

Project Proposal

Develop a Bitcoin hashing RTL model using SHA256 hashing functionality.

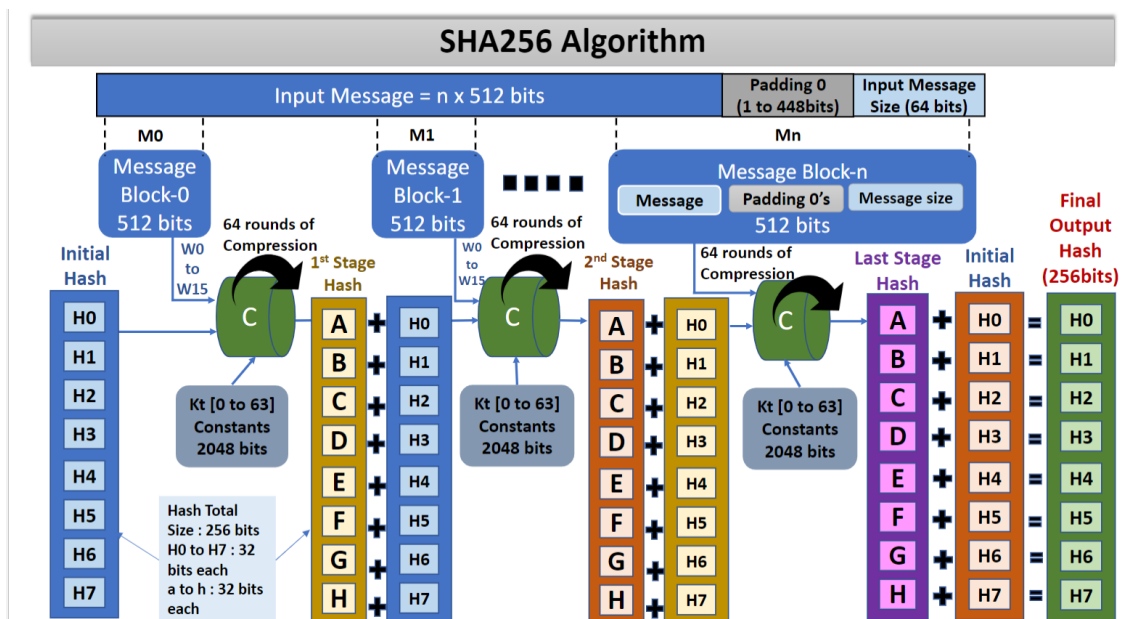
What is a SHA256 hashing function?

SHA-256, a cryptographic hash function algorithm, is specifically designed to transform data of any size into a fixed-size output. The primary objective of this function is to efficiently map data of varying lengths to a standardized "hash" that is incredibly challenging to reverse-engineer, making it suitable for a wide range of applications. In order to meet these requirements, hash functions must adhere to key properties, including the inability to reverse the hashing process and the rarity of finding two distinct inputs that yield the same hash.

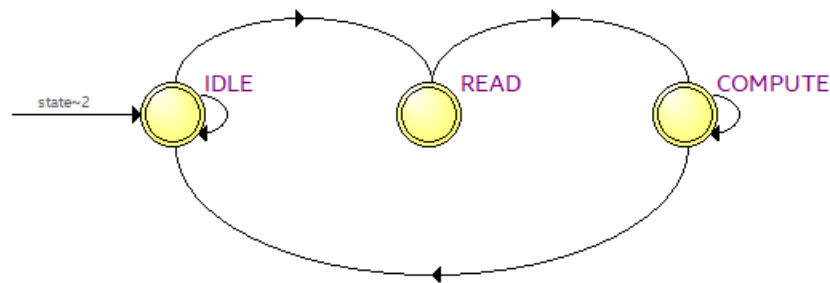
SHA-256 belongs to a family of standardized hash functions developed to fulfill these objectives. This particular hash function assumes that the input messages are no greater than 264 bits in length. The algorithm processes the data sequentially in blocks of 512 bits, ultimately producing a hash value with a fixed length of 256 bits.

The key properties of a cryptographic hash function are:

- **Compression:** A fixed size of the output regardless of the input data size.
- **Avalanche Effect:** A small change in the input will result in a drastic change in the output data.
- **Determinism:** The hash function will always produce the same output for the same input.
- **Quick computation:** The hash function should be able to produce the hash value efficiently.
- **Pre-image resistance:** Given a hash value, determining the original input should be computationally infeasible.
- **Collision resistance:** Finding two different inputs that produce the same hash value would be highly improbable.



SHA256 algorithm implemented by us



State Machine of our implementation

Explanation of the SHA256 algorithm that we have implemented

The SHA-256 algorithm uses an FSM to keep track of the device's state. The machine stays in the idle state until prompted to start, then initializes the hash values h0-h7 to preset constants and moves to the READ state. In this state, memory is read to a message array on every clock cycle, with the memory address being incremented each time, until all 20 words have been fed into the array.

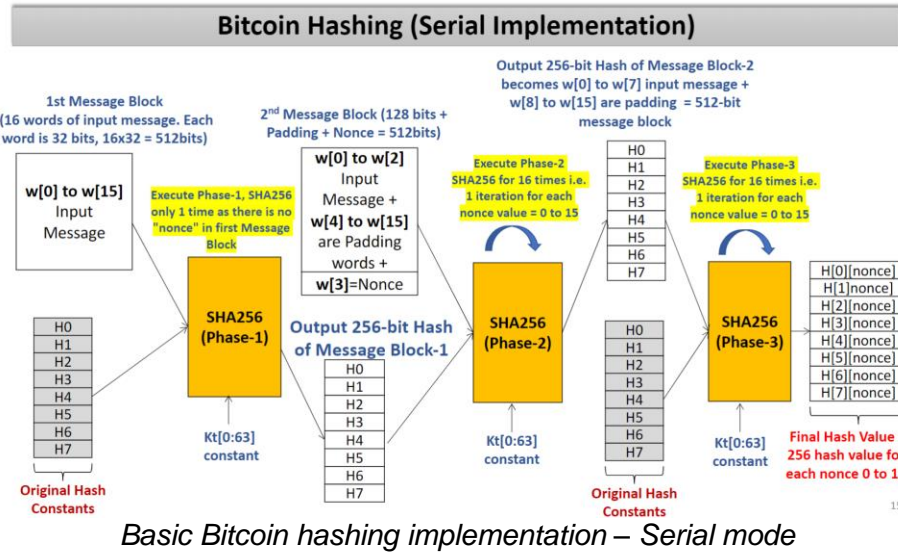
It then moves to the BLOCK state, which finds the next 512-bit block to process. If needed, it will add padding and the message length at the end in the format: 1, some number of 0s, and a 64-bit message length. Each block will then go through 64 rounds of the COMPUTE stage, where we use the sha256_op function to calculate the a-h variables, which we add to the h0-7 values after all 64 cycles. Once this has been performed on each block, the algorithm writes out the data stored in h0-h7 to memory one at a time in a similar repeating fashion to reading.

Additionally, we have implemented the following optimizations to our algorithm:

- Decreasing the number of multiplexers required to operate on the word array.
- Pre-computation of the repeated values that are used in critical paths.

How do we implement Bitcoin hashing using SHA256?

Bitcoin hashing uses the SHA-256 algorithm to keep track of and authenticate all Bitcoin transactions. When adding a new block to the existing blockchain (data of all the previous transactions), a signature is generated, which is the SHA-256 hash of the data from the previous block in the blockchain. Then the next block includes the new transactions along with the signature of the previous block. This keeps an accurate record of all previous transactions because of the cryptographic properties that the SHA-256 function has making it nearly impossible to change a block on the chain without changing the signature. Furthermore, blocks are only qualified to be added to the chain if they have 7 consecutive starting zeros in their signature. As such, part of the data, called the "nonce", is changed, and the result is hashed until the resulting hash satisfies this property; this is the best-known algorithm to find a nonce with a proper hash due to the cryptographic properties of the SHA-256 function. Once a nonce is found that generates a proper signature, the resulting block may be added to the Bitcoin blockchain.



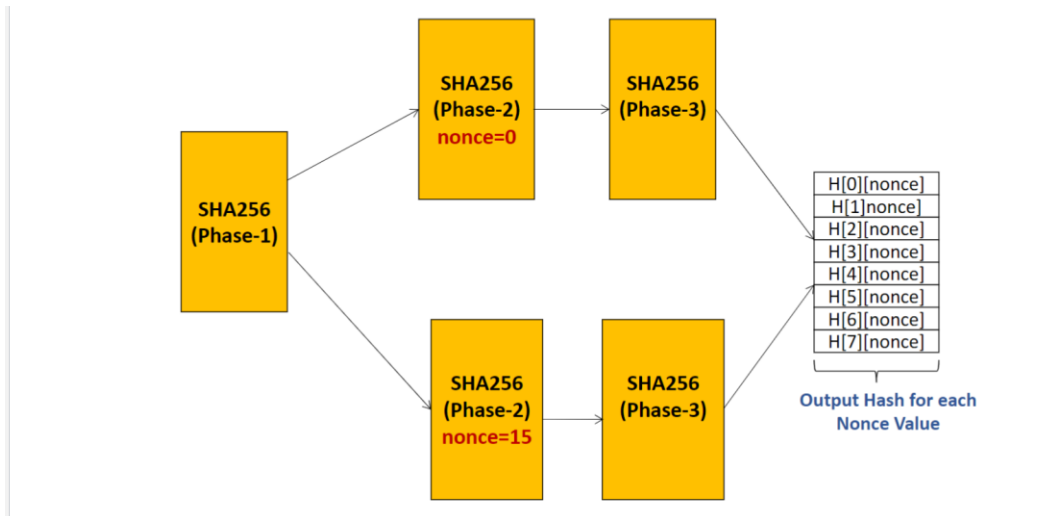
Explanation of the Bitcoin hashing algorithm that we have implemented

The bitcoin hashing algorithm uses a modified SHA-256 algorithm from part 1, which has been optimized for this application, and calculates the hash value of each message, with different associated nonces, in parallel. When prompted to start, the machine moves from the IDLE state to the INIT_READ state, which reads the message from memory serially. Once that finishes, the machine moves to PHASE_ONE_READ, which corresponds to the 1st block of the message being processed. The message block and the initial hash constants are loaded into the SHA-256 instance. The module then enters the PHASE_ONE_CALCULATE state, where the SHA-256 does the usual calculations and outputs the hash values for phase two.

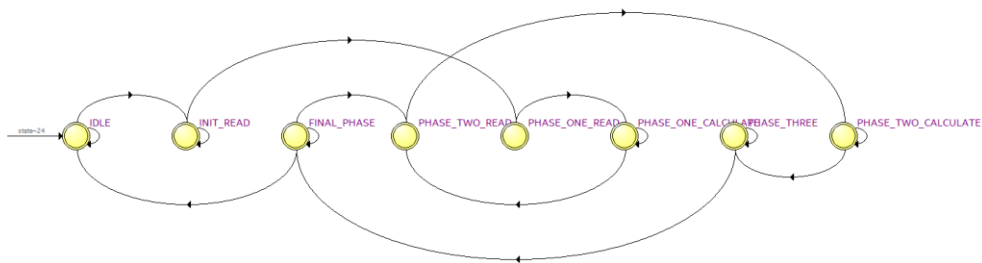
During PHASE_TWO_READ, the new hash values from phase 1 are loaded into all the SHA-256 instances, of which there is a number preset by a parameter. The variable `phase_iter` keeps track of how many times the algorithm has run phase 2, which depends on the number of instances of the SHA-256 module. During PHASE_TWO_CALCULATE, each instance's hash values are loaded with the same array input, except for the fourth entry, which is the nonce. Each instance uses a unique nonce that updates each phase cycle.

After these calculations, it moves onto PHASE_THREE, which loads in the original hash constants and uses the output of phase 2 as the message to hash (with some padding); specifically, the new input array has the 8 outputs of phase two at $[0:7]$, $[8]$ is $32'h80000000$, $[15]$ is $32'd256$ (message size padding), and the rest are zeros. The output `h0` for each SHA-256 instance is saved to the `final_out_h0` array. After this, the machine moves to FINAL_PHASE.

In FINAL_PHASE, the `h0` values are serially written to memory. If there are still nonces that need to be calculated, then the machine moves back to PHASE_TWO_READ. Otherwise, the algorithm is done and moves back to IDLE, marking its completion with the done signal set to high.



Parallel Implementation of the SHA256 Algorithm



State Machine of our implementation

Transcript of the SHA256 Implementation

```

VSIM 5> run -all
# -----
# MESSAGE:
# -----
# 01234567
# 02468ace
# 048d159c
# 091a2b38
# 12345670
# 2468ace0
# 48d159c0
# 91a2b380
# 23456701
# 468ace02
# 8d159c04
# 1a2b3809
# 34567012
# 68ace024
# d159c048
# a2b38091
# 45670123
# 8ace0246
# 159c048d
# 00000000
# *****
# -----
# COMPARE HASH RESULTS:
# -----
# Correct H[0] = bdd2fbd9 Your H[0] = bdd2fbd9
# Correct H[1] = 42623974 Your H[1] = 42623974
# Correct H[2] = bf129635 Your H[2] = bf129635
# Correct H[3] = 937c5107 Your H[3] = 937c5107
# Correct H[4] = f09b6e9e Your H[4] = f09b6e9e
# Correct H[5] = 708eb28b Your H[5] = 708eb28b
# Correct H[6] = 0318d121 Your H[6] = 0318d121
# Correct H[7] = 85eca921 Your H[7] = 85eca921
# *****
# CONGRATULATIONS! All your hash results are correct!
#
# Total number of cycles:      166
#
# *****
#
# ** Note: $stop      : C:/Users/andre/OneDrive/Documents/ECE 111/Final/Project_Files/simplified_sha256/tb_simplified_sha256.av(262)
# Time: 3370 ps Iteration: 2 Instance: /tb_simplified_sha256
  
```

Waveform of the SHA256 Implementation

[Attached at the end in Appendix B]

Transcript of the Bitcoin Hashing Implementation

```

VSIM 6> run -all
# -----
# 19 WORD HEADER:
# -----
# 01234567
# 02468ace
# 048d159c
# 091a2b38
# 12345670
# 2468ace0
# 48d159c0
# 91a2b380
# 23456701
# 468ace02
# 8d159c04
# 1a2b3809
# 34567012
# 68ace024
# d159c048
# a2b38091
# 45670123
# 8ace0246
# 159c048d
# *****
#
# -----
# COMPARE HASH RESULTS:
# -----
# Correct H0[ 0] = 7106973a Your H0[ 0] = 7106973a
# Correct H0[ 1] = 6e66eea7 Your H0[ 1] = 6e66eea7
# Correct H0[ 2] = fbef64dc Your H0[ 2] = fbef64dc
# Correct H0[ 3] = 0888a18c Your H0[ 3] = 0888a18c
# Correct H0[ 4] = 9642d5aa Your H0[ 4] = 9642d5aa
# Correct H0[ 5] = 2ab6af8b Your H0[ 5] = 2ab6af8b
# Correct H0[ 6] = 24259d8c Your H0[ 6] = 24259d8c
# Correct H0[ 7] = ffb9bcd9 Your H0[ 7] = ffb9bcd9
# Correct H0[ 8] = 642138c9 Your H0[ 8] = 642138c9
# Correct H0[ 9] = 054cafc7 Your H0[ 9] = 054cafc7
# Correct H0[10] = 78251a17 Your H0[10] = 78251a17
# Correct H0[11] = af8c8f22 Your H0[11] = af8c8f22
# Correct H0[12] = d7a79ef8 Your H0[12] = d7a79ef8
# Correct H0[13] = c7d10c84 Your H0[13] = c7d10c84
# Correct H0[14] = 9537acfd Your H0[14] = 9537acfd
# Correct H0[15] = cle4c72b Your H0[15] = cle4c72b
# *****
#
# CONGRATULATIONS! All your hash results are correct!
#
# Total number of cycles:      249
#
# *****
#
# ** Note: $stop      : C:/Users/andre/OneDrive/Documents/ECE 111/Final/Project_Files/bitcoin_hash/tb_bitcoin_hash.sv(334)
#      Time: 5030 ps  Iteration: 2  Instance: /tb_bitcoin_hash

```

Waveform of the Bitcoin hashing Implementation

[Attached at the end in Appendix A]

For Bitcoin Hashing Algorithm Implementation

Resource Usage

	Resource	Usage
1	Estimate of Logic utilization (ALMs needed)	13875
2		
3	Combinational ALUT usage for logic	14252
1	-- 7 input functions	0
2	-- 6 input functions	691
3	-- 5 input functions	2297
4	-- 4 input functions	120
5	-- <=3 input functions	11144
4		
5	Dedicated logic registers	23134
6		
7	I/O pins	118
8		
9	Total DSP Blocks	0
10		
11	Maximum fan-out node	clk~input
12	Maximum fan-out	23135
13	Total fan-out	153236
14	Average fan-out	4.07

Maximum Clock Speed

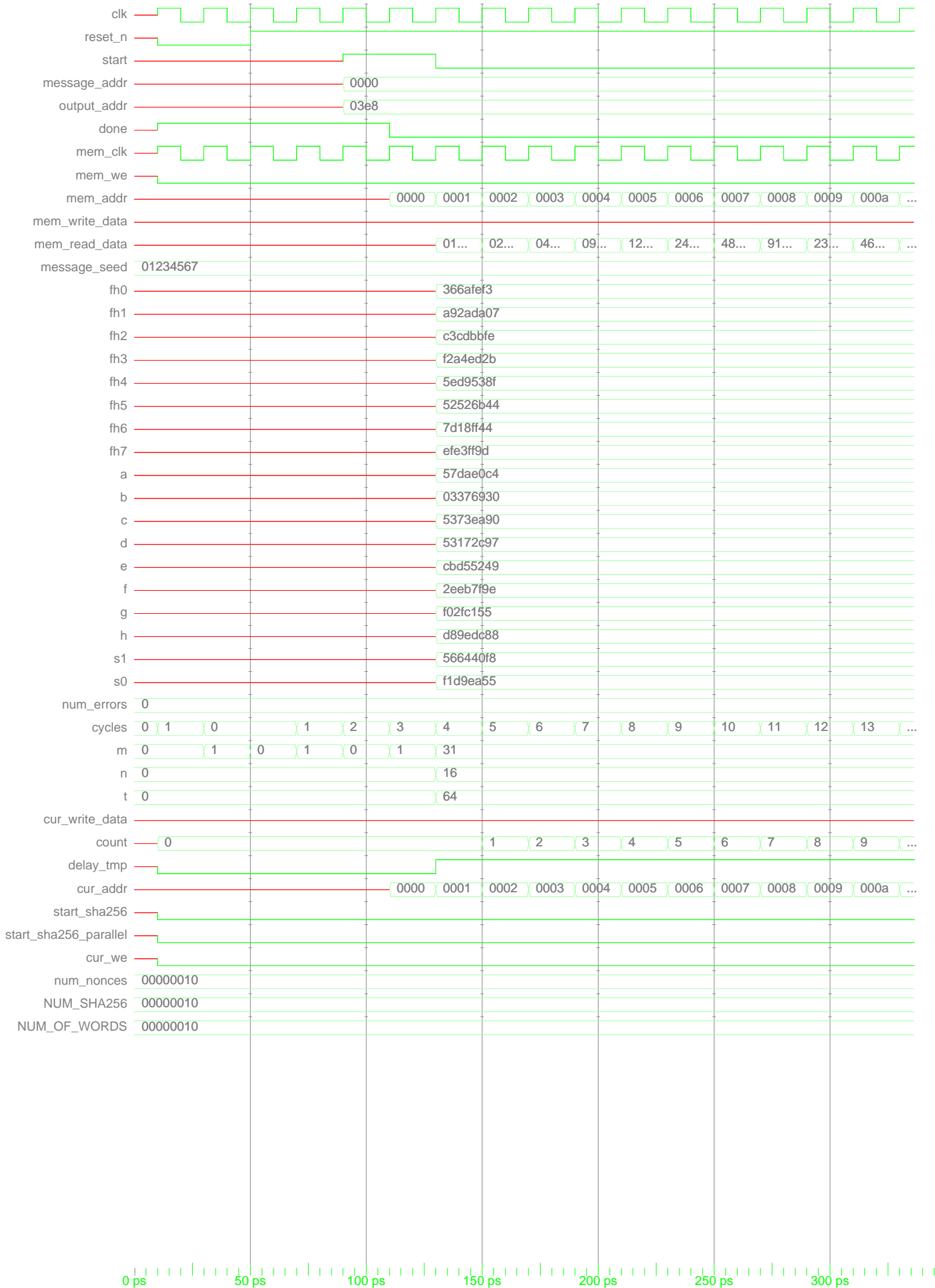
	Fmax	Restricted Fmax	Clock Name
1	167.08 MHz	167.08 MHz	clk

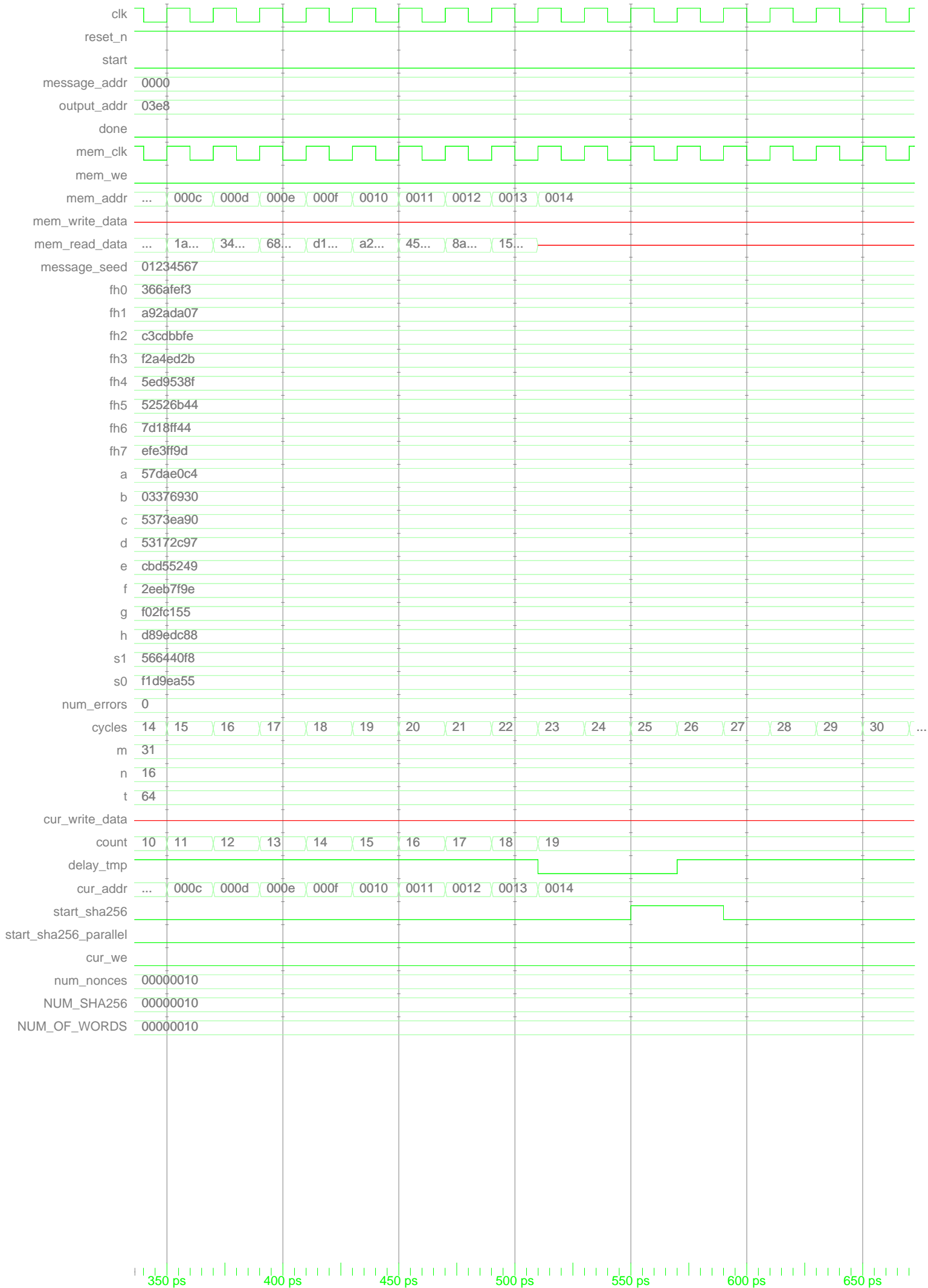
Fitter Report

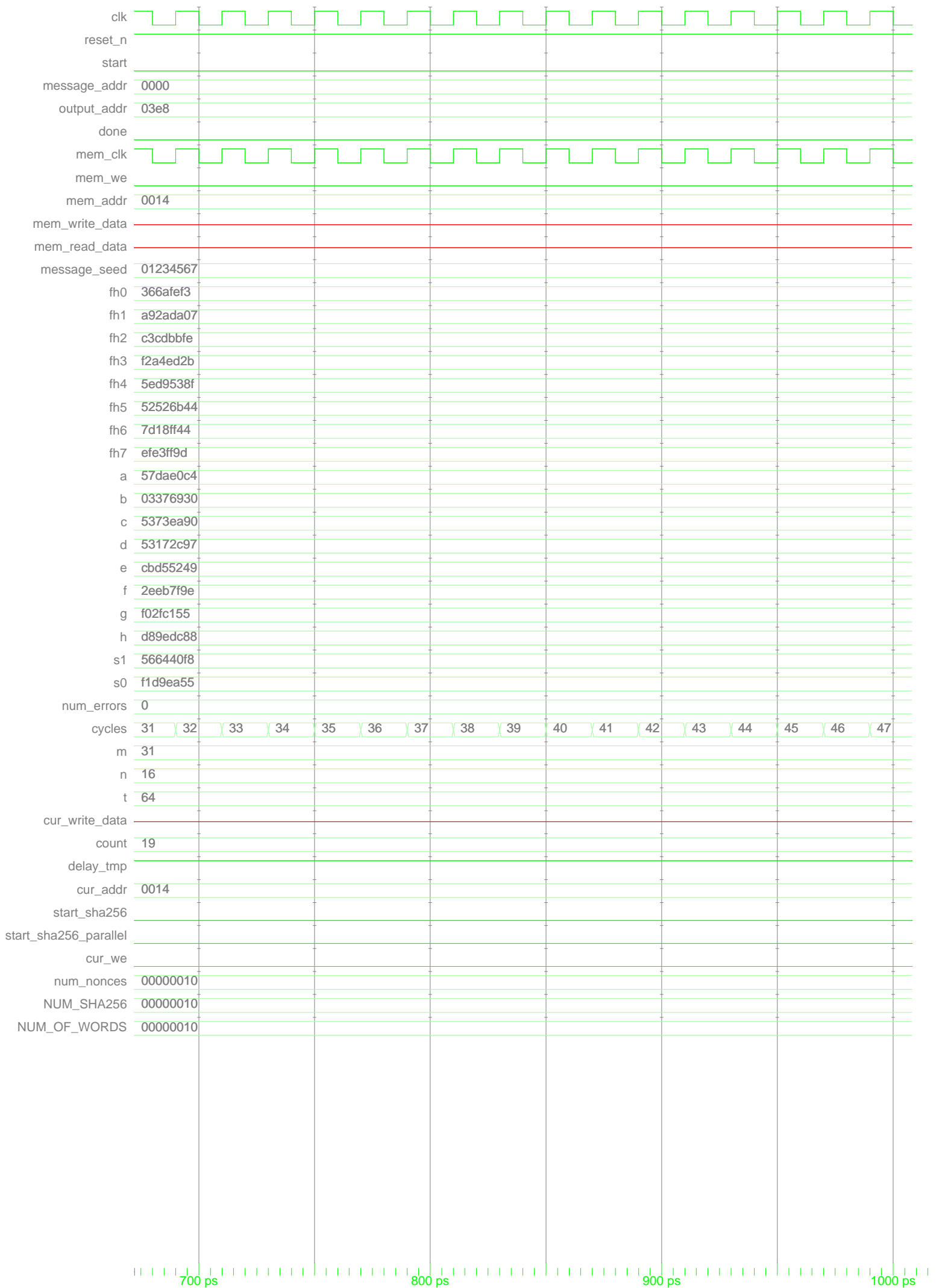
Fitter Status	Successful - Sat Jun 10 18:02:58 2023
Quartus Prime Version	20.1.1 Build 720 11/11/2020 SJ Lite Edition
Revision Name	bitcoin_hash
Top-level Entity Name	bitcoin_hash
Family	Arria II GX
Device	EP2AGX45DF29I5
Timing Models	Final
Logic utilization	87 %
Total registers	19396
Total pins	118 / 404 (29 %)
Total virtual pins	0
Total block memory bits	0 / 2,939,904 (0 %)
DSP block 18-bit elements	0 / 232 (0 %)
Total GXB Receiver Channel PCS	0 / 8 (0 %)
Total GXB Receiver Channel PMA	0 / 8 (0 %)
Total GXB Transmitter Channel PCS	0 / 8 (0 %)
Total GXB Transmitter Channel PMA	0 / 8 (0 %)
Total PLLs	0 / 4 (0 %)
Total DLLs	0 / 2 (0 %)

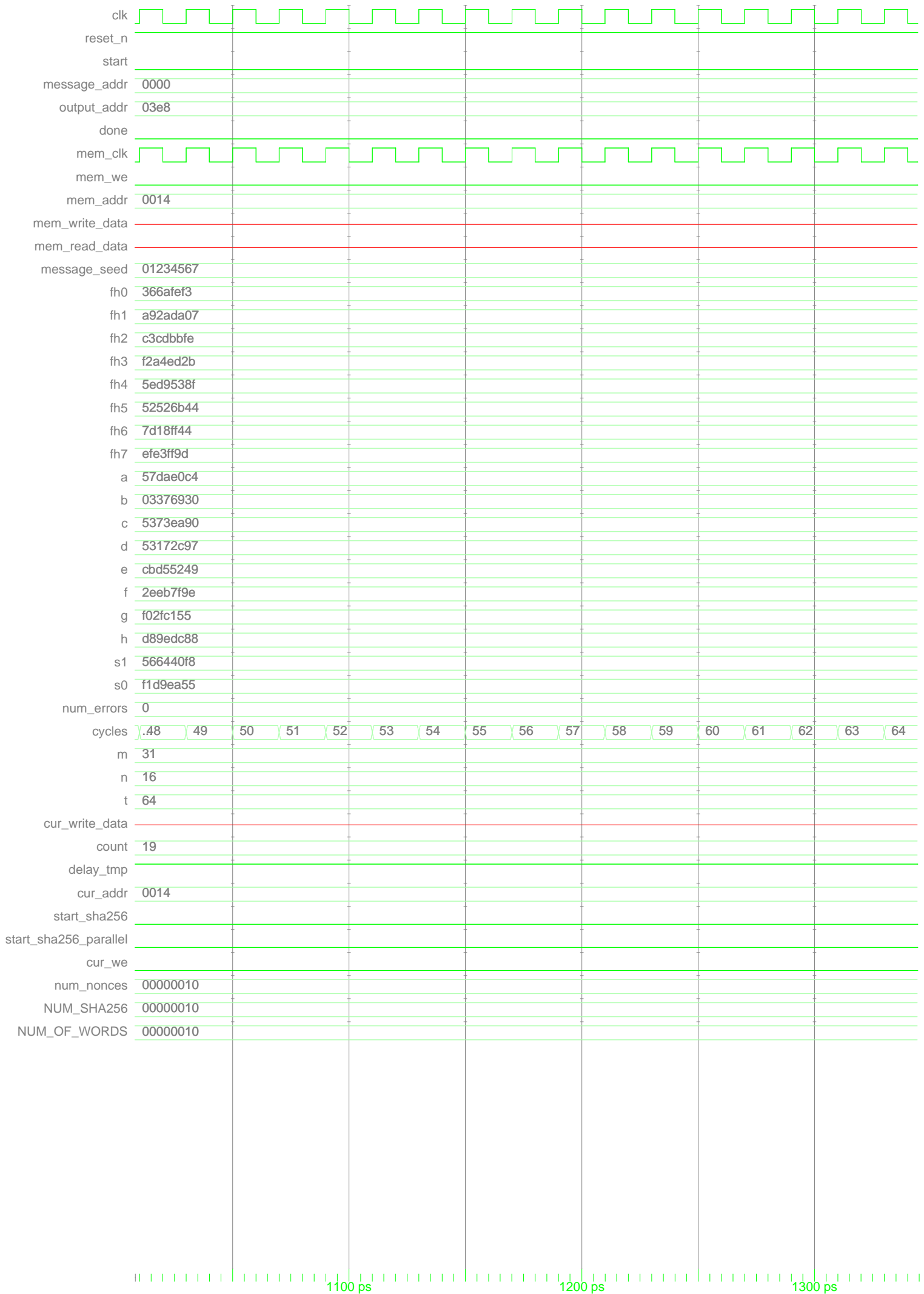
Appendix A

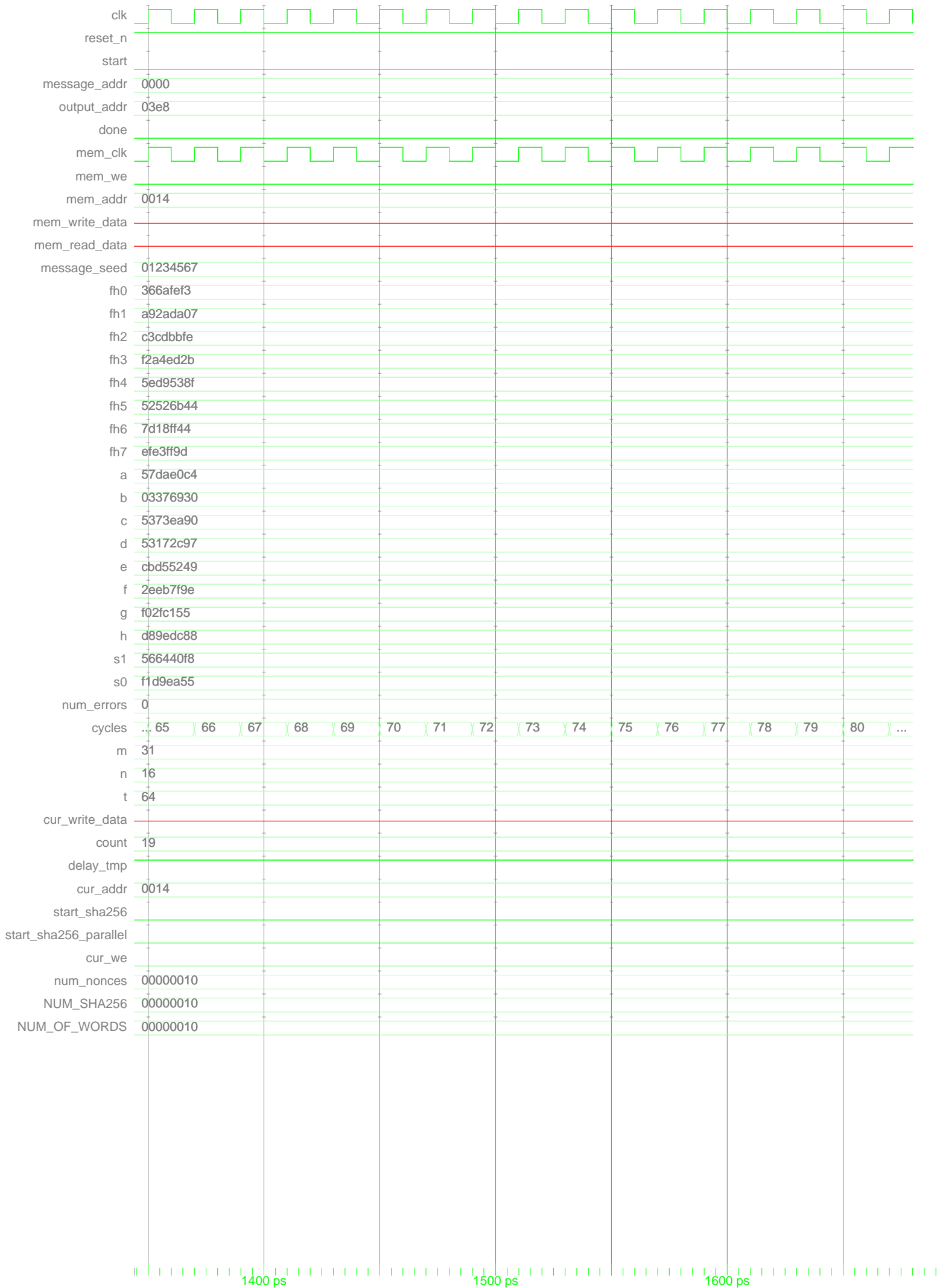
[Waveform for Bitcoin hashing Algorithm]

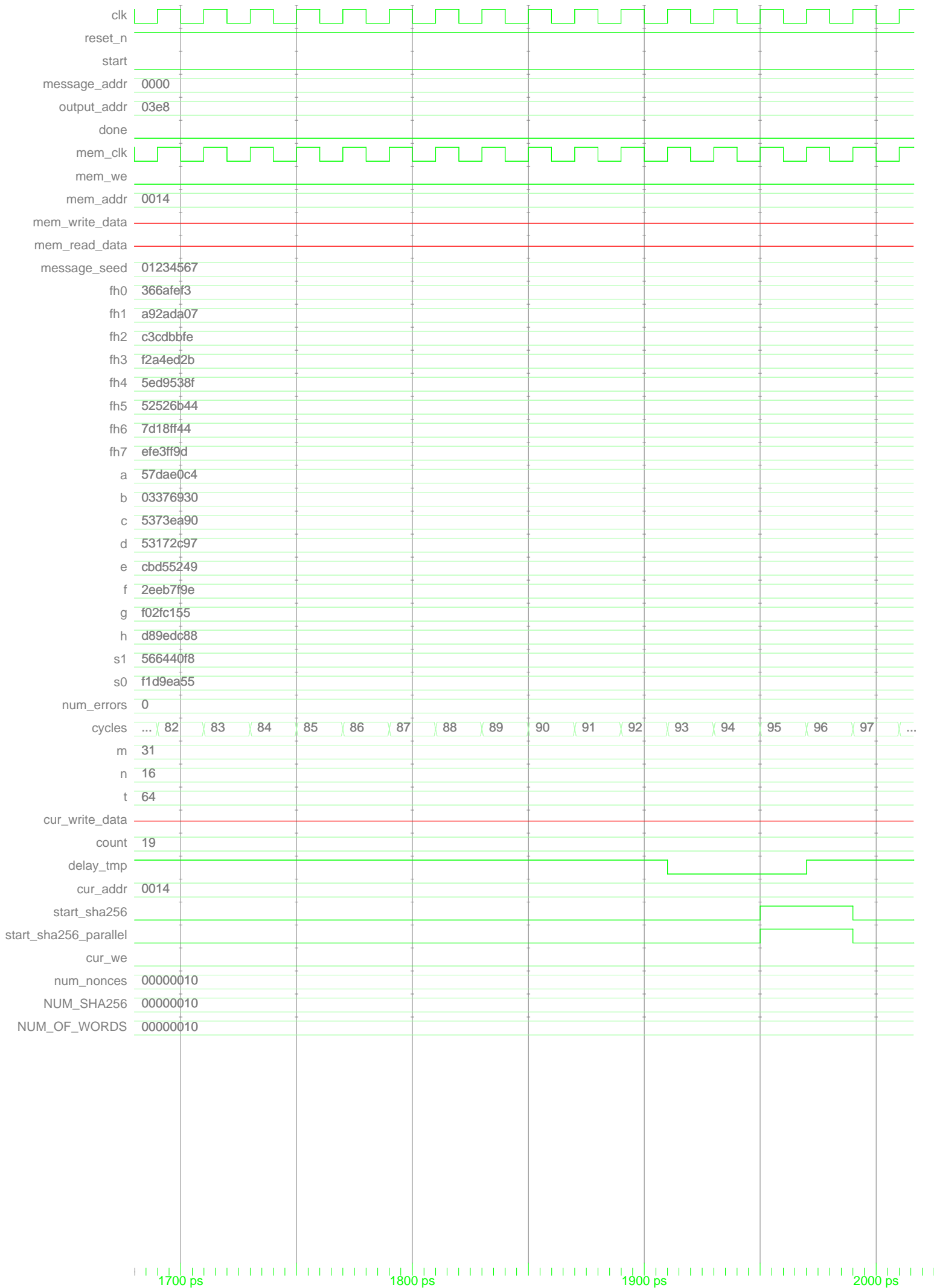


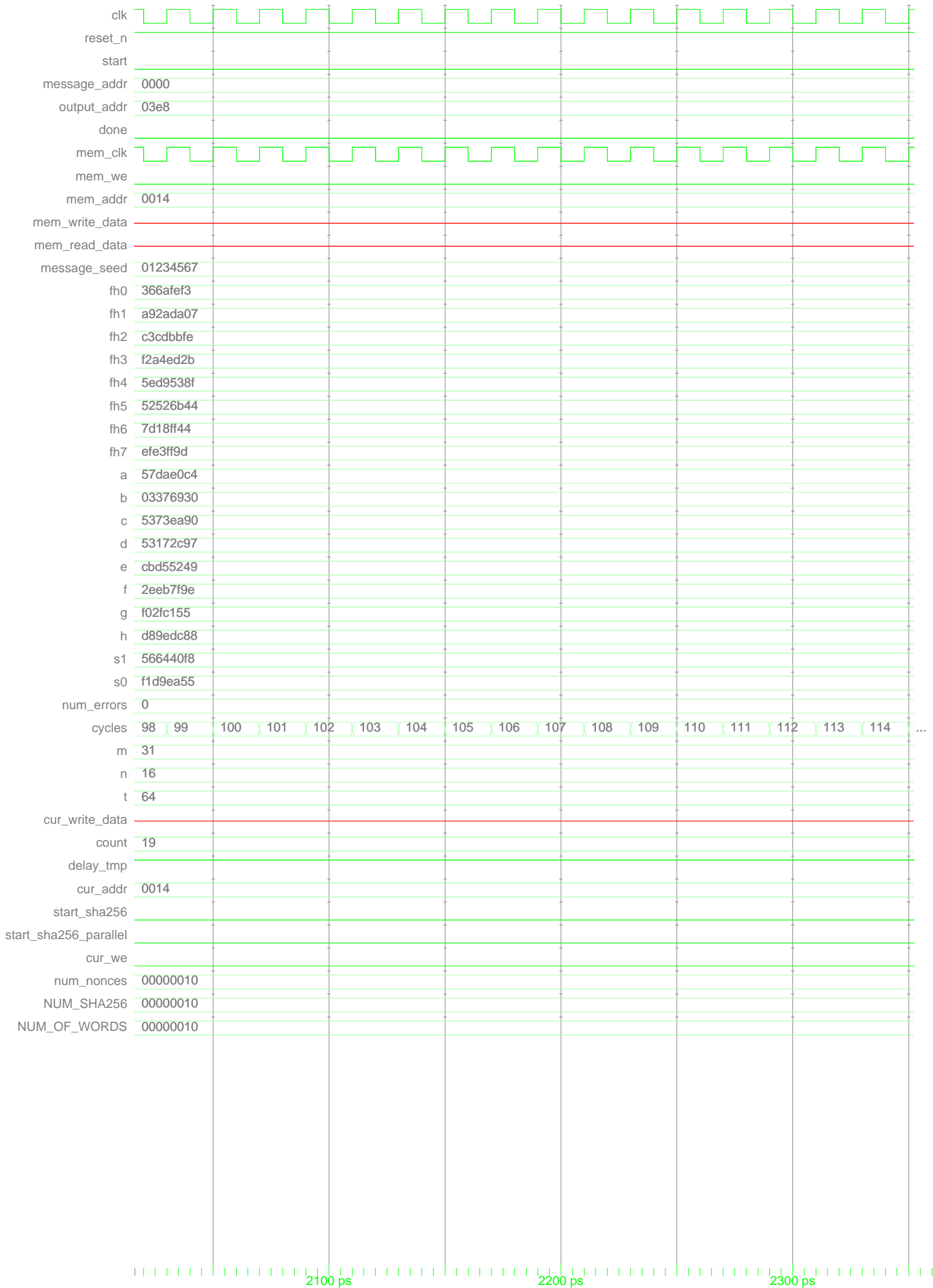


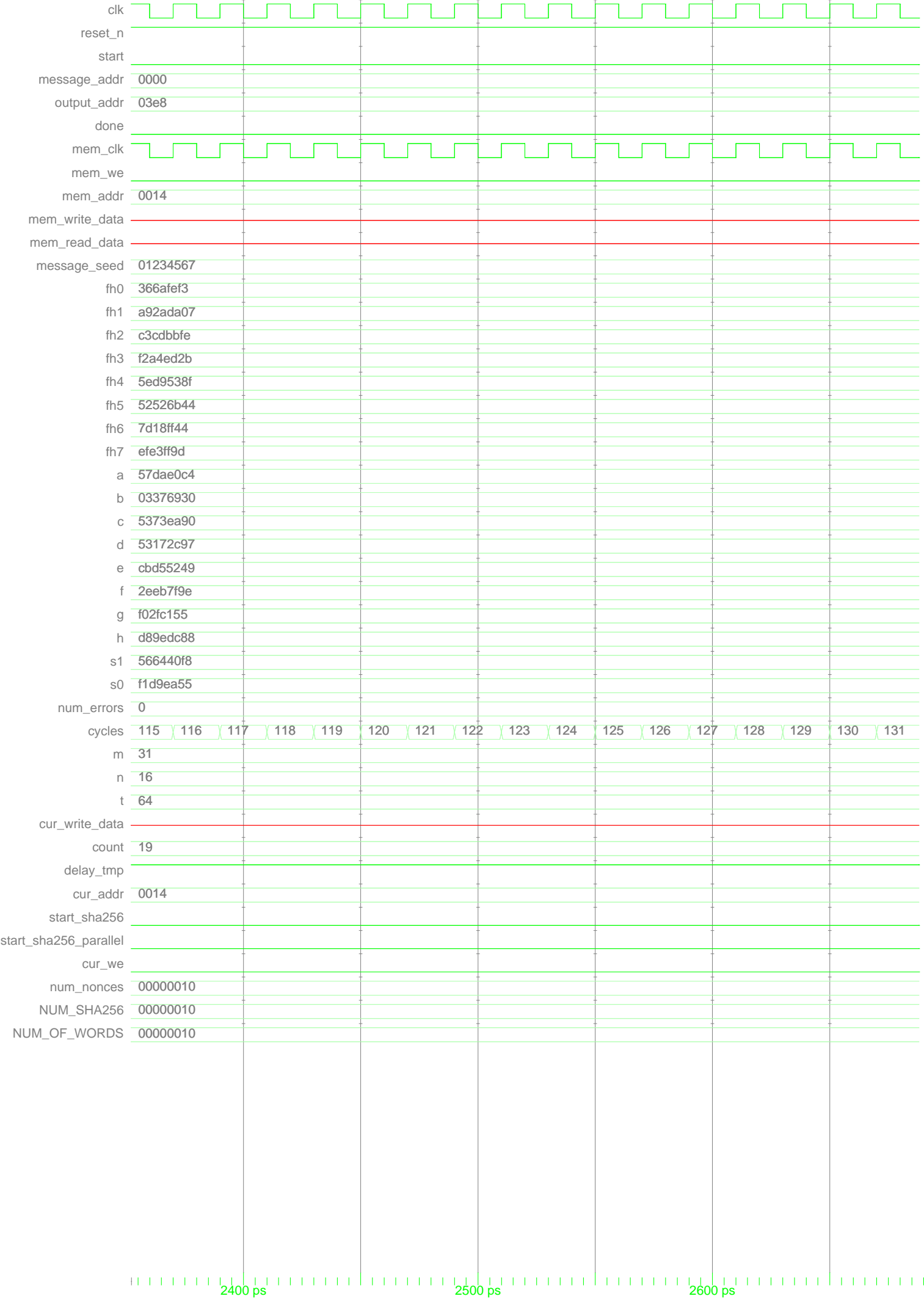


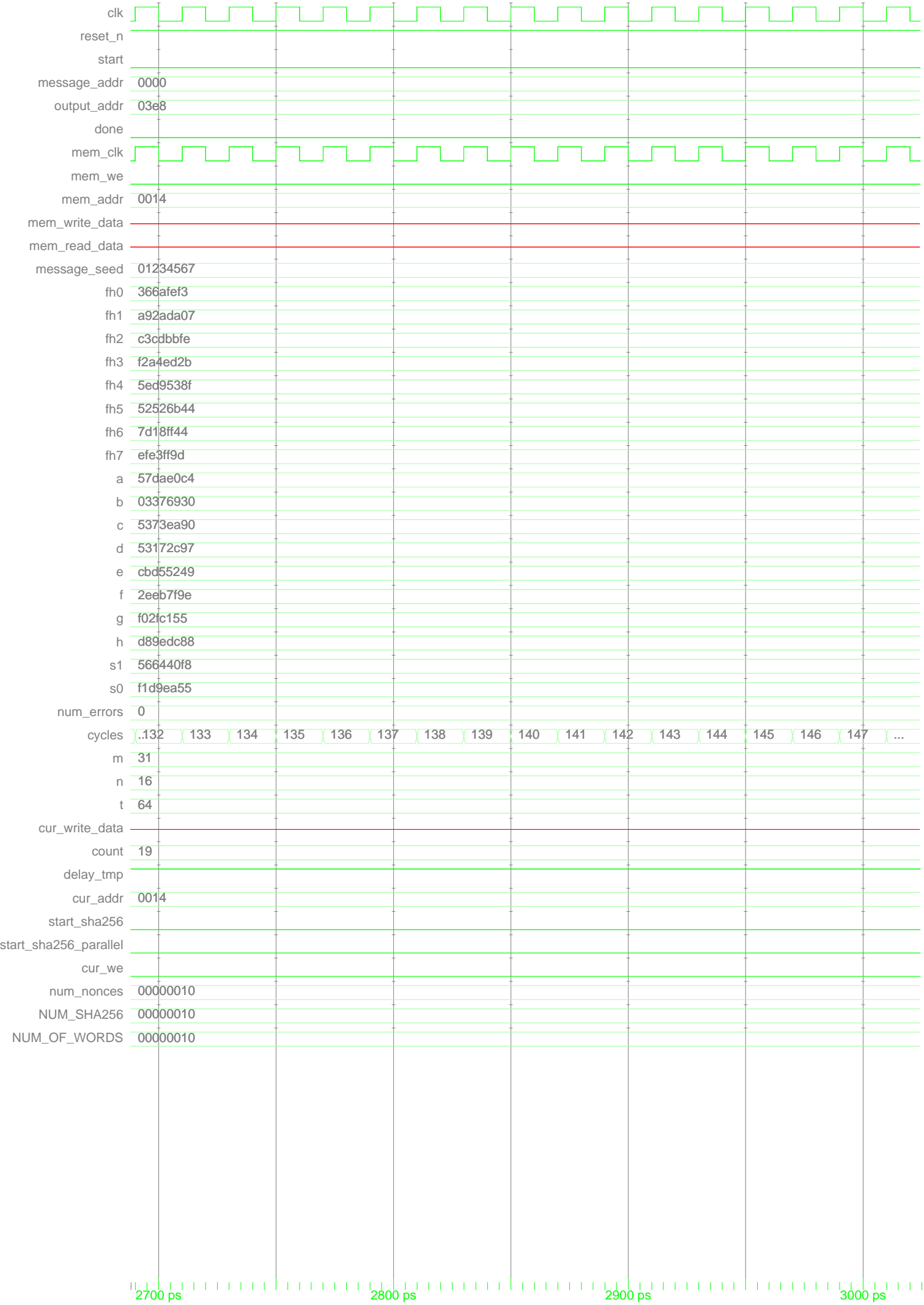


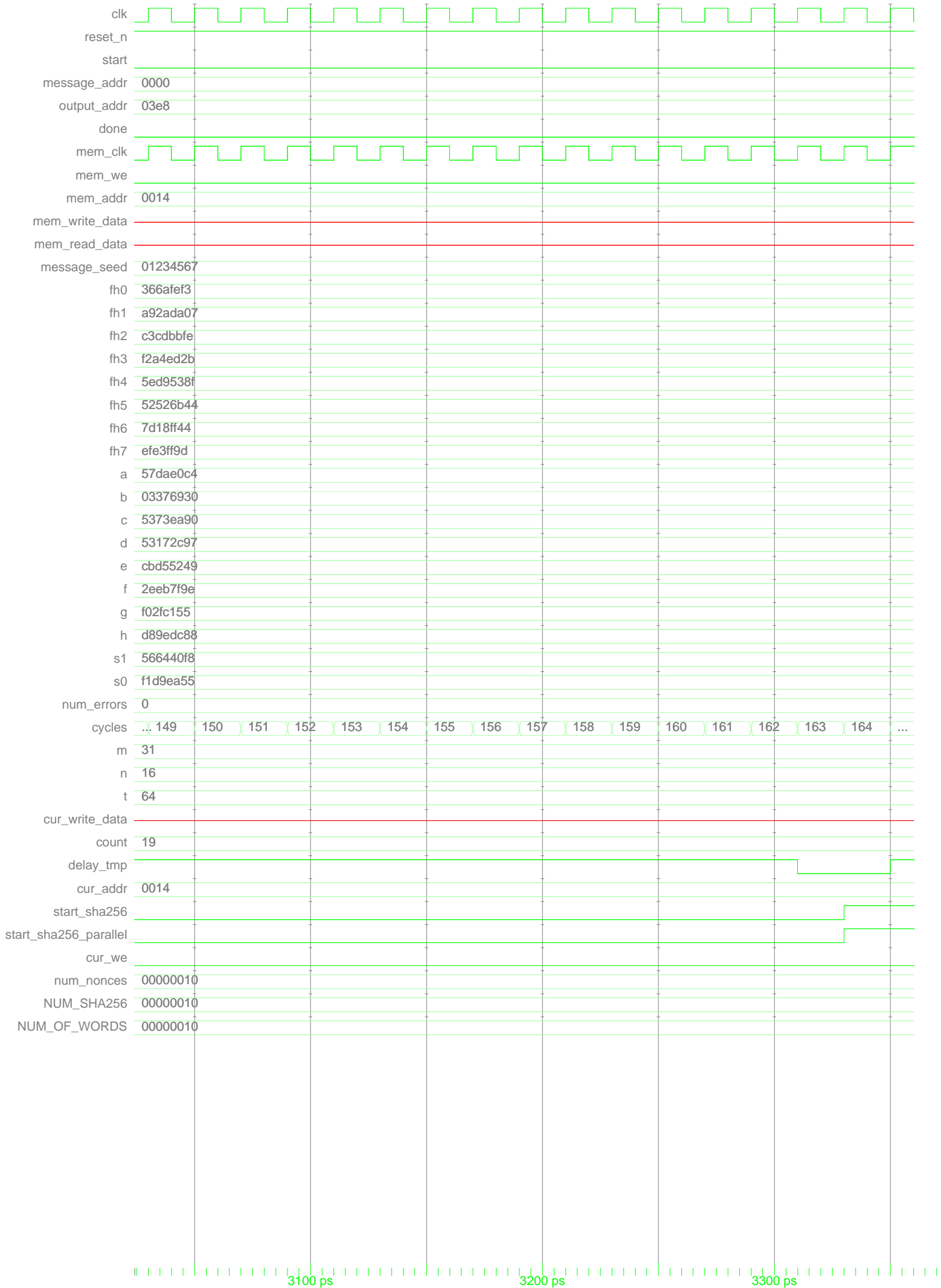


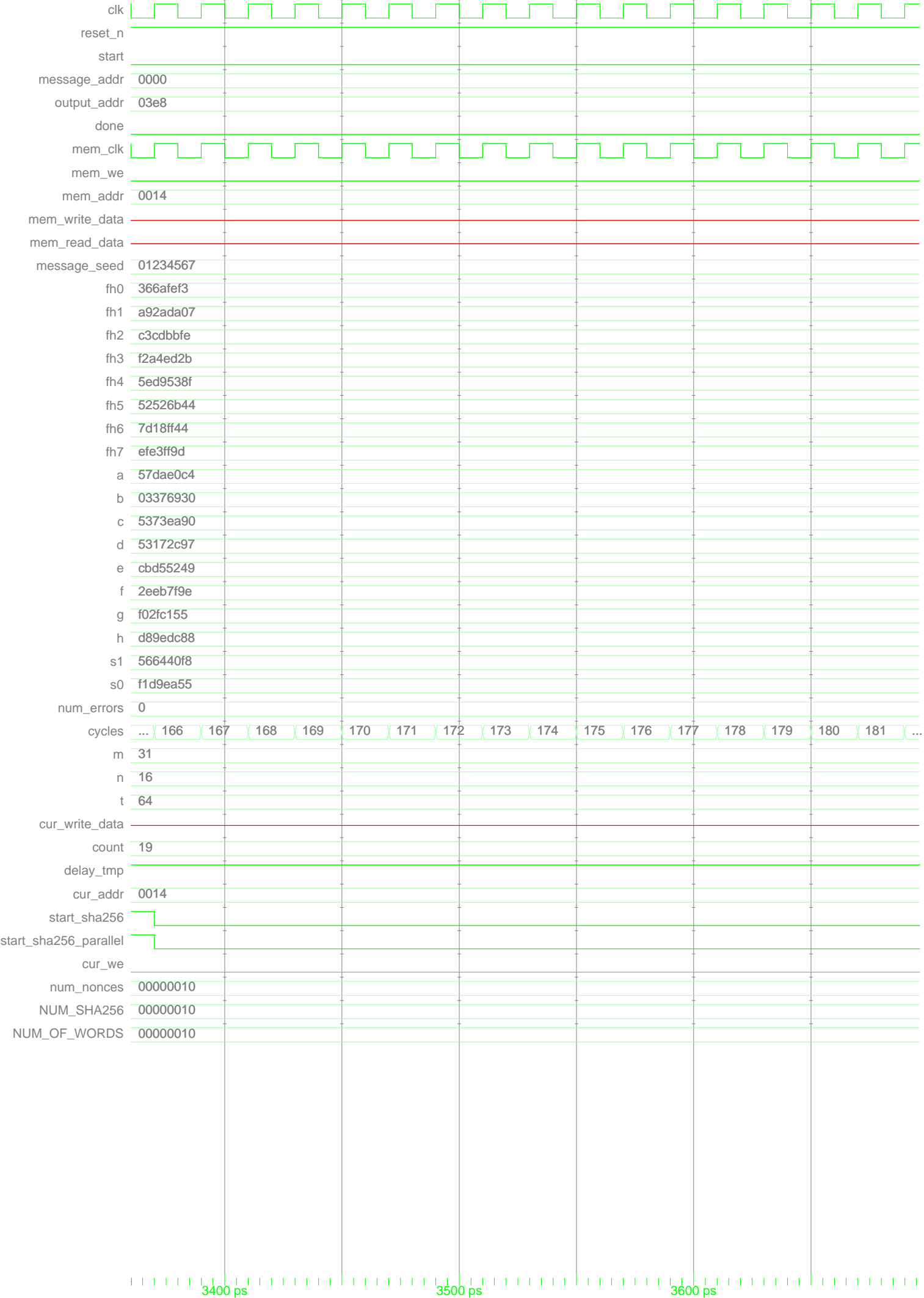


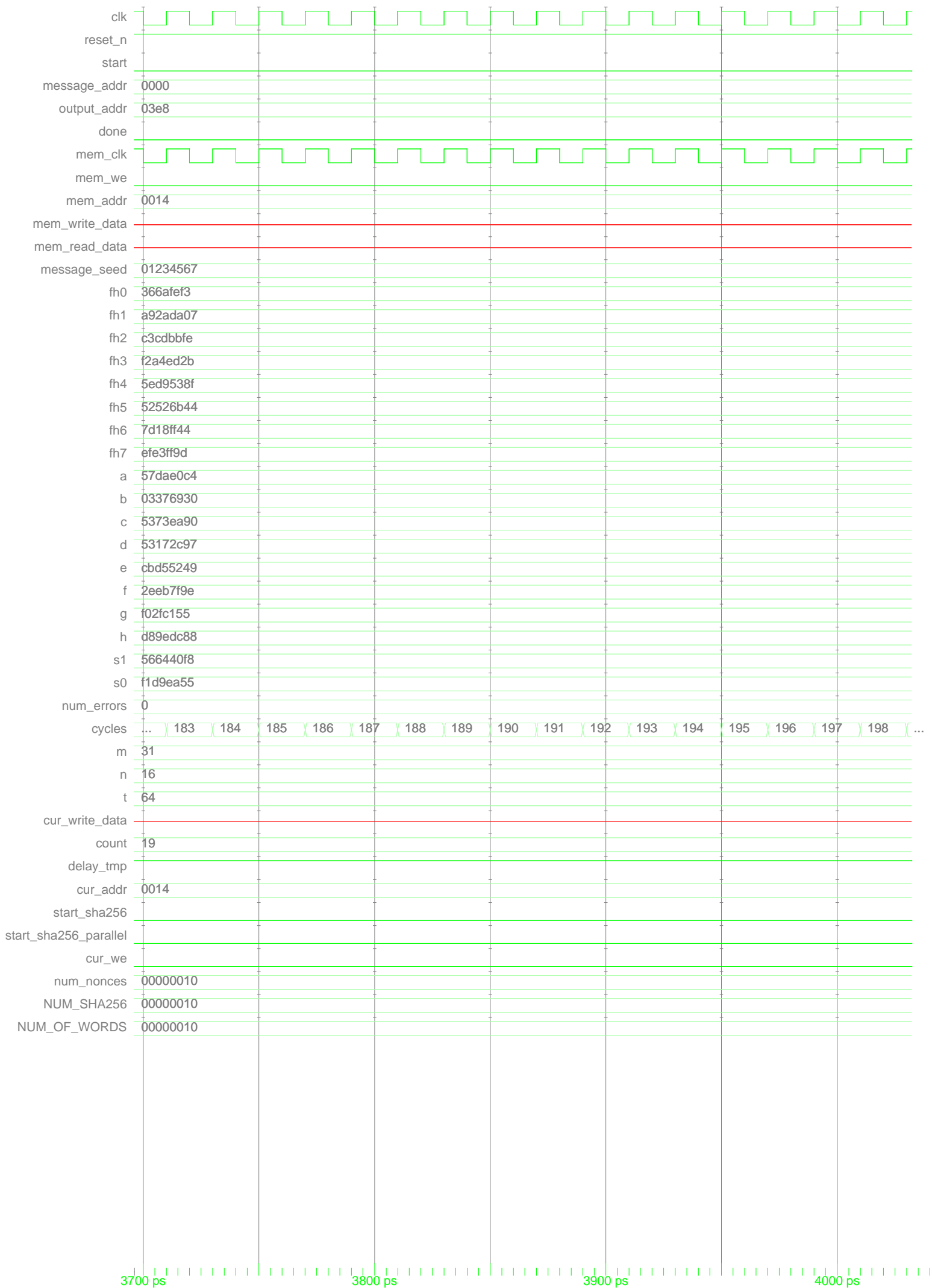


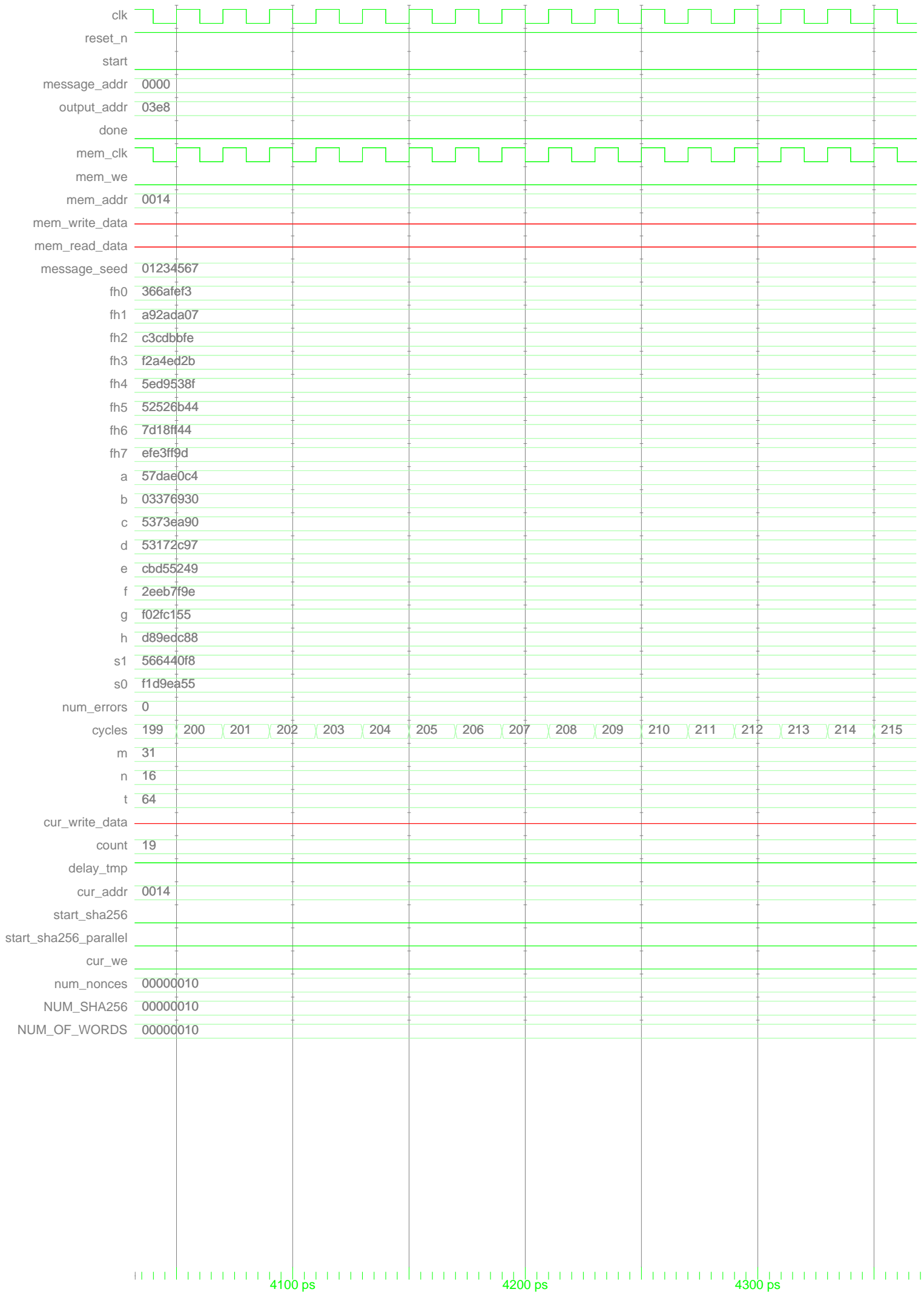


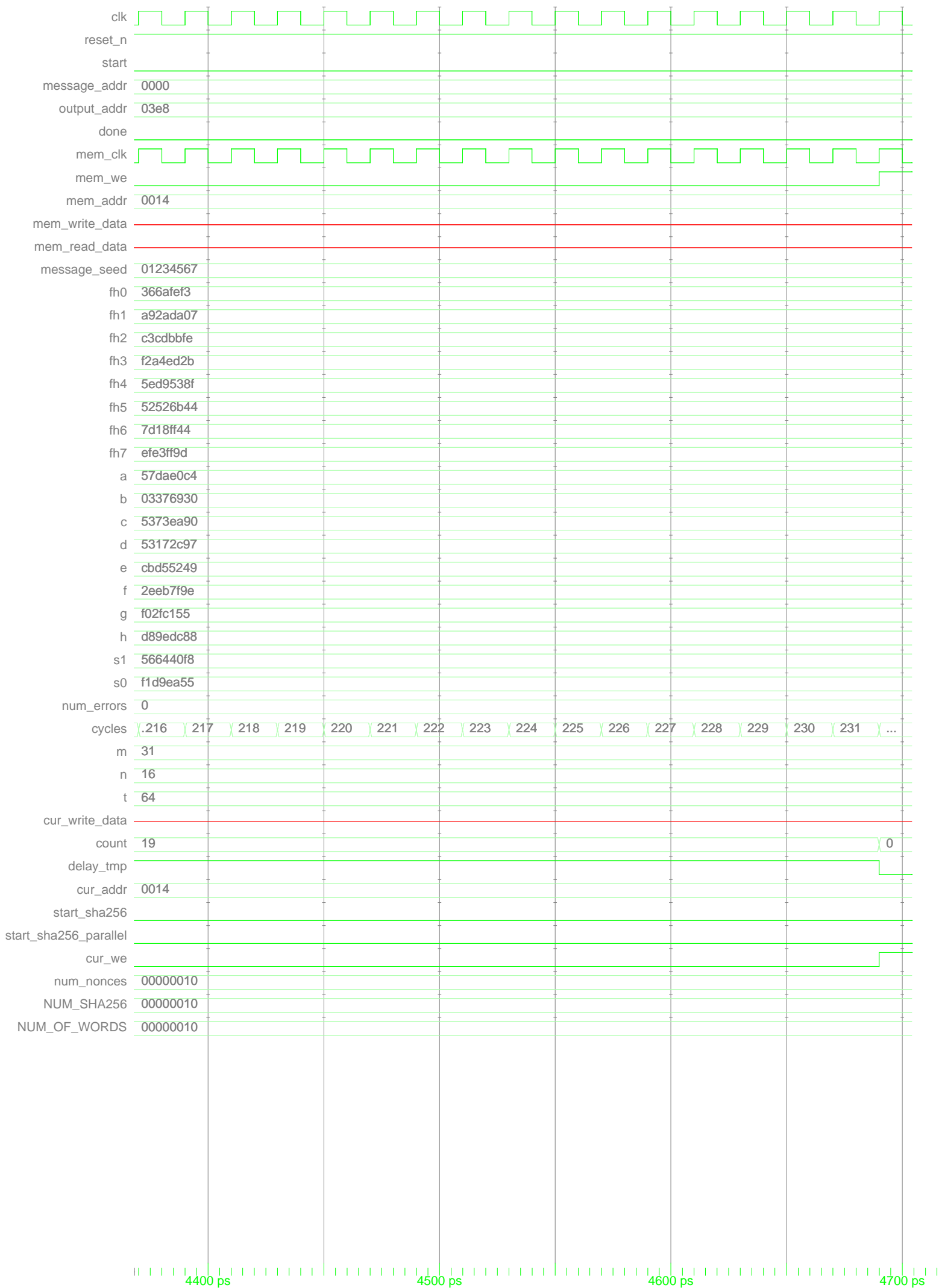


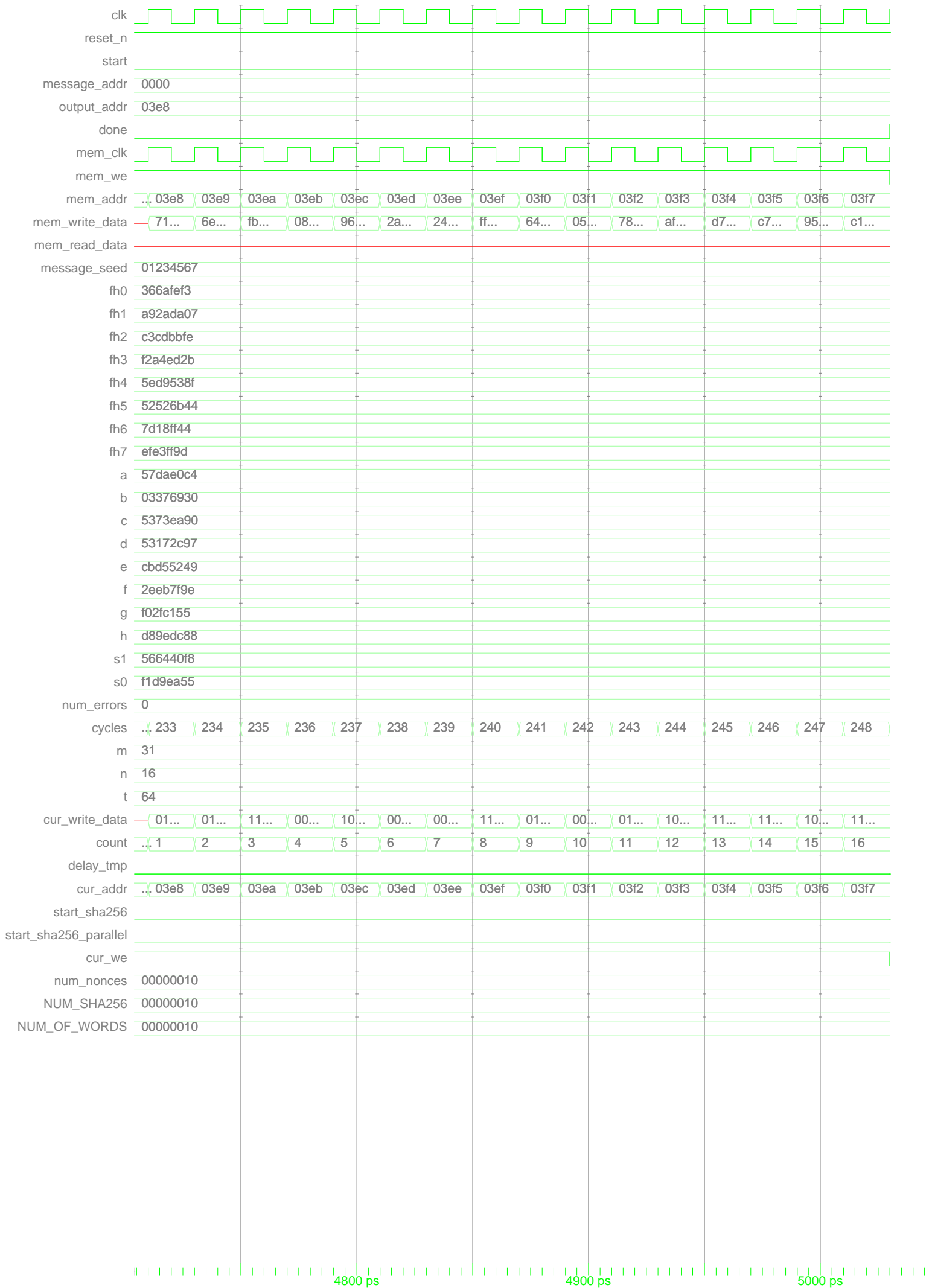






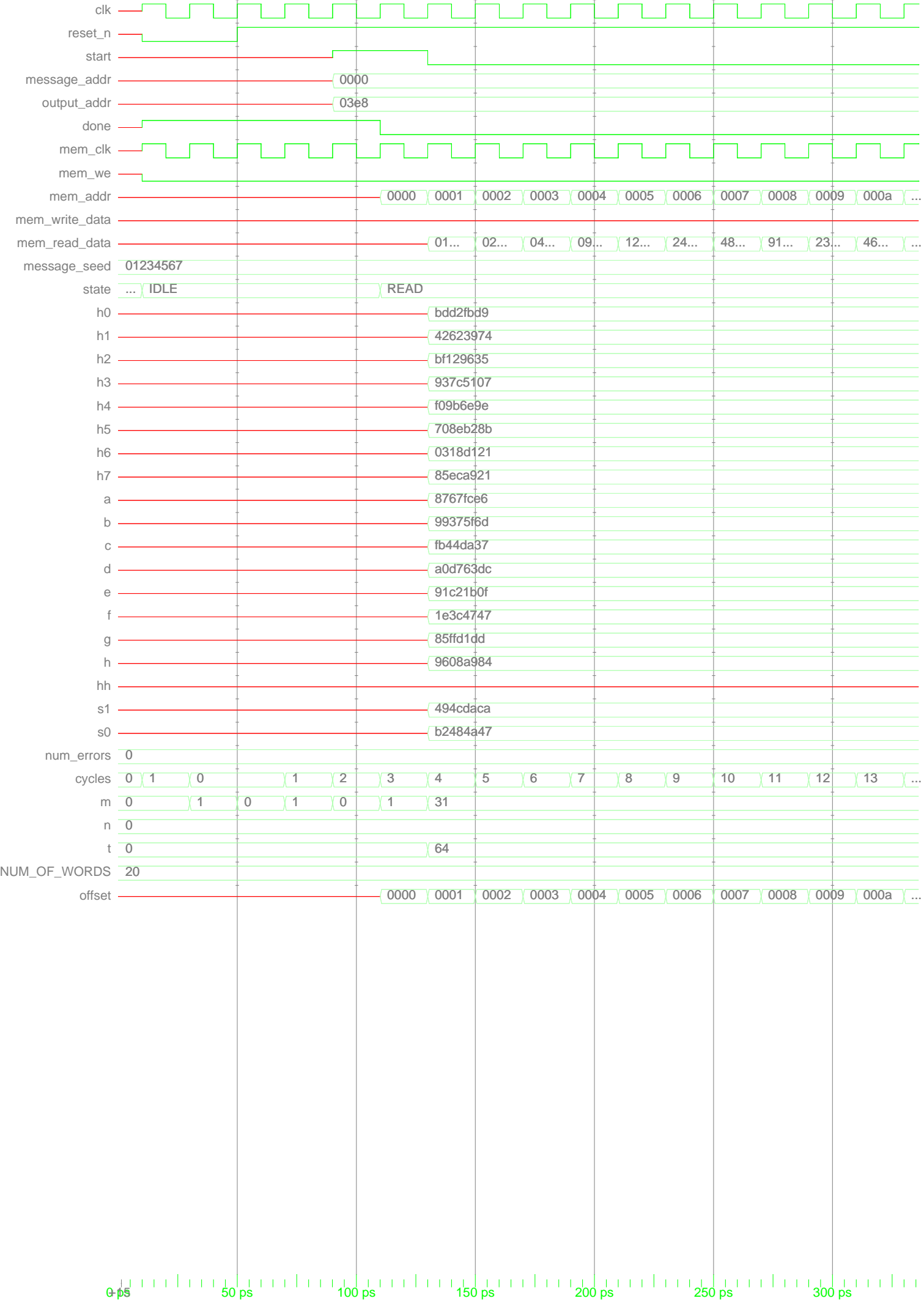


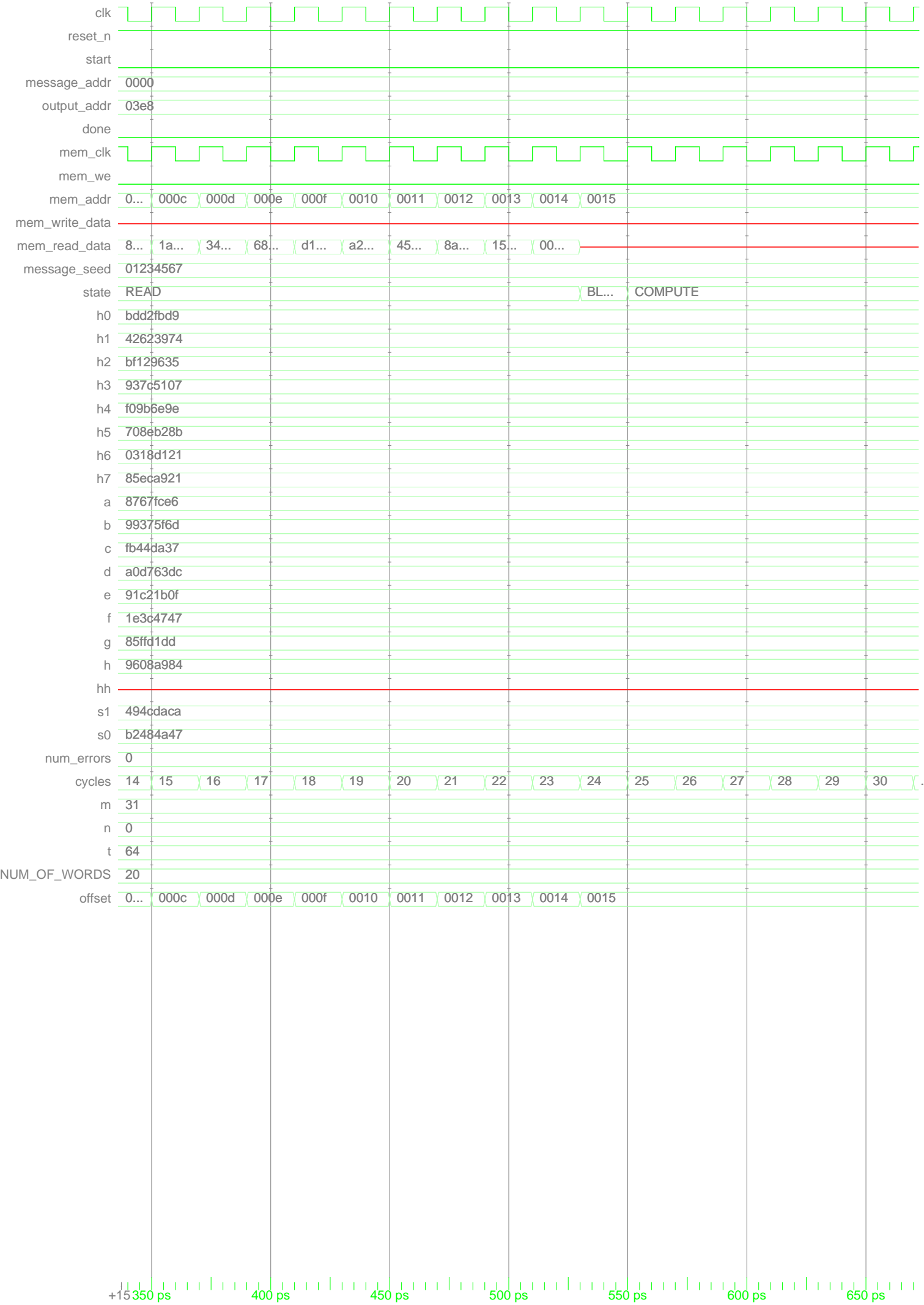


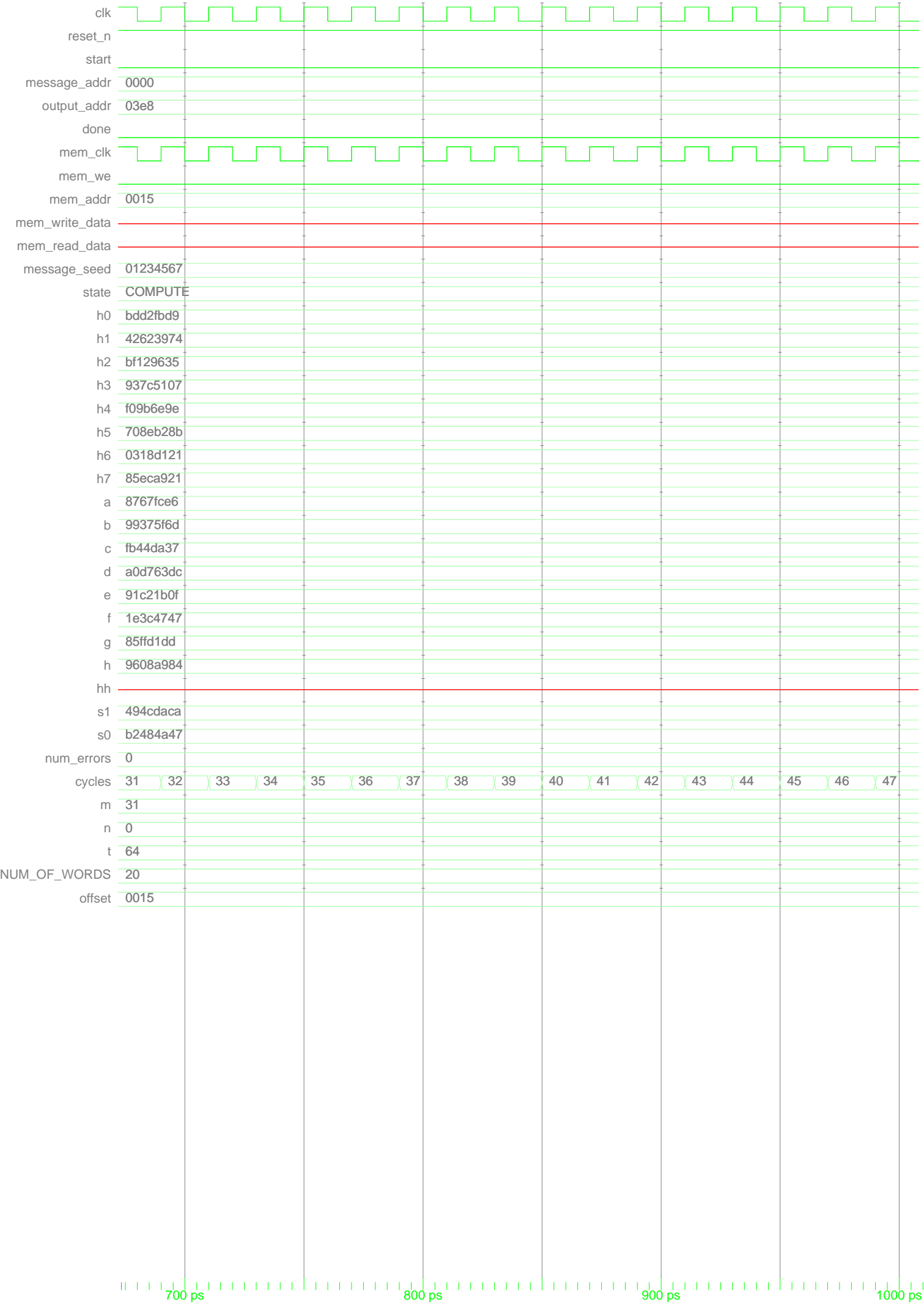


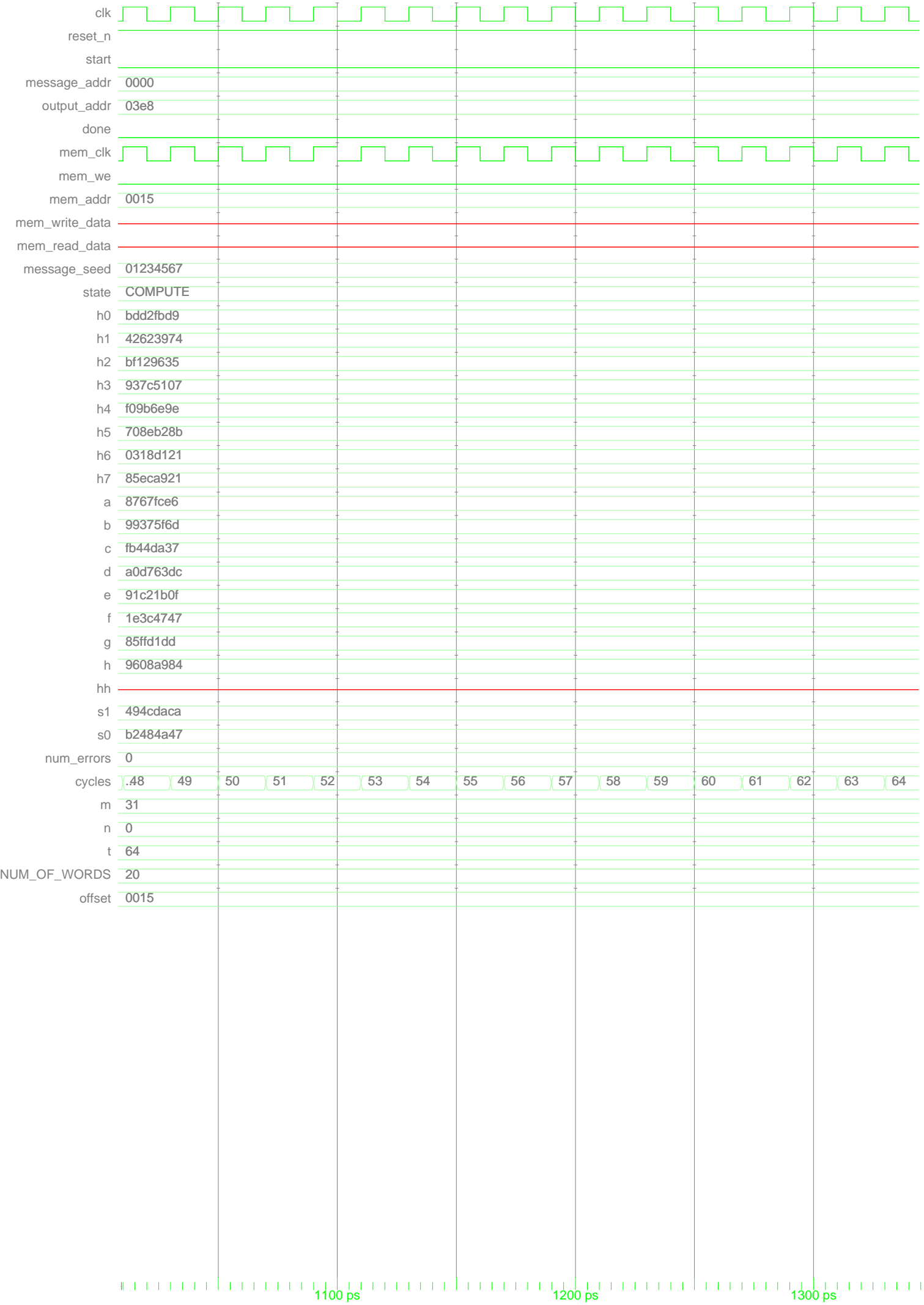
Appendix B

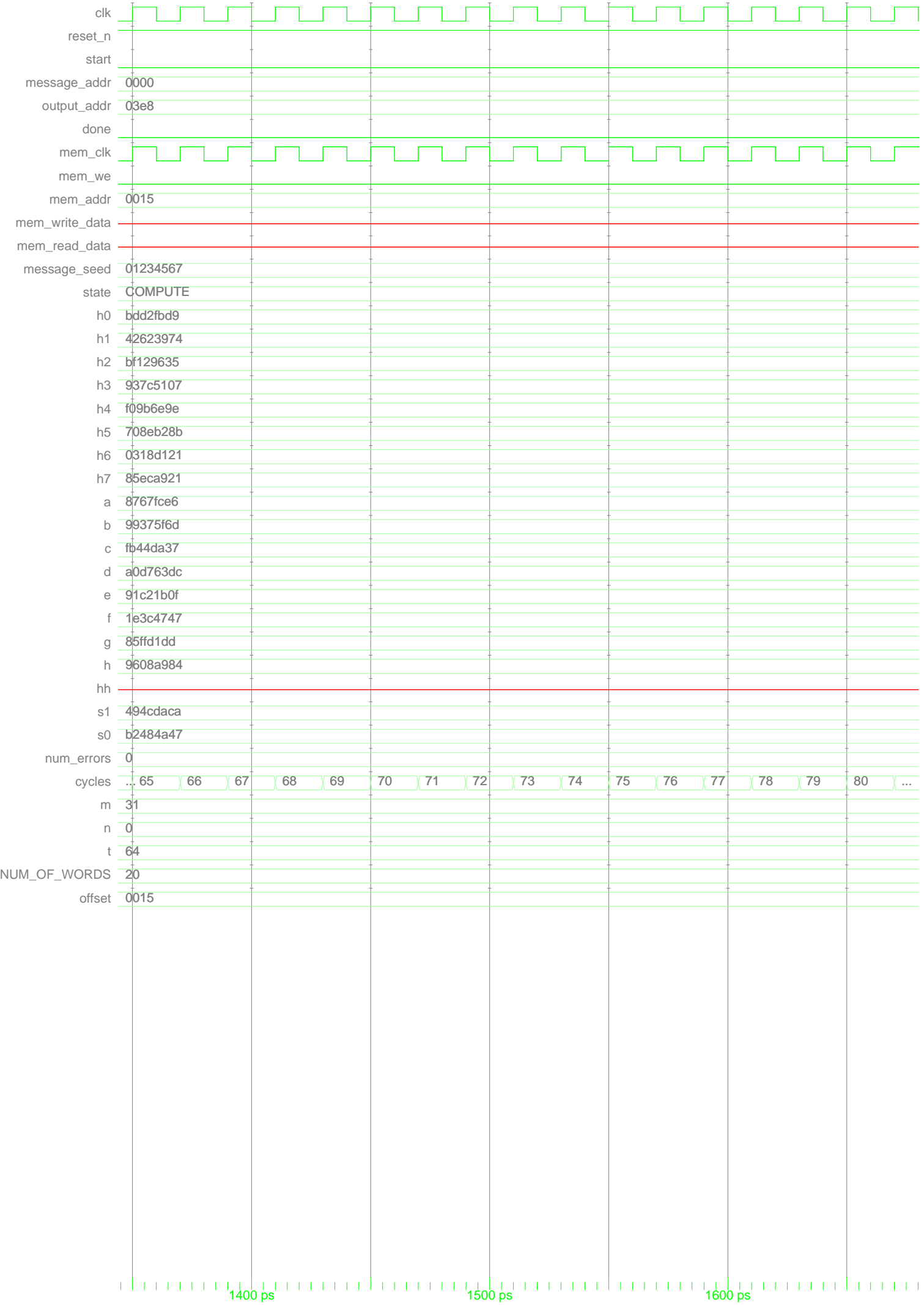
[Waveform for SHA256 Algorithm]

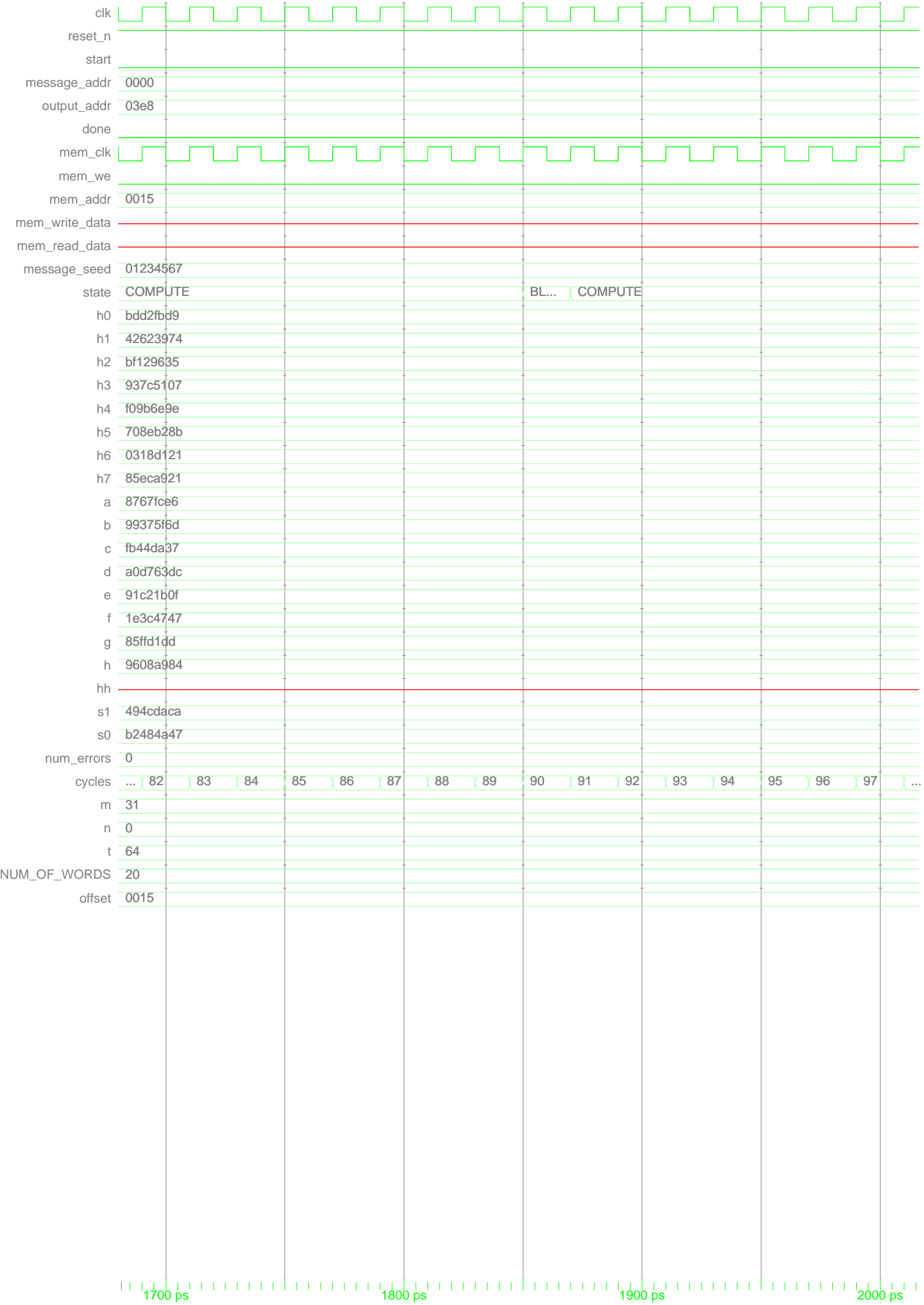


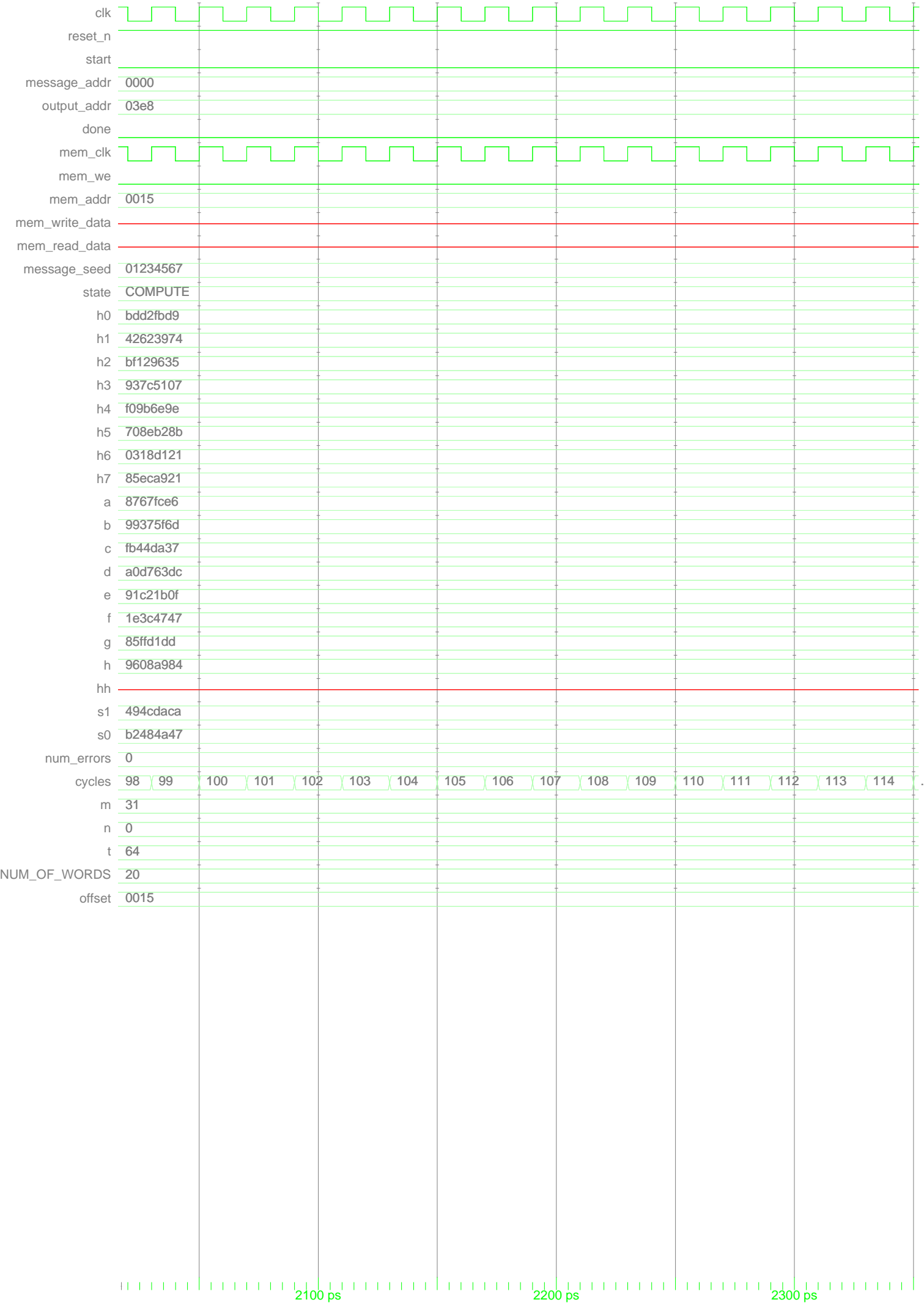


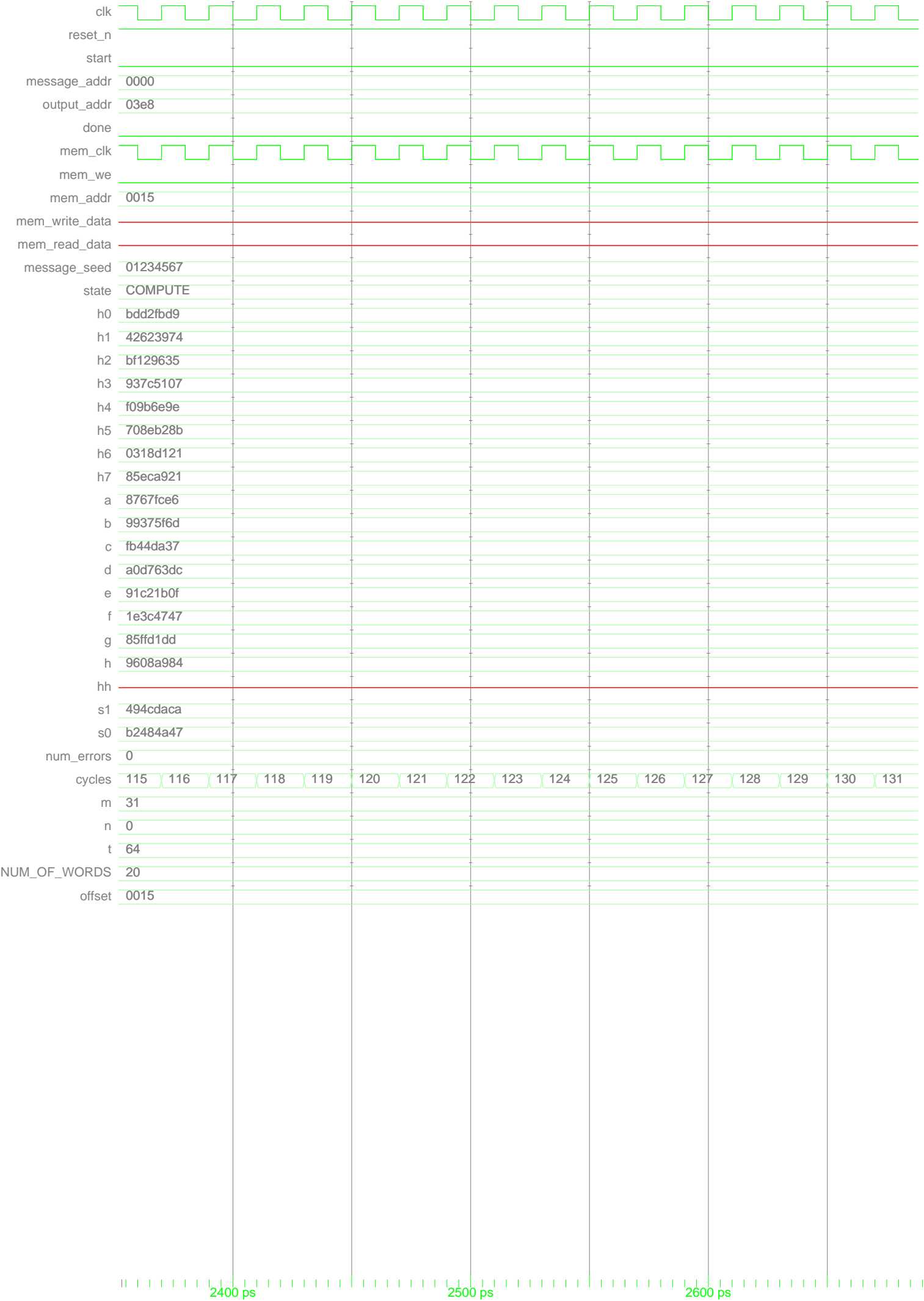


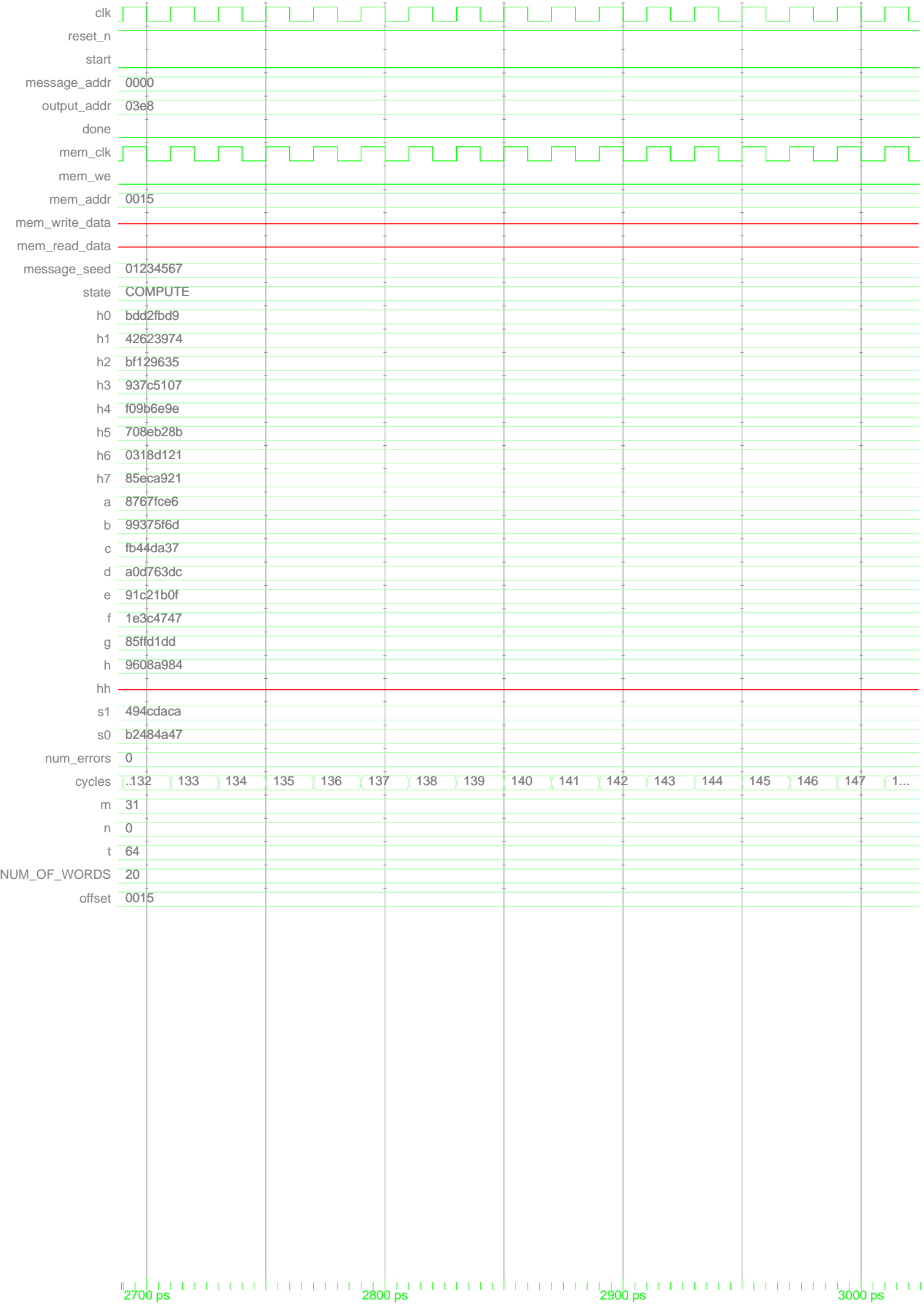














3100 ps 3200 ps 3300 ps

