CS220 Lab#1 Introduction to Spartan-3E and Xilinx ISE

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Sketch

- Brief on Xilinx Spartan-3E FPGA
- Xilinx Integrated Synthesis Environment (ISE)
 - Example implementation of a full adder
 - Verilog HDL
 - Schematic

Field-programmable gate array

- Two-dimensional array of generic logic/storage cells interconnected by programmable switches
 - Each cell can be programmed to carry out simple combinational functions
 - The interconnection switches can be programmed to decide how the result of one function is input to another function or stored in memory
 - Typically the programming bits are downloaded to the FPGA and the circuit is ready
 - Done in the field as opposed to in the fabrication facility; hence the name FPGA

Field-programmable gate array

S programmable switch

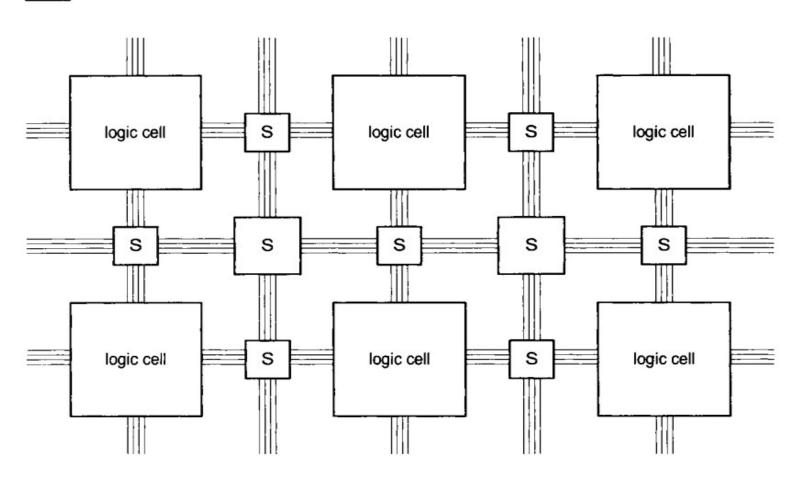


Image source: Chu. FPGA Prototyping by Verilog Examples

- A 2D array of configurable logic blocks (CLBs)
 - Each CLB has four logic/memory slices
 - Each of the two logic slices (SLICEL) has
 - Two four-input 16-entry look-up table (LUT) function generators (can store any four-input function)
 - Two registers
 - Two multiplexors
 - Arithmetic logic and carry (two full adders)
 - Each of the two memory slices (SLICEM) has
 - Everything of a logic slice
 - Two 16-bit memory blocks (RAM16)
 - Two 16-bit shift registers (SRL16)

- A 2D array of configurable logic blocks (CLBs)
- I/O blocks (IOB)
 - Controls I/O between logic/storage and the user interfaces (slide switches, LEDs, LCD, etc.)
- Block RAM (random access memory)
 - Each block can store 18K bits
- Multiplier blocks
 - Each multiplier operates on two 18-bit inputs
- Digital clock manager (DCM)
 - Routes clock throughout the FPGA

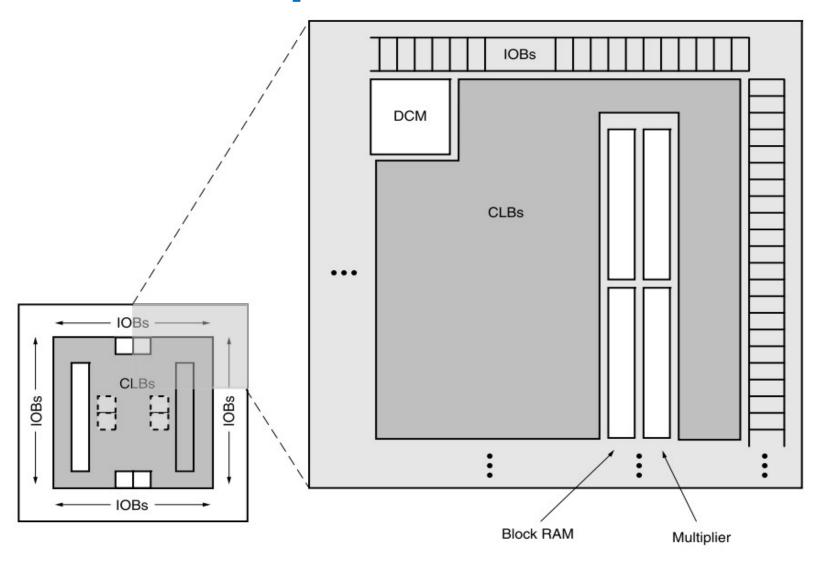


Image source: Xilinx

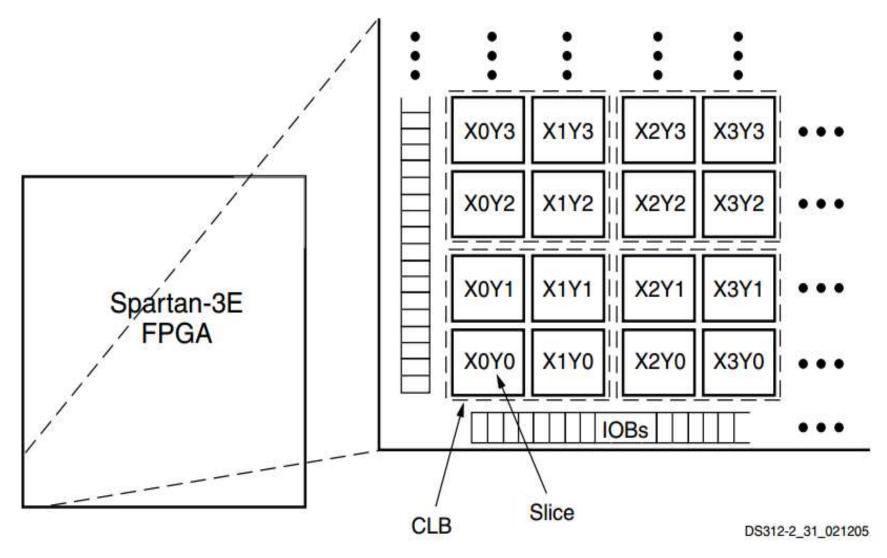


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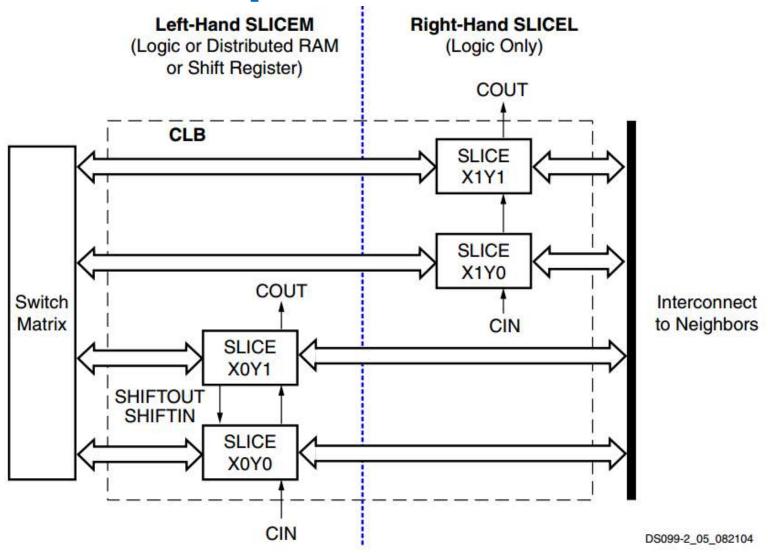


Image source: Xilinx

- Five family members
 - 100K, 250K, 500K, 1200K, and 1600K logic gates
 - We will use XC3S500E
 - 500K gates
 - 1164 CLBs (4656 slices); 46 rows, 34 columns
 - Some CLB rows and columns are taken up by block RAM, multiplier blocks, DCM
 - 360K-bit block RAM (20 RAM blocks, each 18K bits)
 - 20 multiplier blocks
 - 4 DCMs

- Rest of the slides go over multiple examples demonstrating how to use Xilinx ISE
 - Can simulate Verilog code
 - Can synthesize hardware on Spartan-3E FPGA
 - Synthesizing a hardware means programming the FPGA so that it models the desired hardware
 - A subset of the CLBs, RAM blocks, multipliers, and the switches will participate in implementing the specified hardware
- In this lab, you will do two syntheses
 - Full adder: Verilog to synthesis
 - Full adder: Mixed Verilog and schematic to synthesis
 - Each synthesis task carries two marks

- Insert your USB stick in the USB drive and accept ok when it prompts for opening the medium
- Create a new directory/folder in your USB stick
 - You may call it CS220Labs
 - For today's lab, create two directories/folders under CS220Labs
 - You may name them Lab1_1, Lab1_2

- Open a terminal and enter the command /opt/Xilinx/14.7/ISE_DS/ISE/bin/lin64/ise
 - Will start Xilinx ISE
- Click ok on "Tip of the Day" panel

- In the Xilinx Project Navigator
 - Click on File->New Project
 - In Location box, write /media/CS220Labs/Lab1_1
 - In Name box, write full_adder
 - Select HDL in top-level source type
 - Click on Next
 - For Evaluation Development Board, select
 Spartan-3E Starter Board
 - Leave everything else unchanged and click Next
 - Click Finish

- In the Xilinx Project Navigator
 - Click on Project->New Source
 - Select Verilog Module from left menu
 - Write full_adder in File name box
 - Tick the Add to project box
 - Click Next
 - Leave everything blank in the next page and click on Next
 - Click Finish
 - full_adder.v should automatically open in the right pane of Xilinx Project Navigator
 - You need to fill in the module full adder

```
module full_adder(a, b, cin, sum, cout
  );
  input a;
  input b;
  input cin;
  output sum;
  wire sum;
  output cout;
  wire cout;
  assign sum = a^bcin;
  assign cout = (a \& b) | (b \& cin) | (cin \& a);
endmodule
```

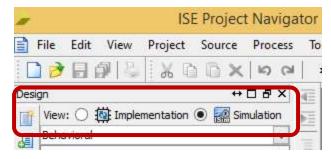
- In the Xilinx Project Navigator
 - Save your Verilog module by clicking the save icon in the menu bar above
 - Up to this point the procedure is same for simulation and synthesis
 - We will now explore how to simulate the full adder design using the Xilinx ISim simulator

- In the Xilinx Project Navigator
 - We need to build a top-level environment Verilog module
 - Project -> New Source
 - Select Verilog Test Fixture from the left menu
 - Write full_adder_top in File name
 - Tick Add to project box
 - Click Next
 - Click Next
 - Click Finish
 - The code for full_adder_top.v will open automatically for editing

- In the Xilinx Project Navigator
 - Remove the initial block and insert the following code; leave everything else unchanged

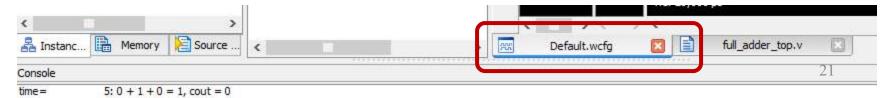
```
always @(sum or cout) begin
  \frac{1}{2} $\display("time=\%d: \%b + \%b + \%b = \%b, cout = \%b\n", $\text{$time}, a, b, cin,
   sum, cout);
end
initial begin
  a = 0; b = 0; cin = 0;
  #5
  a = 0; b = 1; cin = 0;
  #5
  a = 1; b = 0; cin = 1;
  #5
  a = 1; b = 1; cin = 1;
  #5
  $finish;
                                                                                19
end
```

- In the Xilinx Project Navigator
 - Save the top-level module
 - On left top side, change View from Implementation to Simulation



- Select full_adder_top in the Hierarchy pane just below the View
- In the lower left pane, the ISim Simulator option should appear; expand that option by clicking on

- In the Xilinx Project Navigator
 - Double-click Behavioral Check Syntax under ISim Simulator
 - If you see a green tick, syntax check passed
 - If not, see the errors in the dialog box at the bottom and fix them; rerun syntax check
 - Double-click Simulate Behavioral Model
 - ISim will open; check the results in the bottom box
 - Click on Default.wcfg to get a visual display of the simulation; zoom to full view



- Synthesis on FPGA does not require a toplevel module
 - The FPGA board provides the environment
 - The inputs are provided through switches and buttons
 - The outputs are observed through LEDs
 - The inputs and outputs are specified through a user constraints file (UCF)
- Close ISim and switch to ISE Project Navigator
 - Change View from Simulation to Implementation

- We will map the three inputs on three slide switches in the FPGA board
- We will map the two outputs on two LEDs
- Need to know the FPGA pin numbers connecting to the switches and the LEDs
- Refer to Xilinx Spartan-3E user guide
 - https://www.xilinx.com/support/documentation/ boards and kits/ug230.pdf
 - Download and save it for future use

- Pages 15 and 16 of Spartan-3E user guide discuss the slide switches
 - The UCF location constraints specify the pin numbers (L13, L14, H18, N17) and IO standards of the switches
 - Note the location of the switches on your FPGA board (should be in one of the corners)

```
NET "SW<0>" LOC = "L13" | IOSTANDARD = LVTTL | PULLUP;
NET "SW<1>" LOC = "L14" | IOSTANDARD = LVTTL | PULLUP;
NET "SW<2>" LOC = "H18" | IOSTANDARD = LVTTL | PULLUP;
NET "SW<3>" LOC = "N17" | IOSTANDARD = LVTTL | PULLUP;
```

Figure 2-2: UCF Constraints for Slide Switches

We will tie "a" to L13, "b" to L14, and "cin" to H18 (SW0, SW1, SW2)

 Pages 19 and 20 of Spartan-3E user guide discuss the discrete LEDs

```
IOSTANDARD = LVTTL
NET "LED<7>" LOC = "F9"
                                              SLEW = SLOW
                                                           DRIVE = 8:
NET "LED<6>" LOC = "E9"
                         IOSTANDARD = LVTTL
                                              SLEW = SLOW
                                                           DRIVE = 8:
NET "LED<5>" LOC = "D11"
                         IOSTANDARD = LVTTL | SLEW = SLOW | DRIVE = 8;
NET "LED<4>" LOC = "C11"
                         IOSTANDARD = LVTTL
                                              SLEW = SLOW | DRIVE = 8 ;
NET "LED<3>" LOC = "F11"
                         IOSTANDARD = LVTTL
                                             SLEW = SLOW | DRIVE = 8;
NET "LED<2>" LOC = "E11" | IOSTANDARD = LVTTL |
                                              SLEW = SLOW
                                                           DRIVE = 8;
NET "LED<1>" LOC = "E12"
                         IOSTANDARD = LVTTL
                                              SLEW = SLOW
                                                           DRIVE = 8;
NET "LED<0>" LOC = "F12"
                         IOSTANDARD = LVTTL
                                              SLEW = SLOW
                                                           DRIVE = 8:
```

Figure 2-11: UCF Constraints for Eight Discrete LEDs

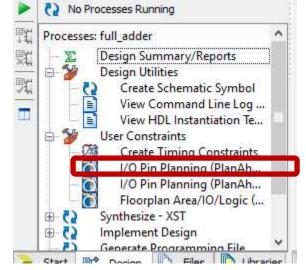
- We will map "sum" to F12 and "cout" to F9 (LED0 and LED7)
- Notice location of the LEDs in your FPGA board
 - Should be above the slide switches

 Let's come back to the Xilinx ISE Project Navigator and prepare the UCF

 Expand the User Constraints option in the second pane on the left by clicking +

Double-click I/O Pin Planning (PlanAhead) – Pre-

Synthesis

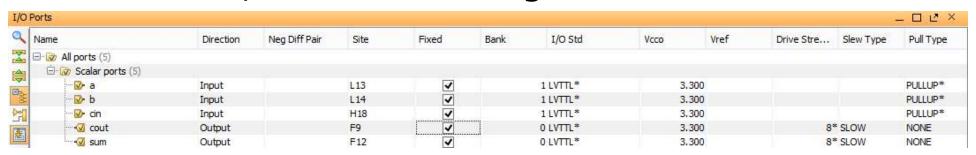


This will launch PlanAhead (click on Yes)

- Close the Welcome to PlanAhead pane by clicking Close
- In I/O Ports pane expand the Scalar ports by clicking +
 - This will list the inputs and outputs of the full_adder module



- PlanAhead pin assignment
 - For each input (a, b, cin), select its row, and set
 Site (L13, L14, H18), check Fixed, set I/O Std to
 LVTTL, and Pull Type to PULLUP
 - For each output (sum, cout), select its row, and set Site (F12 and F9), check Fixed, Set I/O Std to LVTTL, and Drive Strength to 8



- Save by clicking the save icon located at top left corner (below File)
- File->Exit->Ok (this will close PlanAhead)

- PlanAhead tip
 - Ensure that all fields for a pin as specified in the user guide are filled in
 - For example, if the user guide specifies PULLUP or PULLDOWN for a pin, you cannot leave that unspecified in PlanAhead

- Return back to the ISE Project Navigator
 - Next step is to synthesize and implement the design
 - Double-click on Synthesize XST option in the second pane on the left (below User Constraints option which you expanded)
 - Once you get a green tick indicating completion of synthesis, you can click on Design Summary (Synthesized) at the bottom of the pane on the right
 - See how many CLB slices and LUTs your design has consumed

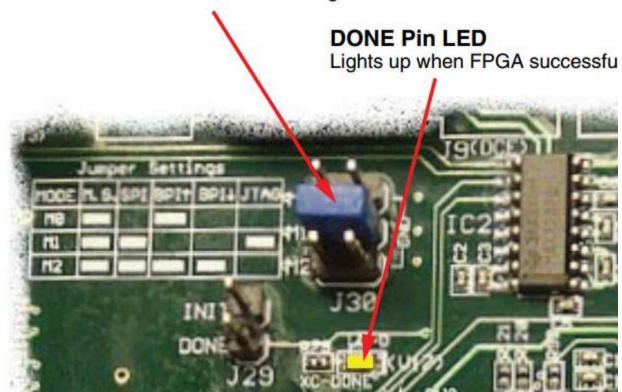
- In the ISE Project Navigator
 - Double-click Implement Design option (just below Synthesize XST)
 - Once this step completes successfully, you can go back to the Design Summary (Implemented) tab and select Pinout Report from the left menu
 - Check that a, b, cin, sum, cout are mapped to the correct pins
 - Double-click Generate Programming File option (just below Implement Design option on the second left pane)
 - This will generate the bits needed to program the FPGA so that it can implement your design

- In the ISE Project Navigator
 - Double-click Configure Target Device option (just below Generate Programming File)
 - Click ok
 - This will launch iMPACT, the Xilinx tool for programming the FPGA
 - In the FPGA board, the JTAG jumpers need to configured correctly first
 - Page 26 of the user guide shows the correct jumper configuration (you need to keep only the middle jumper connected)
 - DO NOT LOSE ANY OF THE JUMPERS; BEFORE RETURNING THE BOARD, REMEMBER TO PLACE THE JUMPERS BACK

JTAG jumper configuration

Configuration Mode Jumper Settings (Header J30)

Select between three on-board configuration sources



- After doing the jumper setting, power on the FPGA board
 - The red LED beside the power switch should light up
 - Connect the USB cable between the computer and the FPGA board
 - The green LED beside the cable port on the FPGA board should light up indicating a healthy connection
- In iMPACT menu
 - Double-click on Boundary Scan
 - Right-click on the main area and select Initialize
 Chain; select Yes

In iMPACT

- Automatically a file selection will open for programming the FPGA
 - Select /media/CS220Labs/Lab1_1/full_adder/full_adder.bit
 - It will ask you if you want to attach a PROM; say No
 - Select Bypass for the next one
 - Select Bypass for the next one too
- A Programming Properties selection menu will open
 - Click on Apply and then Ok
- You will see a chain of three devices
 - The green one is the FPGA; the other two are memory devices which we bypassed

- Right-click on the green FPGA
 - Select Program
 - If the FPGA is programmed correctly it will say Program Succeeded and you will see the orange Done LED light up
- Now the FPGA is running your hardware
 - We need to give inputs and observe the outputs
 - Use the slide switches to provide values for a, b, cin
 - Check if the correct LEDs glow
- This concludes the first assignment of Lab1

Notes for healthy FPGA

- Always power on the FPGA after doing the jumper setting
 - Never change jumper setting with the FPGA powered on
- Always connect the USB cable after powering on the FPGA
- Always power off the FPGA before disconnecting the USB cable
 - Do not pull out the USB cable when the FPGA is powered on
- Keep all jumpers connected to the board when you are not using the board

- Save the iMPACT project
 - /media/CS220Labs/Lab1_1/full_adder/full_adder.i pf
- File->Exit
 - Agree to save when it asks
 - This will close iMPACT
- We will now start the second assignment

- We will learn how to create schematics of digital design in Xilinx
- Start a new project in Project Navigator
 - File -> New Project
 - Location: /media/CS220Labs/Lab1_2
 - Name: full_adder_schematic
 - Top-level Source Type: Schematic
 - Click Next
 - Select Evaluation Board
 - Click Next
 - Click Finish

- Idea of the assignment
 - We will create a Verilog module to define a two input xor gate
 - We will use this xor gate to create a schematic of the full-adder
 - Next we will simulate this by writing a Verilog
 Test Fixture
 - We will also synthesize it on FPGA

- In Xilinx ISE Project Navigator
 - Project -> New Source -> Verilog Module
 - Name: myxor
 - Next, Next, Finish

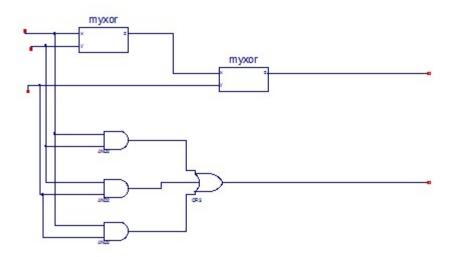
```
module myxor(x, y, z);
input x;
input y;
output z;
wire z;
```

```
assign z = (x \& \sim y) \mid (\sim x \& y);
endmodule
```

- In Xilinx ISE Project Navigator
 - To be able to use myxor in a schematic, we need to create a symbol for it
 - Select myxor (myxor.v) in left upper pane
 - Expand Design Utilities in left lower pane and double-click Create Schematic Symbol
 - Project -> New Source -> Schematic
 - File name: fuller_adder_sch
 - Click Next, Finish
 - The schematic drawing board will open now
 - You can add components by selecting the
 Symbols tab at the bottom of the left pane

- In Xilinx ISE Project Navigator
 - Select General category and title from symbols
 - Place the title box at the left bottom corner of the drawing board
 - Right-click on the title box and select Object properties
 - Put Full adder as the NameFieldText
 - Click Apply and ok
 - Select your project path in category and myxor from symbol
 - Place two myxor symbols on the drawing board
 - Select Logic category
 - From symbol, select three and and one or gates

- In Xilinx ISE Project Navigator
 - Connect the gates to build the full adder
 - Use the wiring icon to draw wires



- Use the I/O Marker icon to name the inputs and outputs
- Right-click on a marker, select Object Properties

- In Xilinx ISE Project Navigator
 - Use the I/O Marker icon to name the inputs and outputs
 - Place a I/O Marker on a terminal by selecting the
 I/O Marker icon and then clicking on the terminal
 - Right-click on a placed marker of a terminal, select Object Properties, change Name under Nets
 - Click Apply and then Ok
 - Name the inputs a, b, cin
 - Name the outputs sum, cout
 - Save the schematic by clicking the save icon

- In Xilinx ISE Project Navigator
 - Next we will simulate the design and then synthesize
 - This procedure is same as the previous assignment starting from slide 18
 - Follow the steps from there