# EE332
# Digital System Design

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# Text Book

- P.P. Chu, RTL hardware design using VHDL, John Wiley & Sons, 2006.

# Reference Book

- S. Yalamanchili, VHDL: A Starter's Guide, Prentice Hall, 2005
- Charles H. Roth, Jr. and Lizy Kurian John: Digital Systems Design with VHDL, Publishing house of electronics Industry

# Lecture Plan

- Lectures – 32 hours
- Lab exercises – 16 hours
- Two-person group projects – 16 hours. Sample group projects:
  - remote control electronic piano
  - smart phone control electronic motor
  - intelligent chess robot
  - intelligent unmanned grounded vehicle
  - wearable sports device
  - etc.

# Pre-requisites:

- Digital Electronics

# Examinations:

- Final Exam: 40% (open book, 2 hours)
- Continuous Assessment: 60%
  - Lab exercises and report: 30%
  - Group project and report: 30%
- **No plagiarism is tolerated. Zero marks are given to the part involving plagiarizing.**
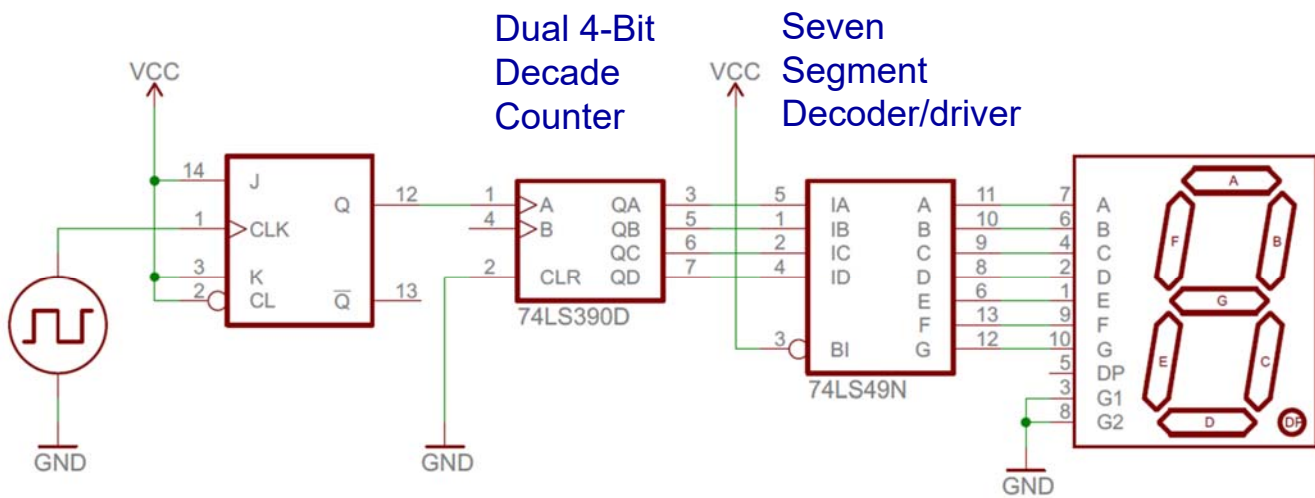
# Outline

- Introduction
- Data Objects and Operands
- Concurrent statement
- Sequential statement
- Modeling Structure
- Modeling at the RT level
- Modeling at the FSMD level
- Parameterized Design
- Pipeline Design
- Subprograms, package and library
- Synthesis Of VHDL Code
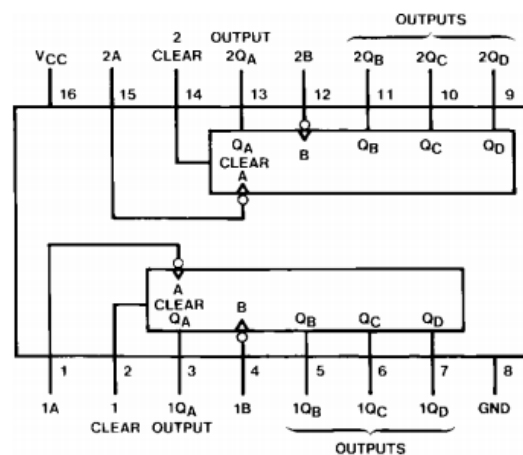- Clock and Synchronization

# Chapter 1 Introduction

- Digital system design
  - System representation
  - Level of abstraction
  - Device technologies

- What is VHDL

- Basic VHDL concept via an example
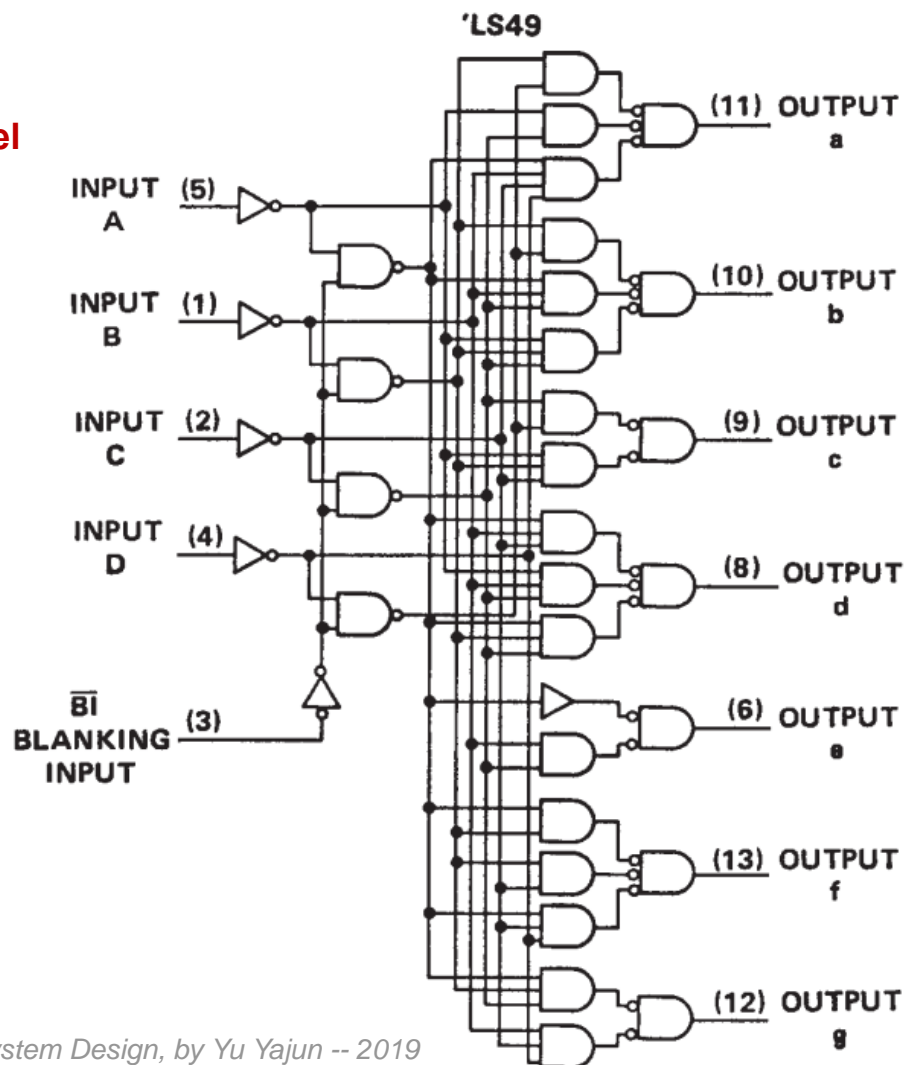
# 1.1 Introduction to digital system design

- Examples of Digital System: system level, or more accurately, register transfer level (RTL).
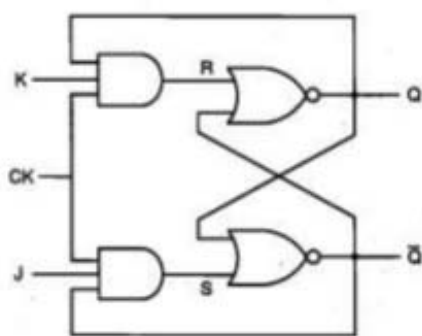
Dual 4-Bit Decade Counter

Seven Segment Decoder/driver

74LS390D
Dual 4-Bit Decade Counter

**74LS49N**
**Gate Level**

INPUT (5)
A

INPUT (1)
B

INPUT (2)
C

INPUT (4)
D

$\overline{BI}$
BLANKING (3)
INPUT

(11) OUTPUT a

(10) OUTPUT b

(9) OUTPUT c

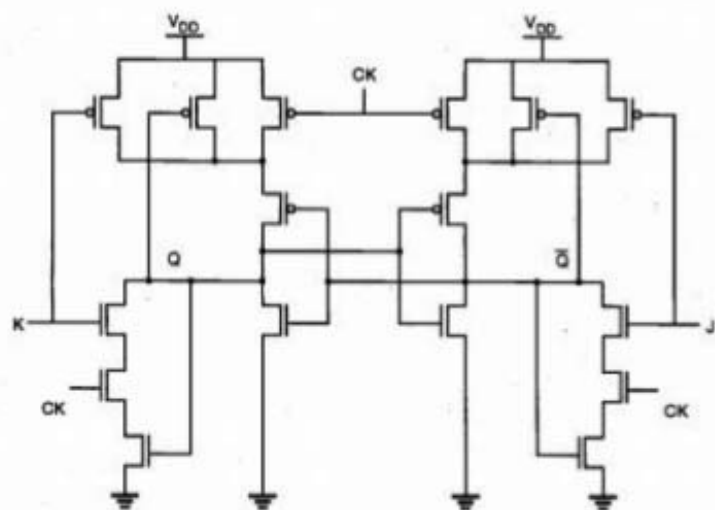(8) OUTPUT d

(6) OUTPUT e

(13) OUTPUT f

(12) OUTPUT g

*EE332 Digital System Design, by Yu Yajun -- 2019*

9

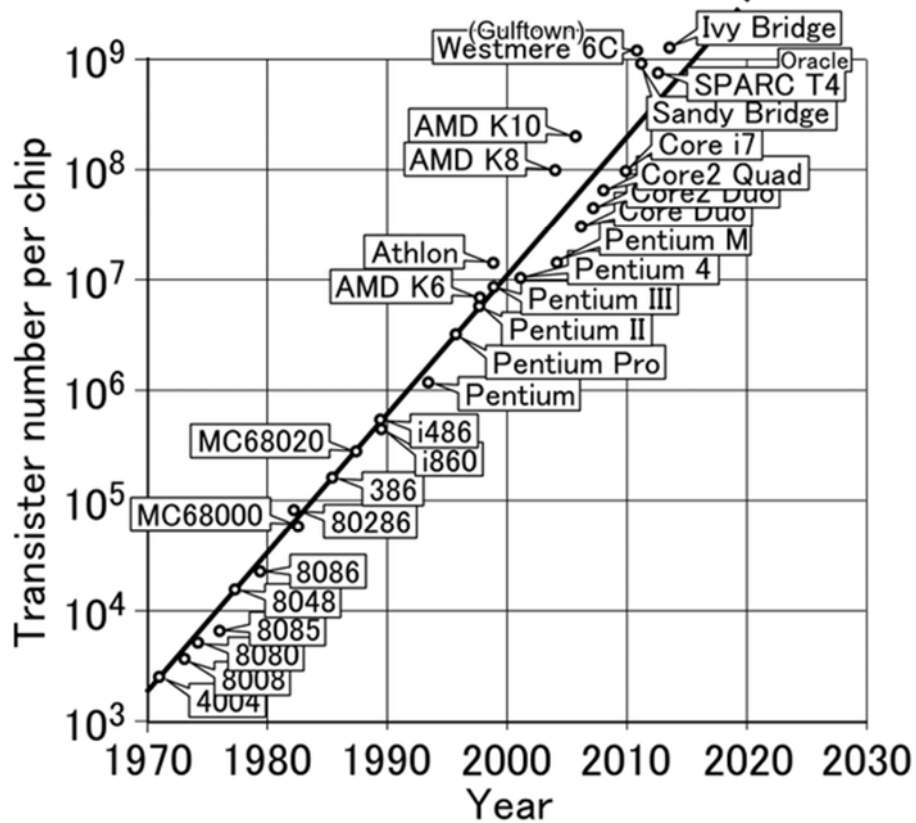a) Gate level schematic of the clocked NOR based JK Latch

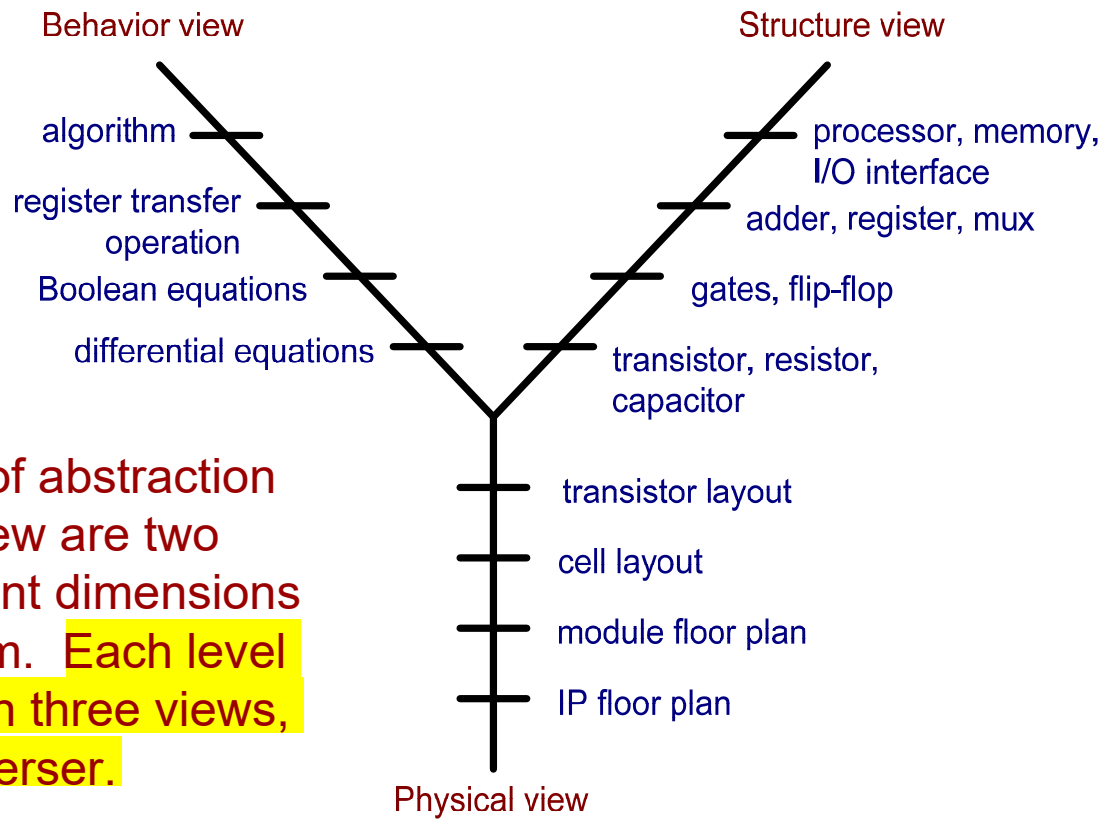b) CMOS realization of the JK Latch

Moores law

**Digital Systems**

# Abstraction

- A key method of managing complexity is to describe a system in several levels of abstraction.

- An **abstraction** is a simplified model of the system, showing only the selected features and ignoring the associated details.

  - Transistor level

  - Gate level

  - Register transfer (RT) level

  - Processor level

# System Representation (View)

- **View:** different perspectives of a system.

  - Behavior view

    - describe the functionalities and i/o behavior
    - treat the system as a black box

  - Structural view

    - describe the internal implementation (components and interconnections)
    - essentially block diagram

  - Physical view

    - add more info to structural view: component size, component location, routing wires
    - e.g. layout of a printed circuit board

## Slide 15

Behavior view          Structure view

algorithm

register transfer operation

Boolean equations

differential equations

processor, memory, I/O interface

adder, register, mux

gates, flip-flop

transistor, resistor, capacitor

transistor layout

cell layout

module floor plan

IP floor plan

Physical view

- The level of abstraction and the view are two independent dimensions of a system. Each level has its own three views, and vice verser.

## Slide 16

### Characteristics of each abstraction level

|  | Typical blocks | Signal representation | Time representation | Behavioral description | Physical description |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Transistor | transistor, resistor | voltage | continuous function | differential equation | transistor layout |
| Gate | and, or, xor, | logic 0 or 1 | propagation delay | Boolean equation | cell layout |
| RT | adder, mux, register | integer, system state | clock tick | generalized FSM | RT-level floor plan |
| Processor | processor, memory | abstract data type | event sequence | natural language | IP-level floor plan |

# Device Technology

- **Fabrication of an IC**
  - Transistors and connection are made from many layers (typical 10 to 15 in CMOS) built on top of one another
  - Each layer has a special pattern defined by a mask
  - An important aspect of IC is the <mark>length of a smallest transistor</mark> that can be fabricated
    - It is measured in micron ($\mu$m, $10^{-6}$ meter) in early time, but now in nano (nm, $10^{-9}$ meter), and known as the *minimum feature size*.
    - e.g. we may say an IC is built with 0.6 $\mu$m process
    - The process continues to improve, as witnessed by Moore's law
    - The state-of-art process approaches a single digit of nm, for example 7nm.
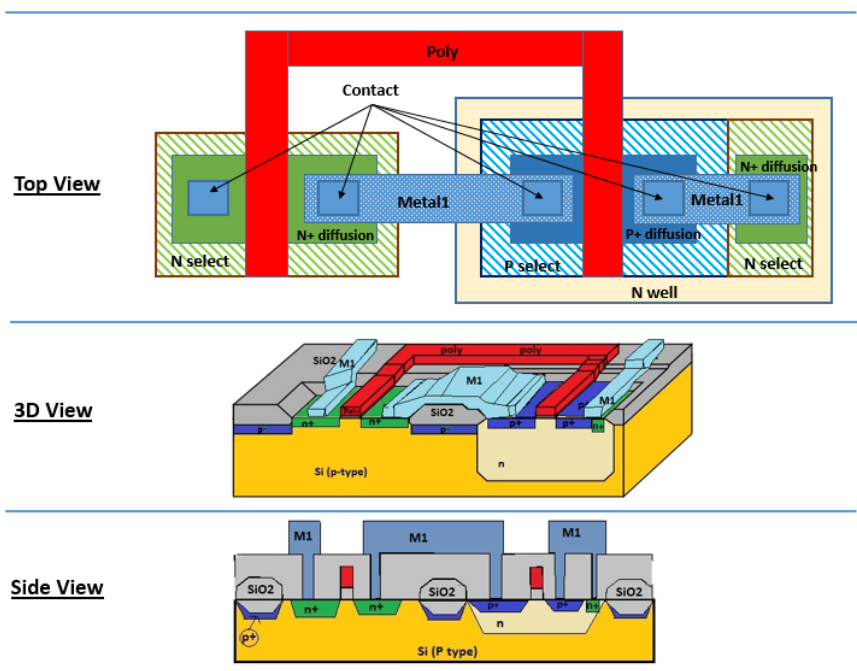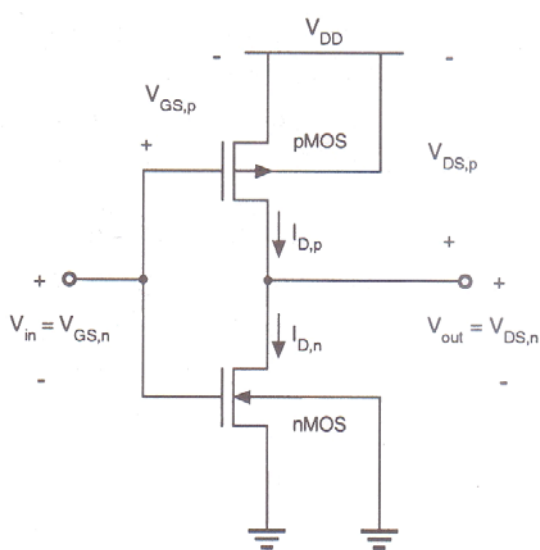
- **Classification of Device technologies**:
  - Where customization is done:
    - in a fab (fabrication facility): ASIC (Application Specific IC)
    - in the "field": Non-ASIC
  - Classification
    - Full custom ASIC
    - Standard-cell ASIC
    - Gate array ASIC
    - Reprogrammable logic device: FPGA (field programmable gate array)

- **Full-custom ASIC**
  - All aspects (e.g. size of a transistor) of a circuit are tailored for a particular application.
  - Circuit fully optimized
  - Design extremely complex and involved.
  - Only feasible for small components
  - Masks needed for all layers
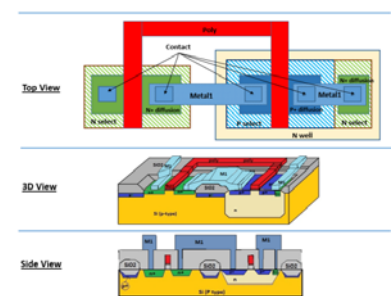
- **Standard-cell ASIC**
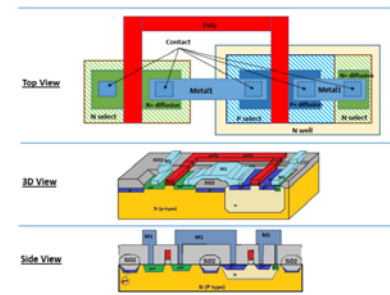  - Circuit made of a set of pre-defined logic, known as standard cells.
  - E.g. basic logic gates, 1-bit adder, DFF etc.
  - Layout of a cell is pre-determined, but layout of the complete circuit is customized
  - Masks needed for all layers.

- **Gate array ASIC**
  - Circuit is built from an array of a single type of cell (known as base cell)
  - Base cell are pre-arranged and placed in fixed positions, aligned as one- or two- dimensional array
  - More sophisticated components (macro cells) can be constructed from base cells
  - Masks needed only for metal layers (connective wires)
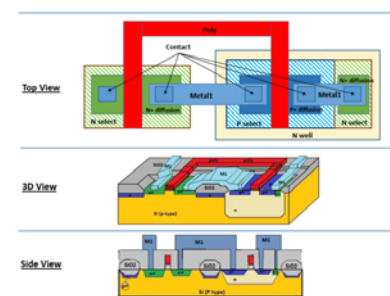
- **Field programmable gate array**
  - Device consists of an array of generic logic cells and general interconnect structure
  - Logic cells and interconnect can be "programmed" by utilizing semiconductor fuses or "switches"
  - Customization is done in the "field"
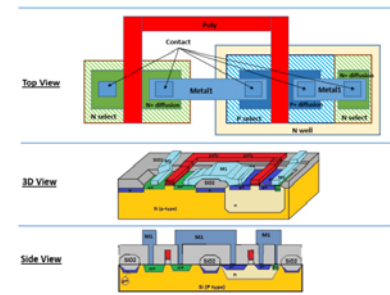  - No custom mask needed

# Comparison of device technologies

|  | Custom (Full Custom) | Cell-based (Standard Cell) | Pre-diffused (Gate Array) | Prewired (CPLD, FPGA) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Density | Very High | High | High | Medium - Low |
| Performance | Very High | High | High | Medium - Low |
| Flexibility | Very High | High | Medium | Low |
| Design Time | Very Long | Short | Short | Very Short |
| Manufacturing time | Medium | Medium | Short | Very Short |
| Cost – Low /High Volume | Very High/Low | High/Low | High/Low | Low/High |

**Cost:** $C_{unit} = C_{per\_part} + C_{one\_time} / units\_produced$

unit cost

break-even point
for gate array

break-even point
for gate array

FPGA

gate
array

standard
cell

number of units
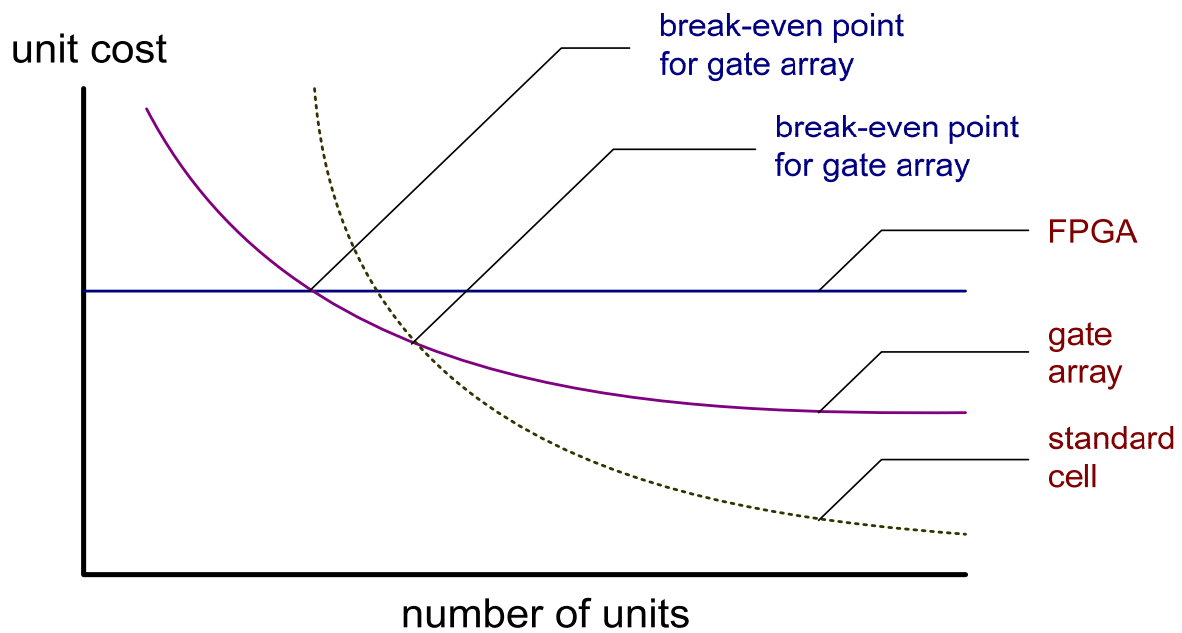
**Comparison of per unit cost**

# Field programmable gate array (FPGA)

• Ideally, the interconnection between the millions of transistors can be reconfigured to realize different applications.

| CLB | CLB | CLB |
| CLB | CLB | CLB |
| CLB | CLB | CLB |
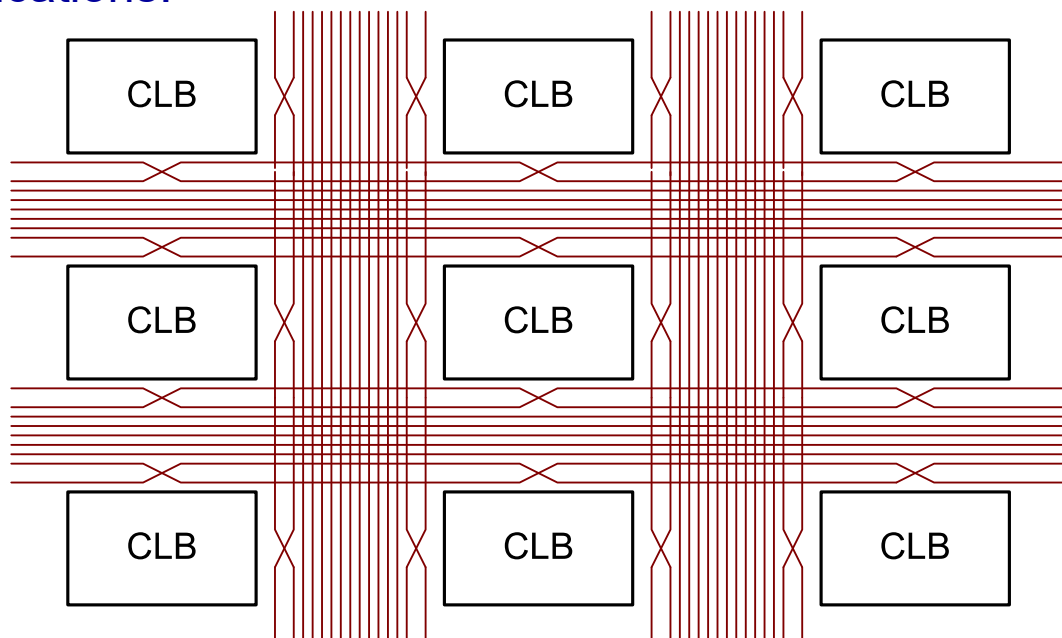
# CLB - Configurable logic block

$C_1 \cdots C_4$  /4

$H_1$   $D_{IN}/H_2$   $SR/H_0$   EC

ROM

Logic Function of $G_1$–$G_4$
$G_4$  $G_3$  $G_2$  $G_1$
$G'$

Logic Function of $F_1$–$F_4$
$F_4$  $F_3$  $F_2$  $F_1$
$F'$

Logic Function of $F'$, $G'$, and H1
$H'$

$D_{IN}$ $F'$ $G'$ $H'$

$G'$ $H'$

$D_{IN}$ $F'$ $G'$ $H'$

$H'$ $F'$

K (CLOCK)

S/R Control

S/R Control

D  SD  Q
EC  RD

D  SD  Q
EC  RD

1

1

Bypass

YQ
Y

XQ
X

Multiplexer Controlled by Configuration Program

27

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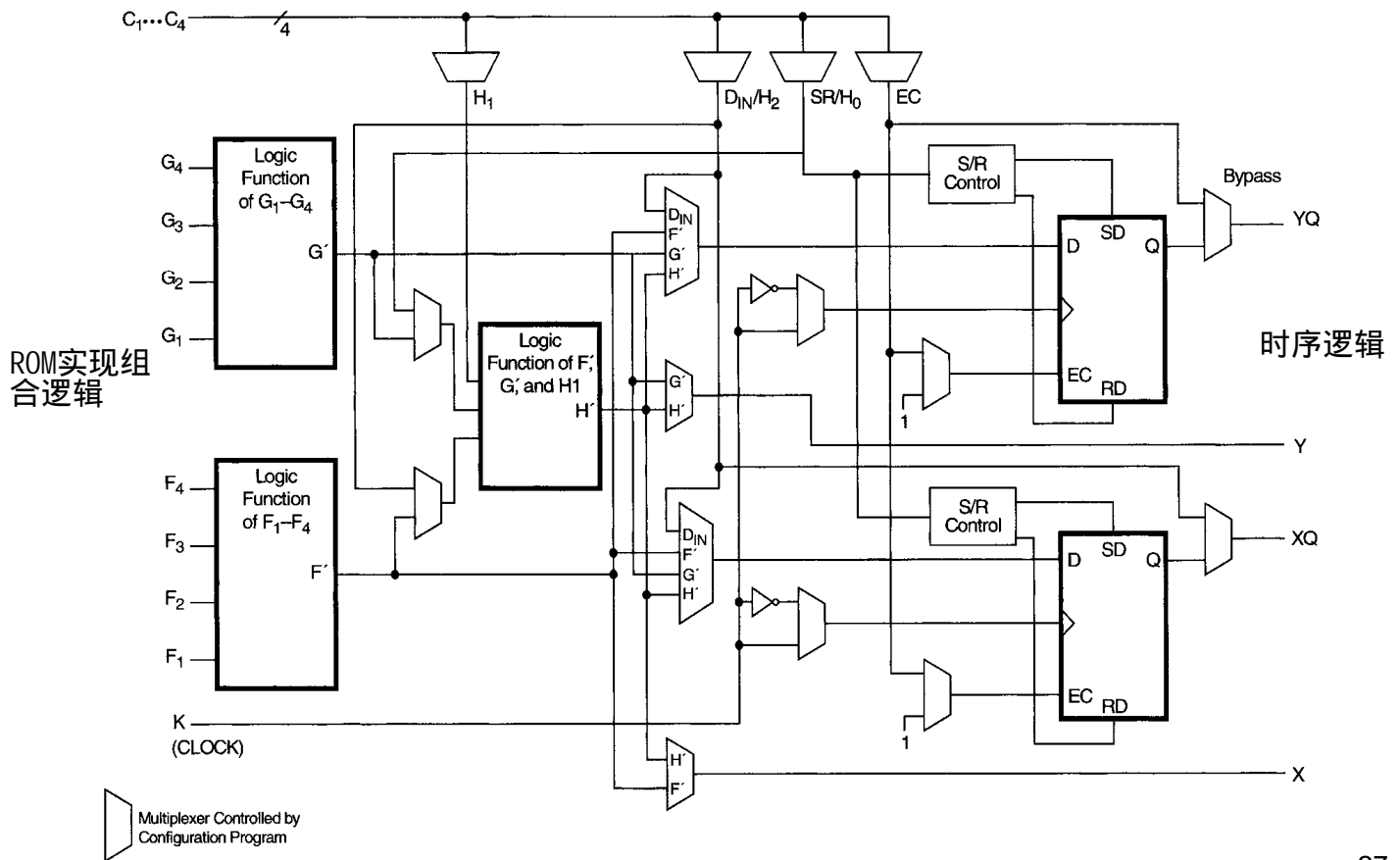| A | B | C | D | Out |
|---|---|---|---|-----|
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
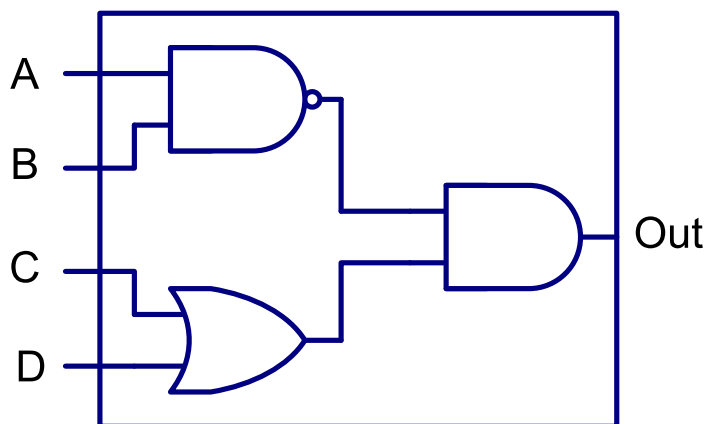
Implementation of combinational functions using LUTs

# 1.2 What is VHDL?

- **V**HSIC **H**ardware **D**escription **L**anguage (VHDL)
  - **V**ery **H**igh-**S**peed **I**ntegrated **C**ircuit program (VHSIC)
  - A computer language for **documenting** and **simulating** circuits, and describing circuits for **synthesis.**
  - A high level programming language with specialized constructs for **modeling hardware**.

# History of VHDL

- Intermetrics, TI and IBM under US DoD contract 1983-1985: VHDL 7.2

- IEEE standardization: VHDL 1076-1987

- First synthesized chip, IBM 1988

- IEEE Restandardization: VHDL 1076-1993

- Minor change in standard 2000 and 2002

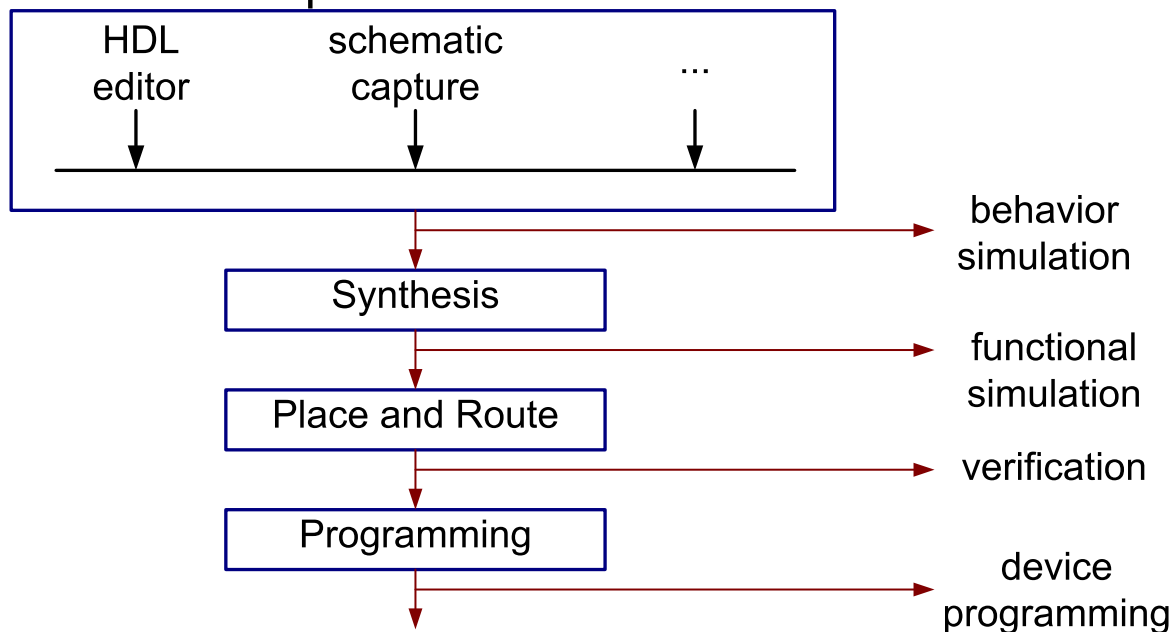- VHDL standard IEEE 1076-2008 published in Jan 2009

# The role of HDL

- Formal documentation

- Input to a simulator

- Input to a synthesizer

## FPGA design flow

Model development



behavior
simulation

functional
simulation

verification

device
programming

# 1.3: Basic VHDL Concept

- **Entity**

- **Architecture**

- **Configuration**

- **Package**

- **Library**

Entity

Entity declaration

Architecture(s)

---

# NAND2 Gate

A

B

C
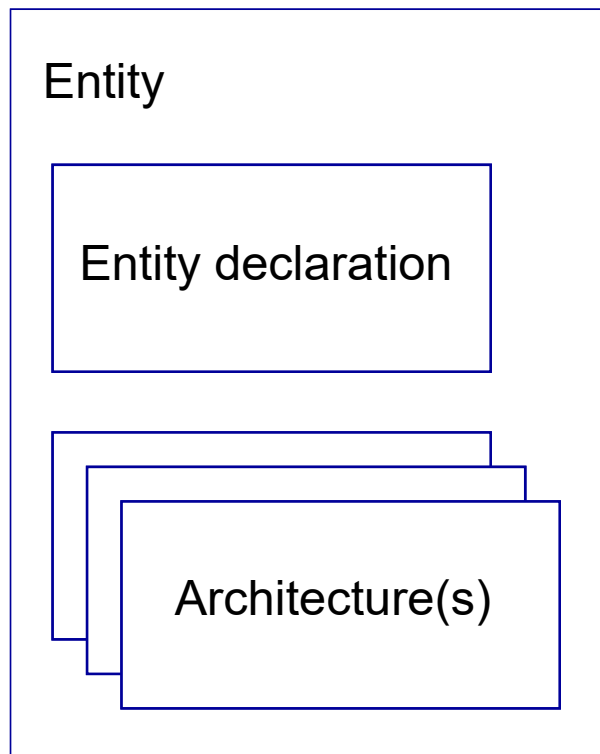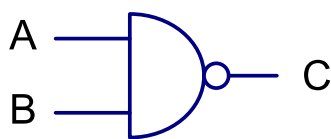
## Entity declaration

It provides an "external view" of a component.

Specifies input and output signals

Entity name

Port mode

**entity** NAND2 **is**
**port (** A, B: **in**  bit;
        C    :   **out**  bit **);**
**end entity** NAND2**;**

Port name

Signal type of port
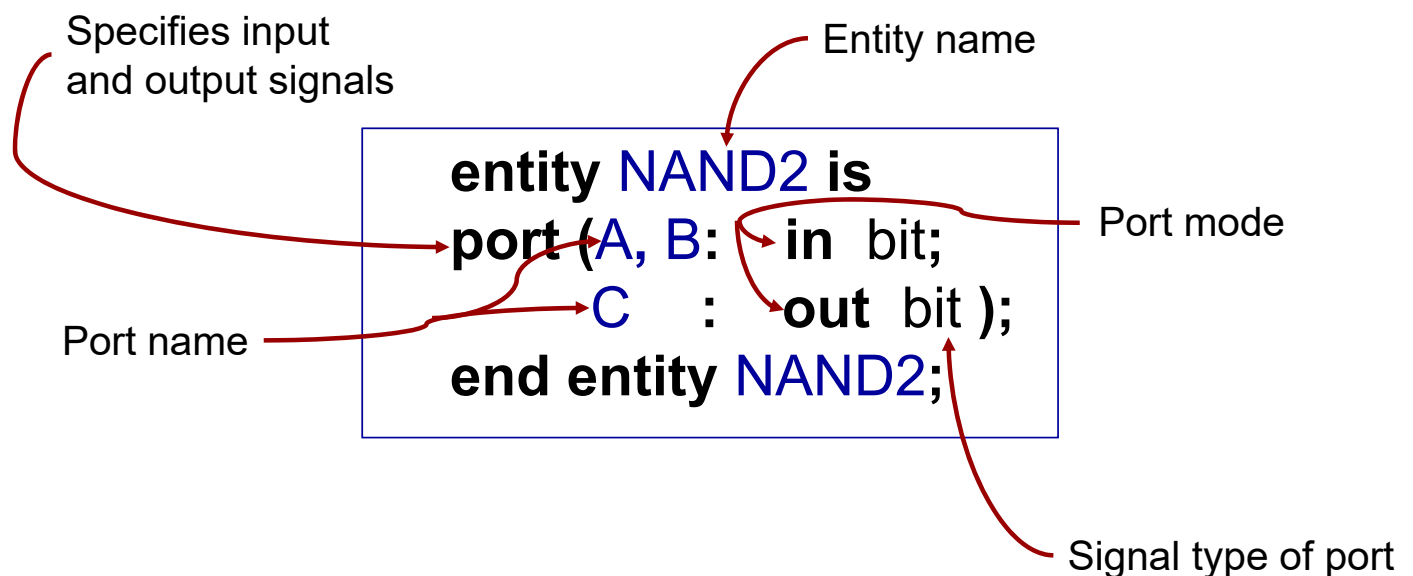
# Entity Declarations

- The entity declaration defines an interface to a component
    - It names the entity, and
    - It describes the input and output ports that can be seen from the outside,
        - Mode of signals (i.e. **in** and **out**)
        - Type of signals (i.e. bit)

# Possible modes for signals of entity ports

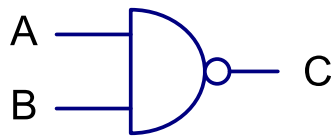| Mode | Purpose |
|---|---|
| **in** | Used for a signal that is an input to an entity. |
| **out** | Used for a signal that is an output from an entity. The value of the signal can not be used inside the entity. This means that in an assignment statement, the signal can appear only to the left of the <= operator. |
| **inout** | Used for a signal that is both an input to an entity and an output from the entity. |
| **buffer** | Used for a signal that is an output from an entity. The value of the signal can be used inside the entity, which means that in an assignment statement, the signal can appear both on the left and right sides of the <= operators. |

# NAND2 Gate

A —⟩ C
B —

## Architecture

It provides an "internal view" of a component.

Architecture name · Entity name

**architecture** DATAFLOW **of** NAND2 **is**

declaration
**signal** S: bit**;**
**begin**

concurrent statements
S <= A **and** B;
C <= **not** S;
**end architecture** DATAFLOW**;**

---
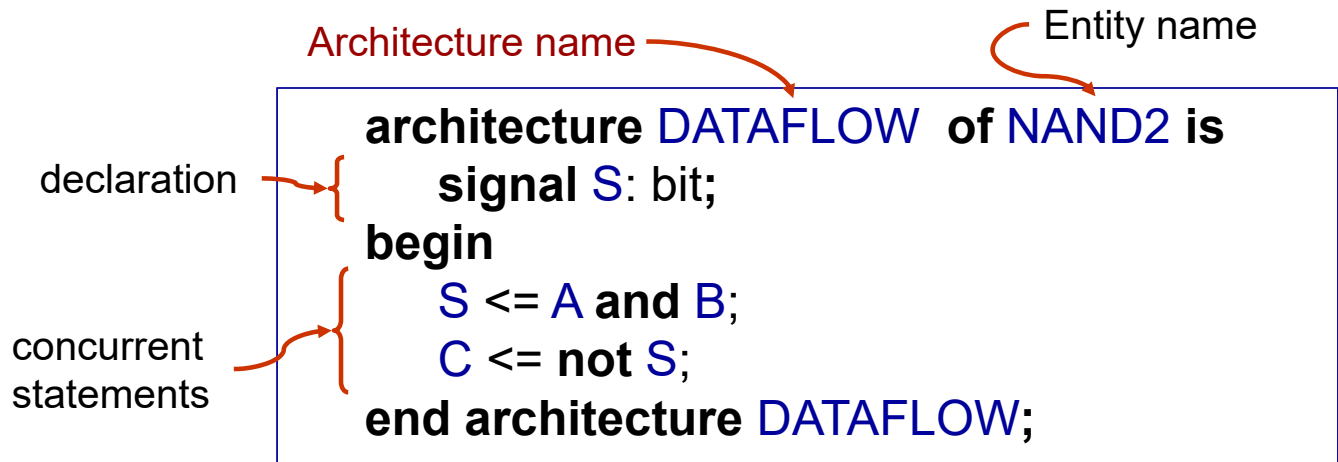
# Statements in the architecture are concurrent statements

S <= A **and** B;
C <= **no**t S;

and

C <= **not** S;
S <= A **and** B;

will produce the same result

# NAND2 Gate



A
B
C
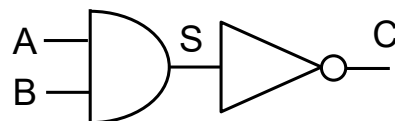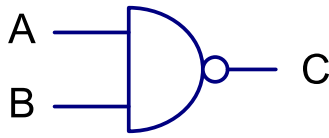
Architecture:
Behavior style

```
architecture BEHAVIOR  of NAND2 is
begin
    process (A,B) is
    begin
        if (A='1' and B='1') then
            C <= '0';
        else
            if (A='0' and B='0') or (A='0' and B='1')
               or (A='1' and B='0') then
                    C <= '1';
            end if;
        end if;
    end process;
end architecture BEHAVIOR;
```

---

# Architecture

- It defines the relationships between the inputs and outputs of a design entity.

    – It consists of a declaration section followed by a collection of *concurrent statements*.

    – It may be expressed in terms of behavior, data flow, or structure.

# Chapter 2. Data Objects and Operators

- Basic Language Elements
  - Data Objects
  - Data Type
  - Operators
  - Identifier

# 2.1 Data objects

- An object in VHDL is a named item that holds the value of a specific data type.
- Four kinds of data objects
  - Signals
  - Constants
  - Variables
  - File
- For describing logic circuits, the most important data objects are signals.  They represent the logic signals (wires) in the circuit.

# 2.1.1 Signal data objects

- A signal is an object that <mark>holds the current and possible future values</mark> of the object.

- They occur as inputs and outputs in port descriptions, as signals in architecture, etc.

---

# Where can signal data objects be declared?

- Entity declaration     `signal        entity`
- Declarative section of an architecture
- Cannot be in a process     `signal`

```
entity nand2 is
port (A, B:   in  bit;
      C   :   out  bit );
end entity nand2;
```

```
architecture dataflow  of
nand2 is
   signal S: bit;
begin
      S <= A and B;
      C <= not S;
end architecture dataflow;
```

# How to declare a signal?

**signal** signal_name : signal_type [:= initial  value]:

# Examples:

**signal** status : std_logic := '0';

**signal** data : std_logic_vector **(**31 **downto** 0**);**

# Signal assignment

A signal assignment schedules a new value to ==occur at some future time==. **The ==current value of the signal is never changed.==** If no specific value of time is specified the default value is infinitesimally small value of time into the future called delta time.
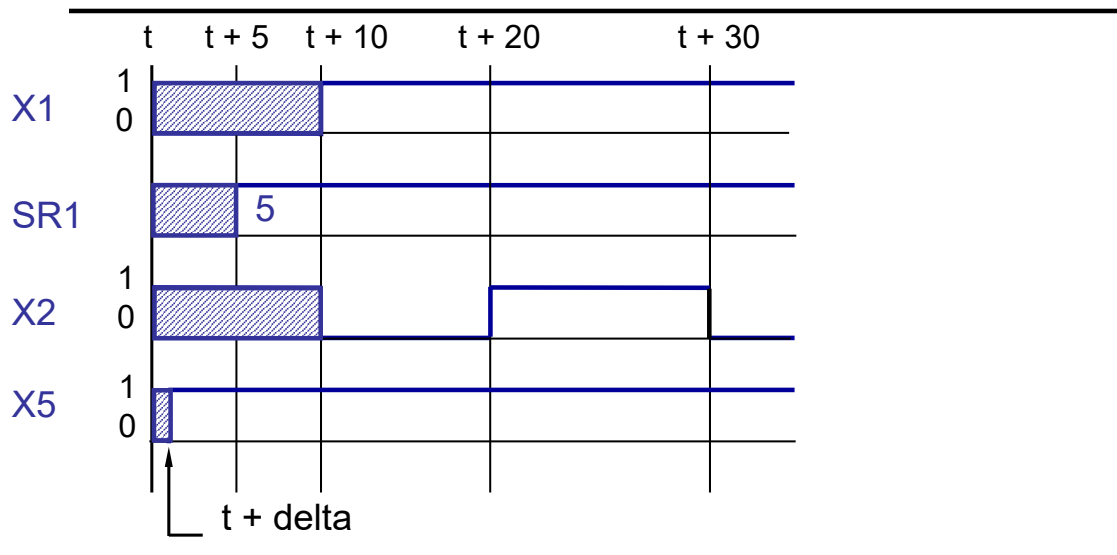
**Signals are assigned using the "<=" operator. e.g.**

X1 <= '1' **after** 10ns;

SR1 <= 5  **after** 5ns;

X2 <= '0' **after** 10ns, '1' **after** 20ns, '0' **after** 30ns;

X5 <= '1';                                    delta

The figure above shows the timing implied by the statements shown in the previous slides assuming that all statements executed at time *t.*

# 2.1.2 Variable data objects

```
entity nand2 is
port (A, B:   in  bit;
      C   :   out  bit );
end entity nand2;
```

```
architecture dataflow  of
nand2 is
   signal S: bit;
begin
      S <= A and B;
      C <= not S;
end architecture dataflow;
```

- Variables are used to hold temporary data.

## Where to declare a variable?

- within the processes, functions and procedures in which they are used   `architecture`

## How to declare a variable?

**variable** variable_name : variable_type [:= initial_value];

## Examples:

**variable** address **:** bit_vector **(**15 **downto** 0**)** := x"0000";

**variable** index**: integer range** 0 **to** 10 := 0**;**

---

## Variable assignment

In contrast to signal assignment, a variable assignment <mark>takes effect immediately.</mark>

Variables are assigned using the ":=" operator. e.g.

A := '1';

ROM_A(5) := ROM_A(0);

STAR_COLOR := GREEN;

# 2.1.3 Constant data objects

- A constant is an object which is <mark>initialized</mark> to a specific value when it is created, and which cannot be subsequently modified.

---

# Where can constants be declared?

- Declarative section of an architecture
- Declarative section of a process

# How to declare a constant?

**constant** constant_name : constant_type [:= initial_value];

(     ) 0   FALSE……

# Examples:

**constant** yes : **boolean** := TRUE;

**constant** msb : **integer** := 5;

```
entity nand2 is
port (A, B:   in  bit;
     C   :    out  bit );
end entity nand2;
```

```
architecture dataflow  of
nand2 is
   signal S: bit;
begin
       S <= A and B;
       C <= not S;
end architecture dataflow;
```

# 2.2 Data types

- The type of a signal, variable, or constant object specifies:

  – the range of values it may take

  – the set of operations that can be performed on it.

The VHDL language supports a predefined standard set of type definitions as well as enables the definition of new types by users.

# 8 types commonly used:

- bit                    4
- bit_vector
- integer
- boolean
- array
- enumeration
- std_logic
- std_logic_vector

# Bit and Bit_vector

Bit type has two values, '0' and '1'.

**Example:**

**signal** a **: bit** := '0';
**variable** b : **bit** ;

Bit_vector is an array where each element is of type bit.

**Example:**
**signal c :** bit_vector (3 **downto** 0) **:= "1000";** *-- recommended*
**signal d :** bit_vector (0 **to** 3) **:= "1000";**

# INTEGER type

INTEGER type represents positive, negative numbers and 0.

By default, an INTEGER signal has 32 bits and can represent numbers from $-2^{31}$ to $2^{31}-1$. The code does not specifically give the number of bits in the signal.

Integers with fewer bits than 32 can be declared, using the RANGE keyword.

**Example:**

**signal** x **: integer range** $-128$ **to** 127;

This defines *x* as an eight-bit signed number.

# BOOLEAN type

An object of type BOOLEAN can have the values TRUE or FALSE, where TRUE is equivalent to 1 and FALSE to 0.

**Example:**
> **signal** flag **: boolean;**
> **constant** correct **: boolean** := **TRUE;**

# ENUMERATION type

**An ENUMERATION type is defined by listing all possible values of that type. All of the values of an enumeration type are user-defined.**

**type** enumerated_type_name **is**  (name {, name}); {}      0

The most common example of using the ENUMERATION type is for specifying the states for a finite-state machine.

**Example:**

> **type** State_type **is (**stateA, stateB, stateC**);**
> **signal y :** State_type := stateB **;**

When the code is translated by the VHDL compiler, it automatically assigns bit patterns (codes) to represent stateA, stateB and stateC.

# ARRAY type

**ARRAY types group one or more elements of the same type together as a single object.**

**type** array_type_name **is array** (index_range) **of** element_type;

**Example:**

> **type** byte **is array (**7 **downto** 0) **of bit;**
> **type** word **is array (**15 **downto** 0) **of bit;**
> **type** memory **is array (** 0 **to** 4095 **) of** word;
>
> **signal** program_counter**:** word := ”0101010101010101”;
> **variable** data_memory**:** memory;

To refer individual elements of array:                6
> program_counter(5 **downto** 0) accesses the 6 LSBs of program_counter.
> data_memory(0) accesses the first record in memory.

---

# std_logic and std_logic_vector

std_logic provides more flexibility than the **bit**.
To use, you must include the two statements:

> **library** ieee;
> **use** ieee.std_logic_1164.all;

std_logic_vector type represents an array of std_logic objects.

> type std_logic is
> (
>   'U',     *-- uninitialized*
>   'X',     *-- unknown*   1     0
>   '0',     *-- forcing 0*
>   '1',     *-- forcing 1*
>   'Z',     *-- high impedance*
>   'W',   *-- weak unknown*
>   'L',     *-- weak 0*
>   'H',     *-- weak 1*
>   '-'     *-- don't care*
> );

# Example

**signal** x1,x2,Cin,Cout,Sel  : std_logic;

**signal** C            : std_logic_vector (1 **to** 4);

**signal** X,Y,S        : std_logic_vector (3 **downto** 0);


std_logic  objects are often used in logic expressions.

std_logic_vector objects can be ==used as binary numbers== in arithmetic circuits by including in the code the following statement

      **use** ieee.std_logic_signed.all;

  or

      **use** ieee.std_logic_unsigned.all;

# VHDL is strongly typed

- VHDL is a strongly type-checked language. Even for objects that intuitively seem compatible, like **bit** and *std_logic*, one cannot be assigned to another.

Recommendation:

- use *std_logic* and *std_logic_vector* types

# 2.3 Operators

| | Operator Class | Operator |
|---|---|---|
| Lowest precedence | Logical | and, or, nand, nor, xor, xnor |
| | Relational | =, /=, <, <=, >, >= |
| | shift | sll, srl, sla, sra, rol, ror |
| | Adding | +, −, & |
| | Sign | +, − |
| | Multiplying | *, /, mod, rem |
| Highest precedence | Miscellaneous | **, abs, not |

---

### 1. Logic operators
E.g. sig <= "11001" and "10011';
    sig gets value "10001"

Operators on the same line have equal precedence and must be **parenthesized** when necessary.

X5 <= (X1 **and** X2) **or** (X3 **and** X4 );
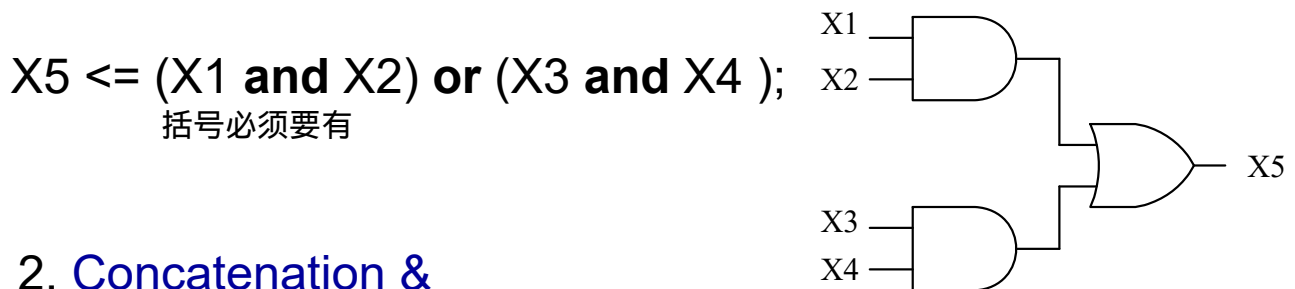


### 2. Concatenation &
E.g. sig2 <= "001" & sig (3 **downto** 1);
    sig2 gets value "001000"

| Operator | Description | Data type of a | Data type of b | Data type of result |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| a ** b | exponentiation | integer | | |
| **abs** a | absolute value | integer | | |
| **not** a | negation | boolean, bit, bit_vector | | |
| a * b, a / b, a **mod** b, a **rem** b | multiplication, division, modulo, remainder | integer | | |
| +a, -a | identity, negation | integer | | integer |
| a + b, a - b | addition, subtraction, concatenation | integer | | |
| a & b | | 1D array, element | | |
| a **sll** b, a **srl** b, a **sla** b, a **sra** b, a **rol** b, a **ror** b | shift-left (right) logical, shift-left (right) arithmetic, rotate left (right) | bit_vector | integer | bit_vector |
| a = b, a /= b, a < b, a <= b, a > b, a >= b | | any | same as a | boolean |
| | | scalar or 1D array | same as a | boolean |
| a **and** b, a **or** b, a **xor** b, a **nand** b, a **nor** b, a **xnor** b | | boolean, bit, bit_vector | same as a | same as a |

## Table: Overloaded operators in the IEEE std_logic_1164 package

| Overloaded operator | Data type of a | Data type of b | Data type of result |
|---|---|---|---|
| **not** a | std_logic_vector std_logic | | same as a |
| a **and** b, a **or** b, a **xor** b, a **nand** b, a **nor** b, a **xnor** b | std_logic_vector std_logic | same as a | same as a |

## Table: Functions in the IEEE std_logic_1164 package

| Function | Data type of a | Data type of result |
|---|---|---|
| to_bit(a) | std_logic | bit |
| to_stdulogic(a) | bit | std_logic |
| to_bitvector(a) | std_logic_vector | bit_vector |
| to_stdlogicvector(a) | bit_vector | std_logic_vector |

# Use of conversion functions

**signal** s1, s2, s3: std_logic_vector(7 **downto** 0);
**Signal** b1, b2: bit_vector(7 **downto** 0);

The following statements are **wrong** because of data type mismatch

s1 <= b1;  *-- bit_vector assigned to std_logic_vector*
b2 <= s1 **and** s2; *-- std_logic_vector assigned to bit_vector*
s3 <= b1 **or** s2; *-- or is undefined between bit_vector and*
                *--std_logic_vector*

We can use the conversion function to correct these problems

s1 <= to_stdlogicvector(b1);
b2 <= to_bitvector(s1 **and** s2);
s3 <= to_stdlogicvector(b1) **or** s2; *-- or*
s3 <= to_stdlogicvector(b1 **or** to_bitvector(s2));

# 2.4 Lexical elements

- The lexical elements are the basic syntactical units in a VHDL program.
    - comments,
    - identifiers,
    - reserved words,
    - number, characters and strings.

# 2.4.1 Comments

- A comment starts with two dashes, --, followed by the comment text.
- The comments are for documentation purpose only.

-- *************************************************

-- *example of entity*

-- *************************************************

**entity** example **is**

--*……*

**end entity** example**;**

# 2.4.2 Identifier

- Identifiers are used as names for signals, variables, constants, as well as entities, architectures and so on.
- A basic identifier is a sequence of characters that may be
  - upper or lower case letters and digits 0 - 9
  - underscore ("_") character
- VHDL language is **NOT** case sensitive.
- The first character must be a letter and the last character must **NOT** be "_"
- Two successive underscores "__" are **NOT** allowed.
    - Select, ALU_in, Mem_data, Two_dash_ok √
    - 12Select, _start, out_, Not__Allow, dot#3  X

# 2.4.3 Preserved words

- Some words are reserved in VHDL to form the basic language constructs.

  abs, access, after, alias, all, and, architecture, array, assert, attribute, begin, block, body, buffer, bus, case, component, configuration, constant, disconnect, downto, else, elsif, end, entity, exit, file, for, function, generate, generic, guarded, if, impure, in, inertial, inout, is, label, library, linkage, literal, loop, map, mod, nand, new, next, nor, not, null, of, on, open, or, others, out, package, port, postponed, procedure, process, pure, range, record, register, reject, rem, report, return, rol, ror, select, severity, shared, signal, sla, sll, sra, srl, subtype, then, to, transport, type, unaffected units, until, use, variable, wait, when, while, with, xnor, xor

# 2.4.4 Numbers, characters and strings

- A Number in VHDL can be
  - integer, such as 0, 1234, and 98E7
  - real, such as 0., 1.23456, or 9.87E6
  - represented in other number bases:
    - 45 = 2#101101# = 16#2D#

- A character in VHDL is enclosed in single quotation marks,
  - such as 'A', 'Z', '3'.
  - 1 and '1' are different.

- A string in VHDL is a sequence of characters enclosed in double quotation marks:
  - such as "Hello", "10000111".
  - 2#10110010# and "10110010" are different

# Chapter 3. Concurrent Statement

- The operation of digital system is inherently concurrent.
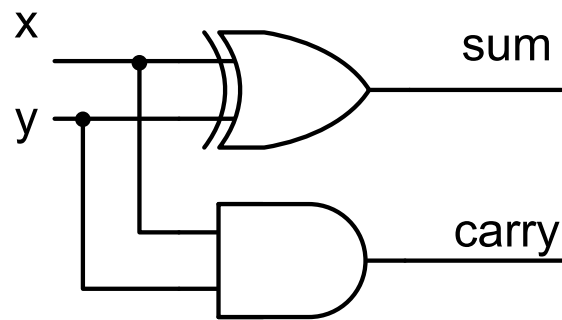


- Within VHDL signals are assigned values using signal assignment statements.

  sum <= (x **xor** y) **after** 5 ns

---

- Multiple signal assignment statements are executed concurrently in simulated time and are referred to as concurrent signal assignment statements (CSAs).
- There are several forms of CSA statements:
  - Simple CSA
  - Conditional signal assignment
  - Selected Signal assignment

# 3.1 Simple CSA

**architecture** concurrent_behavior **of** half_adder **is**

**begin**

    sum <= ( x **xor** y) **after** 5 ns;

    carry <= (x **and** y) **after** 5 ns;

**end architecture** concurrent_behavior;

- General form:

    target <= expression;

        expression is logical, comparative or arithmetic operations.

- The execution of the statements is determined by the flow of signal, rather than textual order.

---

# Half_adder

**library** IEEE;
**use** IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;

**entity** half_adder **is**
**port (**x, y **: in** std_logic**;**
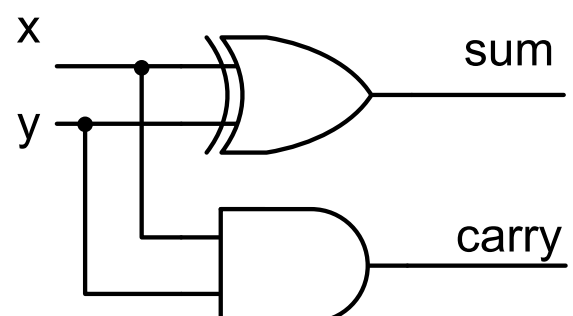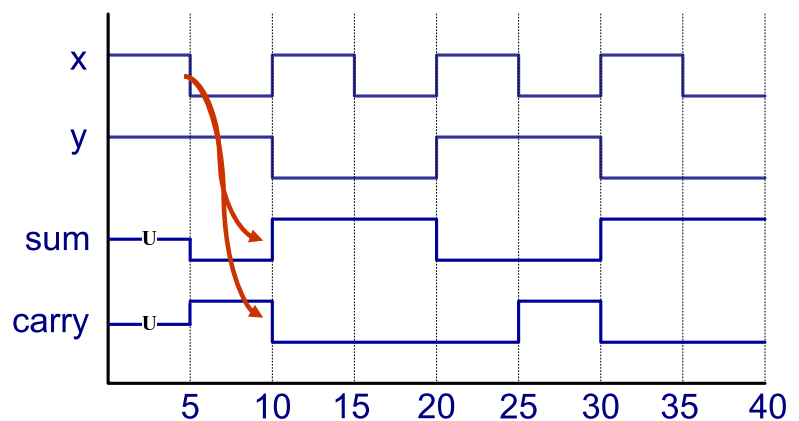    sum, carry **: out** std_logic**);**
**end entity** half_adder;

**architecture** concurrent_behavior **of** half_adder **is**
**begin**
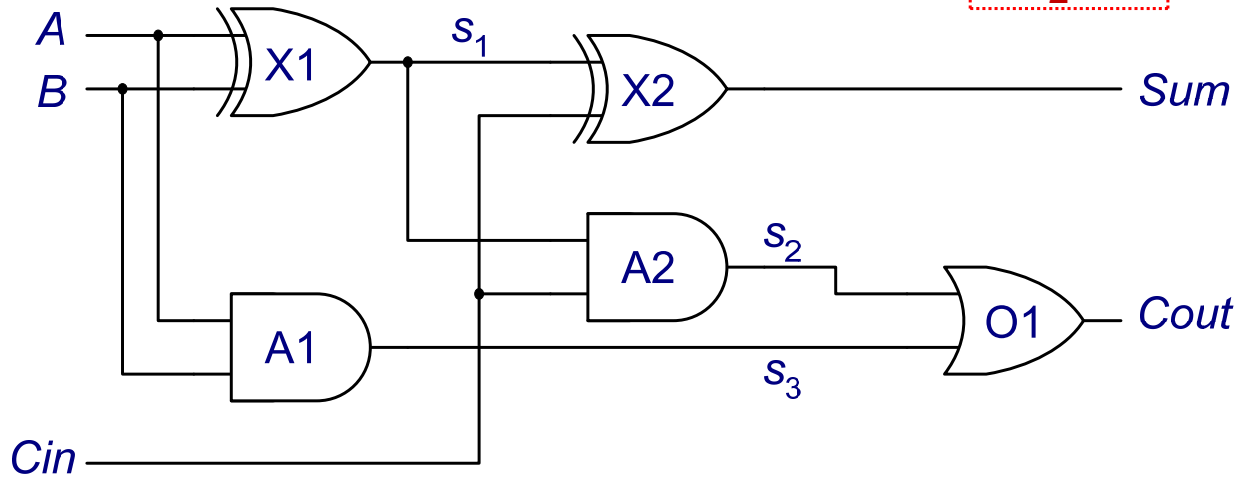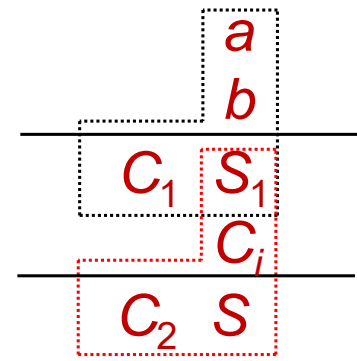    sum <= ( x **xor** y) **after** 5 ns;
    carry <= (x **and** y) **after** 5 ns;
**end architecture** concurrent_behavior;
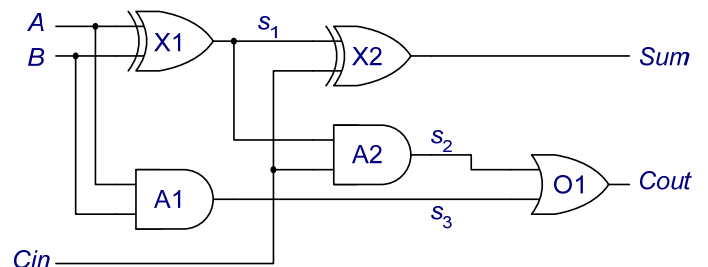
    event                event

# full_adder

---



```
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;

entity full_adder is
port (A, B, Cin : in std_logic;
        Sum, Cout: out std_logic);
end entity full_adder;
```

type time

```
architecture dataflow of full_adder is
    signal s1, s2, s3 : std_logic;
    constant gate_delay : time := 10 ns;
begin
    L1: s1 <= (A xor B) after gate_delay;
    L2: s2 <= (Cin and s1) after gate_delay;
    L3: s3 <= (A and B) after gate_delay;
    L4: sum <= (s1 xor Cin) after gate_delay;
    L5: cout <= (s2 or s3) after gate_delay;
end architecture dataflow;
```

Architecture declarative segment

Architecture body

constant object

L1: s1 <= (A **xor** B) **after** gate_delay;
L2: s2 <= (Cin **and** s1) **after** gate_delay;
L3: s3 <= (A **and** B) **after** gate_delay;
L4: sum <= (s1 **xor** Cin) **after** gate_delay;
L5: cout <= (s2 **or** s3) **after** gate_delay;
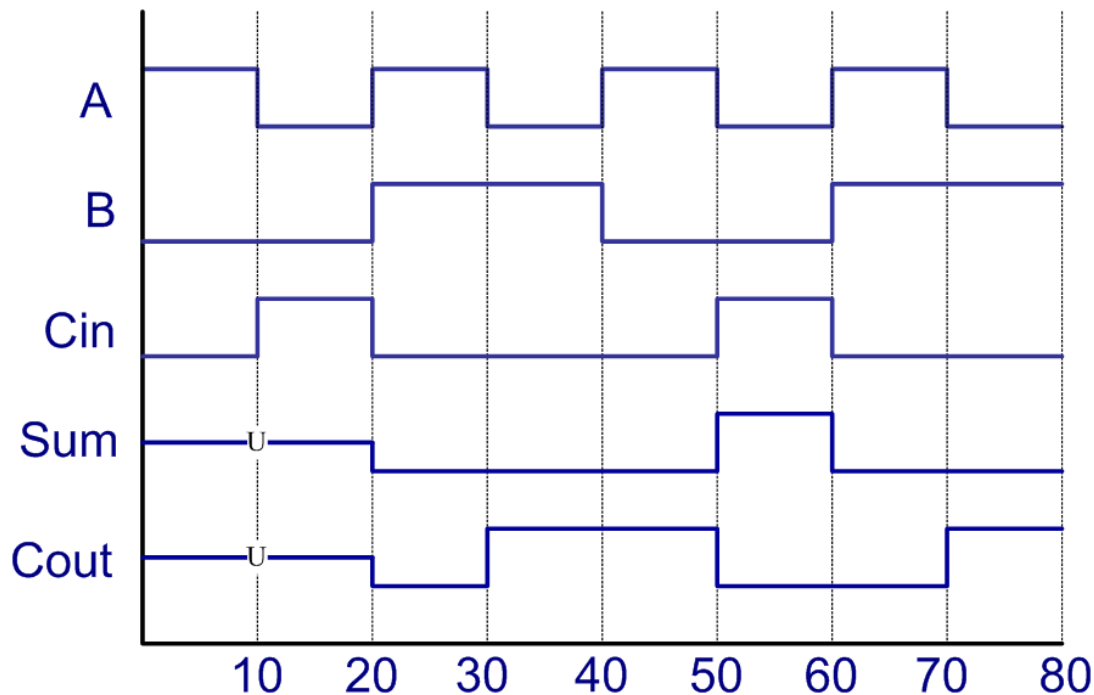
# 3.2 Conditional signal assignment

- Simple CSAs is convenient for describing gate-level circuits whose behavior can be expressed with Boolean equations.

- It is useful to model circuits at higher levels of abstraction such as multiplexors and decoders.

## 4-to-1, 8-bit multiplexor
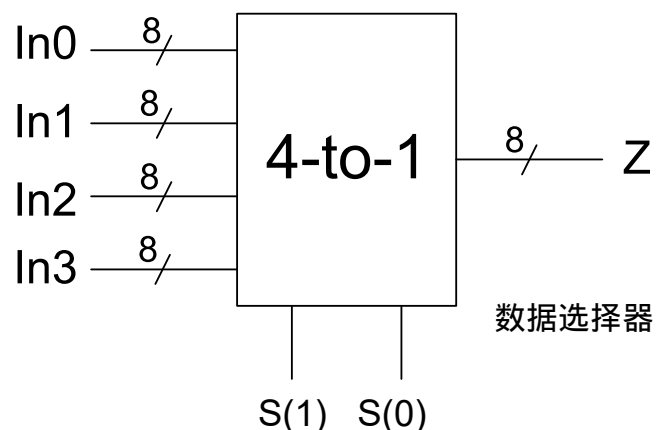
```vhdl
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;

entity mux4 is
port (In0, In1, In2, In3 : in std_logic_vector (7 downto 0);
      S: in std_logic_vector(1 downto 0);
      Z : out std_logic_vector (7 downto 0) );
end entity mux4;
```

```vhdl
architecture con_arch1 of mux4 is
begin
   Z <=  In0 when S = "00" else
         In1 when S = "01" else
         In2 when S = "10" else
         In3;
end architecture con_arch1;
```

```vhdl
architecture con_arch2 of mux4 is
begin
Z <= In0 when S = "00" else
     In1 when S = "01" else
     In2 when S = "10" else
     In3 when S = "11" else
     "XXXXXXXX";
end architecture con_arch2;
```

when else

s    11           else
              S

---

- The conditional signal assignment itself is a concurrent signal assignment.
- It has one target, but can have more than one expression.
  General form:

   target <=    {expression} when {condition} else
                {expression} when {condition} else

                ......               expression  condition
                {expression};
- When this CSA is executed, the expressions in the right hand side are evaluated in the order that they appear.
  – The order of the expressions with their respective conditions inside the statement is important.
- Even there are several lines of text, this corresponds to only one signal assignment statement.

**4-to-2 priority encoder**

S(3) ─┐
S(2) ─┤  4-to-2
S(1) ─┤  priority   ├─ 2/ Z
S(0) ─┘  encoder
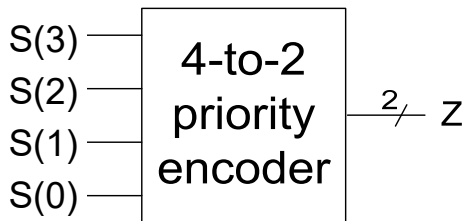
Assume that S(3) has the highest priority

```vhdl
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;

entity pr_encoder is
port (S: in std_logic_vector(3 downto 0);
        Z : out std_logic_vector (1 downto 0) );
end entity pr_encoder;
```

```vhdl
architecture con_behavioral of pr_encoder is
begin
    Z <= "11" when S(3) = '1' else
         "10" when S(2) = '1' else
         "01" when S(1) = '1' else
         "00" when S(0) = '1' else
         "00";
end architecture con_behavioral;
```

# 3.3 Selected signal assignment

- It is similar to the conditional signal assignment statement.

- The value of a target signal is determined by the value of a select expression.

- Example: the same 4-1 multiplexer.

In0 ─8/─┐
In1 ─8/─┤  4-to-1  ├─ 8/ ─ Z
In2 ─8/─┤
In3 ─8/─┘
        S(1)  S(0)

```vhdl
architecture sel_behavioral of mux4 is
begin
    with S select
        Z <= In0 when "00",
             In1 when "01",  else
             In2 when "10",
             In3 when others;
end architecture sel_behavioral;
```

**with** S **select**
   Z <= In0 **when** "00",  ✗  Why?
      In1 **when** "01",
      In2 **when** "10",
      In3 **when** "11";

s
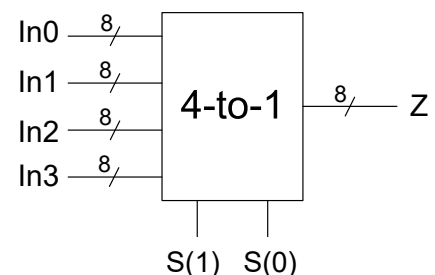
**with** S **select**
  Z <= In0 **when** "00",  √
     In1 **when** "01",
     In2 **when** "10",
     In3 **when** "11",
     "XXXXXXXX" **when others;**

---

**4-to-2 priority encoder based on a selected signal assignment statement**

S(3) ─┐
S(2) ─┤  4-to-2
S(1) ─┤  priority   ─ $^2$⁄ Z
S(0) ─┘  encoder
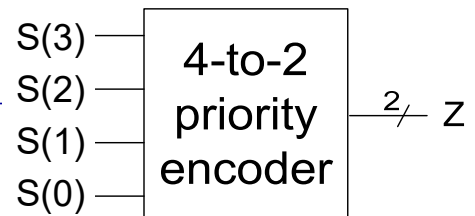
**architecture** sel_arch **of** pr_encoder **is**
**begin**
  **with** S **select**
   Z <= "11" **when** "1000" | "1001" | "1010" | "1011" |
           "1100" | "1101" | "1110" | "1111",
     "10" **when** "0100" | "0101" | "0110" | "0111",
√     "01" **when** "0010" | "0011",
     "00" **when** others;
**end architecture** behavioral

Why?

**architecture** sel_arch **of** pr_encoder **is**
**begin**
  **with** S **select**           1---
   Z <= "11" **when** "1---",
     "10" **when** "01--",
     "01" **when** "001-",  ✗
     "00" **when** others;
**end architecture** behavioral

- The choices for the select expression are not evaluated in sequence.
- All choices are evaluated, but one and only one must be true.
- All of the choices that the programmer specifies must cover all the possible values of the select expression.
- When an event occurs on a signal used in the select expression, or any of the signals used in one of the choices, the statement is executed.

# 3.4 Understanding delays

- Accurate representation of the behavior of digital circuits requires accurate modeling of delays through the various components.
- Three types of delay models
  - Inertial delay model
  - Transport delay model
  - Delta delay

# 3.4.1 The inertial delay model

- Digital circuits takes a finite amount of time for the output of a gate to respond to a change on the input.
- This implies that the change on the input has to persist for a certain period of time to ensure that the output will response.
- If it does not persist long enough the input events will not be propagated to the output.
- This propagation delay model is referred to as the inertial delay model.
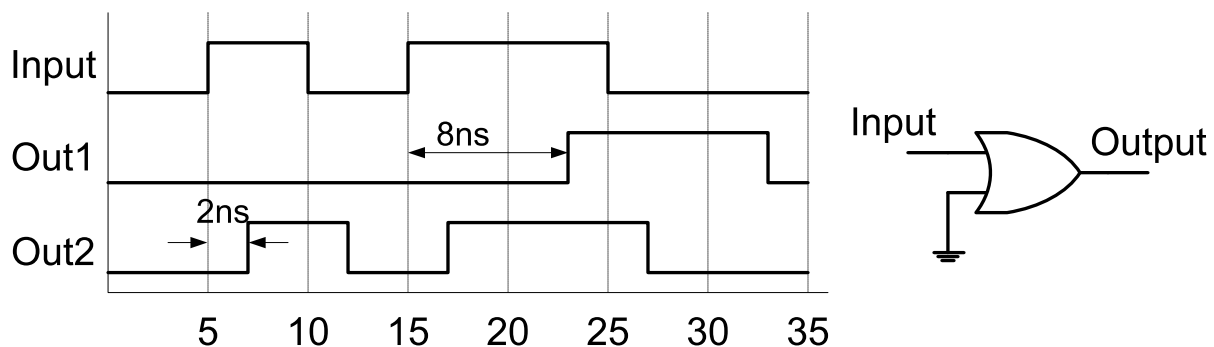
Out1 <= Input **or** '0' **after** 8 ns;
Out2 <= Input **or** '0' **after** 2 ns;

5ns+8ns=13ns   Out1

intertial delay

- Any pulse in the input with a width of less than the propagation delay through the gate is said to be rejected.
- often used for component delays
- Default in VHDL program

# 3.4.2 The transport delay model

- Transport delay models the delays in hardware that do not exhibit any inertial delay.

- This delay represents pure propagation delay; that is, any changes on an input are transported to the output, no matter how small of the width, after the specified delay.

- Keyword **transport** is used in a signal assignment statement for transport delay model.
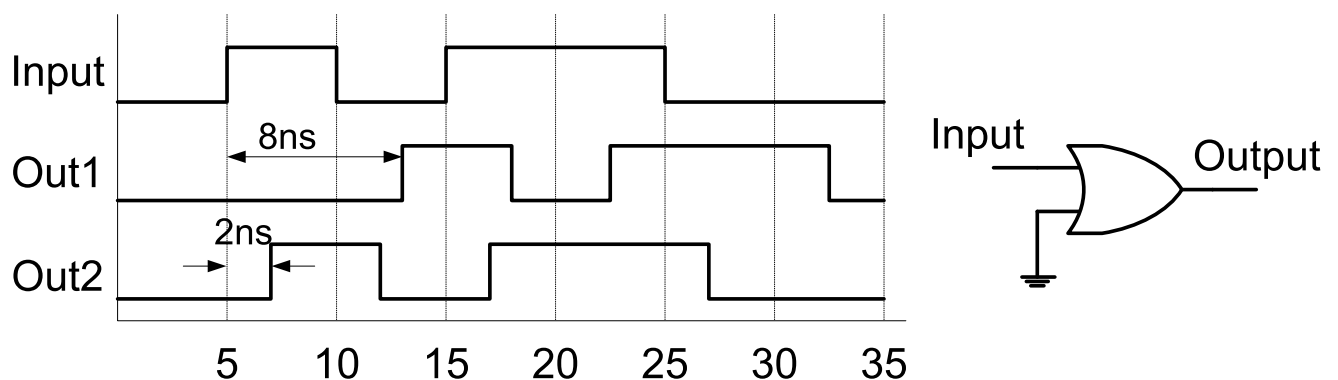
Out1 <= **transport** (Input **or** '0') **after** 8 ns;
Out2 <= **transport** (Input **or** '0') **after** 2 ns;

- Pulses are propagated, irrespective of width
- good for interconnect delays.

# 3.4.3 Delta Delays

- If we do not specify a delay for the occurrence of an event on a signal, for example

  sum <= (x **xor** y);

  a delta delay is assumed by the simulator

- Delta delay is an infinitesimally small delay, $\Delta$.

- In a signal assignment, the value is not assigned to the signal directly but after a delta delay at the earliest.

- Delta delays are simply used to enforce dependencies between events and thereby ensure correct simulation.
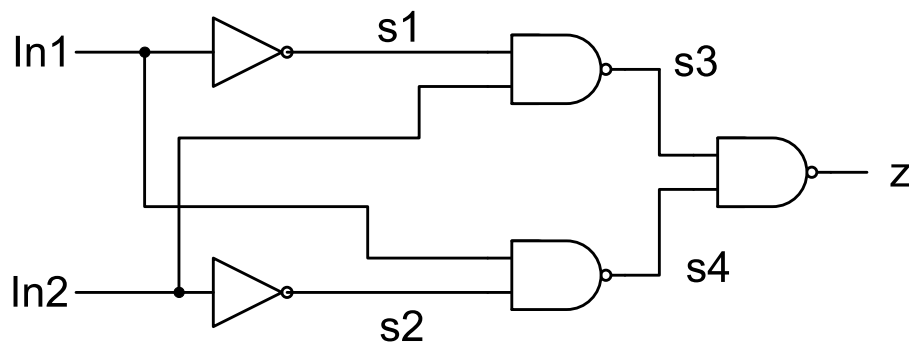
```
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;

entity combinational is
port (In1, In2 : in std_logic;
      z : out std_logic);
end entity combinational;
```

```
architecture behavior of combinational is
    signal s1, s2, s3, s4 : std_logic := 0;
begin
    s1 <= not In1;
    s2 <= not In2;
    s3 <= not (s1 and In2);
    s4 <= not (s2 and In1);
    z <= not (s3 and s4);
end architecture behavior;
```
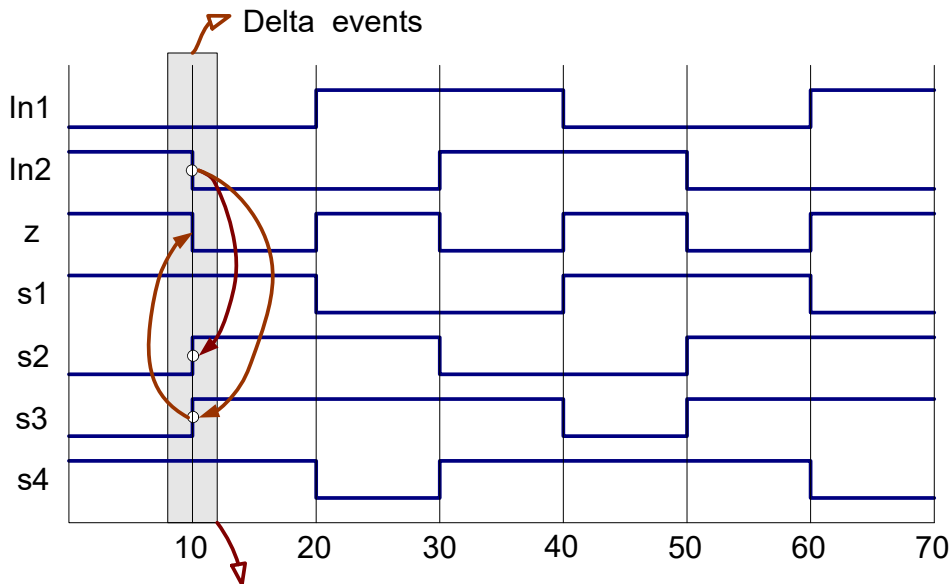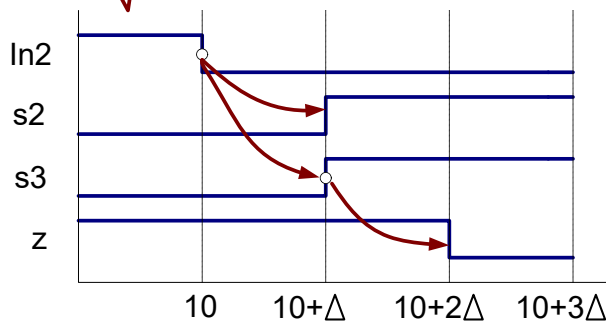
## Slide 93



Delta events

In1
In2                                                              delta delay
z
s1
s2
s3
s4

10   20   30   40   50   60   70

In2
s2
s3
z

10   10+△   10+2△   10+3△      in2

s1 <= **not** In1;
s2 <= **not** In2;
s3 <= **not** (s1 **and** In2);
s4 <= **not** (s2 **and** In1);
z <= **not** (s3 **and** s4);

---

## Slide 94

# Chapter 4. Sequential VHDL

- Sequential statements are specified inside a process.

- Processes represent fundamental method by which concurrent activities are modeled.

# 4.1. The process construct

A

B

C

D

process declarative section

sequential statement

```vhdl
entity ex_proc is
port (A, B:   in std_logic; C, D:   out std_logic );
end entity ex_proc;


architecture BEHAVIOR  of ex_proc is
begin
    process (A,B) is
      variable DELAYT : time : = 0 ns;
    begin
      DELAYT := DELAYT + 1 ns;
      if (A='1' and 'B'=1) then
        C <= '0' after DELAYT;
      else
        C <= '1' after DELAYT;
      end if;
    end process;
     D <= not B;
end architecture BEHAVIOR;
```

process statement

Two concurrent statements

---
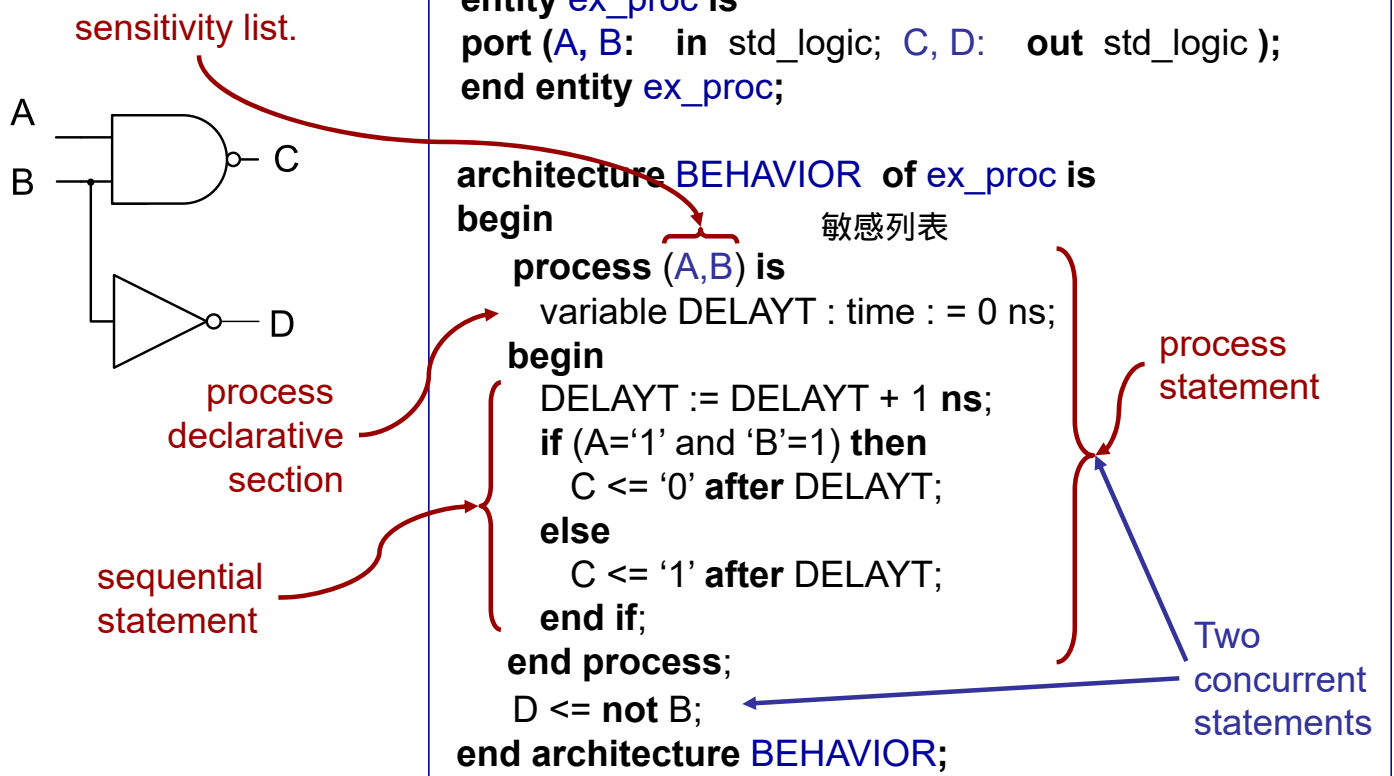
- A process is a large concurrent statement that itself contains a series of sequential statements.


- The body of the process is treated by VHDL as a single concurrent statement and is executed at the same time as all other concurrent statements in the simulation.

# Process with a sensitivity list

- The sensitivity list is a list of signal to which the process responds.

```
signal a, b, c, y: std_logic; -- in architecture declaration
…
process (a, b, c) -- in architecture body
begin
    y <= a and b and c; -- infer a combinational circuit
end process;
```

```
signal a, b, c, y: std_logic;
…
process (a) -- a process with incomplete sensitivity list
            -- not infer a combinational circuit
begin
    y <= a and b and c;
end process;
```

# Process with a wait statement

- A process with wait statements has one or more wait statement but no sensitivity list.

  **wait on** signals;

  **wait until** boolean_expression;

  **wait for** time_expression;

```
process
begin
    y <= a and b and c;
    wait on a, b, c;
end process;
```

In synthesis, only few well defined forms of wait statement can be used, and normally only one wait statement is allowed in a process. **Not recommended.**

**process** (a, b) **is**
**begin**
    c <= a **and** b;
**end process**;

sensitivity list. The process will be activated if either a or b (or both) changes states

**Process is**
**begin**
    c <= a **and** b;
    **wait on** a, b;
**end process**;

A process can have wait statement or sensitivity list, but not both

**process is**
**begin**
    c <= a **and** b;
**end process**;

This is an infinite loop.

# 4.2. Sequential statements

- sequential signal assignment statement
- variable assignment statement
- if statement
- case statement
- null statement
- wait statement
- loop statement
- exit statement
- next statement

# 4.2.1 Signal assignment statement

*Signal-object <= expression* [**after** *delay-value*];

- Outside a process – concurrent signal assignment statement

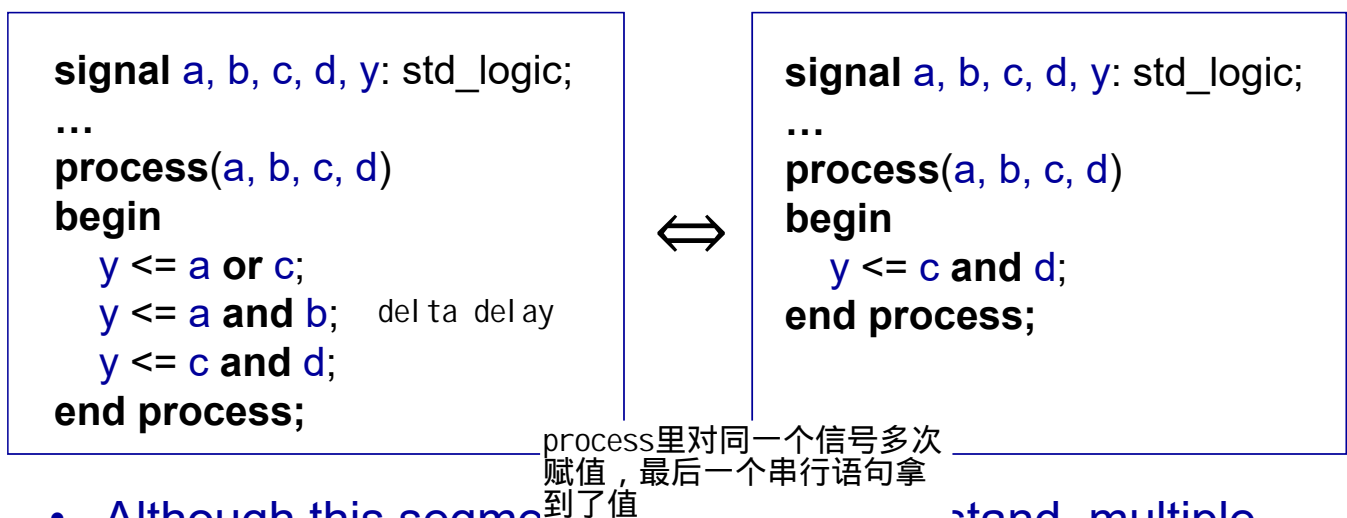- Within a process – sequential signal assignment, executed in sequence with respect to the other sequential statement which appear within that process.

- When a signal assignment statement is executed, the value of expression is computed immediately, and this computed value is scheduled to be assigned to the signal after the specified delay.

---

- Inside a process, a signal can be assigned multiple times. If all assignments are with $\delta$-delay, only the last assignment takes effect.

```
signal a, b, c, d, y: std_logic;
…
process(a, b, c, d)
begin
   y <= a or c;
   y <= a and b;   delta delay
   y <= c and d;
end process;
                          process
```

$\Longleftrightarrow$

```
signal a, b, c, d, y: std_logic;
…
process(a, b, c, d)
begin
   y <= c and d;
end process;
```

- Although this segment is easy to understand, multiple assignment may introduce subtle mistakes in a more complex code and make synthesis very difficult.

- Unless there is a compelling reason, it is a good idea to avoid assign a signal multiple times in a process. The **only exception** is the assignment of a default value in the if and case statement.
- The result will be very different if the multiple assignments are the concurrent signal assignment statements

> **signal** a, b, c, d, y: std_logic;
>
> **…**
>
> *-- the statements are not inside a process*
>
> y <= a **or** c;
>
> y <= a **and** b;
>
> y <= c **and** d;

- The above code is syntactically correct.
- However, the design is incorrect because of the potential output conflict.

# 4.2.2 Variable assignment statement

- Variables can be declared and used inside a process statement.
- Variable assignment statement:

    *variable-object* := *expression*;

- Variable assignment is immediate.

```
Signal a, b, y : std_logic;
......
process (a, b) is
    variable temp : std_logic;
    begin
        temp := '0';
        temp := temp or a;
        temp := temp or b;
        y <= temp;
end process;   y<= 0 or a or b
```

Although the behavior of a variable is easy to understand, mapping it to hardware is difficult. **Not recommended.** We should try to use signal in code in general and resort to variable only for the characteristic that cannot be described by signals.

# 4.2.3 If statement

- An if statement selects a sequence of statements for execution based on the value of a condition.

- General form of an if statement

**if** *condition* **then** ← boolean type
   *sequential-statements*
**{ elsif** *condition* **then**
   *sequential-statements* **}**
**[ else**
   *sequential-statements* **]**
**end if;**

```
if SUM <=100 then
    SUM := SUM +100;
end if;

if NICKLE_IN then
    DEPOSITED <= T5;
elsif DIME_IN then
    DEPOSITED <= T10;
elsif QUARTER_IN then
    DEPOSITED <= T25;
else DEPOSITED <=Terror;
end if;
```
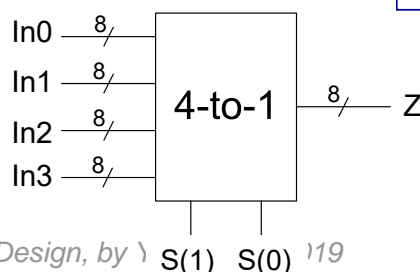
**Note the absence of the letter 'e' in elsif !**

---

## 4-to-1 multiplexer based on an if statement

```
architecture if_arch of mux4 is
begin
   process(In0, In1, In2, In3, S)
   begin
     if (S = "00") then
         Z <= In0;
     elsif (S = "01") then
         Z <= In1;
     elsif (S = "10") then
         Z <= In2;
     else Z <= In3;
     end if;
   end process;
end if_arch;
```

## 4-to-2 priority encoder based on an if statement

```
architecture if_arch of pr_encoder is
begin
   process(S)
   begin
     if (S(3) = '1') then
         Z <= "11";
     elsif (S(2) = '1') then
         Z <= "10";
     elsif (S(1) = '1') then
         Z <= "01";
     else Z <= "00";
     end if;
   end process;
end if_arch;
```
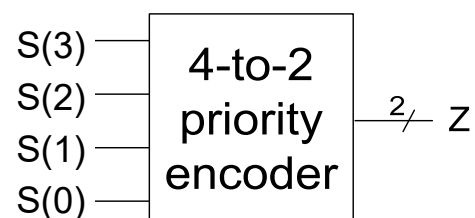
# Comparison to a conditional assignment statement

- An if statement is somewhat like a concurrent conditional signal assignment statement.

> sig <= value_exp1 **when** boolean_exp1 **else**
>      value_exp2 **when** boolean_exp2 **else**
>      value_exp3 **when** boolean_exp3 **else**
>      …
>      value_expn;

> **Process(…)**
> **begin**
>      **if** boolean_exp1 **then** sig <= value_exp1;
>      **elsif** boolean_exp2 **then** sig <= value_exp2;
>      **elsif** boolean_exp3 **then** sig <= value_exp3;
>      …
>      **else** sig <= value_expn;
>      **end if;**
> **end process;**

- The above two statements are equivalent.
- In general, equivalent only if each branch of the if statement consists of a single assignment of the same single signal.

- An if statement allows for arbitrary nesting of if statement.

```
process (CTRL1, CTRL2)
begin
  if CTRL1 = '1' then
    if CTRL2 = '0' then
        MUX_OUT <= "0010";
    else
        MUX_OUT <= "0001";
    end if;
  else
    if CTRL2 = '0' then
        MUX_OUT <= "1000";
    else
        MUX_OUT <= "0100"
    end if;
  end if;
end process;
```

**Write the** equivalent of conditional signal assignment

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# Incomplete if branch

- In VHDL, only the then branch is mandatory and the other branches can be omitted.

```
process (a, b)
begin
  if (a = b) then
    eq <= '1';
  else
    eq <= eq;
  end if;
end process;
```

=

```
process (a, b)
begin
  if (a = b) then
    eq <= '1';
  end if;
end process;
```

≠

```
process (a, b)
begin
  if (a = b) then
    eq <= '1';
  else
    eq <= '0';
  end if;
end process;
```

Imply a circuit with a closed feedback loop, which constitutes memory

Imply a combinational circuit

EE332 Digital System Design, by Yu Yajun -- 2019

# Incomplete signal assignment

```
process (a, b)
begin
  if (a > b) then
    gt <= '1';
  elsif (a=b) then
    eq <= '1';
  else
    lt <= '1';
  end if;
end process;
```

Imply a circuit with memories

≠

```
process (a, b)
begin
  if (a > b) then
    gt <= '1';
    eq <= '0';
    lt <= '0';
  elsif (a=b) then
    gt <= '0';
    eq <= '1';
    lt <= '0';
  else
    gt <= '0';
    eq <= '0';
    lt <= '1';
  end if;
end process;
```

=

```
process (a, b)
begin
  gt <= '0';
  eq <= '0';
  lt <= '0';
  if (a > b) then
    gt <= '1';
  elsif (a=b) then
    eq <= '1';
  else
    lt <= '1';
  end if;
end process;
```

Imply a combinational circuit

# 4.2.4 Case statement

- A case statement is a multiway branch based on the value of a control expression
- General form of a case statement

```
case expression is
  when choices =>
    {sequential-statements }
  { when choices =>
    { sequential-statements } }
end case;
```

integer type, enumerated type, one dimensional character array type such as BIT_VECTOR.

Must have the same type as the expression. either a static expression or a static range.

All possible value in the range of *expression*'s type must be covered by one and only one choice.
The final choice can be others, which match all remaining choices in the range of *expression*'s type.

# 4-to-1 multiplexer based on a case statement

```
architecture case_arch of mux4 is
begin
  process(In0, In1, In2, In3, S)
  begin
    case S is
      when "00" =>
        Z <= In0;
      when "01" =>
        Z <= In1;
      when "10" =>
        Z <= In2;
      when others =>
        Z <= In3;
    end case;
  end process;
end case_arch;
```
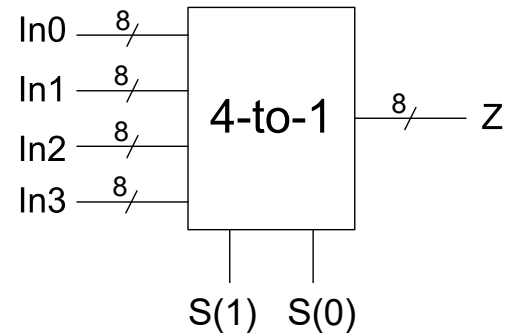
# 4-to-2 priority encoder based on a case statement

```
architecture case_arch of pr_encoder is
begin
  process(S)
  begin
    case S is
      when "1000" | "1001" | "1010" | "1011" |
           "1100" | "1101" | "1110" | "1111"  =>
        Z <= "11";
      when "0100" | "0101" | "0110" | "0111" =>
        Z <= "10";
      when "0010" | "0011" =>
        Z <= "01";
      when others =>
        Z <= "00";
    end case;
  end process;
end case_arch;
```
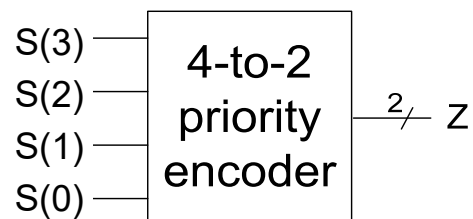
```vhdl
signal S1 : integer range 0 to 7;
Signal OU : bit;
signal I1, I2, I3 : bit;
……
select_process: process(S1, I1, I2, I3) is
begin
    case S1 is
        when 0 | 2 => OU <= '0' ; 0   2
        when 1 => OU <= I1;
        when 3 to 5 => OU <= I2;
        when others => OU <= I3;
    end case ;
end process select_process;
```

**Example:**
A two-process half-adder model

```vhdl
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
entity half_adder is
port (x, y : in std_logic; sum, carry : out std_logic);
end entity half_adder;
architecture behavior of half_adder is
begin
    sum_proc: process (x, y) is -- this process computes the value of sum
    begin
        if (x=y) then sum <= '0' after 5 ns;
        else sum <= (x or y) after 5 ns;
        end if;
    end process sum_proc;

    carry_proc: process (x,y) is -- this process computes the value of carry
    begin
        case x is
            when '0' => carry <= x after 5 ns;
            when '1' => carry <= y after 5 ns;
            when others => carry <= 'X' after 5 ns;
        end case;
    end process carry_proc;
end architecture behavior;
```

# 4.2.5 NULL statement

- The statement

      null;

  is a sequential statement that does not cause any action to take place;

  ```
  variable SEL        : integer range 0 to 31;
  variable V          : integer range 0 to 31;
  case SEL is
     when 0 to 15 => V := SEL;
     when others =>  null;
  end case;
  ```

# 4.3 More on process

- Upon initialization all processes are executed once, or suspended on some form of the wait statement reached.

- Thereafter, processes are executed in a data-driven manner: activated

  - by events on signals in the sensitivity list of the process or

  - by waiting for the occurrence of specific event using the wait statement.

```
wait
wait                            wait
     wait                       wait
process        wait    wait2
wait2             process            process
       wait1            wait1
```

**Example:**
Signal
assignment
with
process

```vhdl
library IEEE;
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;

entity sig_var is
port (x, y, z : in std_logic; res1, res2 : out std_logic);
end entity sig_var;

architecture behavior of sig_var is
signal sig_s1, sig_s2 : std_logic;
begin
    proc1: process (x, y, z) is
    variable var_s1, var_s2 : std_logic;
    begin
        L1: var_s1 := x and y;
        L2: var_s2 := var_s1 xor z;
        L3: res1 <= var_s1 nand var_s2;
    end process proc1;
    proc2: process (x, y, z) is
    begin
        L1: sig_s1 <= x and y;
        L2: sig_s2 <= sig_s1 xor z;
        L3: res2 <= sig_s1 nand sig_s2;
    end process proc2;
end architecture behavior;
```

sigs1  delta delay
         sigs2
            U     delta
  delay         U
       U
process

- All of the ports of the entity and the signals declared within an architecture are visible within a process.

- These port and signals can be read or assigned values from within a process; this is how processes can communicate among themselves.

**Example:**
Communicating
processes
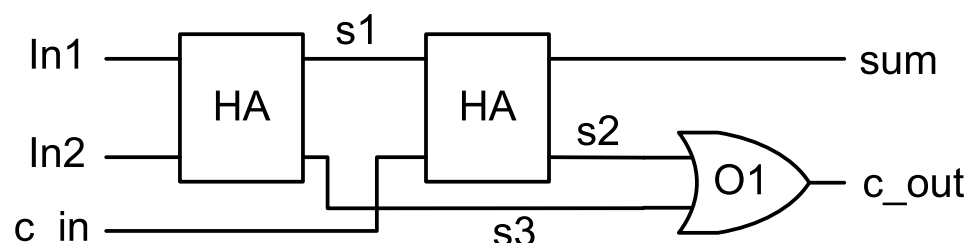


```vhdl
library IEEE
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all

entity full_adder is
port (In1, In2, c_in : in std_logic;
      sum, c_cout : out std_logic);
end entity full_adder;
```

**Example:**
Communi-cating processes (continued)

in1
process1
    process2, 3
process3

```vhdl
architecture behavioral of full_adder is
signal s1, s2, s3 : std_logic;
constant delay : time := 5 ns;
begin
    HA1: process (In1, In2) is – process describing the first half adder
    begin
        s1 <= (In1 xor In2) after delay;
        s3 <= (In1 and In2) after delay;
    end process HA1;

    HA2: process (s1, c_in) is – process describing the second half adder
    begin
        sum <= (s1 xor c_in) after delay;
        s2 <= (s1 and c_in) after delay;
    end process HA2;

    OR1: process (s2, s3) is -- process describing the two-input OR gate
    begin
        c_out <= (s2 or s3) after delay;
    end process OR1;
end architecture behavioral;
```
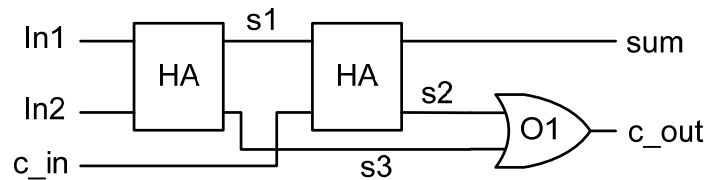
# Chapter 5: Modeling Structure

- Describing a system in terms of the interconnections of its components.

- Motivation

  - represent a digital system in hierarchical structure.

  - share components between developers.

# 5.1: Component

## NAND2 Gate
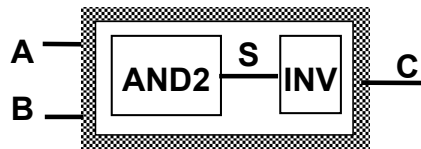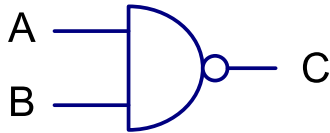
## Architecture: Structure style

Component declaration: a component instance needs to be bound to an entity
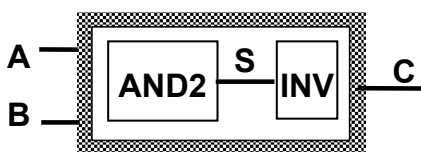


Component instantiation

```
entity NAND2 is
    port (A, B:  in  bit;   C   :   out  bit );
end entity NAND2;

architecture STRUCTURE  of  NAND2 is
    component AND2 is
        port (L1, L2 : in bit;
                L3      : out bit);
    end component AND2;
    component INV is
        port (L1 : in bit;
                L2: out bit);
    end component INV;
    signal S : BIT;
begin
    A1: AND2 port map (L1 => A,
        L2 => B, L3 => S);
    A2: INV port map (L1=>S, L2=> C);
end architecture STRUCTURE;
```

# Component instantiation

port_name                                    Actual signal name

A1 : AND2 **port map (**L1 => A, L2 => B, L3 => S**);**

> **Name association** - the syntax "port_name =>" is provided so that the order of the signals listed after PORT MAP keywords need **NOT** follow the order of the ports in the corresponding COMPONENT declaration.

A1 : AND2 **port map (**A, B, S**);**

> **Positional association** – if the signal names following the PORT MAP keywords are given in the same order in the COMPONENT  declaration, then "port_name =>" is not needed.

---

# Component Entity: AND2 and INV

```
entity AND2 is
port (L1, L2   : in  bit;
      L3 : out  bit );
end entity AND2;

architecture dataflow  of AND2 is
begin
    L3 <= L1 and L2;
end architecture dataflow;
```

```
entity INV is
port (L1 : in  bit;
      L2 : out  bit );
end entity INV;

architecture dataflow  of INV is
begin
    L2 <= not L1;
end architecture dataflow;
```

- Component Declaration
  - Defines the component's interface.
  - In the declaration region of an architecture
- Component Instantiation
  - Only the external view of the component is visible.
  - Must be preceded by a label.
  - Name association and positional association.

# Full Adder: Entity and architecture



**Behavior**

```
process (A, B, CIN) is
begin
   ….
end;
```

**Dataflow**

```
S <= A xor B;
Sum <= S xor Cin after 5ns;
Cout <=(A and B) or (S and Cin);
```

**Structure**
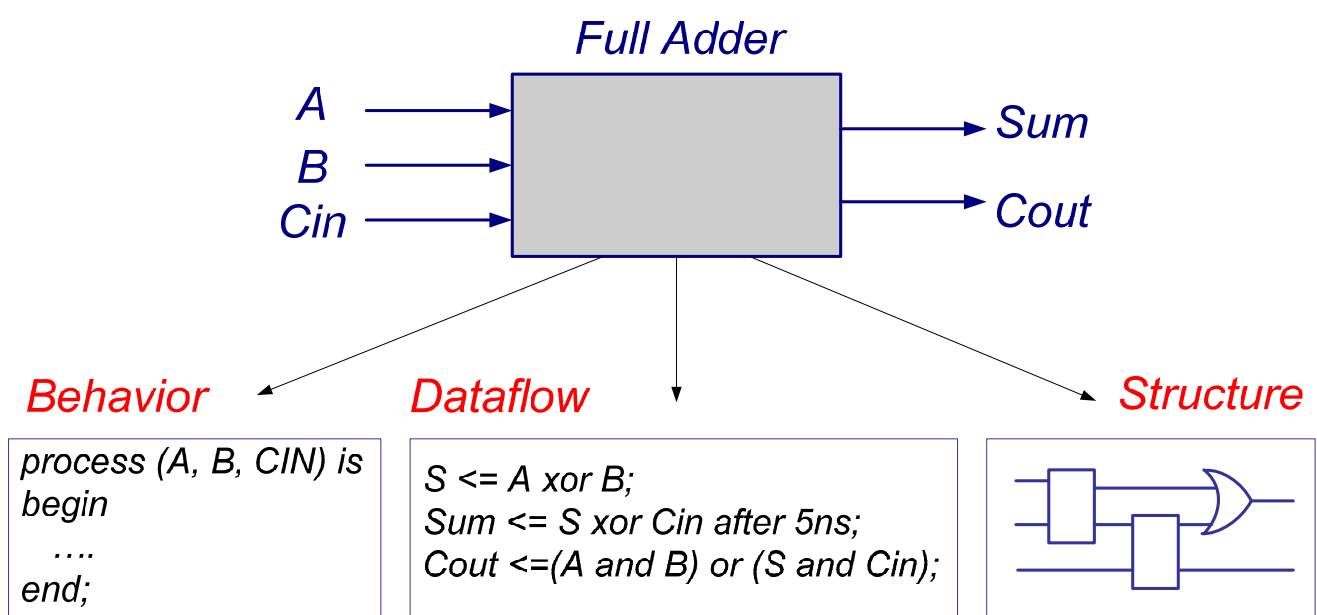
# Full Adder: Data flow style architecture

```
entity Full_Adder is
port (A, B, Cin   : in  bit;
       Sum, Cout : out  bit );
end entity Full_Adder;

architecture DATAFLOW  of Full_Adder is
    signal S: bit;
begin
    S <= A xor B;
    Sum <= S xor Cin after 5 ns;
    Cout <= (A and B) or (S and Cin);
end architecture DATAFLOW;
```

Time period between cause and effect. Signal pulse shorter than this time period is ignored.

# Full Adder: Behavioral style architecture

```
architecture behavioral of full_adder is
begin
  HA1: process (In1, In2, c_in) is
  begin
    case In1&In2&c_in is
        when "000" =>
          sum <= '0'; c_out <= '0';
        when "111" =>
          sum <= '1'; c_out <= '1';
        when "001" | "010" | "100" =>
          sum <= '1'; c_out <='0';
        when others =>
          sum <= '0'; c_out <='1';
    end case;
  end process HA1;
end architecture behavioral;
```

| In1 | In2 | c_in | sum | c_out |
|-----|-----|------|-----|-------|
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

# Full Adder:

**structural style architecture**
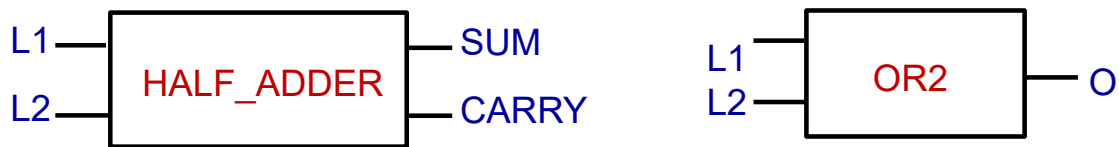


**architecture** STRUCTURE **of** Full_Adder **is**
    **component** HALF_ADDER **is**
      **port** (L1, L2 : **in bit**;  SUM, CARRY : **out bit**);
    **end component** HALF_ADDER;
    **component** OR2 **is**
      **port** (L1, L2 : **in bit**;   O: **out bit**);
    **end component** OR2;
    **signal** s1, s2, s3 : **BIT**
**begin**
    *-- see next page;*
 **end architecture** STRUCTURE**;**
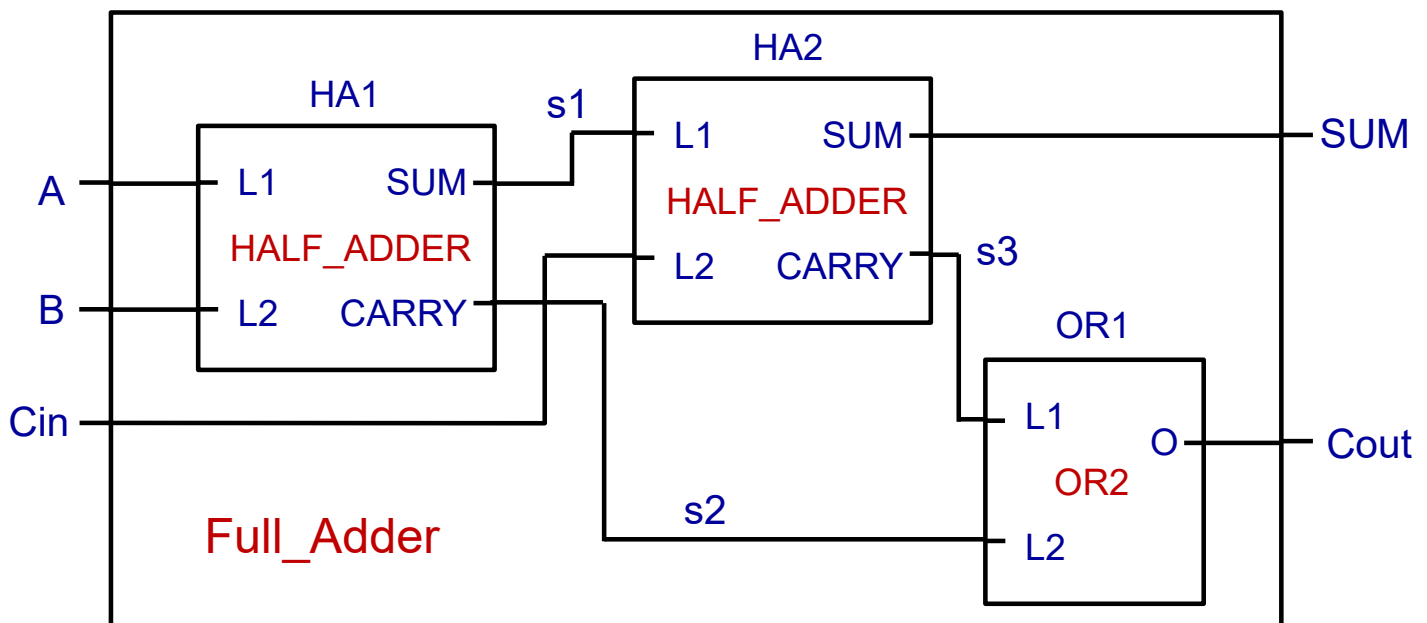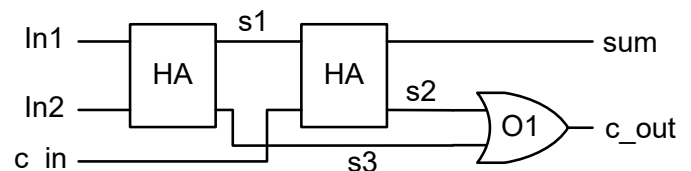
**architecture** STRUCTURE **of** Full_Adder **is**
    *-- Declare components and intermediate signal here.  See last page;*
**begin**
    HA1: HALF_ADDER **port map** (L1=>A, L2=>B, SUM=>s1, CARRY=>s2);
    HA2: HALF_ADDER **port map** (L1=>N1, L2=>CIN, SUM=>SUM,
          CARRY=>s3);
    OR1: OR2     **port map** (L1=>s3, L2=>s2, O=>COUT);
 **end architecture** STRUCTURE**;**

# Component Entity: Half_Adder

**entity** Half_Adder **is**
**port (**L1, L2 : **in** bit;
   Sum: **out** bit;
   Carry: **out** bit **);**
**end entity** Half_Adder;



**architecture** STRUCTURE **of** Half_Adder **is**
   **component** XOR2 **is**
      **port (**I0, I1: **in BIT**; O: **out** bit);
   **end component** XOR2;
   **component** AND2 **is**
      **port (**I0, I1 : **in BIT**; O: **out** bit);
   **end component** AND2;
**begin**
   U1: XOR2 **port map (**I0 => L1,
      I1 => L2, O => Sum);
   U2: AND2 **port map (**I0 => L1, I1 => L2,
      O => Carry);
**end architecture** STRUCTURE;

# Component Entity: OR2, AND2, XOR2

**entity** OR2 **is**
**port (**L1, L2: **in** bit; O: **out** bit **);**
**end entity** OR2;

**architecture** BHV **of** OR2 **is**
**begin**
   O <= L1 **or** L2 **after** 10 **ns**;
**end architecture** BHV;

**entity** AND2 **is**
**port (**I0, I1: **in** bit; O: **out** bit **);**
**end entity** AND2;

**architecture** dataflow **of** AND2 **is**
**begin**
   O <= I0 **and** I1;
**end architecture** dataflow;

**entity** XOR2 **is**
**port (**I0, I1: **in** bit; O: **out** bit **);**
**end entity** XOR2;

**architecture** BHV **of** XOR2 **is**
**begin**
   O <= I0 **xor** I1 **after** 10 **ns**;
**end architecture** BHV;

# Structural Decomposition: A design Hierarchy
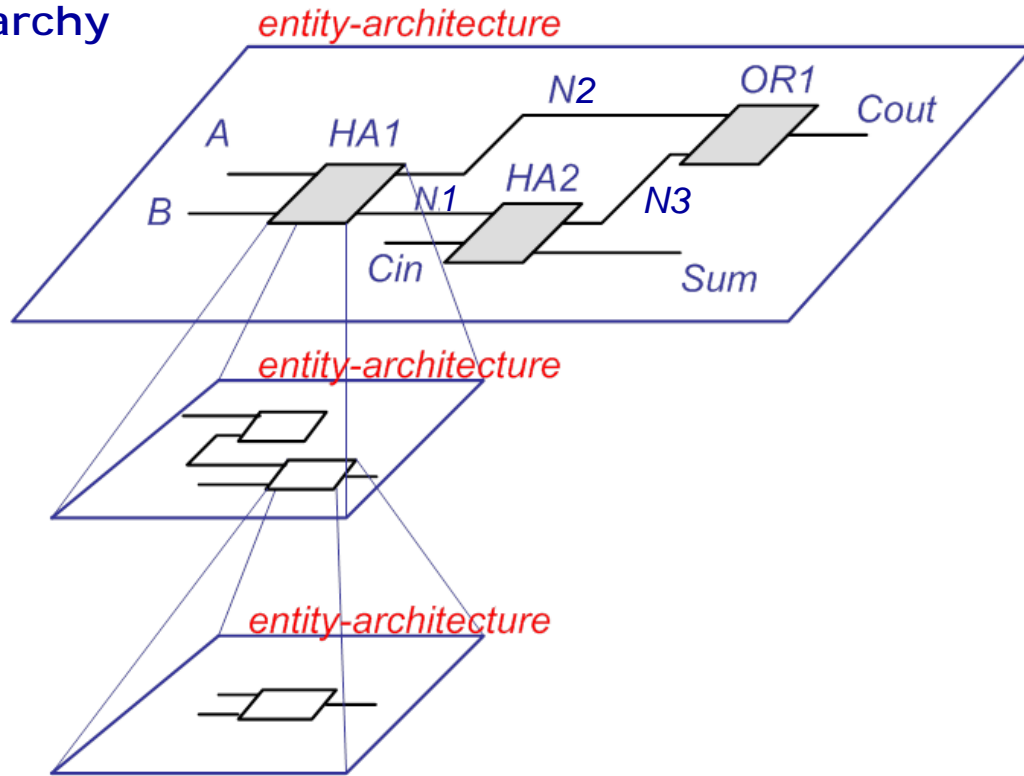
# Structural Decomposition: Design Tree



*Structural decomposition*

*Behavioral modeling*
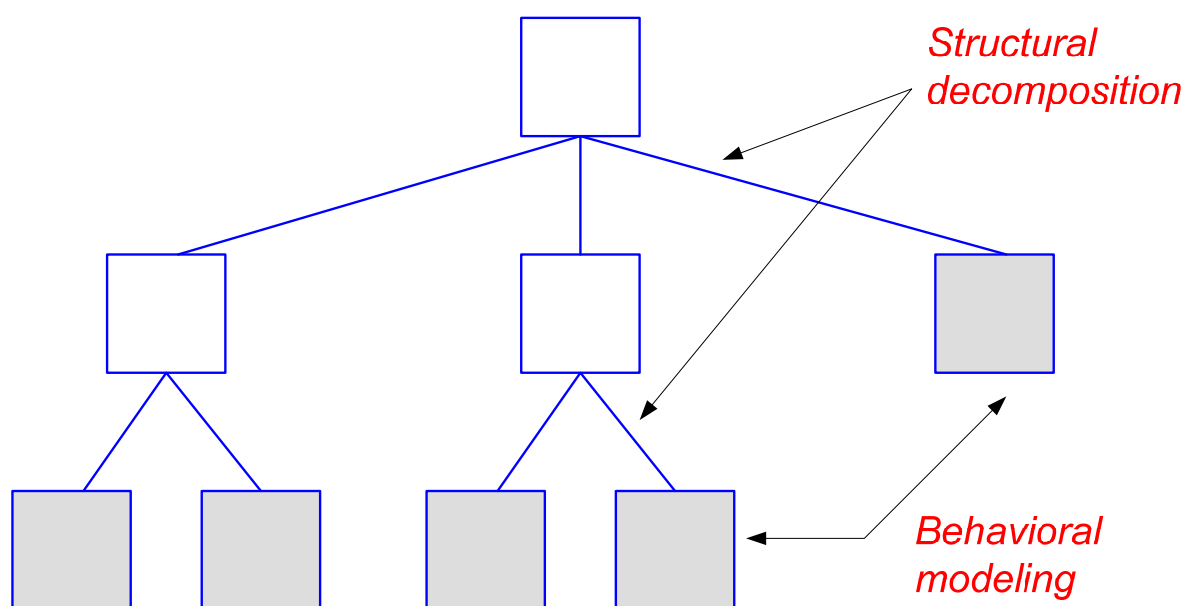
# 5.2. Configuration

- When there is more than one architecture for an entity, configuration explicitly specifies which architecture is to be used for the entity during component instantiation.
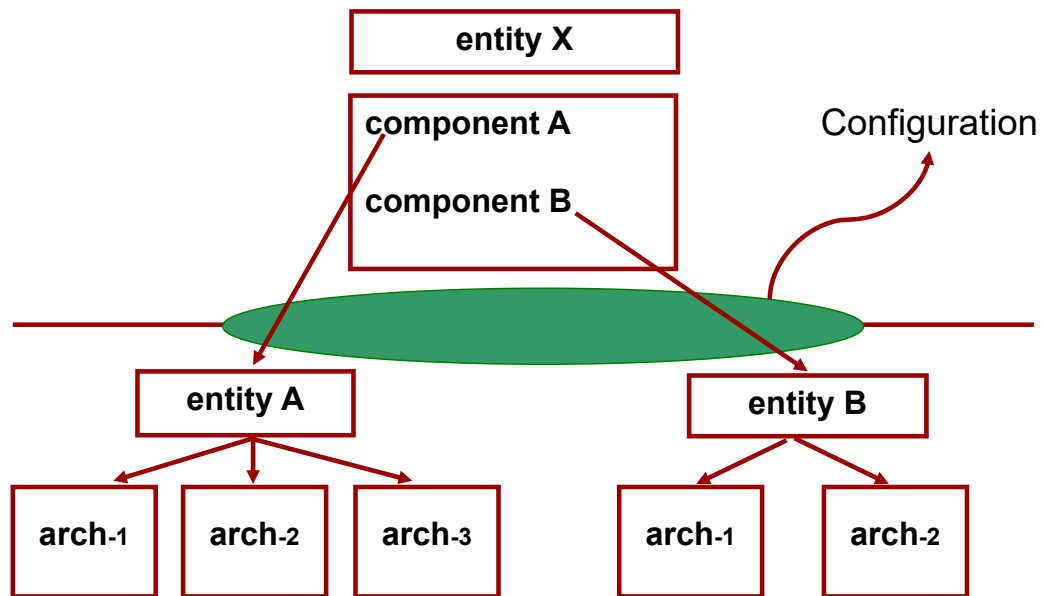
- The process of association of an architecture description with a component in a structure model is referred to as *binding* an architecture to a component.

- Default binding rules:

  - The entity with the same name as the component is bound to the component.

  - If there are multiple architectures for the entity, the last compiled architecture for the entity is used.

  - The entity-architecture description may locate in the same file as that of instantiating the component, or in some other files in the working directory.

```vhdl
entity HALF_Adder is
port (L1, L2  : in  bit;
        SUM, CARRY : out  bit );
end entity Half_Adder;


architecture STRUCTURE  of HALF_Adder is
    component XOR_GATE is
        port (I0, I1: in BIT; O : out BIT);
    end component XOR_GATE;
    component AND2 is
        port (I0, I1 : in BIT;  O  : out BIT);
    end component AND2;
begin
    U1: XOR_GATE port map (L1, L2, SUM);
    U2: AND2 port map (L1, L2, CARRY);
end architecture STRUCTURE;


architecture BEHAVIOR of HALF_ADDER is
begin
    SUM <= L1 xor L2;
    CARRY <= L1 and L2;
end architecture BEHAVIOR;
```
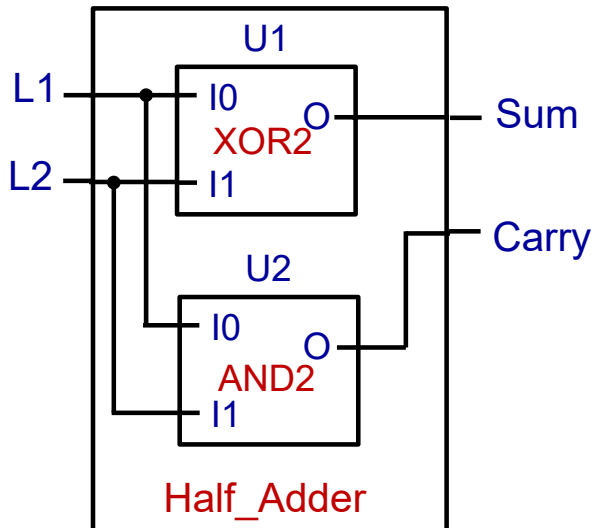
Two architectures

One

The other one

```vhdl
architecture STRUCTURE  of Full_Adder is
    component HALF_ADDER is
    port (L1, L2 : in bit;   SUM, CARRY : out bit);
    end component HALF_ADDER;
    component OR_GATE is
    port (L1, L2 : in bit;    O  : out bit);
    end component OR_GATE;
    for HA1: HALF_ADDER use entity HALF_ADDER(BEHAVIOR);
    for HA2: HALF_ADDER use entity HALF_ADDER(STRUCTURE);
    signal N1, N2, N3 : BIT;
begin
    OR1: OR2 port map (L1=>N3, L2=>N2, O=>COUT);
    HA1: HALF_ADDER port map (L1=>A, L2=>B, SUM=>N1,CARRY=>N2);
    HA2: HALF_ADDER port map (L1=>N1, L2=>CIN, SUM=>SUM,
            CARRY=>N3);
end architecture STRUCTURE;
```

Configuration specifications
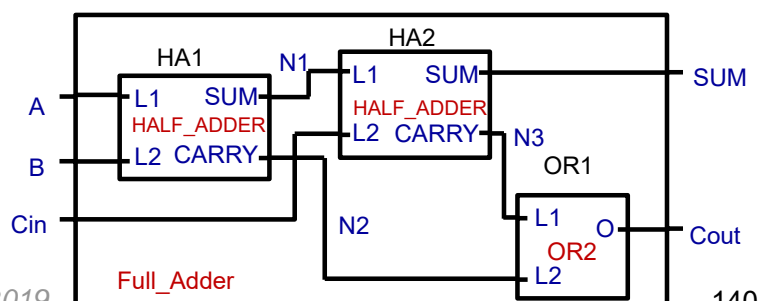
- If the entity-architecture descriptions locate in some other directories, the configuration specification have to includes the library name.

  **for** HA1: HALF_ADDER **use entity** mydesign.HALF_ADDER(arch1);
  **for** HA2: HALF_ADDER **use entity** mydeisgn.HALF_ADDER(arch2);

  Architecture name

  Entity name

  Library name

- If there is only one architecture in an entity, the architecture name can be omitted.

  **for** OR1: OR_GATE **use entity** work.OR_GATE;

- Keywords: **all, others**

  **for all**: HALF_ADDER **use entity** work.HALF_ADDER(arch1);

  **for** HA1: HALF_ADDER **use entity** work.HALF_ADDER(arch1);
  **for others**: HALF_ADDER **use entity** work.HALF_ADDER(arch2);

# 5.3. Modeling a test bench

- Motivation
  – Test designs prior to construction and use of the circuit.
- To test a compiled VHDL design, we can either
  – provide stimuli interactively through the command window of a simulator, or
  – write a VHDL program (a VHDL test bench).

- A test bench
  - does not have external ports.
  - contains two part:
    - a component representing the circuit under test
    - waveform generators which produce waveforms to the input of the component under test.



*testbench.vhd*
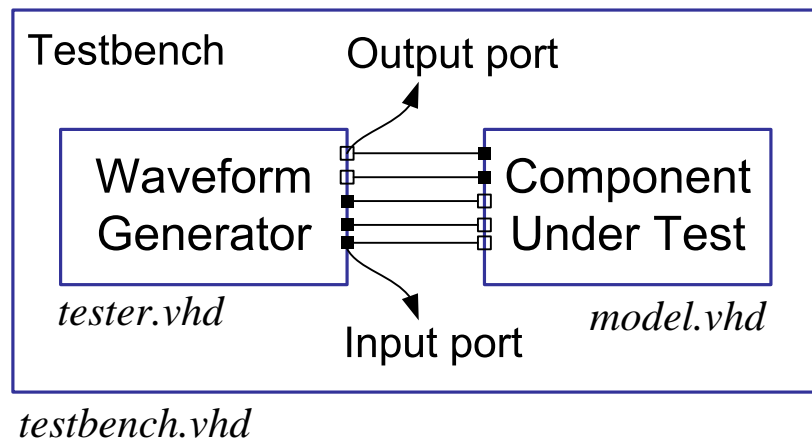
5.3.1 Functional verification of combinational designs

- Determine if a design meets a system's functional specifications.
- Not concern with any timing delays that results from mapping synthesized logic to a target programmable logic device.
- Allow to find logic errors early in the design flow and prevent wasting time performing synthesis, place and route, and time simulation.

## Language and approach to be used

- Full range of VHDL language constructs and features can be used for test bench.
- Exhaustive verification
  - Counting approach treating all inputs as a single vector starting from 0 and subsequently incremented through all its possible binary combinations.
  - Functionality approach taking into account the functionality of the design being tested when determining the order for applying input combination

## 5.3.2 A simple test bench

```vhdl
library ieee;        -- load the ieee 1164 library
use ieee.std_logic_1164.all;        -- make the package 'visible'

entity test_half_adder is    -- the top level entity of the test bench has no
                             -- external ports.
end entity test_half_adder;

architecture test of test_half_adder is
    component half_adder is -- declare the component under test
        port (x, y: in std_logic; sum, carry: out std_logic);
    end component half_adder;

    for UUT: half_adder use entity        -- configuration specifications
        work.half_adder(concurrent_beheavior);
```

*-- Stimulus signals – to connect test bench to UUT input ports*
**signal** x_tb, y_tb: std_logic;
*-- Observed signals – to connect test bench to UUT output ports*
**signal** sum_tb, carry_tb: std_logic;

**begin**

      *-- Create an instance of the half_adder circuit.*
      UUT: half_adder **port map** (x =>x_tb, y => y_tb, sum =>
            sum_tb,  carry => carry_tb);

      *-- Signal assignment statements generating stimulus values*
      x_tb <= '1', '0' **after** 5 ns, '1' **after** 10 ns, '0' **after** 15 ns;
      y_tb <= '1', '0' **after** 10 ns;
**end architecture** test;



UUT

x_tb — x     SUM — sum_tb

HALF_ADDER

y_tb — y     CARRY — carry_tb
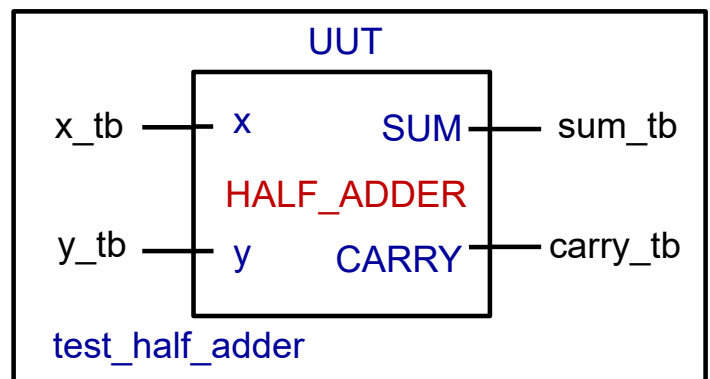
test_half_adder

# Waveforms from simulation of half-adder test bench
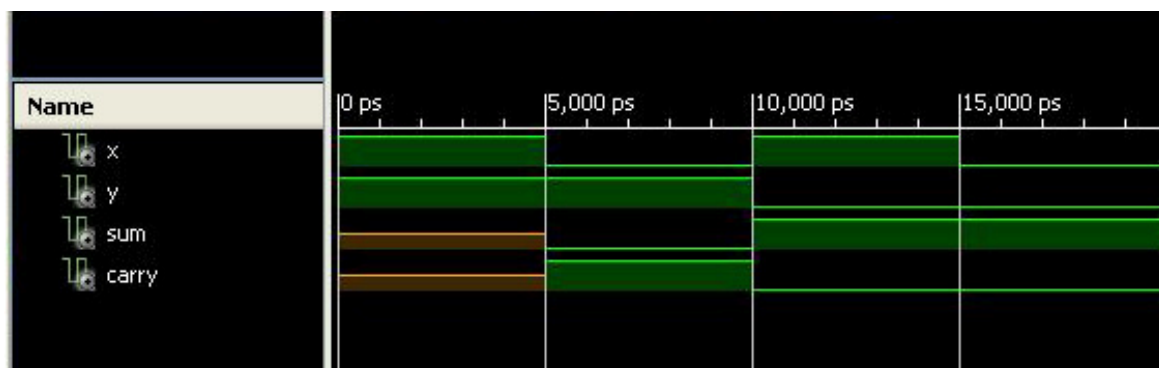
# 5.3.3 Single process test bench

```vhdl
library ieee;
use ieee.std_logic_1164.all;

entity test_half_adder is
end entity test_half_adder;

architecture behavior of test_half_adder is
    component half_adder is
        port (x, y: in std_logic; sum, carry: out std_logic);
    end component half_adder;
    for UUT: half_adder use entity
        work.half_adder(concurrent_beheavior);

    signal x_tb, y_tb: std_logic;
    signal sum_tb, carry_tb: std_logic;
```

```vhdl
begin
    UTT: half_adder port map (x =>x_tb, y => y_tb, sum => sum_tb,
        carry => carry_tb);
    -- define a process to apply input stimulus and verify outputs.
    tb: process is
        constant PERIOD: time := 20 ns;
    begin -- apply every possible input combination
        x_tb <= '0'; -- apply input combination 00 and check outputs
        y_tb <= '0';
        wait for PERIOD;   -- Wait for outputs to be available after
                           -- applying this stimulus
sum  carry  assert ((sum_tb = '0') and (carry_tb = '0'))
        report "Test failed for input combination 00" severity ERROR;
```

UUT

x_tb — x      SUM — sum_tb

HALF_ADDER

y_tb — y      CARRY — carry_tb

test_half_adder
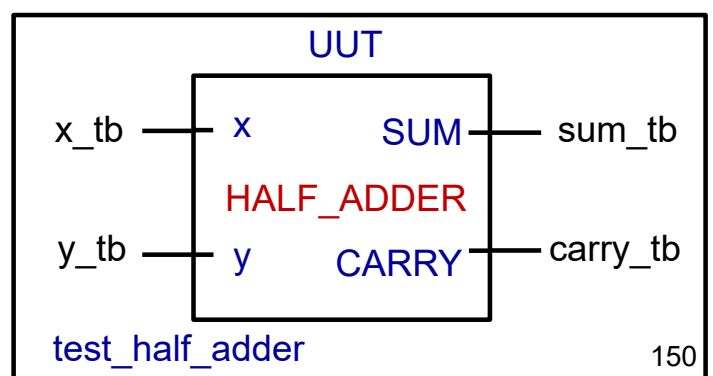
```
process     x_tb <= '1'; -- apply input combination 10 and check outputs
wait        y_tb <= '0';
            wait for PERIOD;
    wait    assert ((sum_tb = '1') and (carry_tb = '0'))
            report "Test failed for input combination 01" severity ERROR;

            x_tb <= '0';
wait        y_tb <= '1';
            wait for PERIOD;
            assert ((sum_tb = '1') and (carry_tb = '0'))
            report "Test failed for input combination 10" severity ERROR;

            x_tb <= '1';
            y_tb <= '1';
            wait for PERIOD;
            assert ((sum_tb = '0') and (carry_tb = '1'))
            report "Test failed for input combination 11" severity ERROR;

            wait; -- indefinitely suspend process
            end process;
        end architecture behavior;
```

---

# Wait statement (Sequential statement)

- explicitly specify the conditions under which a process may resume execution after being suspended.

- Basic forms of the wait statement

  **wait for** *time-expression* ;        **wait for** 20 ns;

  **wait on** *signal* ;                  **wait on** clk, reset, status;

  **wait until** *condition* ;            **wait until** A > B;

  **wait** ;        `wait on`
                            `wait`

        `testbench`

# Assert statement

- VHDL's assert statement provides a quick and easy way to check expected values and display messages from your test bench. An assert statement has the following general format:

  **assert** condition_expression  -- a Boolean value

  **report** text_string       -- the text is displayed if the Boolean
                                    -- value is false

  **severity** severity_level; -- severity level can be one of
                                    -- predefined levels: NOTE,
                                    -- WARNING, ERROR, or FAILURE.

# 5.3.4 Test benches that compute stimulus and expected results

```
tb: process is -- define a process to apply input stimulus and verify outputs.
    constant PERIOD: time := 20 ns;
    constant n : integer := 2;
begin -- apply every possible input combination
    for i in 0 to 2**n – 1 loop
       (x_tb, y_tb) <= to_unsigned(i, n);
       wait for PERIOD;
       assert ( (sum_tb = (x_tb xor y_tb)) and (carry_tb = (x_tb and y_tb)) )
       report "Test failed" severity ERROR;
    end loop;
    wait;
end process;
```

# Loop statement

- A loop statement is used to iterate through a set of sequential statement.

- General form of a loop statement

  [ *loop-label* ] *iteration-scheme* **loop**
  
      *sequential-statements*
  
  **end loop** [ *loop-label* ]

---

for        testbench

- Three types of iteration schemes:

(A)

    **for** i **in** 0 **to** $2^{**}n - 1$ **loop**           range

         (x_tb, y_tb) <= to_unsigned(i, n);

         **wait for** PERIOD;

loop
identifier      ...

    **end loop;**

- The object *i* is implicitly declared within the for loop to belong to the integer type whose value are in the range 0 to $2^n-1$.

- The loop identifier cannot be assigned any value inside the for loop

        **type** COLOR **is** (RED, GREEN, BLUE);

        ...

        **for** PAPER **in** COLOR **loop**

             -- PAPER will take all value in type COLOR

             -- from RED to BLUE.

        **end loop;**

(B)     J := 0;  SUM := 10;

      WHILE_LOOP: **while** J < 20 **loop**

          SUM := SUM * 2;

          J := J +3;

      **end loop** WHILE_LOOP;

(C)     J := 0;  SUM := 1;

      L2: **loop**

          J := J+21;

          SUM := SUM * 10;

          **exit when** SUM > 100;

      **end loop** L2;

# Exit statement

- The exit statement can be used only inside a loop.
- It causes execution to jump out of the innermost loop or the loop whose label is specified.
- General form of an exit statement

  **exit** [ *loop-label* ] [ **when** *condition* ]

SUM := 1;
L2: **loop**
  J := 0;
  L3: **loop**
    J := J+21;
    **exit when** J > 40;
    SUM := SUM * 10;
    **if** SUM > 100 **then exit** L2**;**
    **end if**;
  **end loop** L3;
**end loop** L2;

 **loop**
   **wait on** A, B;
   **exit when** A=B**;**
 **end loop**;

## Next statement

- The next statement can be used only inside a loop.
- It results in skipping the remaining statements in the current iteration; execution resumes with the first statement in the next iteration of this loop, if one exists.
- General form of a next statement

  **next** [ *loop-label* ] [ **when** *condition* ]

```
            for J in 10 downto 5 loop
               if SUM < TOTAL_SUM then
                     SUM := SUM + 2;
               elsif SUM = TOTAL_SUM then
                     next;
               else null;
               end if;
               K := K + 1;
            end loop;
```

# signed and unsigned data type

- In VHDL and the std_logic_1164 package, the arithmetic operations are defined only over the integer data type.

      signal a, b, sum: integer;

      …

      sum <= a+b;

- Data types signed and unsigned are defined in IEEE numeric_std package.  Both data types are an array of element with the std_logic data type. They are interpreted as a signed number or unsigned number.

- std_logic_vector, signed, and unsigned are all defined as an array of elements with the std_logic data type, but they are three independent data types.

- To use the signed and unsigned data type, we must include:

> **library** ieee;
> **use** ieee.std_logic_1164.**all**;
> **use** ieee.numeric_std.**all**;
>
> **signal** x, y: signed(15 **downto** 0);

# to_unsigned(i, n)

- convert the integer *i* value to an unsigned vector of length *n*
- (x_tb, y_tb) <= to_unsigned(i, n);
    - the unsigned vector value returned in this example is assigned to an aggregate made up of the scalar input signals.
    - each of these scalar is type std_logic.
    - each element of an unsigned vector is also type std_logic.

---

Table: Overloaded operators in the IEEE numeric_std package

| Operator | Description | Data type of a | Data type of b | Data type of result |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **abs** a | absolute value | signed | | |
| -a | negation | signed | | |
| a * b, a / b, <br> a **mod** b, <br> a **rem** b, <br> a + b, a - b | arithmetic operation | unsigned <br> unsigned, natural <br> signed <br> signed, integer | unsigned, <br> nature, unsigned <br> signed <br> integer, signed | unsigned <br> unsigned <br> signed <br> signed |
| a = b, a /= b, <br> a < b, a <= b, <br> a > b, a >= b | relational operation | unsigned <br> unsigned, natural <br> signed <br> signed, integer | unsigned <br> unsigned, natural <br> signed <br> integer, signed | boolean <br> boolean <br> boolean <br> boolean |

**signal** a, b, c, d, e: unsigned (7 **downto** 0);

…

a <= b + c;        d <= b + 1;        e <= (5 + a + b) - c;

"011" >= "1000";   *-- return FALSE if type is std_logic_vector or unsigned*
                 *-- return TRUE if type is signed*

## Table: Functions in the IEEE numeric_std package

| Function | description | Data type of a | Data type of b | Data type of result |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| shift_left(a, b) <br> shif_right(a, b) <br> rotate_left(a, b) <br> rotate_right(a, b) | shift left <br> shift right <br> rotate left <br> rotate right | unsigned, signed | natural | same as a |
| resize(a,b) | resize array | unsigned, signed | natural | same as a |
| std_match(a,b) | compare '-' | unsigned, signed, std_logic_vector, std_logic | same as a | boolean |
| to_integer(a) | data type conversion | unsigned, signed | | integer |
| to_unsigned(a,b) | | natural | natural | unsigned |
| to_signed(a,b) | | integer | natural | signed |

- std_logic_vector, unsigned and signed are known as *closely related data types*. Conversion between these types is done by a procedure known as *typing casting*.

### Table: Type conversion of numeric data types

| Data type of a | To data type | Conversion function/type casting |
|---|---|---|
| unsigned, signed <br> signed, std_logic_vector <br> unsigned, std_logic_vector <br> unsigned, signed <br> natural <br> integer | std_logic_vector <br> unsigned <br> signed <br> integer <br> unsigned <br> signed | std_logic_vector(a) <br> unsigned(a) <br> signed(a) <br> to_integer(a) <br> to_unsigned(a, size) <br> to_signed(a, size) |

> **signal** u1, u2: unsigned (7 **downto** 0);
> **signal** v1, v2: std_logic_vector(7 **downto** 0);
> …
> u1 <= unsigned(v1);
> v2 <= std_logic_vector(u2);

```vhdl
library ieee;
use ieee.std_logic_1164.all
use ieee.numeric_std.all

…
signal s1, s2, s3, s4, s5, s6: std_logic_vector (3 downto 0);
signal u1, u2, u3, u4, u5, u6: unsigned(3 downto 0);
signal sg: signed(3 downto 0);
…

u3 <= u2 + u1; -- ok
u4 <= u2 + 1; -- ok

u5 <= sg; -- not ok
u6 <= 5; -- not ok

u5 <= unsigned(sg); -- ok
u6 <= to_unsigned(5,4); -- ok

u7 <= sg + u1; -- not ok

u7 <= unsigned(sg) + u1; -- ok

s3 <= u3; -- not ok
s4 <= 5; -- not ok

s3 <= std_logic_vector(u3); -- ok
s4 <= std_logic_vector(to_unsigned(5,4));
             -- ok

s5 <= s2 + s1; -- not ok
s6 <= s2 + 1; -- not ok

s5 <= std_logic_vector(unsigned(s2) +
             unsigned(s1)); -- ok
s6 <= std_logic_vector(unsigned(s2) +
             1); -- ok
```

## 5.3.5 Post-synthesis and timing verifications for combinational designs

- Post-synthesis verification
  - to verify that the synthesizer has successfully translated a design description to gate-level logic.
  - the same test bench used for functional verification could be used.
- Timing verification
  - to verify gate delays and propagation delays of signal paths of the logic mapped to the target programmable logic device.
  - If the delay between application of each stimulus and verification of the corresponding UUT outputs was appropriately chosen in the original functional verification test bench, the same test bench could be used for timing verification.
    `testbench`