

 **Rob Graessle** Update HDL Lab 1 to 2024.1b38eebb · 3 weeks ago 

552 lines (363 loc) · 36 KB

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Lab 1: Introduction to Vitis Model Composer HDL Library

In this lab, you will learn how to use the Vitis Model Composer HDL library to specify a design in Simulink® and synthesize the design into an FPGA. This tutorial uses a standard FIR filter and demonstrates how Vitis Model Composer provides you the design options that allow you to control the fidelity of the final FPGA hardware.

Objectives

After completing this lab, you will be able to:

- Capture your design using the Vitis Model Composer HDL Blockset
- Capture your designs in either complex or discrete Blocksets.
- Synthesize your designs in an FPGA using the Vivado® Design Environment.

Procedures

This lab has four primary parts:

Step 1

Review an existing Simulink design using the AMD® FIR Compiler block, and review the final gate level results in Vivado.

Step 2

Use over-sampling to create a more efficient design.

Step 3

Design the same filter using discrete blockset parts.

Step 4

Understand how to work with Data Types such as Floating-point and Fixed-point.

Step 1: Creating a Design in an FPGA

In this step, you learn the basic operation of Vitis Model Composer and how to synthesize a Simulink design into an FPGA.

1. Invoke Vitis Model Composer.

- On Windows systems, select **Windows > AMD Design Tools > Vitis Model Composer 2024.1**.
- On Linux systems, type `model_composer` at the command prompt.

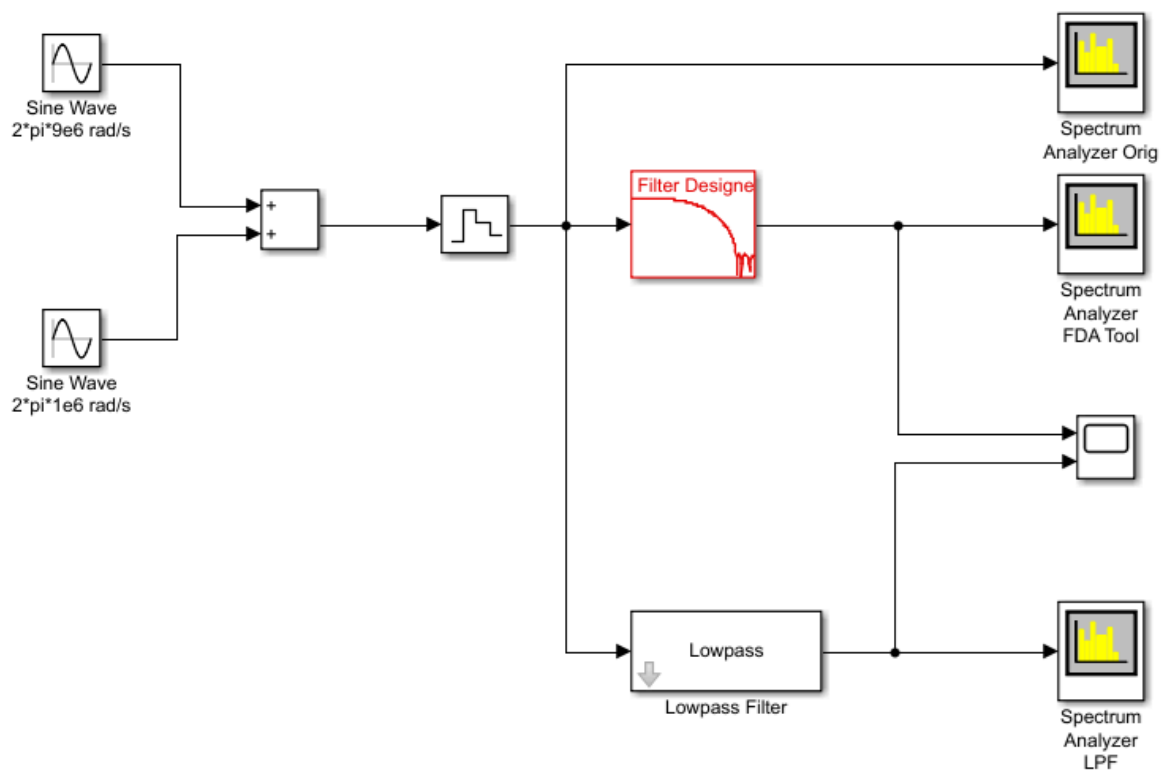
2. Navigate to the Lab1 folder: `\HDL_Library\Lab1`.

You can view the directory contents in the MATLAB® Current Folder browser, or type `ls` at the command line prompt.

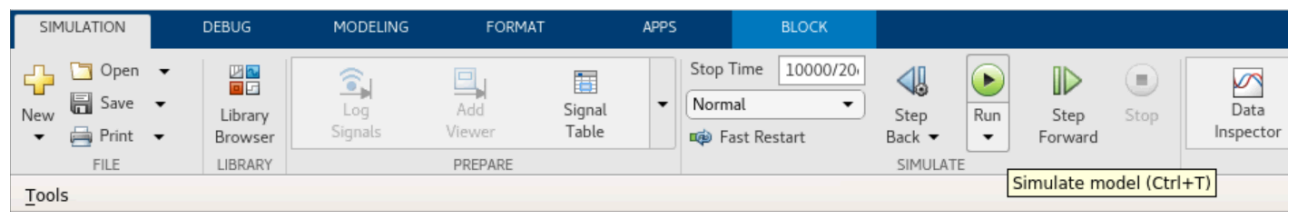
3. Open the Lab1_1 design as follows:

- At the MATLAB command prompt, type `open Lab1_1.slx` OR
- Double-click `Lab1_1.slx` in the Current Folder browser.

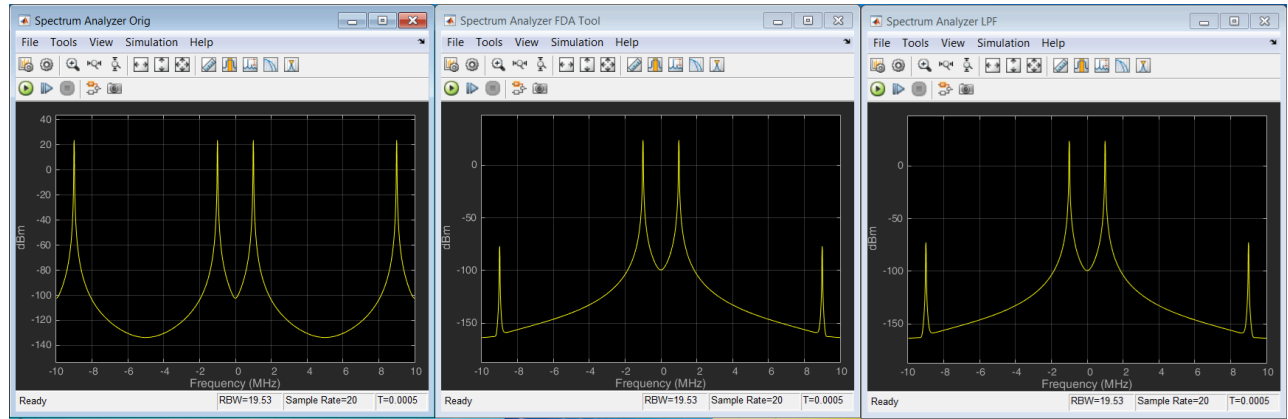
The Lab1_1 design opens, showing two sine wave sources being added together and passed separately through two low-pass filters. This design highlights that a low-pass filter can be implemented using the Simulink FDATool or Lowpass Filter blocks.



4. Click the **Run** simulation button.

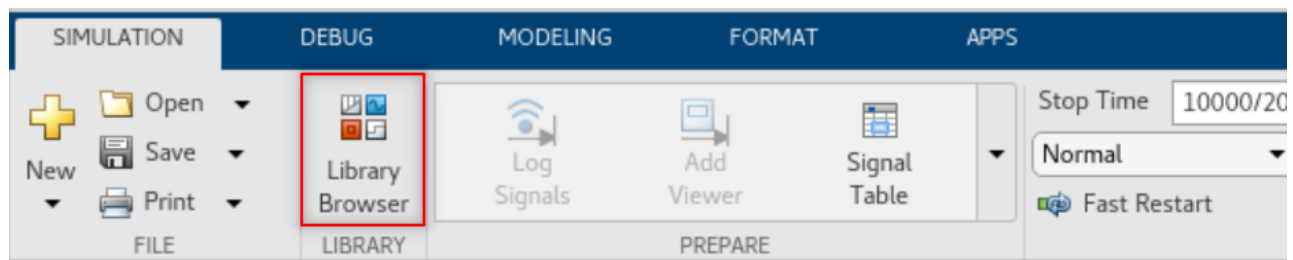


When simulation completes you can see the spectrum for the initial summed waveforms, showing a 1 MHz and 9 MHz component, and the results of both filters showing the attenuation of the 9 MHz signals.

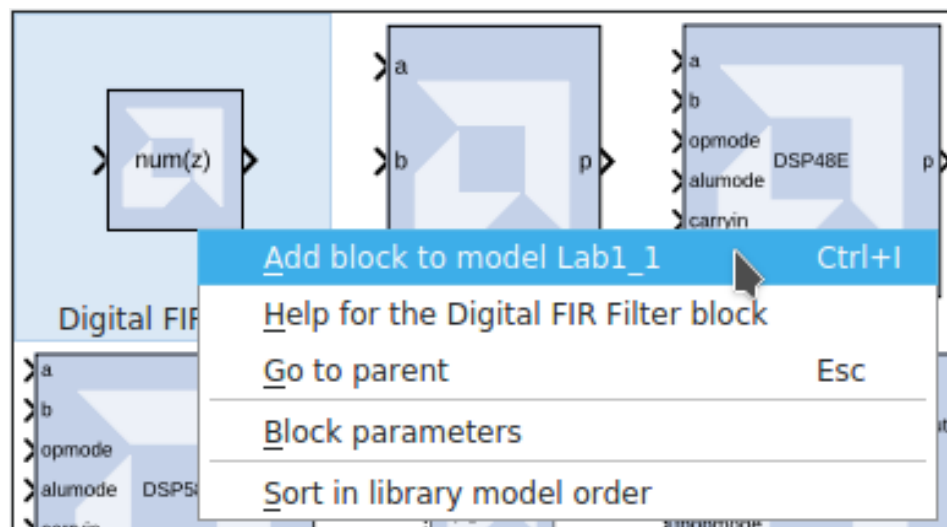


You will now create a version of this same filter using HDL blocks for implementation in an FPGA.

- Click the **Library Browser** button in the Simulink toolbar to open the Simulink Library Browser.



- Expand the **AMD Toolbox > HDL** menu, select **DSP, Non AXI-S** then select **Digital FIR Filter**.
- Right-click the **Digital FIR Filter** block and select **Add block to model Lab1_1**



You can define the filter coefficients for the Digital FIR Filter block by accessing the block attributes—double-click the **Digital FIR Filter** block to view these—or, as in this case, they can be defined using the FDATool.

- From **AMD Toolbox > HDL > Tools**, select **FDATool** and add it to the Lab1_1 design.

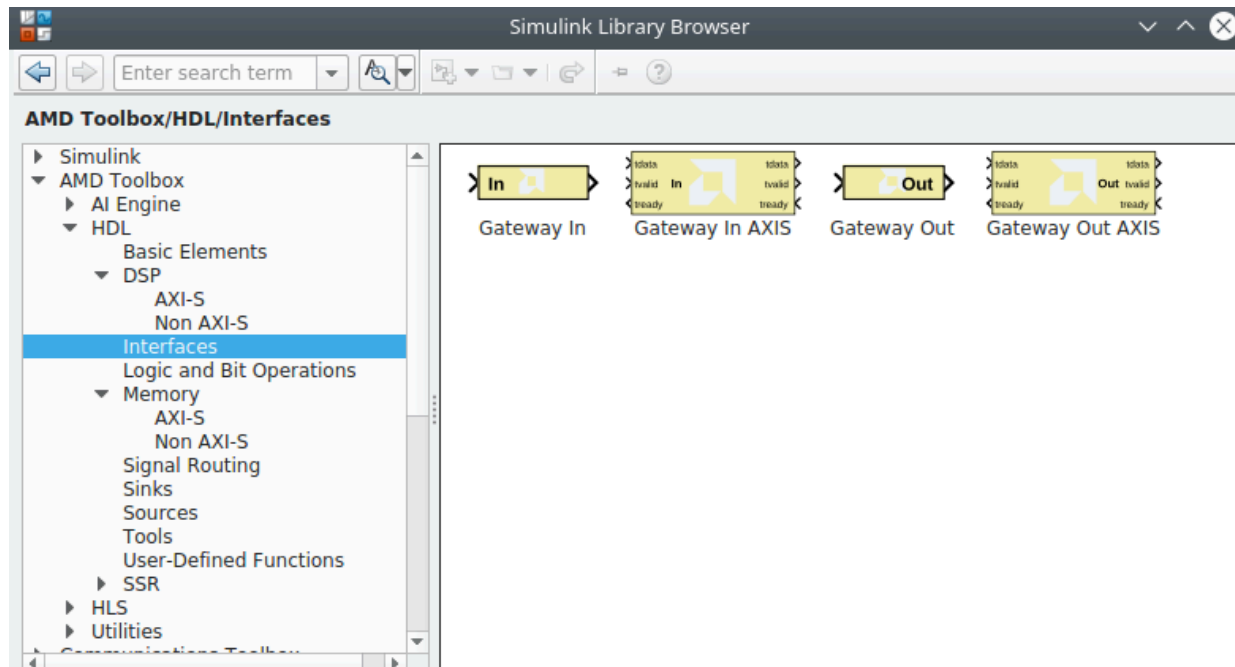
An FPGA design requires three important aspects to be defined:

- The input ports
- The output ports
- The FPGA technology

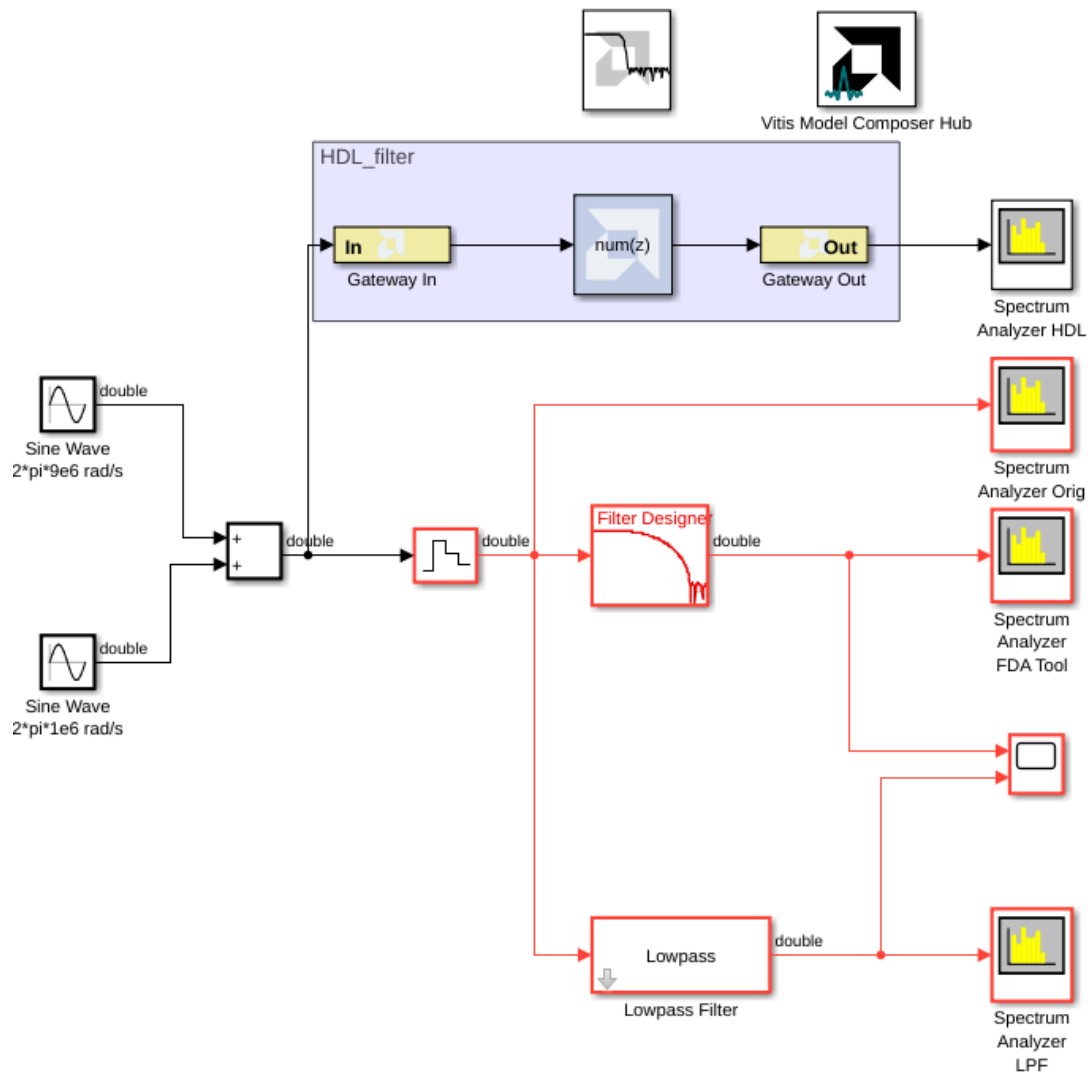
The next three steps show how each of these attributes is added to your Simulink design.

Important: If you fail to correctly add these components to your design, it cannot be implemented in an FPGA. Subsequent labs will review in detail how these blocks are configured; however, they must be present in all Vitis Model Composer HDL designs.

9. In the Interfaces menu, select **Gateway In**, and add it to the design.



10. Similarly, from the same menu, add a Gateway Out block to the design.
11. From the Utilities menu, under the Code Generation menu, add the Vitis Model Composer Hub block used to define the FPGA technology.
12. Finally, make a copy of one of the existing Spectrum Analyzer blocks, and rename the instance to Spectrum Analyzer HDL by clicking the instance name label and editing the text.
13. Connect the blocks as shown in the following figure. Use the left-mouse key to make connections between ports and nets.

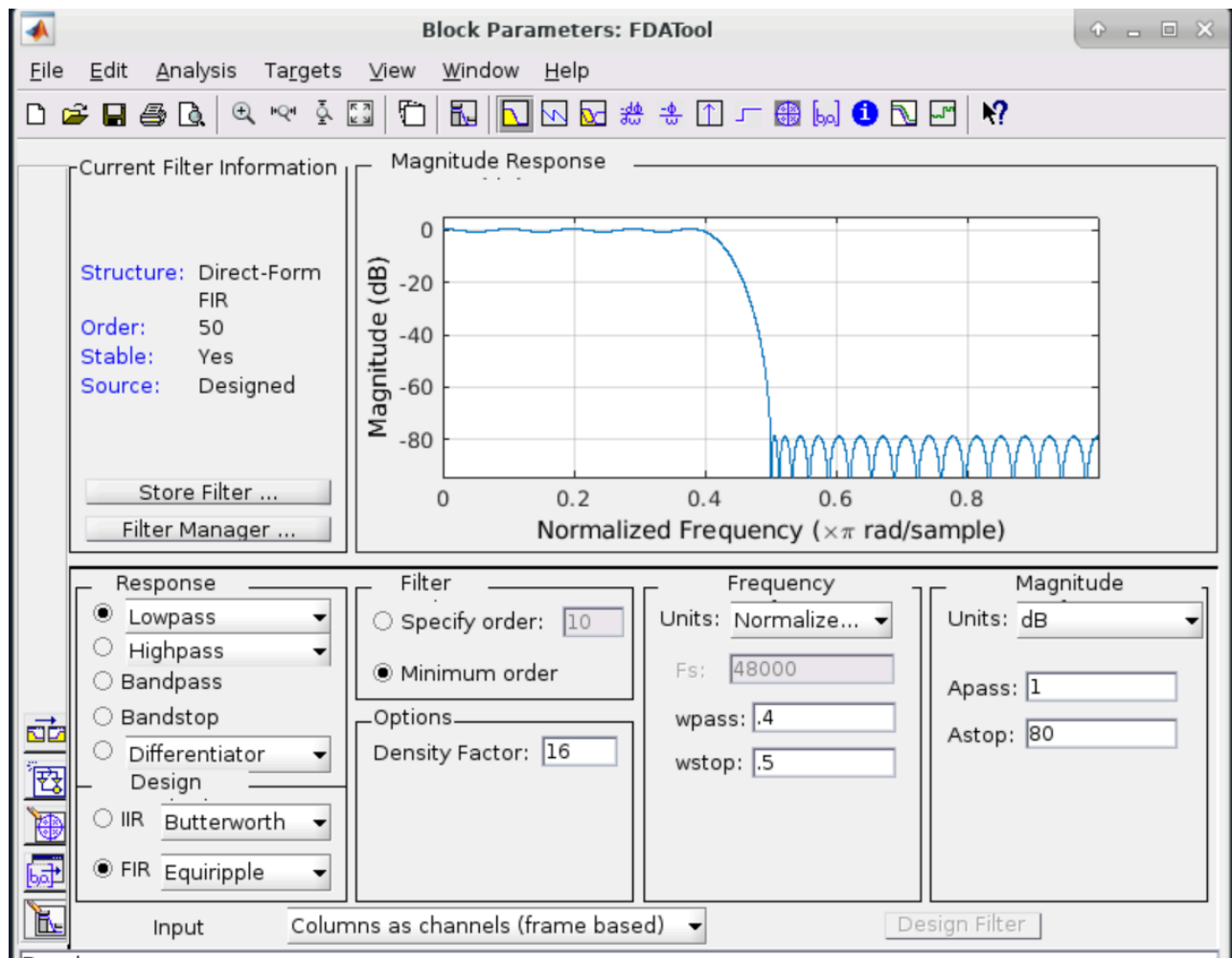


The next part of the design process is to configure the HDL blocks.

Configure the HDL Blocks

The first task is to define the coefficients of the new filter. For this task you will use the AMD block version of FDATool that you just added in step 8 above.

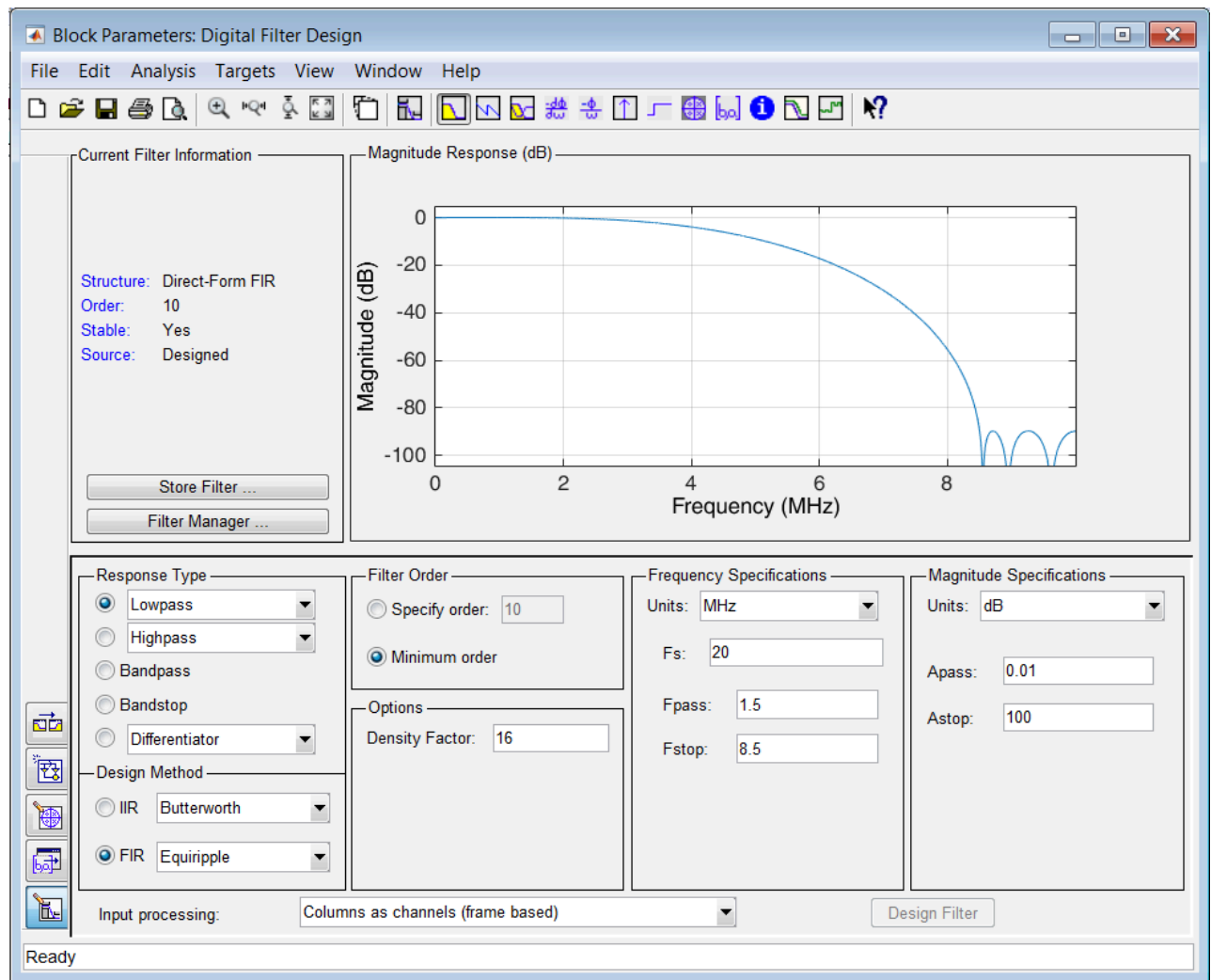
1. Double click on the FDATool block and review the existing Frequency and Magnitude specifications.



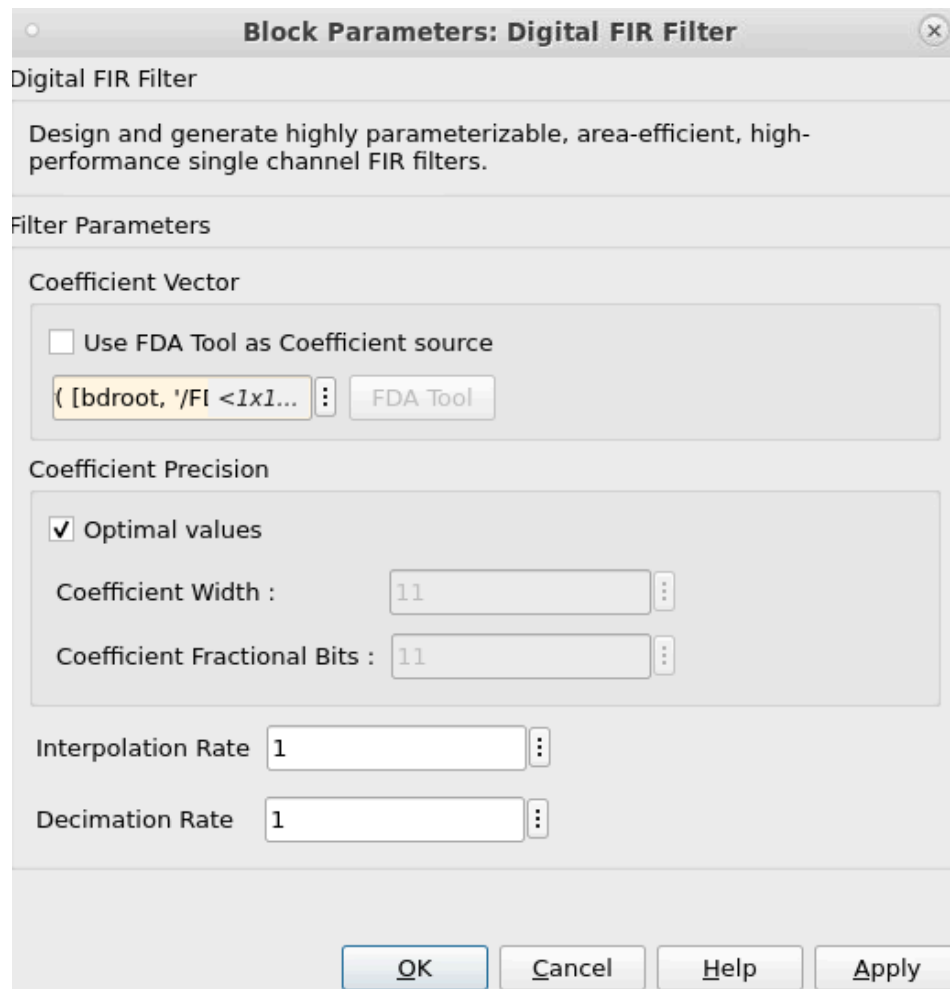
2. Change the filter specifications to match the following values:

- Frequency Specifications
 - Units = MHz
 - Fs = 20
 - Fpass = 1.5
 - Fstop = 8.5
- Magnitude Specifications
 - Units = dB
 - Apass = 0.01
 - Astop = 100

3. Click the **Design Filter** button at the bottom. Your filter should look like below. Close the Properties Editor.



4. Double-click the **Digital FIR Filter** instance to open the Properties Editor.
5. In the Filter Parameters section, replace the existing coefficients (Coefficient Vector) with `x1fda_numerator([bdroot, '/FDATool1'])` to use the coefficients defined by the FDATool instance that is at the top level in the model (and hence the reason to use the MATLAB 'bdroot' command).



6. Click **OK** to exit the Digital FIR Filter Properties Editor.

In an FPGA, the design operates at a specific clock rate and using a specific number of bits to represent the data values.

The transition between the continuous time used in the standard Simulink environment and the discrete time of the FPGA hardware environment is determined by defining the sample rate of the Gateway In blocks. This determines how often the continuous input waveform is sampled. This sample rate is automatically propagated to other blocks in the design by Vitis Model Composer. In a similar manner, the number of bits used to represent the data is defined in the Gateway In block and also propagated through the system.

Although not used in this tutorial, some HDL blocks enable rate changes and bit-width changes, up or down, as part of this automatic propagation.

Both of these attributes (rate and bit width) determine the degree of accuracy with which the continuous time signal is represented. Both of these attributes also have an impact on the size, performance, and hence cost of the final hardware.

Vitis Model Composer allows you to use the Simulink environment to define, simulate, and review the impact of these attributes.

7. Double-click the **Gateway In** block to open the Properties Editor.

Because the highest frequency sine wave in the design is 9 MHz, sampling theory dictates the sampling frequency of the input port must be at least 18 MHz. For this design, you will use 20 MHz.

8. At the bottom of the Properties Editor, set the Sample Period to 1/20e6.

9. For now, leave the bit width as the default fixed-point 2's complement 16-bits with 14-bits representing the data below the binary point. This allows us to express a range of -2.0 to 1.999, which fits the range required for the summation of the sine waves (both of amplitude 1).

Block Parameters: Gateway In

Gateway In
Gateway in block. Converts inputs of type Simulink integer, single, double, and fixed-point to Xilinx fixed-point or floating-point data type.
Hardware notes: In hardware, these blocks become top-level input ports.

Basic Implementation

Output Type

☐ Boolean ☒ Fixed-point ☐ Floating-point

Arithmetic type Signed (2's comp)

Fixed-point Precision

Number of bits 16 Binary point 14

Floating-point Precision

☒ Single ☐ Double ☐ Custom

Exponent width 8 Fraction width 24

Quantization

☐ Truncate ☒ Round (unbiased: +/- Inf)

Overflow

☐ Wrap ☒ Saturate ☐ Flag as error

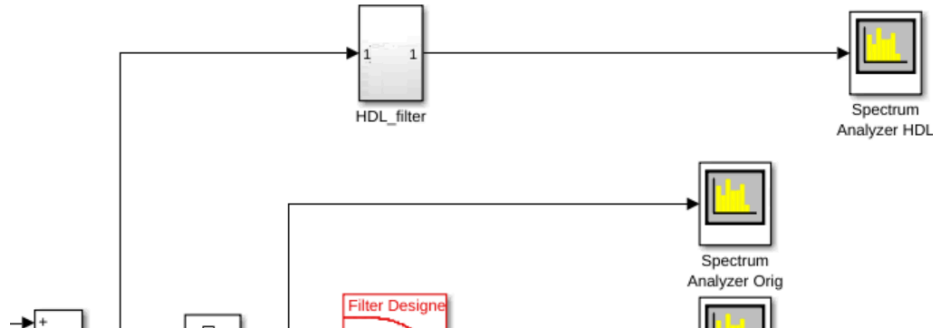
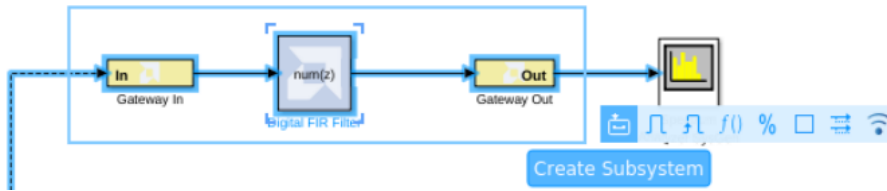
Sample period 1/20e6

OK Cancel Help Apply

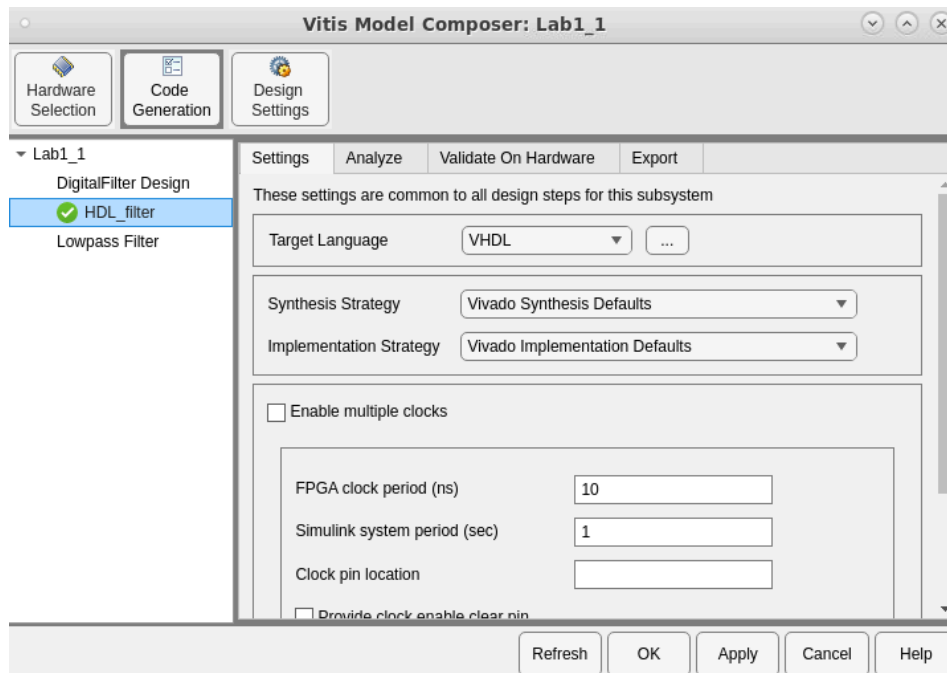
10. Click **OK** to close the Gateway In Properties Editor.

This now allows us to use accurate sample rate and bit-widths to accurately verify the hardware.

11. Create a subsystem that includes the Gateway blocks and the Digital FIR Filter. Call the subsystem, HDL_filter.

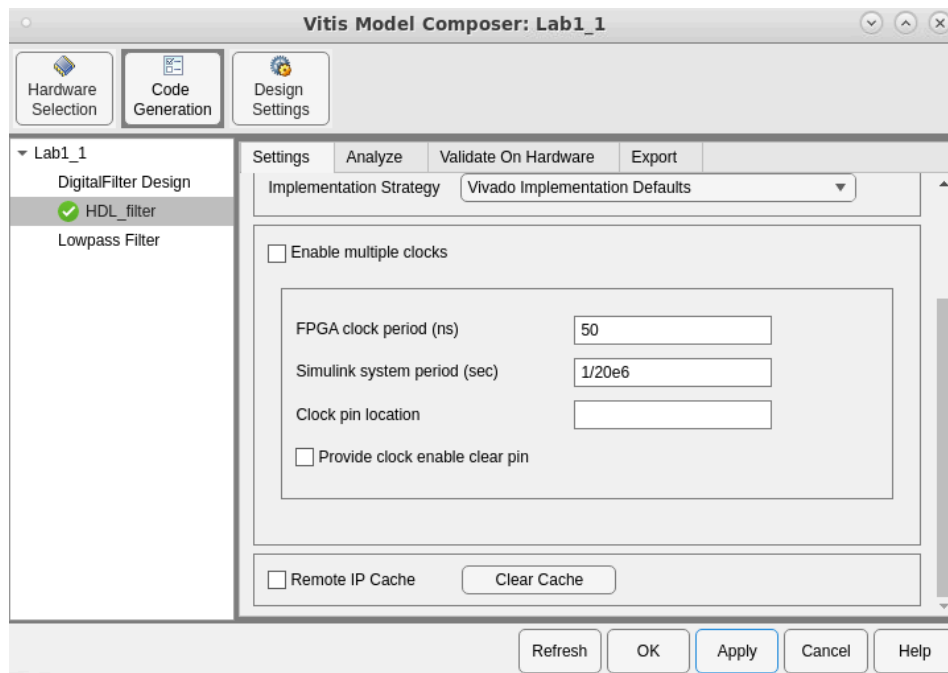


12. Double-click the **Vitis Model Composer Hub** block.
13. On the **Hardware Selection** tab, click the **Select Hardware** button and choose an FPGA device.
14. Click on the "Code Generation" icon on the top, and then click the HDL_filter subsystem on the left.




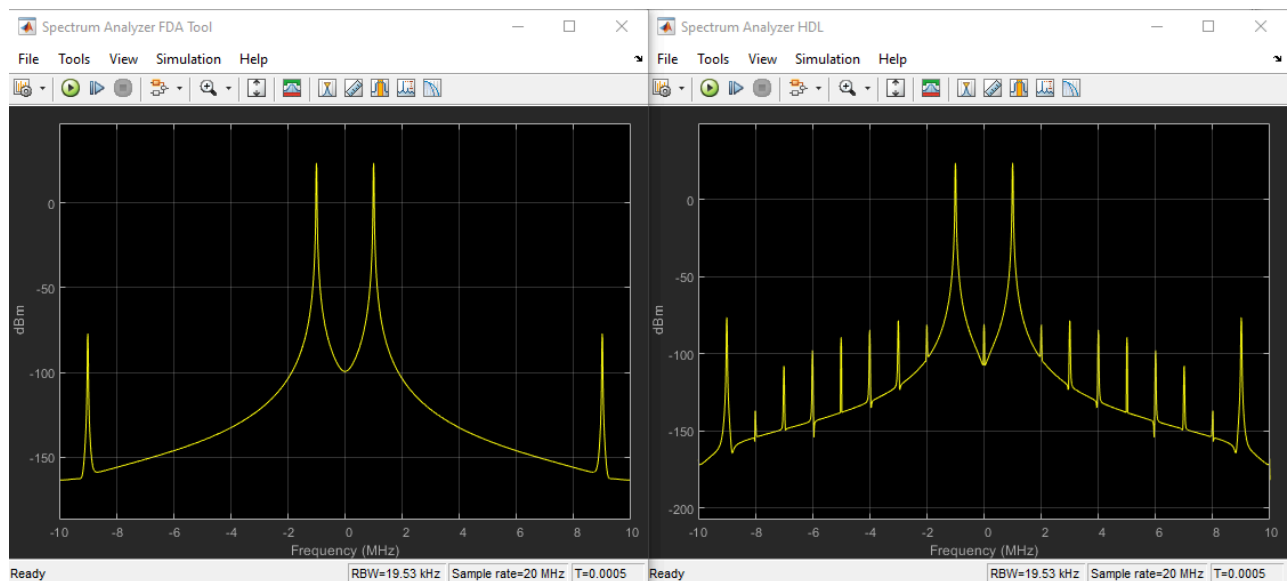
Because the input port is sampled at 20 MHz to adequately represent the data, you must define the clock rate of the FPGA and the Simulink sample period to be at least 20 MHz.

15. Select the **Settings** tab:
 - Specify an FPGA clock period of 50 ns (1/20 MHz).
 - Specify a Simulink system period of 1/20e6 seconds.



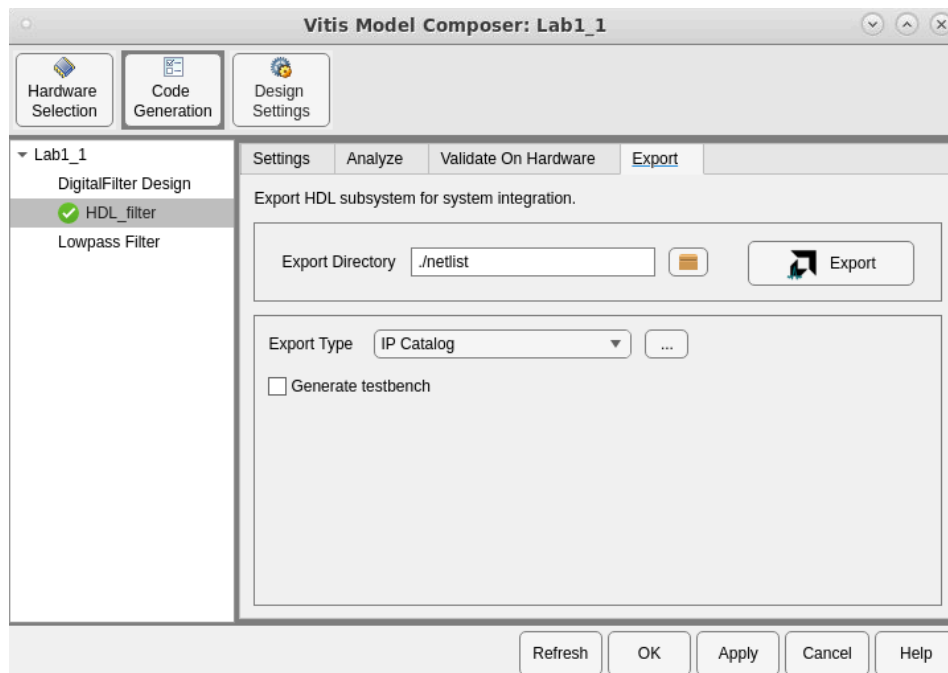
16. Click **Apply** in the Hub Block.

17. Click the Run simulation button  to simulate the design and view the results, as shown in the following figure. Because the new design is cycle and bit accurate, simulation might take longer to complete than before.



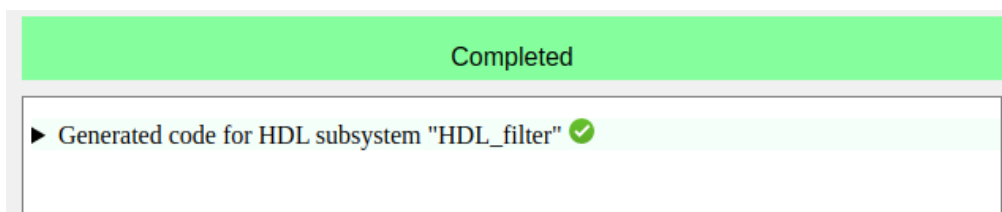
The results are shown above, on the right hand side (in the Spectrum Analyzer HDL window), and differ slightly from the original design (shown on the left in the Spectrum Analyzer FDA Tool window). This is due to the quantization and sampling effect inherent when a continuous time system is described in discrete time hardware. The final step is to implement this design in hardware. This process will synthesize everything contained between the Gateway In and Gateway Out blocks into a hardware description. This description of the design is output in the Verilog or VHDL Hardware Description Language (HDL). This process is controlled by the Vitis Model Composer Hub.

18. In the Model Composer Hub block, select the **Export** tab. Make sure the **Export Type** is set to **IP Catalog**. This ensures the output is in IP Catalog format. Also, use the default Hardware description language, VHDL.



19. Click **Export** to compile the design into hardware.

The compilation process transforms the design captured in Simulink blocks into an industry standard Register Transfer Level (RTL) design description. The RTL design can be synthesized into a hardware design.



20. Click **OK** to dismiss the Compilation status dialog box.

The final step in the design process is to create the hardware and review the results.

Review the Results

The output from design compilation process is written to the `netlist/ip/HDL_filter/src` directory. This directory contains three subdirectories:

`sysgen`

This contains the RTL design description written in the industry standard VHDL format. This is provided for users experienced in hardware design who wish to view the detailed results.

`ip`

This directory contains the design IP, captured in AMD IP catalog format, which is used to transfer the design into the AMD Vivado. *Lab 5: Using AXI Interfaces and IP Integrator*, presented later in this tutorial, explains in detail how to transfer your design IP into the Vivado for implementation in an FPGA

`ip_catalog`

This directory contains an example Vivado project with the design IP already included. This project is provided only as a means of quick analysis.

Important: The Vivado project provided in the `ip_catalog` directory does not contain top-level I/O buffers. The results of synthesis provide a very good estimate of the final design results; however, the results from this project cannot be used to create the final FPGA.

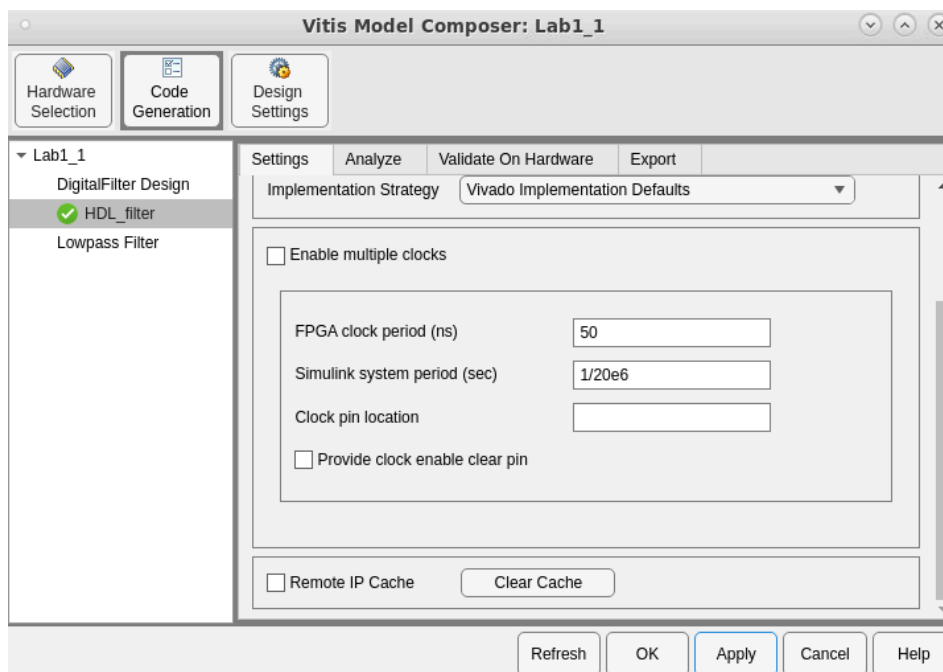
When you have reviewed the results, exit the `Lab1_1.slx` Simulink design.

Step 2: Creating an Optimized Design in an FPGA

In this step you will see how an FPGA can be used to create a more optimized version of the design in Step 1, by oversampling. You will also learn about using workspace variables.

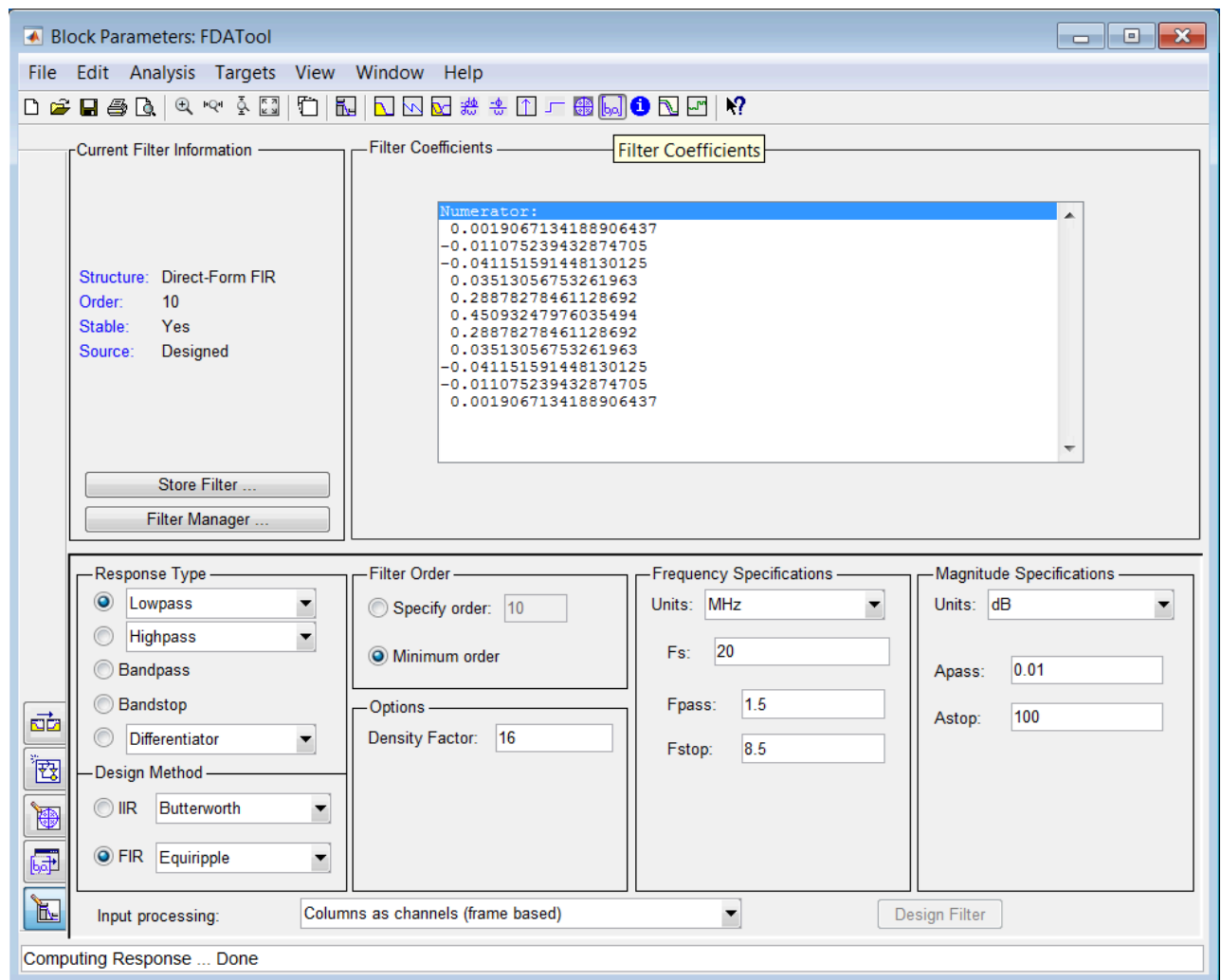
1. At the command prompt, type `open Lab1_2.slx`.
2. Double-click the Vitis Model Composer Hub to open the Properties Editor.

As noted in Step 1, the design requires a minimum sample frequency of 18 MHz and it is currently set to 20 MHz (a 50 ns FPGA clock period).



The frequency at which an FPGA device can be clocked easily exceeds 20 MHz. Running the FPGA at a much higher clock frequency will allow Vitis Model Composer to use the same hardware resources to compute multiple intermediate results.

3. Double-click the **FDATool** instance to open the Properties Editor.
4. Click the **Filter Coefficients** button [\[ba\]](#) to view the filter coefficients



This shows the filter uses 11 symmetrical coefficients. This requires a minimum of six multiplications. This is indeed what is shown at the end of the previous section where the final hardware is using six DSP48 components. DSP48 is the FPGA resource used to perform a multiplication.

The current design samples the input at a rate of 20 MHz. If the input is sampled at 6 times the current frequency, it is possible to perform all calculations using a single multiplier.

5. Close the FDATool Properties Editor.

You will now replace some of the attributes of this design with workspace variables. First, you need to define some workspace variables.

6. In the MATLAB Command Window:

- Enter `num_bits = 16`
- Enter `bin_pt = 14`



```
>> num_bits = 16

num_bits =

    16

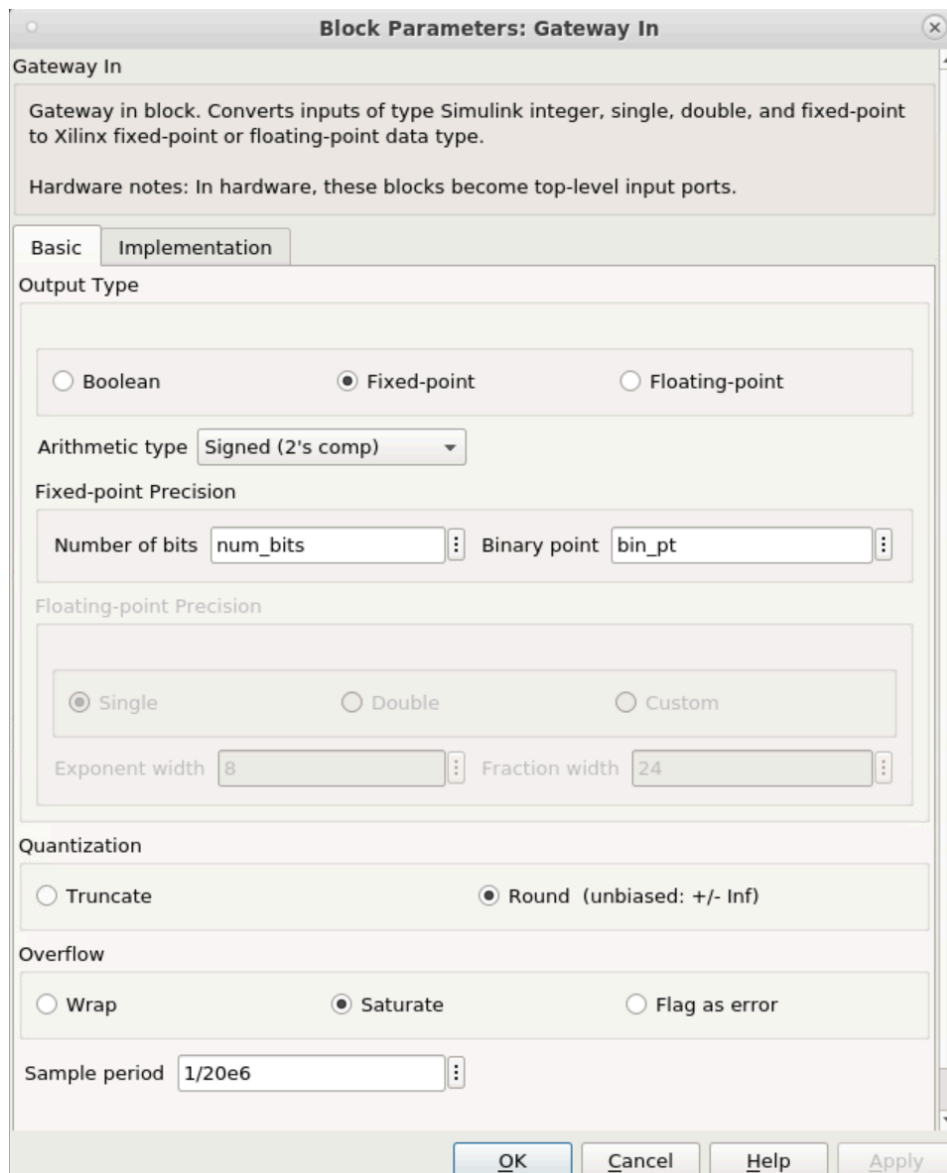
>> bin_pt = 14

bin_pt =

    14

fx >> |
```

7. In design Lab1_2, double-click the HDL_filter subsystem, and then double click the **Gateway In** block to open the Properties Editor.
8. In the Fixed-Point Precision section, replace 16 with `num_bits` and replace 14 with `bin_pt` , as shown in the following figure.



Block Parameters: Gateway In

Gateway In block. Converts inputs of type Simulink integer, single, double, and fixed-point to Xilinx fixed-point or floating-point data type.

Hardware notes: In hardware, these blocks become top-level input ports.

Basic Implementation

Output Type

☐ Boolean ☒ Fixed-point ☐ Floating-point

Arithmetic type Signed (2's comp)

Fixed-point Precision

Number of bits num_bits Binary point bin_pt

Floating-point Precision

☒ Single ☐ Double ☐ Custom

Exponent width 8 Fraction width 24

Quantization

☐ Truncate ☒ Round (unbiased: +/- Inf)

Overflow

☐ Wrap ☒ Saturate ☐ Flag as error

Sample period 1/20e6

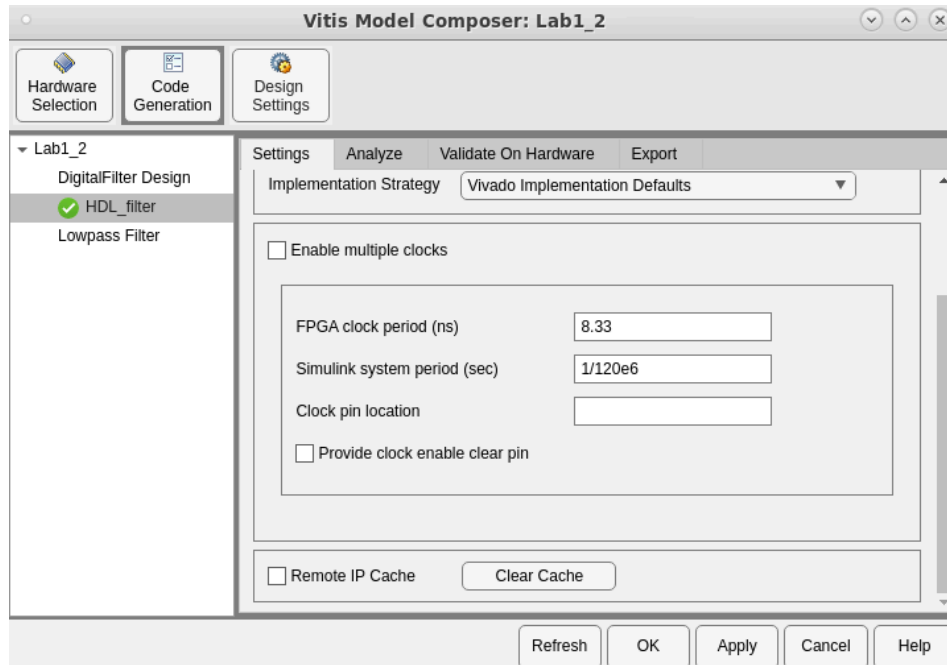
OK Cancel Help Apply

9. Click **OK** to save and exit the Properties Editor.

10. In the Vitis Model Composer Hub update the sampling frequency to 120 MHz ($6 * 20$ MHz) in this way:

- Click on Code Generation, on the right side of the window click on HDL_filter.
- Select the Settings tab.
- Specify an FPGA clock period of 8.33 ns (1/120 MHz).
- Specify a Simulink system period of 1/120e6 seconds.
- Select the Analyze tab.
- From the Perform Analysis menu, select **Post Synthesis** and from Analysis Type menu, select **Resource**. This option gives the resource utilization details after completion.

 Note: In order to see accurate results from the Resource Analyzer Window, it is recommended to specify a new target directory rather than use the current working directory.

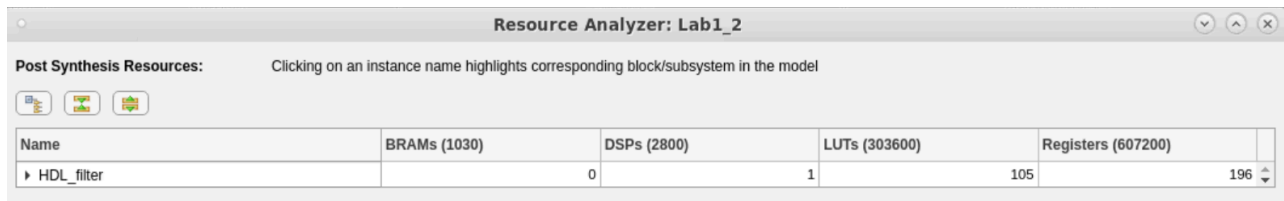


11. Click **Analyze** to compile the design into a hardware description.

12. When generation completes, click **OK** to dismiss the Compilation status dialog box.

The Resource Analyzer window opens when the generation completes, giving a good estimate of the final design results after synthesis as shown in the following figure.

The hardware design now uses only a single DSP48 resource (a single multiplier) and compared to the results at the end of the Configure the HDL Blocks section, the resources used are significantly lower.



Name	BRAMs (1030)	DSPs (2800)	LUTs (303600)	Registers (607200)
▶ HDL_filter	0	1	105	196

13. Click **OK** to dismiss the Resource Analyzer window.

14. Click **OK** to dismiss the Vitis Model Composer Hub block.

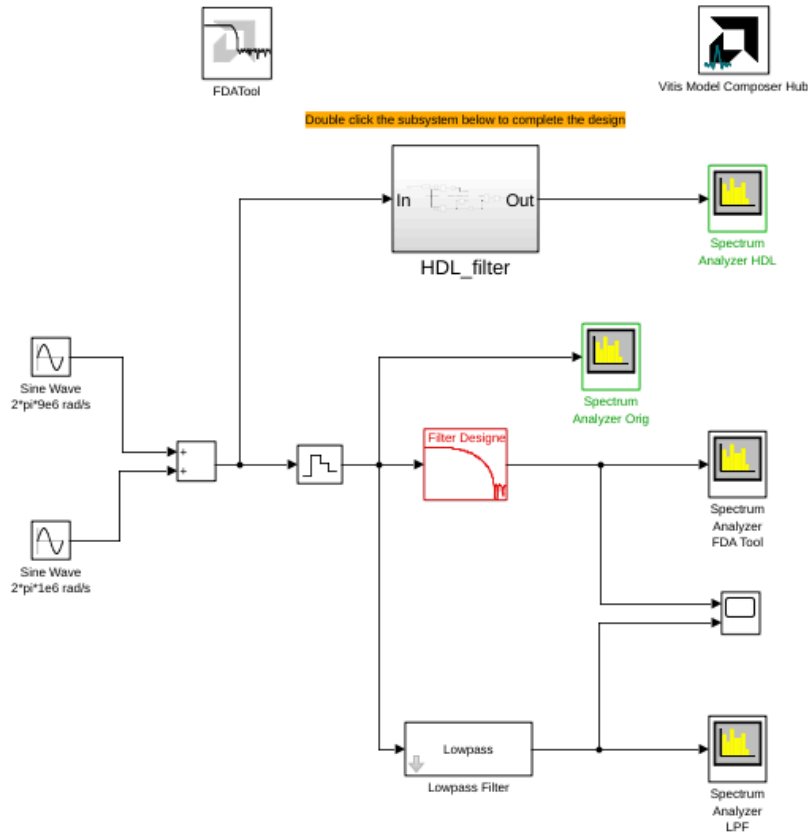
Exit the Lab1_2.slx Simulink model.

Step 3: Creating a Design using Discrete Components

In this step you will see how Vitis Model Composer can be used to build a design using discrete components to realize a very efficient hardware design.

1. At the command prompt, type open Lab1_3.slx.


This opens the Simulink design shown in the following figure. This design is similar to the one in the previous two steps. However, this time the filter is designed with discrete components and is only partially complete. As part of this step, you will complete this design and learn how to add and configure discrete parts.

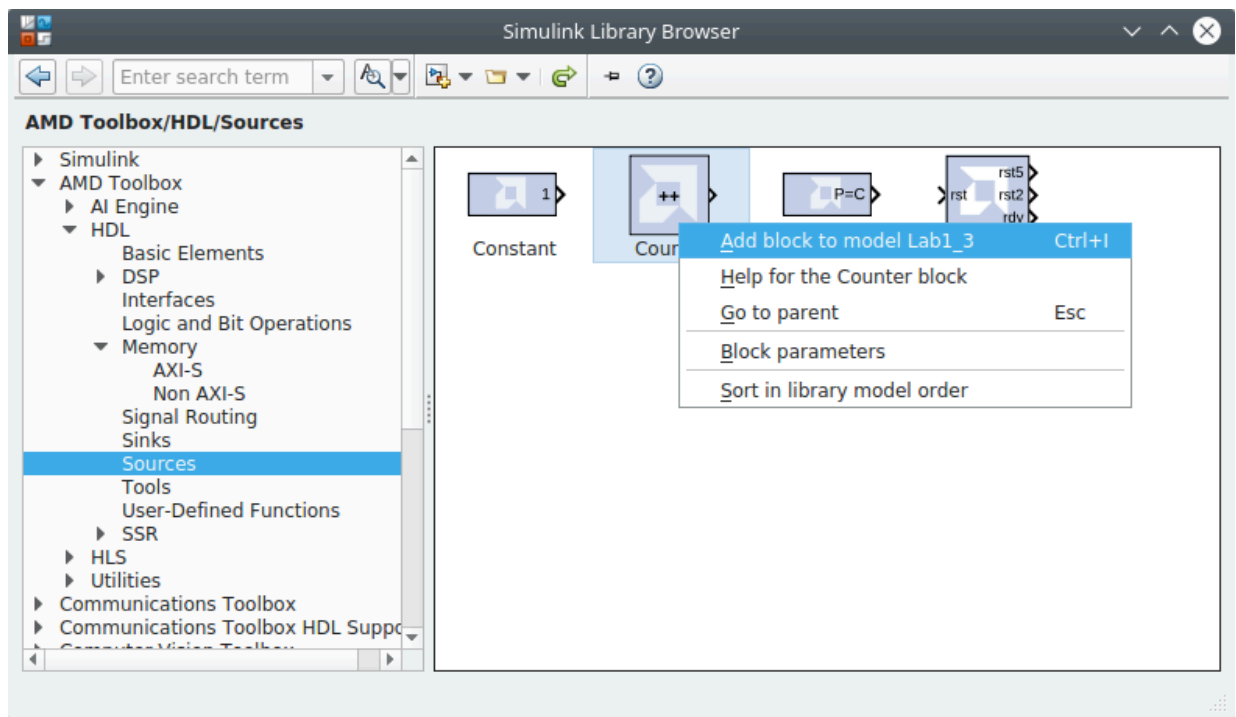


This discrete filter operates in this way:

- Samples arrive through port In and after a delay stored in a shift register (instance ASR)
- A ROM is required for the filter coefficients.
- A counter is required to select both the data and coefficient samples for calculation.
- A multiply accumulate unit is required to perform the calculations.
- The final down-sample unit selects an output every nth cycle.

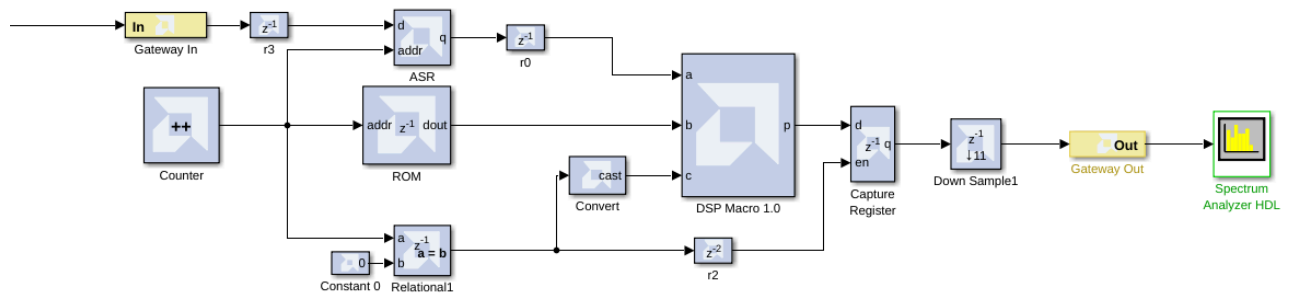
Start by adding the discrete components to the design.

2. Double click on the HDL_filter to open the subsystem.
3. Click the Library Browser button  in the Simulink toolbar to open the Simulink Library Browser.
 - Expand the AMD Toolbox menu.
 - As shown in the following figure, select the **Sources** section in the HDL library, then right-click **Counter** to add this component to the design.




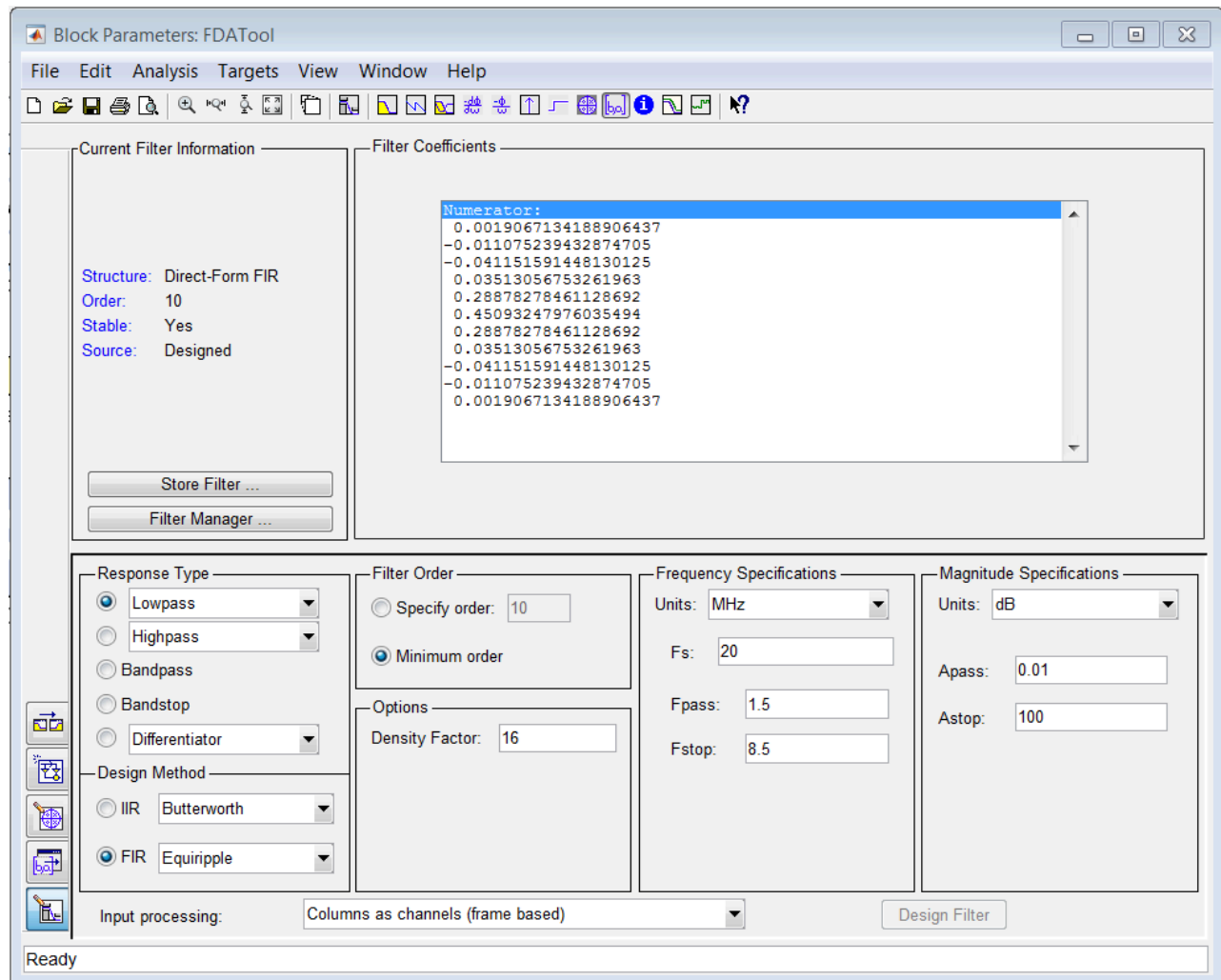
- Select the **Memory** section and then **Non AXI-S** and add a ROM to the design.
- Finally, select the **DSP** section and then **Non AXI-S** and add a DSP Macro 1.0 to the design.

4. Connect the three new instances to the rest of the design as shown in the following figure:



You will now configure the instances to correctly filter the data.

5. Double-click the FDATool instance and select Filter Coefficients  from the toolbar to review the filter specifications.



This shows the same specifications as the previous steps in Lab 1 and confirms there are 11 coefficients. You can also confirm, by double-clicking on the input "Gateway In" in the HDL_filter subsystem that the input sample rate is once again 20 MHz (Sample period = 1/20e6). With this information, you can now configure the discrete components.

6. Close the FDATool Properties Editor.
7. Double-click the **Counter** instance to open the Properties Editor.
- For the Counter type, select **Count limited** and enter this value for **Count to value**:
`length(xlfd_numerator([bdroot ' /FDATool']))-1`
This will ensure the counter counts from 0 to 10 (11 coefficient and data addresses).
 - For Output type, leave default value at Unsigned and in Number of Bits enter the value 4. Only 4 binary address bits are required to count to 11.
 - For the Explicit period, enter the value $1/(11 \times 20\text{e}6)$ to ensure the sample period is 11 times the input data rate. The filter must perform 11 calculations for each input sample.

Block Parameters: Counter

Counter

Generates a free-running or count-limited type of an up, down, or up/down counter.

Hardware notes: Free running counters are the least expensive in hardware. A count limited counter is implemented by combining a counter with a comparator.

Basic

Implementation

Counter type

☐ Free running
☒ Count limited

Count to value

length(xlfda_numerator([bdroot '/FDATool']))-1

Count direction

☒ Up
☐ Down
☐ Up/Down

Initial value

0

Step

1

Output Precision

Output type

☐ Signed (2's comp)
☒ Unsigned

Number of bits

4

Binary point

0

Optional Ports

☐ Provide load port
☐ Provide synchronous reset port
☐ Provide enable port

Explicit Sample Period

Sample period source

☒ Explicit
☐ Inferred from inputs

Explicit period

1/(11*20e6)

OK

Cancel

Help

Apply

- Click **OK** to exit the Properties Editor.

8. Double-click the **ROM** instance to open the Properties Editor.

- For the Depth, enter the value `length(xlfda_numerator([bdroot ' /FDATool1']))` . This will ensure the ROM has 11 elements.
- For the Initial value vector, enter `xlfda_numerator([bdroot ' /FDATool1'])` . The coefficient values will be provided by the FDATool instance.

Block Parameters: ROM

ROM

Implements a single port read-only memory (ROM).

Basic Output Implementation

Depth `length(xlfda_numerator([bdroot ' /FDATool1']))`

Initial value vector `xlfda_numerator([bdroot ' /FDATool1'])`

Memory Type

☐ Distributed memory ☒ Block RAM

Optional Ports

☐ Provide reset port for output register

Initial value for output register 0

☐ Provide enable port

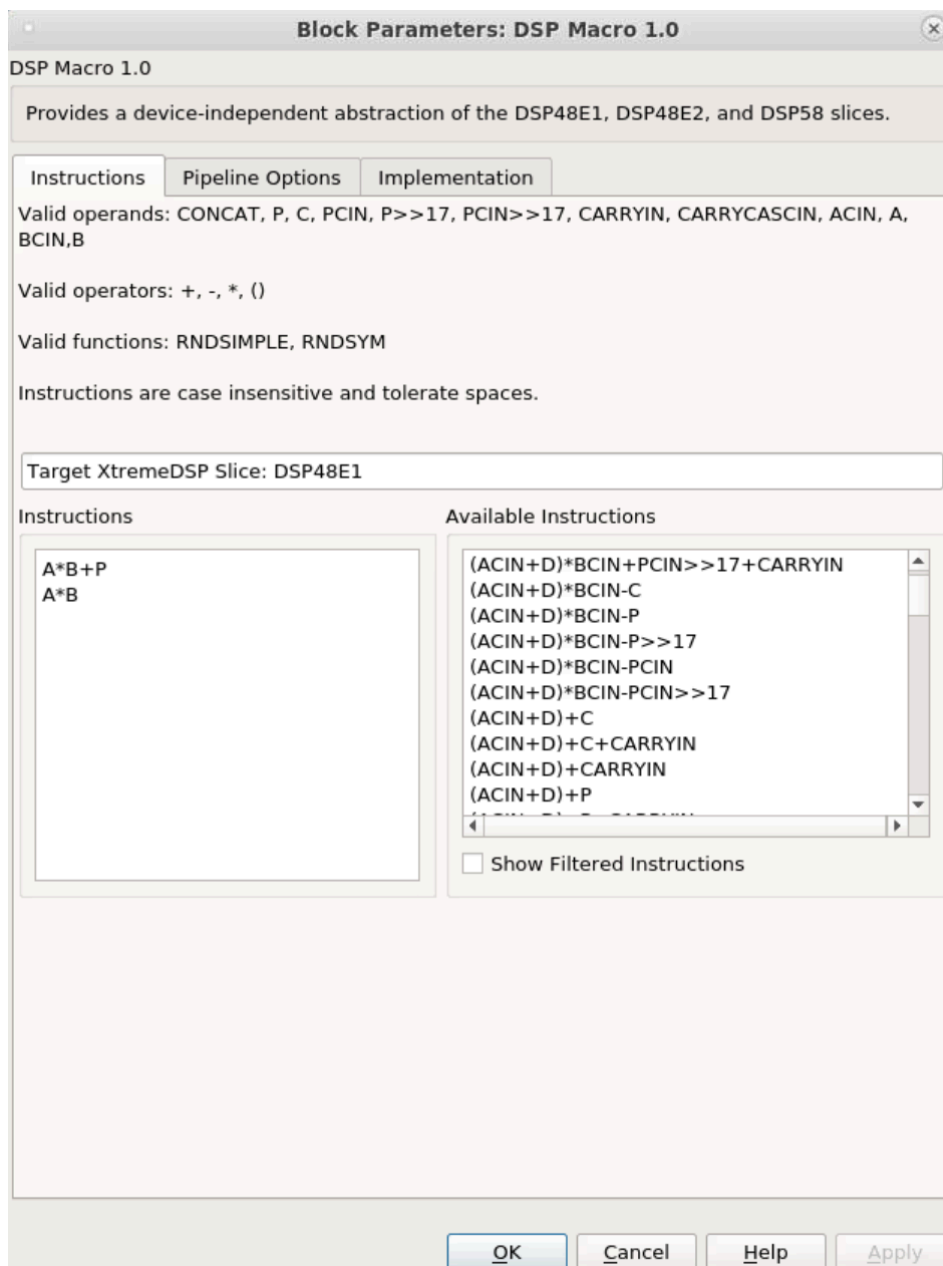
Latency 1

OK Cancel Help Apply

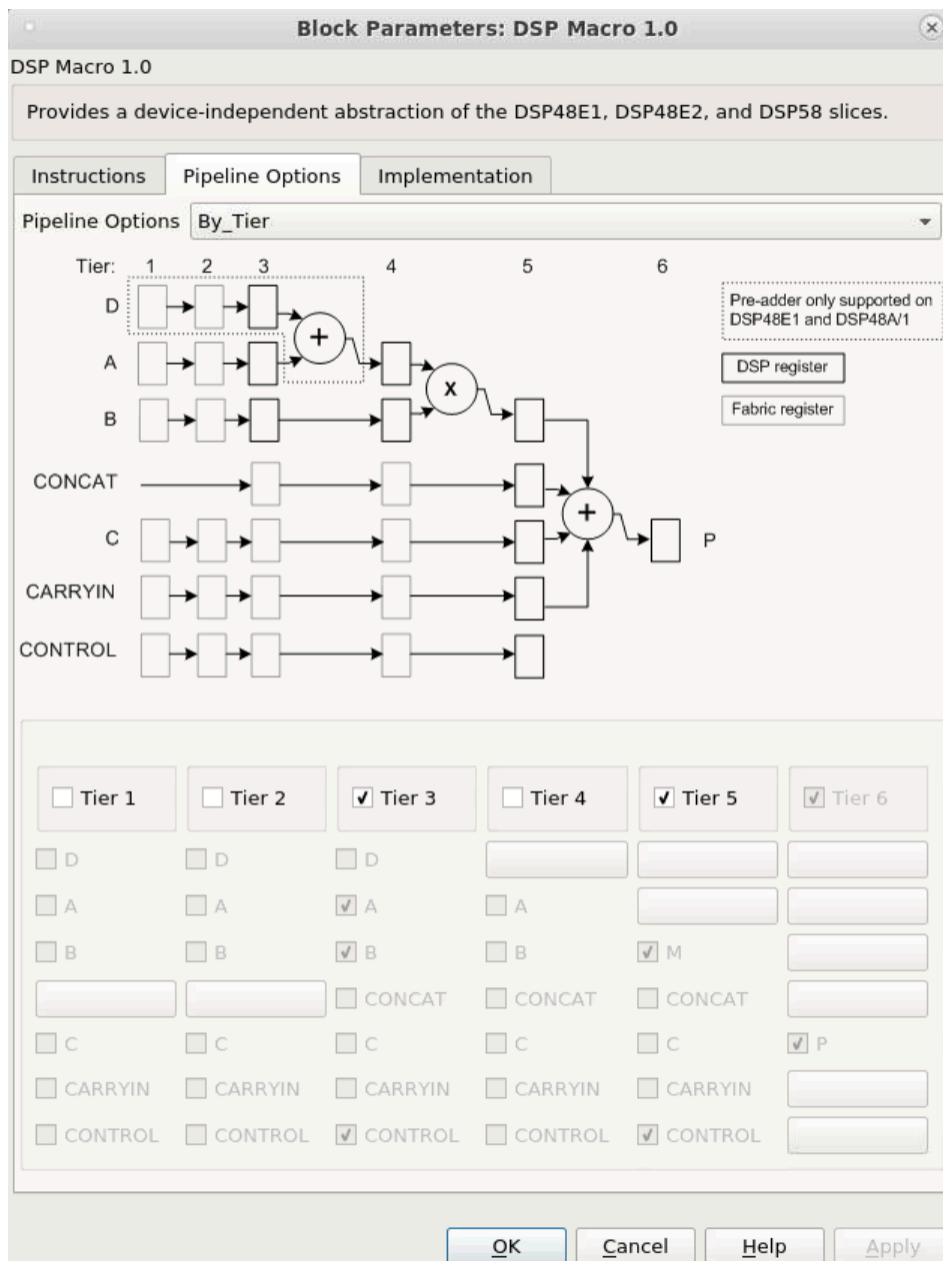
- Click **OK** to exit the Properties Editor.

9. Double-click the **DSP Macro 1.0** instance to open the Properties Editor.

- In the Instructions tab, replace the existing Instructions with `A*B+P` and then add `A*B` . When the `se1` input is false the DSP will multiply and accumulate. When the `se1` input is true the DSP will simply multiply.



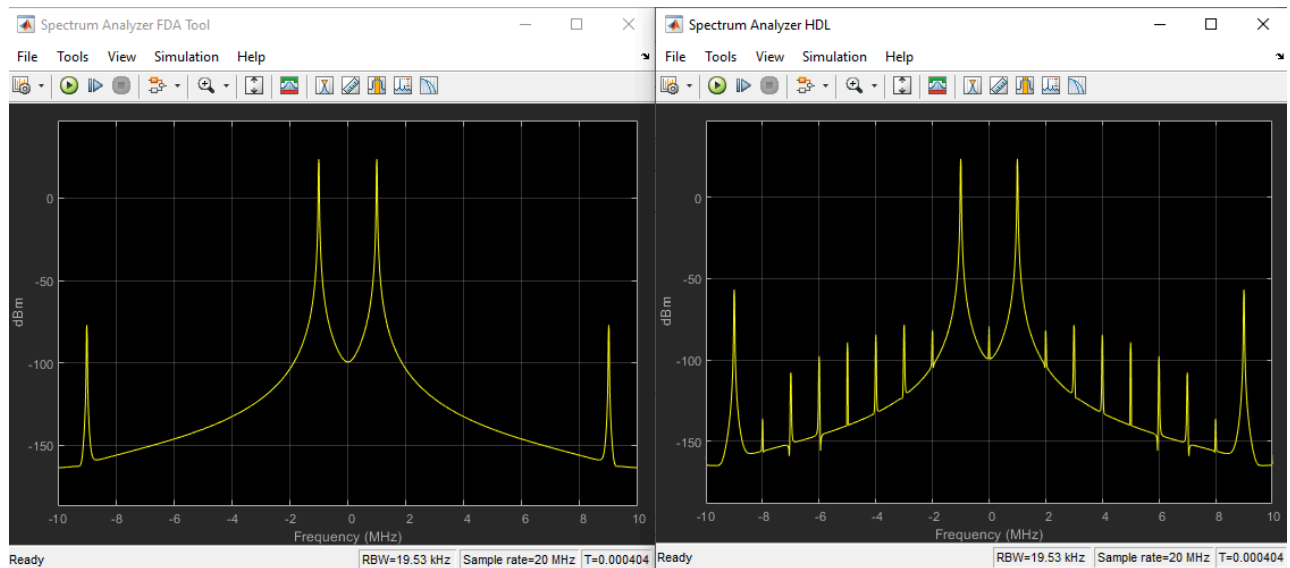
- In the Pipeline Options tab, use the Pipeline Options drop-down menu to select **By_Tier**.
- Select **Tier 3** and **Tier 5**. This will ensure registers are used at the inputs to A and B and between the multiply and accumulate operations.



- Click **OK** to exit the Properties Editor.


10. Click **Save** to save the design.

11. Click the Run simulation button to simulate the design and view the results, as shown in the following figure.



The final step is to compile the design into a hardware description and synthesize it.

12. Double-click the **Vitis Model Composer Hub** block to open the Properties Editor and select the HDL_filter subsystem on the left.
13. From the Analyze tab select **Post Synthesis** for *Perform Analysis* and for *Analysis Type* select **Resource**. This option gives the resource utilization details after completion.

 Note: In order to see accurate results from Resource Analyzer Window it is recommended to specify a new target directory rather than use the current working directory.

13. Click Analyze to compile the design into a hardware description. After generation finishes, it displays the resource utilization in the Resource Analyzer window.

Resource Analyzer: Lab1_3

Post Synthesis Resources: Clicking on an instance name highlights corresponding block/subsystem in the model

Name	BRAMs (1030)	DSPs (2800)	LUTs (303600)	Registers (607200)
▼ HDL_filter	0.5000	1	21	134
ROM	0.5000	0	0	0
Relational1	0	0	1	1
r3	0	0	0	16
r2	0	0	1	1
r0	0	0	0	16
DSP Macro 1.0	0	1	1	0
Down Sample1	0	0	0	48
Counter	0	0	2	4
CaptureRegister	0	0	0	48
ASR	0	0	16	0

The design now uses fewer FPGA hardware resources than either of the versions designed with the Digital FIR Filter macro.

14. Click OK to dismiss the Resource Analyzer window.
15. Click OK to dismiss the Compilation status dialog box.
16. Click OK to dismiss the Vitis Model Composer Hub.

17. Close the `Lab1_3.slx` model.

Step 4: Creating a Design using Discrete Components

In this step, you will learn how hardware-efficient fixed-point types can be used to create a design which meets the required specification but is more efficient in resources, and understand how to use AMD HDL Blocksets to analyze these systems.

This step has two primary parts:

- In Part 1, you will review and synthesize a design using floating-point data types.
- In Part 2, you will work with the same design, captured as a fixed-point implementation, and refine the data types to create a hardware-efficient design which meets the same requirements.

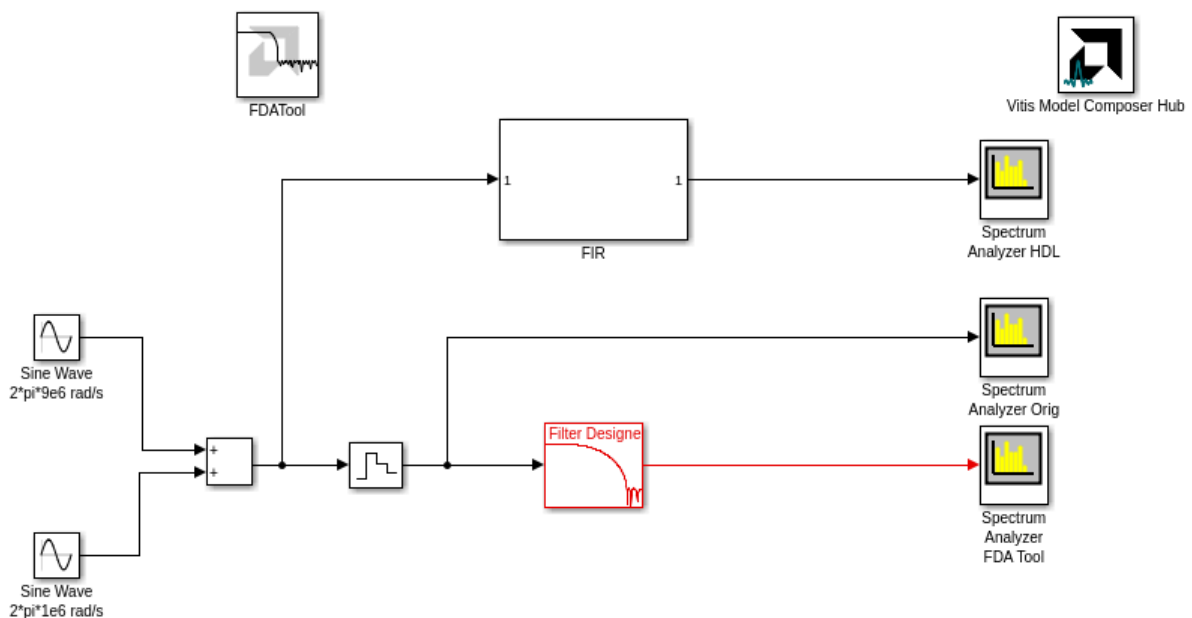
Part 1: Designing with Floating-Point Data Types

In this part you will review a design implemented with floating-point data types.

1. At the command prompt, type `open Lab1_4_1.slx`.

This opens the Simulink design shown in the following figure. This design is similar to the design used in Lab 1_1, however this time the design is using float data types.

First, you will review the attributes of the design, then simulate the design to review the performance, and finally synthesize the design.



2. In the MATLAB Command Window enter:

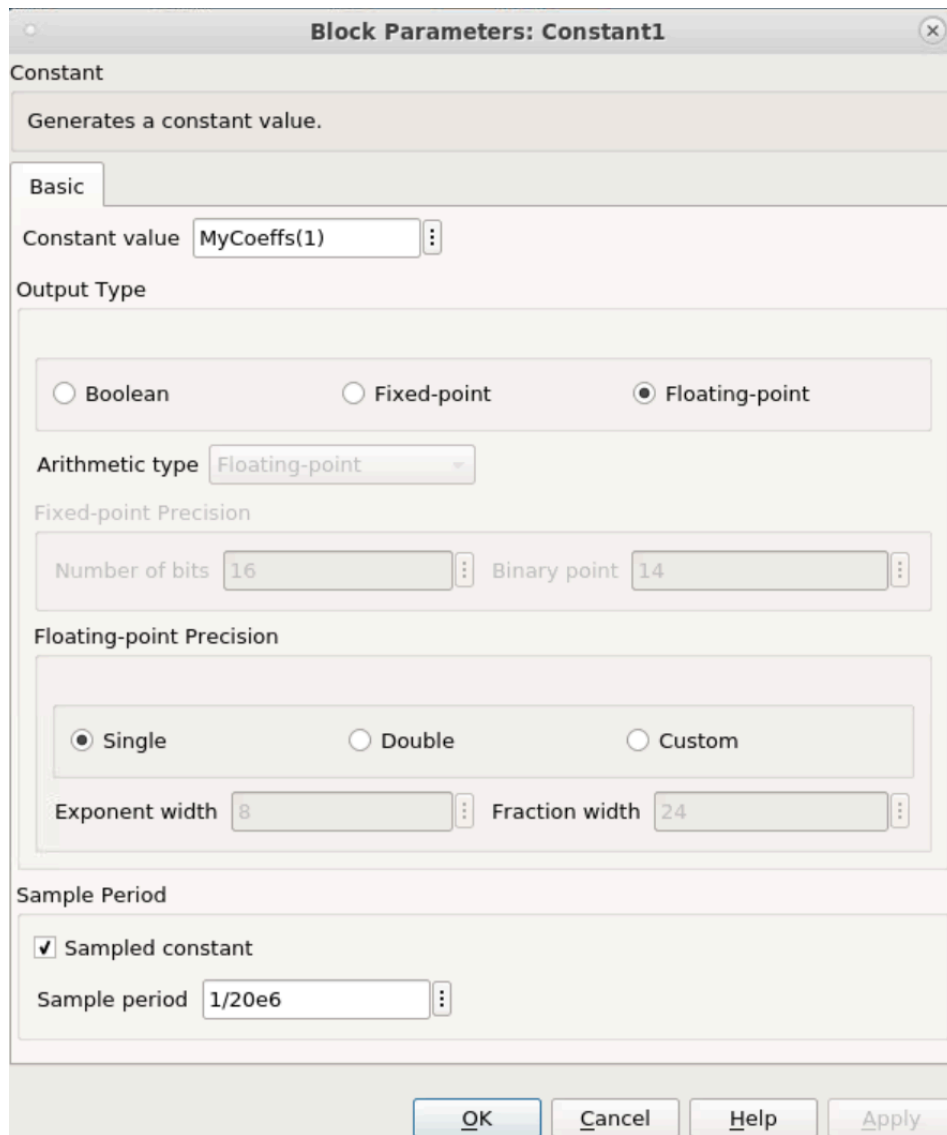
```
MyCoeffs = xlfda_numerator('FDATool')
```



3. Double-click the **FIR** subsystem to open the subsystem.

4. Double-click the instance **Constant1** (close to the top) to open the Properties Editor.

This shows the Constant value is defined by `MyCoeffs(1)`.



The image shows the 'Block Parameters: Constant1' dialog box. It has a title bar with a close button. The main area is divided into sections: 'Constant' (Generates a constant value.), 'Basic' (Constant value: MyCoeffs(1)), 'Output Type' (Boolean, Fixed-point, Floating-point), 'Arithmetic type' (Floating-point), 'Fixed-point Precision' (Number of bits: 16, Binary point: 14), 'Floating-point Precision' (Single, Double, Custom), 'Exponent width' (8), 'Fraction width' (24), 'Sample Period' (Sampled constant, Sample period: 1/20e6), and buttons for OK, Cancel, Help, and Apply.

Block Parameters: Constant1

Constant

Generates a constant value.

Basic

Constant value `MyCoeffs(1)`

Output Type

☐ Boolean ☐ Fixed-point ☒ Floating-point

Arithmetic type `Floating-point`

Fixed-point Precision

Number of bits `16` Binary point `14`

Floating-point Precision

☒ Single ☐ Double ☐ Custom

Exponent width `8` Fraction width `24`

Sample Period

☒ Sampled constant

Sample period `1/20e6`

OK Cancel Help Apply

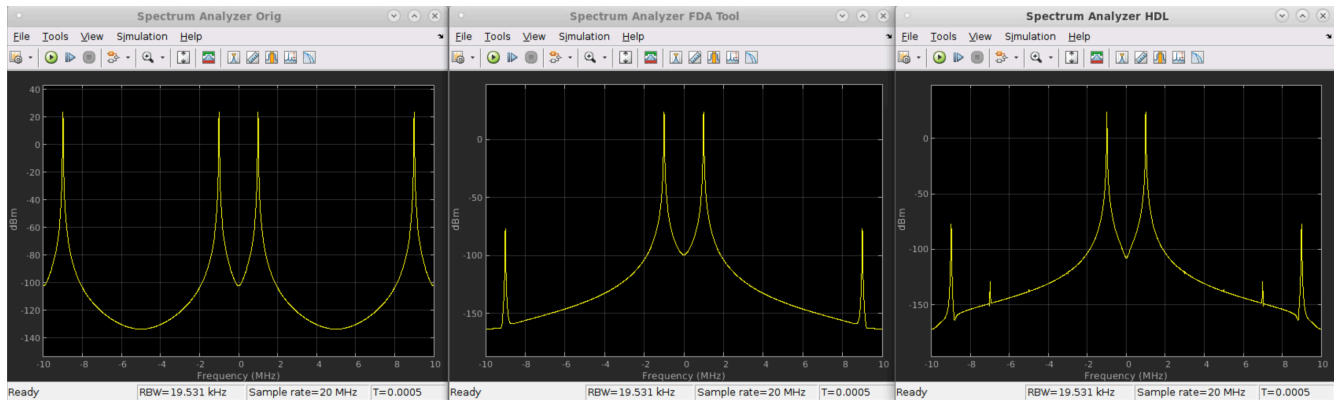
5. Close the Constant1 Properties editor.
6. Return to the top-level design using the toolbar button Up To Parent , or click the tab labeled Lab1_4_1.

The design is summing two sine waves, both of which are 9 MHz. The input gateway to the Vitis Model Composer must therefore sample at a rate of at least 18 MHz.

7. Double-click the FIR subsystem and then the **Gateway In1** (close to the top) instance to open the Properties Editor and confirm the input is sampling the data at a rate of 20 MHz (a Sample period of 1/20e6) and the Gateway is producing a single precision output.
8. Close the Gateway In Properties editor.

9. Click the Run simulation button to simulate the design.

The results shown in the following figure show the Vitis Model Composer HDL blockset produces results which are very close to the ideal case, shown in the center. The results are not identical because the Vitis Model Composer HDL design is operating on single precision data while the *Filter Designer* block is operating on double precision data.



The final step is to synthesize this design into hardware.

10. Double-click the **Vitis Model Composer Hub** block to open the Properties Editor. Click on the FIR subsystem on the left.
11. On the Analyze tab, under *Perform Analysis* select **Post Synthesis** and from the *Analyzer Type* menu select **Resource**. This option gives the resource utilization details after completion.
12. Click **Analyze** to compile the design into a hardware description. After completion, it generates the resource utilization in Resource Analyzer window as shown in the following figure.

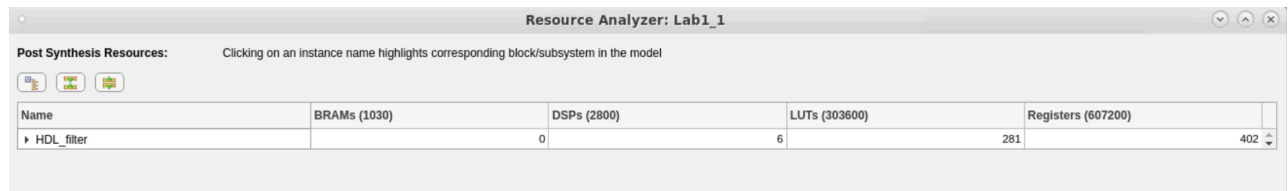
The figure shows the 'Resource Analyzer: Lab1_4_1' window. It has a title bar with standard window controls. Below the title bar, there is a section labeled 'Post Synthesis Resources:' with a note: 'Clicking on an instance name highlights corresponding block/subsystem in the model'. There are three icons (a list, a magnifying glass, and a refresh icon) to the left of a table. The table has five columns: 'Name', 'BRAMs (445)', 'DSPs (840)', 'LUTs (203800)', and 'Registers (407600)'. The first row of the table is for the 'FIR' instance, showing 0 BRAMs, 33 DSPs, 5156 LUTs, and 1299 Registers.

Name	BRAMs (445)	DSPs (840)	LUTs (203800)	Registers (407600)
▶ FIR	0	33	5156	1299

13. Click **OK** to dismiss the Compilation status dialog box.

14. Click **OK** to dismiss the Vitis Model Composer Hub.

You implemented this same filter in Step 1 using fixed-point data types. When compared to the synthesis results from that implementation – the initial results from this step are shown in the following figure and you can see this current version of the design is using a large amount of registers (FF), BRAMs, LUTs, and DSP resources (AMD dedicated multiplier/add units).



Resource Analyzer: Lab1_1

Post Synthesis Resources: Clicking on an instance name highlights corresponding block/subsystem in the model

Name	BRAMs (1030)	DSPs (2800)	LUTs (303600)	Registers (607200)
▶ HDL_filter	0	6	281	402

Maintaining the full accuracy of floating-point types is an ideal implementation but implementing full floating-point accuracy requires a significant amount of hardware.

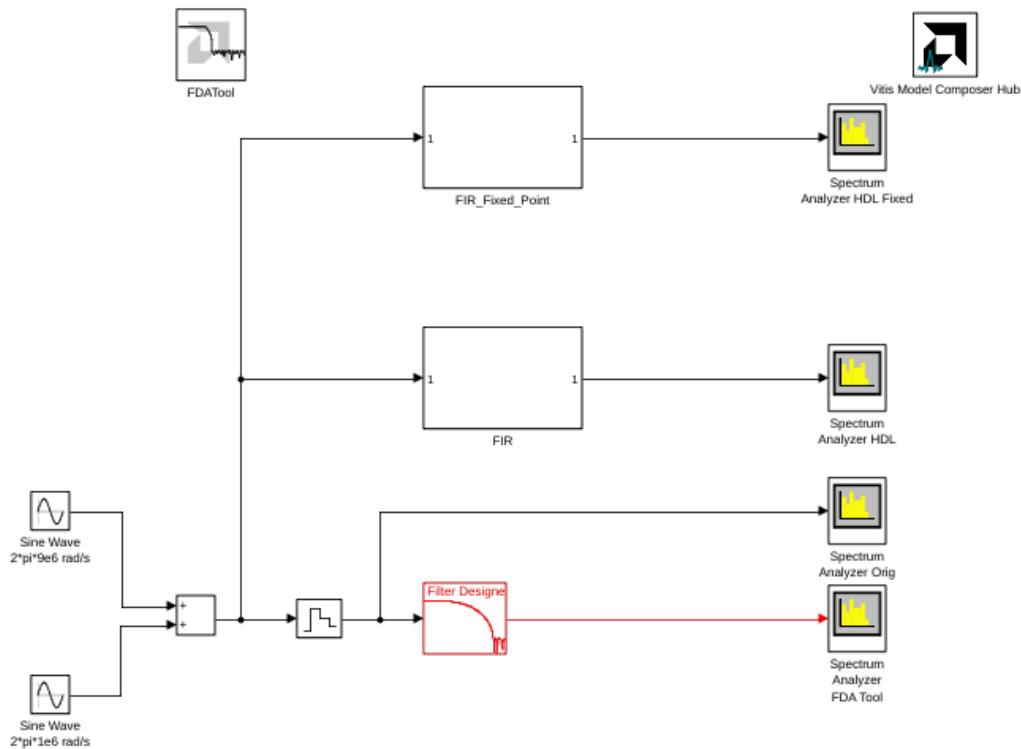
For this particular design, the entire range of the floating-point types is not required. The design is using considerably more resources than what is required. In the next part, you will learn how to compare designs with different data types inside the Simulink environment.

15. Close the Lab1_4_1.slx Simulink model.

Part 2: Designing with Fixed-Point Data Types

In this part you will re-implement the design from Part 1: Designing with Floating-Point Data Types using fixed-point data types, and compare this new design with the original design. This exercise will demonstrate the advantages and disadvantages of using fixed-point types and how Vitis Model Composer allows you to easily compare the designs, allowing you to make trade-offs between accuracy and resources within the Simulink environment before committing to an FPGA implementation.

1. At the command prompt, type `open Lab1_4_2.slx` to open the design shown in the following figure.



2. In the MATLAB Command Window enter:

```
MyCoeffs = x1fda_numerator('FDATool1')
```



3. Double-click the instance Gateway In2 under the FIR-Fixed-Point subsystem to confirm the data is being sampled as 16-bit fixed-point value.

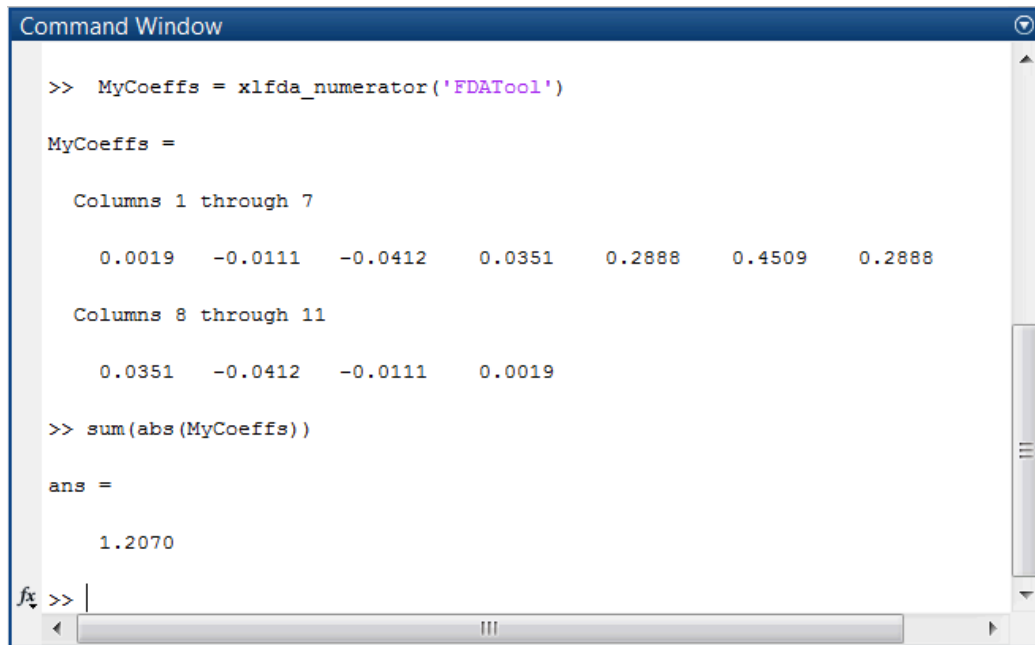
4. Click Cancel to exit the Properties Editor.

5. Click the Run simulation button to simulate the design and confirm instance Spectrum Analyzer HDL Fixed shows the filtered output.

As you will see if you examine the output of instance FIR-Fixed-Point (shown in the previous figure) Vitis Model Composer has automatically propagated the input data type through the filter and determined the output must be 43-bit (with 28 binary bits) to maintain the resolution of the signal.

This is based on the bit-growth through the filter and the fact that the filter coefficients (constants in instance FIR-Fixed-Point) are 16-bit.

6. In the MATLAB Command Window, enter `sum(abs(MyCoeffs))` to determine the absolute maximum gain using the current coefficients.



```
Command Window

>> MyCoeffs = xlfda_numerator('FDATool')

MyCoeffs =

    Columns 1 through 7

    0.0019   -0.0111   -0.0412    0.0351    0.2888    0.4509    0.2888

    Columns 8 through 11

    0.0351   -0.0412   -0.0111    0.0019

>> sum(abs(MyCoeffs))

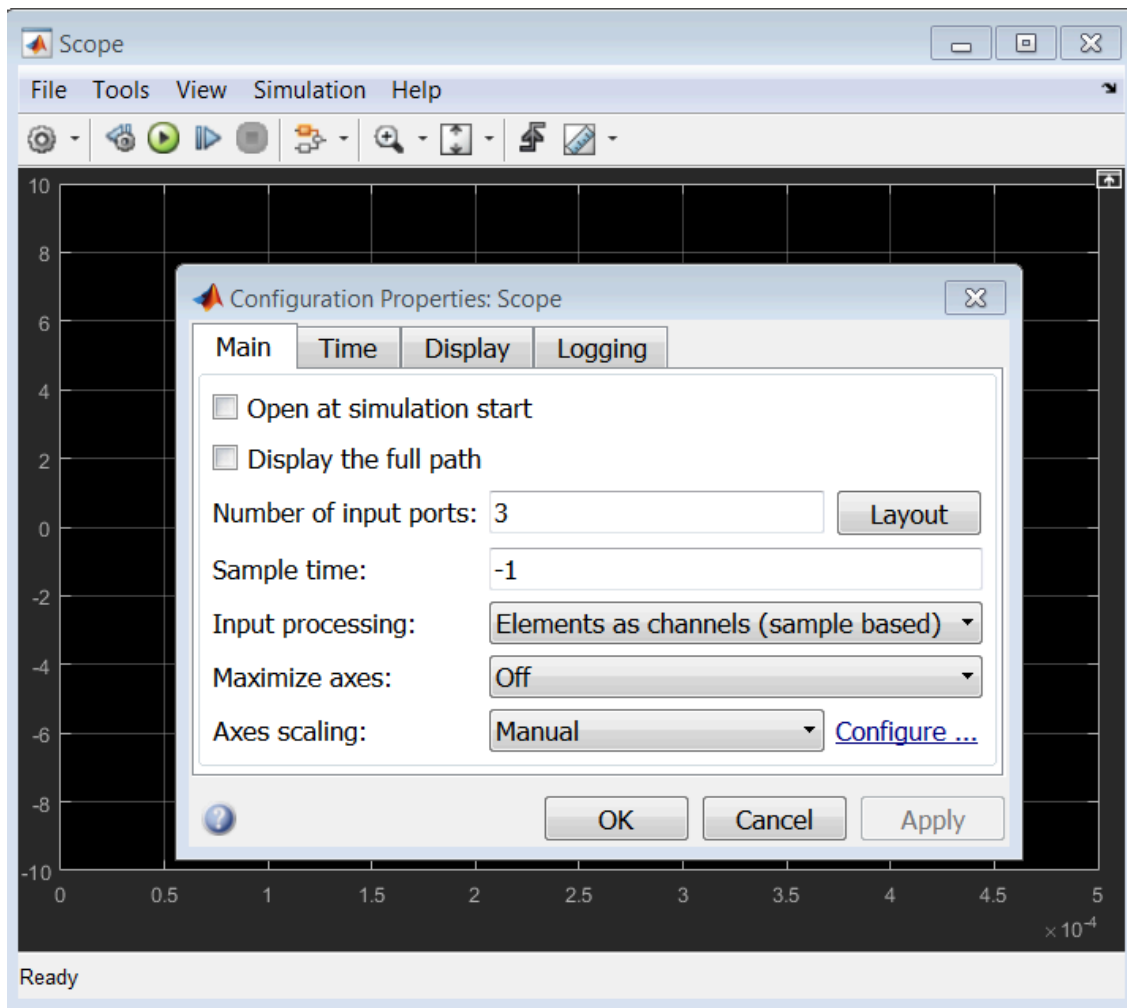
ans =

    1.2070
```

Taking into account the positive and negative values of the coefficients the maximum gain possible is 1.2070 and the output signal should only ever be slightly smaller in magnitude than the input signal, which is a 16-bit signal. There is no need to have 15 bits (43-28) of data above the binary point.

You will now use the Reinterpret and Convert blocks to manipulate the fixed-point data to be no greater than the width required for an accurate result and produce the most hardware efficient design.

7. Double-click on the FIR-Fixed-Point subsystem and then double click anywhere in the canvas.
8. In the edit field, type `Reinterpret`.
9. Click the **Reinterpret** component from **AMD Toolbox/HDL** library to add it to the design.
10. Repeat the previous three steps for these components:
- Convert
 - Scope (pick any scope)
11. In the design, select the Gateway Out2 instance
- Right-click and use Copy and Paste to create a new instance of the Gateway Out block.
 - Paste twice again to create two more instances of the Gateway Out (for a total of three new instances).
12. Double-click the **Scope** component.
- In the Scope properties dialog box, select **File > Number of Inputs > 3**.
 - In the Scope properties dialog box, select **Viwe > Layout** and select three vertical squares.
 - Select **View > Configuration Properties** and confirm that the Number of input ports is 3.

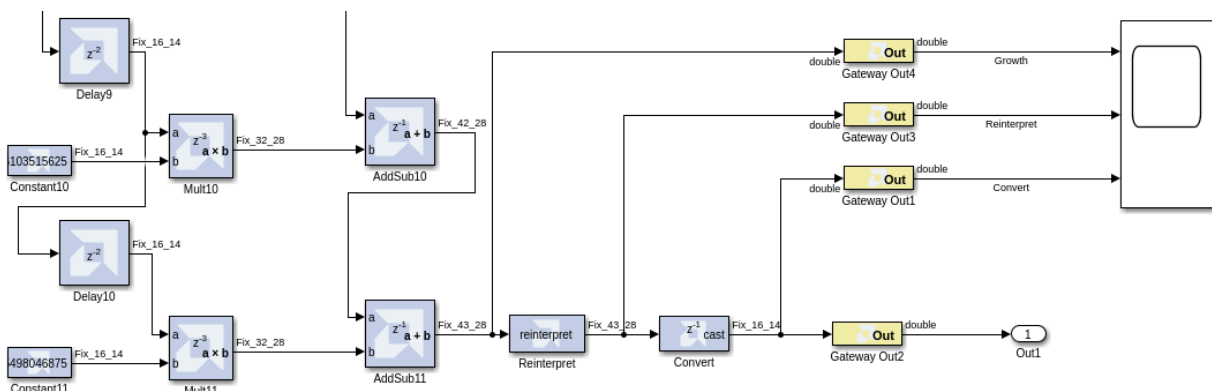


- Click **OK** to close the Configuration Properties dialog box.
- Select **File > Close** to close the Scope properties dialog box.

13. Connect the blocks as shown in the next figure.

14. Rename the signal names into the scope as shown in the following figure: Convert, Reinterpret and Growth.

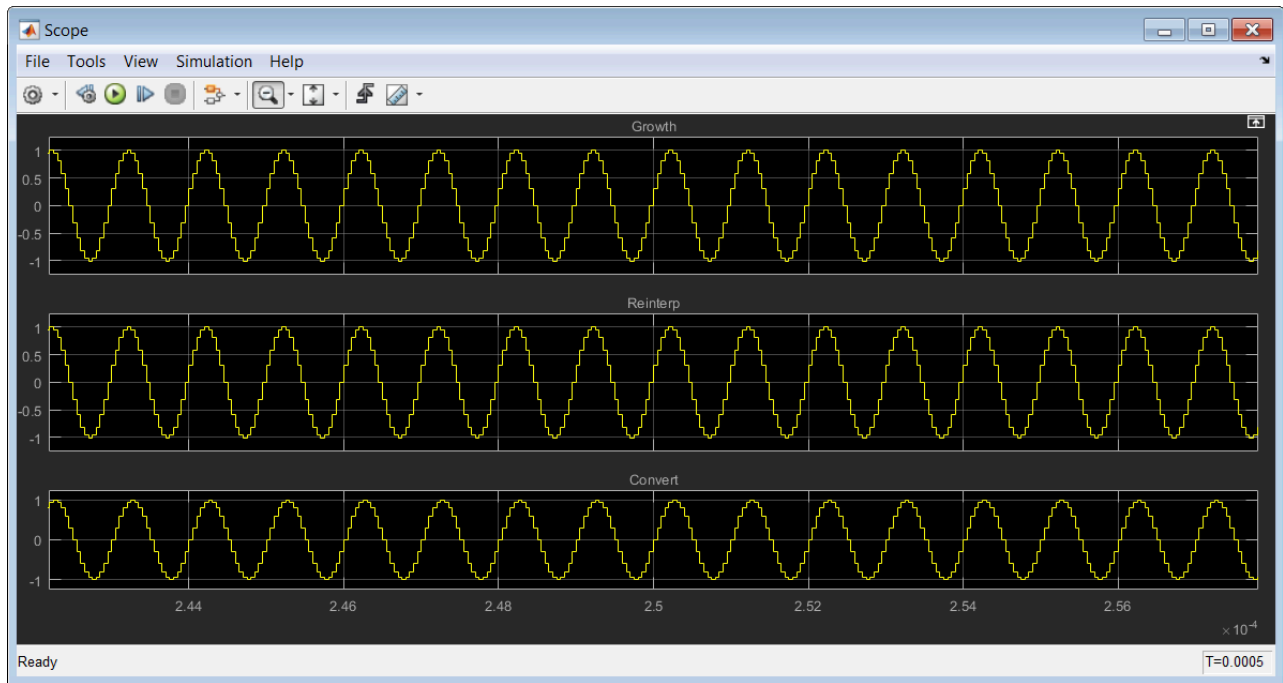
To rename a signal, click the existing name label and edit the text, or if there is no text double-click the wire and type the name.



15. Click the Run simulation button to simulate the design.

16. Double-click the Scope to examine the signals.

★ **Tip:** You might need to zoom in and adjust the scale in View > Configuration Properties to view the signals in detail.



The Reinterpret and Convert blocks have not been configured at this point and so all three signals are identical.

The HDL Reinterpret block forces its output to a new type without any regard for retaining the numerical value represented by the input. The block allows for unsigned data to be reinterpreted as signed data, or, conversely, for signed data to be reinterpreted as unsigned. It also allows for the reinterpretation of the data's scaling, through the repositioning of the binary point within the data.

In this exercise you will scale the data by a factor of 2 to model the presence of additional design processing which might occur in a larger system. The Reinterpret block can also be used to scale down.

17. Double-click the **Reinterpret** block to open the Properties Editor.

18. Select **Force Binary Point**.

19. Enter the value 27 in the input field Output Binary Point and click **OK**.

The HDL Convert block converts each input sample to a number of a desired arithmetic type. For example, a number can be converted to a signed (two's complement) or unsigned value. It also allows the signal quantization to be truncated or rounded and the signal overflow to be wrapped, saturated, or to be flagged as an error.

In this exercise, you will use the Convert block to reduce the size of the 43-bit word back to a 16-bit value. In this exercise the Reinterpret block has been used to model a more complex design and scaled the data by a factor of 2. You must therefore ensure the output has enough bits above the binary point to represent this increase.

20. Double-click the Convert block to open the Properties Editor.

21. In the Fixed-Point Precision section, enter 13 for the Binary Point and click OK.

22. Save the design.

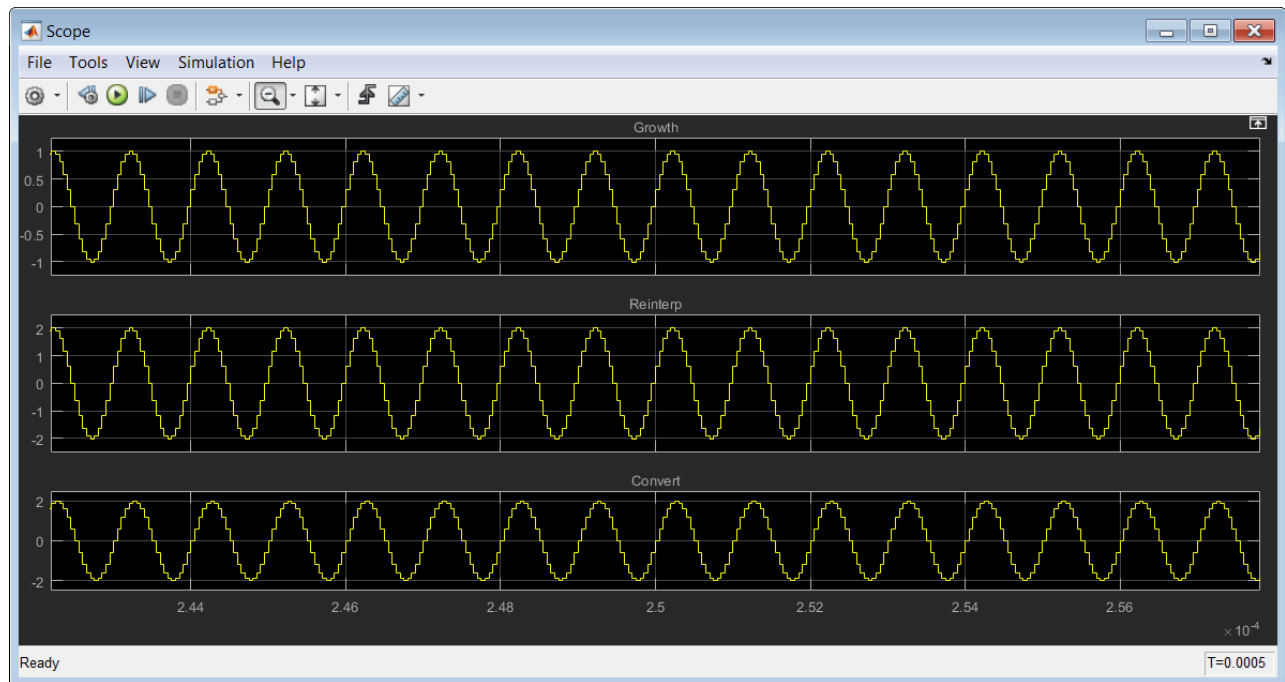
23. Click the Run simulation button to simulate the design.

24. Double-click the Scope to examine the signals.

★ **Tip:** You might need to zoom in and adjust the scale in View > Configuration Properties to view the signals in detail..

In the following figure you can see the output from the filter (Growth) has values between plus and minus 1. The output from the Reinterpret block moves the data values to between plus and minus 2.

In this detailed view of the waveform, the final output (Convert) shows no difference in fidelity, when compared to the reinterpret results, but uses only 16 bits.



The final step is to synthesize this design into hardware.

25. Double-click the Vitis Model Composer Hub block to open the Properties Editor.

26. Select the FIR-Fixed-Point subsystem on the left.

27. On the Analyze tab, under Perform Analysis select **Post Synthesis** and from Analysis Type menu select Resource. This option gives the resource utilization details after completion.

✏ **Note:** In order to see accurate results from Resource Analyzer Window it is recommended to specify a new target directory rather than use the current working directory.

28. Click **Analyze** to compile the design into a hardware description. After completion, it generates the resource utilization in Resource Analyzer window as shown in the following figure.

The figure shows the Resource Analyzer window for 'Lab1_4_2'. It displays 'Post Synthesis Resources' and includes a table with the following data:

Name	BRAMs (445)	DSPs (840)	LUTs (203800)	Registers (407600)
FIR_Fixed_Point	0	11	545	594

29. Click **OK** to dismiss the Compilation status dialog box.
30. Click **OK** to dismiss the Vitis Model Composer property editor.
Notice, as compared to the results in Step 1, these results show approximately:
 - 55% less registers
 - 90% less LUTs
 - 66% less DSP48s
31. Exit Vivado.
32. Close the Lab1_4_2.s1x model.


Summary

In this lab, you learned how to use the Vitis Model Composer HDL blockset to create a design in the Simulink environment and synthesize the design in hardware which can be implemented on an AMD FPGA. You learned the benefits of quickly creating your design using an AMD Digital FIR Filter block and how the design could be improved with the use of over-sampling.

You also learned how floating-point types provide a high degree of accuracy but cost many more resources to implement in an FPGA and how the Vitis Model Composer HDL blockset can be used to both implement a design using more efficient fixed-point data types and compensate for any loss of accuracy caused by using fixed-point types.

The Reinterpret and Convert blocks are powerful tools which allow you to optimize your design without needing to perform detailed bit-level optimizations. You can simply use these blocks to convert between different data types and quickly analyze the results.

Finally, you learned how you can take total control of the hardware implementation by using discrete primitives.

 **Note:** In this tutorial you learned how to add Vitis Model Composer HDL blocks to the design and then configure them. A useful productivity technique is to add and configure the Vitis Model Composer Hub block first. If the target device is set at the start, some complex IP blocks will be automatically configured for the device when they are added to the design.

The following solution directory contains the final Vitis Model Composer (*.s1x) files for this lab.

/HDL_Library/Lab1/solution



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