifying the testbench and simulation parameters, such as the simulation time, input stimuli, and output signals to be monitored. Additionally, you can use other simulators, such as VCS or QuestaSim, by specifying the corresponding simulator variable.

Some cores in the Py2HWSW library also include a tester that can be used to verify their functionality. Examples of such cores include <code>iob\_aoi</code>, <code>iob\_pulse\_gen</code>, and <code>iob\_system</code>. These testers can be run along with the core to test its behavior and ensure that it is working as expected.

To run the tester, simply navigate to the tester's build directory, usually located inside the core's build directory in a folder named <core\_name>\_tester/, and run the command make sim-run. This will compile and run the tester, allowing you to verify the core's functionality and debug any issues that may arise. By providing these testers, Py2HWSW makes it easier to develop and test complex hardware components, and ensures that the cores in the library are reliable and functional.

# 5.3 End to End Examples

This section provides three end-to-end examples of using Py2HWSW to generate and verify digital hardware cores. The examples cover the iob\_aoi, iob\_pulse\_gen, and iob\_soc cores, showcasing the automation of Verilog module generation from attributes.

#### 5.3.1 iob\_aoi Example

The iob\_aoi core is a simple example that combines an AND, OR, and invert logic gates. The core's attributes are defined in the iob\_aoi.py file, available at https://github.com/IObundle/py2hwsw/tree/main/py2hwsw/lib/hardware/basic\_tests/iob\_aoi. To generate the iob\_aoi core, follow these steps:



- 1. Create or modify the iob\_aoi.py file to set the attributes of the core, describing how it should be generated using the Py2HWSW standard core dictionary interface.
- 2. Optionally, add more files to the setup directory as needed, such as manual Verilog sources or templates, scripts, or software.
- 3. Call the Py2HWSW setup process using the command:

```
nix-shell --run "py2hwsw iob_aoi setup --build_dir '$(
BUILD_DIR)'"
```

- 4. The generated build directory contains all the Verilog sources, Makefile, and configurations to run the core in various flows (simulation, FPGA).
- 5. To run the core in simulation, call the command: make sim-run from the build directory.

# 5.3.2 iob\_pulse\_gen Example

The iob\_pulse\_gen core is used to generate signal pulses with configurable start and duration. The core's attributes are defined in the iob\_pulse\_gen.py file, available at https://github.com/IObundle/py2hwsw/blob/main/py2hwsw/lib/hardware/clocks\_resets/iob\_pulse\_gen/iob\_pulse\_gen.py. To generate the iob\_pulse\_gen core, follow these steps:

- 1. Create or modify the iob\_pulse\_gen.py file to set the attributes of the core, describing how it should be generated using the Py2HWSW standard core dictionary interface.
- 2. Optionally, add more files to the setup directory as needed, such as manual Verilog sources or templates, scripts, or software.
- 3. Call the Py2HWSW setup process using the command:

```
nix-shell --run "py2hwsw iob_pulse_gen setup --build_dir '$(
BUILD_DIR)'"
```

- 4. The generated build directory contains all the Verilog sources, Makefile, and configurations to run the core in various flows (simulation, FPGA).
- 5. To run the core in simulation, call the command: make sim-run from the build directory.

#### 5.3.3 iob\_soc Example

The iob\_soc core is a more complex example used to create a system on chip. The core's attributes are defined in the iob\_soc.py file, available at https://github.com/IObundle/iob-soc. The iob\_soc.py file supports high-level Python parameters that allow configuring main SoC components like the CPU, memories, and peripherals. To generate the iob\_soc core, follow these steps:



- 1. Create or modify the iob\_soc.py file to set the attributes of the core, describing how it should be generated using the Py2HWSW standard core dictionary interface.
- 2. Optionally, add more files to the setup directory as needed, such as manual Verilog sources or templates, scripts, or software.
- 3. Call the Py2HWSW setup process using the command:

```
nix-shell --run "py2hwsw iob_soc setup --build_dir '$(
BUILD_DIR)'"
```

- 4. The generated build directory contains all the Verilog sources, Makefile, and configurations to run the core in various flows (simulation, FPGA).
- 5. To run the core in simulation, call the command: make sim-run from the build directory.

These examples demonstrate the automation of Verilog module generation from attributes using Py2HWSW, showcasing the flexibility and ease of use of the framework.

# 5.4 Customizing Py2HWSW

Py2HWSW allows users to customize its behavior and core generation process. When running cores directly from the cloned Py2HWSW repository, users can modify the cores or Py2HWSW scripts for debugging purposes.

The Py2HWSW repository contains several main folders, including lib, scripts, and generic folders.

```
py2hwsw
ycypy2 generic folders>
lib
scripts
```

The py2hwsw folder contains generic folders that are copied to every core build directory set up via Py2HWSW. These folders include standard Makefiles, FPGA board constraints, simulator dependencies, and other essential files.

To override the default files, users can create a file with the same name in their core's setup directory. For example, to override the default py2hwsw/document/tsrc/sim\_desc.tex, create a new document/tsrc/sim\_desc.tex in the core's setup directory. Py2HWSW will first copy the generic default file to the build directory and then copy the core files from the setup directory, overriding the default file.

The lib directory contains a library of cores provided by Py2HWSW. These cores are intended to be bug-free and do not typically require modifications. However, if users need to



modify a core for their project, they can copy the corresponding core's setup directory to a subfolder in their project directory. Py2HWSW will use the first core it finds with the required name, so users can create custom modifications to the core specific to their project.

For example, to modify the iob\_and core, copy its folder from the Py2HWSW repository and place it in the user's project directory. When calling Py2HWSW from the project directory, it will find the copied iob\_and folder first and use it to generate the iob\_and core.

The scripts folder contains the Python scripts that make up the Py2HWSW tool. These scripts are typically only modified by developers, as they directly change the Py2HWSW program's behavior. However, users can modify these scripts for quick bug fixes or to add custom functionality.

By customizing Py2HWSW, users can tailor the tool to their specific needs and create custom cores and workflows. This flexibility allows users to adapt Py2HWSW to their project's requirements and create complex digital designs with ease.

# 5.5 Troubleshooting

When encountering errors during the setup process with Py2HWSW, there are several steps you can take to diagnose and resolve the issue.

#### 5.5.1 Error Messages

The main error message is usually printed in red color and provides information on where the issue originates, often due to a misconfiguration in the provided core dictionary. The traceback that follows is more useful for Py2HWSW developers, as it contains information on which Py2HWSW function has thrown the error.

#### 5.5.2 Debugging Options

If more information is required to troubleshoot the issue, you can use the following options:

- The —debug\_level flag: When calling py2hwsw with the —debug\_level flag, you can print debug messages during the setup process. The higher the debug level, the more messages are printed.
- Adding print statements: You can add print statements in your own core's .py file to understand when the script is being called and what contents it contains.
- Modifying Py2HWSW scripts: Adding print statements to the Py2HWSW main scripts can also be useful, but this requires understanding the inner workings of Py2HWSW and is usually reserved for developers.



#### 5.5.3 Build Process Errors

If the Py2HWSW setup process completes successfully, but the build process for a flow from the build directory gives errors (e.g., calling the Makefile from the build directory for simulation), follow these steps:

- 1. Check the generated Verilog sources: Verify that the contents of the generated Verilog sources are as intended.
- 2. Check tool-specific files: If the error message is simulator/tool-specific and does not seem related to the Verilog sources, check the constraints files, Makefiles, and other tool-specific files to determine where the issue originates.

#### 5.5.4 Overriding Py2HWSW Generated Files

If you need to modify a Py2HWSW generated file, you can override it by creating a new file with the same name in your core's setup directory. This allows you to customize the generated files to suit your specific needs.

By following these troubleshooting steps, you should be able to identify and resolve issues that arise during the setup and build process with Py2HWSW.