

# Tiny Tapeout 03 Datasheet

Project Repository

<https://github.com/TinyTapeout/tinytapeout-03>

April 5, 2023

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# Render of whole chip

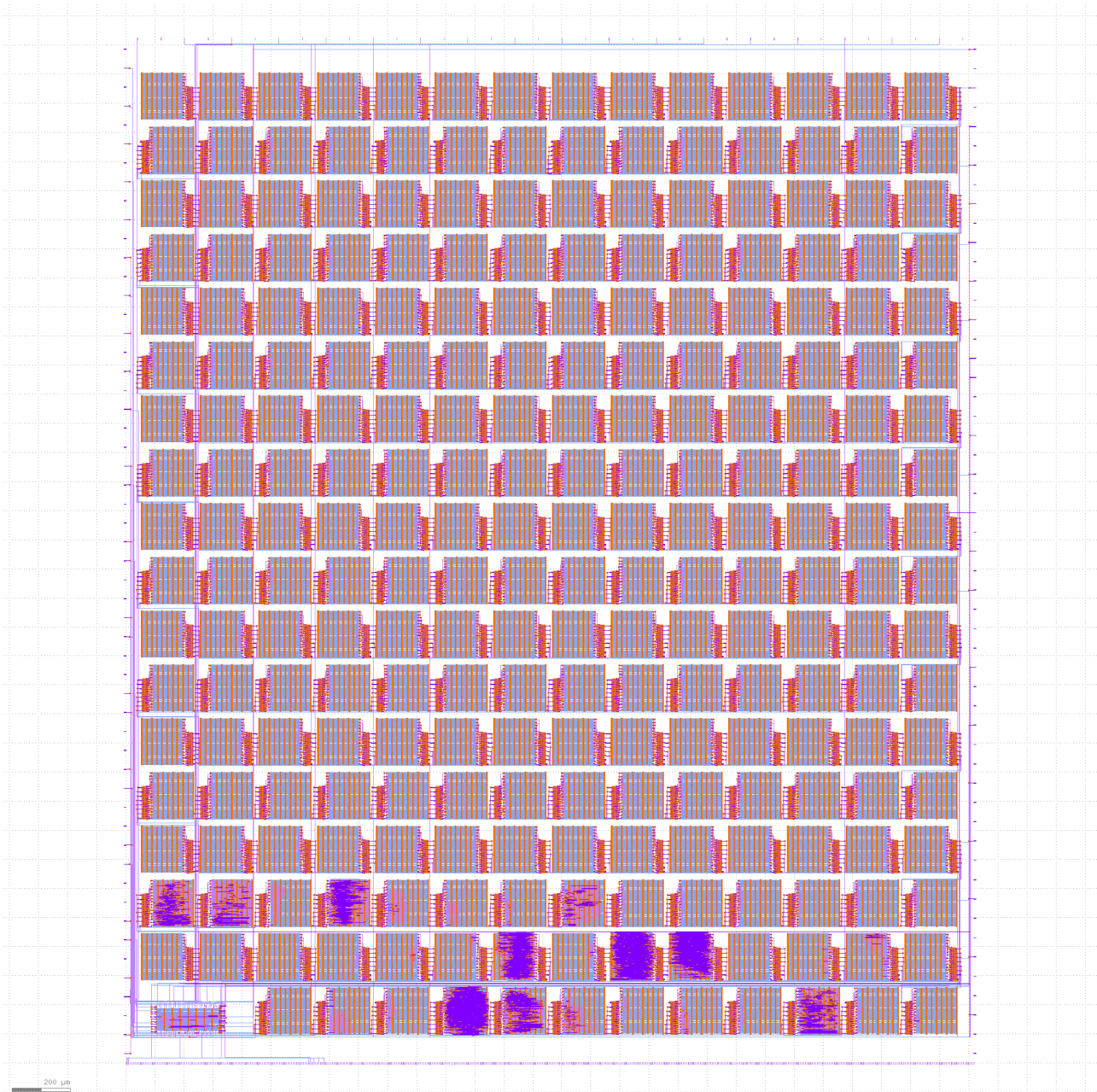


Figure 1: Full GDS

# Projects

## 0 : Test Inverter Project

- Author: Matt Venn
- Description: Inverts every line. This project is also used to fill any empty design spaces.
- GitHub repository
- Wokwi project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 0 Hz
- External hardware:

### How it works

Uses 8 inverters to invert every line.

### How to test

Setting the input switch to on should turn the corresponding LED off.

## IO

#	Input	Output
0	a	segment a
1	b	segment b
2	c	segment c
3	d	segment d
4	e	segment e
5	f	segment f
6	g	segment g
7	dot	dot

## 1 : ChipTune

- Author: Wallie Everest
- Description: Vintage 8-bit sound generator
- GitHub repository
- HDL project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 22000 Hz
- External hardware:

### How it works

Chiptune implements an 8-bit Programmable Sound Generator. Input is from a serial UART interface. Output is PWM audio.

### How to test

Explain how to test your project

## IO

#	Input	Output
0	clock	txd
1	reset	cts
2	rx	pwm
3	rts	led
4	demo	none
5	none	none
6	none	none
7	none	none

## 2 : 7 Segment Life

- Author: icegoat9
- Description: Simple 7-segment cellular automaton
- GitHub repository
- Wokwi project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 0 Hz
- External hardware: None. Could add debounced momentary pushbuttons in parallel with dip switches 1,2,3 to make loading in new patterns and stepping through a run easier.

### How it works

See the Wokwi gate layout and simulation. At a high level...

- Seven flip-flops hold the cellular automaton's internal state, which is also displayed in the seven-segment display.
- Combinatorial logic generates the next state for each segment based on its neighbors, according to the ruleset...
  - Living segments with exactly one living neighbor (another segment that touches it end to end) survive, and all others die.
  - Dead segments with exactly two living neighbors come to life.
- When either the system clock or a user toggling the clock input go high, this new state is latched into the automaton's state.
- There's minor additional support logic to let the user manually shift in an initial condition and handle clock dividing.

### How to test

For full details and a few 'exercises for the reader', see the github README doc link. But at a high level, assuming the IC is mounted on the standard tynytapeout PCB which provides dip switches, clock, and a seven-segment display for output...

- Set all dip switches off and the clock slide switch to the 'manual' clock side.
- Power on the system. An arbitrary state may appear on the 7-segment display.
- Set dip switch 4 on ('run mode').
- Toggle dip switch 1 on and off to advance the automaton to the next state, you should see the 7-segment display update.

If you want to watch it run automatically (which may quickly settle on an empty state or a static pattern, depending on start state)...

- Set the PCB clock divider to the maximum clock division (255). With a system clock of 6.25kHz, the clock input should now be ~24.5Hz.
- Set dip switches 5 and 7 on to add a reasonable additional clock divider (see docs for more details on a higher or lower divider).
- Set dip switch 4 on.
- Switch the clock slide switch to the 'system clock' side. The display should advance at roughly 1.5Hz if I've done math correctly.

If you want to load an initial state...

- Set dip switch 4 off ('load mode').
- Toggle dip switches 2 and/or 3 on and off seven times total, to shift in 0 and 1 values to the automaton internal state.
- Set dip switch 4 on and run manually or automatically as above.

## IO

#	Input	Output
0	clock	7segmentA
1	load0	7segmentB
2	load1	7segmentC
3	runmode	7segmentD
4	clockdiv8	7segmentE
5	clockdiv4	7segmentF
6	clockdiv2	7segmentG
7	unused	7segmentDP



### 3 : Another Piece of Pi

- Author: Meinhard Kissich, EAS Group, Graz University of Technology
- Description: This design takes up the idea of James Ross [1], who submitted a circuit to Tiny Tapeout 02 that stores and outputs the first 1024 decimal digits of the number Pi (including the decimal point) to a 7-segment display. In contrast to his approach, a densely packed decimal encoding is used to store the data. With this approach, 1400 digits can be stored and output within the design area of 150um x 170um. However, at 1400 decimals and utilization of 38.99%, the limitation seems to be routing. Like James, I'm also interested to hear about better strategies to fit more information into the design with synthesizable Verilog code. [1] [https://github.com/jar/tt02\\_freespeech](https://github.com/jar/tt02_freespeech)
- GitHub repository
- HDL project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 0 Hz
- External hardware: 7-segment display

#### How it works

The circuit stores each triplet of decimals in a 10-bit vector encoded as densely packed decimals. An index vector selects the current digits to be output to the 7-segment display. It consists of an upper part `index[11:2]` that selects the triplet and a lower part `index[1:0]` that specifies the digit within the triplet. First, the upper part decides on the triplet, which is then decoded into three decimals. Afterwards, the lower part selects one of the three decimals to be decoded into 7-segment display logic and applied to the outputs. The index is incremented at each primary clock edge. However, when the lower part equals three, i.e., `index[1:0]==1'b10`, two is added, as the triplet consists of three (not four) digits.

- `index == 'b0000000000|00`: triplet[0], digit 0 within triplet
- `index == 'b0000000000|01`: triplet[0], digit 1 within triplet
- `index == 'b0000000000|10`: triplet[0], digit 2 within triplet
- `index == 'b0000000001|00`: triplet[1], digit 0 within triplet
- `index == 'b0000000001|01`: triplet[1], digit 1 within triplet
- `index == 'b0000000001|10`: triplet[1], digit 2 within triplet

There is one exception to the rule above: the decimal point. Another multiplexer

at the input of the 7-segment decoder can either forward a digit from the decoded triplet or a constant – the decimal point. Once the lower part of the index counter, i.e., `index[1:0]` reaches `2'b10` for the first time, the multiplexer selects the decimal point and pauses incrementing the index for one clock cycle.

- `index == 'b0000000000|00: triplet[0], digit 0 within triplet`
- `index == 'b0000000000|01: triplet[0], decimal point`
- `index == 'b0000000000|01: triplet[0], digit 1 within triplet`
- `index == 'b0000000000|10: triplet[0], digit 2 within triplet`
- `index == 'b0000000001|00: triplet[1], digit 0 within triplet`

## How to test

For simulation, please use the provided testbench and Makefile. It is important to run the `genmux.py` Python script first, as it generates the test vectors required by the Verilog testbench. For testing the physical chip, release the reset and compare the digits of Pi against a reference.

## IO

#	Input	Output
0	clk	segment a
1	reset	segment b
2	none	segment c
3	none	segment d
4	none	segment e
5	none	segment f
6	none	segment g
7	none	decimal LED

## 4 : Wormy

- Author: nqbit
- Description: MC Wormy Pants squirms like a worm and grows just as fast.
- GitHub repository
- HDL project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 300 Hz
- External hardware:

### How it works

Wormy is a very simple, addictive last person video game. This last person, open-world game takes you down the path of an earthworm. Wormy's world is made up of a 4x4 grid represented by 3x16-bit arrays: Direction[0], Direction[1], and Occupied. The Direction[x] maps keep track of which way a segment of worm moves, if it is on, and Occupied keeps track of if the grid location is occupied.

Example Occupied Grid:

```
-----  
| X X X X |  
|           X |  
|           X |  
| _____ |
```

In addition to direction and occupied there are also pointers to the head and the tail. The same grid would look something like the following:

Example Occupied Grid with head(H) and tail(T) highlighted:

```
-----  
| T X X X |  
|           X |  
|           H |  
| _____ |
```

BOOM! Wormy shouldn't run into itself. If its head hits any part of its body, that causes a collision. There is a collision if the location of the Wormy's head is occupied by another segment of the Wormy. To determine this, we keep track of the worm location, and specifically the current and future locations of the worm head (H) and tail (T). If the future location of H will occupy a location that will already be occupied, this causes a collision.

This is made a bit trickier with growth (see below), because if the future state of H is set to occupy the current state of T - there is only a collision if growth is set to occur



grid of LEDs controlled by a multiplexer. Why multiplexing? With a multiplexed LED setup, we can control more display units (LEDs), with a limited number of outputs (8 on this TinyTapeout project).

To get multiplexing working the network of outputs is mapped to each display unit. This allows us to manipulate assigned outputs to control the state of each display unit, one at a time. We then cycle through each display unit quickly enough to display a persistent image to the last player.

Wires (A1-4, B1-4) map to each location on the game arena (4x4 grid):

```

A1|   |   |   |
-----
A2|   |   |   |
-----
A3|   |   |   |
-----
A4|   |   |   |
-----
  |B1 |B2 |B3 |B4

```

When B's voltage is OFF the LED's state changes to ON if A is also ON. - ON LED state: A(ON) — >| — B(OFF) - OFF LED state: A(ON) — >| — B(ON)

Example: The 3 filled squares below each represent a Wormy segment in the ON state as controlled by the multiplexer. Notice how each is lighter than the last. This is because the multiplexer cycles through each LED to update the state, creating one persistent image even though the LEDs are not on over the entire period of time.

```

A1|   | 0 |   |
-----
A2|   | o |   |
-----
A3|   | . |   |
-----
A4|   |   |   |
-----
  |B1 |B2 |B3 |B4

```

Another Example: If you enter a dark cave and point a flashlight straight ahead at one point on the wall you have a very small visual field that is contained within the beam of light. However, you can expand your visual field in the cave by waving the flashlight back and forth across the wall. Despite the fact that the beam is moving over individual points on the wall, the entire wall can be seen at once. This is similar to the concept used in the Wormy display, since the multiplexer changes the state of

the worm occupied locations to ON one at a time, but in a cycle. The result is a solid image, made up of LEDs cycling through ON states to produce a persistent image of Wormy (that beautiful Lumbricina).

## How to test

After reset, you should see a single pixel moving along the display and it should grow every now and then.

## IO

#	Input	Output
0	clock	A0 - Multiplexer channel A to be tied to a an array of 16 multiplexed LEDs
1	reset	A1
2	button0	A2
3	button1	A3
4	button2	B0 - Multiplexer channel B to be tied to a an array of 16 multiplexed LEDs
5	button3	B1
6	none	B2
7	none	B3

## 5 : Knight Rider Sensor Lights

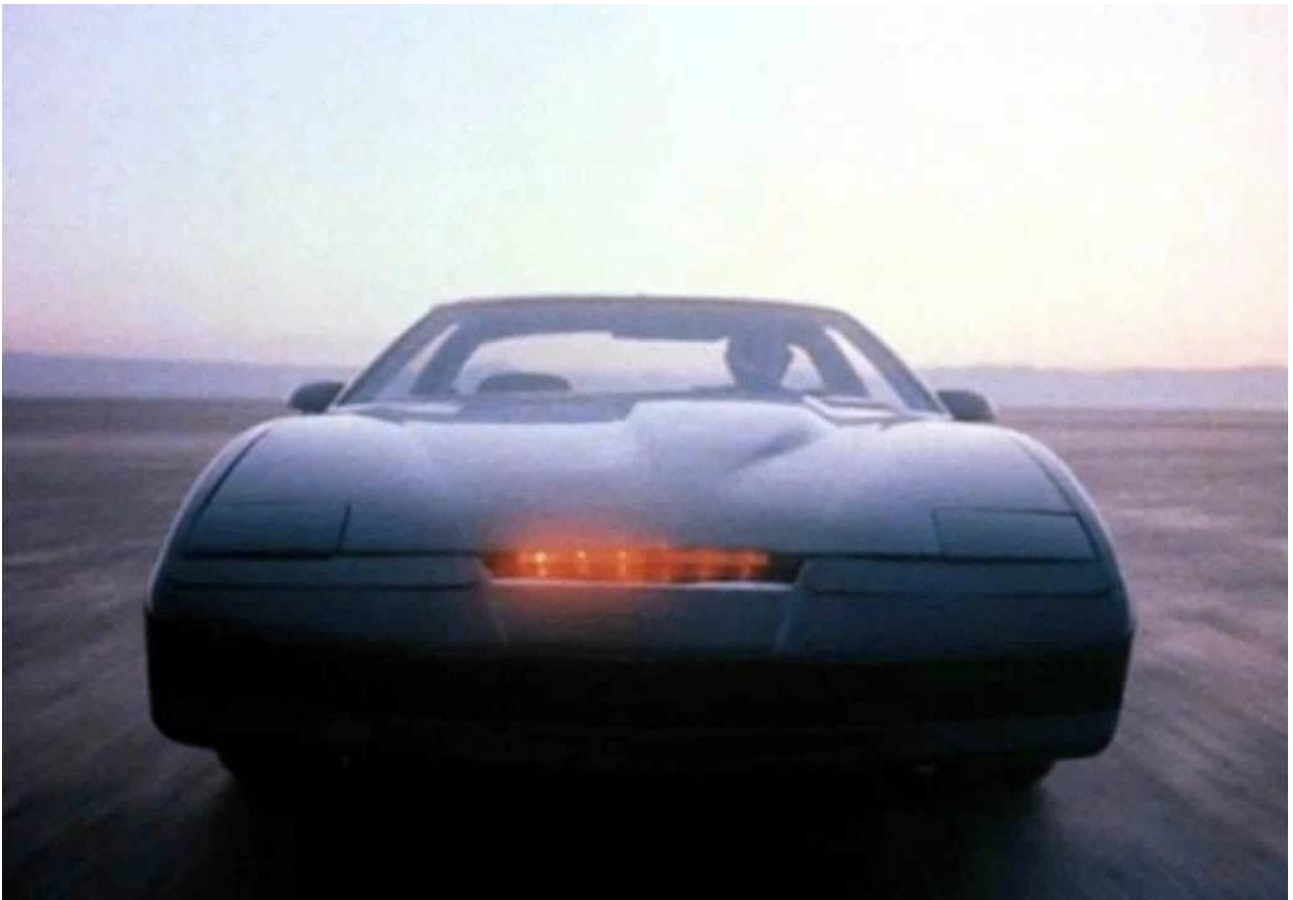


Figure 2: picture

- Author: Kolos Koblasz
- Description: The logic asserts output bits one by one, like KITT's sensor lights in Knight Rider.
- GitHub repository
- HDL project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 6000 Hz
- External hardware: Connect LEDs with ~1K-10K Ohm serial resistors to output pins and connect push button switches to Input[2] and Input[3] which drive the inputs with logic zeros when idle and with logic 1 when pressed. Rising edge on these inputs selects the next settings.

### How it works

Uses several counters, shiftregisters to create a moving light. Input[2] and Input[3] can control speed and brightness respectively. Brightness control is achieved by PWM of the output bits at 50Hz. Simulated with 6KHz clock signal.

## How to test

After reset it starts moving the switched on LED. Input[0] is clk and Input[1] is reset (1=reset on, 0=reset off). By creating rising edges on Input[2] and Input[3] the two config spaces can be discovered. Conect LEDs with ~1K-10K Ohm serial resistors to output pins and connect push button switches to Input[2] and Input[3] which drive the inputs with logic zeros when idle and with logic 1 when pressed. Rising edge on these inputs selects the next settings.

## IO

#	Input	Output
0	clock	LED 0
1	reset	LED 1
2	speed control	LED 2
3	brightness control	LED 3
4	none	LED 4
5	none	LED 5
6	none	LED 6
7	none	LED 7



## 6 : Single digit latch

- Author: Dylan Garrett
- Description: Store a single digit 0-9 and display it on a 7-segment display
- GitHub repository
- Wokwi project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 0 Hz
- External hardware:

### How it works

Explain how your project works

### How to test

Explain how to test your project

## IO

#	Input	Output
0	clock	segment a
1	reset	segment b
2	none	segment c
3	none	segment d
4	none	segment e
5	none	segment f
6	none	segment g
7	none	dot

## 7 : 4x4 Memory

- Author: Yannick Reiß
- Description: Store 4x4 bits of memory.
- GitHub repository
- Wokwi project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 1000 Hz
- External hardware:

### How it works

On write enable, the four data-inputs are saved to the d-flipflops selected by the address inputs. The output is always read from the current selected flipflops.

### How to test

Connect a clock, buttons for reset and write\_enable and switches for address and data like shown below. The output can be read by using 4 LEDs or any other kind of binary output device.

## IO

#	Input	Output
0	clock	data1
1	reset	data2
2	write_enable	data3
3	addr1	data4
4	addr2	none
5	data1	none
6	data2	none
7	data3	none

## 8 : KS-Signal

- Author: Yannick Reiß
- Description: Set KS-Signal based on track information.
- GitHub repository
- Wokwi project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 10000 Hz
- External hardware: Input: Clock, 9 Buttons, Output: 3 yellow LEDs, 3 white LEDs, 1 green LED, 1 red LED, 1 orange LED

### How it works

Simply switches lamps on and off on toggle.

### How to test

Connect the clock, and the buttons as inputs. Connect the LEDs as outputs in the order shown below.

## IO

#	Input	Output
0	track1_free	Fahrt! (Green)
1	track2_free	Halt Erwarten! (Orange)
2	pre_signal	Halt! (Red)
3	none	Vorsicht! (All yellow)
4	none	pre signal indicator (white)
5	allow shunting	lower shunting indicator (white)
6	Vorsicht!	shorter breaking distance (white)
7	shorter breaking distance	none

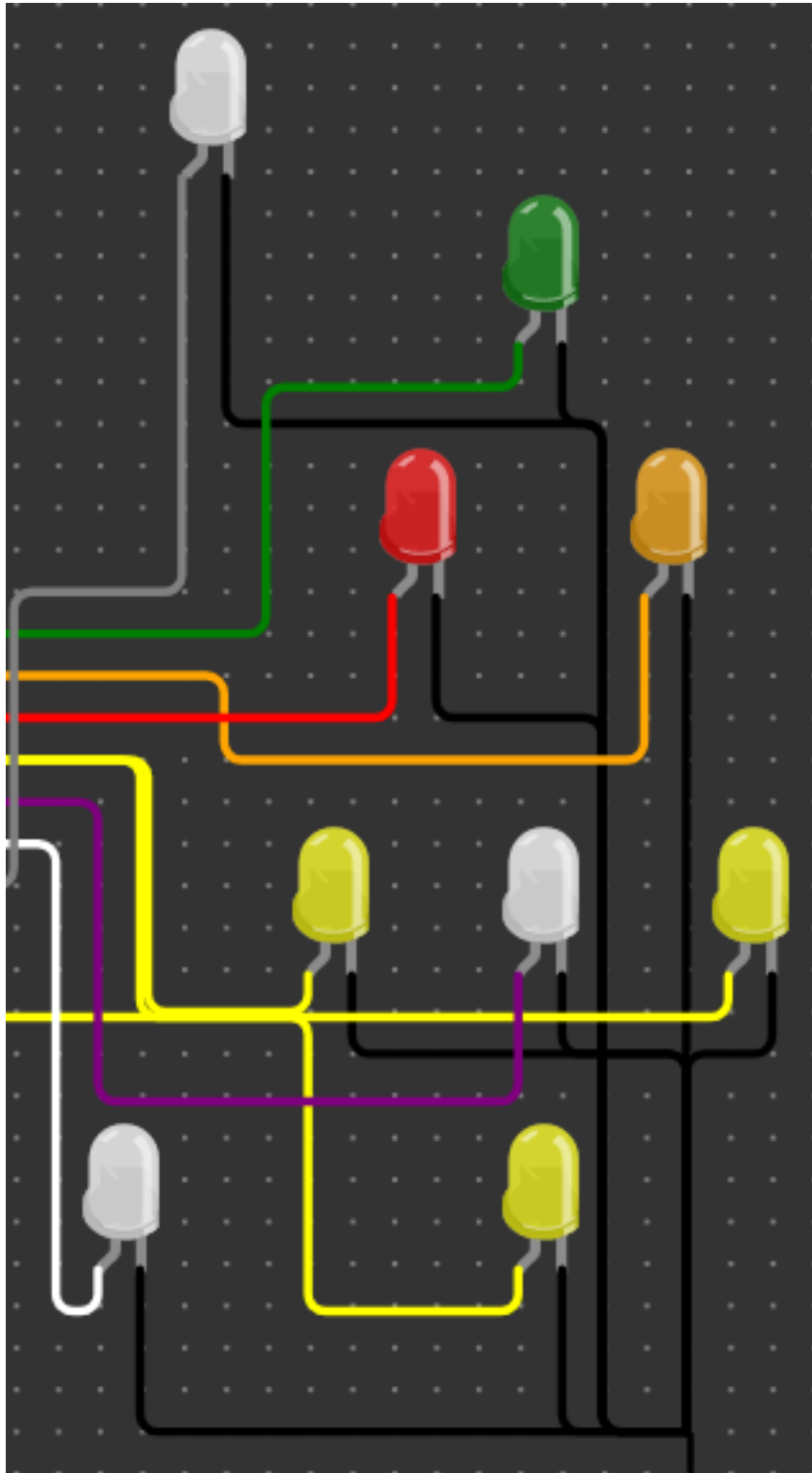


Figure 3: picture

## 9 : Hovalaag CPU

- Author: Mike Bell
- Description: Implementation of the CPU from HOVALAAG
- GitHub repository
- HDL project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 12500 Hz
- External hardware:

### How it works

HOVALAAG (Hand-Optimizing VLIW Assembly Language as a Game) is a free Zachlike game.

This is an implementation of the VLIW processor from the game. Thank you to @nothings for the fun game, making the assembler public domain, and for permission to create this hardware implementation.

The processor uses 32-bit instructions and has 12-bit I/O. The instruction and data are therefore passed in and out over 10 clocks per processor clock.

More details in the github repo.

### How to test

The assembler can be downloaded to generate programs.

The subcycle counter can be reset independently of the rest of the processor, to ensure you can get to a known state without clearing all registers.

## IO

#	Input	Output
0	Clock	Output 0
1	Reset disable (resets enabled when low)	Output 1
2	Input 0 or Reset (when high)	Output 2
3	Input 1 or Reset subcycle count (when high)	Output 3
4	Input 2 or enable ROSC (when high and reset enabled)	Output 4
5	Input 3	Output 5
6	Input 4	Output 6
7	Input 5	Output 7

## 10 : SKINNY SBOX

- Author: Niklas Fassbender
- Description: Implementation of a 4-Bit Sbox for SKINNY
- GitHub repository
- Wokwi project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 0 Hz
- External hardware:

### How it works

Explain how your project works

### How to test

Explain how to test your project

## IO

#	Input	Output
0	bit_0_lsb	bit_0_lsb
1	bit_1	bit_1
2	bit_2	bit_2
3	bit_3_msb	bit_3_msb
4	none	none
5	none	none
6	none	none
7	none	none

## 11 : Stateful Lock

- Author: Tim Henkes
- Description: A little combination lock which requires three codes in the correct order to unlock
- GitHub repository
- Wokwi project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 0 Hz
- External hardware:

### How it works

A little two-bit state machine decides which code is required to enter the next state. The fourth state equals to the lock being open. A wrong code in any state resets to the first state.

### How to test

To test the project, refer to its Wokwi, which is public.

## IO

#	Input	Output
0	unused	lock status
1	reset	unused
2	enter	unused
3	code digit 0	unused
4	code digit 1	unused
5	code digit 2	unused
6	code digit 3	unused
7	code digit 4	unused

## 12 : Ascon's 5-bit S-box

- Author: Fabio Campos
- Description: Ascon's 5-bit S-box
- GitHub repository
- Wokwi project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 0 Hz
- External hardware:

### How it works

See Figure 4a in <https://eprint.iacr.org/2021/1574.pdf>

### How to test

See Section 3.2 and Table 4 in <https://eprint.iacr.org/2021/1574.pdf>

## IO

#	Input	Output
0	x0	x0
1	x1	x1
2	x2	x2
3	x3	x3
4	x4	x4
5	none	none
6	none	none
7	none	none



## 13 : 8bit configurable galois lfsr

- Author: Alexander Schönborn
- Description: A 8bit configurable galois lfsr.
- GitHub repository
- HDL project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 1000 Hz
- External hardware:

### How it works

Uses 2 cycles each to set the shift and xor mask registers. It has 3 operation modes: normal shift,

### How to test

After reset, set the shift register and xor state, after that normal shift mode

## IO

#	Input	Output
0	clock	output[0] lsb normal lfsr output
1	reset	output[1] other 7 bits to see the full state
2	mode[0] 00 normal shift mode, 01 set register mode,	output[2]
3	mode[1] 10 set mode registers, 11 unused	output[3]
4	data_in[0] is used for both filling register and xor mask state	output[4]
5	data_in[1] needs 2 cycles to fill all 8 bits	output[5]
6	data_in[2] first cyle is lower 4 bits, 2nd upper 4 bits	output[6]
7	data_in[3] see above	output[7]

## 14 : Sbox SKINNY 8 Bit

- Author: Thorsten Knoll
- Description: A circuit for the substitution of 8 bits. Made for the SKINNY cipher algorithm.
- GitHub repository
- Wokwi project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 0 Hz
- External hardware:

### How it works

Explain how your project works

### How to test

Explain how to test your project

## IO

#	Input	Output
0	in_0	out_0
1	in_1	out_1
2	in_2	out_2
3	in_3	out_3
4	in_4	out_4
5	in_5	out_5
6	in_6	out_6
7	in_7	out_7

## 15 : BinaryDoorLock

- Author: Marcus Michaely
- Description: Input is 8-Bit and only one combination opens the door
- GitHub repository
- Wokwi project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 0 Hz
- External hardware:

### How it works

Explain how your project works

### How to test

Explain how to test your project

## IO

#	Input	Output
0	Bit_0	Output
1	Bit_1	none
2	Bit_2	none
3	Bit_3	none
4	Bit_4	none
5	Bit_5	none
6	Bit_6	none
7	Bit_7	none

## 16 : bad apple

- Author: shadow1229
- Description: Plays bad apple over a Piezo Speaker connected across io\_out[1:0]. Based on <https://github.com/meriac/tt02-play-tune>
- GitHub repository
- HDL project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 12000 Hz
- External hardware: Piezo speaker connected across io\_out[1:0]

### How it works

Converts an RTTL ringtone into verilog and plays it back using differential PWM modulation.

### How to test

Provide 12kHz clock on io\_in[0], briefly hit reset io\_in[1] (L->H->L) and io\_out[1:0] will play a differential sound wave over piezo speaker (Bad Apple)

## IO

#	Input	Output
0	clock	piezo_speaker_p
1	reset	piezo_speaker_n
2	none	none
3	none	none
4	none	none
5	none	none
6	none	none
7	none	none

## 17 : TinyFPGA attempt for TinyTapeout3

- Author: Emilian Miron
- Description: FPGA attempt
- GitHub repository
- HDL project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 1000 Hz
- External hardware:

### How it works

TODO

### How to test

After reset, the counter should increase by one every second.

### IO

#	Input	Output
0	clock	segment a
1	reset	segment b
2	none	segment c
3	none	segment d
4	none	segment e
5	none	segment f
6	none	segment g
7	none	slow clock output

## 18 : 4bit Adder

- Author: Carin Schreiner
- Description: This tiny tape out project takes two four bit numberbs and adds them.
- GitHub repository
- Wokwi project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 0 Hz
- External hardware:

### How it works

Explain how your project works

### How to test

Explain how to test your project

## IO

#	Input	Output
0	a0	r0
1	a1	r1
2	a2	r2
3	a3	r3
4	b0	carry
5	b1	none
6	b2	none
7	b3	none

## 19 : 12-bit PDP8

- Author: Paul Campnell
- Description: PDP8 core
- GitHub repository
- HDL project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 1000 Hz
- External hardware:

### How it works

This is a 12-bit basic PDP8 cpu - it doesn't have the extended arithmetic unit (so no multiply or divide). Included is an assembler (mostly for test). Bus interface is a 5-clock to get 12 bits of address and 12 bits of data though 8-bit interfaces. Address is 2 beats of 6 bits each, data is 3 beats of 4 bits each, I/O cycles have an extra beat

output bits

7 6 5 4 3 2 1 0

1 0 A A A A A A address hi

1 1 A A A A A A address lo

0 1 1 I I 4 2 1 IO cycle intro

either

0 0 0 0 - - - - read data high nibble

0 0 1 0 - - - - read data med nibble

0 1 0 0 - - - - read data low nibble

or

0 0 0 1 D D D D write data high nibble

0 0 1 1 D D D D write data med nibble

0 1 0 1 D D D D write data low nibble

Input bits are ignored except during read beats, interrupts are sampled during the first address beat

### How to test

code in test-bench, assembler in asm dir

## IO

#	Input	Output
0	clock	address_0_data_mux_0
1	reset	address_1_data_mux_1
2	none	address_2_data_mux_2
3	none	address_3_data_mux_3
4	data_in_0	address_4_rw_mux
5	data_in_1	address_5_phase_lo_select_mux
6	data_in_2	phase_hi_select
7	data_in_3	address_data_select



## 20 : CTF - Catch the fish

- Author: Carin Schreiner
- Description: Catch the fish is a whac-a-mole game.
- GitHub repository
- Wokwi project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 0 Hz
- External hardware:

### How it works

The project consists of \* a fibonacci lfsr of degree 6. \* a simple timer: the timer consists of two flip flops. It slows down the game and further amplifies the pseudo-randomness \* a button press detection for each button \* a simple reward detection \* Output state Handlers \* Output Selection: The last bit of the lfsr is used as the decision whether to give an output or not. The second and third to last bits are used to determine on which pin the output should be given. If both bits are zero, no output is given.

### How to test

To play the game, press the start button and make sure the clock is set to a frequency of one or two. The higher the frequency the more difficult the game gets. To score, you need to press the button while the respectively numbered feedback output is one. You then get a reward feedback

## IO

#	Input	Output
0	clock	feedback 1
1	button 1	feedback 2
2	button 2	feedback 3
3	button 3	reward feedback
4	none	none
5	none	none
6	none	none
7	none	none

## 21 : Dot operation calculator

- Author: Yannick Reiß
- Description: Can calculate the result for 3 bit multiplication and division.
- GitHub repository
- HDL project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 0 Hz
- External hardware: 7 switches, 6 leds

### How it works

It takes input 1 to determine operator and two 3 bit inputs as operands. The result is put to output 0-5. In multiplication mode it just outputs the number binary encoded. In division mode the output pins 0-2 are the quotient and 3-5 are the reminder.

### How to test

Connect input 1-7 with switches and output 0-6 with leds.

## IO

#	Input	Output
0	clk_dummy	product/quotient
1	opcode	product/quotient
2	operand1_1	product/quotient
3	operand1_2	product/remainder
4	operand1_3	product/remainder
5	operand2_1	product/remainder
6	operand2_2	none
7	operand2_3	none

## 22 : RiscV Scan Chain based CPU – block 1 – clocking

- Author: Emilian Miron
- Description: RiscV Scan Chain based CPU – block 1 – clocking
- GitHub repository
- HDL project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 20000 Hz
- External hardware:

### How it works

TODO

### How to test

After reset, the counter should increase by one every second.

### IO

#	Input	Output
0	clock	segment a
1	reset	segment b
2	none	segment c
3	none	segment d
4	none	segment e
5	none	segment f
6	none	segment g
7	none	slow clock output

## 23 : RiscV Scan Chain based CPU – block 2 – instructions

- Author: Emilian Miron
- Description: RiscV Scan Chain based CPU – block 2 – instructions
- GitHub repository
- HDL project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 20000 Hz
- External hardware:

### How it works

TODO

### How to test

After reset, the counter should increase by one every second.

### IO

#	Input	Output
0	clock	segment a
1	reset	segment b
2	none	segment c
3	none	segment d
4	none	segment e
5	none	segment f
6	none	segment g
7	none	slow clock output

## 24 : RiscV Scan Chain based CPU – block 3 – registers

- Author: Emilian Miron
- Description: RiscV Scan Chain based CPU – block 3 – registers
- GitHub repository
- HDL project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 20000 Hz
- External hardware:

### How it works

TODO

### How to test

After reset, the counter should increase by one every second.

### IO

#	Input	Output
0	clock	segment a
1	reset	segment b
2	none	segment c
3	none	segment d
4	none	segment e
5	none	segment f
6	none	segment g
7	none	slow clock output

## 25 : RiscV Scan Chain based CPU – block 4 – ALU

- Author: Emilian Miron
- Description: RiscV Scan Chain based CPU – block 4 – ALU
- GitHub repository
- HDL project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 20000 Hz
- External hardware:

### How it works

TODO

### How to test

After reset, the counter should increase by one every second.

### IO

#	Input	Output
0	clock	segment a
1	reset	segment b
2	none	segment c
3	none	segment d
4	none	segment e
5	none	segment f
6	none	segment g
7	none	slow clock output

## 26 : 31b-PrimeDetector

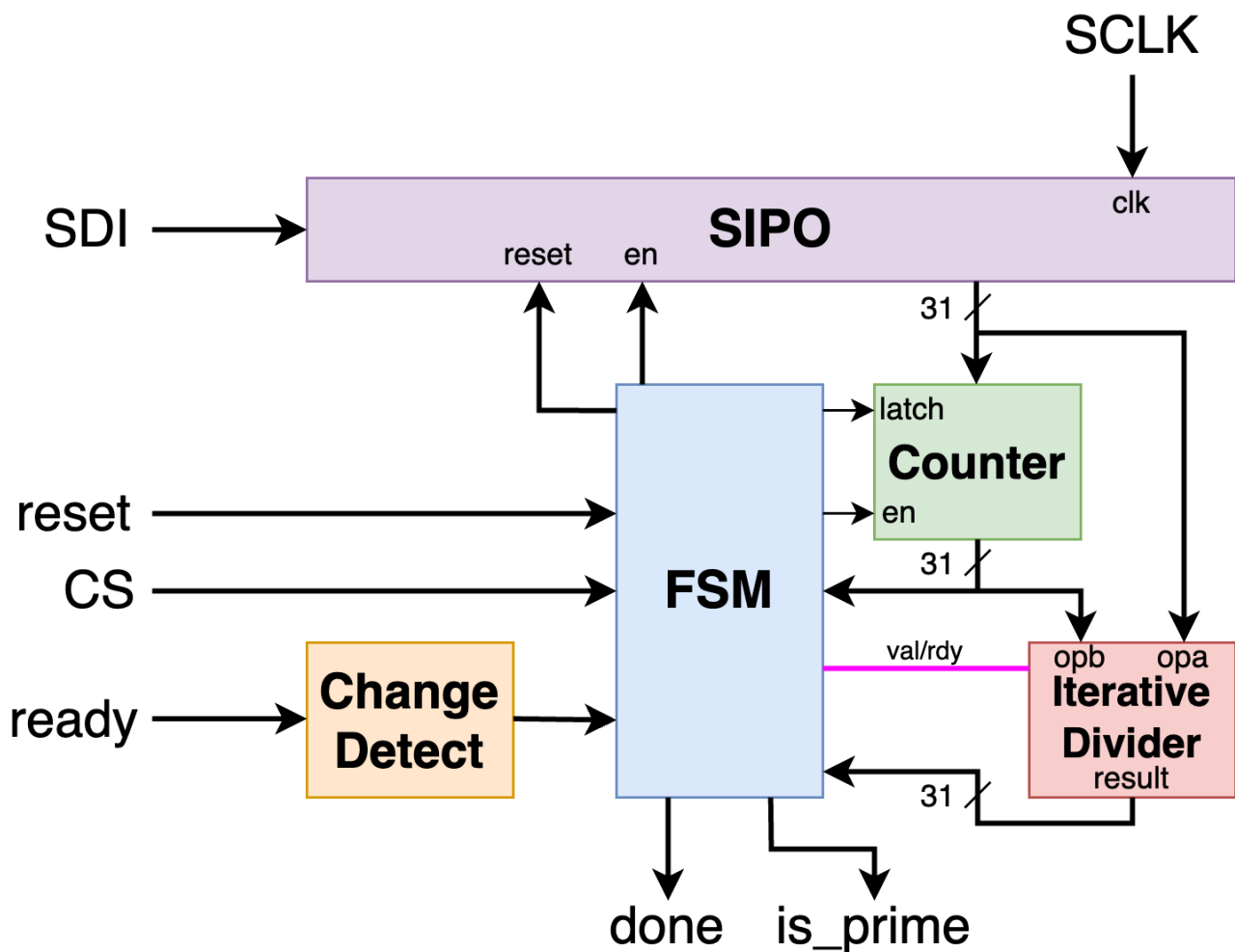


Figure 4: picture

- Author: Aidan McNay
- Description: Detects whether a 31-bit number is prime or not
- GitHub repository
- HDL project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 50000 (though could probably be faster) Hz
- External hardware: External Clock, 5 buttons for inputs, 2 LEDs for outputs

### How it works

The 31-bit Prime Detector takes in a 31-bit number (shifted in serially). Once the number is obtained, the FSM control logic takes over. It attempts to divide the value by all numbers less than it; if it finds one that divides evenly, the logic stops and declares the number not prime. If it doesn't divide evenly by any of these, the number is declared prime.

Due to space constraints, the design uses an iterative divider and FSM logic to minimize space usage. Further information can be taken from the README.md on the GitHub page

## How to test

This design requires an external clock. Before testing, the design should be reset with the appropriate pin (active high), which resets the stored value to 0. To shift in a value, use the SPI-like interface; when the CS line is enabled (active low), on rising edges of SCLK, the data present at SDI is shifted in. Data is shifted into the LSB, and progressively shifted to more significant bits as new data is received (with the data at MSB being shifted out and disregarded).

Once you have the desired number stored, start the calculations by enabling the ready pin (active high). Note that the stored value cannot change while calculations are ongoing.

Once the calculations are finished, the done pin will be driven high. The result will be shown on the is\_prime pin; a value of 1 indicates that the value inputted is prime.

## IO

#	Input	Output
0	clock	done
1	reset	is_prime
2	SDI	waiting
3	SCLK	GND
4	CS	GND
5	ready	GND
6	NC	GND
7	NC	GND



## 27 : XOR Stream Cipher

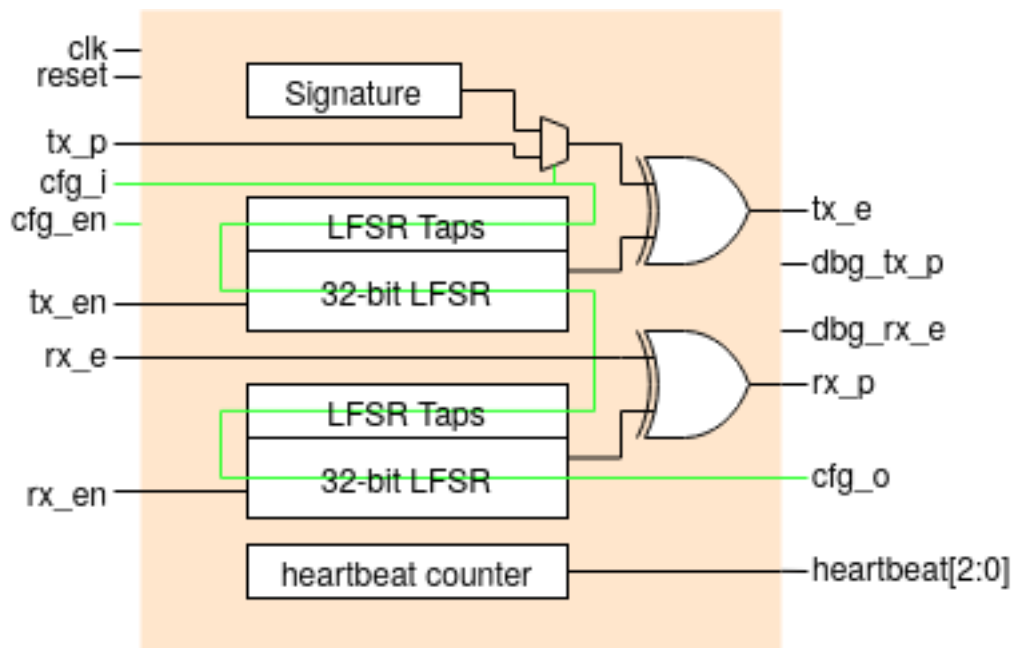


Figure 5: picture

- Author: Luke Vassallo
- Description: An two channel XOR stream cipher with fully programmable 32-bit galois LFSRs.
- GitHub repository
- HDL project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 12500 Hz
- External hardware: General puporse FPGA with PMOD connector for detailed testing./

### How it works

An XOR (exclusive or) cipher is a type of encryption that uses a bitwise exclusive or operation to combine a plaintext message with a secret key. This process generates a ciphertext that can only be decrypted by someone with the same secret key. XOR ciphers are commonly used in computer security and are popular due to their simplicity and efficiency. They can be implemented in hardware using XOR cipher chips, which typically use a Galois LFSR (linear feedback shift register) to generate a key stream that is XORed with the plaintext to produce the ciphertext. XOR ciphers are considered relatively secure as long as the secret key is kept secret and is not easily guessable.

The system uses a Galois Linear Feedback Shift Register (LFSR) to produce a key stream that is combined with the incoming bitstream through an XORing process to

create the cipher stream that appears at the output. A concurrent channel is additionally provided such that a transmission and reception bitstream can be encrypted and decrypted simultaneously. When the system is reset, a default configuration is applied that will encrypt the bitstream on tx\_p and decrypt the bitstream on rx\_e when tx\_en and rx\_en are respectively driven high.

To configure the chip (optional), a 130-bit configuration vector is serial shifted through the pin cfg\_i while the current configuration is simultaneously outputted on pin cfg\_o. This configuration method functions as a lengthy shift register with its input connected to cfg\_i and its output connected to cfg\_o. It only operates synchronously to clk when cfg\_en is asserted. The configuration vector consists of bits 95->64, 31->0 for the tx/rx LFSR state, 127->96, 63->32 bits for the tx/rx LFSR taps. Power-on-reset state has the taps configured for PRBS-31 and LFSR state holding 0x55. Bit 128 is used to internally route the output bitstreams through an XOR that returns the original bitstreams provided at the input albeit placed on debug output pins (disabled by default). Bit 129 selects between the internal or externally provided plaintext generator (default).

## How to test

Reset the module and optionally configure the LFSR taps, state and other options using the serial shift configuration register. When the enable pin (tx\_en/rx\_en) is asserted the corresponding channel is activate and the plain/cipher text bitstream will be encrypted/decrypted. Detailed simulation, FPGA and ASIC design examples are available on GitHub (<https://github.com/LukeVassallo/tt03-xor-cipher>). The GitHub repository is mirrored on my private GitLab instance (<https://gitlab.lukevassallo.com/luke/tt03-xor-cipher>) that incorporates automated builds and pre-built bitstreams.

## IO

#	Input	Output
0	clk (12.5KHz system clock)	tx_e ( Encrypted bitstream for transmission)
1	rst (Active high synchronous reset)	dbg_tx_p (Decrypted transmit bitstream, pin disabled by default)
2	tx_p (Plaintext bitstream for transmission)	dbg_rx_e (Encrypted receive bitstream, pin disabled by default)
3	cfg_i (Configuration input to the 130-bit serial shift register)	rx_p (Decrypted bitstream for reception)
4	cfg_en (Active high configuration enable)	cfg_o (Configuration output from the 130-bit shift register)

#	Input	Output
5	tx_en (Transmit channel enable)	heartbeat[7] (bit from heartbeat counter)
6	rx_e (Encrypted bitstream for reception)	heartbeat[8] (bit from heartbeat counter)
7	rx_en (Receive channel enable)	heartbeat[9] (bit from heartbeat counter)

## 28 : LED Panel Driver

- Author: Tom Keddie
- Description: TBD
- GitHub repository
- HDL project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 0 Hz
- External hardware: icebreaker led panel pmod single

### How it works

Explain how your project works

### How to test

Explain how to test your project

## IO

#	Input	Output
0	clock	red
1	reset	blue
2	none	aclk
3	none	blank
4	none	green
5	rowmax[0]	arst
6	rowmax[1]	sclk
7	rowmax[2]	latch

## 29 : 6-bit FIFO

- Author: Mike Bell
- Description: Implementation of a FIFO
- GitHub repository
- HDL project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 50000 Hz
- External hardware:

### How it works

The design implements a 52 entry 6-bit FIFO. The oldest 4 entries are accessible by setting the peek address. The first 48 entries in the FIFO are implemented as a chain of latches. This allows for high data density in the limited area. The last 4 entries in the FIFO are implemented by a ring of flip-flops. This allows random access to the last four entries.

Because of the way the chain of latches works, when entries are popped from the FIFO it takes time for data in the latch part of the FIFO to move down the chain. If the FIFO is fairly empty this shouldn't be noticeable, but when the FIFO is quite full this can cause the FIFO to refuse writes even though it is not full.

A ready output indicates whether the latch chain is ready for more data. If the FIFO is completely full and one entry is popped then it takes 48 cycles after the pop for the chain to be ready again. Therefore, if ready stays low when the FIFO is clocked 49 or more times without any data being popped then the FIFO is full.

There are minimal delays on the read side - if any data is in the FIFO then it can always be read, this works because empty latch entries can pass the data through them without needing to be clocked. The only exception to this is that due to input buffering newly written entries take 2 cycles to appear on the output.

### How to test

New entries, taken from inputs 2-7, are written to the FIFO on a rising clock edge when input 1 is high. Data writes are ignored when the Ready output is low.

Because of limited inputs, the write enable is used to determine the mode of inputs 2-5. When not writing, these control reset (active low), pop (active high) and the peek address.

The peek address controls whether the oldest to 4th oldest entry in the FIFO is presented on the data outputs.

Reading the oldest entry when the FIFO is empty always reads 0. However, peeking at previous entries when the FIFO is empty or has fewer occupied entries reads stale data - the values should not be relied upon.

The oldest entry is popped from the FIFO by setting pop. It is valid to set the peek address to a non-zero value when popping, but it is always the oldest entry that is popped, which is not the entry being read if peek address is non-zero. The peek address is considered prior to the pop.

When writing, it is always the last entry in the FIFO that is read (peek address is considered to be zero). The new value written when the FIFO is empty is not presented on the outputs until the following cycle.

## IO

#	Input	Output
0	Clock	Ready
1	Mode (Write enable)	Empty_n
2	Reset_n / Data 0	Data 0
3	Pop / Data 1	Data 1
4	Peek A0 / Data 2	Data 2
5	Peek A1 / Data 3	Data 3
6	Unused / Data 4	Data 4
7	Unused / Data 5	Data 5

## 30 : ezm\_cpu

- Author: guianmonezm#4787
- Description: basic 8bit CPU
- GitHub repository
- HDL project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 6000 Hz
- External hardware: FPGA or ram and demultiplexer

### How it works

you connect an external ram and a decoder to it or an FPGA with a rom programed.

### How to test

connect an external ram and a decoder to it.

## IO

#	Input	Output
0	clock	pc[0]/c
1	reset	pc[1]/c
2	in1	pc[2]/c
3	in2	pc[3]/c
4	in3	pc[4]/c
5	in4	pc[5]/c
6	in5	pc[6]/c
7	in6	pc[7]/c

## 31 : tiny logic analyzer

- Author: yubex
- Description: The design samples one data input and shows the current state and edge events using the 7 segment display.
- GitHub repository
- HDL project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 12500 Hz
- External hardware: no external HW required

### How it works

The samples of the data input pin are shifted into a shift register first. After that the 2 most significant bits are used to detect the current signal state (high, low) and the edge events (rising edge, falling edge). There are 4 different states/events displayed on the 7 segment display. high -> segment a should be on, low -> segment d should be on, rising edge detected -> segments e and f should be on, falling edge detected -> segments b and c should be on. The edge events duration is extended by an additional counters, so the events can actually be seen by the human eye.

### How to test

You can test by using the dip switch connected to io\_in[2] as data input. I plan to connect a wire to the pin on the PCB by PMOD connector or custom soldering to be able to have a “measurement probe”. ;-)

## IO

#	Input	Output
0	clock	segment a
1	reset	segment b
2	data input	segment c
3	none	segment d
4	none	segment e
5	none	segment f
6	none	segment g
7	none	dot



## 32 : 4-bit ALU

- Author: ReJ aka Renaldas Zioma
- Description: Digital design for a 4-bit ALU supporting 8 different operations and built-in 4-bit accumulator register
- GitHub repository
- Wokwi project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 0 Hz
- External hardware: push-button, debouncer, DIP-switch, 5 LEDs

## How it works

Each clock cycles ALU performs one of the 8 possible operations and stores result in the 4-bit accumulator register.

$$\text{accumulator [4 bit]} = \text{accumulator [4 bit]} (\text{operation}) \text{operand [4 bit]}$$

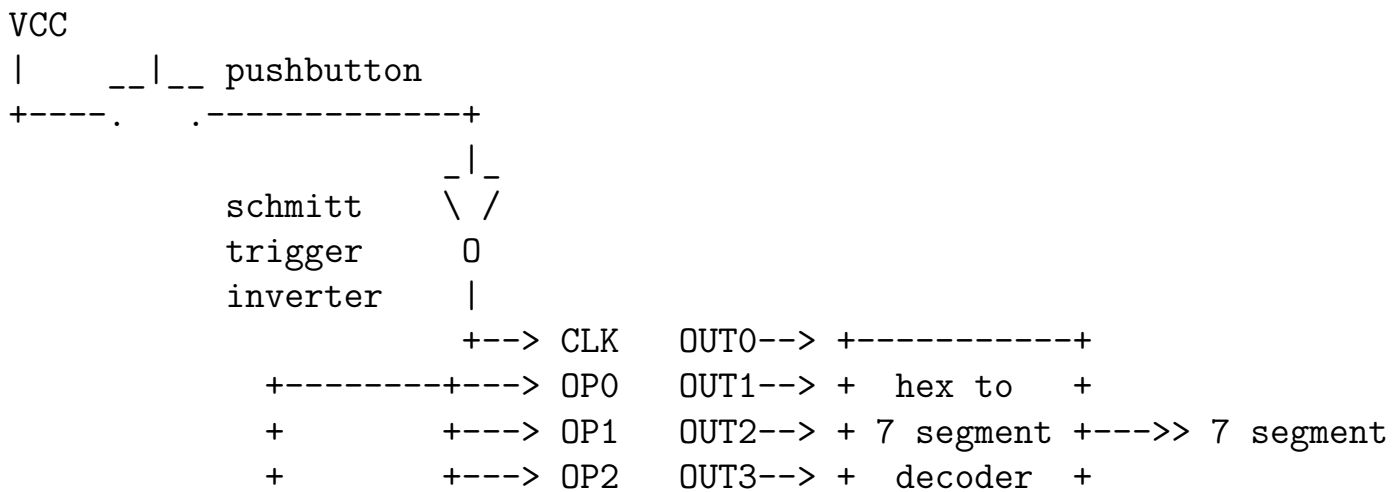
Supported operations: `lda imm :: imm -> accumulator` `neg imm :: 0x0F - imm -> accumulator` `shr :: accumulator / 2 -> accumulator` `sub imm :: accumulator - imm -> accumulator` `and imm :: accumulator & imm -> accumulator` `xor imm :: accumulator ^ imm -> accumulator` `or imm :: accumulator | imm -> accumulator` `add imm :: accumulator + imm -> accumulator`

Matrix mapping of operation opcode to internal control signals

opcode	muxA	muxB	muxC
AtoX	neg	setC	outC
invC	000	lda	--
1 0 0	--	1 0 0	--
001	neg	--	1 0 1
0 0 0	--	0 0 0	--
101	xor	0 1 0	0 0 0
0 0 0	--	0 0 0	--
110	or	1 0 0	0 0 0
0 0 0	--	0 0 0	--
111	add	1 1 0	0 0 0
0 0 0	--	0 0 0	--
1 0 0	--	0 0 0	--

## How to test

The following diagram shows a simple test setup that can be used to test ALU



```

+ DIP    +---> IMM0          +-----+
+ switch +---> IMM1
+        +---> IMM2
+        +---> IMM3 CARRY--> LED
+-----+---

```

To reset ALU set all input pins to 0 which corresponds to lda 0 operation loading Accumulator register with 0.

## IO

#	Input	Output
0	clock	accumulator value 0th bit
1	opcode 0th bit	accumulator value 1st bit
2	opcode 1st bit	accumulator value 2nd bit
3	opcode 2nd bit	accumulator value 3rd bit
4	operand 0th bit	{'unused (TODO': 'negative flag')}
5	operand 1st bit	{'unused (TODO': 'overflow flag')}
6	operand 2nd bit	{'unused (TODO': 'zero flag')}
7	operand 3rd bit	carry flag

## 33 : Pulse-Density Modulators

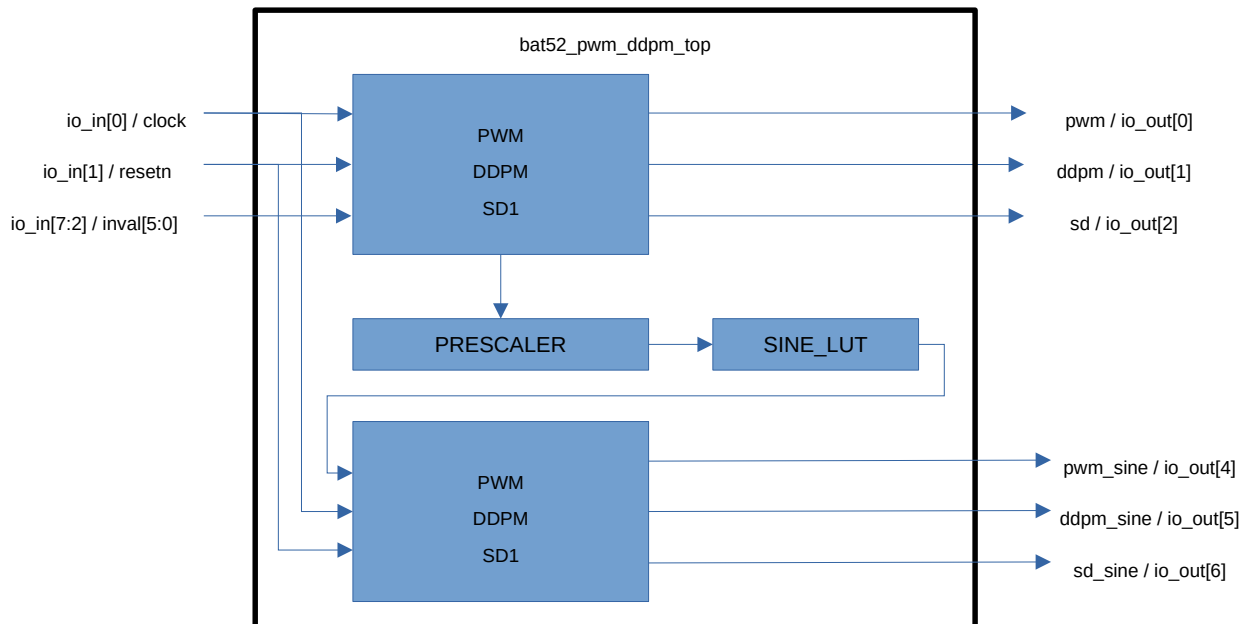


Figure 6: picture

- Author: Marco Merlin
- Description: An implementation of a DDPM, PWM and Sigma-Delta Pulse-Density Modulators with python libraries myHDL and PuEDA.
- GitHub repository
- HDL project
- Extra docs
- Clock: 12500 Hz
- External hardware: clock source

### How it works

This project implements three different architectures of Pulse Density Modulators (PDM), to compare performances and implementation complexity of the different schemes.

PDM modulators are of particular interest because exploiting oversampling, they allow to implement Digital-to-Analog-Conversion (DAC) schemes with an equivalent resolu-

tion of multiple bits, based on a single-bit digital output, by means of a straightforward analogue low-pass filter.

The PDM modulators implemented in this project are the following: 1) Pulse Width Modulation (PWM) 2) Dyadic Digital Pulse Modulation (DDPM) 3) Sigma-Delta (SD)

PWM is arguably the simplest and possibly most widespread PDM technology that is praised for its low complexity.

DDPM [1][2][3] is a type of digital modulation technique in which the pulse width are quantized in a dyadic manner, meaning that they are quantized in powers of two, which allows for efficient implementation using binary arithmetic. As a consequence, DDPM modulators are relatively inexpensive to deploy, with a complexity comparable to that of widespread Pulse-Width Modulation (PWM) modulators.

SD modulators are perhaps the best-performing PDM technology, that is particularly well suited for higher resolution data conversion, and typically find use in audio DACs and fractional PLLs. In spite their good performances, SD modulators are Infinite-Impulse-Response (IIR) closed-loop systems which behavior depends on the input signal, resulting in a number of concerns (most notably stability), that typically require careful modeling of the systems and condition under which they will be required to operate.

This design is separated into two section: 1) 6 bits resolution instance of PWM, DDPM and SD fed by a static DC value from the input pins 2) 8 bits resolution instance of PWM, DDPM and SD fed sine look-up-table (LUT) that allows to evaluate the spectral content of the modulated signals.

## How to test

Common: The circuit needs to be fed with a clock on pin `io_in[0]`. Reset signal needs to be released by raising to 1 pin `io_in[1]`.

Static DC:

The input inval of the first set of DC modulators is fed through pins `io_in[7:2]`. The low-passed dc component of the outputs on pins `io_out[0]` (PWM), `io_out[1]`, and `io_out[2]` is proportional to the decimal value of the input inval.

Sinusoidal output: The low-passed outputs on pins `io_out[4]` (PWM), `io_out[5]`, and `io_out[6]` is a sinusoidal wave. When clocking the chip with a clock frequency of 12.5kHz, the frequency of the sine is of 0.76z ( $f_{sin} = f_{clock} / 2^{14}$ ), so that it should be visible at naked eye. The different designs should achieve an ENOB of 8 bits in the band 0-40Hz, with different level of out-of-band emission between each other.

## IO

#	Input	Output
0	clock	pwm / segment a
1	resetn	ddpm / segment b
2	inval[0]	sd / segment c
3	inval[1]	0'b1 / segment d
4	inval[2]	pwm_sine / segment e
5	inval[3]	ddpm_sine / segment f
6	inval[4]	sd_sine / segment g
7	inval[5]	0'b1 / dot

# Technical info

## Scan chain

All 250 designs are joined together in a long chain similar to JTAG. We provide the inputs and outputs of that chain (see pinout below) externally, to the Caravel logic analyser, and to an internal scan chain driver.

The default is to use an external driver, this is in case anything goes wrong with the Caravel logic analyser or the internal driver.

The scan chain is identical for each little project, and you can read it here.

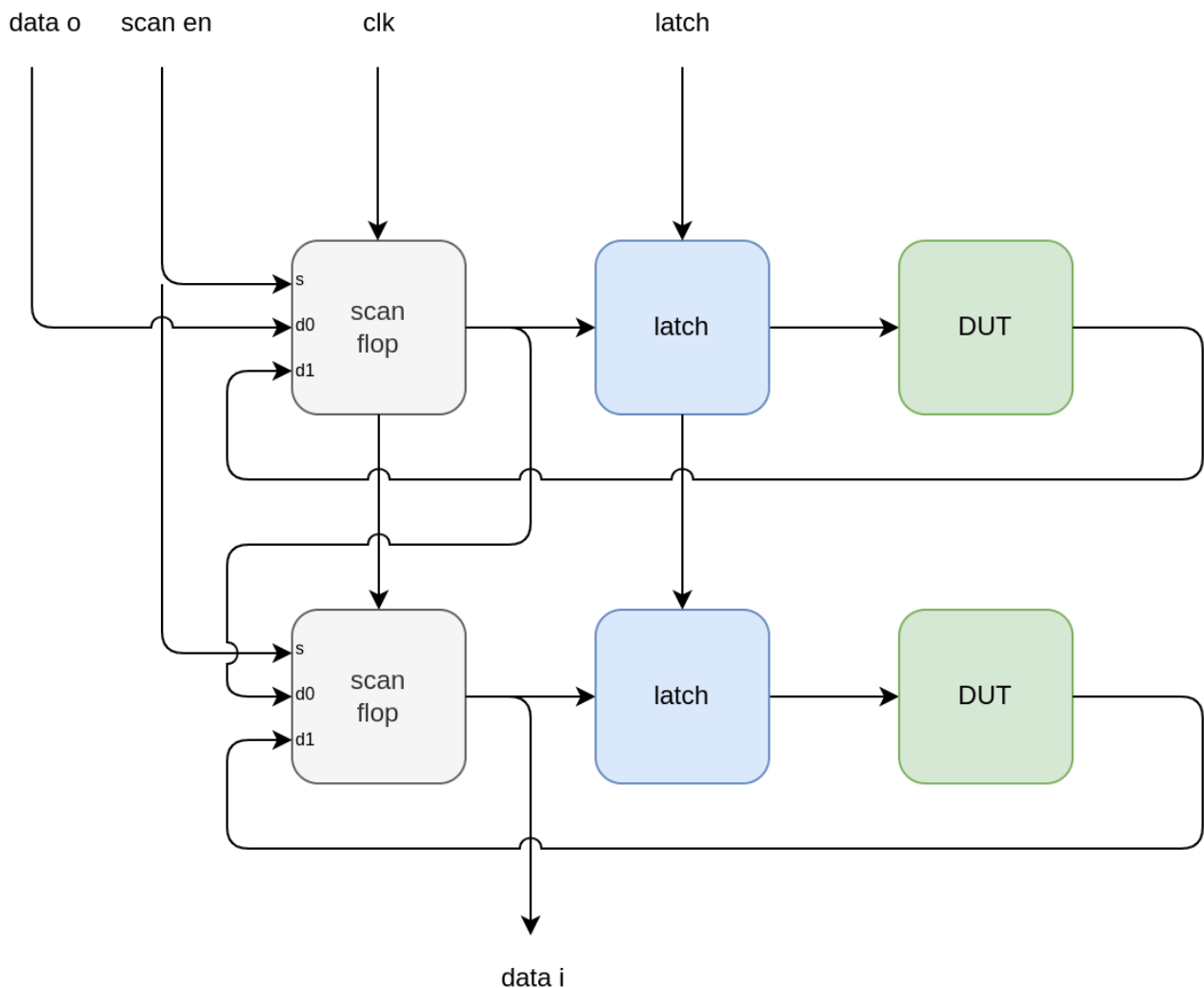


Figure 7: block diagram

## Updating inputs and outputs of a specified design

A good way to see how this works is to read the FSM in the scan controller. You can also run one of the simple tests and check the waveforms. See how in the scan chain

verification doc.

- Signal names are from the perspective of the scan chain driver.
- The desired project shall be called DUT (design under test)

Assuming you want to update DUT at position 2 (0 indexed) with inputs = 0x02 and then fetch the output. This design connects an inverter between each input and output.

- Set scan\_select low so that the data is clocked into the scan flops (rather than from the design)
- For the next 8 clocks, set scan\_data\_out to 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0
- Toggle scan\_clk\_out 16 times to deliver the data to the DUT
- Toggle scan\_latch\_en to deliver the data from the scan chain to the DUT
- Set scan\_select high to set the scan flop's input to be from the DUT
- Toggle the scan\_clk\_out to capture the DUT's data into the scan chain
- Toggle the scan\_clk\_out another 8 x number of remaining designs to receive the data at scan\_data\_in

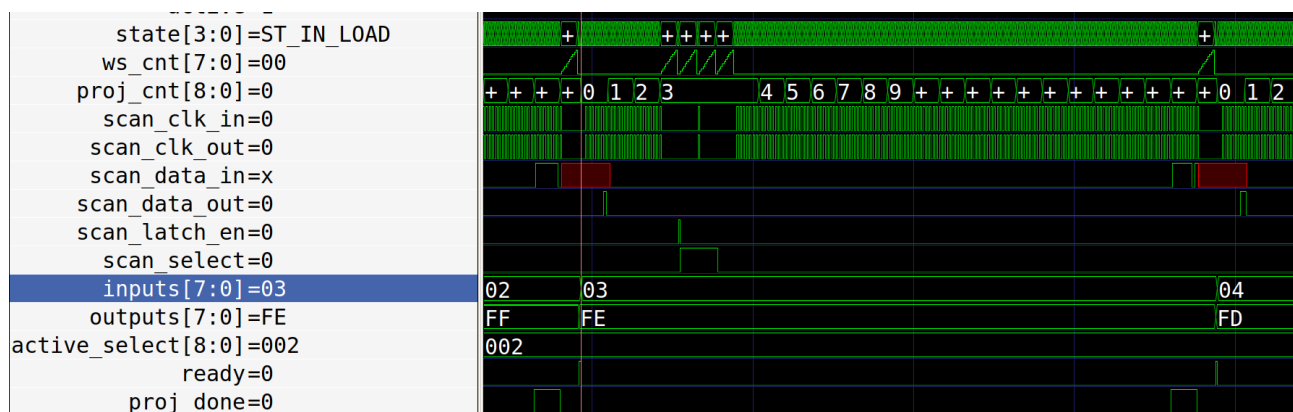


Figure 8: update cycle

### Notes on understanding the trace

- There are large wait times between the latch and scan signals to ensure no hold violations across the whole chain. For the internal scan controller, these can be configured (see section on wait states below).
- The input looks wrong (0x03) because the input is incremented by the test bench as soon as the scan controller captures the data. The input is actually 0x02.
- The output in the trace looks wrong (0xFE) because it's updated after a full refresh, the output is 0xFD.

## Clocking

Assuming:

- 100MHz input clock
- 8 ins & 8 outs
- 2 clock cycles to push one bit through the scan chain (scan clock is half input clock rate)
- 250 designs
- scan controller can do a read/write cycle in one refresh

So the max refresh rate is  $100\text{MHz} / (8 * 2 * 250) = 25000\text{Hz}$ .

## Clock divider

A rising edge on the `set_clk_div` input will capture what is set on the input pins and use this as a divider for an internal slow clock that can be provided to the first input bit.

The slow clock is only enabled if the `set_clk_div` is set, and the resulting clock is connected to `input0` and also output on the `slow_clk` pin.

The slow clock is synced with the scan rate. A divider of 0 mean it toggles the `input0` every scan. Divider of 1 toggles it every 2 cycles. So the resultant slow clock frequency is  $\text{scan\_rate} / (2 * (N+1))$ .

See the `test_clock_div` test in the scan chain verification.

## Wait states

This dictates how many wait cycle we insert in various state of the load process. We have a sane default, but also allow override externally.

To override, set the wait amount on the inputs, set the `driver_sel` inputs both high, and then reset the chip.

See the `test_wait_state` test in the scan chain verification.

## Pinout

PIN	NAME	DESCRIPTION
20:12	<code>active_select</code>	9 bit input to set which design is active
28:21	<code>inputs</code>	8 inputs
36:29	<code>outputs</code>	8 outputs
37	<code>ready</code>	goes high for one cycle everytime the scanchain is loaded
10	<code>slow_clk</code>	slow clock from internal clock divider
11	<code>set_clk_div</code>	enable clock divider



9:8	driver_sel	which scan chain driver: 00 = external, 01 =
21	ext_scan_clk_out	for external driver, clk input
22	ext_scan_data_out	data input
23	ext_scan_select	scan select
24	ext_scan_latch_en	latch
29	ext_scan_clk_in	clk output from end of chain
30	ext_scan_data_in	data output from end of chain

## Instructions to build GDS

To run the tool locally or have a fork's GitHub action work, you need the GH\_USERNAME and GH\_TOKEN set in your environment.

GH\_USERNAME should be set to your GitHub username.

To generate your GH\_TOKEN go to <https://github.com/settings/tokens/new> . Set the checkboxes for repo and workflow.

To run locally, make a file like this:

```
export GH_USERNAME=<username>
export GH_TOKEN=<token>
```

And then source it before running the tool.

## Fetch all the projects

This goes through all the projects in project\_urls.py, and fetches the latest artifact zip from GitHub. It takes the verilog, the GL verilog, and the GDS and copies them to the correct place.

```
./configure.py --clone-all --fetch-gds
```

## Configure Caravel

Caravel needs the list of macros, how power is connected, instantiation of all the projects etc. This command builds these configs and also makes the README.md index.

```
./configure.py --update-caravel
```

## Build the GDS

To build the GDS and run the simulations, you will need to install the Sky130 PDK and OpenLane tool. It takes about 5 minutes and needs about 3GB of disk space.

```
export PDK_ROOT=<some dir>/pdk
export OPENLANE_ROOT=<some dir>/openlane
cd <the root of this repo>
make setup
```

Then to create the GDS:

```
make user_project_wrapper
```

## Changing macro block size

After working out what size you want:

- adjust `configure.py` in `CaravelConfig.create_macro_config()`.
- adjust the PDN spacing to match in `openlane/user_project_wrapper/config.tcl`:
  - `set ::env(FP_PDN_HPITCH)`
  - `set ::env(FP_PDN_HOFFSET)`

# Verification

We are not trying to verify every single design. That is up to the person who makes it. What we want is to ensure that every design is accessible, even if some designs are broken.

We can split the verification effort into functional testing (simulation), static tests (formal verification), timing tests (STA) and physical tests (LVS & DRC).

See the sections below for details on each type of verification.

## Setup

You will need the GitHub tokens setup as described in INFO.

The default of 250 projects takes a very long time to simulate, so I advise overriding the configuration:

```
# fetch the test projects
./configure.py --test --clone-all
# rebuild config with only 20 projects
./configure.py --test --update-caravel --limit 20
```

You will also need iVerilog & cocotb. The easiest way to install these are to download and install the oss-cad-suite.

## Simulations

- Simulation of some test projects at RTL and GL level.
- Simulation of the whole chip with scan controller, external controller, logic analyser.
- Check wait state setting.
- Check clock divider setting.

### Scan controller

This test only instantiates user\_project\_wrapper (which contains all the small projects). It doesn't simulate the rest of the ASIC.

```
cd verilog/dv/scan_controller
make test_scan_controller
```

The Gate Level simulation requires scan\_controller and user\_project\_wrapper to be re-hardened to get the correct gate level netlists:

- Edit `openlane/scan_controller/config.tcl` and change `NUM_DESIGNS=250` to `NUM_DESIGNS=20`.
- Then from the top level directory:  
`make scan_controller make user_project_wrapper`
- Then run the GL test  
`cd verilog/dv/scan_controller make test_scan_controller_gl`

## **single**

Just check one inverter module. Mainly for easy understanding of the traces.

```
make test_single
```

## **custom wait state**

Just check one inverter module. Set a custom wait state value.

```
make test_wait_state
```

## **clock divider**

Test one inverter module with an automatically generated clock on input 0. Sets the clock rate to 1/2 of the scan refresh rate.

```
make test_clock_div
```

## **Top level tests setup**

For all the top level tests, you will also need a RISC-V compiler to build the firmware.

You will also need to install the 'management core' for the Caravel ASIC submission wrapper. This is done automatically by following the PDK install instructions.

## **Top level test: internal control**

Uses the scan controller, instantiated inside the whole chip.

```
cd verilog/dv/scan_controller_int
make coco_test
```

## Top level test: external control

Uses external signals to control the scan chain. Simulates the whole chip.

```
cd verilog/dv/scan_controller_ext  
make coco_test
```

## Top level test: logic analyser control

Uses the RISC-V co-processor to drive the scanchain with firmware. Simulates the whole chip.

```
cd verilog/dv/scan_controller_la  
make coco_test
```

## Formal Verification

- Formal verification that each small project's scan chain is correct.
- Formal verification that the correct signals are passed through for the 3 different scan chain control modes.

## Scan chain

Each GL netlist for each small project is proven to be equivalent to the reference scan chain implementation. The verification is done on the GL netlist, so an RTL version of the cells used needed to be created. See [here](#) for more info.

## Scan controller MUX

In case the internal scan controller doesn't work, we also have ability to control the chain from external pins or the Caravel Logic Analyser. We implement a simple MUX to achieve this and formally prove it is correct.

## Timing constraints

Due to limitations in OpenLane - a top level timing analysis is not possible. This would allow us to detect setup and hold violations in the scan chain.

Instead, we design the chain and the timing constraints for each project and the scan controller with this in mind.

- Each small project has a negedge flop at the end of the shift register to reclock the data. This gives more hold margin.

- Each small project has SDC timing constraints
- Scan controller uses a shift register clocked with the end of the chain to ensure correct data is captured.
- Scan controller has its own SDC timing constraints
- Scan controller can be configured to wait for a programmable time at latching data into the design and capturing it from the design.
- External pins (by default) control the scan chain.

## Physical tests

- LVS
- DRC
- CVC

### LVS

Each project is built with OpenLane, which will check LVS for each small project. Then when we combine all the projects together we run a top level LVS & DRC for routing, power supply and macro placement.

The extracted netlist from the GDS is what is used in the formal scan chain proof.

### DRC

DRC is checked by OpenLane for each small project, and then again at the top level when we combine all the projects.

### CVC

Mitch Bailey' CVC checker is a device level static verification system for quickly and easily detecting common circuit errors in CDL (Circuit Definition Language) netlists. We ran the test on the final design and found no errors.

- See the paper here.
- Github repo for the tool: <https://github.com/d-m-bailey/cvc>

# Toplevel STA and Spice analysis for TinyTapeout-02 and 03.

Contributed by J. Birch 22 March 2023

## Introduction

TinyTapeout is built using the OpenLane flow and consists of three major components:

- 1) up to 250 user designs with a common interface, each of which has been composed using the OpenLane flow,
- 2) a scanchain block that is instanced for each user design to provide input data and to sink output data,
- 3) a scan chain controller.

The OpenLane flow allows for timing analysis of each of these individual blocks but does not provide for analysis of the assembly of them, which leaves potential holes in timing that could cause failures.

This work allows a single design to be assembled out of the sub-blocks and this can then be submitted to STA for analysis.

In addition, an example critical path (for the clock that is passed along the scanchain) is created using a Python script so that it can be run through SPICE.

## GitHub action

The STA github action automatically runs the STA when the repository is updated.

## Prerequisites

To run STA, the following files need to be available:

- 1) a gate level verilog netlist of the top level design (verilog/rtl/user\_project\_wrapper.v)
- 2) a gate level verilog netlist for each sub-block (verilog/rtl/)
- 3) a SPEF format parasitics file for the top level wiring (spef/)
- 4) a SPEF format parasitics file for each sub-block (spef/)
- 5) the relevant SkyWater libraries for STA analysis - installed with the PDK
- 6) OpenSTA 2.4.0 (or later) needs to be on the PATH. rundocker.sh shows how to use STA included in the OpenLane docker
- 7) python3.9 or later
- 8) verilog parser (pip3 install verilog-parser)

9) a constraints file (sta\_top/top.sdc)

## Assumptions

- all of the Verilog files are in a single directory
- all of the SPEF files are in a single directory

## Issues

The Verilog parser has two bugs: it does not recognise 'inout' and it does not cope with escaped names (starting with a "). Locally this has been fixed but to use the off-the-shelf parser we preprocess the file to change inout to input and remove the escapes and substitute the [nnn] with *nnn* in the names

## Invoking STA analysis

```
sta_top/toplevel_sta.py <path to verilog> <path to spef> <sdc>
```

eg:

```
sta_top/toplevel_sta.py ./verilog/gl/user_project_wrapper.v  
./spef/user_project_wrapper.spef ./sta_top/top.sdc > sta.log
```

Alternatively you can enter interactive mode after analysis:

```
sta_top/toplevel_sta.py ./verilog/gl/user_project_wrapper.v  
./spef/user_project_wrapper.spef ./sta_top/top.sdc -i
```

## How it works

- preprocesses the main Verilog
- parses the main Verilog to find which modules are used
- creates a new merged Verilog containing all the module netlists and the main netlist
- creates a tcl script in the spef directory to load the relevant spefs for each instanced module in the main verilog
- creates all\_sta.tcl in the verilog/gl directory that does the main STA steps (loading design, loading constraints, running analyses) - this mimics what OpenLane does
- creates a script sta.sh in the verilog/gl directory which sets up the environment and invokes STA to run all\_sta.tcl
- runs sta.sh



## Invoking Spice simulation:

### Important notes

- This uses at least ngspice-34, tested on ngspice-39, which has features to increase speed and reduce memory image when running with the SkyWater spice models. In addition the following needs to be set in `~/spice.rc` and/or `~/spiceinit`:  
`set ngbehavior=hs`
- Note the spelling of ngbehavior (no u). If this is not set then the simulation will run out of memory]
- If the critical path changes then the `spice_path.py` script will need to be adapted to follow suit

### Instructions

- go to where the included spice files will be found  
`cd $PDK_ROOT/sky130A/libs.tech/ngspice`
- run the script to get the critical path spice circuit - 250 stages of the clock  
`/sta_top/spice_path.py path.spice`
- invoke spice (takes about 2 minutes)  
`ngspice path.spice`
- run the sim (takes about 2 minutes)  
`tran 1n 70n`
- show the results  
`plot i0 i250`

This chart shows the input clock and how it changes after 250 blocks. It was simulated for 200n to capture a clean pair of clock pulses.

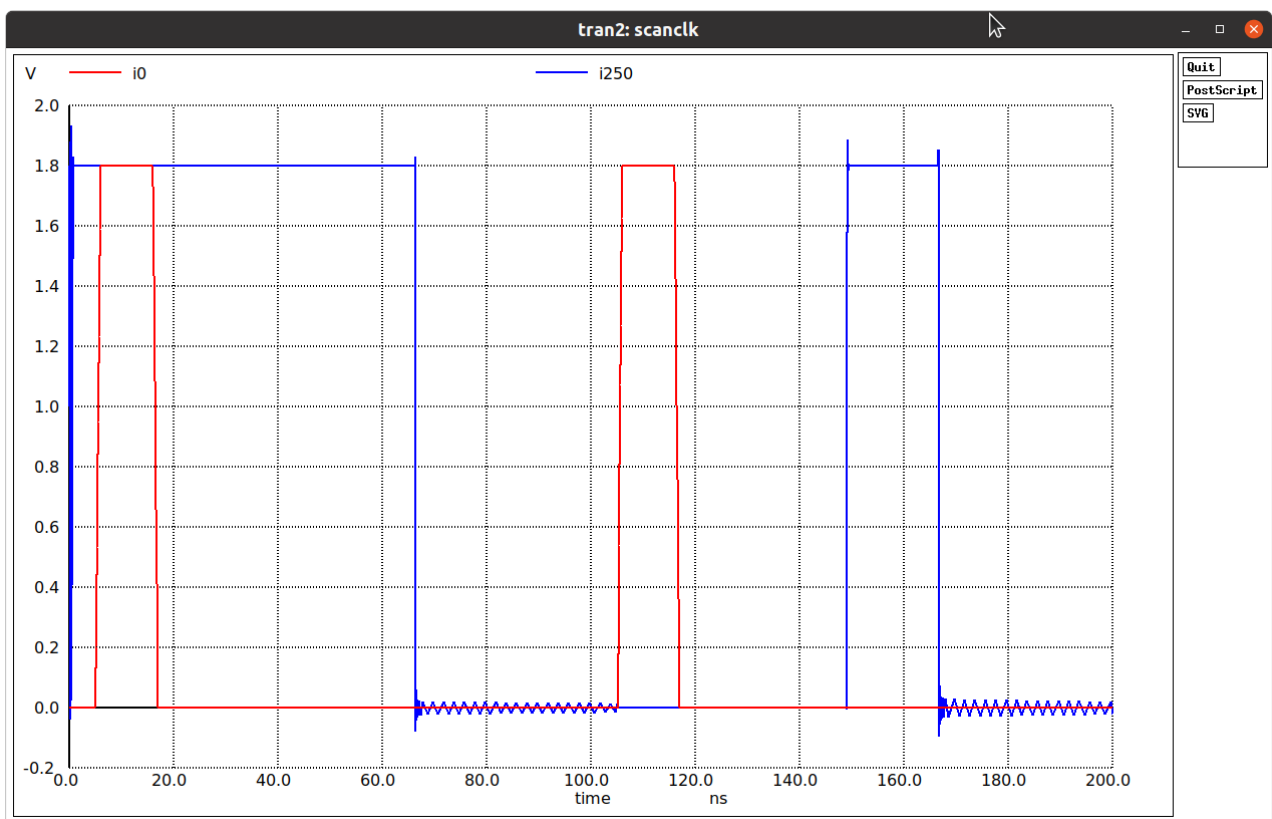


Figure 9: clock\_spice.png

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## **Team**

Tiny Tapeout would not be possible without a lot of people helping. We would especially like to thank:

- Uri Shaked for wokwi development and lots more
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