Chapter 7 - OpenROAD flow scripts

Course authors (Git file)



- What are we going to do now?
- The tools in ORFS
- Structure of flow directories
- Important data locations
- Design config variables



What are we going to do now?



Previous chapters

What happend on the way to here:

- GDS-2-RTL: OpenROAD
- OpenROAD flow scripts (ORFS)
- ORFS flow steps and flow components
- First run of the flow scripts
- Analysing: Heatmaps and more (ORFS GUI)
- A Dive into the PDK



This chapter

NOW:

- Dive into OpenROAD flow scripts
- Analyse desing data deeper



Idea of today

There is a good tutorial about ORFS in the official documentation:

https://openroad-flow-scripts.readthedocs.io/en/latest/tutorials/FlowTutorial.html

The ORFS online-tutorial was not written for the use with the IHP PDK especially, but we can adopt this easily.



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OpenROAD Flow Scripts Tutorial

Introduction

This document describes a tutorial to run the complete OpenROAD flow from RTL-to-GDS using OpenROAD Flow Scripts. It includes examples of useful design and manual usage in key flow stages to help users gain a good understanding of the OpenROAD application flow, data organization, GUI and commands.

This is intended for:

- Beginners or new users with some understanding of basic VLSI design flow. Users will learn the basics of installation to use OpenROAD-flow-scripts for the complete RTL-to-GDS flow from here.
- Users already familiar with the OpenROAD application and flow but would like to learn more about specific features and commands.

Introduction

User Guidelines

Getting Started

Configuring The Design

Running The Automated RTL-to-GDS Flow

Viewing Results And Logs

OpenROAD GUI

Understanding and Analyzing

OpenROAD Flow Stages and Results Troubleshooting Problems

Figure 1: ORFS Online Tutorial



Lecture and trainings more interactive



Caveats

- ORFS does not handle multiple runs for a single design.
- The design run must be cleared with make clear_all, before a new runs can be started.
- !!! The previous data from the previous run will be lost.

Side feature:

• A run can start over where you left it.

My opinion:

- Both should be possible:
 - Kkeep data
 - Start over where left behind

But it is not.



Workaround for this

We have to:

- Manully save the previous data.
- Maybe just be renaming the directory.
- make gui_final only works on the actual design data.

Training: Multiple design runs



The tools in ORFS



Structure of flow directories



Important data locations



Logs

- Where to find?
- How to read?

Training Logs

Training Logs



Results

- Where to find?
- How to read?

Training Results

Training Results



Reports

- Where to find?
- How to read?

Training Reports

Training Reports



Design config variables



Design config variables

- Where to find?
- How to change?
- See the changes in the design data

