
CS 223 Digital Design Laboratory Assignment 3

Multifunction Register and 7-Segment Display

Preliminary Report Due: November 23, 2025 23:59

Lab Dates and Times

Section 1: November 24, 2025 Mon. 08:30-12:20 in EA-Z04

Section 2: November 25, 2025 Tue. 08:30-12:20 in EA-Z04

Section 3: November 26, 2025 Wed. 08:30-12:20 in EA-Z04

Section 4: November 24, 2025 Mon. 13:30-17:20 in EA-Z04

Section 5: November 28, 2025 Fri. 08:30-12:20 in EA-Z04

Section 6: November 25, 2025 Tue. 13:30-17:20 in EA-Z04

Location: EA-Z04 (in the EA building, straight ahead past the elevators)

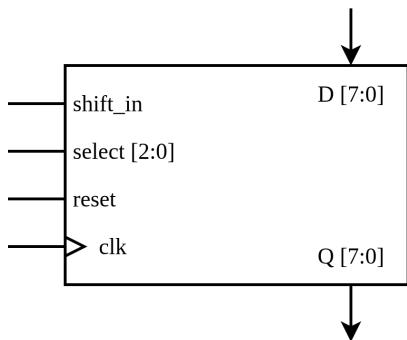
Groups: Each student will do the lab individually. Group size = 1

Preliminary Work [30]

Note: This part must be completed before coming to the lab. Prepare a neatly organized report of your work and submit it on Moodle before the start of the lab. Include your code as **plain text, not image!**

In this lab, you are going to design an 8-bit shift register with parallel load by using synchronously resettable D flip-flops. This register will perform a variety of operations and the desired operation will be achieved by setting the control inputs of the register (You will design a multifunction register capable of Parallel Load, Shift Right, Shift Left, Rotate Left and Rotate Right operations). Then, you will create a synchronous 7-segment display driver to control the digits on the board. After that, you will use this driver to display when a key is pressed.

Table 1: Multifunction register operation table.



reset	s_2	s_1	s_0	OPERATION
1	x	x	x	CLEAR (LOAD ALL 0's)
0	0	0	0	MAINTAIN PRESENT VALUE
0	0	0	1	SHIFT LEFT
0	0	1	0	SHIFT RIGHT
0	0	1	1	PARALLEL LOAD
0	1	0	0	ROTATE LEFT
0	1	0	1	ROTATE RIGHT

Figure 1: Multifunction register block diagram.

Multifunction Register

In this experiment, eight resettable D flip-flops with inputs and outputs will be used. All flip-flops will be loaded on every clock cycle. The block symbol showing the multifunction register's inputs and outputs is shown in Fig. 1. The operation table that defines the desired operation for each combination of control inputs is also given in Table 1.

- Reset operation will clear the outputs of all flip-flops on the rising edge of the clock ($Q_{[7:0]} = 00000000$). Reset input has priority over the other control inputs ($s_2s_1s_0$).
- When $s_2s_1s_0 = 000$ and the clock signal rises, each flip-flop stores its own value and hence the register will retain its present content ($Q_7 \leftarrow Q_7, Q_6 \leftarrow Q_6, Q_5 \leftarrow Q_5, Q_4 \leftarrow Q_4, Q_3 \leftarrow Q_3, Q_2 \leftarrow Q_2, Q_1 \leftarrow Q_1, Q_0 \leftarrow Q_0$).

- When $s_2s_1s_0 = 001$ and the clock signal rises, the register will perform a shift left operation. Shift left operation causes a left shift on the rising edge of the clock and `shift_in` input is shifted into the rightmost bit (LSB) of the register ($Q_7 \leftarrow Q_6, Q_6 \leftarrow Q_5, Q_5 \leftarrow Q_4, Q_4 \leftarrow Q_3, Q_3 \leftarrow Q_2, Q_2 \leftarrow Q_1, Q_1 \leftarrow Q_0, Q_0 \leftarrow \text{shift_in}$).
- When $s_2s_1s_0 = 010$ and the clock signal rises, the register will perform a shift right operation. Shift right operation causes a right shift on the rising edge of the clock and `shift_in` input is shifted into the leftmost bit (msb) of the register ($Q_7 \leftarrow \text{shift_in}, Q_6 \leftarrow Q_7, Q_5 \leftarrow Q_6, Q_4 \leftarrow Q_5, Q_3 \leftarrow Q_4, Q_2 \leftarrow Q_3, Q_1 \leftarrow Q_2, Q_0 \leftarrow Q_1$).
- When $s_2s_1s_0 = 011$ and the clock signal rises, the register will perform a parallel load operation. Parallel load operation causes the register to get loaded with the external data inputs on the rising edge of the clock ($Q_7 \leftarrow D_7, Q_6 \leftarrow D_6, Q_5 \leftarrow D_5, Q_4 \leftarrow D_4, Q_3 \leftarrow D_3, Q_2 \leftarrow D_2, Q_1 \leftarrow D_1, Q_0 \leftarrow D_0$).
- When $s_2s_1s_0 = 100$ and the clock signal rises, the register performs a rotate left operation. The bit shifted out from the MSB (Q_7) is rotated into the LSB (Q_0). ($Q_7 \leftarrow Q_6, Q_6 \leftarrow Q_5, \dots, Q_1 \leftarrow Q_0, Q_0 \leftarrow Q_7$).
- When $s_2s_1s_0 = 101$ and the clock signal rises, the register performs a rotate right operation. The bit shifted out from the LSB (Q_0) is rotated into the MSB (Q_7). ($Q_7 \leftarrow Q_0, Q_6 \leftarrow Q_7, \dots, Q_1 \leftarrow Q_2, Q_0 \leftarrow Q_1$).

Prepare circuit schematics, SystemVerilog models and test benches to be included in a Lab Report that has a cover page and pages for the schematics and SystemVerilog codes. The content of the report will be as follows:

A cover page including course code, course name and section, the number of the lab, your name-surname, student ID, and date.

- [5] Write a SystemVerilog module for synchronously resettable D flip-flop.
- [5] Draw a circuit schematic (block diagram) for the internal design of the multifunction register by using 8:1 multiplexers and synchronously resettable D flip-flops.
- [10] Write a Structural SystemVerilog module for the multifunction register you designed and prepare a testbench for it.

Note that structural modelling refers to using and combining simpler components to create more sophisticated building blocks (it is an application of hierarchy). You can refer to the slides of Chapter 4 of your textbook while preparing your SystemVerilog modules and testbenches.

Hexadecimal to 7-Segment Decoder

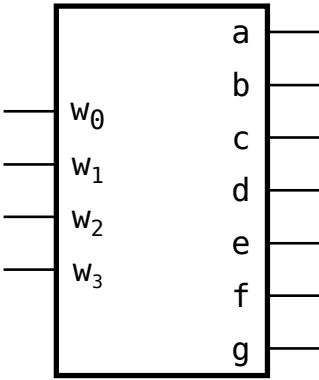
Hexadecimal numbers are comprised of 4-bit values that can be represented using characters $0 - F$ which are suitable for driving digit-oriented displays. Seven-segment display built-in on the Basys3 board is one such digit-oriented display. Fig. 2b shows a single digit on the display and their segments named with signals $a - g$. The name comes from the fact that it has seven segments per digit. You can uniquely represent all the hexadecimal numbers $0 - F$ with these seven segments. Convince yourself that this is the case. Each segment is controlled by its own signal and depending on how you drive each one, you can alter what is being displayed on the digit. For example, you need to light up all outer segments $a - f$ and only turn off segment g to display the number "0". You can already see that each number has a set of bits called the "code" to drive the seven-segment display.

In this part, you are going to implement Hex-to-7-segment display code converter logic with i/o shown in Fig. 2a to drive a single seven-segment digit in Fig. 2b according to truth table in Table 2.

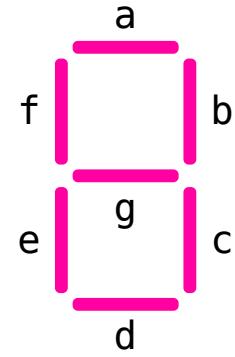
- [3] Write a SystemVerilog module for Hex-to-7-segment code converter.
- [3] Write a testbench for it to verify functionality.
- [2] What are the advantages/disadvantages of using hex values to represent numbers? List two or three points and explain them with a few short sentences. Provide at least one disadvantage.
- [2] Research how the full four-digit seven-segment display on the Basys3 board works. Think about which sequential components you need to drive it. Explain with a few short sentences.

Hint: At first sight, something might seem "off" in Table 2. This is one of the points you should explain.

Note that this last step is mostly intended for you to prepare for the lab assignment in advance. You should do some detailed research for your own purposes instead of just answering this question.



(a) Hex-to-7-segment display code converter.



(b) Single digit 7-segment display.

Figure 2: Hex-to-7-segment display code converter and 7-segment digit.

Table 2: Hex-to-7-segment display code converter truth table.

w_3	w_2	w_1	w_0	a	b	c	d	e	f	g
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	1
0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1
1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
1	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	0

Part 1: Multifunction Register Implementation on FPGA [25]

In this step, you will implement your multifunction register module on the FPGA board according to the operation table previously given to you in Table 1. You don't need to connect your Basys3 board to the Betti board. Working with a standalone Basys3 and having it connected to your computer is enough for this lab. There are some switches and LEDs available on Basys3 which you can use to test your designs.

Create a new Xilinx Vivado Project. Use appropriate names for files and folders, keeping the project in a directory where you can find and upload it on Moodle at the end of lab.

[1 × 5] **Simulation:** Using the SystemVerilog module for the multifunction register and testbench code you wrote in the preliminary work, verify in simulation that your circuit works correctly.

[4 × 5] **Test:** Now, follow the Xilinx Vivado design flow to synthesize, implement, generate bitstream file, and download your multifunction register to Basys3 FPGA board. Using the switches and LEDs (on Basys 3) that you have assigned in the constraint file (.xdc), test your multifunction register. When you are convinced that it works correctly, show the physical implementation results to the TA. Be prepared to answer questions that you may be asked.

Note: *Do not use a pushbutton as a clock.* Use the 100 MHz on-board clock and implement a clock divider to create human-visible update ticks (≈ 2 Hz) for LEDs and a faster multiplexing tick (≈ 1 kHz) for the 7-segment display. This prevents flicker and avoids metastability/debouncing issues.

Part 2: 7-segment Display Driver on FPGA [15]

In this part, you will create a seven-segment display driver and utilize all four digits by accepting inputs from all sixteen switches on the Basys3 board. You already have a code converter to convert a hex value to its seven-segment code. First, you will display a single-digit and turn off the other three digits. Then, you will expand this and utilize the full four digits.

Note: You can directly implement the multi-digit driver and get full points from this section. The single-digit implementation is for incremental work and for you to get partial points.

Single-Digit

Design: Create a single-digit seven-segment display driver that has an instance of your hex-to-7-segment code converter, four-bit input, and other necessary logic to drive and display a single-digit.

[2] **Simulation:** Using the SystemVerilog module for the single-digit driver, prepare a testbench and verify in simulation that your circuit works correctly.

[3] **Test:** Synthesize, implement, generate a bitstream file, and download your single-digit driver to Basys3 FPGA board. Assign four consecutive switches as your input and follow the convention where the leftmost bit is the MSB and the rightmost bit is the LSB. You can choose any one of the four of the digits on the display.

Using the switches that you have assigned in the constraint file (.xdc), test your single-digit driver. The binary number you input using four switches should appear as a hexadecimal number on the display.

When you are convinced that it works correctly, show the physical implementation results to the TA. Be prepared to answer questions that you may be asked.

Multi-Digit

Design: Expand the single-digit seven-segment display driver you created in the last section to utilize the whole display unit. Depending on your initial design, you might need to introduce new logic to handle driving all four digits.

Hint: If you have already done prior research on how a seven-segment display is controlled with sequential logic, this implementation should be rather easy for you.

[2] **Simulation:** Using the SystemVerilog module for the multi-digit driver, prepare a testbench and verify in simulation that your circuit works correctly. Focus on the logic that handles different digits.

[8] **Test:** Synthesize, implement, generate a bitstream file, and download your multi-digit driver to the Basys3 FPGA board. Assign four groups of four consecutive switches as your inputs and follow the convention where the leftmost bit is the MSB and the rightmost bit is the LSB. The leftmost group of four switches should control the leftmost digit on the seven-segment display and the next group on the right should control the next digit on the right and so on.

Using the switches that you have assigned in the constraint file (.xdc), test your multi-digit driver. The binary numbers you input using groups of four switches should appear as hexadecimal numbers on the display in the corresponding positions.

When you are convinced that it works correctly, show the physical implementation results to the TA. Be prepared to answer questions that you may be asked.

Part 3: 16-bit Counter with Alarm (built from your 8-bit register) [30]

In this section, you are going to implement a 16-bit lab counter by **cascading two** of your 8-bit multifunction register modules (from Part 1) and integrating your 7-segment display driver (from Part 2). The operation of the lab counter is described as follows:

- **Design:** You must instantiate **two** of your 8-bit register modules to create a single 16-bit datapath. You must design the "glue logic" to connect the `shift_in` and `Q` ports of the two modules to enable 16-bit shifting and loading.

- **Operations:** The 16-bit counter will double or halve its count at every rising edge of the clock depending on the operation switches.
- "Doubling" must be implemented using your register's **Shift Left** operation (select code 001).
- "Halving" must be implemented using your register's **Shift Right** operation (select code 010).
- The **shift_in** for the 16-bit operations (e.g., for Q[15] on a right shift) must be wired to 1'b0.
- The counter should roll over when the count cannot fit into 16-bits.
- Designate the leftmost 4 switches on Basys3 for mode selection: **SW[15:13]** for your **select[2:0]** inputs and **SW[12]** for your **reset** input. These signals should control *both* 8-bit register instances simultaneously.
- The lab counter will store 16-bits. Rightmost 12 switches will be used to load a value to your counter. As you have only 12 bits to do a parallel load, set the MSB 4 bits to zero whenever you do a load operation. For example, if you were to set the 12 switches to hex value **ADF**, you should load **0ADF** to your counter instead.
- Display the current count of the lab counter on the full 4 digits of the 7-segment display using the driver you wrote in Part 2.
- Convert the least significant 4 digits of your ID number to hex and use this value to set an "alarm" for your counter. When the lab counter goes over this value, flash (constantly turn on and off) some onboard LEDs. The alarm should stop when the value goes below the count.

For example: ID = 21703020 → 3020 → 0x0BCC.

- Example mode of operation when you first load 0x14 in double mode and alarm is set to 0x0BCC:
 $0x0014 \rightarrow 0x0028 \rightarrow 0x0050 \rightarrow 0x00A0 \rightarrow 0x0140 \rightarrow 0x0280 \rightarrow 0x0500 \rightarrow 0x0A00 \rightarrow 0x1400$ (alarm goes off)
 $\rightarrow 0x2800 \rightarrow 0x5000 \rightarrow 0xA000 \rightarrow 0x4000$ (rolls over) → 0x0000 (alarm turns off)

Note: You can directly implement the lab counter and get full points from this section. The simulation is for you to get partial points.

Note: Your 16-bit counter must be implemented by instantiating two copies of your own 8-bit register module from Part 1 and wiring them structurally (no behavioral case implementations). Designs that do not use the two 8-bit instances will receive 0 points for Part 3.

Design: Combine the multifunction register and the 7-segment display driver to create the lab counter described above. Add new logic to set an alarm and to flash LEDs depending on the state of the counter.

[10] **Simulation:** Using the SystemVerilog module for the lab counter, prepare a testbench and verify in simulation that your circuit works correctly.

[20] **Test:** Synthesize, implement, generate a bitstream file, and download your lab counter to the Basys3 FPGA board. Assign the leftmost four switches for states and the rightmost twelve switches as your inputs and follow the convention where the leftmost bit is the MSB and the rightmost bit is the LSB.

Using the switches that you have assigned in the constraint file (.xdc), test your multi-digit driver.

When you are convinced that it works correctly, show the physical implementation results to the TA. Be prepared to answer questions that you may be asked.

Clean Up

1. Clean up your lab station and return all the parts, wires, etc. Leave your lab workstation for others the way you would like to find it.
2. CONGRATULATIONS! You are finished with Lab #3 and are one step closer to becoming a computer engineer.

Notes

- Advance work on this lab, and all labs, is strongly suggested.
- Be sure to read and follow the Policies and other related material for CS223 labs, posted in Moodle.

Lab Policies

1. There are three computers in each row in the lab. Don't use the middle computers unless you are allowed by the lab coordinator.
2. You must be in the lab, working on the lab, from the time the lab starts until you finish and leave (bathroom and snack breaks are exceptions to this rule). Absence from the lab at any time is counted as absence from the whole lab that day.
3. No cell phone usage during lab. Tell friends not to call during lab hours—you are busy learning how digital circuits work!
4. Internet usage is permitted only for lab-related technical sites. No Facebook, Twitter, email, news, video games, etc.—you are busy learning how digital circuits work!
5. If you come to the lab later than 30 minutes, you will lose that session completely.
6. When you finish your lab, you must upload your final code as a single `.txt` file to Moodle before leaving the lab.

Recommendations

When building circuits using ICs and FPGAs in CS223 labs, it is important to follow some simple guidelines to prevent damage to electronic parts or confusion during debugging. By following these rules, you can ensure that your circuit functions correctly and avoid potential problems. Here are some key points to keep in mind:

- Avoid touching IC or FPGA pins directly with your hand. Static electricity from your body can permanently damage them. If you have to touch the pins, first ground yourself by touching a nearby ground surface.
- Postpone connecting power pins (V_{cc} and ground) until the last step. Check all other connections first, then connect the power pins if everything seems correct.
- If an LED's light is weak or the ICs package feels hot to touch (you can safely touch the plastic part), there might be a problem with power pin connections, such as a short circuit or connecting V_{cc} wire to the ground pin.