# ECE 429 Laboratory 8: Carry-Ripple Addition III

Alexander Lukens

Illinois Institute of Technology

November 14, 2020

### 1 Introduction

In this laboratory, students will continue to elaborate on their ripple adder design by implementing a 4-bit adder based on their single-bit adder design. This will require students to create multiple instances of the Full-adder cellview, design a schematic that correctly connects the ripple adder, and create a corresponding layout cellview that corresponds to the schematic created earlier. This layout cellview will utilize the full adder layout implemented in Laboratory 7

## 2 Theory\Pre-lab

CMOS designs use numerous design "masks" to define the various separate regions that make up the physical design. These designs can be very complex, so Electronic Design Automation (EDA) software is utilized to create a physical layout for the circuit. One such EDA software suite is Cadence Virtuoso. In Cadence Virtuoso, each of the individual layers can be modeled and tested against the physical design rules for a certain process, reducing the time required to design an integrated circuit dramatically.

Inside Cadence Virtuoso, there are a variety of tools available to further decrease the probability of design errors and overall design time. The first tool is design rule checking (DRC). This allows for the physical layout of a circuit to be checked for compliance with the design rules of a certain process (on which the circuit will eventually be produced). This ensures that when the circuit is created, it will not fail due to physical spacing errors. Another tool is Layout vs Schematic (LVS) testing. LVS testing allows the physical layout produced in Cadence Virtuoso to be compared with a schematic cellview to ensure that they will function identically. This means that the overall design can first be created as a schematic (to first ensure the digital logic design functions correctly) before spending time designing the physical layout.

### 3 Implementation

The first step in implementing a 4-bit adder in Cadence Virtuoso, using the carry-ripple full adder design, is to create a schematic cellview using 4 instances of the full adder. This is done by making a new cell for the 4-bit adder, and then creating a schematic cellview.

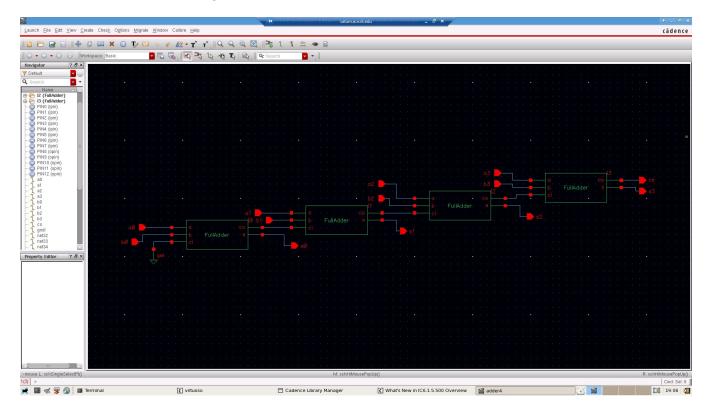


Figure 1: 4-bit Adder Schematic Cellview

After defining the various ports in the schematic cellview, a symbol cellview can be easily created by using the "Create Cellview from Cellview" command.

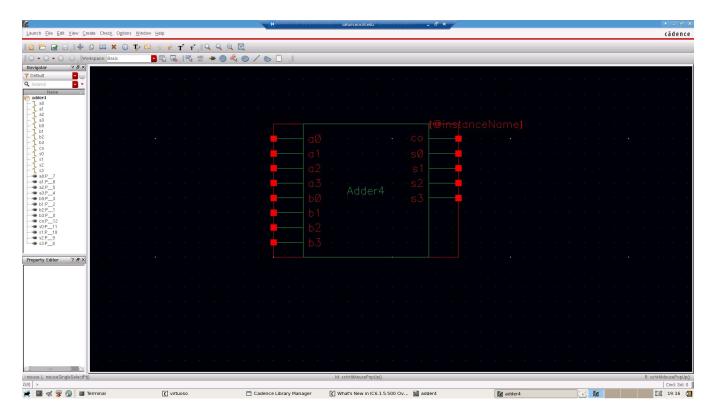


Figure 2: 4-bit Adder Symbol Cellview

After creating a schematic and symbol cellview, the next step is to implement the 4-bit adder in a layout cellview. This requires utilizing 4 instances of the full-adder layout created in the previous laboratory session, and connecting the inputs and outputs as specified in the schematic cellview.

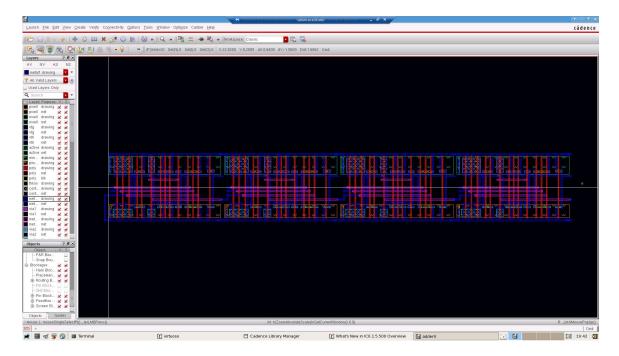


Figure 3: 4-bit Adder Layout Cellview

Once all ports and connections are created according to the schematic cellview, design rule checking (DRC) and Layout vs Schematic (LVS) testing can be performed on the layout.

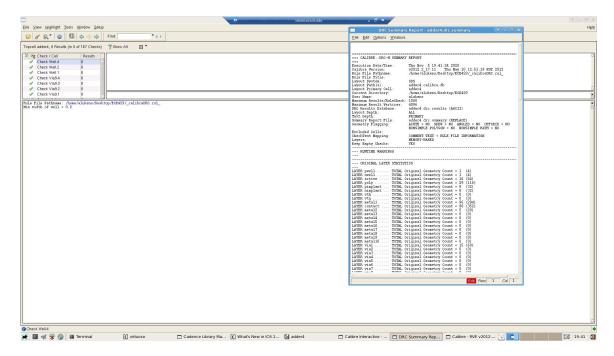


Figure 4: Layout DRC

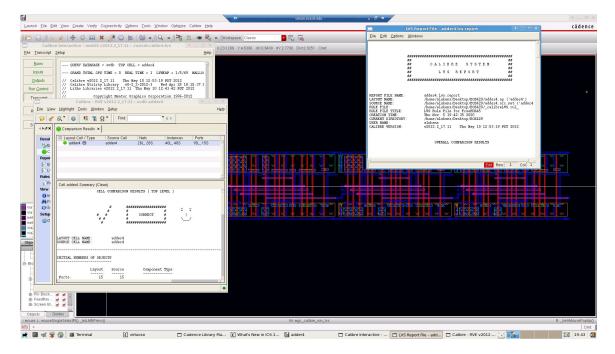


Figure 5: Layout LVS Result

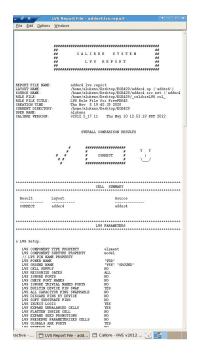


Figure 6: Layout LVS Report

If all layout tests pass, the design should then be compared to a verilog file performing the 4-bit adder operation to ensure that the layout functions as intended. This is done using Cadence Formality ESP, which can compare a netlist to a verilog file.

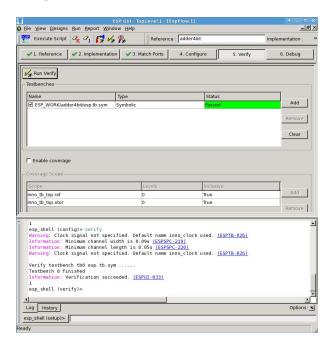


Figure 7: ESP GUI Results

Figure 8: 4-bit Adder Generated Netlist

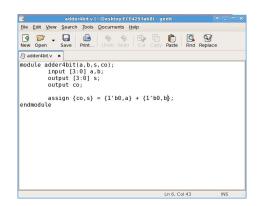


Figure 9: 4-bit Adder Verilog File

After ensurign that the adder functions as expected, a testing circuit was created in Cadence Virtuoso. This circuit will assist in performing timing analysis on the 4-bit adder using various input stimuli.

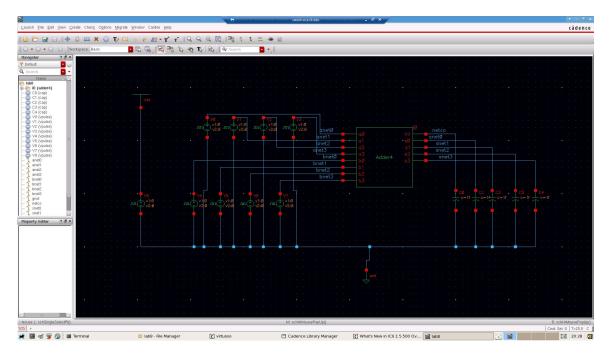


Figure 10: 4-bit Adder Testing Circuit

A SPICE netlist was created to perform the delay analysis. The SPICE file and the resultant data is shown below

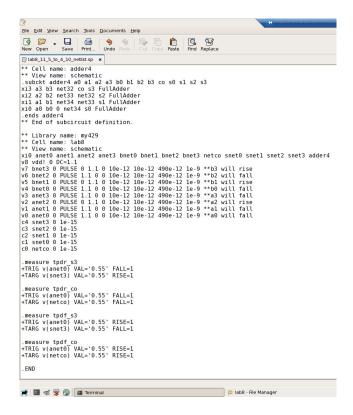


Figure 11: 4-bit Adder SPICE Delay Netlist

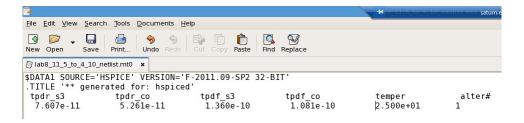


Figure 12: 4-bit Adder Testing Data

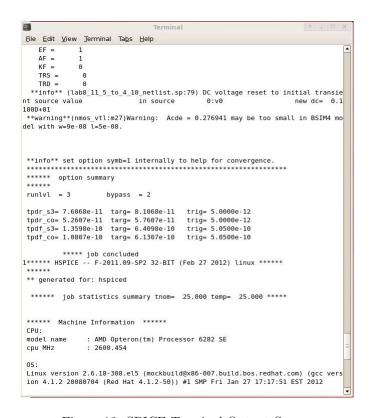


Figure 13: SPICE Terminal Output Screen

Finally, XRUN was utilized to validate the correctness of the verilog file created earlier. This was done to ensure that the adder functions correctly over a larger variety of test cases.

```
adder4bit_test.v (~/Desktop/ECE429/lab8) - gedit
  File Edit View Search Tools Documents Help
 New Open Save
                                  adder4bit_test.v x
 module stimuli;
                reg [3:0] A,B;
wire [3:0] S;
wire co;
                adder4bit adder1(A,B,S,co);
initial begin  
//first set A and B to '0'  
//#number means wait for 'number' amount of timeunits  
#10 A=4'b0000; B=4'b0000; B=4'b0000;  
// A=11=4'b1011  
B=5==4'b1011  
#10 A=4'b1011; B=4'b0101;  
#10 A=4'b1011; B=4'b0101;  
#5 $display("%d+%d=%d %b",A,B,S,co);
                 initial
 //A=4==4'b0100 B=10==4'b1010
#10 A=4'b0100; B=4'b1010;
#5 $display("%d+%d=%d %b",A,B,S,co);
 //A=5==4'b0101 B=5==4'b0101
#10 A=4'b0101; B=4'b0101;
#5 $display("%d+%d=%d %b",A,B,S,co);
 //A=7==4'b0111 B=8==4'b1000
#10 A=4'b0111; B=4'b1000;
#5 $display("%d+%d=%d %b",A,B,S,co);
 //A=9==4'b1001 B=10==4'b1010
#10 A=4'b1001; B=4'b1010;
#5 $display("%d+%d=%d %b",A,B,S,co);
 end
endmodule
                                                                                Ln 1, Col 16
```

Figure 14: Adder Testbench Verilog File

```
| Terminal | Page | Name | Page | Pag
```

Figure 15: XRUN Simulation Results

### 4 Deliverables

• How is the functionality of your adder design validated/verified at various abstraction levels (i.e. Verilog, transistor schematic, layout)?

Functionality of the 4-bit adder design was tested at several different points during this laboratory. At the lowest level, the layout cellview of the adder was checked for compliance with the design rules of the process being utilized (FreePDK45). This ensures that the design could actually be created using the layout in a physical process. Above this, Layout vs Schematic testing can be implemented to validate the correctness of the layout implementation. LVS testing compares the transistors and ports defined in the layout to those defined in the transistor schematic.

After this correctness is confirmed, Formality ESP can be utilized to compare the functionality of a netlist (generated from the layout or transistor schematic) to a verilog file performing identical functionality. This allows designs created in Cadence Virtuoso to be compared to their verilog equivilent functionality to ensure that the design will perform the operation intended. Additionally, XRUN can be used to simulate a Verilog design over a variety of test cases. In this lab it was used to test numerous stimuli to the 4-bit adder Verilog file to ensure that the add functionality works as intended.

#### 5 Conclusions

This laboratory should be considered a success. Students were successfully able to implement a 4-bit adder in Cadence Virtuoso. This required creating a schematic, symbol, and layout cellview. Students ensured the correctness of their designs by utilizing Design Rule Checking and Layout vs Schematic testing inside Cadence Virtuoso. Additionally, students used Formality ESP and XRUN simulations to compare their 4-bit adder to designs implemented using Verilog.

In future laboratories, students will utilize the skills gained in this laboratory session to design increasingly complex circuits. Students knowledge in implementing Verilog will be used to simulate complex circuits, and automatically generate layouts in Cadence Virtuoso.

### 6 Resources

- Choi, Ken. "ECE 429 Laboratory 8 Manual." Illinois Institute of Technology, November 14, 2020.
- Kim, Victoria. "ECE 429 Guideline for Writing Report & Grading Criteria." Illinois Institute of Technology, November 14, 2020.