# hdlregression

Release 1.2.1

**UVVM** 

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**CHAPTER** 

ONE

### INTRODUCTION

# 1.1 What is HDLRegression

HDLRegression is a fully customizable regression tool written in Python for running HDL testbenches, and have a very low user threshold for getting started with, but can also be used in very advanced projects. Setting up a test regression script is straight forward and requires little Python knowledge.

For an existing project to start using HDLRegression there are only two tasks that have to be carried out

- 1 add a code comment to the top level testbench entity
- 2 make a test script where libraries and files are specified.

HDLRegression is shipped with basic and advanced test script Template files files that have guidelines instructions that help the test designer in getting started in setting up a complete and ready to use HDLRegression test script. The basic template file show the only code that is required to run HDLRegression, where all that is needed is to add file(s) and potentially a compile library.

HDLRegression is distributed as open source and can be downloaded from GitHub.



#### 1 Note

HDLRegression is not a verification framework but a tool for running testbenches that verifies the design behaviour.

This allows you to choose any verification framework, e.g. company internal developed, UVVM, OSVVM, VUnit and so on.

- a) Without making any changes to the verification files other than adding a single code comment in the testbench.
- b) Without the need for regression dedicated VHDL code from other frameworks use whichever you prefer.
- c) With a verification framework independent regression suite.

# 1.2 What is regression testing

Regression testing is re-running functional and non-functional tests to ensure that previously developed and tested software still performs after a change. (wikipedia)

# 1.3 Terminology

#### 1.3.1 Testbench

A testbench is the top level entity and architecture which is used as input to the simulations. Verification of a DUT (device under test) may require one or more testbenches. The testbench will consist of:

- A test sequencer.
- A test-harness not required, but recommended.
- Optionally other support modules, procedures or statements outside the test-harness.

Different configurations of a testbench using different DUT architectures are considered as the same testbench, running on different DUT representations. Different configurations of a testbench using different test-harness architectures are considered as different testbenches, as testbench behaviour may be different.

#### 1.3.2 Test sequencer

The test sequencer is a single VHDL process controlling the simulations from start to end, and may sometimes be called the "central (test) sequencer".

#### 1.3.3 Test-harness

The test-harness consist of a VHDL entity containing the fixed parts of the verification environment - often shared between various testbenches. E.g. DUT and verification support such as verification components or processes, including concurrent procedures.

#### 1.3.4 Test suite

A test suite is the complete set of testbenches required for a given DUT, or for a complete FPGA including modules.

#### 1.3.5 Test case

A test case is

- A scenario or sequence of actions that are controlled by the test sequencer.
- May test one or multiple features/requirements.
- Typically testing of related functionality, or a logical sequence of events, or an efficient sequence of events.
- The minimum sequence of events possible to run in a single simulation execution. Thus, if there is an option to run of multiple test sequences (A, B or C), a set of test sequences (A and B) or all sequences (A+B+C), then all of A, B and C are defined as individual test cases.

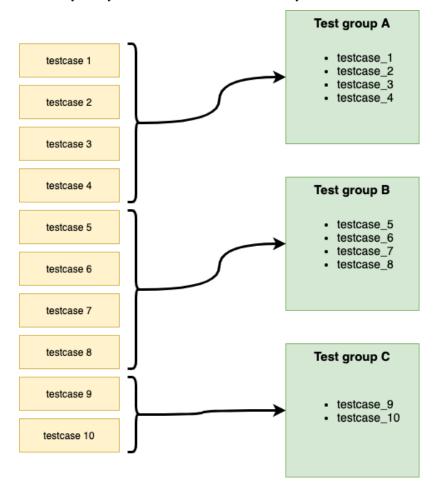
# 1.3.6 Test group

A test group is a collection of test cases that typically verifies the same modules or features of a DUT. There are several ways of structuring testbenches and test cases, and HDLRegression support many of these.

A test group can be:

- A single testbench or a collection of testbenches
- A single test case or a collection of test cases

Typically a test group contains testbenches and/or test cases that verifies a set of features or functionality, e.g. error injection, interface functionality or any other sub-set of DUT functionality.



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#### **CHAPTER**

# **TWO**

# **USAGE**

HDLRegression is configured using a Python 3 script that imports the HDLRegression module which is used for creating a HDLRegression object which is used to customize the regression run using a set of *Application Programming Interface (API)* commands.

When HDLRegression is run it will perform several tasks in the background, and if any of the files added is a *testbench* file, i.e. with the --HDLREGRESSION:TB (*VHDL*) or //HDLREGRESSION:TB (*Verilog*) pragma set, HDLRegression will:

- Organize files and libraries by dependencies
- Scan for defined test cases in the testbench (a test case generic is required for this feature)
- Compile to the default or a specified library
- · Run all testbenches
- Report simulation results to terminal

6 Chapter 2. Usage

**CHAPTER** 

# THREE

### INSTALLATION

For the regression script to be able to use the HDLRegression package module, one has to do one of the following steps:

- Install HDLRegression using the setup.py script.
- Add the HDLRegression install path to *Python PATH* inside the regression script.

# 3.1 Setup script

There is a setup.py script in the HDLRegression root folder that can be used for installing HDLRegression as a Python package, and installing HDLRegression will make it importable without adding it to the Python PATH. We recommend that HDLRegression is installed as a Python package as this will make the regression script more portable and easy to write. Execute the two following commands to install HDLRegression as package:

1. Build the package

python3 setup.py build

2. Install the HDLRegression package

python3 setup.py develop

Or use the Python package-management system

pip install .

HDLRegression can be imported directly in the regression script as any standard Python module

from hdlregression import HDLRegression

#### 3.1.1 Uninstall

Uninstalling can be done with the commands:

python3 setup.py develop --uninstall

Or if installed using pip:

pip uninstall hdlregression

# 3.2 Python PATH

The HDLRegression module can be used without package installation by adding the HDLRegression install path to the Python PATH variable at the beginning of the regression script:

```
import sys
sys.path.append(<path_to_hdlregression_folder>)
from hdlregression import HDLRegression
```

# **1** Note

HDLRegression will have to be added to the Python PATH in every regression script which will make the regression script less portable.

#### **1** Note

Relative paths will be relative to the regression script and not where the regression script is called from.

# **APPLICATION PROGRAMMING INTERFACE (API)**

HDLRegression is configured and run using a Python script that imports the HDLRegression module and uses a set of API methods. Because HDLRegression is written in Python the test designer can utilize the full Python API and modules to make advanced regression scripts. There are two template script files in the /template folder to help new users get started.

```
import sys
   # ----- USER HDLRegression PATH -----
   # If HDLRegression is not installed as a Python package (see doc)
   # then uncomment the following line and set the path for
   # the HDLRegression install folder :
   #sys.path.append(<full_or_relative_path_to_hdlregression_install>)
   # Import the HDLRegression module to the Python script:
   from hdlregression import HDLRegression
9
   # Define a HDLRegression item to access the HDLRegression functionality:
11
  hr = HDLRegression()
12
13
   # ----- USER CONFIG START -----
                                          # Use default library my_work_lib
   # => hr.add_files(<filename>)
15
   # => hr.add_files(<filename>, <library_name>) # or specify a library name.
16
17
   # ----- USER CONFIG END -----
18
  hr.start()
```

# 4.1 HDLRegression()

This command is used for initializing the HDLRegression object which is used for defining the regression script and accessing the HDLRegression API.

HDLRegression will attempt to auto-detect available simulators and will choose either ModelSim, NVC, GHDL, or Riviera Pro based on the findings. The preffered simulator can be selected by using the simulator argument as shown in example 2 or using *Command Line Interface (CLI)*:

```
HDLRegression(<simulator>)
```

Argument	Туре	Example	Default	Required
simulator	string	"ghdl", "modelsim", "nvc"	auto-detected	optional
arg_parser	argparser obj	regression_parser	None	optional
output_path	string	"hdlreg_output"	None	optional

#### Example 1:

```
1. hr = HDLRegression()
2. hr = HDLRegression(simulator="ghdl")
```

An argparser object can be created in the regression script and passed on to the HDLRegression() object creation to allow for having local argument parsing in the regression script. When an argparser object is passed on to HDLRegression it will add all its arguments to the argparser object. The parsed arguments can be collected using the *get\_args()* method as show in example 2.

#### Example 2:

```
import argparse
from hdlregression import HDLRegression

arg_parser = argparse.ArgumentParser(description='Regression script parser')
arg_parser.add_argument('--rtl', action='store_true', help='run RTL simulations')
arg_parser.add_argument('--netlist', action='store_true', help='run netlist simulations')

hr = HDLRegression(arg_parser=arg_parser)

args = hr.get_args()
if args.rtl:
    # add rtl files
    hr.add_files(...)
if args.netlist:
    # add netlist files
    hr.add_files(...)
hr.start()
```

# 4.2 Basic methods

### 4.2.1 add files()

Specifies a single or set of files that will be associated with a library name.

The library name can be selected explicitly using the library\_name argument or by first setting a library name using the <code>set\_library()</code> method and then omitting the library\_name argument from the add\_files() method. See example 2 and 3 below for different approaches to setting library names.

For VHDL, the files are compiled to the library\_name library, thus the library\_name will need to correspond with the library name used in the design or test environment files.

Files can be referenced with the relative and absolute paths, and the add\_files() method can be called several times in

the regressions script, addressing the same or a different library name.

Argument	Туре	Default	Required
filename	string		mandatory
library_name	string	"my_work_lib"	optional
hdl_version	string	2008	optional
com_options	string		optional
parse_file	boolean	True	optional
netlist_inst	string		optional
code_coverage	boolean		optional

#### Example 1:

#### **Example 2: with library name**

```
hr.add_files(filename="c:/tools/uvvm/uvvm_util/src/*.vhd", library_name="uvvm_util")
hr.add_files(filename="c:/project/design/src/*.vhd", library_name="design_lib")
hr.add_files(filename="c:/project/design/src/ip/*.vhd", library_name="design_lib")
hr.add_files(filename="c:/project/design/tb/*.vhd", library_name="test_lib")
```

#### Example 3: with set library()

```
hr.set_library(library_name="uvvm_util")
hr.add_files(filename="c:/tools/uvvm/uvvm_util/src/*.vhd")
hr.set_library(library_name="design_lib")
hr.add_files(filename="c:/project/design/src/*.vhd")
hr.add_files(filename="c:/project/design/ip/src/*.vhd")
hr.set_library(library_name="test_lib")
hr.add_files(filename="c:/project/design/tb/*.vhd")
```

#### 1 Note

Relative paths will be relative to the regression script and not where the regression script is called from.

4.2. Basic methods

#### **1** Note

A back annotated timing file (SDF) require the netlist\_inst arguments and a back annotated timing file (VHD) require the parse\_file argument set to False.

- 1. The netlist\_inst argument is a string that has to be set to design instantiation path in the design.
- 2. Any number of back-annotated timing files can be added.

#### 1 Note

The code\_coverage argument enables code coverage for a single file if an explicit filename is given, or a set of files when used with wildcards in the filename.

It is required that the *set\_code\_coverage()* method is used to set the code coverage settings.

# **Marning**

When parse\_file is set to False HDLRregression will not parse the file content, not include the file in the compilation order and not compile the file.

# Tip

Use wildcards to more effectively filter searches, i.e. test cases and filenames.

Pattern	Meaning
*	match all
?	match a single charecter
[seq]	match any character in seq
[!seq]	match all character not in seq

### 4.2.2 set library()

Changes the default library name used when add\_files() is used without the library\_name argument.

set\_default\_library(<library\_name>)

Argument	Type	Required
library_name	string	mandatory

#### **Example:**

hr.set\_library("testbench\_lib")



1 Note

The default library name is "my\_work\_lib".

### 4.2.3 start()

This method will initiate compilation, simulation, reporting etc.

After calling this method, adding files or making changes to simulation configurations in the regression script is not permitted. Ensure that all necessary files and configurations are set before invoking the method to avoid issues during the simulation process.

#### Return code

The return code from the start() method is either 0 or 1, based on whether the success criteria listed below are met:

Criteria	Return code
No compilation error and test case(s) has been run without errors	0
No compilation error and no test case run	1
No compilation error and test case run with one or more errors	1
Compilation error (no test cases will be run)	1

#### **Arguments**

The default operation is to run in regression mode without GUI enabled, yet this can be changed using the available arguments or by using the command line interfaces.

```
start(<gui_mode>, <stop_on_failure>, <regression_mode>, <threading>, <sim_options>,
→<netlist_timing>, <com_options>)
```

Argument	Options & Type	Default	Description
gui_mode	True/False (boolean)	False	GUI mode control
regression_mode	True/False (boolean)	True	Regression mode control
stop_on_failure	True/False (boolean)	False	Stop on first failure
threading	True/False (boolean)	False	Enable threading
com_options	string/list of string	See table 1	Compilation options
sim_options	string/list of string	See table 2	Simulation options
runtime_options	list of string	See table 3	Runtime options
global_options	list of string	See table 4	Global options
elab_options	list of string	See table 5	Elaboration options
netlist_timing	string	None	Netlist timing settings
keep_code_coverage	True/False (boolean)	False	Keep code coverage data
no_default_com_options	True/False (boolean)	False	Disable default options
ignore_simulator_exit_codes	list of int		Ignore specific exit codes

#### **Example:**

```
hr.start(gui_mode=True, threading=True)
                                                                                        (continues on next page)
```

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```
hr.start(netlist_timing='-sdfmin')
hr.start(sim_options="-t ps -do \"quietly set NumericStdNoWarnings 1\"")
```

**Table 1: Compilation Options** 

Simulator	Default
ModelSim (VHDL)	["-suppress", "1346,1236,1090", "-2008"]
ModelSim (Verilog)	["-vlog01compat"]
NVC	["-relaxed"]
GHDL	["-std=08", "-ieee=standard", "-frelaxed-rules", "-warn-no-shared", "-warn-no-hide"]
Riviera Pro	["-2008", "-nowarn", "COMP96_0564", "-nowarn", "COMP96_0048", "-nowarn", "DAGGEN_0001"]
Vivado	["–2008"]

**Table 2: Simulation Options** 

Simulator	Default
ModelSim	[]
NVC	[]
GHDL	[]
Riviera Pro	[]
Vivado	[]

**Table 3: Runtime Options** 

Simulator	Default
Modelsim	[]
NVC	[]
GHDL	[]
Riviera Pro	[]
Vivado	[]

**Table 4: Global Options** 

Simulator	Default
Modelsim	
NVC	["-stderr=error", "-messages=compact", "-M64m", "-H64m"]
GHDL	
Riviera Pro	
Vivado	

**Table 5: Elaboration Options** 

Simulator	Default
Modelsim	[]
NVC	["-e", "-no-save", "-jit"]
GHDL	
Riviera Pro	
Vivado	

### 1 Note

- gui\_mode selects if simulations should be run from terminal or inside *GUI* if supported by the simulator. In GUI the simulator is started with predefined HDLRegression methods that simplyfies compilation and running tests.
- regression\_mode selects run method, i.e. only run tests that:
  - 1. have not previously been run
  - 2. have not passed
  - 3. are affected by file changes and need to be rerun.
- stop\_on\_failure selects if the regression run shall continue running if a test fails.
- threading selects if tasks are run in parallel. Depending on the workload this can decrease run time of some regression runs.
- sim\_options adds extra commands to simulator executor call.
- netlist\_timing is a string that has to be set to "-sdfmin", "-sdftyp" or "-sdfmax".
- keep\_code\_coverage will keep code coverage results from a previous test run. This can be useful in situations where a subset of tests needs to be rerun to achieve wanted code coverage.
- no\_default\_com\_options disables preconfigured settings for disabling the following warnings:
  - 1. vcom-1236: shared variables must be of a protected type
  - 2. vcom-1346: default expression of interface object is not globally static
  - 3. vcom-1090: possible infinite loop: process contains no WAIT statement

#### **A** Warning

gui\_mode will run test cases in one of these modes:

- 1. test cases added by the *add\_testcase()* method or using the *command line interfaces*.
- 2. regression mode.

starting with bullet point 1, and if no test cases have been added, moving on to bullet point 2.

4.2. Basic methods

# 4.3 Advanced methods

# 4.3.1 add\_file\_to\_run\_folder()

Copies a single file to the test case run folder.

add\_file\_to\_run\_folder(<filename>, <tc\_id>)

Argument	Туре	Required
filename	string	mandatory
tc_id	string	mandatory

#### **Example:**

- 1. hr.add\_file\_to\_run\_folder(filename="c:/design/tb/input\_data.txt", tc\_id="1")
- 2. hr.add\_file\_to\_run\_folder(filename="../tb/input\_data.txt", tc\_id="7")

#### **1** Note

Relative paths will be relative to the regression script and not where the regression script is called from.

# 4.3.2 add\_generics()

Selects the generics to be used when running a test case. A test run is created when generics are added to a test case, thus calling *add\_generics()* two times will create two test runs.

add\_generics(<entity>, <architecture>, <generics>)

Argument	Туре	Required
entity	string	mandatory
architecture	string	optional
generics	list [string, int/string/bool]	mandatory

#### Important

• All generics that are used for input or output files inside a testbench will require the PATH keyword when setting the generic in the regression script.

The generic value and the PATH keyword has to be of a Python **tuple** type. HDLRegression will make the adjustments for the generic paths to match HDLRegression test paths. See example 3.

#### **Example:**

1. hr.add\_generics(entity="my\_dut\_tb", generics=["GC\_BUS\_WIDTH", 16, "GC\_ADDR\_WIDTH", 8])

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- 2. hr.add\_generics(entity="my\_dut\_tb", architecture="test", generics=my\_generics\_list)
- 3. hr.add\_generics(entity="my\_dut\_tb", generics=["GC\_DATA\_FILE", ("../test\_data/input\_

  →data.txt", "PATH"), "GC\_MASTER\_MODE", **True**])

#### Note

Relative paths will be relative to the regression script and not where the regression script is called from.

# 4.3.3 add\_precompiled\_library()

Specifies the name and path of a precompiled library.

#### **1** Note

The library will never be compiled and only a reference is added to the modelsim.ini file. Any number of precompiled libraries can be added.

add\_precompiled\_library(<compile\_path>, <library\_name>)

Argument	Туре	Required
compile_path	string	mandatory
library_name	string	mandatory

# 4.3.4 add\_testcase()

Adding test case(s) will configure HDLRegression to only run these test cases. All test cases are run if no test cases are added using this command. Selecting test case can also be done by using *command line interfaces*, and test cases selected from CLI will override any scripted test case selection.

#### Important

A test case name is a string that consists of

- 1. testbench entity name
- 2. testbench architecture name
- 3. test name (optional)

And where the three test case name elements are separated by a dot (.): <testbench\_name>. <architecture\_name>. <test\_name>.

#### Ţip

Use wildcards to more effectively filter searches, i.e. test cases and filenames.

Pattern	Meaning
*	match all
?	match a single charecter
[seq]	match any character in seq
[!seq]	match all character not in seq

add\_testcase(<test case>)

Argument	Туре	Required
test case	string / list of strings	mandatory

#### **Example:**

### 1 Note

The *start()* method will return error code 1 if no test cases matched the test case keyword.

# 4.3.5 add\_to\_testgroup()

Will add tests to a collection of tests, i.e. *test group*, that can be run in groups. The test group is given a name that is used for addressing the test collection.

There are no limit for how many tests that can be added to a test group, and no limit for the number of test groups. Running a test group can be done using a *command line interface*.

hr.add\_to\_testgroup(testgroup\_name, entity, architecture=None, testcase=None, generic=[])

Argument	Туре	Required
testgroup_name	string	mandatory
entity	string	mandatory
architecture	string	optional
test case	string	optional
generic	list [string, int/string/bool]	optional

#### 1 Note

- add\_to\_testgroup() adds existing tests to a collection, i.e. no new tests are created.
- The test case argument is for selecting sequencer built-in test cases.
- The *start()* method will return error code 1 if no test group or test case were found.

# Tip

Use wildcards to more effectively filter searches, i.e. test cases and filenames.

Pattern	Meaning
*	match all
?	match a single charecter
[seq]	match any character in seq
[!seq]	match all character not in seq

# 4.3.6 compile\_uvvm()

Compiles UVVM to HDLRegression library folder, making UVVM available to all tests run by HDLRegression.

hr.compile\_uvvm(<path\_to\_uvvm>)

Argument	Example	Required
path_to_uvvm	"/ip/UVVM"	mandatory

#### **Example:**

hr.compile\_uvvm("c:/development/tools/UVVM")

#### Important

• The UVVM path has to absolute or relative to the regression script location.

# 4.3.7 compile\_osvvm()

Compiles OSVVM to HDLRegression library folder, making OSVVM available to all tests run by HDLRegression.

hr.compile\_osvvm(<path\_to\_osvvm>)

Argument	Example	Required
path_to_osvvm	"/ip/OSVVM"	mandatory

#### **Example:**

hr.compile\_osvvm("c:/development/tools/OSVVM")

#### Important

• The OSVVM path has to absolute or relative to the regression script location.

# 4.3.8 configure\_library()

Set special settings for a library that differs significantly from the regular settings.

hr.configure\_library(<library>, <never\_recompile>, <set\_lib\_dep>)

Argument	Options	Example	Required
library	library name (string)	"can_ip_library"	mandatory
never_recompile	True/False (boolean)	True	optional
set_lib_dep	library name (string)	"ip_library"	optional

#### **Example:**

hr.configure\_library(library='can\_ip\_library', never\_recompile=True)

# 4.3.9 gen\_report()

Writes a test run report file to the hdlregression/test folder. The default report file is report.txt and can be changed using the report\_file argument. The report file is saved in the /hdlregression/test folder, thus no path should be given to the report name.

gen\_report(<report\_file>, <compile\_order>, <library>)

Argument	Options & Type	Default	Required
report_file	filename (string)	"report.txt"	optional
compile_order	True / False (boolean)	False	optional
library	True / False (boolean)	False	optional

#### **Example:**

```
hr.gen_report(report_file="sim_report.csv", compile_order=True)
hr.gen_report(report_file="sim_report.html", compile_order=True, library=True)
```

#### Important

Supported file types are .txt, .csv, .html, .xml and .json and the file type is extracted from the file name.

# 4.3.10 get\_args()

The command is used for getting the parsed arguments from HDLRegression. This method can be used when there is a argparser object that is created in the regression script. See *HDLRegression()* example 2 for usage.

#### **Example:**

```
args = hr.get_args()
```

# 4.3.11 get\_file\_list()

The command is used for reading back the files added to the libraries in HDLRegression. All files from all libraries are returned in a list.

#### **Example:**

```
file_list = hr.get_file_list()
```

# 4.3.12 remove\_file()

Removes a file that has been added to a library, e.g. after using add\_files() with asterix for adding several files.

```
remove_file(<filename>, <library_name>)
```

Argument	Type	Required
filename	string	mandatory
library_name	string	mandatory

#### **Example:**

```
hr.add_files("../src/*.vhd", "testbench_lib")
hr.remove_file("unused_file.vhd", "testbench_lib")
hr.start()
```

#### 1 Note

The filename can not include the path to the file or any wildcards.

# 4.3.13 run\_command()

The command is executed by HLDRegression at the given stage in the regression script. I.e. pre-simulation commands will have to be called prior to *start()* and post-simulation commands need to be called after *start()*.

```
hr run_command(<command>)
```

Argument	Туре	Required
command	string	mandatory
verbose	boolean	optional



No output is printed to the terminal by default, but this can be changed by setting the verbose argument to True.

#### **Example:**

```
hr.run_command('python3 ../script/run_spec_cov.py --config ../script/config.txt')
hr.run_command('vsim -version', verbose=True)
```

#### 1 Note

Relative paths will be relative to the regression script and not where the regression script is called from.

# 4.3.14 set code coverage()

Sets the code coverage settings used when running the tests.

hr.set\_code\_coverage(<code\_coverage\_settings>, <code\_coverage\_file>, <exclude\_file>, <merge\_options>)

Argument	Type	Example	Required
code_coverage_settings	string	"bcst"	mandatory
code_coverage_file	string	"coverage.ucdb"	mandatory
exclude_file	string	"exceptions.tcl"	optional
merge_options	string	"-testassociated"	optional

#### 1 Note

- *add\_files()* require the code\_coverage argument enabled for every file that should sample code coverage.
- Each test run will generate a code\_coverage\_file inside its test folder.
- Results from the regression are accumulated in a code\_coverage\_file \_merge file inside the test/ coverage/folder.
- Exceptions are filtered from the accumulated file automatically in a code\_coverage\_file \_filter file inside the test/coverage/ folder.
- Reports are written to the test/coverage/txt and test/coverage/html folders using the filtered exception results if a exlude\_file is set, or using the merged code coverage results if no exclude\_file is set.
- Only the current test run is used for code coverage, meaning that a full regression run is required to sample code coverage for the complete test suite.

#### **Example:**

```
hr.set_code_coverage("bcst", "code_coverage.ucdb")
hr.set_code_coverage("bcst", "code_coverage.ucdb", "exclude.tcl")
```

# 4.3.15 set dependency()

Specifies the libraries that have a dependency to the library\_name library, and ensures that library\_name is compiled after all of the libraries listed in dep\_library.

```
set_dependency(<library_name>, <dep_library>)
```

Argument	Туре	Required
library_name	string	mandatory
dep_library	list [string]	mandatory

#### 1 Note

- 1. Specifying the library dependency is usually not necessary as HDLRegression is capable of detecting dependencies.
- 2. dep\_library list has to be a list of library name(s).

# 4.3.16 set\_pre\_sim\_tcl\_cmd()

Sets a single Tcl command that will be executed by the simulator **before** a test starts.

This is useful for preparing the simulator session (e.g., setting variables, loading packages, or running a small start-up script) without modifying the testbench.

```
hr.set_pre_sim_tcl_cmd(<tcl_command>)
```

Argument	Туре	Required
tcl_command	string	mandatory

#### 1 Note

- The command must be set **before** calling start().
- The setting applies to simulators with a Tcl front-end (e.g., ModelSim/Questa, Riviera-PRO). Other simulators may ignore this setting.
- Calling this method multiple times will overwrite the previously set command.

#### **Example:**

```
hr.set_pre_sim_tcl_cmd('do ../scripts/pre_sim.do')
hr.start()
```

### 4.3.17 set result check string()

The result of a test run is determined by scanning the simulation log file, searching after a specific string. If the string is found the test run is set as **PASS**, and **FAIL** otherwise, thus only a passing test should report the check string.

```
set_result_check_string(<check_string>)
```

Argument	Type	Required
check_string	string	mandatory

#### 1 Note

The default test pass string is the UVVM report\_alert\_counters(FINAL) summary, with SUCCESS as criteria for a passing test.

#### **Example:**

```
hr.set_result_check_string("testcase passed")
```

Listing 1: Example TB with test case result string

```
p_seq : process
       variable v_check_ok : boolean := false;
2
   begin
        -- testcase checks, e.g.
        -- v_check_ok := check_value(v_act_data, v_exp_data, error, "checking receive data", ...
   \hookrightarrow C_SCOPE);
       if v_check_ok = true then
            report "testcase passed";
       end if;
10
        -- Finish the simulation
11
       std.env.stop;
12
       wait; -- to stop completely
13
   end process;
```

# 4.3.18 set\_simulator()

HDLRegression is configured to run using Modelsim and VHDL version 2008 as default. This method allows for changing

- Simulator
- Simulator executable path
- Simulator com\_options

This can be useful when the test script should be run with a different version of Modelsim other than the one listed in the system path, where all that is needed is to change the path for the Modelsim executable.

It is also possible to select simulator when initializing the *HDLRegression* object, but without selecting compile options and setting simulator executable path, or by using *command line interfaces*.

set\_simulator(<simulator>, <simulator\_path>, <com\_options>)

Argument	Options	Example	Required
simulator	simulator name (string)	"MODELSIM"/"GHDL"/"NVC"/"RIVIERA_PF	manda- tory
simula- tor_path	<pre>simulator_executable_path (string)</pre>	"c:/ghdl/bin"	optional
com_options	compile optionss (string/list of string)	"-suppress 1346,1236,1090 -2008"	optional

#### **Example:**

hr.set\_simulator(simulator="GHDL")

#### Important

All path slashes has to be written as forward slash /.

#### **1** Note

Relative paths will be relative to the regression script and not where the regression script is called from.

# 4.3.19 set\_testcase\_identifier\_name()

Sets the name of the test case generic used when defining several test cases inside a single testbench architecture. The default test case generic is GC\_TESTCASE, but any name can be given.

### 1 Note

- The sequencer built-in test case if-structure will need to match this generic.
- HDLRegression extracts all the sequencer built-in test cases based on the combined usage of this generic and if-matched strings.

hr.set\_testcase\_identifier\_name(<testcase\_id>)

Argument	Туре	Required
testcase_id	string	mandatory

#### **Example:**

```
hr.set_testcase_identifier_name("GC_TESTCASE")
```

Listing 2: Example TB with test case ID generic

```
--hdlregression:tb
   entity tb_top is
       generic (
           GC_TESTCASE : string := "read_test"
       );
   end tb_top;
   architecture test of simple_tb is
       constant C_SCOPE : string := "SIMPLE_TB";
     begin
10
       p_main : process
11
       begin
12
           if GC_TESTCASE = "read_test" then
13
                -- read tests
14
            elsif GC_TESTCASE = "write_test" then
15
                -- write tests
17
                report "Unknown test " & GC_TESTCASE;
           end if;
19
       -- Finish the simulation
20
       std.env.stop;
21
       wait; -- to stop completely
       end process;
23
   end;
```

# 4.3.20 set\_simulator\_wave\_file\_format()

Sets the wave dump format for GHDL and NVC wave files. Options are FST and VCD.

#### 1 Note

- VCD file format is default if no other is selected.
- GUI mode has to be enabled using API method or CLI option.
- Options: VCD, FST, GHW (GHDL).

```
hr.set_simulator_wave_file_format(<wave_format>)
```

Argument	Type	Required
wave_format	string	mandatory

#### **Example:**

```
hr.set_simulator_wave_file_format("VCD")
hr.start(gui_mode=True)
```

# 4.4 Statistical methods

# 4.4.1 get\_results()

Returns a list of all passed, failed and not run tests.

```
hr.get_results()
```

#### **Example:**

```
result_list = hr.get_results()

passed_tests = result_list[0]
failed_tests = result_list[1]
not_run_tests = result_list[2]
```

```
(passed_tests, failed_tests, not_run_tests) = hr.get_results()
```

#### 4.4.2 get num tests run()

Returns the number of tests run.

```
hr.get_num_tests_run()
```

#### **Example:**

```
num_tests = hr.get_num_tests_run()
```

# 4.4.3 get\_num\_pass\_tests()

Returns the number of passed test runs.

```
hr.get_num_pass_tests()
```

#### **Example:**

```
num_passed_tests = hr.get_num_pass_tests()
```

# 4.4.4 get\_num\_fail\_tests()

Returns the number of failed test runs.

hr.get\_num\_fail\_tests()

#### **Example:**

num\_failed\_tests = hr.get\_num\_fail\_tests()

# 4.4.5 get\_num\_pass\_with\_minor\_alert\_tests()

Returns the number of passed test runs that completed with minor alerts.

#### 1 Note

This is only applicable for tests run with the UVVM verification framework.

hr.get\_num\_pass\_with\_minor\_alert\_tests()

#### **Example:**

num\_passed\_tests\_with\_minor\_alerts = hr.get\_num\_pass\_with\_minor\_alert\_tests()

# **COMMAND LINE INTERFACE (CLI)**

The configuration of a regression run can be set directly from the command line using command line interface. This can be useful when debugging the behaviour of a design, e.g. by running in *GUI mode*, or working with a *testcase* or *test group*.

The command line interface are processed at startup and will override any scripted configurations that are in conflict.

Arguments		Description
-h	-help	Help screen
-V	-verbose	Enable full verbosity
-d	-debug	Enable debug mode
-g	–gui	Run with simulator gui
-fr	-fullRegression	Run all tests
-c	-clean	Remove all before test run
-tc TB_ENTITY [TB_ARCH [TC]]	-testCase TB_ENTITY [TB_ARCH [TC]]	Run selected test case
-tg TESTGROUP	-testGroup TESTGROUP	Run selected test group
-ltc	-listTestcase	List all discovered test cases
-ltg	-listTestgroup	List all test groups
-lco	-listCompileOrder	List libraries and files in compile order
-fc	-forceCompile	Force recompile
-sof	-stopOnFailure	Stop simulations on test case fail
-S	-simulator	Set simulator (require path in env)
-t	-threading [N]	Run tasks in parallel
-ns	-no_sim	No simulation, compile only
	-showWarnError	Show sim error and warning messages.
	-noColor	Disable terminal output colors.
	-waveFormat	Wave file format [VCD (default) or FST]
	-wlf	Save wlf file after sim (Questa/Modelsim)
-etj	-exportTestcaseJson	Export TC to JSON file with the given path

# 5.1 Examples

# 5.1.1 Selecting simulator

HDLRegression will try to auto-detect the simulator to use, but this can be overridden using the -s or --simulator argument.

```
> python ../test/regression.py -s NVC
> python ../test/regression.py -s RIVIERA-PRO
> python ../test/regression.py -s GHDL
> python ../test/regression.py -s MODELSIM
```

# 5.1.2 Full regression

Enabling the *full regression mode* ensures that all test cases are run, regardless of any previous runs, i.e. re-running the complete test suite.

```
> python ../test/regression.py -fr
```

```
$ python ../test/regression.py -fr
 HDLRegression version 0.20.0
 Please see /doc/hdlregression.pdf documentation for more information.
Scanning files...
Building test suite structure...
Setting up: Y://bitvis//hdlregression//sim//hdlregression//library\modelsim.ini.
Compiling library: uvvm util
Compiling library: uvvm_vvc_framework - OK
Compiling library: bitvis_vip_scoreboard - OK -
Compiling library: bitvis_vip_sbi
Compiling library: bitvis_irqc
Compiling library: bitvis vip uart - OK
Compiling library: bitvis vip clock generator - OK -
Compiling library: bitvis_uart - OK
Starting simulations...
Running 9 out of 9 test(s) using 1 thread(s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_demo_tb.func
Result: PASS (0h:0m:9s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_simple_bfm_tb.func
Result: PASS (0h:0m:1s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.check_register_defaults
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=check_register_defaults
Result: PASS (0h:0m:1s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.check_simple_transmit
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=check_simple_transmit
Result: PASS (0h:0m:2s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.check_simple_receive
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=check_simple_receive
Result: PASS (0h:0m:2s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.check_single_simultaneous_transmit_and_receive
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=check_single_simultaneous_transmit_and_receive
Result: PASS (0h:0m:1s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.check_multiple_simultaneous_receive_and_read
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=check_multiple_simultaneous_receive_and_read
Result: PASS (0h:0m:2s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.skew_sbi_read_over_uart_receive
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=skew_sbi_read_over_uart_receive
Result: PASS (0h:0m:5s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.skew_sbi_read_over_uart_receive_with_delay_functionality
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=skew_sbi_read_over_uart_receive_with_delay_functionality
Result: PASS (0h:0m:4s).
Simulation run time: 0h:0m:32s.
```

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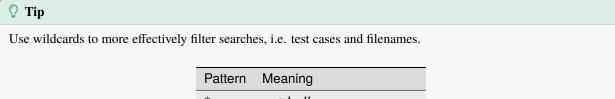
#### 5.1.3 Test cases

All tests that are discovered by HDLRegression can be listed using the -ltc or --listTestcase argument, and are listed as <testbench entity>.<testbench architecture>.<sequencer built-in test case> or just <testbench entity>.<testbench architecture> if no sequencer built-in test cases are used.

> python ../test/regression.py -ltc

```
$ python ../test/regression.py -ltc
HDLRegression version 0.20.0
 Please see /doc/hdlregression.pdf documentation for more information.
Scanning files...
Building test suite structure...
1 - uart vvc demo tb.func
 - uart simple bfm tb.func
3 - uart_vvc_tb.func.check_register_defaults
   Generics: GC_TESTCASE=check_register_defaults
4 - uart_vvc_tb.func.check_simple_transmit
   Generics: GC_TESTCASE=check_simple_transmit
 - uart_vvc_tb.func.check_simple_receive
   Generics: GC TESTCASE=check simple receive
6 - uart_vvc_tb.func.check_single_simultaneous_transmit_and_receive
   Generics: GC_TESTCASE=check_single_simultaneous_transmit_and_receive
 - uart vvc tb.func.check multiple simultaneous receive and read
   Generics: GC TESTCASE=check multiple simultaneous receive and read
8 - uart vvc tb.func.skew sbi read over uart receive
   Generics: GC TESTCASE=skew sbi read over uart receive
 - uart_vvc_tb.func.skew_sbi_read_over_uart_receive_with_delay_functionality
   Generics: GC_TESTCASE=skew_sbi_read_over_uart_receive_with_delay_functionality
```

Running a selected test is done using the -tc <testbench.architecture.test case> or --testCase <testbench.architecture.test case> argument



Pallem	wearing
*	match all
?	match a single charecter
[seq]	match any character in seq
[!seq]	match all character not in seq

```
> python ../test/regression.py -tc uart_vvc_tb.func.check_simple_receive
```

A test case can also be selected using the test case number from the -ltc or --listTestcase argument

```
> python ../test/regression.py -tc 5
```

### Ţip

Test cases are identified by:

- 1. <entity\_name>
- 2. <entity\_name>.<architecture\_name>
- 3. <entity\_name>.<architecture\_name>.<sequencer\_test case>

When selecting test cases to run, you can utilize wildcards to simplify the process. However, it's important to note that the test case identifier must follow a specific naming convention.

For example, if you want to run all sequencer test cases that contain the word "write," you would need to specify the identifier as <entity\_name>.<architecture\_name>.write.

Note that you can also use wildcards for <entity\_name> and/or <architecture\_name> to further refine your filter.

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# 5.1.4 Test groups

Listing of test groups that have been defined in the regression script. In the code snippet below there are defined two test groups,  $transmit\_tests$  and  $receive\_tests$ , that will run all test cases that have transmit and trans

#### **Defining test groups**

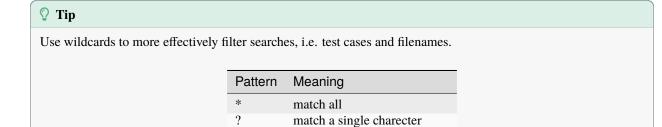
```
hr.add_to_testgroup('transmit_tests', 'uart_vvc_tb', 'func', '*transmit*') # run all__

transmit related tests
hr.add_to_testgroup('receive_tests', 'uart_vvc_tb', 'func', '*receive*') # run all__

receive related tests
hr.add_to_testgroup('selection_tests', entity='uart_vvc_demo_tb') # run this__

testbench
hr.add_to_testgroup('selection_tests', entity='uart_simple_bfm_tb') # run this__

testbench
```



[seq]

[!seq]

#### Listing test groups

```
> python ../test/regression.py -ltg
```

match any character in seq match all character not in seq

### **Running test groups**

Running one of the test groups, e.g. receive\_tests, will run all tests with names that matches:

- testbench entity with uart\_vvc\_tb
- testbench architecture with func
- sequencer built-in test case with receive

```
> python ../test/regression.py --testGroup receive_tests
```

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```
python ../test/regression.py --testGroup receive_tests
 HDLRegression version 0.20.0
 Please see /doc/hdlregression.pdf documentation for more information.
Scanning files...
Building test suite structure...
Starting simulations...
Moving previous test run to: ./hdlregression\test 2022-04-28 19.55.22.345699.
Running 5 out of 9 test(s) using 1 thread(s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.check_simple_receive
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=check_simple_receive
Result: PASS (0h:0m:1s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.check_single_simultaneous_transmit_and_receive
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=check_single_simultaneous_transmit_and_receive
Result: PASS (0h:0m:1s).
Running: bitvis uart.uart vvc tb.func.check multiple simultaneous receive and read
Generics: GC TESTCASE=check multiple simultaneous receive and read
Result: PASS (0h:0m:1s).
Running: bitvis uart.uart vvc tb.func.skew sbi read over uart receive
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=skew_sbi_read_over_uart_receive
Result: PASS (0h:0m:5s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.skew_sbi_read_over_uart_receive_with_delay_functionality
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=skew_sbi_read_over_uart_receive_with_delay_functionality
Result: PASS (0h:0m:4s).
Simulation run time: 0h:0m:15s.
```

# 5.2 Threading

HDLRegression will run all tasks (pre-processing and test case simulations) in a sequential order, but this can be changed using the -t / --threading option, and optionally with a number of threads.



- Running simulations in parallel using N threads may require N simulator licenses.
- Pre-processing threads are scaled to:
  - -> the number of libraries
  - -> the number of files in each library
  - -> the number of parsers

## 5.2.1 Sequential

All pre-processing steps and test case running are performed sequentially.

```
> python ../test/regression.py -tg receive_tests
```

```
$ python ../test/regression.py --testGroup receive_tests
 HDLRegression version 0.20.0
 Please see /doc/hdlregression.pdf documentation for more information.
Scanning files...
Building test suite structure...
Starting simulations...
Moving previous test run to: ./hdlregression\test_2022-04-28_19.55.22.345699.
Running 5 out of 9 test(s) using 1 thread(s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.check_simple_receive
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=check_simple_receive
Result: PASS (0h:0m:1s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.check_single_simultaneous_transmit_and_receive
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=check_single_simultaneous_transmit_and_receive
Result: PASS (0h:0m:1s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.check_multiple_simultaneous_receive_and_read
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=check_multiple_simultaneous_receive_and_read
Result: PASS (0h:0m:1s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.skew_sbi_read_over_uart_receive
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=skew_sbi_read_over_uart_receive
Result: PASS (0h:0m:5s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.skew_sbi_read_over_uart_receive_with_delay_functionality
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=skew_sbi_read_over_uart_receive_with_delay_functionality
Result: PASS (0h:0m:4s).
Simulation run time: 0h:0m:15s.
```

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## 5.2.2 Pre-processing in parallel, simulations sequentially

All pre-processing steps are performed in parallel and test case running is performed sequentially.

```
> python ../test/regression.py -tg receive_tests -t
```

```
$ python ../test/regression.py --testGroup receive_tests -t
 HDLRegression version 0.20.0
 Please see /doc/hdlregression.pdf documentation for more information.
Scanning files...
Building test suite structure...
Starting simulations...
Moving previous test run to: ./hdlregression\test_2022-04-28_19.55.48.517420.
Running 5 out of 9 test(s) using 1 thread(s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.check_simple_receive
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=check_simple_receive
Result: PASS (0h:0m:1s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.check_single_simultaneous_transmit_and_receive
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=check_single_simultaneous_transmit_and_receive
Result: PASS (0h:0m:2s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.check_multiple_simultaneous_receive_and_read
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=check_multiple_simultaneous_receive_and_read
Result: PASS (0h:0m:2s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.skew_sbi_read_over_uart_receive
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=skew_sbi_read_over_uart_receive
Result: PASS (0h:0m:5s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.skew_sbi_read_over_uart_receive_with_delay_functionality
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=skew_sbi_read_over_uart_receive_with_delay_functionality
Result: PASS (0h:0m:4s).
Simulation run time: 0h:0m:15s.
```

## 5.2.3 Pre-processing and simulations in parallel using 10 threads

All pre-processing steps and test case running is performed in parallel.

```
> python ../test/regression.py -tg receive_tests -t 10
```

```
$ python ../test/regression.py --testGroup receive_tests -t 10
 HDLRegression version 0.20.0
 Please see /doc/hdlregression.pdf documentation for more information.
Scanning files...
Building test suite structure...
Starting simulations...
Moving previous test run to: ./hdlregression\test_2022-04-28_19.57.27.209667.
Running 5 out of 9 test(s) using 5 thread(s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.check_multiple_simultaneous_receive_and_read
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=check_multiple_simultaneous_receive_and_read
Result: PASS (0h:0m:3s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.check_simple_receive
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=check_simple_receive
Result: PASS (0h:0m:4s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.check_single_simultaneous_transmit_and_receive
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=check_single_simultaneous_transmit_and_receive
Result: PASS (0h:0m:4s).
Running: bitvis uart.uart vvc tb.func.skew_sbi_read_over_uart_receive_with_delay_functionality
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=skew_sbi_read_over_uart_receive_with_delay_functionality
Result: PASS (0h:0m:8s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.skew_sbi_read_over_uart_receive
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=skew_sbi_read_over_uart_receive
Result: PASS (0h:0m:9s).
Simulation run time: 0h:0m:9s.
```

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# 5.3 Simulation results

Running simulations in terminal will output the necessary information, such as the test case name, generics used, simulation run time and result.

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### 5.3.1 Regression initial run

```
python ../test/regression.py
 HDLRegression version 0.20.0
 Please see /doc/hdlregression.pdf documentation for more information.
Scanning files...
Building test suite structure...
Setting up: Y://bitvis//hdlregression//sim//hdlregression//library\modelsim.ini.
Compiling library: uvvm_util
Compiling library: uvvm vvc framework - OK
Compiling library: bitvis_vip_scoreboard - OK -
Compiling library: bitvis_vip_sbi
Compiling library: bitvis_irqc
Compiling library: bitvis_vip_uart
Compiling library: bitvis_vip_clock_generator - OK
Compiling library: bitvis_uart - OK
Starting simulations...
Running 9 out of 9 test(s) using 1 thread(s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_demo_tb.func
Result: PASS (0h:0m:8s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_simple_bfm_tb.func
Result: PASS (0h:0m:1s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.check_register_defaults
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=check_register_defaults
Result: PASS (0h:0m:1s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.check_simple_transmit
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=check_simple_transmit
Result: PASS (0h:0m:1s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.check_simple_receive
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=check_simple_receive
Result: PASS (0h:0m:2s).
Running: bitvis uart.uart vvc tb.func.check single simultaneous transmit and receive
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=check_single_simultaneous_transmit_and_receive
Result: PASS (0h:0m:2s).
Running: bitvis uart.uart vvc tb.func.check multiple simultaneous receive and read
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=check_multiple_simultaneous_receive_and_read
Result: PASS (0h:0m:1s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.skew_sbi_read_over_uart_receive
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=skew_sbi_read_over_uart_receive
Result: PASS (0h:0m:6s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.skew_sbi_read_over_uart_receive_with_delay_functionality
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=skew_sbi_read_over_uart_receive_with_delay_functionality
Result: PASS (0h:0m:5s).
Simulation run time: 0h:0m:30s.
```

# 5.3.2 Regression run without changes

No tests are run when no changes are detected in the DUT or test case files, unless full regression is enabled using the *Command Line Interface (CLI)* -fr or using the *Application Programming Interface (API)* in the regression script hr.start(full\_regression=True).

## 5.3.3 Failing test case run

A failing test case will be reported as **FAIL** with a short summary from the test log:

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```
python ../test/regression.py
  HDLRegression version 0.20.0
 Please see /doc/hdlregression.pdf documentation for more information.
Scanning files...
Building test suite structure...
 ompiling library: bitvis uart
 Noving previous test run to: ./hdlregression\test_2022-04-28_20.02.38.299482.
Nunning 9 out of 9 test(s) using 1 thread(s).
Nunning: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_demo_tb.func
 esult:
 unning: bitvis_uart.uart_simple_bfm_tb.func
               (0h:0m:1s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.check_register_defaults
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=check_register_defaults
Result: PASS (0h:0m:15).
 unning: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.check_simple_transmit
 Generics: GC_TESTCASE=check_simple_transmit
Result: FAIL (0h:0m:1s).
 UVVM: ID SEQUENCER
                                                                                                                Wait 10 clock period for reset to be turned off
                                                         0.0 ns TB seq.
                                                                                                                Check simple transmit
  UVVM: ID LOG HDR
                                                       100.0 ns TB sea.
                                                                                                                ->sbi_write(SBI_VVC,1, X"2", X"55"): 'TX_DATA'. [9]
->uart_expect(UART_VVC,1,rx, X"5A"): 'Expecting data on UART RX'. [10]
sbi_write(A:X"2", X"55") completed. 'TX_DATA' [9]
                                                       100.0 ns TB seq.(uvvm)
100.0 ns TB seq.(uvvm)
 UVVM: ID_UVVM_SEND_CMD
 OVVM: Simulator has been paused as requested after 1 ERROR
UVVM: *** To find the root cause of this alert, step out the HDL calling stack in your simulator. ***
UVVM: *** For example, step out until you reach the call from the test sequencer. ***
 Errors: 0, Warnings: 1
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.check_simple_receive
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=check_simple_receive
Result: PASS (0h:0m:2s).
  unning: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.check_single_simultaneous_transmit_and_receive
enerics: GC_TESTCASE=check_single_simultaneous_transmit_and_receive
                (0h:0m:2s).
Running: bitvis_uart_uart_vvc_tb.func.check_multiple_simultaneous_receive_and_read 
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=check_multiple_simultaneous_receive_and_read 
Result: PASS (0h:0m:2s).
Running: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.skew_sbi_read_over_uart_receive
Generics: GC_TESTCASE=skew_sbi_read_over_uart_receive
Result: PASS (0h:0m:5s).
 unning: bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb.func.skew_sbi_read_over_uart_receive_with_delay_functionality
enerics: GC_TESTCASE=skew_sbi_read_over_uart_receive_with_delay_functionality
 Result: PASS (@h:@m:4s).
Simulation run time: 0h:0m:30s.
SIMULATION FAIL: 9 tests run, 1 test(s) failed.
```

**CHAPTER** 

SIX

# **GRAPHICAL USER INTERFACE (GUI)**

### 6.1 Modelsim

Sometimes debugging a design or test require the use of GUI (graphical user interface) and HDLRegression can run tests in GUI when called with the -g or --gui arugument. When enabled, the regression script will open inside ModelSim/QuestaSim/Rivier-PRO GUI with a loaded test case ready to run.

> python ../test/regression.py -tc uart\_vvc\_tb.func.check\_simple\_transmit -g

HDLRegression in GUI mode provides a set of functions for compiling and running a test:

### 6.2 GHDL / NVC

GHDL and NVC does not have a GUI, but can create simulation waveform files that can be opened to have a graphical representation of the signals in a VCD format (Value Change Dump).

When HDLRegression is called with GUI arguments and runnning with GHDL/NVC simulator it will create sim. vcd files inside every test case run folder. The VCD files can then be opened in a graphical wavefarm viewer such as GTKWave.

```
> python ../test/regression.py -tc uart_vvc_tb.func.check_simple_transmit -g -s ghdl > gtkwave ./hdlregression/test/uart_vvc_tb/54005228/sim.vcd &
```

**CHAPTER** 

### SEVEN

### **TESTBENCH**

For HDLRegression to extract the correct information from the testbench files, there are some code requirements that have to be fulfilled. This information is used by HDLRegression to detect

# 7.1 Prerequisites

This are the requirements of a HDLRegression supporting testbench:

- The testbench file has to have the HDLRegression pragma above the entity declaration:
  - Only the top testbench file can have the HDLRegression testbench pragma.
  - Each top level testbench file has to have the HDLRegression testbench pragma.
- A testbench simulation result report will have to match the *set\_result\_check\_string()* to **PASS**, and the test run will **FAIL** if this string is not found in the simulation transcript.



UVVM report\_alert\_counters(FINAL) is the default method for verifying a passing or failing test, and will have to be added to the testbench if no other check\_string is selected. See example testbench for suggested implementation.

### VHDL testbench

```
--HDLRegression:TB
entity my_dut_tb is
```

#### Verilog testbench

```
//HDLRegression:TB
module my_dut_tb;
```

### 1 Note

# A testbench with multiple testcases requires the GC\_TESTCASE generic (VHDL) or TESTCASE parameter (Verilog), and these should only be used in the top level testbench entity.

# The testcase names will be included in simulation reports.

```
GC_TESTCASE : string := "" -- VHDL
parameter TESTCASE = "" // Verilog
```

Note that the GC\_TESTCASE generic or TESTCASE parameter name can be changed using the set\_testcase\_identifier\_name() method.

# 7.2 Example Testbench

For HDLRegression to discover a VHDL file to be used as a testbench the only requirement is that the --hdlregression:tb (VHDL) or //hdlregression:tb (Verilog) pragma is present:

Listing 1: VHDL testbench example

```
library IEEE;
   use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
   use IEEE.numeric_std.all;
   library uvvm_util;
   context uvvm_util.uvvm_util_context;
   -- Include when using VVC:
   -- library uvvm_vvc_framework;
   -- use uvvm_vvc_framework.ti_vvc_framework_support_pkg.all;
10
11
   --hdlregression:tb
   entity tb_example is
13
     generic (
14
       GC_TESTCASE : string := "UVVM"
15
   end entity tb_example;
17
18
   architecture func of tb_example is
19
20
     constant C_SCOPE
                            : string := C_TB_SCOPE_DEFAULT;
21
     constant C_CLK_PERIOD : time := 10 ns;
22
   begin
24
25
26
      -- Instantiate test harness
27
28
      -- i_test_harness : entity work.test_harness;
30
31
32
      -- PROCESS: p_main
33
34
     p_main: process
35
     begin
37
```

```
-- Wait for UVVM to finish initialization
39
        -- await_uvvm_initialization(VOID);
41
43
        -- Set UVVM verbosity level
45
        -- enable_log_msg(ALL_MESSAGES);
46
       disable_log_msg(ALL_MESSAGES);
47
       enable_log_msg(ID_SEQUENCER);
48
       enable_log_msg(ID_LOG_HDR);
49
50
        -- Test sequence
52
          ______
       log(ID_SEQUENCER, "Running testcase: " & GC_TESTCASE, C_SCOPE);
54
55
       if GC_TESTCASE = "check_reset_defaults" then
56
57
          -- reset checks
58
       elsif GC TESTCASE = "test dut write" then
60
61
         -- write checks
62
63
       elsif GC_TESTCASE = "test_dut_read" then
65
          -- read checks
66
67
       end if;
68
69
        -- Ending the simulation
71
       wait for 1000 ns;
                                     -- to allow some time for completion
73
       report_alert_counters(FINAL); -- Report final counters and print conclusion for_
74
    ⇒simulation (Success/Fail)
       log(ID_LOG_HDR, "SIMULATION COMPLETED", C_SCOPE);
75
76
        -- Finish the simulation
77
       std.env.stop;
78
       wait; -- to stop completely
     end process p_main;
80
81
   end func:
```

Listing 2: Verilog testbench example

```
//hdlregression:tb
module tb_verilog #(
parameter TESTCASE = "DEFAULT"

);

(continues on next page)
```

```
initial
       begin
7
            if (TESTCASE == "reset_test")
                // reset checks
9
10
            else if (TESTCASE == "write_test")
11
                // write tests
12
13
           else if (TESTCASE == "read_test")
14
                // read tests
15
16
       end
17
18
   endmodule
```

**CHAPTER** 

**EIGHT** 

### **TEMPLATE FILES**

# 8.1 Basic usage

The HDLRegression package comes with a basic template file to ease the process of getting started for new users.

```
import svs
   # ----- USER HDLRegression PATH -----
   # If HDLRegression is not installed as a Python package (see doc)
   # then uncomment the following line and set the path for
   # the HDLRegression install folder :
   #sys.path.append(<full_or_relative_path_to_hdlregression_install>)
   # Import the HDLRegression module to the Python script:
   from hdlregression import HDLRegression
   # Define a HDLRegression item to access the HDLRegression functionality:
11
  hr = HDLRegression()
12
13
   # ----- USER CONFIG START -----
                                         # Use default library my_work_lib
   # => hr.add_files(<filename>)
15
   # => hr.add_files(<filename>, <library_name>) # or specify a library name.
17
   # ----- USER CONFIG END -----
  hr.start()
```

## 8.1.1 Basic example

# 8.2 Advanced usage

The HDLRegression package comes with an advanced template file for advanced users to extend with even more functionality.

```
import sys
   # ----- USER HDLRegression PATH -----
2
   # If HDLRegression is not installed as a Python package (see doc)
   # then uncomment the following line and set the path for
   # the HDLRegression install folder :
   #sys.path.append(<full_or_relative_path_to_hdlregression_install>)
   # Import the HDLRegression module to the Python script:
   from hdlregression import HDLRegression
10
   # ----- USER IMPORT -----
11
   # Import other Python package(s):
12
13
   # Define a HDLRegression item to access the HDLRegression functionality:
14
   hr = HDLRegression()
15
   # ----- USER CONFIG START -----
17
   # Add Python functions here if needed:
19
   # Add design files, repeat call if needed:
21
   # => hr.add_files(<src_files>, <compile_library>)
22
23
   # Add testbench and related files:
   # => hr.add_files(<src_files>, <compile_library>)
25
   # Define testbench configurations/generics if any, repeat call if needed:
27
   # => hr.add_generics(entity=<testbench_name>, architecture=<architecture_name>, generics=
28
   29
   # Define simulation report format:
   # => hr.gen_report() # default is full report (testbench, testcase, configurations, pass/
31
   → fail) to report.txt
32
33
      ----- USER CONFIG END -----
34
```

```
hr.start()
```

# 8.2.1 Advanced example

```
from itertools import product
   from hdlregression import HDLRegression
   import sys
   # User specify HDLRegression install path:
   sys.path.append('c:/tools/hdlregression/')
   # Import the HDLRegression module to the Python script:
   # Import other Python package(s):
10
11
   # Define a HDLRegression item to access the HDLRegression functionality:
12
   hr = HDLRegression()
13
   # ----- USER CONFIG START -----
15
16
   # Add Python functions here if needed:
17
18
   # Return a list with the product of the generics
19
20
21
   def create_generics(bus_width, master_mode, input_file, output_file):
22
       generics = []
23
       for bus_width, master_mode, input_file, output_file in product(bus_width, master_
24
   →mode, input_file, output_file):
           generics.append(["GC_BUS_WIDTH",bus_width, "GC_MASTER_MODE",master_mode, "GC_
25
   →INPUT_FILE",input_file, "GC_OUTPUT_FILE",output_file])
       return generics
26
27
28
   # Add all source files to library my_dut_lib:
   hr.add_files("./src/*.vhd", "my_dut_lib")
31
32
   # Add all testbench related files to library my_tb_lib:
33
   hr.set_library("my_tb_lib")
   hr.add_files("./tb/my_dut_tb.vhd")
35
   hr.add_files("./tb/my_dut_th.vhd")
   hr.add_files("./tb/my_dut_if_stuck_tb.vhd")
37
   hr.add_files("./tb/my_dut_pin_pulse_tb.vhd")
39
   # Get a list with the product of selected generics:
41
   generics = create_generics(bus_width=[2, 4, 8, 16], master_mode=[
                               True, False], input_file="in_data.txt", output_file="out_data.
43
   →txt")
```

# 8.2.2 RTL and Netlist script example

```
import sys
   # ----- USER HDLRegression PATH -----
2
   # If HDLRegression is not installed as a Python package (see doc)
   # then uncomment the following line and set the path for
   # the HDLRegression install folder :
   #sys.path.append(<full_or_relative_path_to_HDLRegression_install>)
   # Import the HDLRegression module to the Python script:
   from hdlregression import HDLRegression
9
10
11
   def run_rtl():
12
13
      Setup test environment for RTL simulations.
14
      # Define a HDLRegression item to access the HDLRegression functionality:
16
      hr = HDLRegression()
18
      # ----- USER CONFIG START -----
      # => hr.add_files(<filename>) # Use default library my_work_lib
20
      # => hr.add_files(<filename>, <library_name>) # or specify a library name.
21
22
      # ----- USER CONFIG END -----
23
      hr.start()
24
25
26
27
   def run_netlist():
28
29
      Setup test environment for Netlist simulations.
30
31
      # Define a HDLRegression item to access the HDLRegression functionality:
32
      hr = HDLRegression()
33
34
      # ----- USER CONFIG START -----
35
      # => hr.add_files(<filename>, <library_name>) # or specify a library name.
37
```

```
# ----- USER CONFIG END -----
39
       hr.start()
41
   def main():
43
       Main method, selecting RTL or Netlist simulations.
45
46
47
       args = sys.argv[1:]
48
49
       if len(args) > 0:
50
           selection = args[0].lower()
           sys.argv.remove(selection)
52
           if 'rtl' == selection:
54
               run_rtl()
           elif 'netlist' == selection:
56
               run_netlist()
57
58
               print('Please select "rtl" or "netlist" run.')
       else:
60
           print('Please select "rtl" or "netlist" run.')
61
62
   if __name__ == "__main__":
       main()
```

**CHAPTER** 

NINE

# **TEST AUTOMATION SERVER**

HDLRegression support development automation server tools such as Jenkins and GitLab. When using HDLRegression with an automation server the test runner script will need to utilize the statistical method get\_num\_fail\_tests() in HDLRegression and exit with an exit code to trigger a PASS/FAIL test in the automation server.

### Example code - returning the number of failing tests to the automation server:

```
# run tests
ret_code = hr.start()
# exit with the return code from start()
sys.exit(ret_code)
```

### 1 Note

The automation server will indicate a passing test when the test runnner script returns '0' exit code, and start() will return '0' if all tests have passed and there are no compilation errors.

#### Example of building HDLRegression package and running test script in Jenkins:



**CHAPTER** 

**TEN** 

# **GENERATED OUTPUT**

When a HDLRegression regression script is run a folder *hdlregression* will be created in the same folder as the script was called from, e.g. *sim*. The folder will hold important project information in *.dat* files, a list of all run commands inside a *commands.do* file, library compilations inside a *library* folder, and test run outputs and report information inside a *test* folder. Note that each time the regression script is run it will back-up the *test* folder with a date-and-time suffix to ensure that no important test run results are overwritten.

- · /library
- /test
- · commands.do
- library.dat
- · settings.dat
- · testgroup.dat
- testgroup\_collection.dat

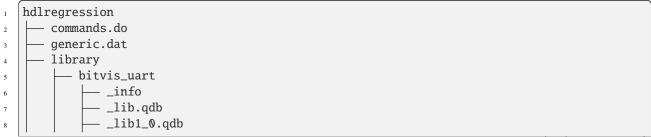


The library folder will include one or more folders for the compiled libraries. The test folder will include one or more test case folders and - if selected - a coverage folder.

### 10.1 Test folder

Inside thet /test folder there can be several sub-folders and files. Each testbench entity will have a folder of its own which again has sub-folders for used architecture and generics. These test run folders have unique names that are hash generated, thus identifying a specific test run can be done by inspecting the test mapping file, test\_mapping.csv.

Listing 1: HDLRegression output folder example

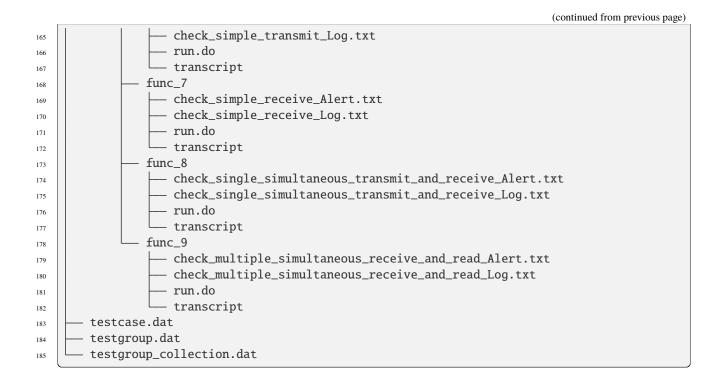


(continued from previous page) \_lib1\_0.qpg \_lib1\_0.qtl \_vmake 11 bitvis\_vip\_clock\_generator – \_info 13 \_lib.qdb - \_lib1\_0.qdb 15 - \_lib1\_0.qpg 16 \_lib1\_0.qtl \_vmake 18 - bitvis\_vip\_sbi – \_info 20 \_lib.qdb - \_lib1\_0.qdb 22 - \_lib1\_0.qpg \_lib1\_0.qtl 24 \_vmake bitvis\_vip\_scoreboard 26 – \_info \_lib.qdb 28 \_lib1\_0.qdb - \_lib1\_0.qpg 30 - \_lib1\_0.qtl \_vmake 32 bitvis\_vip\_uart 33 - \_info - \_lib.qdb 35 - \_lib1\_0.qdb - \_lib1\_0.qpg 37 - \_lib1\_0.qtl \_vmake modelsim.ini uvvm\_util 41 - \_info \_lib.qdb 43 \_lib1\_0.qdb - \_lib1\_0.qpg 45 - \_lib1\_0.qtl vmake 47 uvvm\_vvc\_framework - \_info 49 - \_lib.qdb -\_lib1\_0.qdb 51 \_lib1\_0.qpg 52 - \_lib1\_0.qtl 53 \_ \_vmake 54 library.dat settings.dat 56 test irqc\_demo\_tb 58 — func\_1 — \_Alert.txt 60

(continued from previous page) \_Log.txt 61 run.do transcript 63 irqc\_tb func 2 65 — UVVM\_Alert.txt UVVM\_Log.txt 67 - run.do transcript sim\_report.json test\_mapping.csv 71 uart\_simple\_bfm\_tb 72 L— func\_4 — UVVM\_Alert.txt 74 UVVM\_Log.txt - run.do 76 transcript uart\_vvc\_demo\_tb 78 \_\_\_ func\_3 — \_Alert.txt 80 - \_Log.txt - run.do 82 transcript uart\_vvc\_tb func\_10 85 – run.do - skew\_sbi\_read\_over\_uart\_receive\_Alert.txt skew\_sbi\_read\_over\_uart\_receive\_Log.txt \_\_ transcript 89 func\_11 - run.do 91 - skew\_sbi\_read\_over\_uart\_receive\_with\_delay\_functionality\_Alert.txt skew\_sbi\_read\_over\_uart\_receive\_with\_delay\_functionality\_Log.txt 93 transcript func\_5 - check\_register\_defaults\_Alert.txt - check\_register\_defaults\_Log.txt 97 - run.do transcript func\_6 100 - check\_simple\_transmit\_Alert.txt 101 - check\_simple\_transmit\_Log.txt 102 - run.do 103 \_\_ transcript 104 func\_7 105 — check\_simple\_receive\_Alert.txt 106 - check\_simple\_receive\_Log.txt run.do 108 transcript func\_8 110 - check\_single\_simultaneous\_transmit\_and\_receive\_Alert.txt 111 check\_single\_simultaneous\_transmit\_and\_receive\_Log.txt 112 (continues on next page)

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(continued from previous page) run.do 113 - transcript func\_9 115 check\_multiple\_simultaneous\_receive\_and\_read\_Alert.txt check\_multiple\_simultaneous\_receive\_and\_read\_Log.txt 117 run.do 118 — transcript 119 test\_2024-01-10\_14.51.25.645865 120 irqc\_demo\_tb 121 \_\_\_ func\_1 122 – \_Alert.txt 123 \_Log.txt 124 - run.do transcript 126 irqc\_tb 127 func\_2 128 — UVVM\_Alert.txt UVVM\_Log.txt 130 - run.do transcript 132 - sim\_report.json test\_mapping.csv 134 uart\_simple\_bfm\_tb 135 func 4 136 — UVVM\_Alert.txt 137 UVVM\_Log.txt 138 - run.do 139 — transcript 140 uart\_vvc\_demo\_tb 141 — func\_3 142 — \_Alert.txt 143 \_Log.txt - run.do 145 transcript uart\_vvc\_tb 147 func\_10 149 - skew\_sbi\_read\_over\_uart\_receive\_Alert.txt - skew\_sbi\_read\_over\_uart\_receive\_Log.txt 151 transcript 152 func 11 153 — run.do 154 - skew\_sbi\_read\_over\_uart\_receive\_with\_delay\_functionality\_Alert.txt 155 skew\_sbi\_read\_over\_uart\_receive\_with\_delay\_functionality\_Log.txt 156 — transcript 157 func\_5 158 - check\_register\_defaults\_Alert.txt check\_register\_defaults\_Log.txt 160 - run.do — transcript 162 func\_6 - check\_simple\_transmit\_Alert.txt 164



10.1.1 Test mapping

A test mapping file *test\_mapping.csv* is located in every *test* folder to help identify test runs with test output folders. An example of the layout of a test mapping file is shown below:

Listing 2: test\_mapping.csv example

```
    ./hdlregression/test/irqc_demo_tb/func_1, bitvis_irqc.irqc_demo_tb(func)

2, ./hdlregression/test/irqc_tb/func_2, bitvis_irqc.irqc_tb(func)
3, ./hdlregression/test/uart_vvc_demo_tb/func_3, bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_demo_tb(func)
4, ./hdlregression/test/uart_simple_bfm_tb/func_4, bitvis_uart.uart_simple_bfm_tb(func)
5, ./hdlregression/test/uart_vvc_tb/func_5, bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb(func):GC_
→TESTCASE=check_register_defaults
6, ./hdlregression/test/uart_vvc_tb/func_6, bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb(func):GC_
→ TESTCASE=check_simple_transmit
7, ./hdlregression/test/uart_vvc_tb/func_7, bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb(func):GC_
→TESTCASE=check_simple_receive
8, ./hdlregression/test/uart_vvc_tb/func_8, bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb(func):GC_
→TESTCASE=check_single_simultaneous_transmit_and_receive
9, ./hdlregression/test/uart_vvc_tb/func_9, bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb(func):GC_
→TESTCASE=check_multiple_simultaneous_receive_and_read
10, ./hdlregression/test/uart_vvc_tb/func_10, bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb(func):GC_
→TESTCASE=skew_sbi_read_over_uart_receive
11, ./hdlregression/test/uart_vvc_tb/func_11, bitvis_uart.uart_vvc_tb(func):GC_
→TESTCASE=skew_sbi_read_over_uart_receive_with_delay_functionality
```

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**CHAPTER** 

**ELEVEN** 

**TIPS** 

### 11.1 Back annotated netlist simulations

Running RTL and Netlist simulations require two individual test runs, i.e. different HDLRegression instances, and solving this can be done using one or two regression scripts:

- Use two run scripts, e.g. run\_rtl.py and run\_netlist.py, and setup both scripts as individual runs, one running RTL simulations and the other running Netlist simulations.
- Combine both run scripts in a single file, e.g. run\_regression.py, and use a selection mechanism inside the run script to select which run to execute.

### 1 Note

The single runner script example will support HDLRegression CLI arguments when implemented with argument modifications as shown in the example below.

### 11.1.1 Regression script

#### Example of running RTL and Netlist from two runner scripts

```
python3 ../script/run_rtl.py
python3 ../script/run_netlist.py
```

#### Example of running RTL and Netlist from a single runner script

```
python3 ../script/run_regression.py rtl
python3 ../script/run_regression.py netlist
```

#### Example setup for running RTL and Netlist from a single runner script

```
import sys

# ------ USER HDLRegression PATH -----

# If HDLRegression is not installed as a Python package (see doc)

# then uncomment the following line and set the path for

# the HDLRegression install folder :

# sys.path.append(<full_or_relative_path_to_HDLRegression_install>)
```

```
# Import the HDLRegression module to the Python script:
   from hdlregression import HDLRegression
10
   def run_rtl():
12
13
       Setup test environment for RTL simulations.
14
15
       # Define a HDLRegression item to access the HDLRegression functionality:
16
      hr = HDLRegression()
17
18
       # ----- USER CONFIG START -----
19
                                     # Use default library my_work_lib
       # => hr.add_files(<filename>)
20
       # => hr.add_files(<filename>, <library_name>) # or specify a library name.
21
22
       # ----- USER CONFIG END -----
23
      hr.start()
24
25
26
27
   def run_netlist():
28
29
       Setup test environment for Netlist simulations.
31
       # Define a HDLRegression item to access the HDLRegression functionality:
32
      hr = HDLRegression()
33
34
       # ----- USER CONFIG START -----
35
       36
       # => hr.add_files(<filename>, <library_name>) # or specify a library name.
37
38
       # ----- USER CONFIG END -----
      hr.start()
40
41
42.
   def main():
43
44
       Main method, selecting RTL or Netlist simulations.
45
46
      args = sys.argv[1:]
48
49
      if len(args) > 0:
50
          selection = args[0].lower()
51
          sys.argv.remove(selection)
52
53
          if 'rtl' == selection:
54
              run_rtl()
55
          elif 'netlist' == selection:
              run_netlist()
57
          else:
58
              print('Please select "rtl" or "netlist" run.')
59
                                                                          (continues on next page)
```

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```
else:
    print('Please select "rtl" or "netlist" run.')

if __name__ == "__main__":
    main()
```

