



Plan

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- Ch2 – Data Types
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- Ch4 – Notion of Time
- **Ch5 – Concurrency**
- Ch6 – Predefined Channels
- Ch7 – Structure
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- Ch10 – Transaction Level Modeling



Concurrency

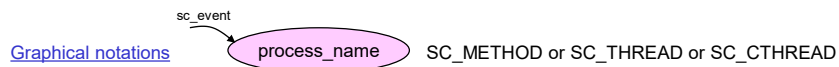
Predefined Primitive Channels (Mutexs, FIFOs, Signals)			
Simulation Kernel	Threads & Methods	Channels & Interfaces	Data types Logic, Integers, Fixed point
	Events, Sensitivity & Notification	Modules & Hierarchy	

- **Introduction**
- Threads
- Methods
- Clocked Threads
- Dynamic Processes



Processes & Events

- SystemC uses processes to model concurrency
 - based on event-driven simulator (sc_event)
 - concurrency is NOT true concurrent execution
 - the concurrency is NOT preemptive
- 3 types of processes
 - SC_THREAD
 - SC_METHOD
 - SC_CTHREAD (used by behavioral synthesis tools)



Concurrency is NOT preemptive Example

```
SC_MODULE(simple_process)
{
    // sc_out<...
    enum defstate {IDLE, RUN, STOP};
    defstate state;

    SC_CTOR(simple_process) : state(IDLE)
    {
        SC_THREAD(p1_thread);
    }
    void p1_thread(void)
    {
        while (true)
        {
            wait(99, SC_MS);
            switch (state)
            {
                case IDLE : cout << "idle : ";
                    // ...
                    state = RUN;
                    break;
                case RUN : cout << "run : ";
                    // ...
                    state = STOP;
                    break;
                case STOP : cout << "stop : ";
                    // ...
                    state = IDLE;
                    break;
            }
            cout << sc_time_stamp() << endl;
        }
    }
};
```

1 sec of simulation

test_concurrency

releases control to kernel

```
int sc_main(int argc, char* argv[])
{
    simple_process my_instance("my_instance");
    sc_start(1, SC_SEC);
    return 0;
}
```

time don't change !!

CTRL C to stop the simulation !!

solution: add wait(99, SC_MS) to change process

```
idle : 99 ms
run : 198 ms
stop : 297 ms
idle : 396 ms
run : 495 ms
stop : 594 ms
idle : 693 ms
run : 792 ms
stop : 891 ms
idle : 990 ms
Press any key to continue
```

Triggering Events : notify()

- Events are key to an event-driven simulator
- Events are no value, no duration
- Events happen at a single point in time
- Processes wait for event
 - dynamic sensitivity
 - static sensitivity

Declaration `sc_event ev;`

Methods & Operators

```
void notify();
void notify( const sc_time& );
void notify( double , sc_time_unit );
void cancel();
```

```
sc_event_or_list& operator| ( const sc_event& ) const;
sc_event_and_list& operator& ( const sc_event& ) const;
```

The classes `sc_event_and_list` and `sc_event_or_list` provide the `&` and `|` operators used to construct the event lists passed as arguments to the functions `wait (SC_THREAD)` and `next_trigger (SC_METHOD)`

Examples

```
sc_event action;
sc_time now(sc_time_stamp());

// immediately action
action.notify();
// schedule new action for 20 ms from now
action.notify(20, SC_MS);
// reschedule action for 2 ns from now
action.notify(2, SC_NS);
// reschedule action for next delta cycle
action.notify(SC_ZERO_TIME);
// cancel action entirely
action.cancel();
```

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Concurrency

Predefined Primitive Channels (Mutexs, FIFOs, Signals)			
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Dynamic Sensitivity

- SC_THREAD processes rely on the wait() method to suspend their execution
- Wait() method is supplied by the sc_module class
- When wait() executes, the state of the current thread is saved (context switch)

Wait methods

```
wait(ev1 | ev2)
wait(ev1 & ev2) ←
void wait();
void wait( const sc_event& );
void wait( sc_event_or_list& );
void wait( sc_event_and_list& );
void wait( const sc_time& );
void wait( double v , sc_time_unit tu );
```

Wait methods with Timeout

```
void wait( const sc_time& , const sc_event& );
void wait( double , sc_time_unit , const sc_event& );
void wait( const sc_time& , sc_event_or_list& );
void wait( double , sc_time_unit , sc_event_or_list& );
void wait( const sc_time& , const sc_event_and_list& );
void wait( double , sc_time_unit , sc_event_and_list& );
```



Wait Method Example 1 – Header File

archi_ex.h

```
#ifndef ARCHI_EX_H
#define ARCHI_EX_H

#include <iostream>
#include <systemc.h>

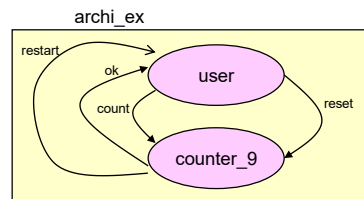
SC_MODULE(archi_ex)
{
    sc_event count,ok, restart, reset;
    enum defmess {RESTART, OK, RESET, COUNT};
    defmess from_usermess, from_counter mess;
    int n;

    SC_CTOR(archi_ex) : n(0)
    {
        SC_THREAD(user_thread);
        SC_THREAD(counter_9_thread);
    }

    void user_thread(void);
    void counter_9_thread(void);
};

#endif
```

thread_example1



Declaration of SC_THREAD



Wait Method Example 1 – CPP File

archi_ex.cpp

thread_example1

```
#include "archi_ex.h"

void archi_ex::user_thread(void)
{
    for (int i = 0; i <= 5; i++)
    {
        cout << sc_time_stamp() << " user: notified count event (" << i << ")" << endl;
        from_usermess = COUNT;
        count.notify(1+i, SC_NS);
        cout << sc_time_stamp() << " user: waiting ok or restart events" << endl;
        wait(ok | restart);
        if (from_countermess == OK)
            cout << sc_time_stamp() << " user: ok !" << endl;
        else
            cout << sc_time_stamp() << " user: restart !" << endl;
    }

    cout << "-----" << endl;
    wait(20, SC_NS);
    cout << sc_time_stamp() << " user: reset" << endl;
    from_usermess = RESET;
    reset.notify();

    cout << sc_time_stamp() << " user: waiting restart event" << endl;
    wait(restart);
}

void archi_ex::counter_9_thread(void)
{
    while (true)
    {
        cout << sc_time_stamp() << " counter: waiting ";
        cout << "count or reset event" << endl;
        wait(count | reset);
        cout << sc_time_stamp() << " counter: receiving"
        cout << "count or reset event" << endl;
        if (from_usermess == RESET)
            n = 0;
        else
            n += 1 % 10;

        if (n == 0)
        {
            from_countermess = RESTART;
            restart.notify();
        }
        else
        {
            from_countermess = OK;
            ok.notify();
        }
    }
}
```

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Concurrency



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Wait Method Example 2

```
const sc_time t1 = sc_time(10, SC_NS);
const sc_time t2 = sc_time(5, SC_NS);
const sc_time t3 = sc_time(15, SC_NS);
```

```
void test::Process_A()
{
    cout << sc_time_stamp() << " Process_A : State 1" << endl;
    wait(t1);
    cout << sc_time_stamp() << " Process_A : State 2" << endl;
    wait(t2);
    cout << sc_time_stamp() << " Process_A : State 3" << endl;
    wait(t3);
}

void test::Process_B()
{
    cout << sc_time_stamp() << " Process_B : State 1" << endl;
    wait(t1);
    cout << sc_time_stamp() << " Process_B : State 2" << endl;
    wait(t2);
    cout << sc_time_stamp() << " Process_B : State 3" << endl;
    wait(t3);
}

void test::Process_C()
{
    cout << sc_time_stamp() << " Process_C : State 1" << endl;
    wait(t1);
    cout << sc_time_stamp() << " Process_C : State 2" << endl;
    wait(t2);
    cout << sc_time_stamp() << " Process_C : State 3" << endl;
    wait(t3);
}
```

thread_example2

```
void test::Process_D()
{
    cout << sc_time_stamp() << " Process_D : State 1" << endl;
    wait(t1);
    cout << sc_time_stamp() << " Process_D : State 2" << endl;
    wait(SC_ZERO_TIME);
    cout << sc_time_stamp() << " Process_D : State 3" << endl;
    wait(t3);
}
```

```
Starting simulation
0 s Process_A : State 1
0 s Process_B : State 1
0 s Process_C : State 1
0 s Process_D : State 1
10 ns Process_A : State 2
10 ns Process_D : State 2
10 ns Process_C : State 2
10 ns Process_B : State 2
10 ns Process_D : State 3
15 ns Process_A : State 3
15 ns Process_B : State 3
15 ns Process_C : State 3
Exiting simulation
Press any key to continue
```

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Concurrency



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Static Sensitivity

- SystemC provides another type of sensitivity called Static Sensitivity
- establishes during elaboration phase
- static sensitivity parameters cannot be changed
- possible to override (dynamic sensitivity)

```

SC_CTOR(M)
{
    SC_THREAD(test_thread);
    sensitive << event1 << event2 ...;
    or
    sensitive(event1, event2, ...);
}

void test_thread()
{
    ...
}

SC_MODULE(Mod)
{
    sc_signal<bool> A, B, C, D, E;
    SC_CTOR(Mod)
    {
        sensitive << A; // Has no effect. Poor coding style
        SC_THREAD(M_thread);
        sensitive << B << C; // Thread process M is made sensitive to B and C.
        f(); // Method process M is made sensitive to D.
        sensitive(E); // Method process M is made sensitive to E
    }

    void f()
    {
        sensitive << D;
    }

    void M_thread();
    ...
};
    
```

"<<" streaming style

functional style

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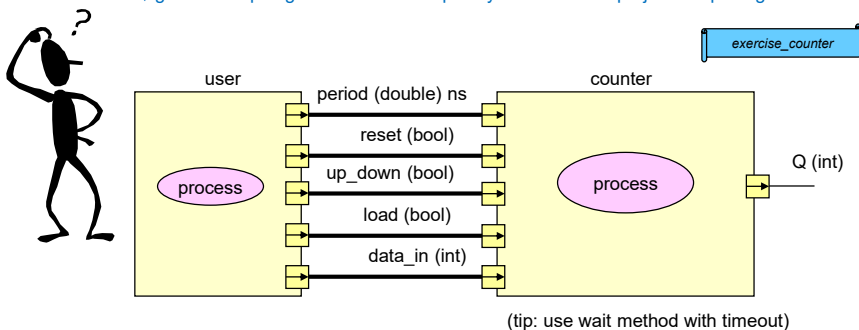
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Training

- Write a counter modulo 10
 - Period
 - up/down (up:true, down:false)
 - load
 - asynchronous reset

Using Visual Studio Code and template project:
\$ git clone <https://github.com/fmuller-pns/systemc-vscode-project-template.git>



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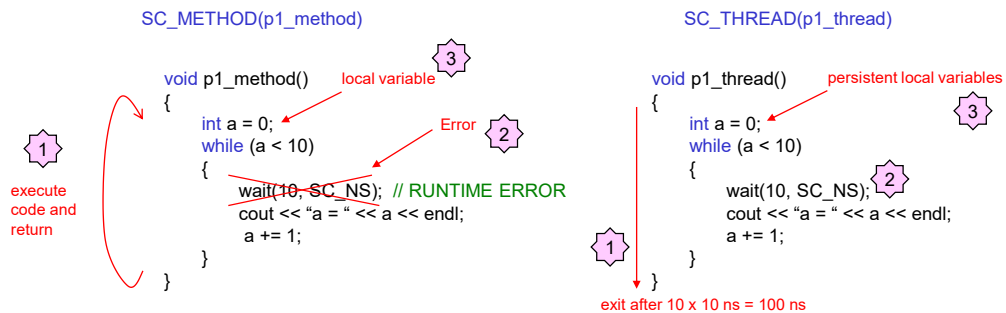


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SC_METHOD

- Simpler than the SC_THREAD
- More efficient than SC_THREAD
- More difficult to use for some modeling style
- Difference SC_THREAD / SC_METHOD ?



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Dynamic Sensitivity

- SC_METHOD processes rely on the next_trigger() method to trig their execution

```
void next_trigger(); → Re-establish static sensitivity

void next_trigger( const sc_event& );
void next_trigger( sc_event_or_list& ); → any of these event
void next_trigger( sc_event_and_list& ); → all of these event required

void next_trigger( const sc_time& ); → next_trigger(t1);
void next_trigger( double v , sc_time_unit tu ); → next_trigger(25, SC_MS);
void next_trigger( const sc_time& , const sc_event& ); → trig after the given time OR notified event

void next_trigger( double , sc_time_unit , const sc_event& );
void next_trigger( const sc_time& , sc_event_or_list& );
void next_trigger( double , sc_time_unit , sc_event_or_list& );
void next_trigger( const sc_time& , const sc_event_and_list& );
void next_trigger( double , sc_time_unit , sc_event_and_list& );
```

} same methods with time out



Static Sensitivity

- Same as SC_THREAD

<i>streaming style</i>	<i>functional style</i>
<pre>SC_CTOR(M) { SC_METHOD(test_method); sensitive << event1 << event2 ...; }</pre>	<pre>SC_CTOR(M) { SC_METHOD(test_method); sensitive(event1, event2, ...); }</pre>
<pre>void test_method() { ... }</pre>	<pre>void test_method() { ... }</pre>

don't remember !

next_trigger() (without argument) re-establishes the static sensitivity

Don't initialize

- Sometimes, it becomes necessary to specify some processes that are not initialized
- use dont_initialize() method

```
SC_MODULE(Mod)
{
    sc_signal<bool> B, C;
    SC_CTOR(Mod)
    {
        SC_METHOD(M_method);
        sensitive << B << C; // Thread process M is made sensitive to B and C.
        dont_initialize();
    }
    void M_method()
    {
    }
    ...
};
```

Method M will not be initialized

Concurrency

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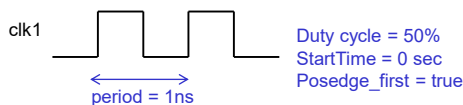
Predefined Process : sc_clock (1/3)

- Clocks represent a common hardware behavior
- TLM Level
 - Bus Cycle Accurate model (BCA)
 - Cycle Accurate model (BA)
- RTL Level

Constructors

```
sc_clock(const char* name_, const sc_time& period, double duty_cycle_ = 0.5, const sc_time& start_time = SC_ZERO_TIME,
        bool posedge_first_ = true);
sc_clock(const char* name_, double period_v_, sc_time_unit period_tu_, double duty_cycle_ = 0.5);
sc_clock(const char* name_, double period_v_, sc_time_unit period_tu_, double duty_cycle_, double start_time_v_,
        sc_time_unit start_time_tu_, bool posedge_first_ = true);
```

default value sc_clock clk1("clk1")



Methods

```
const sc_time& period() const;
double duty_cycle() const;
const sc_time& start_time() const;
bool posedge_first() const;
```

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Concurrence



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Predefined Process : sc_clock (2/3)

- Clocks can slow simulation
 - add many events
 - much resulting activity
 - prefer wait

one event ! (fast) many events ! (slow)

```
wait(N * t_PERIOD);      for (i=1, i<=N; i++)
                        wait(clk->posedge_event());
```

- Connect clock to module

- use "sc_in_clk" or sc_in<bool>

```
SC_MODULE(M)      equals      SC_MODULE(M)
{
    sc_in<bool> clk_in;      ⇔      {
    ...                          sc_in_clk clk_in;
    ...                          ...
}
```

- Sensitive pos/neg edge

```
SC_METHOD(counter);      SC_METHOD(counter);      SC_METHOD(counter);
sensitive << clk;      sensitive_pos << clk;      sensitive_neg << clk;
                     OR      OR
                     sensitive << clk.pos();      sensitive << clk.neg();
```

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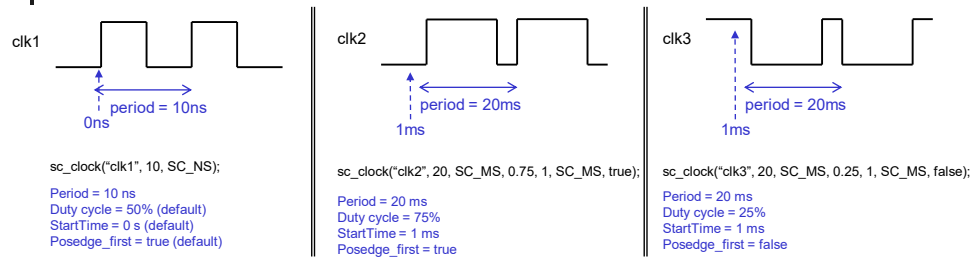


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Predefined Process : sc_clock (3/3) Examples



Counter Example

```
int sc_main(int argc, char* argv[])
{
    sc_clock clk1("clk1", 10, SC_MS); // Period = 10 ms
    counter my_counter("counter1");
    my_counter.clk(clk1);

    sc_start(200, SC_MS);
    return 0;
}
```

```
SC_MODULE(counter)
{
    sc_in_clk clk;
    int count;
    SC_CTOR(counter) : count(0)
    {
        SC_METHOD(counter_method);
        sensitive << clk.pos();
    }
    void counter_method()
    {
        cout << "count = " << count++ << endl;
    }
};
```



SC_CTHREAD

- Popular for behavioral synthesis tools
- Triggered by clock (synchronous thread)
- Reset possible

```
SC_MODULE(counter) { cthread_systemc2_1
{
    sc_in<bool> reset;
    sc_in_clk clk;
    int count;
    SC_CTOR(counter) : count(0)
    {
        SC_CTHREAD(counter_p_thread, clk.pos());
        reset_signal_is(reset, true);
    }
    void counter_p_thread()
    {
        if (reset->read() == true)
        {
            cout << "RESET ..." << endl;
            count = 0;
        }
        while (true)
        {
            cout << "count = " << count << endl;
            count++;
            wait(SC_ZERO_TIME);
        }
    }
};
```

asynchronous reset

normal operation

sc_event_finder type pos() or neg()

```
int sc_main(int argc, char* argv[])
{
    sc_clock clk1("clk1", 10, SC_MS); // Period = 10 ms
    sc_signal<bool> rst;
    counter my_counter("counter1");
    my_counter.reset(rst);
    my_counter.clk(clk1);

    rst.write(true);
    sc_start(1, SC_MS);
    rst = false;
    sc_start(100, SC_MS);
    rst = true;
    sc_start(12, SC_MS);
    rst = false;
    sc_start(30, SC_MS);

    return 0;
}
```

```
0 s : RESET ...
0 s : count = 0
10 ms : count = 1
20 ms : count = 2
30 ms : count = 3
40 ms : count = 4
50 ms : count = 5
60 ms : count = 6
70 ms : count = 7
80 ms : count = 8
90 ms : count = 9
100 ms : count = 10
110 ms : RESET ...
110 ms : count = 0
120 ms : count = 1
130 ms : count = 2
140 ms : count = 3
```

SC_CTHREAD : watching()

- Don't use the watching() method, it's deprecated !
 - Macro: W_BEGIN, W_DO, W_ESCAPE, W_END are also deprecated
 - wait_until() method is deprecated

```
SC_MODULE(counter)
{
    ...
    SC_CTOR(counter) : count(0)
    {
        SC_CTHREAD(counter_p_thead, clk.pos());
        reset_signal_is(reset, true);
    }
    void counter_p_thead()
    {
        if (reset->read() == true)
        {
            cout << sc_time_stamp() << " : ";
            cout << "RESET ..." << endl;
            count = 0;
        }
        while (true)
        {
            cout << sc_time_stamp() << " : ";
            cout << "count = " << count << endl;
            count++;
            wait(SC_ZERO_TIME);
        }
    }
};
```

New Code !!
Systemc 2.1

```
SC_MODULE(counter)
{
    ...
    SC_CTOR(counter) : count(0)
    {
        SC_CTHREAD(counter_p_thead, clk.pos());
        watching(reset.delayed());
    }
    void counter_p_thead()
    {
        while (true)
        {
            W_BEGIN
            watching(reset->delayed());
            W_DO
            cout << sc_time_stamp() << " : ";
            cout << "count = " << count << endl;
            count++;
            W_ESCAPE
            if (reset->read() == true)
            {
                cout << sc_time_stamp() << " : ";
                cout << "RESET ..." << endl;
                count = 0;
            }
            W_END
            wait(SC_ZERO_TIME);
        }
    }
};
```

Deprecated Code !!

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Concurrency

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Concurrency

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Why dynamic threads ?

- Ability to perform temporal checks
 - PSL, Sugar, Vera ...
 - Bus protocol
 - split transactions and timing requirements
 - track the completion of that transaction from a verification point of view
 - each transaction will require a separate thread to monitor
- Modeling software tasks
 - Some tasks are dynamic
 - creation
 - running
 - killing
- Reconfigurable hardware
 - Some parts of a SoC have a FPGA areas
 - Modeling hardware tasks like software tasks
- Using SystemC 2.1

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Declaration

Creation of a process : `sc_spawn`

```
template <typename T>
sc_process_handle sc_spawn(T object , const char* name_p = 0 , const sc_spawn_options* opt_p = 0 );
```

```
template <typename T>
sc_process_handle sc_spawn(typename T::result_type* r_p , T object , const char* name_p = 0 ,
                           const sc_spawn_options* opt_p = 0 );
```

sc_process_handle() class

hierarchical name of the underlying
process instance.

```
bool valid() const;
const char* name() const;
sc_curr_proc_kind proc_kind() const;
const std::vector<sc_object*> &get_child_objects() const;
sc_object* get_parent_object() const;
bool dynamic() const;
bool terminated() const;
```

```
sc_process_handle* m_owner = sc_get_current_process_handle();
```

sc_spawn_options () class

```
void spawn_method();
void dont_initialize();
void set_stack_size( int sz);

void set_sensitivity( const sc_event* );
void set_sensitivity( sc_port_base* );
void set_sensitivity( sc_interface* );
void set_sensitivity( sc_event_finder* );
```

Use SystemC 2.1 October 2004 !

```
sc_process_b, sc_get_curr_process_handle() : (SystemC 2.1 October 2004)
sc_process_handle, sc_get_current_process_handle (SystemC 2.1 October 2005)
```

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Example (1/2)

```

dynamic_threads
Don't Forgotten !

#define SC_INCLUDE_DYNAMIC_PROCESSES
#include <systemc.h>

int spawned_thread();
int spawned_method();
int h(int a, int &b, const int& c);

SC_MODULE(simple_spawn)
{
    sc_in_clk clk;

    SC_CTOR(simple_spawn)
    {
        SC_THREAD(main_thread);
    }

    // Process declarations
    void main_thread(void);

    // Process Member Function
    void g();
};

struct Functor
{
    typedef int result_type;
    result_type operator() ();
};
Functor::result_type Functor::operator() ()
{
    return spawned_thread();
}

int spawned_thread()
{
    cout << sc_time_stamp() << " : INFO: spawned_thread() Starting " << endl;
    wait(70, SC_NS);
    cout << sc_time_stamp() << " : INFO: spawned_thread() Exiting " << endl;
    return 0;
}

int spawned_method()
{
    cout << sc_time_stamp() << " : INFO: spawned_method() Starting " << endl;
    return 0;
}

int h(int a, int &b, const int& c)
{
    cout << sc_time_stamp() << " : INFO: h() Starting " << endl;
    b = a + 1;
    return 0;
}

void simple_spawn::g()
{
    cout << sc_time_stamp() << " : INFO: g() Starting " << endl;
}
    
```

Dynamic Non Member Processes

Static Member Process

Dynamic Member Process

to catch return value

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Example (2/2)

```

void simple_spawn::main_thread()
{
    // Spawn a function without arguments and discard any return value.
    cout << sc_time_stamp() << " : Create 1 : spawned_thread" << endl;
    sc_spawn(&spawned_thread);

    // Spawn a similar process and create a process handle.
    cout << sc_time_stamp() << " : Create 2 : spawned_thread" << endl;
    sc_process_handle handle = sc_spawn(&spawned_thread);
    Functor fr;
    int ret;
    sc_spawn(&ret, fr); // Spawn a function object and catch the return value.

    // Spawn a method process named "f1", sensitive to sig, not initialized.
    cout << sc_time_stamp() << " : Create 1 : spawned_method" << endl;
    sc_spawn_options opt;
    opt.spawn_method();
    opt.set_sensitivity(&clk);
    opt.dont_initialize();
    sc_spawn(spawned_method, "g1", &opt);

    // Spawn a similar process named "f2" and catch the return value.
    cout << sc_time_stamp() << " : Create 4 : spawned_thread" << endl;
    sc_spawn_options opt2;
    opt2.set_sensitivity(&clk);

    sc_spawn(&ret, fr, "f2", &opt2);

    // Spawn a member function using Boost bind.
    cout << sc_time_stamp() << " : Create 2 : g()" << endl;
    sc_spawn(sc_bind(&simple_spawn::g, this));
}

// Spawn a function using Boost bind, pass arguments
// and catch the return value.
cout << sc_time_stamp() << " : Create 1 : h()" << endl;
int A = 0, B, C;
sc_spawn(&ret, sc_bind(&h, A, sc_ref(B), sc_ref(C)));
wait(500, SC_NS);
}
    
```

using boost library

```

START SIMULATION ...
0 s : Create 1 : spawned_thread
0 s : Create 2 : spawned_thread
0 s : Create 1 : spawned_method
0 s : Create 4 : spawned_thread
0 s : Create 2 : g()
0 s : Create 1 : h()
0 s : INFO: spawned_thread() Starting
0 s : INFO: spawned_thread() Starting
0 s : INFO: spawned_thread() Starting
0 s : INFO: g() Starting
0 s : INFO: h() Starting
0 s : INFO: spawned_method() Starting
0 s : INFO: spawned_thread() Starting
50 ns : INFO: spawned_method() Starting
70 ns : INFO: spawned_thread() Exiting
70 ns : INFO: spawned_thread() Exiting
70 ns : INFO: spawned_thread() Exiting
70 ns : INFO: spawned_thread() Exiting
100 ns : INFO: spawned_method() Starting
150 ns : INFO: spawned_method() Starting
200 ns : INFO: spawned_method() Starting
250 ns : INFO: spawned_method() Starting
STOP SIMULATION ...
    
```

clk period = 100 ns
simulation = 300 ns

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FORK / JOIN Macros

- The spawned process instances shall be thread processes, No Method process !
- Control leaves the fork-join construct when all the spawned process instances have terminated

```
SC_MODULE(M)
{
  SC_CTOR(M)
  {
    C_THREAD(fork_thread);
  }
  void fork_thread()
  {
    SC_FORK
      sc_spawn("p1"),
      sc_spawn("p2"),
      sc_spawn("p3")
    SC_JOIN
  }
};
```

comma (pointing to the comma between `sc_spawn("p1"),` and `sc_spawn("p2"),`)

