Verilog HDL: Introduction

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Outline

- What is VLSI?
- Evolution of VLSI
- Evolution of Microprocessor
- Major domains of VLSI
- Skills required
- Career in VLSI

What is VLSI?

- Millions and even billions of devices on a single chip
- The scale at which this technology has advanced is unmatched
- The technology has helped the computing community grow

From Transistor to VLSI Journey

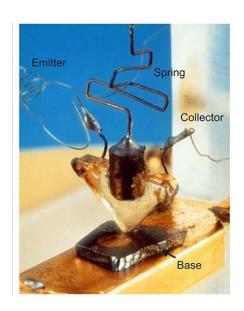
Transistor Invention

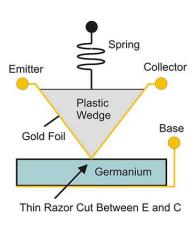
Year: 1947

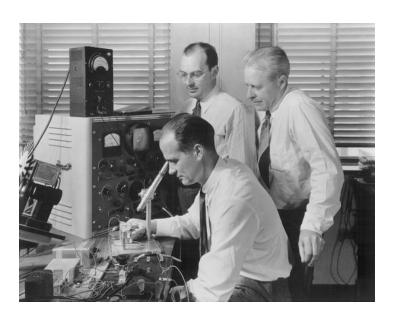
Inventors: Bardeen, Brattain, Shockley (Bell Labs)

Replaced: Vacuum tubes → Enabled miniaturization

Impact: Birth of modern electronics & computing







Evolution

- SSI (Small-Scale Integration)
 - Contains only a few logic gates (1 to 10 gates, about 10–100 transistors)
 - Example: basic logic gates (AND, OR, NOT) in separate
 IC packages (like 7400 NAND gate)
- MSI (Medium-Scale Integration)
 - Integrates tens to hundreds of gates (about 100–1,000 transistors).
 - Example: simple digital circuits like adders, multiplexers, decoders, counters. IC families like 7400 series MSI chips.

Evolution

- LSI (Large-Scale Integration)
 - Contains thousands of gates (about 1,000–10,000 transistors).
 - Example: 8-bit microprocessors, memory chips, small processors.
 - Used in early microcomputers (1970s).
- VLSI (Very-Large-Scale Integration)
 - Contains tens of thousands to millions (now billions) of transistors.
 - Example: modern microprocessors, DSPs, FPGAs, GPUs, SoCs.
 - Technology from late 1970s onwards, dominating today's IC industry.

Evolution

- ULSI (Ultra-Large-Scale Integration) (modern usage)
 - Integration of millions to billions of transistors on a single chip.
 - Today's processors (e.g., Intel Core, AMD Ryzen, Apple M-series) are ULSI.

Integration



First Hard Disk 10 MB

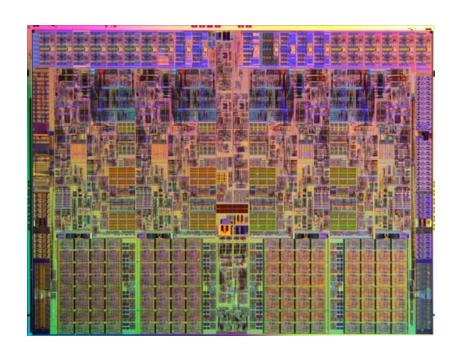


Recent Hard Disk 15 TB

Evolution of Microprocessors

- First Generation: 4-bit 4004 in 1971
- Second Generation: 8-bit, 8008, in 1974
- Third Generation: 16-bit, 8086 in 1978
- Fourth Generation: 32-bit, 80286 and Pentium, 1986 and 1993
- Fifth Generation: 64-bit, i3, i5 and i7 in 2010

Modern Digital Designs



- Intel Core i7
- More than 3 billion transistors
- Very expensive to design
- Very expensive to manufacture
- Not viable unless the market is very large

Major domains of VLSI

Two main domains

- Frontend :
 - All logical designing verification part is focused
 - Knowledge of digital design and HDL is required
- Backend:
 - Physical design , layout and manufacturing part is focused
 - Knowledge of ASIC flow staring from specification is required
 - Functional simulation, Synthesis and Timing analysis is required

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Frontend Skills and Focus

- Strong HDL Knowledge:
 - Expertise in VHDL, Verilog, and C Ability to write clean, synthesizable code
- SystemVerilog for Modern Design
 - Popular for advanced verification Supports object-oriented testbenches
- ASIC Verification Techniques
 - Testbench creation & simulation Familiarity with UVM / OVM methodologies
- Passion for Logic & Hardware Coding
 - Inclination towards circuit design & logic building Strong problem-solving mindset

Backend Skills and Focus

- Deep understanding of CMOS circuits and analog concepts
- Circuit analysis & simulation expertise with SPICE simulations (HSPICE, NGSPICE, Spectre)
- Memory Design Expertise Knowledge of SRAM, DRAM and other memory architectures
- Layout & Physical Design Techniques, Hands-on skills in floorplanning, placement, and routing Parasitic extraction & postlayout simulation
- Automation & Scripting Skills, Proficiency in Python, Tcl, Perl, or Shell scripting
- Automation of design, simulation, and verification flows
- Additional Recommended Skills Familiarity with Knowledge of EDA tools for analog layout

Career in VLSI

- Design Engineer: Frontend/Backend, AMS, DFT, PCB designer
- Verification Engineer: Frontend verification,
 Validation, Modelling
- CAD Engineer: Managing license, evaluate Tools, develop workflow
- Application Engineer: Field Application Engineer (Pre-sales), Corporate Application Engineer (Post-Sales), Application Consultants
- Marketing and Sales: Promotes brands, contacting clients, post sales services

Classroom and Feedback

CDAC Verilog Sept 2025

WhatsApp group



WhatsApp Group



Pre Course Delivery Feedback



Google Classroom



Thank you!

Happy Learning