

Simulation Lab 1

How to Use Xilinx ISE® Design Suite Project Navigator



National
Science
Foundation

Funded in part, by a grant from the
National Science Foundation
DUE 1003736 and 1068182

Acknowledgements

Developed by Craig Kief, Alonzo Vera, Alexandria Haddad, and Quinlan Cao, at the Configurable Space Microsystems Innovations & Applications Center (COSMIAC). Based on original tutorial developed by Bassam Matar, Engineering Faculty at Chandler-Gilbert Community College, Chandler, Arizona. *Funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF).*

Lab Summary

This is a voluntary lab for those of you who lack experience in the use of Xilinx ISE®. We will walk you through a small version of a lab session and produce a fictitious lab report. In the process you will use all of the main steps that you will use in later lab work.

This lab teaches design entry, simulation, and prototyping using tools provided by Xilinx ISE® for this purpose. We will show how a simple design circuit of a **2**-input AND gate can be directly entered into Xilinx ISE® for synthesis, post synthesis simulation, and timing analysis. We will show the implementation of more complex designs in future labs by running them through the design flow illustrated in this lab.

Lab Goal

The goal of this lab is to learn how to use the Xilinx ISE® software by implementing inputs and outputs for a simple 2-input AND gate.

Learning Objectives

1. Use the Xilinx ISE® Schematic Editor to create a 2-input AND gate project using the free ISE® WebPACK™.
2. Compile and simulate the 2-input AND design.
3. Compile and simulate the 4-input XOR design.

Grading Criteria

Your grade is determined by your instructor.

Time Required

2-3 hours

Lab Preparation

- Read this document completely before you start on this experiment.
- Print out the laboratory experiment procedure that follows.

Equipment and Materials

Access to Xilinx software

Software needed	Quantity
Download the ISE® WebPACK™ software from the Xilinx website, www.xilinx.com .	1

Additional References

Current Xilinx ISE Software manuals found on Xilinx web site: www.xilinx.com.



Lab Procedure 1: Download and Install ISE® WebPACK™

In this lab, you will first load and license the current version of the free ISE® WebPACK™. Next, you will create a schematic of a small circuit of limited functionality. If you already have a copy of Xilinx ISE® or the WebPACK™ you may skip these steps.

You might be using a different version of ISE than the one used in this lab. However, there should be minimal changes in the instructions.

Installing the ISE® WebPACK™ Software

Step 1:

Register with Xilinx at www.xilinx.com. Navigate to the <http://www.xilinx.com/products/design-tools/ise-design-suite/ise-webpack.htm> page and download the free ISE® WebPACK™.

Step 2:

Install ISE® WebPACK™.

System Requirements:

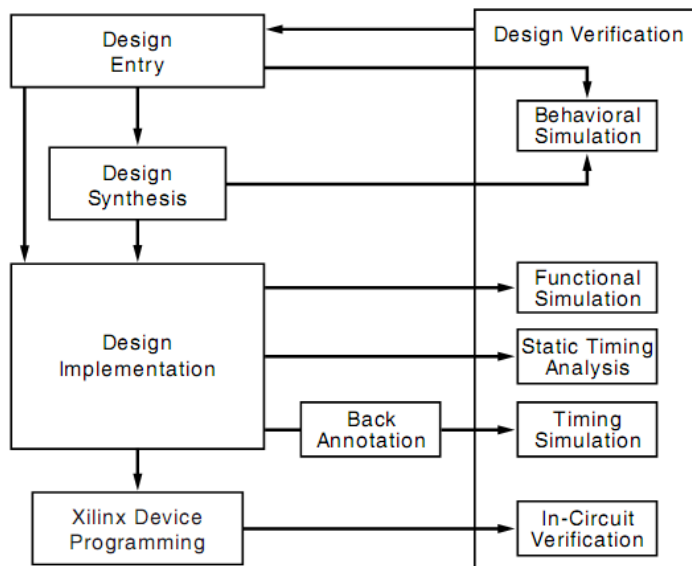
Microsoft Windows XP Professional7, Vista or Linux.

Step 3:

Have Fun!



Lab Procedure 2: Design a 2-input AND Circuit



Xilinx Design Process overview:

Step 1: Design Entry

- Two design methods:
 1. HDL (Verilog or VHDL)
 - or
 2. Schematic drawings.

For the simulation part of our class, we will use the schematic method and VHDL.

Step 2: Design Synthesis

- Translate VHDL and schematic files into an industry standard format EDIF file.

Step 3: Design Implementation

- Translate Map, Place and Route. This process will generate a configuration file (.BIT) for FPGA programming.

Step 4: Xilinx Device Programming

- Download JED file into FPGA

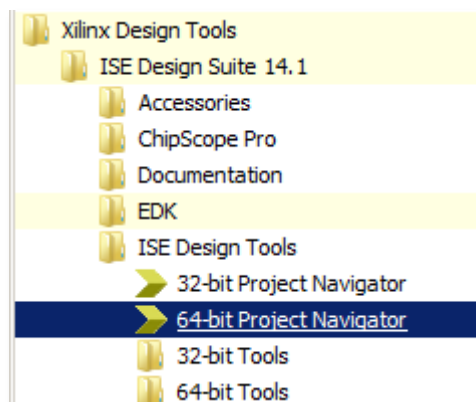
In this portion of the lab, you will use Xilinx ISE software to build a simple 2-input AND circuit. This lab focuses on Steps 1 and 2 of the Xilinx Design Process. We will implement Steps 3 and 4 in upcoming labs.

NOTE: At the conclusion of the lab, you will be asked to comment on why certain steps are required. Be sure to take notes on these questions as they appear in the lab procedure.

Step 1: Design Entry

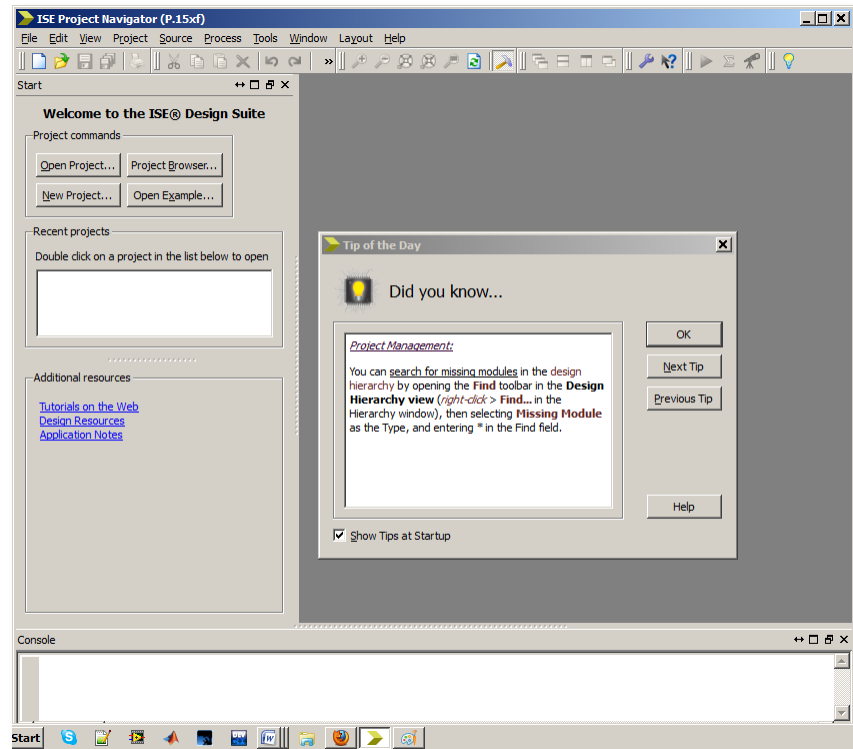
1. Open Xilinx ISE Design Tool Project Navigator.

Your system might have slightly different Start Menu options.



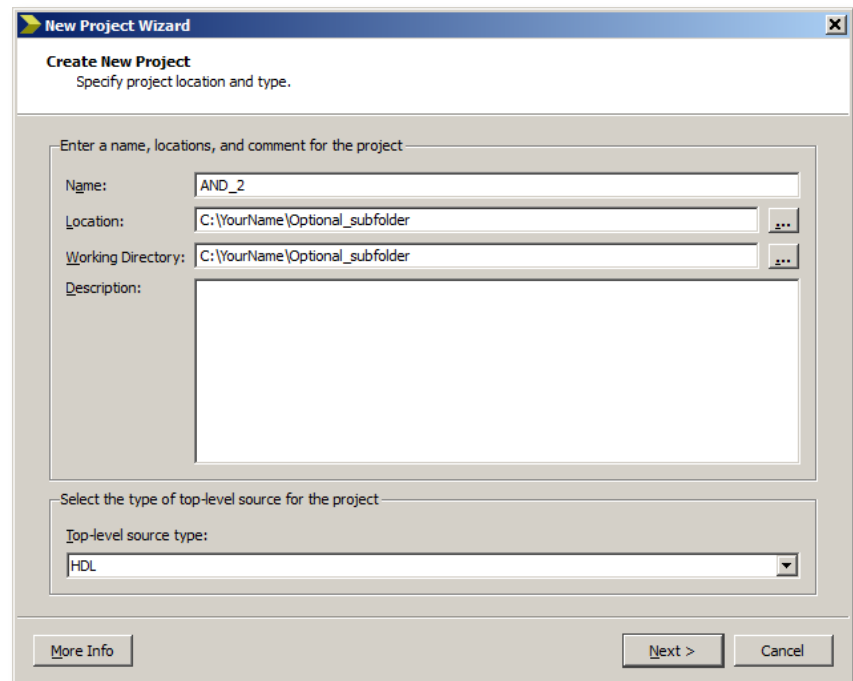


2. The ISE Project Navigator window opens, with the Tip of the Day displayed. Click **OK** to close the Tip of the Day.



3. Start a new project by selecting **File → New Project** from the menu. The New Project Wizard starts.
 - a. Type **AND_2** in the Name text box.
 - b. Select a location on your computer to save your project files by clicking the ellipsis (...) button to the right of the **Location** text box.
 - c. Under **Top-level source type**, select **HDL**.
 - d. Click **Next**.

The Project Settings dialog box opens.



NOTE: File names must start with a letter. Use underscores (_) for readability. Do not use hyphens (-); although the file name will work, the entity name will not. More on this later.

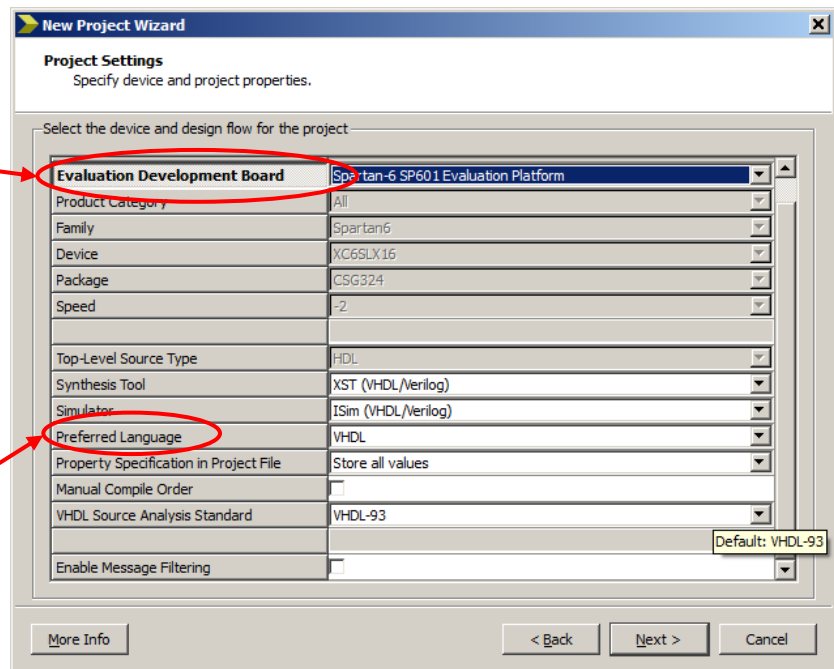


4. Select **Spartan-6 SP601 Evaluation Platform** from the **Evaluation Development Board** drop down menu.

The **Product Category**, **Family**, **Device**, **Package**, and **Speed** should all automatically populate (top half of the screen). You will need to set some options in the lower half of the dialog box.

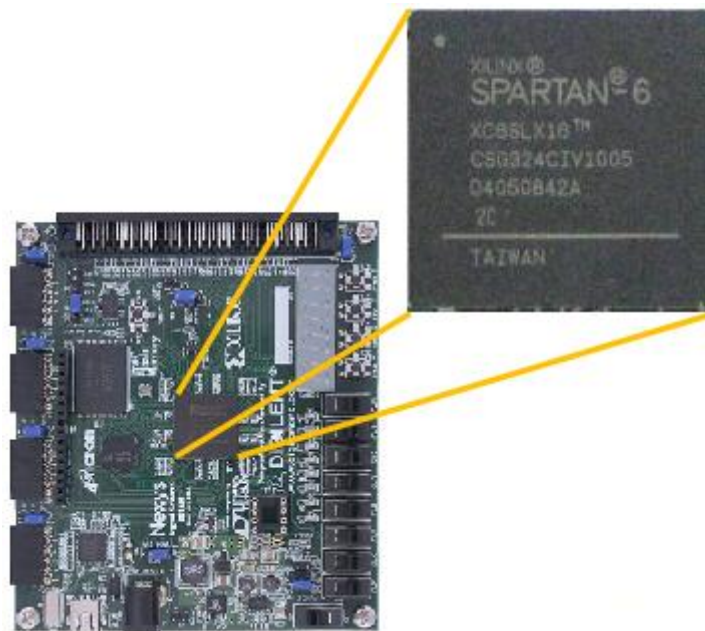
5. Select **VHDL** from the **Preferred Language** drop down menu.

The Project Settings should resemble the figure to the right.



6. Click **Next**.

NOTE: The options specified are for the **Spartan 6 LX FPGA**. Your board might be different than the board used for these instructions. Board specifications are printed on the FPGA chip in the middle of the board as shown in the figure to the right. The board information is also listed on the box it came in.



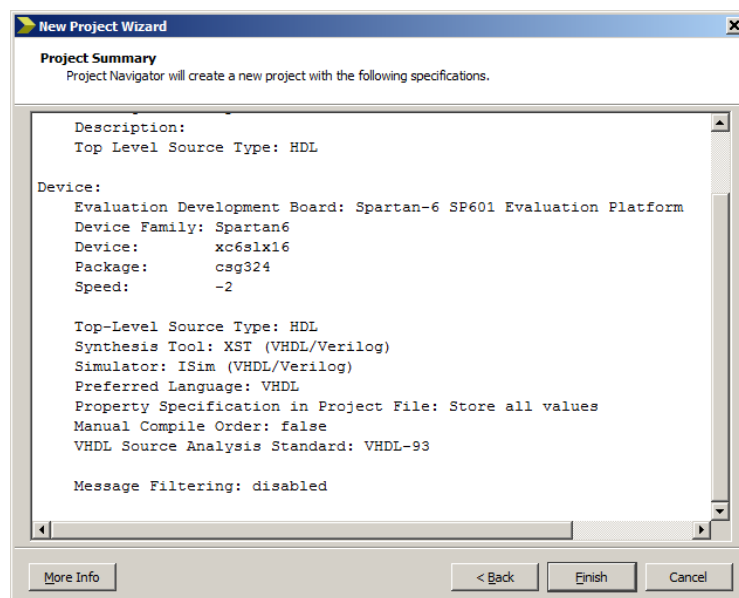
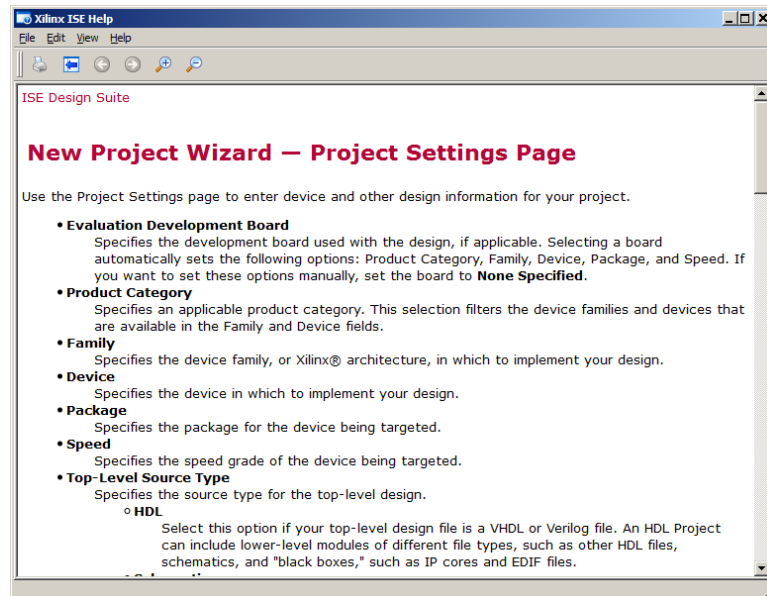


NOTE: You can also leave the **Evaluation Development Board** drop down set to **None Specified**, and change each of the options manually.

NOTE: Press **F1** or select **Help → Help Topics** from the menu to access context sensitive **Help** about any ISE option.

The **Help** menu has many other support options available also, e.g., **Xilinx on the Web Tutorials**. Selecting this option opens the Xilinx support page on a separate workspace tab inside the ISE window.

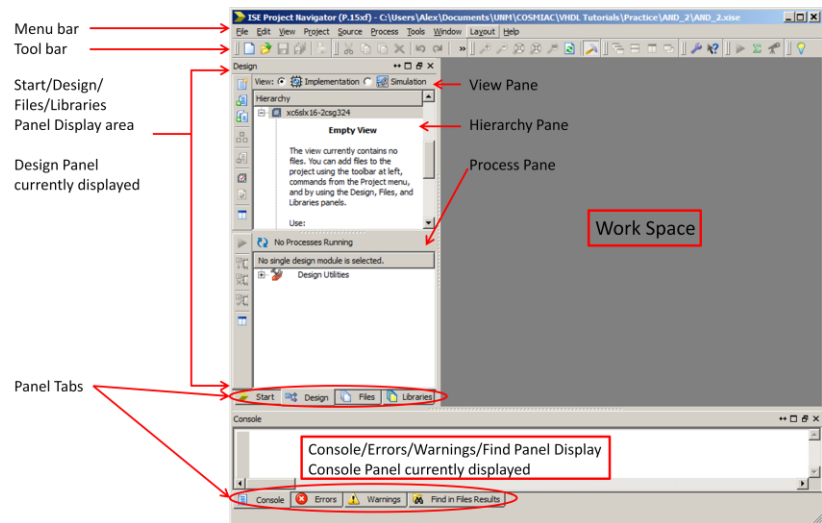
- The Project Summary displays. Verify the file type and name are correct then click **Finish** to complete the New Project creation process.



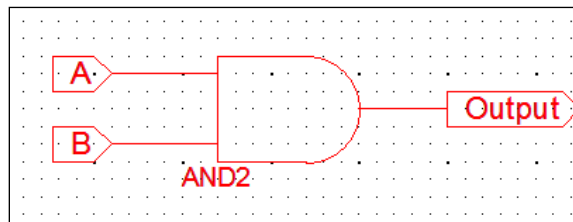


8. The Project Wizard window closes and a new project is created. The Project Navigator window provides all the options you need to create and/or include project files.

Take a minute to familiarize yourself with the Project Navigator window **Menu**, **Toolbar**, **Panels**, and **Work Space** area.



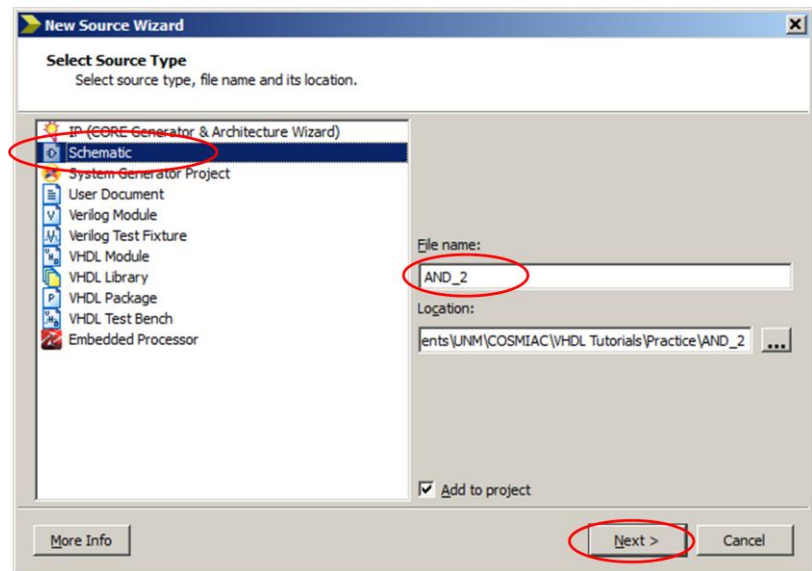
9. We will be building a simple 2-input AND gate as shown on the right. First we will use the schematic option, and then we will create a VHDL code file. This provides an introduction to the VHDL code and syntax.



10. Add a New Source Schematic to your project by selecting **Project** → **New source** from the menu. The **New Source Wizard** dialog box opens.

11. Select **Schematic** from the list of sources and type **AND_2** for the file name and click the **Next** button. The **Source Summary** dialog box opens. Click **Finish**.

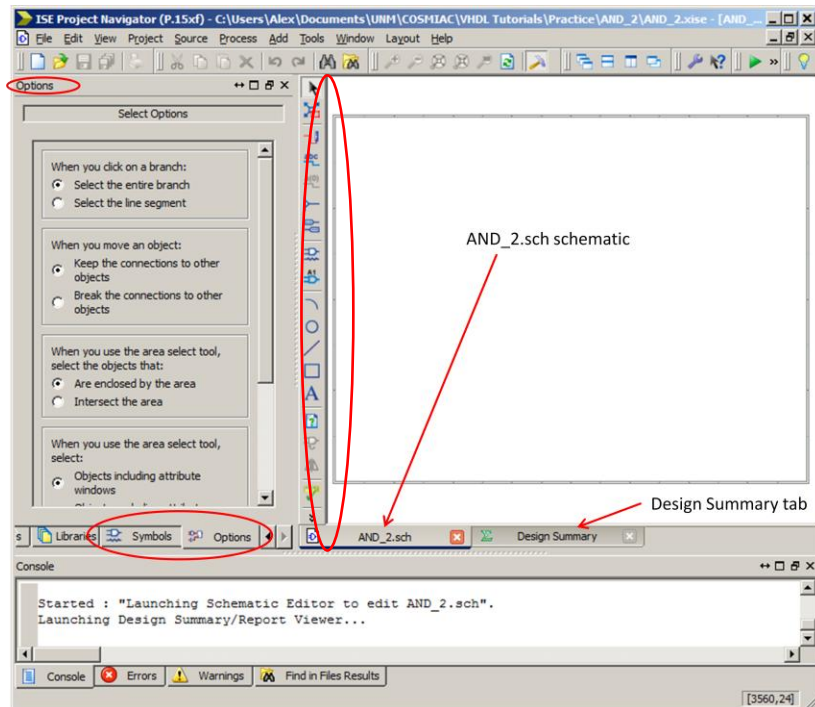
NOTE: AND-2 is just a name for your schematic. You can name the schematic file any name you desire.





12. The new **AND_2.sch** schematic is displayed in the workspace. You might also see a workspace tab for the **Design Summary**.

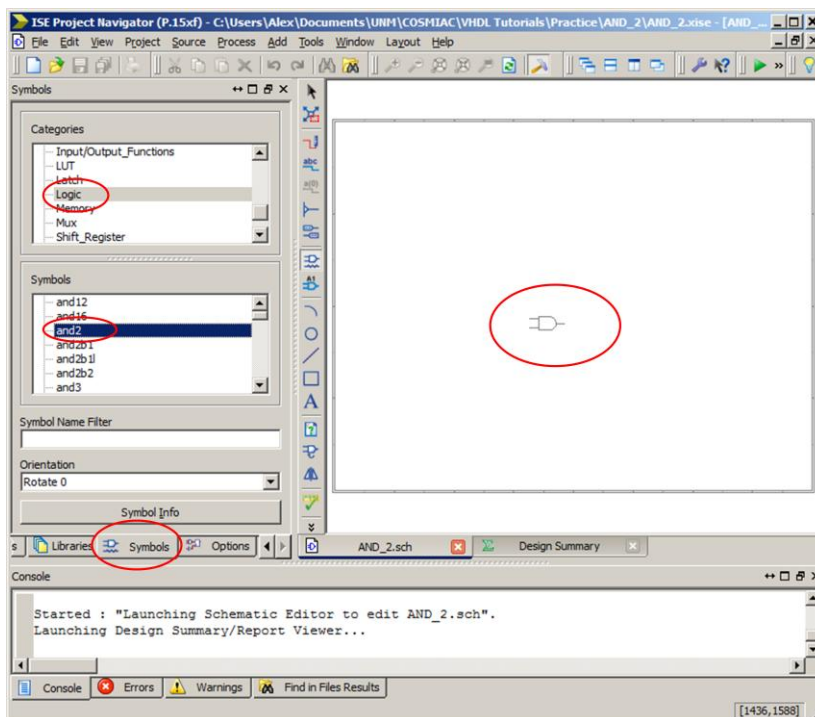
The left panel display area now shows the **Options** panel and additional panel tabs for **Options** and **Symbols**. Note there is also a left pointing arrow to navigate the panel tabs. Also notice the **schematic toolbar** on the left of the workspace.



13. Click the **Symbols** panel tab to display the Symbols panel.

14. Under **Categories** select **Logic**.

15. Under **Symbols** select **and2**, and then click the mouse on the schematic workspace to place the and2 symbol.





Using the symbols tools

All the symbols tools are either on or off. Selecting a tool, either from the symbols panel, menu, or the toolbar turns the tool on. The mouse pointer will reflect the symbol that is currently on. Clicking on the workspace will place the current symbol at that location. The tool remains on, and multiple symbol placements can be made, until the tool is turned off by pressing the ESC key. When a tool is active the options panel provides context sensitive options for that tool.

16. Zoom in or out, using the **Zoom** buttons on the toolbar, to resize your view.

17. Add wires to the AND gate to enable future connection of pins and gates to the schematic.

Click the **Add Wires** button on the toolbar to turn on the Add Wires tool.

Add a wire to each input and the output of the AND gate by **Clicking** once on the end of the AND gate to start the wire then **double-clicking** to end the wire. Repeat for each wire.

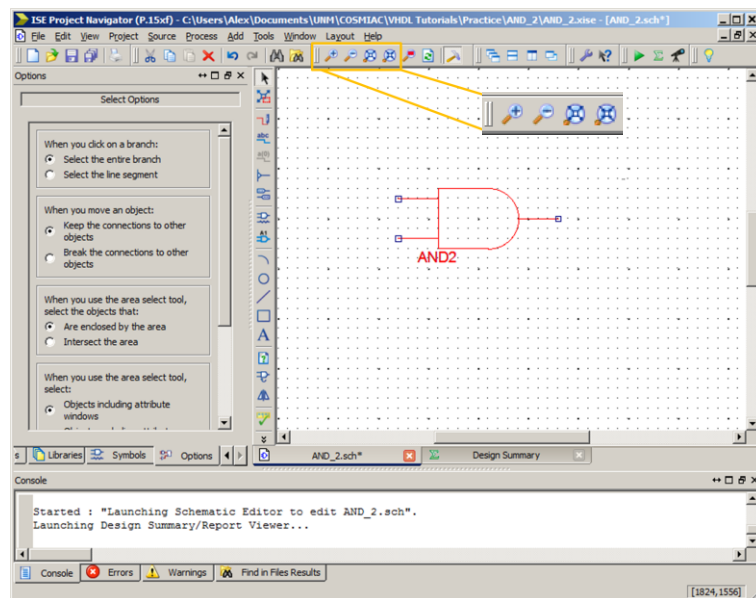
Press the esc key to turn off the Add Wires tool.

NOTE: For this simple schematic it would not normally be necessary to add wires. This step is for practice purposes only.

Adding I/O Markers

An I/O marker is an input, output, or bidirectional signal. This establishes net polarity (direction of signal flow) and shows that the net is externally accessible. Without pins, the device is meaningless. All primary inputs and outputs must be marked with I/O markers. You can add an I/O Marker from the menu or the toolbar:

- Select **Add → I/O Marker** from the menu.
- Click the **Add I/O Marker** toolbar button .

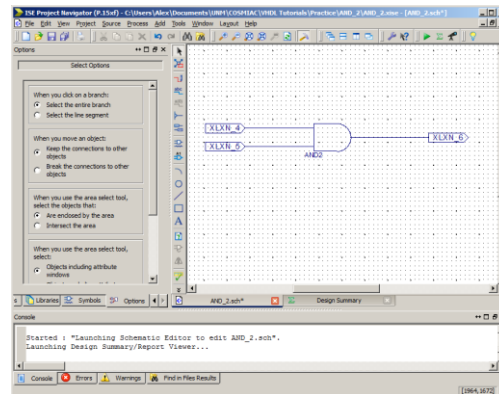




18. Click the **Add I/O Markers** button on the **toolbar** to turn on the Add I/O Markers tool.

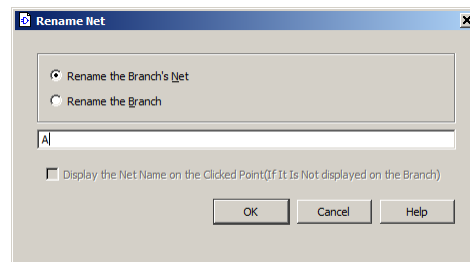
Add an I/O marker by placing the mouse pointer over the end of a wire and **clicking once**. Click on each wire end to add an I/O marker.

Press the **esc** key to turn off the Add I/O Markers tool.

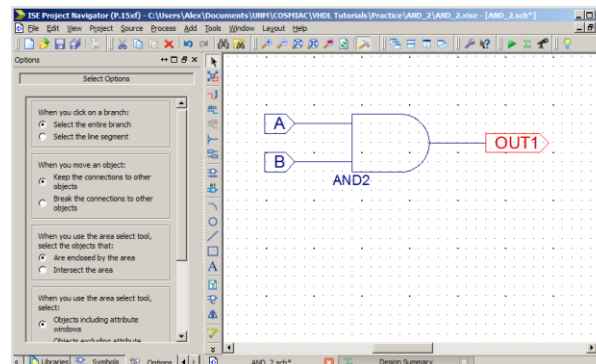


19. Change the name of the I/O marker by **right-clicking** on the marker and selecting **Rename Port** from the shortcut menu.

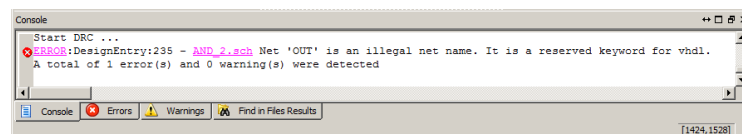
Type the new name for the port and click **OK**.



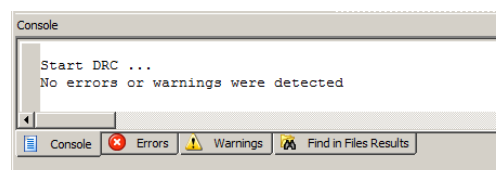
20. Once the schematic is complete, test for wiring errors by selecting **Tools → Check Schematic** from the menu.



21. The Console Panel will display any errors or warnings. If you have errors, fix them and run **Check Schematic** again.



22. **Save your file.**





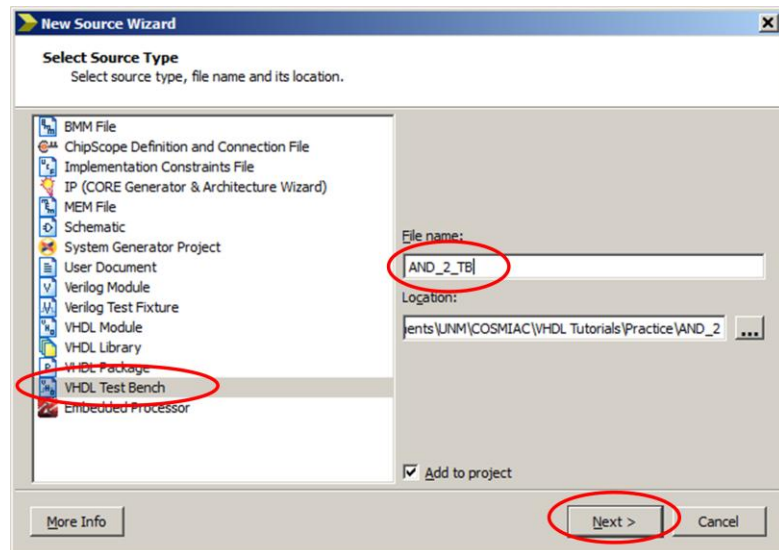
Step 2: Design Simulation

1. Create a test bench for your file.
Right-click in the Hierarchy Pane and select **New Source** from the short cut menu.

2. Select **VHDL Test Bench** as the source type.

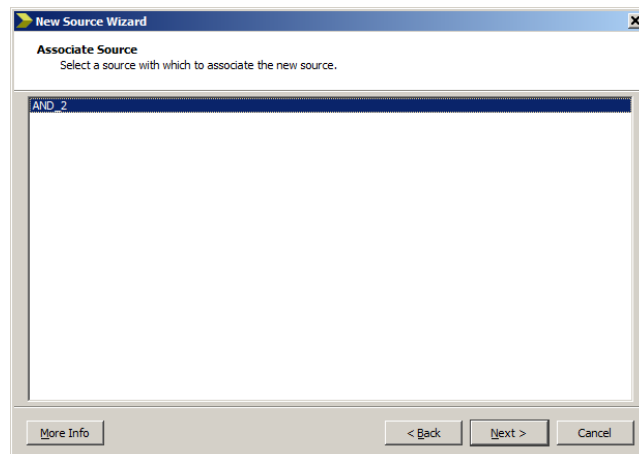
3. Enter **AND_2_TB** as the file name.

NOTE: It is good practice to name your test bench file with the same name as the original file and append **_TB** to the end of the file name.



4. Click the **Next** button. The Associate Source dialog box displays with **AND_2** selected. Click the Next Button.

NOTE: When you have a project with multiple .vhd files, every file is listed in the Associate Source dialog box. Before you click **Next**, make sure you have the correct file selected for the test bench you are creating.



5. The New Source Summary dialog box displays.
6. Click the **Finish** button.



7. The test bench file will display in the workspace. **Make the changes highlighted on the right.**

NOTE: The PROCESS section of the simulation sets the values of A and B from 0 to 1 and then waits for a small period of time (25 and 50 nanoseconds, respectively).

-- initialize inputs to 0

```
SIGNAL A :      STD_LOGIC:= '0';
SIGNAL B :      STD_LOGIC:= '0';
SIGNAL OUTPUT :  STD_LOGIC;
```

-- *** Test Bench - User Defined Section ***

```
tb : PROCESS
BEGIN
  WAIT; -- will wait forever
END PROCESS;
```

8. Click the **Save All** button on the toolbar.

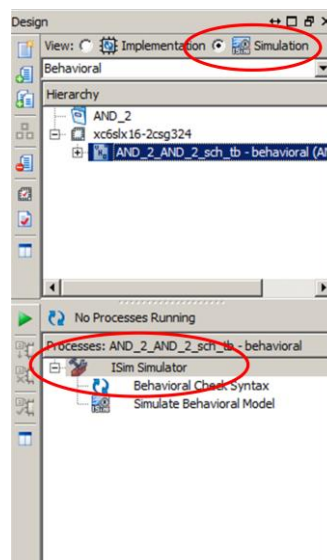
-- offset timing of inputs simulate all input options.
-- output = 1 only when A = B = 1

```
A_process : PROCESS
BEGIN
  A <= NOT A;
  WAIT FOR 25 ns;
END PROCESS;
```

```
B_process: PROCESS
BEGIN
  B <= NOT B;
  WAIT FOR 50 ns;
END PROCESS;
```

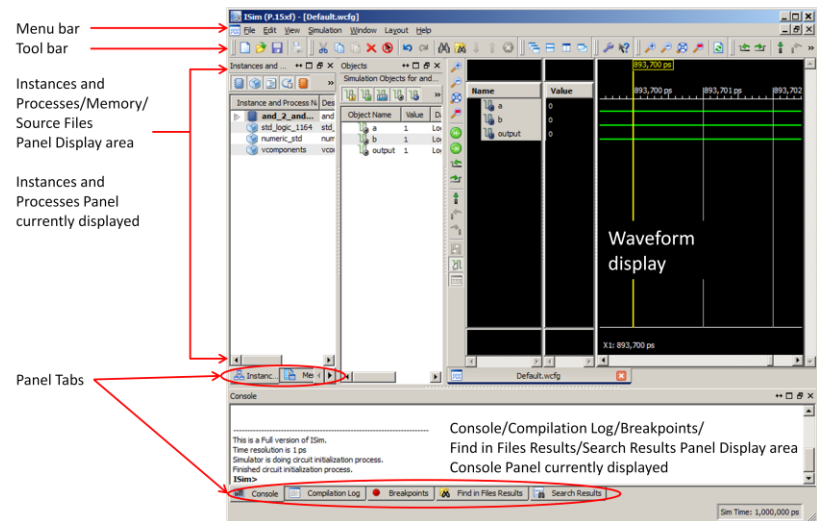
-- *** End Test Bench - User Defined Section ***

9. On the **View Pane**, select **Simulation**. The Simulation Hierarchy and Process options display.
10. **Expand** the ISim Simulator tool if it isn't already expanded.
11. **Double-click** the **Simulate Behavioral Model** tool. Click **Yes** to save any changes.





12. The Simulation Elaboration will begin to run. When it is finished the **ISim** window will open displaying the simulation.



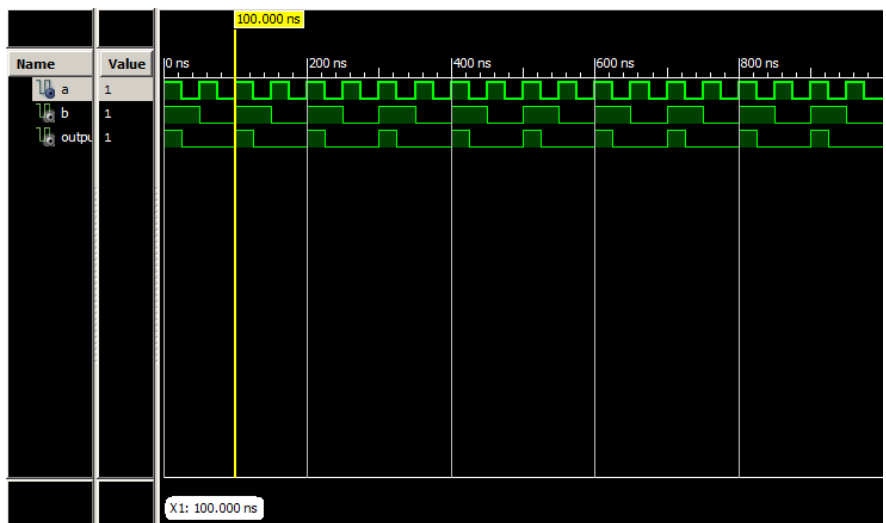
13. Use the **Zoom to Full View** and the **Zoom In** buttons to display the simulation waveform clearer.



Review the waveform to ensure the testbench is working as designed.

The waveform should match the following logic table for this circuit, $A \cdot B = C$.

A	B	=	C
0	0		0
0	1		0
1	0		0
1	1		1

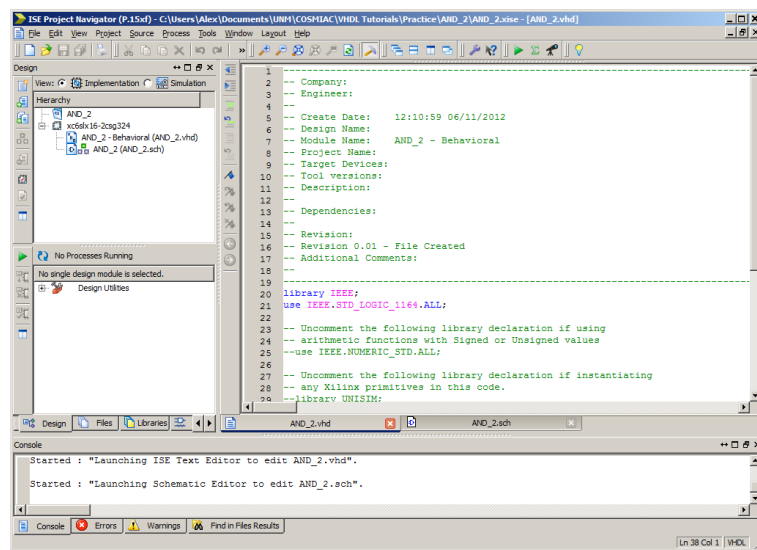
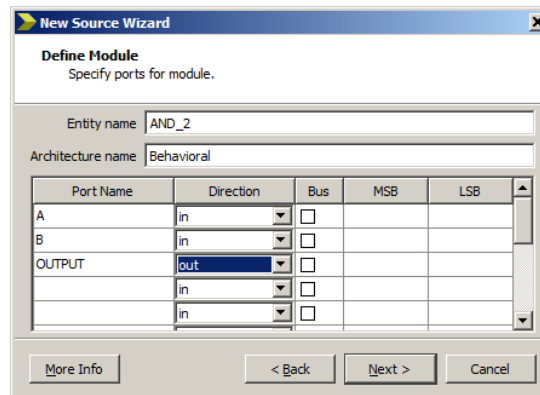
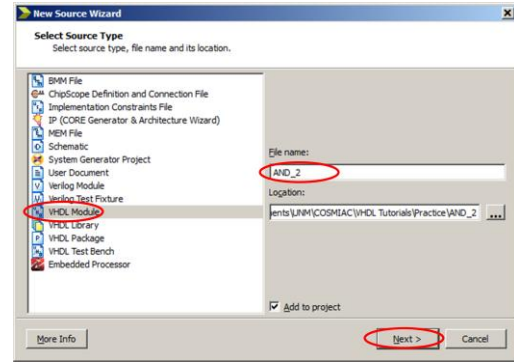
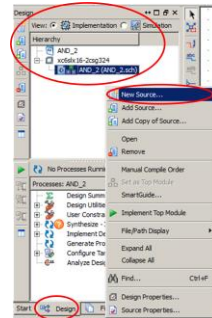
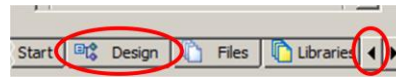


When you are finished, **close** the ISim application and return to ISE.



Lab Procedure 3: Create VHDL file for 2-input AND circuit

1. Click the panel tab's left triangle button to display the **Design** tab.
2. Right-click in the Design Panel and Click **New Source...** from the shortcut menu. The New Source Wizard displays.
3. Select **VHDL Module** from the source type list.
4. Type **AND_2** as the file name.
5. Click the **Next** button. The Define Module dialog displays.
6. Type the **port names** and select the **direction** of each port as shown in the figure to the right.
7. Click the **Next** button. The Summary dialog displays.
8. Click the **Finish** button to accept the New Source Wizards options.
9. ISE will generate source code for you and it will display in the **workspace** area.





Basic VHDL code has three sections: 1) library, 2) entity, and 3) architecture. The library section holds all the libraries and packages needed for the code. All the code's inputs and outputs are declared in the entity section. The actual circuit's instruction code is in the architecture section.

10. Scroll down to the **architecture** section of the code and modify the code as highlighted:

`begin`

`OUTPUT <= A and B;`

`end Behavioral;`

11. Save your files by clicking on the **Save All** button.

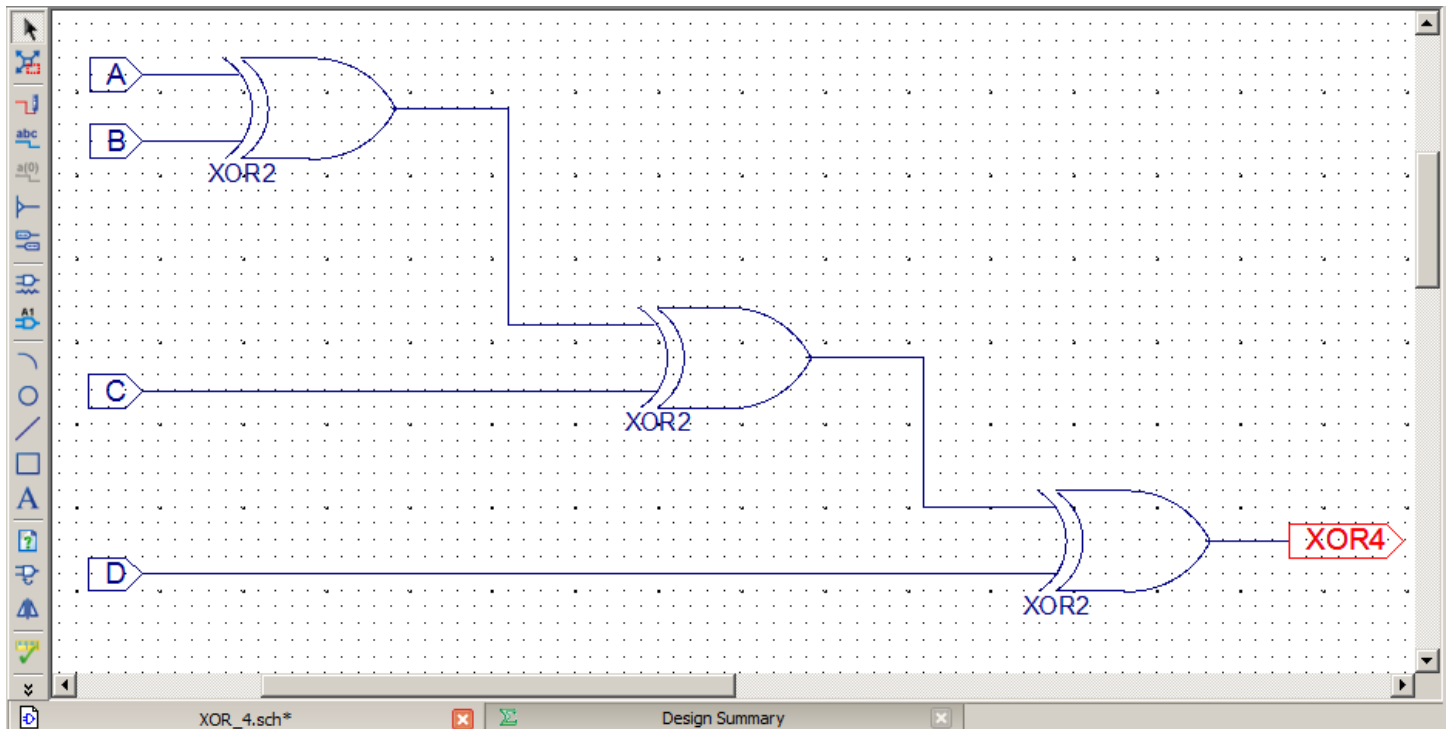
```
19 -----
20 library IEEE;
21 use IEEE.STD_LOGIC_1164.ALL;
22
23 -- Uncomment the following library declaration if using
24 -- arithmetic functions with Signed or Unsigned values
25 --use IEEE.NUMERIC_STD.ALL;
26
27 -- Uncomment the following library declaration if instantiating
28 -- any Xilinx primitives in this code.
29 --library UNISIM;
30 --use UNISIM.VComponents.all;
31
32 entity AND_2 is
33     Port ( A : in  STD_LOGIC;
34           B : in  STD_LOGIC;
35           OUTPUT : out STD_LOGIC);
36 end AND_2;
37
38 architecture Behavioral of AND_2 is
39
40     begin
41
42     OUTPUT <= A and B;
43
44     end Behavioral;
45
```




Lab Procedure 4: Test your Knowledge

The more you practice, the more you will be proficient with the software.

Build the following circuit (4-input XOR) using three 2-input XOR gates.



Create a test bench. Make the following changes as highlighted, and then run the test bench.

```
SIGNAL D :      STD_LOGIC := '0';
SIGNAL C :      STD_LOGIC := '0';
SIGNAL A :      STD_LOGIC := '0';
SIGNAL B :      STD_LOGIC := '0';
SIGNAL XOR4 :   STD_LOGIC;
```

```
-- *** Test Bench - User Defined Section ***
```

```
tb : PROCESS
BEGIN
  WAIT; -- will wait forever
END PROCESS;

A_process : PROCESS
BEGIN
  A <= NOT A;
  WAIT FOR 25 ns;
END PROCESS;
```



```
B_process: PROCESS  
BEGIN  
    B <= NOT B;  
    WAIT FOR 50 ns;  
END PROCESS;
```

```
C_process: PROCESS  
BEGIN  
    C <= NOT C;  
    WAIT FOR 75 ns;  
END PROCESS;
```

```
D_process: PROCESS  
BEGIN  
    D <= NOT D;  
    WAIT FOR 100 ns;  
END PROCESS;
```

```
-- *** End Test Bench - User Defined Section ***
```

```
END;
```