



Plan

- Ch1 – Overview of System Design Using SystemC
- Ch2 – Overview of SystemC
- Ch3 – Data Types
- **Ch4 – Modules**
- Ch5 – Notion of Time
- Ch6 – Concurrency
- Ch7 – Predefined Channels
- Ch8 – Structure
- Ch9 – Communication
- Ch10 – Custom Channels and Data
- Ch11 – Transaction Level Modeling



Modules

Predefined Primitive Channels (Mutexs, FIFOs, Signals)			
Simulation Kernel	Threads & Methods	Channels & Interfaces	Data types Logic, Integers, Fixed point
	Events, Sensitivity & Notification	Modules & Hierarchy	

- **Main Function**
- Module
- Basic Styles



A starting Point : sc_main

- All C/C++ programs need starting point
 - C/C++ : main()
 - SystemC : sc_main()

main.cpp starting_point_cpp

```
int main(int argc, char* argv[])
{
    if (argc == 1)
        cout << "No Argument ! " << endl;
    if (argc >= 1)
        cout << "First Argument : " << argv[1] << endl;
    if (argc >= 2)
        cout << "Second Argument : " << argv[2] << endl;
    // Body of Program
    return 0; // EXIT CODE (0 = success)
}
```

> test.exe blue yellow

First Argument : blue
Second Argument : yellow

argc = 3 argv[0] = "test.exe" argv[2] = "yellow"
 argv[1] = "blue" argv[3] = 0

sc_main() starting_point_systemc

main.cpp

```
int sc_main(int argc, char* argv[])
{
    if (argc == 1)
        cout << "No Argument ! " << endl;
    // ELABORATION Phase
    if (argc >= 1)
        cout << "First Argument : " << argv[1] << endl;
    if (argc >= 2)
        cout << "Second Argument : " << argv[2] << endl;
    sc_start(); // SIMULATION begins and ends
               // in this function
    return 0; // EXIT CODE (0 = success)
}
```

elaboration →
simulation →



Modules

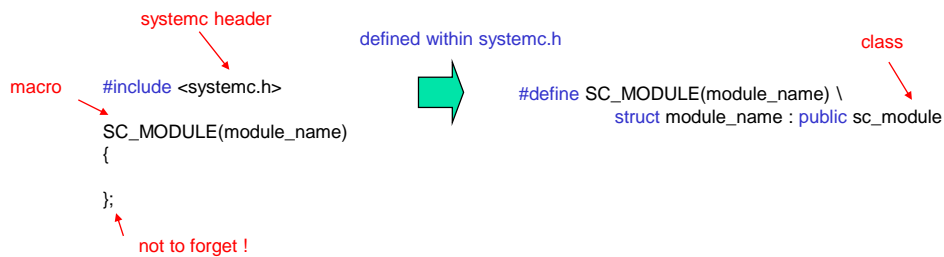
Predefined Primitive Channels (Mutexs, FIFOs, Signals)			
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Declaration

- A systemC module is the smallest container of functionality with
 - states
 - behaviors
 - structures for hierarchical connectivity



Body of the MODULE

- Included in the body
 - Ports
 - Member channel instances
 - Member data instance
 - Member module instances (sub-designs)
 - Constructor
 - Destructor
 - Process member functions (processes)
 - Helper functions



GUIDELINE: Respects the order of declaration

Graphical notation

SC_MODULE

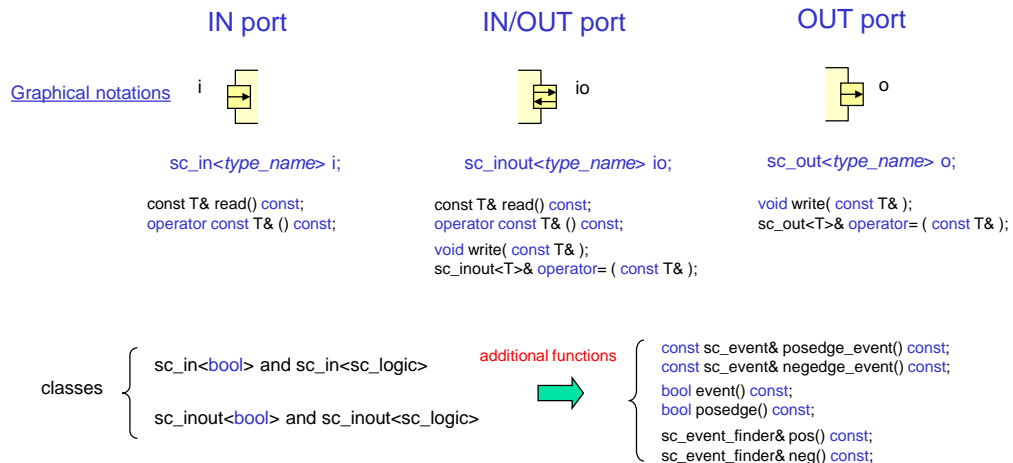


name

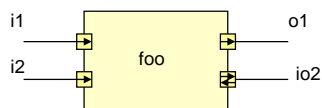


Port Declaration and Functions


- A module has ports to communicate with modules



Port Example



```
SC_MODULE (foo)
{
    sc_in<sc_bit> i1, i2;
    sc_out<bool> o1;
    sc_inout<bool> io2;
    ...
}
```

 VHDL

```
entity foo is
    port (i1, i2 : in bit;
          o1 : out bit;
          io2 : inout bit);
end entity;
```

Constructor

- the SC_MODULE constructor performs several tasks
 - initializing/allocating sub-design
 - connecting sub-design
 - registering processes with the SystemC kernel
 - providing static sensitivity
 - miscellaneous user-defined setup

```

SC_MODULE (module_name)
{
  sc_in<bool> a ...
  ...
  SC_CTOR(module_name)
  {
    // subdesign allocation
    // subdesign connectivity
    // process registration
    // miscellaneous setup
  }
};

#define SC_CTOR(user_module_name) \
  typedef user_module_name SC_CURRENT_USER_MODULE; \
  user_module_name( sc_module_name )

```

macro

equal

```

SC_MODULE (module_name)
{
  sc_in<bool> a ...
  ...
  module_name(sc_module_name inst_name, arg1, arg2 ... )
  : sc_module(inst_name)
  {
    // subdesign allocation
    // subdesign connectivity
    // process registration
    // miscellaneous setup
  }
};

```

new argument(s)

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Destructor

- included in C++ language
- A constructor initializes an object
 - file
 - memory (new operator)
 - and so on ...
- A destructor
 - release the memory (delete operator)
 - ...

```

SC_MODULE (foo)
{
  sc_in<sc_bit> i1, i2;
  sc_out<bool> o1;
  int* table;
  foo(sc_module_name inst_name, int sz)
  : sc_module(inst_name)
  {
    table = new int[sz];
  }
  ~foo()
  {
    delete[] table;
  }
};

```

Member data instance

constructor

dynamic allocation of memory

destructor

dynamic deallocation of memory

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Process Member Functions (1/2)

- A SystemC process
 - is a member function or class method of an SC_MODULE
 - is invoked by the scheduler (SystemC simulation kernel)

`void process_name(void)` OR `void process_name()`

- Registering a process
 - must be inside the constructor

`SC_THREAD(process_name)`

`SC_METHOD(method_name)`



- similar to VHDL process / Verilog initial block
- using wait method

- triggers the method and performs it all
- No wait possible !

[Graphical notations](#)

sc_event

process_name

sc_method or sc_thread



Process Member Functions (2/2) Declaration : 2 solutions

Constructor with MACRO `SC_CTOR`

user-defined (arg.) Constructor

```
SC_MODULE (module_name)
{
    sc_in<bool> a ...
    ...
    SC_CTOR(module_name)
    {
        SC_THREAD(p1_thread);
        SC_THREAD(p2_thread);
        // ...
    }
    void p1_thread();
    void p2_thread ();
};
```

Macro

constructor (Macro)

registering

process declaration

```
SC_MODULE (module_name)
{
    sc_in<bool> a ...
    ...
    SC_HAS_PROCESS(module_name);
    module_name(sc_module_name n)
    : sc_module(n)
    {
        SC_THREAD(p1_thread);
        SC_THREAD(p2_thread);
        // ...
    }
    void p1_thread ();
    void p2_thread ();
};
```

constructor

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Two Basic Styles First Solution : Traditional Template



NAME.h

NAME.cpp

```
#ifndef NAME_H
#define NAME_H

#include "submodule.h"
...

SC_MODULE(NAME)
{
    // Port declaration
    // Channel/sub module instances

    SC_CTOR(NAME) : init var ...
    {
        // Connectivity
        // Registration
    }
    // Process declarations
    void p1_method();
    void p2_thread();

    // Helper Declarations
    int getValue();
};
#endif
```

+

```
#include <systemc.h>
#include "NAME.h"

// Process implementations

void NAME::p1_method()
{
    ...
}

void NAME::p2_thread()
{
    ...
}

// Helper implementations

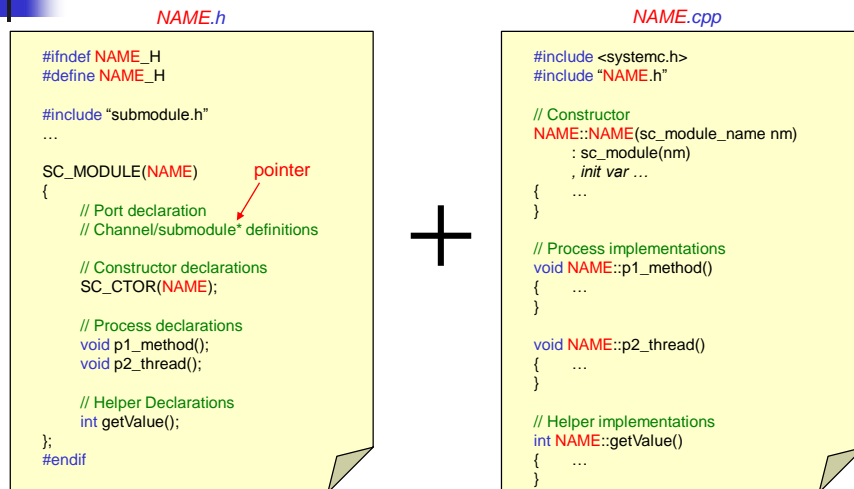
int NAME::getValue()
{
    ...
}
```

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Two Basic Styles Second Solution : Recommended



GUIDELINE: this approach is more conducive to independent development of modules

Example Simple Process

simple_process.h

```
#ifndef SIMPLE_PROCESS_H
#define SIMPLE_PROCESS_H

#include <systemc.h>

SC_MODULE(simple_process)
{
    SC_CTOR(simple_process)
    {
        SC_THREAD(my_thread_process);
    }

    void my_thread_process(void);
};
#endif
```

simple_process

main.cpp

```
#include "simple_process.h"

int sc_main(int argc, char* argv[])
{
    simple_process my_instance1("my_inst1");
    simple_process my_instance2("my_inst2");

    sc_start();

    return 0;
}
```

simple_process.cpp

```
#include "simple_process.h"

void simple_process::my_thread_process(void)
{
    std::cout << "my_thread_process executed within "
    << name()
    << std::endl;
}
```

SystemC 2.1_oct_12_04.beta --- Apr 10 2005 17:53:24
Copyright (c) 1996-2004 by all Contributors
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED
my_thread_process executed within my_inst1
my_thread_process executed within my_inst2
Press any key to continue