

Ve 270 Introduction to Logic Design

# Lab 4 Design of a Counter

UM-SJTU Joint Institute Shanghai Jiao Tong University June 2019



# 1. Objective

- To understand and design a special FSM Counter.
- To design the counter by HDL modeling
- To experience the development process of an FPGA based digital device using HDL.

## 2. Requirement

In this lab, you are to design a device commonly used in modern computers, a 4-bit up/down synchronous binary counter. The counter is defined as follows:

- A 4-bit binary counter uses 4 flip-flop outputs to represent a binary number. It is capable of counting from 0 to 15.
- A synchronous counter implies that all flip-flops are sharing the same clock signal.
- An up/down counter is capable of counting up (incrementing) or down (decrementing).

The counter has two 1-bit control inputs called "Up/Down" and "Reset". The counter is to increment if "Up/Down" is 1 and decrement if "Up/Down" is 0. When "Reset" is 1 the counter should go to 0 no matter what the other inputs might be. "Up/Down" input can be provided with a toggle switch. The "Reset" input can be provided with a push button. Another input to the counter is "Clock". Rising edges of "Clock" should trigger increment or decrement of the counter.

Model the 4-bit up/down synchronous binary counter with Verilog HDL.

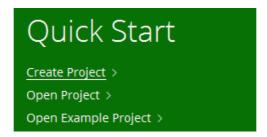
The outputs of the counter should be captured with 4 LEDs on the FPGA board, and also supplied to an SSD Driver modeled with Verilog HDL so that the binary number is displayed in its hexadecimal equivalent.

**NOTE**: the "Clock" signal can be connected to a push button or any other regular input source directly. Thus, each button press produces a rising edge.

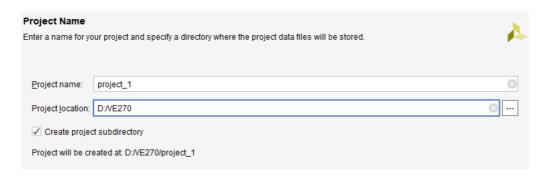
## 3. Setting up Xilinx Vivado

In this section, you will set up the Xilinx Vivado digital system development environment and get it ready for circuit simulation and implementation.

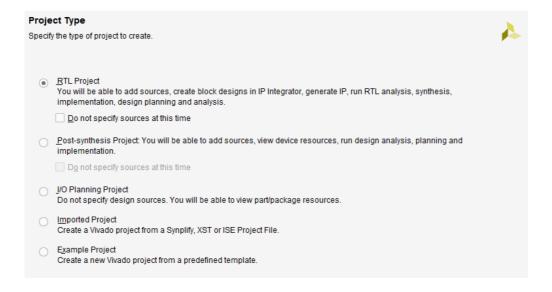
- 1) Click on the icon to open the Vivado software.
- 2) Click "Create Project" in the left side panel shown below or from the drop down menu: File → New Project;



3) Follow the navigator to choose project file location and project name;



4) Select "RTL Project" option in the Project Type window, and Next;

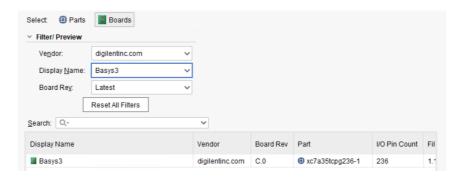


You could check "Do not specify sources at this time" box if you want to add source file later.

- 5) Add Sources (skip for now)
- 6) Add Constrains (skip for now)
- 7) Choose Default Part. There are two ways to choose parts, select by Parts or by Boards:
  - a. Select by Parts:

Search and Choose parts: XC7A35TCPG236-1

- b. Select by Boards:
  - i. Download Digilent Vivado boards file from github.com.
  - ii. Copy folders in "new/board\_files" into "vivado install location/Vivado/version/data/boards/board\_files". For detail, please refer to the instruction on Digilent website.
  - iii. You will find board file for Basys3

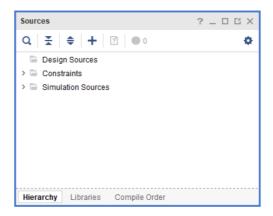




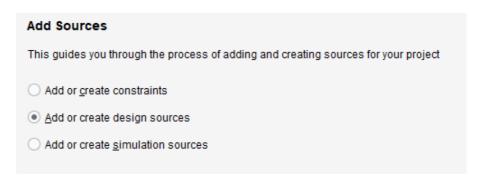
#### 8) Finish

Now a new project is created in the Vivado software.

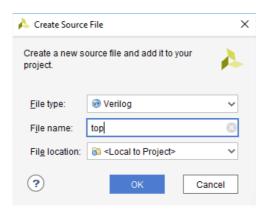
9) Find "Sources" window and click "+" to add or create source;



10) Choose "Add or create design sources"; Next;



- 11) Click "Create File"
- 12) Choose "File type" to be Verilog, enter File name.



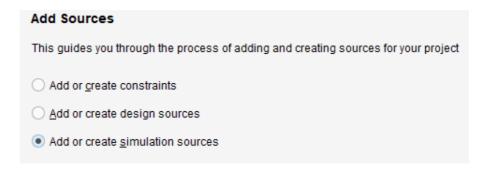
- 13) Click "OK" and "Finish"; then a "Define Module" window will pop up. You can skip this step, or you can also name your module ports here;
- 14) Write Verilog code in the file to implement your design;
- 15) Repeat steps 9) to 14) to create multiple source files;



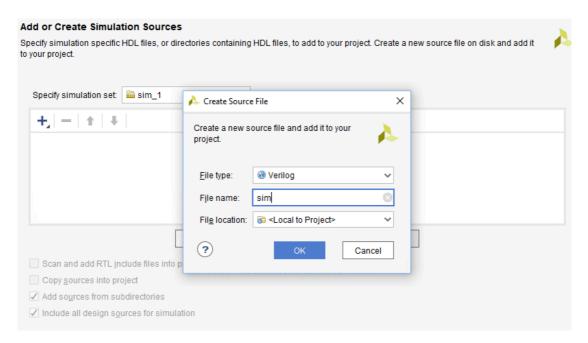
# 4. Simulate your Verilog design

In this section, you will create a test bench to simulate your Verilog design in Vivado.

- 1) Find "Sources" window and click "+" to add source (test bench);
- 2) Choose "Add or create simulation sources";



3) Click "Create File", Name file and choose location; **Note**: the simulation source (test bench) will also be a Verilog file.



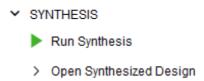
- 4) Click OK and Finish.
- 5) Create a test bench Verilog file in the simulation source;
- 6) From the drop down menu: Flow → Run Simulation → Run Behavioral Simulation; the input/output waveforms of your circuit will appear; this can also be done by clicking Run Simulation → Run Behavioral Simulation in the "Flow Navigator" window on the left hand side;
- 7) Verify the functions of your design using the timing diagram;

# 5. Synthesize and implement the design

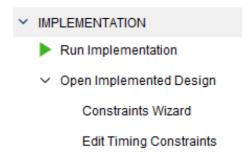
After a successful simulation, you will synthesize and implement your design with Vivado tools and Basys 3 FPGA board.



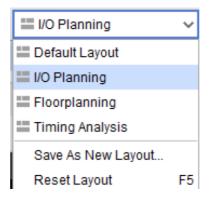
- 1) Highlight the top Verilog module of your design;
- 2) Run Synthesis in "Flow Navigator" with default setting to convert the Verilog models into real circuits;



- 3) Click "Run Implementation" in Flow Navigator to generate a .bit file to implement the circuits in the FPGA board;
- 4) Click "Open Implemented Design" below "Run Implementation";



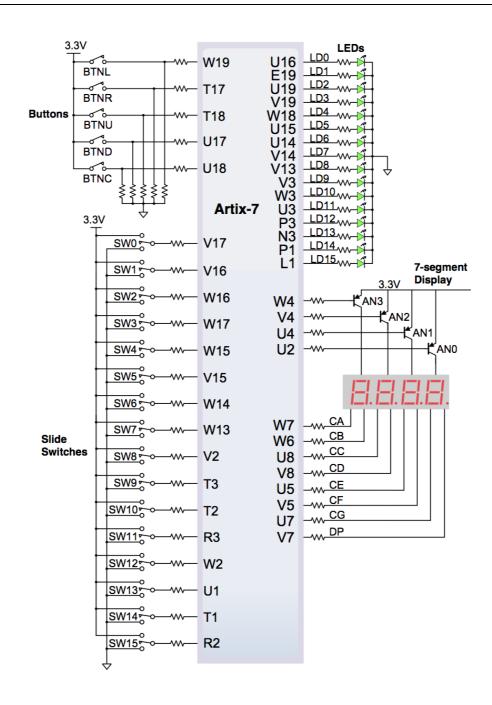
5) Choose "I/O Planning" from the drop down menu in the upper right corner of the software window;



6) Select "I/O Ports" tab in the bottom window; the window can also be opened from the drop down menu: Window → I/O Ports;

What you are going to do in this tab is to map the desired I/O resources (switches, LEDs, etc.) to the inputs and outputs of your circuit. Some I/O resources available on the Basys 3 FPGA board as well as their labels are shown in the following figure. The labels may also be found on the board next to each I/O device.





- 7) In the "I/O Ports" window, pay attention to these columns:
  - Name: inputs and outputs of your designed circuit;
  - Package Pin: labels of desired I/O resources, such as V17, W19, and U16. Change the labels to select the I/O resources that you want to use;
  - Fixed: all should be checked after I/O resources are mapped to the circuit;
  - I/O Std: change all to "LVCMOS33\*"
- 8) Save the changes in a constraints file with extension .xdc;

Note: Basys 3 provides a 100 MHz clock at label W5. But we will use a push button to provide the clock signal to your circuits in this lab. However, the Vivado system will report an error if it finds the clock input of a circuit is not connected to W5. In order to override this default error, the



following should be done:

- 9) In the "Sources" window where you added the Verilog source files, find the .xdc constraints file you just created in step 8) under Constraints → constrs\_1;
- 10) Double click the file to open it which should look similar to this:

```
set_property IOSTANDARD LVCMOS33 [get_ports clock]
set_property IOSTANDARD LVCMOS33 [get_ports load]
set_property IOSTANDARD LVCMOS33 [get_ports reset]
set_property PACKAGE_PIN U19 [get_ports {Q[2]}]
set_property PACKAGE_PIN E19 [get_ports {Q[1]}]
set_property PACKAGE_PIN U16 [get_ports {Q[0]}]
```

11) Add this line to the .xdc file:

```
set_property CLOCK_DEDICATED_ROUTE FALSE [get_nets clock_IBUF]
```

- 12) Rerun Synthesis and Implementation;
- 13) Connect a Basys 3 board to your computer, and turn it on;
- 14) Click "Generate Bitstream";
- 15) Click "Open Hardware Manager;



- 16) Click "Open Target";
- 17) Click "Program Device"

Now your designed circuit has been implemented in the FPGA chip on the Basys 3 board. Verify the functions of your circuit against the simulation results obtained in Section 4.

# 6. Deliverables

This is a 1-week lab. The full score for this lab is 200 points.

- 1) Demonstrate your circuits to the TAs before your lab session ends.
- 2) Upload source files on Canvas by 10pm, June 22, 2019.
- 3) Upload peer evaluation report on Canvas by 10pm, June 22, 2019.

Peer evaluation form:

| Name               | Percentage of contribution (sum to 100%) | Responsibilities |
|--------------------|--|------------------|
| (yourself)         |  |                  |
| (your lab partner) |  |                  |