

November 2011

Abbreviations:

arg - argument	inst - instance
bool - boolean	num - number
enum - enumerated	TCM - time-consuming method
exp - expression	TE - temporal expression

bit	byte	int
bool	uint	string
int uint (bits: <i>n</i> bytes: <i>n</i>)		real
list [(key: <i>field-name</i>)] of type		
<i>exp</i> = <i>exp</i> .as_a(<i>type</i>) // type conversion		

```
struct struct-type [ like base-struct-type ] { struct members };
unit unit-type [ like base-unit-type ] { unit members };
type type-name : [u]int ( bits: n | bytes: n );
type enum-type: [name1, name2, ...];
extend type-name : [ name [=n], ... ];
extend struct-type | unit-type { additional struct or unit members };
```

fields	constraints	when conditions
methods and TCMs	cover groups	events
temporal struct unit members	preprocessor directives	

```
[const][!][%]field-name : type;  
when const-field { ...};      field-name[n] : list of type;  
field-name : unit-type is instance;  
list of [list of...] type;
```

```
struct | unit struct-type | unit-type {  
    field-name : enum-type;  
    when name1 struct-type | unit-type { additional members };  
};  
extend name1 struct-type | unit-type { ... };
```

```
port-inst-name:[list of] [direction] simple_port of element-type is
instance;
```

```
port-inst-name:[list of] [direction] buffer_port of element-type is
instance;
```

```
event-port-field-name:[list of] [direction] event_port is instance;
```

```
keep [soft] port-exp.attribute() == value;
```

```
keep bind(port-exp1, port-exp2);
```

```
keep bind(port-exp1, external | empty | undefined);
```

```

port-inst-name: [list of] direction method_port of method-type is
instance;

keep bind(port-exp1, port-exp2);

keep bind(port-exp1, external | empty | undefined);

port-exp1.connect(port-exp2 | empty | undefined);

port-inst-name : [list of] [direction] interface_port of tlm-intf-type
[using prefix=prefix | using suffix=suffix] [is instance];

UVM Style Syntax - Instead of "direction interface_port of", use:
interface_port of interface_export of
interface_imp of

port1-exp.connect(port-exp2 | "external_uvm_path" | empty |
undefined)

```

```

keep [name is [only]] [soft] constraint-definition // “[only]” option in
IntelliGen only

keep soft bool-exp == select { weight : value; ... };

keep field-name in [range];

keep bool-exp1 [= > | or | and] bool-exp2;

keep exp in list;

keep exp1 ? exp2 : exp3;

keep list1.all_different(exp)

keep list1.sum(exp1) == exp2

keep for each ( item ) in list { [soft] constraint-bool-exp; ... };

keep field-name.hdl_path() == “string”;

```

```
gen gen-item [keeping { [soft] constraint-bool-exp ; ... }];
do field-name [keeping {constraint,...}] //sequences
```

run()	extract()	check()	finalize()	visualize()
init()	pre_generate()	post_generate()	quit()	

get_unit()	get_all_units()	get_enclosing_unit()
set_unit()	connect_ports()	check_generation()
try_enclosing_unit()	connect_pointers()	

```

on [const-path.]event {action; ...}
on [const-path.]event-port$ {action; ...}
expect | assume [rule-name is [only ]] TE
  [ else dut_error( "string", exp, ... ) ];

```

```
event event-name [ is [only] TE ];  
emit [struct-inst.]event-name;
```

Basic Temporal Expressions		
@[struct-inst.]event-name	change fall rise(port\$)	@sim
change fall rise(exp)	true(bool-exp)	cycle

Complex Temporal Expressions

$TE @ [struct-inst.] event-name$	$\{ TE; TE; \dots \}$
$TE1 \Rightarrow TE2$	$TE \text{ exec } \{ action; \dots \}$
$[n][* TE]$	

Preprocessor Directives **Statements, Struct Members or Actions**

```
#define ["name [ replacement ]      #undef name  
#if[n]def ["name then {e-code} [ #else {e-code} ] ;
```

```
define <tag'syntactic-category> "match-exp" as {replacement}
define <tag'syntactic-category> "match-exp" as computed {action;}
```

var <i>var-name</i> : <i>type</i> ;	var <i>var-name</i> : = <i>value</i> ;
<i>var-name</i> = <i>exp</i> ;	[<i>struct-exp</i>]. <i>field-name</i> <= <i>exp</i>

```
template (struct | unit) template-name of (param-list) [like base-type] {template members }:  
template-name of ( actual-param-list )
```

[final] *method-name* ([*param-list*] [: *return-type*] [*@event*] is {*action*;...} // *@event* required for TCM

param-list syntax: *param-name*:*param-type*[=*default-exp*], ...

method-name ([*param-list*] [: *return-type*] [*@event-type*] is {**[also|first|only]** {*action*;...}

return [*exp*]

```
[[struct-exp].]method-name([param-list])
start TCM() // starts TCM in a new thread
```

TCM2()@event-name is { TCM1(); method();};

method1() is { method2(); method3();};

method() is { start TCM();};

Conditional Procedures

Actions

if bool-exp [then] { action; ... }
[else if bool-exp [then] { action; ... }] [else { action; ... }] ;

case { bool-exp[:] { action; ... } ; [default[:] { action; ... } ;] };

case case-exp { case-action-block;... [default[:] { action; ... } ;] };

Loops

Actions

for i from exp [down] to exp [step exp] [do] { action; ... };
for each [struct-type] (list-item) [using index (index-name)]
in [reverse] list [do] { action; ... };
for each [line] [(line-name)] in file file-name [do] {action; ... };
while bool-exp [do] { action; ... };

Ways to exit a loop:

break; continue;

Checks

Actions

check [[name] that] bool-exp [else dut_error(message-exp, ...)]

Operators

Operator precedence is left to right, top to bottom in the list

[] list indexing [..] list slicing

[:] bit slicing f() method or routine call

. field selection in range list

{... ; ...} list concatenation %{... , ...} bit concatenation

~ bitwise not !, not boolean not

+, - unary positive, negative *, /, % multiply, divide, modulus

+, - plus, minus >>, << shift right, shift left

<, <=, >, >= comparison is [not] a subtype identification

==, != boolean equal, not equal ===,!== Verilog 4-state compare

~, !~ string matching &, |, ^ bitwise and, or, xor

&&, and boolean and ||, or boolean or

!, not boolean not => boolean implication

a ? b : c conditional “if a then b, else c”

Sequences

sequence seq-name [using sequence-option,...];

Options:

item = item-type // virtual sequence if not used

created_driver = driver-name // default: seq_name_driver

created_kind = kind-name // default: seq_name_kind

// pre-defined seq_name_kind: MAIN, SIMPLE, RANDOM

body() @driver.clock is [only] { ... };

do field-name [keeping {constraint,...}]

do [when-qualifiers] field-name [on driver-exp] [keeping {constraint,...}]

Sequence-Driver API

gen_and_start_main: bool

bfm_interaction_mode: bfm_interaction_mode_t

arbitration_mode: seq_arbitration_mode_t

get_next_item(): item_type @clock

try_next_item(): item_type @clock

event item-done

driver.wait_for_grant(seq: any_sequence) @sys.any

driver.deliver_item(item: any_sequence_item)

driver.wait_for_item_done(item: any_sequence_item)@sys.any

driver.execute_item(item: any_sequence_item)

Messages

message([tag], verbosity, exp,) [action-block]

Message-Logger API

tags: list of message_tag

verbosity: message_verbosity
// NONE (default), LO, MEDIUM, HIGH, FULL

to_file: string
// target log file for printing (default extension is .elog)

to_screen: bool // TRUE by default

set_actions(verbosity: message_verbosity, tags: list of message_tag, modules: string, text: string, op: message_operation)

Packing and Unpacking Pseudo-Methods

exp = pack(pack-option, exp, ...)

unpack(pack-option, value-exp, target-exp [, target-exp, ...])

Predefined Routines

Actions

Deep Copy and Compare Routines

deep_copy(exp : struct-type) : struct-type

deep_compare[_physical](inst1: struct-type, inst2: struct-type, max-diffs: int): list of string

Selected Configuration Routines

set_config(category, option, option-value)

get_config(category, option);

Selected Arithmetic Routines

min|max (x: int, y: int): int abs(x: int): int

ipow(x: int, y: int): int isqrt(x: int): int

odd|even (x: int): bool div_round_up(x: int, y: int): int

Bitwise Routines

exp.bitwise_and|or|xor|nand|nor|xnor(exp: int|uint): bit

Selected String Routines

appendf(format, exp, ...): string append(exp, ...): string

exp. to_string(): string bin|dec|hex(exp, ...): string

str_join(list: list of string, separator: string): string

str_match(str: string, regular-exp: string): bool

Selected Operating System Interface Routines

system(“command”): int date_time(): string

output_from(“command”): list of string

get_symbol(UNIX-environment-variable: string) : string

files.write_string_list(file-name: string, list: list of string)

Stopping a Test

stop_run();

List Pseudo-Methods

Selected List Actions

add[0](list-item : list-type)

clear() delete(index : int)

pop[0]() : list-type push[0](list-item : list-type)

Selected List Expressions

size() : int top[0]() : list-type

reverse() : list sort(exp : exp) : list

sum(expr : int) : int count (exp : bool) : int

exists(index : int) : bool has(exp : bool) : bool

is_empty() : bool is_a_permutation(list: list) : bool

all(expr : bool) : list all_indices(exp : bool) : list of int

first(expr : bool) : list-type last(exp : bool) : list-type

key(key-expr : expr) : list-item key_index(key-exp : exp) : int

max(expr : int) : list-type max_value(exp : int) : int | uint

min(expr : int) : list-type min_value(exp : int) : int | uint

swap(small : int, large : int) : list of bit

crc_8|32(from-byte : int, num-bytes : int) : int

unique(exp : exp) : list all_different(exp : exp)

Coverage Groups and Items

Struct and Unit Members

cover cover-group [using [also] cover-group-options] is [empty]
[also] {
item item-name [: type = exp] [using [also] cover-item-options];
cross item-name1, item-name2, ... ; transition item-name;
};

Coverage Group Options

text = string weight = uint no_collect radix = DEC|HEX|BIN

when = bool-exp per_unit_instance [=unit-type]

Coverage Item Options

text = string weight = uint no_collect

radix = DEC|HEX|BIN when = bool-exp at_least = num

per_instance = bool ignore | illegal = cover-item-bool-exp

ranges=range([n..m], sub-bucket-name, sub-bucket-size, at-least-number);

Specman

Quick Reference

January 2011

This card contains selected Specman commands and procedures. For more information, see the *Specman Command Reference*.

Abbreviations:

dir - directory

inst - instance

exp - expression

num - number

General Help

help [string... | “reg-exp”] // ASCII help

sn_help.sh

Help button in GUI

cdnshelp // help GUI

Creating an HDL Stub File

write stubs -ncvlog | -ncvhdl | -ver[ilog] | -ncsc | -ncsv | -esi [file-name] // IES only; stub files not required for irun

write stubs -ver[ilog] | -qvh | -mti_sv | -osci | -vcs | -vcssv | -esi [file-name]

Example: specman -command “load top.e; write stubs -osci”

Compiler Script

%sn_compile.sh // displays compiler script options

%sn_compile.sh top.e // creates an executable named “top” with compiled top.e module (and all other modules loaded by top.e)

% sn_compile.sh e_module -shlib –t tmp_directory

%sn_compile.sh -shlib -exe top.e // creates a shared library and executable that can be loaded dynamically into a simulator (example-. Modelsim)

%sn_compile.sh -sim vcs -vcs_flags “file1.v ... specman.v” top.e // creates a Specman executable named “vcs_top” that includes VCS, compiled top.e, and Verilog source files

Some Common Switches

sim // specifies name of the simulator to be linked (xl, ncvlog, ncvhdl, ncsim, vcs, vcssv)

enable_DAC // compiles define as computed macros in the same compilation phase

shlib // creates a shared library

parallel // improves performance by compiling modules in parallel

Starting Specman Standalone

%specman [-p[re_commands] commands | @cmd-file.ecom] [-c[ommands] commands...] [-e | -gui]

Example:
specman -p "config print -radix = HEX" -p "load top" -e // starts Specman, sets print radix to hex, loads top.e, and enables command line editing mode.

Switching between Specman and Simulator Prompts

<Return> // switches from Specman to the simulator

sn [spm-n-cmd] // switches from simulator to Specman

nc nc-cmd // passes simulator command from Specman to IES

Starting Specman with a Simulator

%specrun [-p[re_commands] commands | @cmd-file.ecom] [-c[ommands] commands...] [-e | -gui] -dlib | linked-specman-executable-and-parameters // Specman invocation using a linked executable or dynamically linked to a shared library

IES Simulator

%irun file1.v file2.v test.e -snprerun "@batch.ecom"// single call flow with IES (compiles Verilog files and e file, and executes pre-commands)

ModelSim

vsim -c -keepstdout top-module vsim-options

VCS

integrated-vcs-executable -ucli [vcs-options]

Specman-specific irun Options

-nosncomp // prevents compiling Specman input files

-snchecknames // generates a warning if Specman references an incorrect HDL path

-sncompargs strings // passes arguments to sn_compile.sh

-snload files // loads e files before HDL access generation

-snprerun "comds" // specifies Specman commands to be executed before simulation

-snseed seed // passes seed value to Specman

-snset "comds" // specifies Specman commands to be executed before compiling or loading e files

-snshlib shared-lib-path // uses the specified precompiled e shared library

-snstage stage_name // compiles all e files as a staged compile

-defineall macro // defines macro from command line for all compilers

-intelligen // configures generator to use intelligen

Syntax Examples:

% irun –snshlib libsn_e_module.so hdl_files e_module

% irun –snstage stage_name e_files -snstage stage_name e_files

-snstage ... -endsnstage e_files hdl_files

irun Coverage Options

-covworkdir work-dir // selects coverage work directory

-covscope scope-name // selects coverage scope name

-covtest test-name // selects coverage test name

Test Phase Commands

test | setup | generate | start | run [-option = value, ...] // options are the related configuration options.

check

finalize

extract

Saving and Restoring the State

*sav[e] options

*res[t[ore]] options

*rel[o[ad]] options

*set retain state options

Coverage Commands

read cov[er[age]] [-merge -file = merge-filename] wildcard-filename,...

write cov[er[age]] [-merge] filename

clear cov[er[age]]

sh[o[w]] cov[er[age]] [-kind = full | sum[mary] | spread[sheet]] [-f[ile] = file-name] [-contr[ibutors] [= num]] [-win[dow]] [struct-type[group-name[.item-name]]] [...]

sh[o[w]] cov[er[age]] def [struct-type[group-name[.item-name]]]

rank co[ver] [-sort_only] [-recover] [-window] [-file=file_name] [-initial_list=file_name] [struct-type[group-name[.item-name]]]

Waveform-Related Commands

set wave [-mode=working-mode] viewer

// not needed for IES

wave [exp] [-when] [-depth=uint] [-field[s] [-event[s] [-thread[s] exp

wave ev[e[n[t]]] [struct-type.event-type]

Memory Commands

*sh[o[w]] mem[ory] options

*sh[o[w]] path options

Log Commands

set log file-name [{command;...}]

Message Command

*set me[s[sage[s]]] options

Event Commands

show event[s] [time[..[time]] [struct-name.event-name] // wildcards allowed for event commands.

sh[ow] event def[initions] [struct-name.event-name [...]]

collect event[s] [struct-name.event-name [...]] [on | off]

tra[c[e]] ev[e[nt[s]]] options

del[ete] event[s]

Show Pack and Unpack Commands

show pack(pack-option, exp, ...)

show unpack(pack-option, value-exp, target-exp1 [,target-exp2,...])

Shell Commands

shell shell-command

Specman: Main Configuration Options

Categories	
run	cover
gen	memory
simulation	ies
gui	print
debugger	
*conf[ig[ure]] category -option=value...	

***sh[o[w]] conf[ig[ure]]** // To see all configuration settings
***sh[o[w]] conf[ig[ure]] category** // To see a specific category of settings
***sh[o[w]] conf[ig[ure]] category -option ...** // To see one or more specific options of a category

***write conf[ig[ure]]**
***read conf[ig[ure]]**

Print and Report Commands

p[r[int]] exp[, ...] **[using print-options]**
rep[ort] list-exp, {[headers]}, exp,... **[using print-options]**

Note: Use the **show config print** command to display print options.

Examples:
 print sys.packets using radix=HEX
 report sys.packets, {"Addr \t Indx"; "%d \t %d"},.address,index
tree *[struct | list-exp]* // display the contents of a struct or list
***write doc options**

Sequence Debug Command

tra[ce] seq[ui]ence *[destination]* **[on | off]** *[wild]*
destination options: **msg, log, transaction, all** (default)

Generation Debugger Commands

break **[on]** **gen** **[action id [cfs id]]** **[error]** **[field**
struct_name.field_name] // set generation break point; enable
collection of generation information

Examples:
break on gen error// collect generation information and stop on next contradiction
break on gen field my_packet_s.*// collect generation information and stop on next generation of any field of my_packet_s

sh[ow] gen **[–instance instance-name[.fieldname] | -ascii]**

Source Code Debugger Commands

cont[inue] [to breakpoint-syntax]	step_any[where]
st[ep]	ne[xt]
	fin[ish]
	abort

In the next few sections, the *#thread-handle* option can only be used with the “l” (local) form of the command (e.g. **lbreak**, but not **break**). The special events and special wild cards used as options for some of the commands are listed separately at the end.

Setting Breakpoints

b[reak] [once] [on] *break-option* **[@module]** **[if cond]**
lb[reak] [once] [on] *break-option* **[@module]** **[#thread-handle]** **[if cond]**
Where *break-options* are:
• **c[all]** **[ext[ension]]** *[struct-wildcard.]method-wildcard*
• **re[urn]** **[ext[ension]]** *[struct-wildcard.]method-wildcard*
• **event** *[[struct-wildcard.]method-wildcard]*
• *special-event-type* *[special-wildcard]*

b[reak] [once] [on] **l[ine]** *[line-number]* **[@module | @expansion-index]** **[if cond]**

lb[reak] [once] [on] **l[ine]** *[line-number]* **[@module | @expansion-index]** **[#thread-handle]** **[if cond]**

b[reak] [once] [on] **change** *exp* | **error** | **interrupt** | **sim** | **contention**

b[reak] [on] **alloc** *[memory-size]*

Managing Breakpoints

delete | **disable** | **enable break** **[last | id-number | "pattern"]**

show breakpoint

Setting and Managing Watches

[l]watch *exp* **[-radix = DEC | HEX | BIN]** **[-items = value]** **[#thread-id]**

customize watch *watch-id* **[radix = DEC | HEX | BIN]** **[-items = value | default]**

show watch **delete watch** *[watch-id]*

Setting Traces

tra[ce] [once] [on] *trace-option* **[@module-name]** **[if cond]**
ltra[ce] [once] [on] *trace-option* **[@module-name]** **[#thread-handle]** **[if cond]**

Where *trace-option* is:
• **c[all]** **[ext[ension]]** *[struct-wildcard.]method-wildcard*
• **re[urn]** **[ext[ension]]** *[struct-wildcard.]method-wildcard*
• **l[ine]** *[line-number]*
• *special-event* *[special-wildcard]*

tra[ce] [once] [on] **change** *exp* | **contention**

tra[ce] [on] **packing** | **reparse**

tra[ce] [on] **check** *[struct-wild-card.method-wild-card]* **[@module-name]**

tra[ce] deep

tra[ce] glitch **[on | off]** **c[all]** *[port-e-path]*

tra[ce] *internal-port-activity* *[unit-wildcard | port-wildcard]* *[destination]* **[off]**

tra[ce] *external-port-activity* *[[agent-wildcard.]unit-wildcard. | port-wildcard]* *[destination]* **[off]**

Special Events and Special Wild Cards

Special Event Name	Special Wild Card
tcm_start	struct-wild-card.tcm-wild-card
tcm_end	struct-wild-card.tcm-wild-card
tcm_call	struct-wild-card.tcm-wild-card

Special Events and Special Wild Cards (continued)

tcm_return	struct-wild-card.tcm-wild-card
tcm_wait	struct-wild-card.tcm-wild-card
tcm_state	struct-wild-card.tcm-wild-card
call	struct-wild-card.method-wild-card
return	struct-wild-card.method-wild-card
sim_read	signal-name-wild-card
sim_write	signal-name-wild-card
output	text wild-card

Command-Line Mode Debugging Commands

sh[ow] sta[ck] // show the calls stack for the current thread

sh[ow] thr[ead] // show all threads

sh[ow] thr[ead] so[urce] **[#thread-id[.call-id]]** // show the **e** source for the current thread

sh[ow] thr[ead] tr[ee] **[#thread-id]** // show the full tree of calls for the current thread

sh[o[w]] def[line[s]] **[-v]** **[-e]** **[" [']wildcard-name"]** // -e : e defines only; -v : Verilog defines

***sh[ow] macro[_call][s]** *options*

collect **[-file=file-name]** **[-after=module-name]** **[-reload]** *struct-name.method,...* // collect method extensions and print to log

sh[o[w]] mod[u[les]] **[-checksum | -win[dow]]**

NOTE

*** --The command has '-h[elp]' option that prints the description of this command and its options. The parameters of this command can be given in any order.**