

UVVM Utility Library – Quick Reference

Checks and awaits

```
[v_bool :=] check_value(value, [exp], alert_level, msg, [...])
[v_bool :=] check_value_in_range(value, min_value, max_value, alert_level, msg, [...])
check_stable(target, stable_req, alert_level, msg, [...])
await_change(target, min_time, max_time, alert_level, msg, [...])
await_value(target, exp, min_time, max_time, alert_level, msg, [...])
await_stable(target, stable_req, stable_req_from, timeout, timeout_from, alert_level, msg, [...])
```

Logging and verbosity control

```
set_log_file_name(file_name)
log(msg_id, msg, [...])
log_text_block(msg_id, text_block, formatting, [...])
enable_log_msg(msg_id, [...])
disable_log_msg(msg_id, [...])
is_log_msg_enabled(msg_id, [msg_id_panel])
set_log_destination(log_destination, [quietness])
```

Alert handling

```
set_alert_file_name(file_name)
alert(alert_level, msg, scope)
[tb_]note(msg, [scope])
[tb_]warning(msg, [scope])
manual_check(msg, [scope])
[tb_]error(msg, [scope])
[tb_]failure(msg, [scope])
set_alert_stop_limit(alert_level, limit)
v_int := get_alert_stop_limit(alert_level)
set_alert_attention(alert_level, attention, [msg])
v_attention := get_alert_attention(alert_level)
increment_expected_alerts(alert_level, number)
```

Reporting

```
report_global_ctrl(VOID)
report_msg_id_panel(VOID)
report_alert_counters(VOID)
v_natural := shared_uvvm_status.no_unexpected_simulation_warnings_or_worse
v_natural := shared_uvvm_status.no_unexpected_simulation_errors_or_worse
```

Randomization

```
v_slv := random(length)
v_sl := random(VOID)
v_int := random(min_value, max_value)
v_real := random(min_value, max_value)
v_time := random(min_value, max_value)
random([min_value, [max_val]], v_seed1, v_seed2, v_target)
randomize(seed1, seed2)
```

String handling

```
v_string := to_string(val, [...])
v_string := justify(val, justified, width, format_spaces, truncate)
v_string := fill_string(val, width)
v_string := to_upper(val)
v_character := ascii_to_char(ascii_pos, [ascii_allow])
v_int := char_to_ascii(character)
v_natural := pos_of_leftmost(character, string, [result_if_not_found])
v_natural := pos_of_rightmost(character, string, [result_if_not_found])
v_string := remove_initial_chars(string, number of chars(natural))
v_string := get_procedure_name_from_instance_name(string)
v_string := get_process_name_from_instance_name(string)
v_string := get_entity_name_from_instance_name(string)
v_string := replace(string, target_character, exchange_character)
replace(inout line, target_character, exchange_character)
v_string := pad_string(val, char, width, [side])
```

Signal generators

```
clock_generator(clock, [clock_count], clock_period, [clock_high_percentage] / [clock_high_time])
clock_generator(clock, clock_ena, [clock_count], clock_period, clock_name, [clock_high_...])
adjustable_clock_generator(clock_signal, clock_ena, clock_period, clock_high_percentage)
adjustable_clock_generator(clock_signal, clock_ena, clock_period, clock_name, clock_high_percentage)
adjustable_clock_generator(clock_signal, clock_ena, clock_count, clock_period, clock_name, clock_high_percentage)
gen_pulse(target, [pulse_value] pulse_duration, [blocking_mode], msg) or (target, [pulse_value], clock_signal, num_periods, msg)
```

Synchronisation

```
block_flag(flag_name, msg)
unblock_flag(flag_name, msg, trigger)
await_unblock_flag(flag_name, timeout, msg, [flag_returning, [timeout_severity]])
await_barrier(barrier_signal, timeout, msg, [timeout_severity])
```

BFM Common Package

```
normalize_and_check(value, target, mode, value_name, target_name, msg)
wait_until_given_time_after_rising_edge(clk, wait_time)
wait_until_given_time_before_rising_edge(clk, time_to_edge, clk_period)
wait_num_rising_edge(clk, num_rising_edge)
wait_num_rising_edge_plus_margin(clk, num_rising_edge, margin)
```



VHDL 2008 only

await_change()	<p>target(bool), min_time, max_time, alert_level, msg, [scope, [msg_id, [msg_id_panel]]]</p> <p>target(sl), min_time, max_time, alert_level, msg, [scope, [msg_id, [msg_id_panel]]]</p> <p>target(slv), min_time, max_time, alert_level, msg, [scope, [msg_id, [msg_id_panel]]]</p> <p>target(u), min_time, max_time, alert_level, msg, [scope, [msg_id, [msg_id_panel]]]</p> <p>target(s), min_time, max_time, alert_level, msg, [scope, [msg_id, [msg_id_panel]]]</p> <p>target(int), min_time, max_time, alert_level, msg, [scope, [msg_id, [msg_id_panel]]]</p> <p>target(real), min_time, max_time, alert_level, msg, [scope, [msg_id, [msg_id_panel]]]</p> <p>Example</p> <p>await_change(bol, 3 ns, 5 ns, ERROR, "Awaiting change on bol signal");</p>	<p>Waits until the <i>target</i> signal changes, or times out after <i>max_time</i>. An alert is asserted if the signal does not change between <i>min_time</i> and <i>max_time</i>.</p> <p>Note that if the value changes at exactly <i>max_time</i>, the timeout gets precedence.</p> <p>Defaults: <i>scope</i>≤C_TB_SCOPE_DEFAULT, <i>msg_id</i>≤ID_POS_ACK, <i>msg_id_panel</i>≤shared_msg_id_panel</p>
await_value()	<p>target(bool), exp(bool), min_time, max_time, alert_level, msg, [scope, (etc.)]</p> <p>target(sl), exp(sl), [match_strictness], min_time, max_time, alert_level, msg, [scope, (etc.)]</p> <p>target(slv), exp(slv), [match_strictness], min_time, max_time, alert_level, msg, [scope, (etc.)]</p> <p>target(u), exp(u), min_time, max_time, alert_level, msg, [scope, (etc.)]</p> <p>target(s), exp(s), min_time, max_time, alert_level, msg, [scope, (etc.)]</p> <p>target(int), exp(int), min_time, max_time, alert_level, msg, [scope, (etc.)]</p> <p>target(real), exp(real), min_time, max_time, alert_level, msg, [scope, (etc.)]</p> <p>Examples</p> <p>await_value(bol, true, 10 ns, 20 ns, ERROR, "Waiting for bol to become true");</p> <p>await_value(slv8, "10101010", MATCH_STD, 3 ns, 7 ns, WARNING, "Waiting for slv8 value");</p>	<p>Waits until the <i>target</i> signal equals the <i>exp</i> signal, or times out after <i>max_time</i>.</p> <p>An alert is asserted if the signal does not equal the expected value between <i>min_time</i> and <i>max_time</i>.</p> <p>Note that if the value changes to the expected value at exactly <i>max_time</i>, the timeout gets precedence.</p> <p>- <i>match_strictness</i>: Specifies if match needs to be exact or std_match, e.g. 'H' = '1'. (MATCH_EXACT, MATCH_STD)</p> <p>Defaults: <i>match_strictness</i>≤MATCH_EXACT, <i>scope</i>≤C_TB_SCOPE_DEFAULT, <i>msg_id</i>≤ID_POS_ACK, <i>msg_id_panel</i>≤shared_msg_id_panel</p>
await_stable()	<p>target(bool), stable_req(time), stable_req_from(t_from_point_in_time), timeout (time), timeout_from(t_from_point_in_time), alert_level, msg, [scope, (etc.)]</p> <p>target(sl), stable_req(time), stable_req_from(t_from_point_in_time), timeout (time), timeout_from(t_from_point_in_time), alert_level, msg, [scope, (etc.)]</p> <p>target(slv), stable_req(time), stable_req_from(t_from_point_in_time), timeout (time), timeout_from(t_from_point_in_time), alert_level, msg, [scope, (etc.)]</p> <p>target(u), stable_req(time), stable_req_from(t_from_point_in_time), timeout (time), timeout_from(t_from_point_in_time), alert_level, msg, [scope, (etc.)]</p> <p>target(s), stable_req(time), stable_req_from(t_from_point_in_time), timeout (time), timeout_from(t_from_point_in_time), alert_level, msg, [scope, (etc.)]</p> <p>target(int), stable_req(time), stable_req_from(t_from_point_in_time), timeout (time), timeout_from(t_from_point_in_time), alert_level, msg, [scope, (etc.)]</p> <p>target(real), stable_req(time), stable_req_from(t_from_point_in_time), timeout (time), timeout_from(t_from_point_in_time), alert_level, msg, [scope, (etc.)]</p> <p>Example</p> <p>await_stable(u8, 20 ns, FROM_LAST_EVENT, 100 ns, FROM_NOW, ERROR, "Waiting for u8 to stabilize");</p>	<p>Wait until the target signal has been stable for at least 'stable_req'. Report an error if this does not occur within the time specified by 'timeout'.</p> <p>Note: 'Stable' refers to that the signal has not had an event (i.e. not changed value).</p> <p>Description of special arguments:</p> <p>stable_req_from :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FROM_NOW Target must be stable 'stable_req' from now. - FROM_LAST_EVENT Target must be stable 'stable_req' from the last event of target. <p>timeout_from :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FROM_NOW The timeout argument is given in time from now. - FROM_LAST_EVENT The timeout argument is given in time the last event of target. <p>Defaults: <i>scope</i>≤C_TB_SCOPE_DEFAULT, <i>msg_id</i>≤ID_POS_ACK, <i>msg_id_panel</i>≤shared_msg_id_panel</p>

1.2 Logging and verbosity control

Name	Parameters and examples	Description
set_log_file_name()	<p>[file_name(string)]</p> <p>Example</p> <pre>set_log_file_name("new_log_file_name.txt");</pre>	<p>Sets the log file name. To ensure that the entire log transcript is written to a single file, this should be called prior to any other procedures (except set_alert_file_name()). If file name is set after a log message has been written to the log file, a warning will be reported. This warning can be disabled by setting C_WARNING_ON_LOG_ALERT_FILE_RUNTIME_RENAME false in the adaptations_pkg.</p> <p>Defaults: file_name<=C_LOG_FILE_NAME</p>
log()	<p>msg_id, msg, [scope, [msg_id_panel, [log_destination(t_log_destination), [log_file_name(string), [open_mode(file_open_kind)]]]]]</p> <p>Examples</p> <pre>log(ID_SEQUENCER, "message to log"); log(ID_BFM, "Msg", "MyScope", local_msg_id_panel, LOG_ONLY, "new_log.txt", write_mode);</pre>	<p>Writes message to log. If the msg_id is enabled in msg_id_panel, log the msg. Log destination defines where the message will be written to (CONSOLE_AND_LOG, CONSOLE_ONLY, LOG_ONLY). If log destination is not specified, the default value in shared_default_log_destination found in the adaptations_pkg.vhd will be used. Log file name defines the log file that the text block shall be written to. open_mode indicates how the log file shall be opened (write_mode, append_mode).</p> <p>Defaults: scope<=C_TB_SCOPE_DEFAULT, msg_id_panel<=shared_msg_id_panel, log_destination<= shared_default_log_destination, log_file_name<=C_LOG_FILE_NAME, open_mode<=append_mode</p>
log_text_block()	<p>msg_id, text_block(line), formatting(t_log_format), [msg_header(string), [scope, [msg_id_panel, [log_if_block_empty(t_log_if_block_empty), [log_destination(t_log_destination), [log_file_name(string), [open_mode(file_open_kind)]]]]]]]</p> <p>Examples</p> <pre>log_text_block(ID_SEQUENCER, v_line, UNFORMATTED); log_text_block(ID_BFM, v_line, FORMATTED, "Header", "MyScope");</pre>	<p>Writes text block from VHDL line to log. Formatting either FORMATTED or UNFORMATTED. msg_header is an optional header message for the text_block. log_if_block_empty defines how an empty text block is handled (WRITE_HDR_IF_BLOCK_EMPTY/SKIP_LOG_IF_BLOCK_EMPTY/NOTIFY_IF_BLOCK_EMPTY). Log destination defines where the message will be written to (CONSOLE_AND_LOG, CONSOLE_ONLY, LOG_ONLY). Log file name defines the log file that the text block shall be written to. open_mode indicates how the log file shall be opened (write_mode, append_mode).</p> <p>Defaults: msg_header<="", scope<=C_TB_SCOPE_DEFAULT, msg_id_panel<=shared_msg_id_panel, log_if_block_empty<=WRITE_HDR_IF_BLOCK_EMPTY, log_destination<= shared_default_log_destination, log_file_name<=C_LOG_FILE_NAME, open_mode<=append_mode</p>
enable_log_msg ()	<p>msg_id, [quietness(t_quietness)]</p> <p>msg_id, msg, [quietness(t_quietness)]</p> <p>msg_id, msg_id_panel, [msg, [scope, [quietness(t_quietness)]]]</p> <p>Example</p> <pre>enable_log_msg(ID_SEQUENCER);</pre>	<p>Enables logging for the given msg_id. (See ID-list on front page for special purpose IDs). Logging of enable_log_msg() can be turned off by setting quietness=QUIET.</p> <p>Defaults: msg_id_panel<=shared_msg_id_panel, msg<="", scope<=C_TB_SCOPE_DEFAULT, quietness<=NON_QUIET</p>
disable_log_msg()	<p>msg_id, [quietness(t_quietness)]</p> <p>msg_id, msg, [quietness(t_quietness)]</p> <p>msg_id, msg_id_panel, [msg, [scope, [quietness(t_quietness)]]]</p> <p>Example</p> <pre>disable_log_msg(ID_LOG_HDR);</pre>	<p>Disables logging for the given msg_id. (See ID-list on front page for special purpose IDs). Logging of disable_log_msg() can be turned off by setting quietness=QUIET.</p> <p>Defaults: msg_id_panel<=shared_msg_id_panel, msg<="", scope<=C_TB_SCOPE_DEFAULT, quietness<=NON_QUIET</p>
[v_bool :=] is_log_msg_enabled ()	<p>msg_id, [msg_id_panel]</p> <p>Example</p> <pre>v_is_enabled := is_log_msg_enabled(ID_SEQUENCER);</pre>	<p>Returns Boolean 'true' if given message ID is enabled. Otherwise 'false'</p> <p>Defaults: msg_id_panel<=shared_msg_id_panel</p>
set_log_destination ()	<p>t_log_destination, [quietness(t_quietness)]</p> <p>Example</p> <pre>set_log_destination(CONSOLE_ONLY);</pre>	<p>Sets the default log destination for all log procedures. The destination specified in this log_destination will be used unless the log_destination argument in the log procedure is specified. A log message is written to log ID ID_LOG_MSG_CTRL if quietness is set to NON_QUIET.</p> <p>Defaults: quietness <= NON_QUIET</p>

1.2.1 General string handling features for log()

- All log messages will be given using the user defined layout in adaptations_pkg.vhd
- \n may be used to force line shifts. Line shift will occur after scope column, before message column
- \r may be used to force line shift at start of log message. The result will be a blank line apart from prefix (message ID, timestamp and scope will be omitted on the first line)

1.3 Alerts

Name	Parameters and examples	Description
set_alert_file_name()	file_name(string)] Example set_alert_file_name("new_alert_log_file.txt");	Sets the alert file name. To ensure that the entire log transcript is written to a single file, this should be called prior to any other procedures (except set_alert_file_name()). If file name is set after a log message has been written to the log file, a warning will be reported. This warning can be disabled by setting C_WARNING_ON_LOG_ALERT_FILE_RUNTIME_RENAME false in the adaptations_pkg. Defaults: file_name<=C_ALERT_FILE_NAME
alert()	alert_level, msg , [scope] Example alert(TB_WARNING, "This is a TB warning");	- Asserts an alert with severity given by alert_level. - Increment the counters for the given alert_level. - If the stop_limit for the given alert_level is reached, stop the simulation. Defaults: scope <=C_TB_SCOPE_DEFAULT
note() error() tb_note() tb_error() warning() failure() tb_warning() tb_failure() manual_check()	msg, [scope] Examples note("This is a note"); tb_failure("This is a TB failure", "tb_scope");	Overloads for alert(). Note that: warning(msg, [scope]) = alert(warning, msg, [scope]). Defaults: scope <=C_TB_SCOPE_DEFAULT
increment_expected_alerts()	alert_level, [number (natural) , [msg, [scope]]] Example increment_expected_alerts(WARNING, 2, "Expecting two more warnings");	Increments the expected alert counter for the given alert_level. Defaults: number<=1,msg<="", scope <=C_TB_SCOPE_DEFAULT
set_alert_stop_limit()	alert_level, number (natural) Example set_alert_stop_limit(ERROR, 2);	Simulator will stop on hitting <number> of specified alert type (0 means never stop).
v_int := get_alert_stop_limit()	alert_level Example v_int := get_alert_stop_limit(FAILURE);	Returns current stop limit for given alert type.
set_alert_attention()	alert_level, attention (t_attention), [msg] Example set_alert_attention(NOTE, IGNORE, "Ignoring all note-alerts");	Set given alert type to t_attention: IGNORE or REGARD. Defaults: msg <=""
v_attention := get_alert_attention()	alert_level Example v_attention := get_alert_attention(WARNING)	Returns current attention (IGNORE or REGARD) for given alert type.

1.4 Reporting

Name	Parameters	Description
report_global_ctrl()	VOID	Logs the values in the global_ctrl signal, which is described in chapter 1.12
report_msg_id_panel()	VOID	Logs the values in the msg_id_panel, which is described in chapter 1.12
report_alert_counters()	VOID	Logs the status of all alert counters, typically at the end of simulation. For each alert_level, the alert counter is compared with the expected counter.

Shared variable	Signal type	Description
shared_uvvm_status.no_unexpected_simulation_warnings_or_worse	Natural, read only	Status is '1' on success and '0' on failure. The variable is set when there is a mismatch in the expected and the actual WARNING, ERROR or FAILURE alerts.
shared_uvvm_status.no_unexpected_simulation_errors_or_worse	Natural, read only	Status is '1' on success and '0' on failure. The variable is set when there is a mismatch in the expected and the actual ERROR or FAILURE alerts.

1.5 Randomization

Name	Parameters and examples	Description
v_slv := random()	length(int) Example v_slv := random(v_slv'length);	Returns a random std_logic_vector of size <i>length</i> . The function uses and updates a global seed.
v_sl := random()	VOID Example v_sl := random(VOID);	Returns a random std_logic. The function uses and updates a global seed
{v_int,v_real,v_time} := random()	min_value(int), max_value(int) min_value(real), max_value(real) min_value(time), max_value(time) Example v_int := random(1, 10);	Returns a random <i>integer, real or time</i> between min_value and max_value. The function uses and updates a global seed
random()	v_seed1(positive <i>variable</i>), v_seed2(positive <i>variable</i>), v_target(slv <i>variable</i>) Example random(v_seed1, v_seed2, v_slv)	Sets v_target to a random value. The procedure uses and updates v_seed1 and v_seed2.
random()	min_value(int), max_value(int), v_seed1(positive <i>var</i>), v_seed2(positive <i>var</i>), v_target(int <i>var</i>) min_value(real), max_value(real), v_seed1(positive <i>var</i>), v_seed2(positive <i>var</i>), v_target(real <i>var</i>) min_value(time), max_value(time), v_seed1(positive <i>var</i>), v_seed2(positive <i>var</i>), v_target(time <i>var</i>) Example random(0.01, 0.03, v_seed1, v_seed2, v_real);	Sets v_target to a random value between min_value and max_value. The procedure uses and updates v_seed1 and v_seed2.
randomize()	seed1(positive), seed2(positive) , [msg, [scope]] Example randomize(12, 14, "Setting global seeds");	Sets the global seeds to <i>seed1</i> and <i>seed2</i> .

1.6 String handling

(Methods are defined in `uvvm_util.string` methods)

Name	Parameters and examples	Description
<code>v_string := to_string()</code> *IEEE	<code>value({ANY_SCALAR_TYPE})</code> <code>value(slv)</code> <code>value(time), unit(time)</code> <code>value(real), digits(natural)</code> <code>value(real), format(string) -- C-style formatting</code>	IEEE defined <code>to_string</code> functions. Return a <i>string</i> with the value of the argument 'value'.
<code>v_string := to_string()</code>	<code>val(bool), width(natural), justified(side), format_spaces(t_format_spaces), [truncate(t_truncate_string)]</code> <code>val(int), width(natural), justified(side), format_spaces(t_format_spaces), [truncate(t_truncate_string)]</code> <code>val(slv), radix(t_radix), [format(t_format_zeros), [prefix(t_radix_prefix)]]</code> <code>val(t_slv_array), radix(t_radix), [format(t_format_zeros), [prefix(t_radix_prefix)]]</code> <code>val(u), radix(t_radix), [format(t_format_zeros), [prefix(t_radix_prefix)]]</code> <code>val(t_unsigned_array), radix(t_radix), [format(t_format_zeros), [prefix(t_radix_prefix)]]</code> <code>val(s), radix(t_radix), [format(t_format_zeros), [prefix(t_radix_prefix)]]</code> <code>val(t_signed_array), radix(t_radix), [format(t_format_zeros), [prefix(t_radix_prefix)]]</code> <code>val(string) -- Removes non printable ascii characters</code> Examples <code>v_string := to_string(v_u8, DEC);</code> <code>v_string := to_string(v_slv8, HEX, AS_IS, INCL_RADIX);</code>	Additions to the IEEE defined <code>to_string</code> functions. Return a <i>string</i> with the value of the argument 'val'. - type <code>t_radix</code> is (BIN, HEX, DEC, HEX_BIN_IF_INVALID) - type <code>t_format_spaces</code> is (KEEP_LEADING_SPACE, SKIP_LEADING_SPACE) - type <code>t_truncate_string</code> is (DISALLOW_TRUNCATE, ALLOW_TRUNCATE) - type <code>t_format_zeros</code> is (AS_IS, SKIP_LEADING_0) - type <code>t_radix_prefix</code> is (EXCL_RADIX, INCL_RADIX) Defaults: <code>justified<=RIGHT</code> , <code>truncate<=DISALLOW_TRUNCATE</code> , <code>prefix<=EXCL_RADIX</code>
<code>v_string := to_upper()</code>	<code>val(string)</code> Example <code>v_string := to_upper("lowercase string");</code>	Returns a <i>string</i> containing an upper case version of the argument 'val'
<code>v_string := justify()</code> *IEEE	<code>value(string), [justified(side)], [field(width)]</code>	IEEE implementation of <code>justify</code> . Returns a <i>string</i> where 'value' is justified to the side given by 'justified' (right, left). Defaults: <code>justified<=right</code> , <code>field<=0</code>
<code>v_string := justify()</code>	<code>val(string), justified(side), width(natural), format_spaces(t_format_spaces), truncate(t_truncate_string)</code> Example <code>v_string := justify("string", RIGHT, C_STRING_LENGTH, ALLOW_TRUNCATE, KEEP_LEADING_SPACE);</code>	Addition to the IEEE implementation of <code>justify()</code> . Returns a <i>string</i> where 'val' is justified to the side given by 'justified' (right, left). The string can be truncated with the 'truncate' parameter (ALLOW_TRUNCATE, DISALLOW_TRUNCATE) or leading spaces can be removed with 'format_spaces' (KEEP_LEADING_SPACE, SKIP_LEADING_SPACE).
<code>v_string := fill_string()</code>	<code>val(character), width(natural)</code> Example <code>v_string := fill_string('X', 10);</code>	Returns a <i>string</i> filled with the character 'val'.
<code>v_character := ascii_to_char()</code>	<code>ascii_pos(int), [ascii_allow (t_ascii_allow)]</code> Example <code>v_char := ascii_to_char(65); -- ASCII 'A'</code>	Return the ASCII to character located at the argument 'ascii_pos' - type <code>t_ascii_allow</code> is (ALLOW_ALL, ALLOW_PRINTABLE_ONLY) Defaults: <code>ascii_allow<=ALLOW_ALL</code>
<code>v_int := char_to_ascii()</code>	<code>char (character)</code> Example <code>v_int := char_to_ascii('A'); -- Returns 65</code>	Return the ASCII value (integer) of the argument 'char'

v_natural := pos_of_leftmost()	target(character), vector(string), [result_if_not_found (natural)] Example v_natural := pos_of_leftmost('x', v_string);	Returns position of left most 'character' in 'string', alternatively return-value if not found Defaults: result_if_not_found<=1
v_natural := pos_of_rightmost()	target(character), vector(string), [result_if_not_found (natural)] Example v_natural := pos_of_rightmost('A', v_string);	Returns position of right most 'character' in 'string', alternatively return-value if not found Defaults: result_if_not_found<=1
v_string := remove_initial_chars()	source(string), num(natural) Example v_string := remove_initial_chars("abcde",1); -- Returns "bcde"	Return string less the num (number of chars) first characters
v_string := get_procedure_name_from_instance_name()	val(string) Example v_string := get_procedure_name_from_instance_name(c_int'instance_name);	Returns procedure, process or entity name from the given instance name as <i>string</i> . The instance name must be <object>'instance_name, where object is a signal, variable or constant defined in the procedure, process and entity/process respectively e.g. get_entity_name_from_instance_name(my_process_variable'instance_name)
v_string := get_process_name_from_instance_name()	val(string) Example v_string := get_process_name_from_instance_name(c_int'instance_name);	
v_string := get_entity_name_from_instance_name()	val(string) Example v_string := get_entity_name_from_instance_name(c_int'instance_name);	
v_string := replace()	val(string), target_char(character), exchange_char(character) Example v_string := replace("string_x", 'x', 'y'); -- Returns "string_y"	String function returns a <i>string</i> where the target character has been replaced by the exchange character.
replace()	variable text_line(inout line), target_char(character), exchange_char(character) Example replace(str, 'a', 'b');	Similar to function version of replace(). Line procedure replaces the input with a line where the target character has been replaced by the exchange character.
v_string := pad_string()	val(string), char(character), width(natural), [side(side)] Example v_string := pad_string("abcde", '-', 10, LEFT);	Returns a string of width 'width' with the string 'val' on the side of the string given in 'side' (LEFT, RIGHT). The remaining width is padded with 'char'. Defaults: side <= LEFT

Note: See section 1.2.1 for general string handling features for the log() procedure

1.7 Signal generators

Name	Parameters and examples	Description
clock_generator()	<p>clock_signal(slv), [clock_count (natural)], clock_period(time), [clock_high_percentage(natural)]</p> <p>clock_signal(slv), [clock_count (natural)], clock_period(time), [clock_high_time(time)]</p> <p>clock_signal(slv), clock_ena(boolean), [clock_count(natural)], clock_period(time), clock_name(string), [clock_high_percentage(natural range 1 to 99)]</p> <p>clock_signal(slv), clock_ena(boolean), [clock_count(natural)], clock_period(time), clock_name(string), [clock_high_time(time)]</p> <p>Examples</p> <p>clock_generator(clk50M, 20 ns);</p> <p>clock_generator(clk100M, clk100M_ena, 10 ns, "100 MHz with 60% duty cycle", 60);</p> <p>clock_generator(clk100M, clk100M_ena, clk100M_cnt, 10 ns, "100 MHz with 60% duty cycle", 6 ns);</p>	<p>Generates a clock signal.</p> <p>Usage: Include the clock_generator as a concurrent procedure from your test bench.</p> <p>By using the variant with the <i>clock_ena</i> input, the clock can be started and stopped during simulation. Each start/stop is logged (if the msg_id ID_CLOCK_GEN is enabled).</p> <p>Duty cycle can be set either by percentage or time.</p> <p>An optional output signal <i>clock_count</i> can be used to keep track of the number of clock cycles that have passed. Always starts on 0.</p> <p>Defaults: <i>clock_high_percentage</i> <= 50</p>
adjustable_clock_generator()	<p>clock_signal(slv), clock_ena(boolean), clock_period(time), clock_high_percentage(natural)</p> <p>clock_signal(slv), clock_ena(boolean), clock_period(time), clock_name(string), clock_high_percentage(natural)</p> <p>clock_signal(slv), clock_ena(boolean), clock_count(natural), clock_period(time), clock_name(string), clock_high_percentage(natural)</p> <p>Examples</p> <p>adjustable_clock_generator(clk50M, clk50M_ena, 20 ns, 50);</p> <p>adjustable_clock_generator(clk50M, clk50M_ena, 20 ns, "100MHz clock with 50% duty cycle", 50);</p> <p>adjustable_clock_generator(clk50M, clk50M_ena, clk50M_cnt, 20 ns, "100MHz clock with 60% duty cycle", 60);</p>	<p>Generates a clock with adjustable duty cycle.</p> <p>Usage: Include the adjustable_clock_generator as a concurrent procedure from your test bench.</p> <p>Duty cycle can be adjusted by changing the clock_high_percentage.</p> <p>Note that clock_high_percentage has to be set in the range of 1 to 99, and that an TB_ERROR will be raised if scale limits are exceeded.</p> <p>Input parameter clock_period and clock_name are constants.</p> <p>An optional output signal <i>clock_count</i> can be used to keep track of the number of clock cycles that have passed. Always starts on 0.</p>
gen_pulse()	<p>target(slv), [pulse_value(slv)], pulse_duration(time), [blocking_mode(t_blocking_mode)], msg, [scope, [msg_id, [msg_id_panel]]]</p> <p>target(slv), [pulse_value(slv)], clock_signal(slv), num_periods(int), msg, [scope, [msg_id, [msg_id_panel]]]</p> <p>target(boolean), [pulse_value(boolean)], pulse_duration(time), [blocking_mode(t_blocking_mode)], msg, [scope, [msg_id, [msg_id_panel]]]</p> <p>target(boolean), [pulse_value(boolean)], clock_signal(slv), num_periods(int), msg, [scope, [msg_id, [msg_id_panel]]]</p> <p>target(slv), [pulse_value(slv)], pulse_duration(time), [blocking_mode(t_blocking_mode)], msg, [scope, [msg_id, [msg_id_panel]]]</p> <p>target(slv), [pulse_value(slv)], clock_signal(slv), num_periods(int), msg, [scope, [msg_id, [msg_id_panel]]]</p> <p>Examples</p> <p>gen_pulse(slv_1, 50 ns, BLOCKING, "Pulsing for 50 ns");</p> <p>gen_pulse(slv_1, '1', 50 ns, BLOCKING, "Pulsing for 50 ns");</p> <p>gen_pulse(slv8, 50 ns, "Pulsing SLV for 50 ns", ALLOW_PULSE_CONTINUATION);</p> <p>gen_pulse(slv8, x"AB", clk100M, 2, "Pulsing SLV for 2 clock periods");</p>	<p>Generates a pulse on the target signal for a certain amount of time or a number of clock cycles.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If blocking_mode = BLOCKING: Procedure blocks the caller (f.ex the test sequencer) until the pulse is done. (default) - If blocking_mode = NON_BLOCKING : Procedure starts the pulse and schedules the end of the pulse, so that the caller can continue immediately. <p>Note that the clock_signal version will exit on synchronize to falling edge, and exit on the succeeding falling edge.</p> <p>Defaults: <i>pulse_value</i> <= ('1' true (others=>'1')), <i>scope</i> <= C_TB_SCOPE_DEFAULT, <i>msg_id</i> <= ID_GEN_PULSE, <i>msg_id_panel</i> <= shared_msg_id_panel</p>

1.8 Synchronisation

Name	Parameters and examples	Description
block_flag()	block_flag(flag_name(string), msg(string)) Example block_flag("my_flag", "blocking my flag") block_flag(C_MY_FLAG_1, "blocking " & C_MY_FLAG_1)	Blocks a flag to allow synchronisation between sequencer. Hint: use a constant for flag_name to avoid typing errors
unblock_flag	unblock_flag(flag_name(string), msg(string), trigger(sl)) Example unblock_flag("my_flag", "unblocking my flag", global_trigger) unblock_flag(C_MY_FLAG_1, "unblocking " & C_MY_FLAG_1, global_trigger)	Unblocks a flag to allow a sequencer that is waiting on that flag to continue. There is a global_trigger signal defined in the methods pkg which must be used to work properly. Hint: use a constant for flag_name to avoid typing errors
await_unblock_flag	await_unblock_flag(flag_name(string), timeout(time), msg, [flag_returning(t_flag_returning), [timeout_severity(t_alert_level)]] Examples await_unblock_flag("my_flag", 0 ns, "waiting for my_flag to be unblocked") await_unblock_flag("my_flag", 10 us, "waiting for my_flag to be unblocked, RETURN_TO_BLOCK, WARNING") await_unblock_flag(C_MY_FLAG_1, 10 us, "waiting for "C_MY_FLAG_1 & " to be unblocked", RETURN_TO_BLOCK, WARNING)	Waits for a flag to be unblock. If the flag was unblocked before it continues immediately. A timeout of 0 ns means wait forever. If the flag is not unblocked within timeout it set an alert with timeout_severity level. With the parameter flag_returning it is possible to block the flag after it was unblocked by another sequencer (default KEEP_UNBLOCKED). Hint: use a constant for flag_name to avoid typing errors
await_barrier	await_barrier(barrier_signal(sl), timeout(time), msg(string), [timeout_severity(t_alert_level)]) Example await_barrier(global_barrier, 100 us, "waiting for global barrier", ERROR)	For the barrier_signal you can either use the predefined global_barrier or you can define your own barrier_signal of type sl. The function can be used to synchronise between several sequencers. When the function is called, it waits for all sequencer using the same barrier_signal to reach their call of await_barrier.

1.9 BFM Common package

(Methods are defined in `uvvm_util.bfm_common_pkg`)

Name	Parameters and examples	Description
<code>{slv, u, s, t_slv_array, t_signed_array, t_unsigned_array} := normalize_and_check()</code>	<p><code>value(slv), target(slv), mode (t_normalization_mode), value_name, target_name, msg</code> <code>value(t_slv_array), target(t_slv_array), mode (t_normalization_mode), value_name, target_name, msg</code> <code>value(u), target (u), mode (t_normalization_mode), value_name, target_name, msg</code> <code>value(t_unsigned_array), target(t_unsigned_array), mode (t_normalization_mode), value_name, target_name, msg</code> <code>value(s), target (s), mode (t_normalization_mode), value_name, target_name, msg</code> <code>value(t_signed_array), target(t_signed_array), mode (t_normalization_mode), value_name, target_name, msg</code></p> <p>Example <code>v_slv8 := normalize_and_check(v_slv5, v_slv8, ALLOW_NARROWER, "8bit slv", "5bit slv", "Normalizing and checking slv");</code></p>	<p>Normalize 'value' to the width given by 'target'. If value'length > target'length, remove leading zeros (or sign bits) from value. If value'length < target'length, add padding (leading zeros, or sign bits) to value.</p> <p>Mode (t_normalization_mode) is used for sanity checks, and can be one of :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ALLOW_WIDER : Allow only value'length > target'length ALLOW_NARROWER : Allow only value'length < target'length ALLOW_WIDER_NARROWER : Allow both of the above ALLOW_EXACT_ONLY : Allow only value'length = target'length
<code>wait_until_given_time_after_rising_edge()</code>	<p><code>clk(slv), wait_time(time)</code></p> <p>Example <code>wait_until_given_time_after_rising_edge(clk50M, 5 ns);</code></p>	<p>Wait until wait_time after rising_edge(clk) If the time passed since the previous rising_edge is less than wait_time, don't wait until the next rising_edge, just wait_time after the previous rising_edge.</p>
<code>Wait_until_given_time_before_rising_edge()</code>	<p><code>clk(slv), time_to_edge(time), clk_period(time)</code></p> <p>Example <code>wait_until_given_time_after_rising_edge(clk50M, 2 ns, 10 ns);</code></p>	<p>Wait until time_to_edge before rising_edge(clk) If the time until rising_edge is less than time_to_edge, wait until the next rising_edge and afterwards until time_to_edge before rising_edge</p>
<code>wait_num_rising_edge()</code>	<p><code>clk(slv), num_rising_edge(natural)</code></p> <p>Example <code>wait_num_rising_edge(clk10M, 5);</code></p>	<p>Waits for 'num_rising_edge' rising edges of the clk signal</p>
<code>wait_num_rising_edge_plus_margin()</code>	<p><code>clk(slv), num_rising_edge(natural), margin(time)</code></p> <p>Example <code>wait_num_rising_edge_plus_margin(clk50M, 3, 4 ns);</code></p>	<p>Waits for 'num_rising_edge' rising edges of the clk signal, and then waits for 'margin'.</p>

1.10 Message IDs

A sub set of message IDs is listed in this table. All the message IDs are defined in `uvvm_util.adaptations_pkg`.

Message ID	Description
ID_LOG_HDR	For all test sequencer log headers. Special format with preceding empty line and underlined message (also applies to ID_LOG_HDR_LARGE and ID_LOG_HDR_XL).
ID_SEQUENCER	For all other test sequencer messages
ID_SEQUENCER_SUB	For general purpose procedures defined inside TB and called from test sequencer
ID_POS_ACK	A general positive acknowledge for check routines (incl. awaits)
ID_BFM	BFM operation (e.g. message that a write operation is completed) (BFM: Bus Functional Model, basically a procedure to handle a physical interface)
ID_BFM_WAIT	Typically BFM is waiting for response (e.g. waiting for ready, or predefined number of wait states)
ID_BFM_POLL	Used inside a BFM when polling until reading a given value, i.e., to show all reads until expected value found.
ID_PACKET_INITIATE	A packet has been initiated (Either about to start or just started)
ID_PACKET_COMPLETE	Packet completion
ID_PACKET_HDR	Packet header information
ID_PACKET_DATA	Packet data information
ID_LOG_MSG_CTRL	Dedicated ID for enable/disable_log_msg
ID_CLOCK_GEN	Used for logging when clock generators are enabled or disabled
ID_GEN_PULSE	Used for logging when a gen_pulse procedure starts pulsing a signal
ID_NEVER	Used for avoiding log entry. Cannot be enabled.
ALL_MESSAGES	Not an ID. Applies to all IDs (apart from ID_NEVER)

Message IDs are used for verbosity control in many of the procedures and functions in UVVM-Util, and are toggled by using the procedures `enable_log_msg()` and `disable_log_msg()` that are described in this document.

Example: A check is performed each clock cycle;

```
check_value(my_boolean_condition, error, "Verifying condition", C_SCOPE, ID_POS_ACK, my_msg_id_panel);
```

The message ID "ID_POS_ACK" is enabled by default, and will report a positive acknowledge if the check passes. Since the check is performed each clock cycle, the positive acknowledge will be printed each clock cycle. There are two possibilities if you wish to turn off the positive acknowledge message:

- Disable "ID_POS_ACK" in `my_msg_id_panel` (or use another `msg_id_panel`) by calling `disable_log_msg(ID_POS_ACK, my_msg_id_panel)`. This will disable positive acknowledge messages for any procedure call that uses this `msg_id_panel`.
- Call `check_value()` with "ID_NEVER" instead of "ID_POS_ACK". This will disable the positive acknowledge for this particular call of `check_value()`, but all other calls to `check_value()` will report a positive acknowledge.

1.11 Common arguments in checks and awaits

Most check and await methods have two groups of arguments:

- arguments specific to this function/procedure
- **common_args**: arguments common for all functions/procedures:
 - o alert_level, msg, [scope], [msg_id], [msg_id_panel]

For example: `check_value(val, exp, ERROR, "Check that the val signal equals the exp signal", C_SCOPE);`

The **common arguments** are described in the following table.

Argument	Type	Example	Description
alert_level	t_alert_level;	ERROR	Set the severity for the alert that may be asserted by the method.
msg	string;	"Check that bus is stable"	A custom message to be appended in the log/alert.
scope	string;	"TB Sequencer"	A string describing the scope from which the log/alert originates.
msg_id	t_msg_id	ID_BFM	Optional message ID, defined in the adaptations package. Default value for check routines = ID_POS_ACK;
msg_id_panel	t_msg_id_panel	local_msg_id_panel	Optional msg_id_panel, controlling verbosity within a specified scope. Defaults to a common ID panel defined in the adaptations package.

1.12 Using Hierarchical Alert Reporting

Enable hierarchical alerts via the constant C_ENABLE_HIERARCHICAL_ALERTS in the adaptations package.

The procedures used for hierarchical alert reporting are described in the following table.

Name	Parameters and examples	Description
add_to_alert_hierarchy()	scope(string), [parent_scope(string), [stop_limit(t_alert_counters)]] Example add_to_alert_hierarchy("tier_2", "tier_1");	Add a scope as a node in the alert hierarchy tree. Defaults: parent_scope <= C_BASE_HIERARCHY_LEVEL, stop_limit <= (others => 0)
increment_expected_alerts()	scope(string), alert_level, [amount(natural)] Example increment_expected_alerts("tier_2", ERROR, 2);	Increment the expected alert counter for a node. Defaults: amount <= 1
set_expected_alerts()	scope(string), alert_level, expected_alerts(natural) Example set_expected_alerts("tier_2", WARNING, 5);	Set the expected alert counter for a node.
increment_stop_limit()	scope(string), alert_level, [amount(natural)] Example increment_stop_limit("tier_1", ERROR);	Increment the stop limit for a node. Defaults: amount <= 1
set_stop_limit()	scope(string), alert_level, stop_limit (natural) Example set_stop_limit("tier_1", ERROR, 5);	Set the stop limit for a node.

- By default there will be only one node in the hierarchy tree, the base node with name given by C_BASE_HIERARCHY_LEVEL in the adaptations package. This node has a stop limit of 0 by default.
- To add a scope as a node to the hierarchy, call `add_to_alert_hierarchy()`.
- Any scope that is not registered in the hierarchy will be automatically registered if an alert is triggered in that scope. The parent scope will then be C_BASE_HIERARCHY_LEVEL. Changing the parent is possible by calling `add_to_alert_hierarchy()` with another scope as parent. This is only allowed if the parent is C_BASE_HIERARCHY_LEVEL, and may cause an odd looking summary (total summary will be correct).
- A good way to set up the hierarchy is to let every scope register themselves with the default parent scope, and then in addition make every parent register each of its children.
 - o Example:
 - In the child, call `add_to_alert_hierarchy(<child scope>)`. This will add the scope of the child to the hierarchy with the default (base) parent.
 - In the parent, first call `add_to_alert_hierarchy(<parent scope>)`. Then call immediately `add_to_alert_hierarchy(<child scope>, <parent scope>)` for each of the scopes that shall be children of this parent scope. This will re-register the children to the correct parent.

Example output:

```

=====
*** FINAL SUMMARY OF ALL ALERTS ***      Format: REGARDED/EXPECTED/IGNORED
=====
TB seq      :      5/5/5      5/5/5      5/5/5      5/5/5      5/5/5      5/5/5      5/5/5      5/5/5      5/5/5
`- first_node :      4/4/4      4/4/4      4/4/4      4/4/4      4/4/4      4/4/4      4/4/4      4/4/4      4/4/4
  |- second_node :      1/1/1      1/1/1      1/1/1      1/1/1      1/1/1      1/1/1      1/1/1      1/1/1      1/1/1
    |- third_node :      2/2/2      2/2/2      2/2/2      2/2/2      2/2/2      2/2/2      2/2/2      2/2/2      2/2/2
      |- fourth_node :      1/1/1      1/1/1      1/1/1      1/1/1      1/1/1      1/1/1      1/1/1      1/1/1      1/1/1
=====
>> Simulation SUCCESS: No mismatch between counted and expected serious alerts
=====

```

1.13 Adaptation package

The `adaptations_pkg.vhd` is intended for local modifications to library behaviour and log layout.

This way only one file needs to be merged when a new version of the library is released.

This package may of course also be used to set up a company or project specific behaviour and layout.

The layout constants and global signals are described in the following tables.

Constant	Description
C_ALERT_FILE_NAME	Name of the alert file.
C_LOG_FILE_NAME	Name of the log file.
C_SHOW_UVVM_UTILITY_LIBRARY_INFO	General information about the UVVM Utility Library will be shown when this is enabled.
C_SHOW_UVVM_UTILITY_LIBRARY_RELEASE_INFO	Release information will be shown when this is enabled.
C_LOG_PREFIX	The prefix to all log messages. "UVVM: " by default.
C_LOG_PREFIX_WIDTH	Number of characters to be used for the log prefix.
C_LOG_MSG_ID_WIDTH	Number of characters to be used for the message ID.
C_LOG_TIME_WIDTH	Number of characters to be used for the log time. Three characters are used for time unit, .e.g., 'ns'.
C_LOG_TIME_BASE	The unit in which time is shown in the log. Either ns or ps.
C_LOG_TIME_DECIMALS	Number of decimals to show for the time.
C_LOG_SCOPE_WIDTH	Number of characters to be used to show log scope.
C_LOG_LINE_WIDTH	Number of characters allowed in each line in the log.
C_LOG_INFO_WIDTH	Number of characters of information allowed in each line in the log. By default this is set to C_LOG_LINE_WIDTH – C_LOG_PREFIX_WIDTH.
C_LOG_HDR_FOR_WAVEVIEW_WIDTH	Number of characters for a string in the waveview indicating last log header.
C_WARNING_ON_LOG_ALERT_FILE_RUNTIME_RENAME	Whether or not to report a warning if the log or alert files are renamed after they have been written.
C_USE_BACKSLASH_N_AS_LF	If true '\n' will be interpreted as line feed.
C_USE_BACKSLASH_R_AS_LF	If true '\r' placed as the first character in the string will be interpreted as a LF where the timestamp, Id etc. will be omitted.
C_SINGLE_LINE_ALERT	If true prints alerts on a single line. Default false.
C_SINGLE_LINE_LOG	If true prints logs messages on a single line. Default false.
C_TB_SCOPE_DEFAULT	The default scope in the test sequencer.
C_LOG_TIME_TRUNC_WARNING	Yields a single TB_WARNING if time stamp truncated. Otherwise none.
C_DEFAULT_MSG_ID_PANEL	Sets the default message IDs that shall be shown in the log.
C_MSG_ID_INDENT	Sets the indentation for each message ID.
C_DEFAULT_ALERT_ATTENTION	Sets the default alert attention.
C_DEFAULT_STOP_LIMIT	Sets the default alert stop limit.
C_ENABLE_HIERARCHICAL_ALERTS	Whether or not to enable hierarchical alert summary. Default false.
C_BASE_HIERARCHY_LEVEL	The name of the base/top level node that all other nodes in the tree will originate from.
C_DEPRECATED_SETTING	Sets how the user is to be notified if a procedure has been deprecated, and will be removed in later versions.
C_VVC_RESULT_DEFAULT_ARRAY_DEPTH	Default for how many results (e.g. reads) a VVC can store before overwriting old results
C_VVC_MSG_ID_PANEL_DEFAULT	Default message ID panel to use in VVCs
C_SHOW_LOG_ID	Whether or not to show the Log ID field
C_SHOW_LOG_SCOPE	Whether or not to show the Log Scope field

Global signal	Signal type	Description
global_show_msg_for_uvvm_cmd	boolean	If true messages for Bitvis UVVM commands will be shown if applicable.

Shared variable	Signal type	Description
shared_default_log_destination	t_log_destination	The default destination for the log messages (Default: CONSOLE_AND_LOG)

Additional Documentation

There are two other main documents for the UVVM Utility Library (available from our Downloads page)

- ‘Making a simple, structured and efficient VHDL testbench – Step-by-step’
- ‘Bitvis Utility Library – Concepts and Usage’

There is also a webinar available on ‘Making a simple, structured and efficient VHDL testbench – Step-by-step’ (via Aldec). Link on our downloads page.

2 Compilation

UVVM Utility Library may only be compiled with VHDL 2008.

Compile order for UVVM Utility Library:

Compile to library	File
uvvm_util	uvvm_util/src/types_pkg.vhd
uvvm_util	uvvm_util/src/adaptations_pkg.vhd
uvvm_util	uvvm_util/src/string_methods_pkg.vhd
uvvm_util	uvvm_util/src/protected_types_pkg.vhd
uvvm_util	uvvm_util/src/hierarchy_linked_list_pkg.vhd
uvvm_util	uvvm_util/src/alert_hierarchy_pkg.vhd
uvvm_util	uvvm_util/src/license_pkg.vhd
uvvm_util	uvvm_util/src/methods_pkg.vhd
uvvm_util	uvvm_util/src/bfm_common_pkg.vhd
uvvm_util	uvvm_util/src/uvvm_util_context.vhd

Modelsim and Riviera-PRO users can compile the library by sourcing the following files:

script/compile_src.do

Note that the compile script compiles the Utility Library with the following Modelsim directives for the vcom command:

Directive	Description
-suppress 1346,1236	Suppress warnings about the use of protected types. These can be ignored.

The uvvm_util project is opened by opening sim/uvvm_util.mpf in Modelsim.

3 Simulator compatibility and setup

UVVM Utility Library has been compiled and tested with Modelsim, Riviera-PRO and Active HDL.

Required setup:

- Textio buffering should be removed or reduced. (Modelsim.ini: Set UnbufferedOutput to 1)
- Simulator transcript (and log file viewer) should be set to a fixed width font type for proper alignment (e.g. Courier New 8)
- Simulator must be set up to break the simulation on failure (or lower severity)

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