

Verification Continuum™

VC Verification IP

AMBA APB

UVM User Guide

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Preface

About This Guide

This guide contains installation, setup, and usage material for SystemVerilog UVM users of the VC Verification IP for AMBA APB, and is for design or verification engineers who want to verify APB operation using an UVM testbench written in SystemVerilog. Readers are assumed to be familiar with APB, Object Oriented Programming (OOP), SystemVerilog, and Universal Verification Methodology (UVM) techniques.

Guide Organization

The chapters of this databook are organized as follows:

- ❖ Chapter 1, “[Introduction](#)”, introduces the APB VIP and its features.
- ❖ Chapter 2, “[Installation and Setup](#)”, describes system requirements and provides instructions on how to install, configure, and begin using the APB VIP.
- ❖ Chapter 3, “[General Concepts](#)”, introduces the APB VIP within an UVM environment and describes the data objects and components that comprise the VIP.
- ❖ Chapter 4, “[APB VIP Programming Interface](#)”, presents the programming or user interface into the functionality of the APB Verification IP.
- ❖ Chapter 5, “[Verification Topologies](#)”, describes the topologies to verify master, slave and interconnect DUT.
- ❖ Chapter 6, “[Using APB Verification IP](#)”, shows how to install and run a getting started example.
- ❖ Appendix A, “[Reporting Problems](#)”, outlines the process for working through and reporting APB VIP issues.

Web Resources

- ❖ Documentation through SolvNet: <https://solvnetplus.synopsys.com> (Synopsys password required)
- ❖ Synopsys Common Licensing (SCL): <http://www.synopsys.com/keys>

Customer Support

To obtain support for your product, choose one of the following:

1. Go to <https://solvnetplus.synopsys.com> and open a case.
Enter the information according to your environment and your issue.
2. Send an e-mail message to support_center@synopsys.com.
Include the Product name, Sub Product name, and Tool Version in your e-mail so it can be routed correctly.

3. Telephone your local support center.

◆ North America:

Call 1-800-245-8005 from 7 AM to 5:30 PM Pacific time, Monday through Friday.

◆ All other countries:

<https://www.synopsys.com/support/global-support-centers.html>

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1

Introduction

This chapter gives a basic introduction, overview and features of the APB UVM Verification IP.

This chapter discusses the following topics:

- ❖ [Introduction](#)
- ❖ [Prerequisites](#)
- ❖ [References](#)
- ❖ [Product Overview](#)
- ❖ [Language and Methodology Support](#)
- ❖ [Features Supported](#)
- ❖ [Features Not Supported](#)

1.1 Introduction

The APB VIP supports verification of SoC designs that include interfaces implementing the APB Specification. This document describes the use of this VIP in testbenches that comply with the SystemVerilog Universal Verification Methodology (UVM).

This approach leverages advanced verification technologies and tools that provide:

- ❖ Protocol functionality and abstraction
- ❖ Constrained random verification
- ❖ Functional coverage
- ❖ Rapid creation of complex tests
- ❖ Modular testbench architecture that provides maximum reuse, scalability and modularity
- ❖ Proven verification approach and methodology
- ❖ Transaction-level models
- ❖ Self-checking tests
- ❖ Object oriented interface that allows OOP techniques

1.2 Prerequisites

- ❖ Familiarize with APB, object oriented programming, SystemVerilog, and the current version of UVM.



1.3 References

For more information on APB Verification IP, refer to the following documents:

- ❖ Class Reference for VC Verification IP for AMBA® APB is available at:
[\\$DESIGNWARE_HOME/vip/svt/amba_svt/latest/doc/apb_svt_uvm_class_reference/html/index.html](#)

1.4 Product Overview

The APB UVM VIP is a suite of UVM-based verification components that are compatible for use with SystemVerilog-Compliant testbenches. The APB VIP suite simulates APB transactions through active agents, as defined by the APB specification.

1.5 Language and Methodology Support

The current version of APB VIP suite is qualified with the following languages and methodology:

- ❖ Languages
 - ◆ SystemVerilog
- ❖ Methodology
 - ◆ Qualified with UVM 1.1d and UVM 1.2

1.6 Features Supported

The following sections list the supported protocol, verification, and methodology features.

1.6.1 Protocol Features

APB VIP currently supports the following protocol functions:

- ❖ APB2 Features
 - ◆ APB Master initiates transfers on the Peripheral Bus
 - ◆ APB Master supports Write, Read, and Idle transactions
 - ◆ APB Master supports maximum of 16 slave devices
 - ◆ APB Slave memory response modeled by sequences
- ❖ APB3 features
 - ◆ APB Slave supports wait states using PREADY signal
 - ◆ APB Slave supports error response using PSLVERR signal

- ❖ APB4 features
 - ◆ APB Master supports write strobe using PSTRB signal
 - ◆ APB Master supports PPROT signal

1.6.2 Verification Features

APB VIP currently supports the following verification functions:

- ❖ Default functional coverage (transaction, state and toggle coverage)
- ❖ Basic Protocol checking
- ❖ Control on delays and timeouts
- ❖ Support for Protocol Analyzer
- ❖ VC Auto Testbench

1.6.3 Methodology Features

APB VIP currently supports the following methodology functions:

- ❖ VIP organized as a system Env, which includes a set of master & slave agents. Master & slave agents can also be used in standalone mode.
- ❖ Analysis ports for connecting master/slave agent to scoreboard, or any other component
- ❖ Callbacks for master/slave agent
- ❖ Events to denote start and end of transactions

1.7 Features Not Supported

Refer to section “Known Issues and Limitations” present in Chapter “APB Verification IP Notes” in the AMBA SVT VIP Release Notes.

AMBA SVT VIP Release Notes are present at:

`$DESIGNWARE_HOME/vip/svt/amba_svt/latest/doc/amba_svt_rel_notes.pdf`



2

Installation and Setup

This chapter leads you through installing and setting up the AMBA APB UVM VIP. When you complete this checklist, the provided example testbench will be operational and the APB UVM VIP will be ready to use.

The checklist consists of the following major steps:

1. [“Verifying the Hardware Requirements”](#)
2. [“Verifying the Software Requirements”](#)
3. [“Preparing for Installation”](#)
4. [“Downloading and Installing”](#)
5. [“What’s Next?”](#)

**Note**

If you encounter any problems with installing the APB VIP, contact Synopsys customer support.

2.1 Verifying the Hardware Requirements

The APB Verification IP requires a Solaris or Linux workstation configured as follows:

- ❖ 1440 MB available disk space for installation
- ❖ 16 GB Virtual Memory recommended
- ❖ FTP anonymous access to ftp.synopsys.com (optional)

2.2 Verifying the Software Requirements

The Synopsys APB VIP is qualified for use with certain versions of platforms and simulators. This section lists the software that the Synopsys APB VIP requires.

2.2.1 Platform/OS and Simulator Software

- ❖ **Platform/OS and VCS:** You need versions of your platform/OS and simulator that have been qualified for use. To see which platform/OS and simulator versions are qualified for use with the APB VIP, check the support matrix manual.

2.2.2 Synopsys Common Licensing (SCL) Software

- ❖ The SCL software provides the licensing function for the Synopsys APB VIP. Acquiring the SCL software is covered here in the installation instructions in [Licensing Information](#).

2.2.3 Other Third Party Software

- ❖ **Adobe Acrobat:** Synopsys APB VIP documents are available in Acrobat PDF files. You can get Adobe Acrobat Reader for free from <http://www.adobe.com>.
- ❖ **HTML browser:** Synopsys APB VIP includes class reference documentation in HTML. The following browser/platform combinations are supported:
 - ◆ Microsoft Internet Explorer 6.0 or later (Windows)
 - ◆ Firefox 1.0 or later (Windows and Linux)
 - ◆ Netscape 7.x (Windows and Linux)

2.3 Preparing for Installation

1. Set DESIGNWARE_HOME to the absolute path where APB VIP is to be installed:


```
setenv DESIGNWARE_HOME absolute_path_to_designware_home
setenv DESIGNWARE_HOME absolute_path_to_designware_home
```
2. Ensure that your environment and PATH variables are set correctly, including:
 - ◆ DESIGNWARE_HOME/bin – The absolute path as described in the previous step.
 - ◆ LM_LICENSE_FILE – The absolute path to a file that contains the license keys for your third-party tools. Also, include the absolute path to the third party executable in your PATH variable.


```
% setenv LM_LICENSE_FILE <my_license_file|port@host>
```
 - ◆ SNPSLMD_LICENSE_FILE – The absolute path to a file that contains the license keys for Synopsys software or the port@host reference to this file.


```
% setenv SNPSLMD_LICENSE_FILE <my_Synopsys_license_file|port@host>
```
 - ◆ DW_LICENSE_FILE – The absolute path to a file that contains the license keys for VIP product software or the port@host reference to this file.


```
% setenv DW_LICENSE_FILE <my_VIP_license_file|port@host>
```

2.4 Downloading and Installing



Attention

The Electronic Software Transfer (EST) system only displays products your site is entitled to download. If the product you are looking for is not available, contact est-ext@synopsys.com.

Follow the instructions below for downloading the software from Synopsys. You can download from the Download Center using either HTTPS or FTP, or with a command-line FTP session. If your Synopsys SolvNet password is unknown or forgotten, go to <http://solvnet.synopsys.com>.

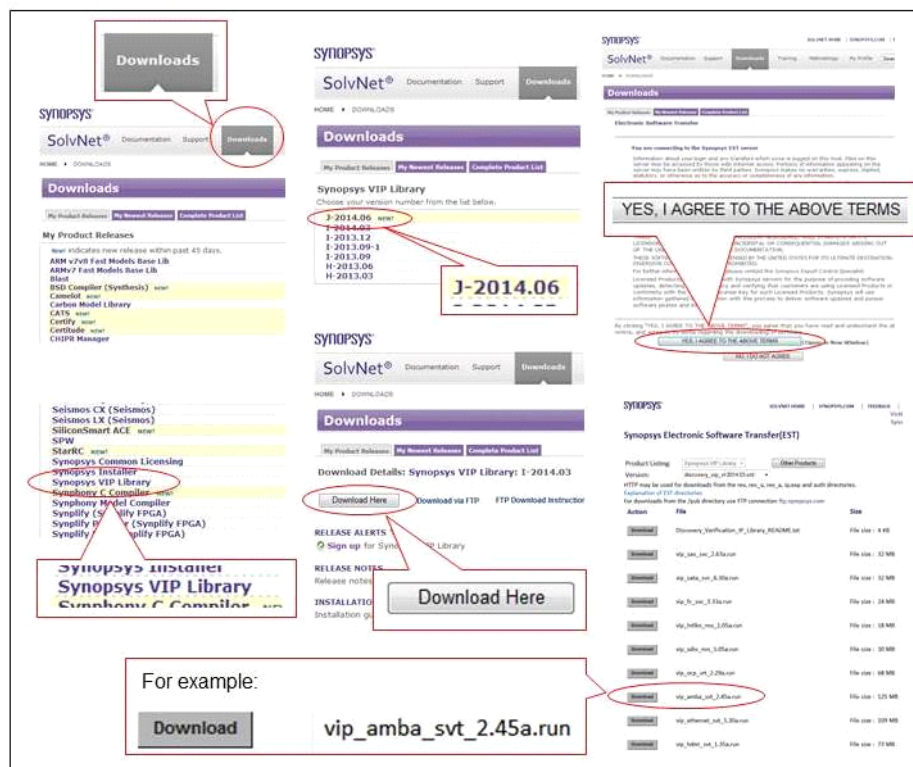
Passive mode FTP is required. The passive command toggles between passive and active mode. If your FTP utility does not support passive mode, use http. For additional information, refer to the following web page:

https://www.synopsys.com/apps/protected/support/EST-FTP_Accelerator_Help_Page.html

2.4.1 Downloading From the Electronic Software Transfer (EST) System (Download Center)

- Point your web browser to <http://solvnet.synopsys.com>.
- Enter your Synopsys SolvNet Username and Password.
- Click Sign In button.
- Make the following selections on SolvNet to download the .run file of the VIP (See Figure 2-1).
 - Downloads tab
 - VC VIP Library product releases
 - <release_version>
 - Download Here button
 - Yes, I Agree to the Above Terms button
 - Download .run file for the VIP

Figure 2-1 SolvNet Selections for VIP Download



- Set the `DESIGNWARE_HOME` environment variable to a path where you want to install the VIP.


```
% setenv DESIGNWARE_HOME VIP_installation_path
```
- Execute the .run file by invoking its filename. The VIP is unpacked and all files and directories are installed under the path specified by the `DESIGNWARE_HOME` environment variable. The .run file can be executed from any directory. The important step is to set the `DESIGNWARE_HOME` environment variable before executing the .run file.

**Note**

The Synopsys AMBA VIP suite includes VIP models for all AMBA interfaces (AHB, APB, AXI, and ATB). You must download the VC VIP for AMBA suite to access the VIP models for AHB, APB, AXI, and ATB.

2.4.2 Downloading Using FTP with a Web Browser

- Follow the above instructions through the product version selection step.
- Click the "Download via FTP" link instead of the "Download Here" button.
- Click the "Click Here To Download" button.
- Select the file(s) that you want to download.
- Follow browser prompts to select a destination location.

**Note**

If you are unable to download the Verification IP using above instructions, refer to “[Customer Support](#)” section to obtain support for download and installation.

2.5 What's Next?

The remainder of this chapter describes the details of the different steps you performed during installation and setup, and consists of the following sections:

- ❖ [Licensing Information](#)
- ❖ [Environment Variable and Path Settings](#)
- ❖ [Determining Your Model Version](#)
- ❖ [Integrating the VIP into Your Testbench](#)
- ❖ [Include and Import Model Files into Your Testbench](#)
- ❖ [Compile and Run Time Options](#)

2.5.1 Licensing Information

The AMBA VIP uses the Synopsys Common Licensing (SCL) software to control its usage.

You can find general SCL information in the following location:

<http://www.synopsys.com/keys>

For more information on the order in which licenses are checked out for each VIP, refer to VC VIP AMBA Release Notes.

The licensing key must reside in files that are indicated by specific environment variables. For more information about setting these licensing environment variables, see [Environment Variable and Path Settings](#).

2.5.1.0.1 License Polling

If you request a license and none are available, license polling allows your request to exist until a license becomes available instead of exiting immediately. To control license polling, you use the DW_WAIT_LICENSE environment variable as follows:

- ❖ To enable license polling, set the `DW_WAIT_LICENSE` environment variable to 1.
- ❖ To disable license polling, unset the `DW_WAIT_LICENSE` environment variable. By default, license polling is disabled.

2.5.1.0.2 Simulation License Suspension

All Synopsys Verification IP products support license suspension. Simulators that support license suspension allow a model to check in its license token while the simulator is suspended, then check the license token back out when the simulation is resumed.

**Note**

This capability is simulator-specific; not all simulators support license check-in during suspension.

2.5.2 Environment Variable and Path Settings

The following are environment variables and path settings required by the APB VIP verification models:

- ❖ `DESIGNWARE_HOME`: The absolute path to where the VIP is installed.
- ❖ `DW_LICENSE_FILE` - The absolute path to file that contains the license keys for the VIP product software or the port@host reference to this file.
- ❖ `SNPSLMD_LICENSE_FILE`: The absolute path to file(s) that contains the license keys for Synopsys software (VIP and/or other Synopsys Software tools) or the port@host reference to this file.

**Note**

For faster license checkout of Synopsys VIP software please ensure to place the desired license files at the front of the list of arguments to `SNPSLMD_LICENSE_FILE`.

- ❖ `LM_LICENSE_FILE`: The absolute path to a file that contains the license keys for both Synopsys software and/or your third-party tools.

**Note**

The Synopsys VIP License can be set in either of the 3 license variables mentioned above with the order of precedence for checking the variables being:

- ❖ `DW_LICENSE_FILE` -> `SNPSLMD_LICENSE_FILE` -> `LM_LICENSE_FILE`, but also note If `DW_LICENSE_FILE` environment variable is enabled, VIP will ignore `SNPSLMD_LICENSE_FILE` and `LM_LICENSE_FILE` settings.

Hence to get the most efficient Synopsys VIP license checkout performance, set the `DW_LICENSE_FILE` with only the License servers which contain Synopsys VIP licenses. Also, include the absolute path to the third party executable in your `PATH` variable.

2.5.2.1 Simulator-Specific Settings

Your simulation environment and `PATH` variables must be set as required to support your simulator.

2.5.3 Determining Your Model Version

The following steps tell you how to check the version of the models you are using.

**Note**

Verification IP products are released and versioned by the suite and not by individual model. The version number of a model indicates the suite version.

- ❖ To determine the versions of VIP models installed in your \$DESIGNWARE_HOME tree, use the setup utility as follows:

```
% $DESIGNWARE_HOME/bin/dw_vip_setup -i home
```
- ❖ To determine the versions of VIP models in your design directory, use the setup utility as follows:

```
% $DESIGNWARE_HOME/bin/dw_vip_setup -p design_dir_path -i design
```

2.5.4 Integrating the VIP into Your Testbench

After installing the VIP, follow these procedures to set up the VIP for use in testbenches:

- ❖ [“Creating a Testbench Design Directory”](#)
- ❖ [“Setting Up a New VIP”](#)
- ❖ [“Installing and Setting Up More than One VIP Protocol Suite”](#)
- ❖ [“Updating an Existing Model”](#)
- ❖ [“Removing Synopsys VIP Models from a Design Directory”](#)
- ❖ [“The dw_vip_setup Utility”](#)

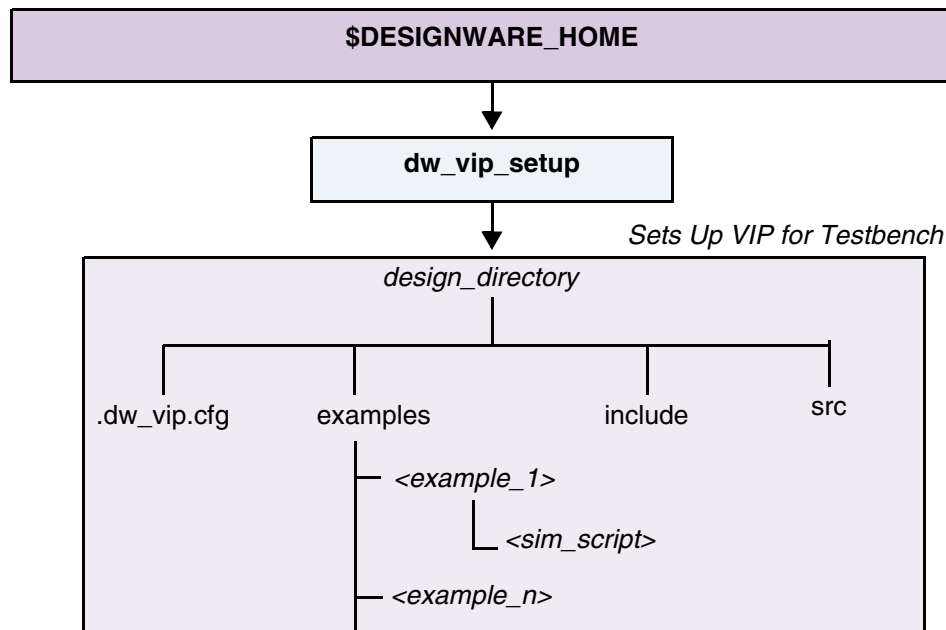
2.5.4.1 Creating a Testbench Design Directory

A *design directory* contains a version of VIP that is set up and ready for use in a testbench. You use the dw_vip_setup utility to create design directories. For the full description of dw_vip_setup, refer to [The dw_vip_setup Utility](#).

**Note**

If you move a design directory, the references in your testbenches to the include files will need to be revised to point to the new location. Also, any simulation scripts in the examples directory will need to be recreated.

A design directory gives you control over the version of the Synopsys VIP in your testbench because it is isolated from the DESIGNWARE_HOME installation. When you want, you can use dw_vip_setup to update the VIP in your design directory. [Figure 2-2](#) shows this process and the contents of a design directory.

Figure 2-2 Design Directory Created by dw_vip_setup

A design directory contains:

examples	Each VIP includes example testbenches. The dw_vip_setup utility adds them in this directory, along with a script for simulation. If an example testbench is specified on the command line, this directory contains all files required for model, suite, and system testbenches.
include	Language-specific include files that contain critical information for VIP models. This directory is specified in simulator command lines.
src	VIP-specific include files (not used by all VIPs). This directory may be specified in simulator command lines.
.dw_vip.cfg	A database of all VIP models being used in the testbench. The dw_vip_setup program reads this file to rebuild or recreate a design setup.

**Note**

Do not modify this file because dw_vip_setup depends on the original contents.

**Note**

When using a design_dir, you have to make sure that the DESIGNWARE_HOME that was used to setup the design_dir is the same one used in the shell when running the simulation. In other words when using a design_dir, you have to make sure that the SVT version identified in the design_dir is available in the DESIGNWARE_HOME used in the shell when running the simulation.

2.5.4.2 Setting Up a New VIP

After you have installed the VIP, you must set up the VIP for project and testbench use. All VIP suites contain various components such as transceivers, masters, slaves, and monitors depending on the protocol.

The setup process gathers together all the required component files you need to incorporate into your testbench required for simulation runs.

You have the choice to set up all of them, or only specific ones. For example, the APB VIP contains the following components.

- ❖ `apb_master_agent_svt`
- ❖ `apb_slave_agent_svt`
- ❖ `apb_system_env_svt`

You can set up either an individual component, or the entire set of components within one protocol suite. Use the Synopsys provided tool called `dw_vip_setup` for these tasks. It resides in `$DESIGNWARE_HOME/bin`.

To get help on `dw_vip_setup`, invoke the following:

```
% $DESIGNWARE_HOME/bin/dw_vip_setup --help
```

The following command adds a model to the directory `design_dir`.

```
% $DESIGNWARE_HOME/bin/dw_vip_setup -path /tmp/design_dir -add apb_system_env_svt -svlog
```

This command sets up all the required files in `/tmp/design_dir`.

The utility `dw_vip_setup` creates three directories under `design_dir` which contain all the necessary model files. Files for every VIP are included in these three directories.

- ❖ **examples:** Each VIP includes example testbenches. The `dw_vip_setup` utility adds them in this directory, along with a script for simulation. If an example testbench is specified on the command line, this directory contains all files required for model, suite, and system testbenches.
- ❖ **include:** Language-specific include files that contain critical information for Synopsys models. This directory "include/sverilog" is specified in simulator commands to locate model files.
- ❖ **src:** Synopsys-specific include files This directory "src/sverilog/vcs" must be included in the simulator command to locate model files.

Note that some components are "top level" and will setup the entire suite. You have the choice to set up the entire suite, or just one component such as a monitor.



Attention

There *must* be only one `design_dir` installation per simulation, regardless of the number of Verification and Implementation IPs you have in your project. Do create this directory in `$DESIGNWARE_HOME`.

2.5.4.3 Installing and Setting Up More than One VIP Protocol Suite

All VIPs for a particular project must be set up in a single common directory once you execute the `*.run` file. You may have different projects. In this case, the projects can use their own VIP setup directory. However, all the VIPs used by that specific project must reside in a common directory.

The examples in this chapter call that directory as `design_dir`, but you can use any name.

In this example, assume you have the AXI suite set up in the `design_dir` directory. In addition to the AXI VIP, you require the Ethernet and USB VIP suites.

First, follow the previous instructions on downloading and installing the Ethernet VIP and USB suites.

Once installed, the Ethernet and USB suites must be set up in and located in the same `design_dir` location as AMBA. Use the following commands:

```
// First install AXI.
%unix> $DESIGNWARE_HOME/bin/dw_vip_setup -path /tmp/design_dir
-add axi_system_env_svt -svlog

//Add Ethernet to the same design_dir as AXI.
%unix> $DESIGNWARE_HOME/bin/dw_vip_setup -path /tmp/design_dir
-add ethernet_system_env_svt -svlog

// Add USB to the same design_dir as AMBA and Ethernet
%unix> $DESIGNWARE_HOME/bin/dw_vip_setup -path /tmp/design_dir
-add usb_system_env_svt -svlog
```

To specify other model names, consult the VIP documentation.

By default, all of the VIPs use the latest installed version of SVT. Synopsys maintains backward compatibility with previous versions of SVT. As a result, you may mix and match models using previous versions of SVT.

2.5.4.4 Updating an Existing Model

To add and update an existing model, do the following:

1. Install the model to the same location at which your other VIPs are present by setting the \$DESIGNWARE_HOME environment variable.
2. Issue the following command using design_dir as the location for your project directory.

```
%unix> $DESIGNWARE_HOME/bin/dw_vip_setup -path /tmp/design_dir
-add apb_master_agent_svt -svlog
```

3. You can also update your design_dir by specifying the version number of the model.

```
%unix> dw_vip_setup -path design_dir -add apb_master_agent_svt -v 3.50a -svlog
```

2.5.4.5 Removing Synopsys VIP Models from a Design Directory

This example shows how to remove all listed models in the design directory at “/d/test2/daily” using the model list in the file “del_list” in the scratch directory under your home directory. The dw_vip_setup program command line is:

```
% $DESIGNWARE_HOME/bin/dw_vip_setup -p /d/test2/daily -r -m ~/scratch/del_list
```

The models in the *del_list* file are removed, but object files and include files are not.

2.5.4.6 Reporting Information About DESIGNWARE_HOME or a Design Directory

In these examples, the setup program sends output to STDOUT.

The following example lists the Synopsys VIP libraries, models, example testbenches, and license version in a DESIGNWARE_HOME installation:

```
% $DESIGNWARE_HOME/bin/dw_vip_setup -i home
```

The following example lists the VIP libraries, models, and license version in a testbench design directory:

```
% $DESIGNWARE_HOME/bin/dw_vip_setup -p design_dir -i design
```

2.5.4.7 Running the Example with +incdir+

In the current setup, you install the VIP under DESIGNWARE_HOME followed by creation of a design directory which contains the versioned VIP files. With every newer version of the already installed VIP requires the design directory to be updated. This results in:

- ❖ Consumption of additional disk space

❖ Increased complexity to apply patches

The new alternative approach of directly pulling in all the files from `DESIGNWARE_HOME` eliminates the need for design directory creation. VIP version control is now in the command line invocation.

The following code snippet shows how to run the basic example from a script:

```
cd <testbench_dir>/examples/sverilog/amba_svt/tb_amba_svt_uvm_basic_sys/
// To run the example using the generated run script with +incdir+
./run_amba_svt_uvm_basic_sys -verbose -incdir shared_memory_test vcsvlog
```

For example, the following compile log snippet shows the paths and defines set by the new flow to use VIP files right out of `DESIGNWARE_HOME` instead of `design_dir`.

```
vcs -l ./logs/compile.log -q -Mdir=./output/csrc
+define+DESIGNWARE_INCDIR=<DESIGNWARE_HOME> \
+define+SVT_LOADER_UTIL_ENABLE_DWHOME_INCDIRS
+incdir+<DESIGNWARE_HOME>/vip/svt/amba_svt/<vip_version>/sverilog/include \
-ntb_opts uvm -full64 -sverilog +define+UVM_DISABLE_AUTO_ITEM_RECORDING \
+define+UVM_PACKER_MAX_BYTES=1500000 \
-timescale=1ns/1ps \
+define+SVT_UVM_TECHNOLOGY \
+incdir+<testbench_dir>/examples/sverilog/amba_svt/tb_amba_svt_uvm_basic_sys/. \
+incdir+<testbench_dir>/examples/sverilog/ethernet_svt/tb_amba_svt_uvm_basic_sys/
env \
+incdir+<testbench_dir>/examples/sverilog/ethernet_svt/tb_amba_svt_uvm_basic_sys/
dut \
+incdir+<testbench_dir>/examples/sverilog/ethernet_svt/tb_amba_svt_uvm_basic_sys/
hdl_interconnect \
+incdir+<testbench_dir>/examples/sverilog/ethernet_svt/tb_amba_svt_uvm_basic_sys/
tests \
-o ./output/simvcssvlog -f top_files -f hdl_files
```



Note For VIPs with dependency, include the `+incdir+` for each dependent VIP.

2.5.4.8 Getting Help on Example Run/make Scripts

You can get help on the generated make/run scripts in the following ways:

1. Invoke the run script with no switches, as in:

```
run_apb_svt_uvm_basic_sys --help
```

```
usage: run_apb_svt_uvm_basic_sys [-32] [-incdir] [-verbose] [-debug_opts] [-waves] [-clean] [-nobuild] [-buildonly] [-norun] [-pa] <scenario> <simulator>
```

where `<scenario>` is one of: all base_test directed_test random_wr_rd_test

<simulator> is one of: vcsmxvlog mtivlog vcsvlog vcszsimvlog vcscvlog ncvlog vcszebuvglog vcsmxpcvlog vcsvhdl vcsmxpipvlog ncmvlog vcspcvlog

-32 forces 32-bit mode on 64-bit machines

-incdir use DESIGNWARE_HOME include files instead of design directory

-verbose enable verbose mode during compilation

-debug_opts enable debug mode for VIP technologies that support this option

-waves [fsdb | verdi | dve | dump] enables waves dump and optionally opens viewer (VCS only)

-seed run simulation with specified seed value

-clean clean simulator generated files

-nobuild skip simulator compilation

-buildonly exit after simulator build

-norun only echo commands (do not execute)

-pa invoke Verdi after execution

2. Invoke the make file with help switch as in:

Usage: gmake

```
USE_SIMULATOR=<simulator> [VERBOSE=1] [DEBUG_OPTS=1] [SEED=<value>]
[FORCE_32BIT=1] [WAVES=fsdb | verdi | dve | dump] [NOBUILD=1] [BUILDOONLY=1] [PA=1]
[<scenario> ...]
```

Valid simulators are: vcsmxvlog mtivlog vcsvlog vcszsimvlog vcscvlog ncvlog vcszebuvglog vcsmxpcvlog vcsvhdl vcsmxpipvlog ncmvlog vcspcvlog

Valid scenarios are: all base_test directed_test random_wr_rd_test



Note

You must have PA installed if you use the -pa or PA=1 switches.

2.5.4.9 The dw_vip_setup Utility

The dw_vip_setup utility:

- ❖ Adds, removes, or updates APB VIP models in a design directory
- ❖ Adds example testbenches to a design directory, the APB VIP models they use (if necessary), and creates a script for simulating the testbench using any of the supported simulators
- ❖ Restores (cleans) example testbench files to their original state
- ❖ Reports information about your installation or design directory, including version information
- ❖ Supports Protocol Analyzer (PA)
- ❖ Supports the FSDB wave format

2.5.4.9.1 Setting Environment Variables

Before running dw_vip_setup, the following environment variables must be set:

- ❖ DESIGNWARE_HOME – Points to where the Synopsys VIP is installed

2.5.4.9.2 The dw_vip_setup Command

You invoke `dw_vip_setup` from the command prompt. The `dw_vip_setup` program checks command line argument syntax and makes sure that the requested input files exist. The general form of the command is:

```
% dw_vip_setup [-p[ath] directory] switch (model [-v[ersion] latest | version_no] ) ...
```

or

```
% dw_vip_setup [-p[ath] directory] switch -m[odel_list] filename
```

where

-p[ath] *directory* The optional `-path` argument specifies the path to your design directory. When omitted, `dw_vip_setup` uses the current working directory.

switch The *switch* argument defines `dw_vip_setup` operation. [Table 2-1](#) lists the switches and their applicable sub-switches.

Table 2-1 Setup Program Switch Descriptions

Switch	Description
-a[dd] (<i>model</i> [-v[ersion] <i>version</i>]) ...	<p>Adds the specified model or models to the specified design directory or current working directory. If you do not specify a version, the latest version is assumed. The model names are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <code>apb_master_agent_svt</code> • <code>apb_slave_agent_svt</code> • <code>apb_system_env_svt</code> <p>The <code>-add</code> switch causes <code>dw_vip_setup</code> to build suite libraries from the same suite as the specified models, and to copy the other necessary files from <code>\$DESIGNWARE_HOME</code>.</p>
-r[emove] <i>model</i>	<p>Removes all versions of the specified model or models from the design. The <code>dw_vip_setup</code> program does not attempt to remove any include files used solely by the specified model or models. The model names are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <code>apb_master_agent_svt</code> • <code>apb_slave_agent_svt</code> • <code>apb_system_env_svt</code>
-u[pdate] (<i>model</i> [-v[ersion] <i>version</i>]) ...	<p>Updates to the specified model version for the specified model or models. The <code>dw_vip_setup</code> script updates to the latest models when you do not specify a version. The model names are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <code>apb_master_agent_svt</code> • <code>apb_slave_agent_svt</code> • <code>apb_system_env_svt</code> <p>The <code>-update</code> switch causes <code>dw_vip_setup</code> to build suite libraries from the same suite as the specified models, and to copy the other necessary files from <code>\$DESIGNWARE_HOME</code>.</p>

Table 2-1 Setup Program Switch Descriptions (Continued)

Switch	Description
-e [xample] { <i>scenario</i> <i>model</i> // <i>scenario</i> } [-v[ersion] <i>version</i>]	The <code>dw_vip_setup</code> script configures a testbench example for a single model or a system testbench for a group of models. The program creates a simulator run program for all supported simulators. If you specify a <i>scenario</i> (or system) example testbench, the models needed for the testbench are included automatically and do not need to be specified in the command. Note: Use the <code>-info</code> switch to list all available system examples.
-ntb	Not supported.
-svtb	Use this switch to set up models and example testbenches for SystemVerilog UVM. The resulting design directory is streamlined and can only be used in SystemVerilog simulations.
-c [lean] { <i>scenario</i> <i>model</i> // <i>scenario</i> }	Cleans the specified scenario/testbench in either the design directory (as specified by the <code>-path</code> switch) or the current working directory. This switch deletes <i>all files in the specified directory</i> , then restores all Synopsys created files to their original contents.
-i nfo design home[:<product>[:<version>[:<methodology>]]]	Generate an informational report on a design directory or VIP installation. <i>design:</i> If the <code>'-info design'</code> switch is specified, the tool displays product and version content within the specified design directory to standard output. This output can be captured and used as a <code>modellist</code> file for input to this tool to create another design directory with the same content. <i>home:</i> If the <code>'-info home'</code> switch is specified, the tool displays product, version, and example content within the VIP installation to standard output. Optional filter fields can also be specified such as <product>, <version>, and <methodology> delimited by colons (:). An error will be reported if a nonexistent or invalid filter field is specified. Valid methodology names include: OVM, RVM, UVM, VMM and VLOG.
-h [elp]	Returns a list of valid <code>dw_vip_setup</code> switches and the correct syntax for each.
<i>model</i>	Synopsys APB VIP models are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <code>apb_master_agent_svt</code> • <code>apb_slave_agent_svt</code> • <code>apb_system_env_svt</code> The <i>model</i> argument defines the model or models that <code>dw_vip_setup</code> acts upon. This argument is not needed with the <code>-info</code> or <code>-help</code> switches. All switches that require the <i>model</i> argument may also use a model list. You may specify a version for each listed <i>model</i> , using the <code>-version</code> option. If omitted, <code>dw_vip_setup</code> uses the latest version. The <code>-update</code> switch ignores <i>model</i> version information.
-b /ridge	Updates the specified design directory to reference the current <code>DESIGNWARE_HOME</code> installation. All product versions contained in the design directory must also exist in the current <code>DESIGNWARE_HOME</code> installation.

Table 2-1 Setup Program Switch Descriptions (Continued)

Switch	Description
-pa	Enables the run scripts and Makefiles generated by dw_vip_setup to support PA. If this switch is enabled, and the testbench example produces XML files, PA will be launched and the XML files will be read at the end of the example execution. For run scripts, specify <code>-pa</code> . For Makefiles, specify <code>-pa = 1</code> .
-waves	Enables the run scripts and Makefiles generated by dw_vip_setup to support the <code>fsdb</code> waves option. To support this capability, the testbench example must generate an FSDB file when compiled with the WAVES Verilog macro set to <code>fsdb</code> , that is, <code>+define+WAVES=\"fsdb\"</code> . If a <code>.fsdb</code> file is generated by the example, the Verdi nWave viewer will be launched. For run scripts, specify <code>-waves fsdb</code> . For Makefiles, specify <code>WAVES=fsdb</code> .
-doc	Creates a doc directory in the specified design directory which is populated with symbolic links to the <code>DESIGNWARE_HOME</code> installation for documents related to the given model or example being added or updated.
-methodology <name>	When specified with <code>-doc</code> , only documents associated with the specified methodology name are added to the design directory. Valid methodology names include: OVM, RVM, UVM, VMM, and VLOG.
-copy	When specified with <code>-doc</code> , documents are copied into the design directory, not linked.
-s/uite_list <filename>	Specifies a file name which contains a list of suite names to be added, updated or removed in the design directory. This switch is valid only when following an operation switch, such as, <code>-add</code> , <code>-update</code> , or <code>-remove</code> . Only one suite name per line and each suite may include a version selector. The default version is 'latest'. This switch is optional, but if given the filename argument is required. The lines in the file starting with the pound symbol (#) will be ignored.
-m/odel_list <filename>	Specifies a file name which contains a list of model names to be added, updated or removed in the design directory. This switch is valid only when following an operation switch, such as, <code>-add</code> , <code>-update</code> , or <code>-remove</code> . Only one model name per line and each model may include a version selector. The default version is 'latest'. This switch is optional, but if given the filename argument is required. The lines in the file starting with the pound symbol (#) will be ignored.
-simulator <vendor>	When used with the <code>-example</code> switch, only simulator flows associated with the specified vendor are supported with the generated run script and Makefile. Note: Currently the vendors VCS, MTI, and NCV are supported.

**Note**

The dw_vip_setup program treats all lines beginning with “#” as comments.

2.5.5 Include and Import Model Files into Your Testbench

After you set up the models, you must include and import various files into your top testbench files to use the VIP.

Following is a code list of the includes and imports for components within `amba_system_env_svt`:

```
/* include uvm package before VIP includes, If not included elsewhere*/
`include "uvm_pkg.sv"

/* include AXI , AHB and APB VIP interface */
`include "svt_ahb_if.svi"
`include "svt_axi_if.svi"
`include "svt_apb_if.svi"

/** Include the AMBA SVT UVM package */
`include "svt_amba.uvm.pkg"

/** Import UVM Package */
import uvm_pkg::*;

/** Import the SVT UVM Package */
import svt_uvm_pkg::*;

/** Import the AMBA VIP */
import svt_amba_uvm_pkg::*;
```

You must also include various VIP directories on the simulator command line. Add the following switches and directories to all compile scripts:

- ❖ `+incdir+<design_dir>/include/verilog`
- ❖ `+incdir+<design_dir>/include/sverilog`
- ❖ `+incdir+<design_dir>/src/verilog/<vendor>`
- ❖ `+incdir+<design_dir>/src/sverilog/<vendor>`

Supported vendors are VCS, MTI and NCV. For example:

```
+incdir+<design_dir>/src/sverilog/vcs
```

Using the previous examples, the directory `<design_dir>` would be `/tmp/design_dir`.

2.5.6 Compile and Run Time Options

Every Synopsys provided example has ASCII files containing compile and run time options. The examples for the model are located in:

```
$DESIGNWARE_HOME/vip/svt/<model>/latest/examples/sverilog/<example_name>
```

The files containing the options are:

- ❖ `sim_build_options` (contain compile time options common for all simulators)
- ❖ `sim_run_options` (contain run time options common for all simulators)
- ❖ `vcs_build_options` (contain compile time options for VCS)
- ❖ `vcs_run_options` (contain run time options for VCS)
- ❖ `mti_build_options` (contain compile time options for MTI)

- ❖ `mti_run_options` (contain run time options for MTI)
- ❖ `ncv_build_options` (contain compile time options for IUS)
- ❖ `ncv_run_options` (contain run time options for IUS)

These files contain both optional and required switches. For APB VIP, following are the contents of each file, listing optional and required switches:

`vcs_build_options`

Required: `+define+UVM_PACKER_MAX_BYTES=1500000`
Required: `+define+UVM_DISABLE_AUTO_ITEM_RECORDING`
Optional: `-timescale=1ns/1ps`
Required: `+define+SVT_<model>_INCLUDE_USER_DEFINES`



Note

`UVM_PACKER_MAX_BYTES` define needs to be set to maximum value as required by each VIP title in your testbench. For example, if VIP title 1 needs `UVM_PACKER_MAX_BYTES` to be set to 8192, and VIP title 2 needs `UVM_PACKER_MAX_BYTES` to be set to 500000, you need to set `UVM_PACKER_MAX_BYTES` to 500000.

`vcs_run_options`

Required: `+UVM_TESTNAME=$scenario`



Note

The “scenario” is the UVM test name you pass to VCS.

3

General Concepts

This chapter describes the usage of APB VIP in an UVM environment, and its user interface. This chapter discusses the following topics:

- ❖ [Introduction to UVM](#)
- ❖ [APB VIP in an UVM Environment](#)
- ❖ [Functional Coverage](#)
- ❖ [Reset Functionality](#)

3.1 Introduction to UVM

UVM is an object-oriented approach. It provides a blueprint for building testbenches using constrained random verification. The resulting structure also supports directed testing.

This chapter describes the usage of APB VIP in UVM environment, and its user interface. Refer to the Class Reference HTML for a description of attributes and properties of the objects mentioned in this chapter.

This chapter assumes that you are familiar with SystemVerilog and UVM. For more information:

- ❖ For the IEEE SystemVerilog standard, see:
 - ◆ IEEE Standard for SystemVerilog – Unified Hardware Design, Specification, and Verification Language
- ❖ For essential guides describing UVM as it is represented in SystemVerilog, along with a class reference, see:
 - ◆ *Universal Verification Methodology (UVM) 1.0 User's Manual* at: <http://www.accellera.org/>.

3.2 APB VIP in an UVM Environment

The following sections describe how the APB Verification IP is structured in an UVM testbench.

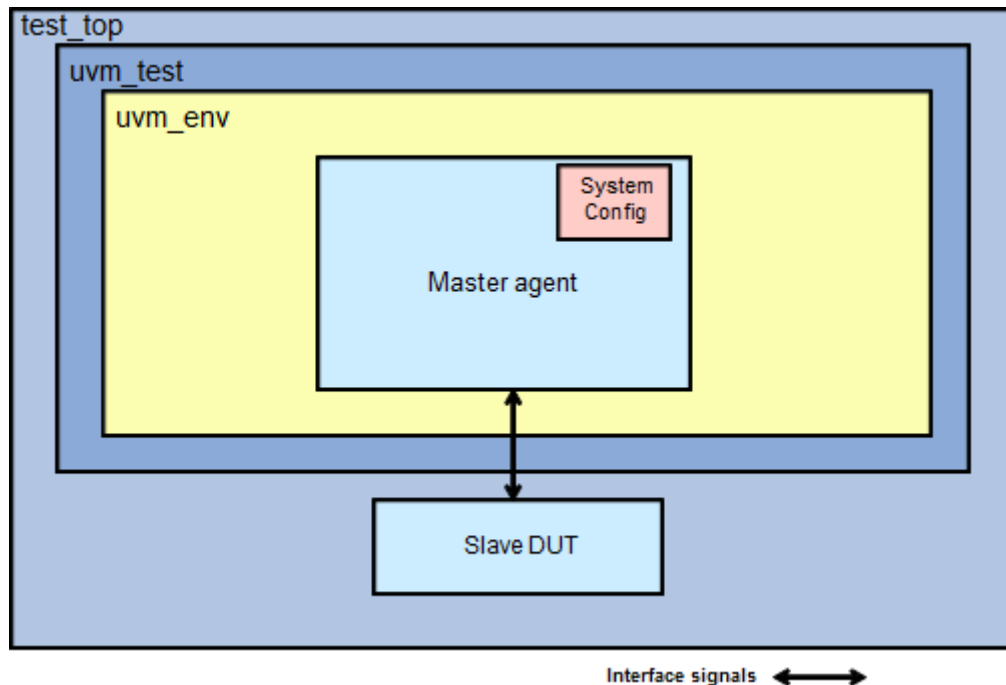
3.2.1 Master Agent

The master agent encapsulates master sequencer, master driver, and system monitor. The master agent can be configured to operate in active mode and passive mode. The user can provide APB sequences to the master sequencer.

The master agent is configured using the system configuration. The system configuration should be provided to the master agent in the build phase of the test.

Within the master agent, the master driver gets sequences from the master sequencer. The master driver then drives the APB transactions on the APB port. The master driver and system monitor components within master agent call callback methods at various phases of execution of the APB transaction. Details of callbacks are covered in later sections. After the APB transaction on the bus is complete, the completed sequence item is provided to the analysis port of system monitor, which can be used by the testbench.

Figure 3-1 Usage With Standalone Master Agent



3.2.2 Slave Agent

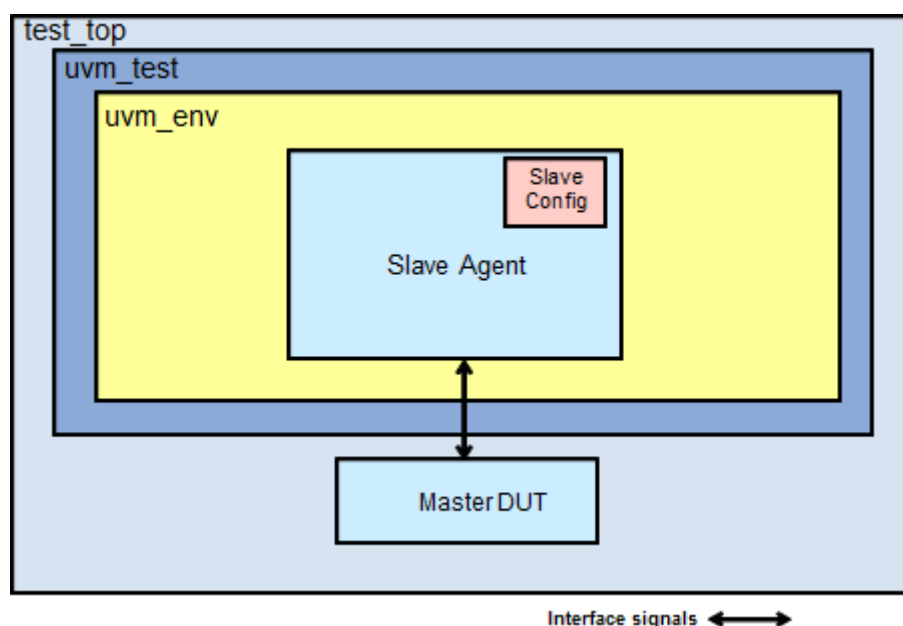
The slave agent encapsulates slave sequencer, slave driver, and slave monitor. The slave agent can be configured to operate in active mode and passive mode. The user can provide APB response sequences to the slave sequencer.

The slave agent is configured using slave configuration, which is available in the system configuration. The slave configuration should be provided to the slave agent in the build phase of the test.

In the slave agent, the slave monitor samples the APB port signals. When a new transaction is detected, slave monitor provides a response request sequence to the slave sequencer.

The slave response sequence within the sequencer programs the appropriate slave response. The updated response sequence is then provided by the slave sequencer to the slave driver. The slave driver in turn drives the response on the APB bus.

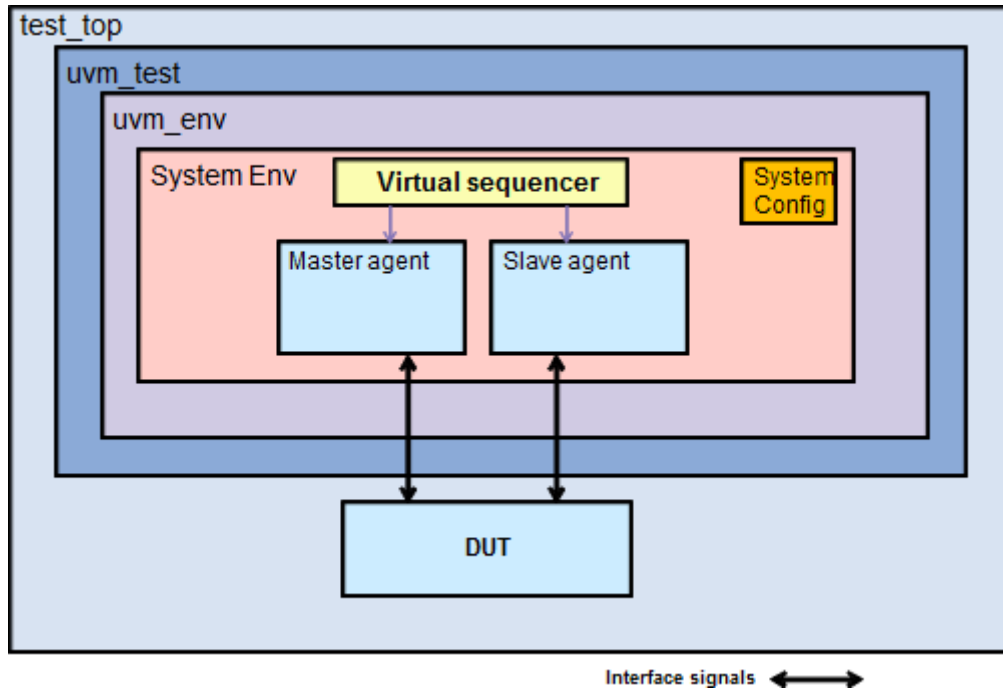
The slave driver and slave monitor components within the slave agent call the callback methods at various phases of execution of the APB transaction. Details of callbacks are covered in later sections. After the APB transaction on the bus is complete, the completed sequence item is provided to the analysis port of port monitor, which can be used by the testbench.

Figure 3-2 Usage With Standalone Slave Agent

3.2.3 System Env

The APB System Env encapsulates the master agent, slave agents, system sequencer and the system configuration. The number of slave agents are configured based on the system configuration provided by the user. In the build phase, the system Env builds the master and slave agents. After the master & slave agents are built, the system Env configures the master & slave agents using the configuration information available in the system configuration.

Figure 3-3 System ENV



3.2.3.1 System Sequencer

APB System sequencer is a virtual sequencer with references to the master sequencer and each of the slave sequencers in the system. The system sequencer is created in the build phase of the system Env. The system configuration is provided to the system sequencer. The system sequencer can be used to synchronize between the sequencers in master & slave agents.

3.2.4 Active and Passive Mode

Tables 3-1 lists the behavior of Master and Slave Agents in active and passive modes.

Table 3-1 Agents in Active and Passive Mode

Component behavior in active mode	Component behavior in passive mode
In active mode, Master and Slave components generate transactions on the signal interface.	In passive mode, master and slave components do not generate transactions on the signal interface. These components only sample the signal interface.
Master and Slave components continue to perform passive functionality of coverage and protocol checking. You can enable/disable this functionality through configuration.	In passive mode, master and slave components monitor the input and output signals, and perform passive functionality of coverage and protocol checking. You can enable/disable this functionality through configuration options.

Table 3-1 Agents in Active and Passive Mode (Continued)

Component behavior in active mode	Component behavior in passive mode
In active mode, the Port Monitor within the component performs protocol checks only on sampled (input) signals, that is, it does not perform checks on the signals that are driven (output signals) by the component. This is because when the component is driving an exception (exceptions are not supported in this release) the monitor should not flag an error, since it knows that it is driving an exception. Exception means error injection.	In passive mode, the port monitor within the component performs protocol checks on all signals. In passive mode, signals are considered as input signals.
In active mode, the delay values reported in the APB transaction provided by the master and slave component, are the values provided by the user, and not the sampled delay values.	In passive mode, the delay values reported in the APB transaction provided by the master and slave components, are the sampled delay values on the bus.

3.3 Functional Coverage

The APB VIP provides various levels of coverage support. This section describes those levels of support.

3.3.1 Default Coverage

The following sections describes the default coverage provided with APB VIP. For more details on actual cover groups, refer to the APB VIP class reference HTML document.

3.3.1.1 Toggle Coverage

Toggle coverage is a signal level coverage. Toggle coverage provides baseline information that a system is connected properly, and that higher level coverage or compliance failures are not simply the result of connectivity issues. Toggle coverage answers the question: Did a bit change from a value of 0 to 1 and back from 1 to 0? This type of coverage does not indicate that every value of a multi-bit vector was seen but measures that all the individual bits of a multi-bit vector did toggle.

3.3.1.2 State Coverage

State coverage is a signal level coverage. State coverage applies to signals that are a minimum of two bits wide. In most cases, the states (also commonly referred to as coverage bins) can be easily identified as all possible combinations of the signal. For example, different values of PSTRB, PPROT, PADDR etc., are covered under the state coverage. If the state space is too large, an intelligent classification of the states must be made. In the case of the PADDR signal for example, coverage bins would be one bin to cover the lower address range, one bin to cover the upper address range and one bin to cover all other intermediary addresses.

3.3.1.3 Delay Coverage

Delay coverage is coverage on delays related with PREADY and PENABLE signals. The following delays are covered:

- ❖ PENABLE delay (Master idle cycles)
- ❖ PREADY delay (Slave wait cycles)

3.3.1.4 Transaction Coverage

Transaction coverage covers APB transactions types and Cross coverage across APB signals. The cross coverage involves cross between type of transaction, slave id and operating states.

3.3.2 Coverage Callback Classes

3.3.2.1 Coverage Data Callbacks

The coverage data callback class defines default data and event information that are used to implement the coverage groups. The naming convention uses "def_cov_data" in the class names for easy identification of these classes. This class also includes implementations of the coverage methods that respond to the coverage requests by setting the coverage data and triggering the coverage events. This implementation does not include any coverage groups. The def_cov_data callbacks classes are extended from agent callback class.

The coverage data callback class is extended from callback class svt_apb_port_monitor_callback. The extended class is called svt_apb_port_monitor_def_cov_data_callback.

Below callback methods are implemented for triggering coverage events:

- ❖ pre_output_port_put

3.3.2.2 Coverage Callbacks

This class is extended from the coverage data callback class. The naming convention uses "def_cov" in the class names for easy identification of these classes. It includes default cover groups based on the data and events defined in the data class.

The coverage callback class implementing default cover groups is called svt_apb_port_monitor_def_cov_callback.

3.3.3 Enabling Default Coverage

The default functional coverage can be enabled by setting the following attributes in the port configuration class svt_apb_port_configuration to '1'. To disable coverage, set the attributes to '0'. The attributes are:

- ❖ toggle_coverage_enable
- ❖ state_coverage_enable
- ❖ transaction_coverage_enable

By default, the coverage is disabled.

3.3.4 Coverage Shaping and control

The handle to the port configuration class svt_apb_port_configuration is provided to the class svt_apb_port_monitor_def_cov_callback, which implements the default cover groups. Based on the port configuration, the coverage bins are shaped. The unwanted bins are ignored.

In addition to above, user also has the ability to disable coverage at cover group level. Class svt_apb_port_configuration provides members svt_apb_port_configuration::<cover_group_name>_enable, to enable/disable cover groups. By default, the value to these members is 1.

3.4 Reset Functionality

The APB VIP samples the reset assertion asynchronously whereas reset de-assertion will be sampled synchronously. This means that, when reset is asserted, it is not required that the clock connected to VIP is running but for de-assertion of reset, the clock should be running. If the clock input to VIP is not running, de-assertion of reset is not detected, and VIP would not sample and drive any signals.

When reset is asserted the current transaction which is in progress is ABORTED. The `curr_state` field of this transaction reflect the value as `ABORT_STATE`. The transaction ENDED notification is issued on rising edge of clock when reset signal assertion is observed.



4

APB VIP Programming Interface

This chapter presents the programming or user interface for the functionality of the APB Verification IP. This chapter discusses the following topics:

- ❖ [Configuration Objects](#)
- ❖ [Transaction Objects](#)
- ❖ [Callbacks](#)
- ❖ [Interfaces and modports](#)
- ❖ [Events](#)
- ❖ [Overriding System Constants](#)
- ❖ [Verification Features](#)

4.1 Configuration Objects

Configuration data objects convey the system level and port level testbench configuration. The configuration of agents is done in the `build()` phase of environment or the testcase. If the configuration needs to be changed later, it can be done through `reconfigure()` method of the master, slave or system Env.

The configuration object properties can be of two types:

- ❖ **Static configuration properties:**
Static configuration parameters specify configuration which cannot be changed when the system is running. Examples of static configuration parameters are number of masters and slaves in the system, data bus width, address width.
- ❖ **Dynamic configuration properties:**
Dynamic configuration parameters specify configuration which can be changed at any time, irrespective of whether the system is running or not. Example of dynamic configuration parameter is timeout values.

The configuration data objects contain built-in constraints, which come into effect when the configuration objects are randomized.

The APB VIP defines the following configuration classes:

- ❖ **System configuration (`svt_apb_system_configuration`)**
System configuration class contains configuration information which is applicable across the entire system.

User can specify the system level configuration parameters through this class. User needs to provide the system configuration to the system Env from the environment or the testcase. The system configuration mainly specifies:

- ◆ Number of slave agents in the system Env
 - ◆ Sub-configurations for master and slave agents
 - ◆ Virtual top level APB interface
 - ◆ Address map
 - ◆ Timeout values
-
- ❖ Slave configuration (svt_apb_slave_configuration)
The slave configuration class contains configuration information which is applicable to the APB slave agent in the system Env. Some of the important information provided by the slave configuration class is:
 - ◆ Active/Passive mode of the slave port agent
 - ◆ Enable/disable protocol checks
 - ◆ Enable/disable port level coverage

The slave configuration objects within the system configuration object are created in the constructor of the system configuration.

Please refer to the APB VIP Class reference HTML documentation for details on individual members of configuration classes.

4.2 Transaction Objects

Transaction objects, which are extended from the `uvm_sequence_item` base class, define a unit of APB protocol information that is passed across the bus. The attributes of transaction objects are public and are accessed directly for setting and getting values. Most transaction attributes can be randomized. The transaction object can represent the desired activity to be simulated on the bus, or the actual bus activity that was monitored.

APB transaction data objects store data content and protocol execution information for APB transactions in terms of timing details of the transactions.

These data objects extend from the `uvm_sequence_item` base class and implement all methods specified by UVM for that class.

APB transaction data objects are used to:

- ❖ Generate random stimulus
- ❖ Report observed transactions
- ❖ Generate random responses to transaction requests
- ❖ Collect functional coverage statistics
- ❖ Support error injection

Class properties are public and accessed directly to set and read values. Transaction data objects support randomization and provide built-in constraints.

Two set of constraints are provided - `valid_ranges` and `reasonable` constraints.

- ❖ The `valid_ranges` constraints limit generated values to those acceptable to the drivers. These constraints ensure basic VIP operation and should never be disabled.
- ❖ The `reasonable_*` constraints, which can be disabled individually or as a block, limit the simulation by:
 - ◆ Enforcing the protocol. These constraints are typically enabled unless errors are being injected into the simulation.
 - ◆ Setting simulation boundaries. Disabling these constraints may slow the simulation and introduce system memory issues.

The VIP supports extending transaction data classes for customizing randomization constraints. This allows you to disable some `reasonable_*` constraints and replace them with constraints appropriate to your system.

Individual `reasonable_*` constraints map to independent fields, each of which can be disabled. The class provides the `reasonable_constraint_mode()` method to enable or disable blocks of `reasonable_*` constraints.

APB VIP defines following transaction classes:

- ❖ APB Transaction (`svt_apb_transaction`)

This is the transaction class which contains all the physical attributes of the transaction like address, data, direction, etc. It also provides control over idle length and transaction delays.

The transaction contains a handle to the configuration object, which provides the configuration of the port on which this transaction would be applied. The configuration is used during randomizing the transaction. The configuration is available in the sequencer of the master/slave agent. The user sequence should initialize the configuration handle in the transaction using the configuration available in the sequencer of the master/slave agent. If the configuration handle in the transaction is null at the time of randomization, the transaction will issue a fatal message.

Please refer to the APB VIP Class reference HTML documentation for details on individual members of transaction classes.

4.2.1 Analysis Ports

The port monitor in the master & slave agent provides an analysis port called "item_observed_port". At the end of the transaction, the master & slave agents respectively write the completed `svt_apb_transaction` object to their analysis port. This holds true in active as well as passive mode of operation of the master/slave agent. The user can use the analysis port for connecting to scoreboard, or any other purpose, where a transaction object for the completed transaction is required.

4.3 Callbacks

Callbacks are an access mechanism that enable the insertion of user-defined code and allow access to objects for scoreboarding and functional coverage. Each master and slave driver and monitor is associated with a callback class that contains a set of callback methods. These methods are called as part of the normal flow of procedural code. There are a few differences between callback methods and other methods that set them apart.

- ❖ Callbacks are virtual methods with no code initially, so they do not provide any functionality unless they are extended. The exception to this rule is that some of the callback methods for functional coverage already contain a default implementation of a coverage model.

- ❖ The callback class is accessible to users so the class can be extended and user code inserted, potentially including testbench specific extensions of the default callback methods, and testbench specific variables and/or methods used to control whatever behavior the testbench is using the callbacks to support.
- ❖ Callbacks are called within the sequential flow at places where external access would be useful. In addition, the arguments to the methods include references to relevant data objects. For example, just before a monitor puts a transaction object into an analysis port is a good place to sample for functional coverage since the object reflects the activity that just happened on the pins. A callback at this point with an argument referencing the transaction object allows this exact scenario.
- ❖ There is no need to invoke callback methods for callbacks that are not extended. To avoid a loss of performance, callbacks are not executed by default. To execute callback methods, callback class must be registered with the component using ``uvm_register_cb` macro.

APB VIP uses callbacks in three main applications:

- ❖ Access for functional coverage
- ❖ Access for scoreboarding
- ❖ Insertion of user-defined code

4.3.1 Callbacks in the Master Agent

In the master agent, the callback methods are called by master driver and port monitor components.

Below are the callback classes which contain the callback methods invoked by the master agent:

- ❖ `svt_apb_master_callback`
- ❖ `svt_apb_master_monitor_callback`

Please refer to class reference HTML documentation for details of these classes.

4.3.2 Callbacks in Slave Agent

In the slave agent, the callback methods are called by slave driver and port monitor components.

Below are the callback classes which contain the callback methods invoked by the slave agent:

- ❖ `svt_apb_slave_callback`
- ❖ `svt_apb_slave_monitor_callback`

Please refer to class reference HTML documentation for details of these classes.

4.4 Interfaces and modports

SystemVerilog models signal connections using interfaces and modports. Interfaces define the set of signals which make up a port connection. Modports define collection of signals for a given port, the direction of the signals, and the clock with respect to which these signals are driven and sampled.

APB VIP provides the SystemVerilog interface which can be used to connect the VIP to the DUT. A top level interface `svt_apb_if` is defined. The top level interface contains an array of slave sub-interfaces of type `svt_apb_slave_if`.

The top level interface is contained in the system configuration class. The top level interface is specified to the system configuration class using method `svt_apb_system_configuration::set_if`. This is also the interface that is used by the master agent.

The slave interface is contained in the slave configuration class. The slave interface is specified to the slave configuration class using methods `svt_apb_slave_configuration::set_slave_if`. The slave interfaces are provided to the slave configuration objects in the constructor of the system configuration.

4.4.1 Modports

The port interface `svt_apb_if` contains following modports which users should use to connect VIP to the DUT:

- ❖ `svt_apb_master_modport`
- ❖ `svt_apb_slave_modport`
- ❖ `svt_apb_debug_modport`

4.5 Events

Master and slave components issue `svt_apb_transaction::STARTED` and `svt_apb_transaction::ENDED` events. These events denote start of transaction and end of transaction events. These notifications are issued by the master and slave component as described below, in both active and passive mode.

- ❖ For WRITE transactions, `STARTED` notification is issued on the rising clock edge when `psel` and `pwrite` are both high.
- ❖ For READ transactions, `STARTED` notification is issued on the rising clock edge when `psel` is high and `pwrite` is low.
- ❖ For WRITE transactions, the `ENDED` notification is issued on the rising clock edge after a falling edge of `penable`.
- ❖ For READ transactions, the `ENDED` notification is issued on the rising clock edge after a falling edge of `penable`.

4.6 Overriding System Constants

The VIP uses include files to define system constants that, in some cases, you may override so the VIP matches your expectations. For example, you can override the maximum delay values. You can also adjust the default simulation footprint, like maximum address width.

The system constants for the VIP are specified (or referenced) in the following files (the first three files reside at `$DESIGNWARE_HOME/vip/amba_svt/latest/include`):

- ❖ `svt_apb_defines.svi`: Top-level include file; allows for the inclusion of the common define symbols and the port define symbols in a single file. Also, it contains a ``include` to read user overrides if the ``SVT_APB_INCLUDE_USER_DEFINES` symbol is defined.
- ❖ `svt_apb_common_defines.svi`: Defines common constants used by the APB VIP components. You can override only the "User Definable" constants, which are declared in "ifndef" statements.
- ❖ `svt_apb_port_defines.svi`: Contains the constants that set the default maximum footprint of the environment. These values determine the wire bit widths in the 'wire frame'-- they do not (necessarily) define the actual bit widths used by the components, which is determined by the configuration classes.

- ❖ `svt_apb_user_defines.svi`: Contains override values that you define. This file can reside anywhere--specify its location on the simulator command line.

To override the `SVT_APB_PADDR_WIDTH` constant from the `svt_apb_port_defines.svi` file:

- ❖ Redefine the corresponding symbol in the `svt_apb_user_defines.svi` file. For example:

```
`define SVT_APB_PADDR_WIDTH 12
```
- ❖ In the simulator compile command:
 - ◆ Ensure that the directory containing `svt_apb_user_defines.svi` is provided to the simulator
 - ◆ Provide `SVT_APB_INCLUDE_USER_DEFINES` on the simulator command line as follows:

```
+define+SVT_APB_INCLUDE_USER_DEFINES
```

Note the following restrictions when overriding the default maximum footprint:

- ❖ Never use a value of 0 for a `MAX_*_WIDTH` value. The value must be ≥ 1 .
- ❖ The maximum footprint set at compile time must work for the full design. If you are using multiple instances of APB VIP, only one maximum footprint can be set and must therefore satisfy the largest requirement.



Note

A value of less than 32 is not supported for `SVT_APB_MAX_ADDR_WIDTH`. `SVT_APB_MAX_ADDR_WIDTH` only defines the footprint of address port. The actual used address width is defined by `svt_apb_port_configuration::addr_width`, which can still be configured to less than 32.

4.7 Protocol Analyzer Support

APB VIP supports Synopsys® Protocol Analyzer. Protocol Analyzer is an interactive graphical application which provides protocol-oriented analysis and debugging capabilities.

For the APB SVT VIP, protocol file generation is enabled or disabled through the variable `"enable_xml_gen"` that is defined in the class `"svt_apb_port_configuration"`. The default value of this variable is `"0"`, which means that protocol file generation is disabled by default.

To enable protocol file generation, set the value of the variable `"enable_xml_gen"` to `'1'` in the port configuration of each master or slave for which protocol file generation is desired.

The next time that the environment is simulated, protocol files will be generated according to the port configurations. The protocol files will be in `.xml` format. Import these files into the Protocol Analyzer to view the protocol transactions.

For Verdi documentation, see `$VERDI_HOME/doc/Verdi_Transaction_and_Protocol_Debug.pdf`.



Note

Protocol Analyzer has been enhanced to read FSDB transactions and Verdi can load the FSDB transactions into Browser.

4.7.1 Support for VC Auto Testbench

APB VIP supports VC AutoTestbench which generates SV UVM testbench for Block level or Sub-System or System Level Design.

For VC ATB documentation, see `Verdi_Transaction_and_Protocol_Debug.pdf`.

4.7.2 Support for Native Dumping of FSDB

Native FSDB supported in APB VIP.

- ❖ **FSDB Generation:** Protocol Analyzer uses transaction-level dump database. You can use the following settings to dump the transaction database:

- ◆ **Compile Time Options**

- ❖ `-lca -kdb //` dumps the work.lib++ data for source coding view
- ❖ `+define+SVT_FSDB_ENABLE //` enables FSDB dumping
- ❖ `-debug_access`

For more information on how to set the FSDB dumping libraries, see Appendix B section in *Linking Novas Files with Simulators and Enabling FSDB Dumping* guide available at:

`$VERDI_HOME/doc/linking_dumping.pdf`.

- ◆ New configuration parameter `pa_format_type` is added for XML/FSDB generation in `svt_apb_configuration.sv`. Add the following setting in system configuration to enable the generation of XML/FSDB:

```
master_cfg.xml_gen_enable = 1;
master_cfg.pa_format_type = svt_xml_writer:: ::<XML/FSDB/BOTH>;
master_cfg.slave_cfg[0].xml_gen_enable = 1;
master_cfg.slave_cfg[0].pa_format_type = svt_xml_writer:: ::<XML/FSDB/BOTH>;
// 0 is XML, 1 FSDB and 2 both XML and FSDB, default it will be zero
```

- ❖ **Invoking Protocol Analyzer:** Perform the following steps to invoke Protocol Analyzer in interactive or post-processing mode:

- ◆ **Post-processing Mode**

- ❖ Load the transaction dump data and issue the following command to invoke the GUI:
`verdi -ssf <dump.fsdb> -lib work.lib++`
- ❖ In Verdi, navigate to Tools > Transaction Debug > Transaction and Protocol Analyzer.

- ◆ **Interactive Mode**

- ❖ Issue the following command to invoke Protocol Analyzer in an interactive mode:
`<simv> -gui=verdi`

Runtime Switch:

```
+svt_enable_pa=fsdb
```

Enables FSDB output of transaction and memory information for display in Verdi.

You can invoke the Protocol Analyzer as described above using Verdi. The Protocol Analyzer transaction view gets updated during the simulation.

4.8 Verification Features

The APB VIP provides a collection of APB master & slave sequences. These sequences can be registered with the master and slave sequencers within the master & slave agents respectively, to generate different types of APB scenarios.

The master sequences can be used as standalone sequences. These sequences are also added to the sequence library `svt_apb_master_transaction_sequence_library`. User can load the sequence library in the sequencer within the master agent. In such case, all sequences in the sequence library would get executed.



5

Verification Topologies

This chapter shows you how to connect various types of DUTs to the APB Verification IP. This chapter discusses the following topics:

- ❖ [Master DUT and Slave VIP](#)
- ❖ [Slave DUT and Master VIP](#)

5.1 Master DUT and Slave VIP

Scenario: DUT is APB Master. VIP is required to verify the APB Master DUT.

Testbench setup: Configure the APB System configuration to have 1 slave agent, in active mode. The active slave agent will respond to the transactions generated by master DUT. The slave agent will also do passive functions like protocol checking, coverage generation, transaction logging.

Implementation of this topology requires the setting of the following properties:

(Assuming instance name of system configuration is "sys_cfg")

- ❖ System configuration settings:
`sys_cfg.num_slaves = 1;`
- ❖ Master configuration settings:
`sys_cfg.is_active = 0;`
- ❖ Slave configuration settings:
`sys_cfg.slave_cfg[0].is_active = 1;`

When the DUT is an APB master port to be verified, the testbench can either use a slave agent in standalone mode, or use a system Env configured for a single slave agent. Below are the pros and cons of the two approaches.

Advantages of using standalone agent versus system Env:

- ❖ Testbench becomes light weight as system Env and related infrastructure is not required

Disadvantages:

- ❖ The testbench does not remain scalable. If number of APB slave ports to be verified increased, standalone slave agent would need to be replaced with system Env, or, multiple slave agents would need to be instantiated by the user.

Figure 5-1 Master DUT and Slave VIP - Usage With Standalone Slave Agent

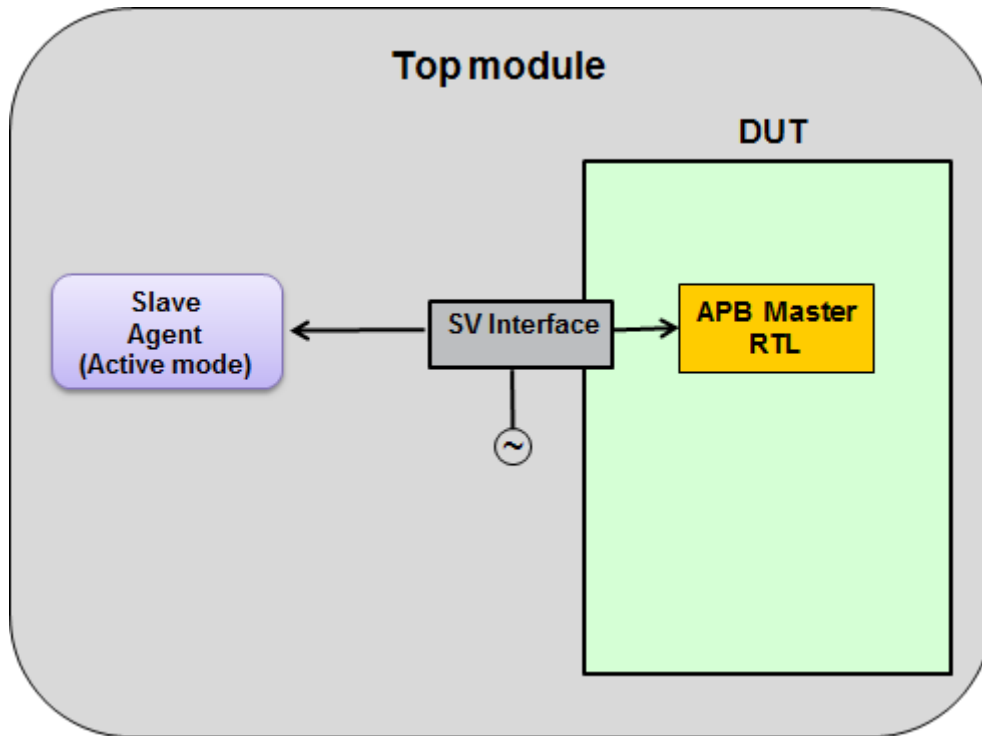
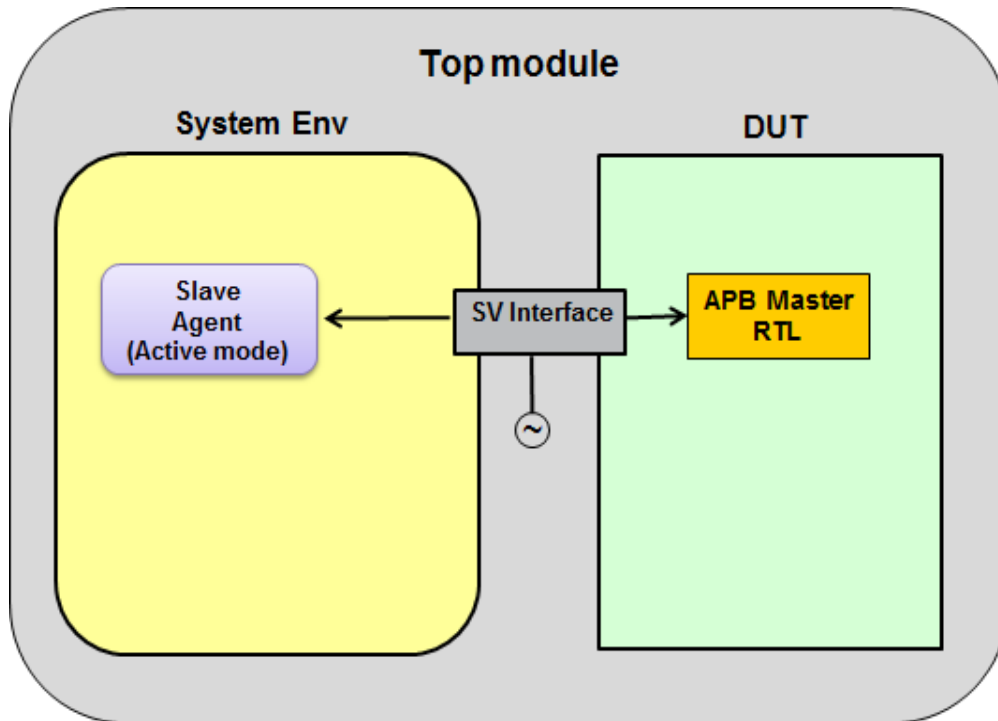


Figure 5-2 Master DUT and Slave VIP - Usage With System Environment



5.2 Slave DUT and Master VIP

Scenario: DUT is APB Slave. VIP is required to verify the APB Slave DUT.

Testbench setup: Configure the APB System configuration to put the master agent in active mode. The active master agent will generate APB transactions for the Slave DUT. The master agent will also do passive functions like protocol checking, coverage generation, transaction logging.

Implementation of this topology requires the setting of the following properties:

(Assuming instance name of system configuration is "sys_cfg")

- ❖ System configuration settings:

```
sys_cfg.num_slaves = 0;
```

- ❖ Master configuration settings:

```
sys_cfg.is_active = 1;
```

When the DUT has a single APB slave port to be verified, testbench can either use a master agent in standalone mode, or use a system Env. Below are the pros and cons of the two approaches.

Advantages of using standalone agent versus system Env:

- ❖ Testbench becomes light weight as system Env and related infrastructure is not required

Disadvantages:

- ❖ The testbench does not remain scalable. If number of APB slave ports to be verified increased, standalone slave agent would need to be replaced with system Env, or, multiple slave agents would need to be instantiated by the user.

Figure 5-3 Slave DUT and Master VIP - Usage With Standalone Master Agent

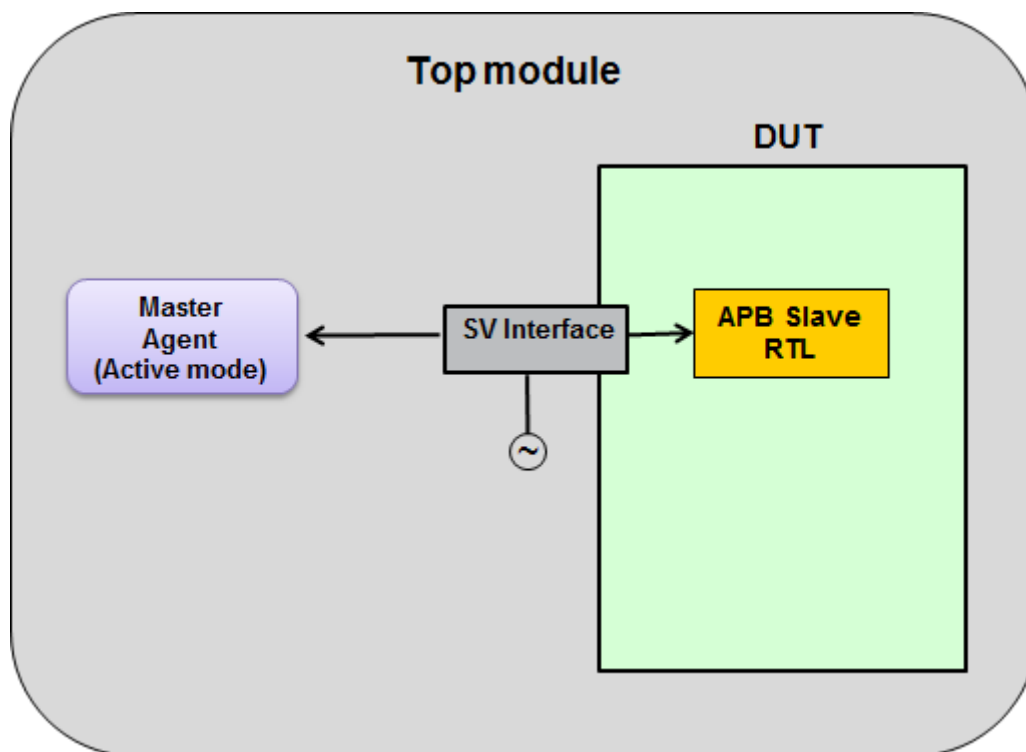
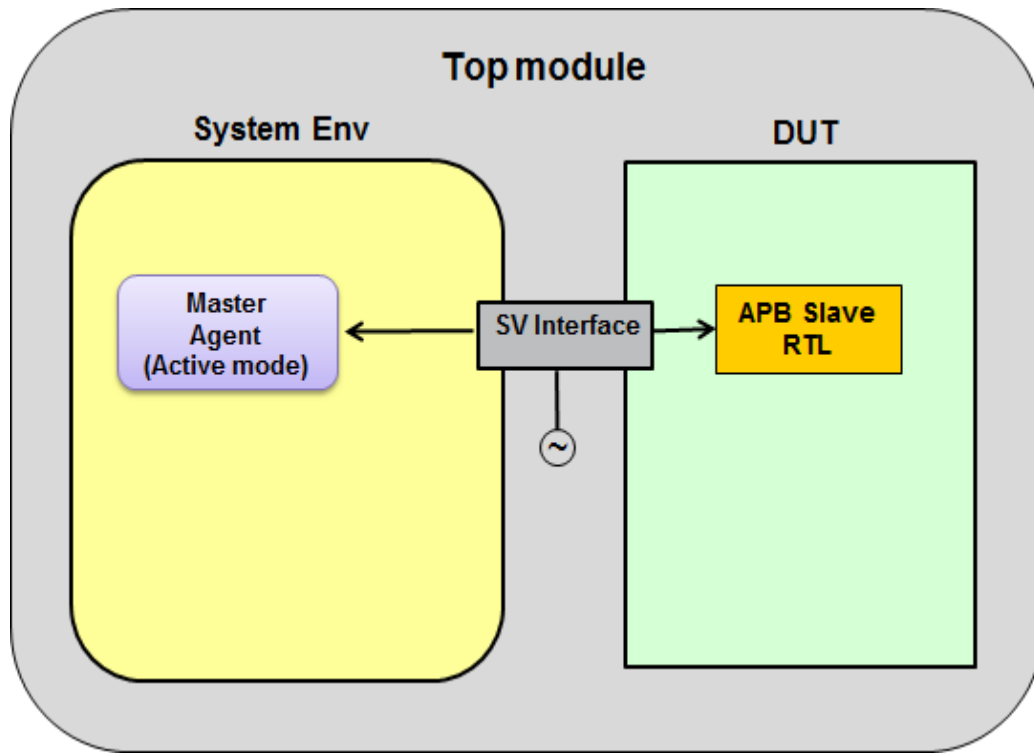


Figure 5-4 Slave DUT and Master VIP - Usage With System Environment



6

Using APB Verification IP

This chapter shows how to install and run a getting started example. This chapter discusses the following topics:

- ❖ [SystemVerilog UVM Example Testbenches](#)
- ❖ [Installing and Running the Examples](#)

6.1 SystemVerilog UVM Example Testbenches

This section describes SystemVerilog UVM example testbenches that show general usage for various applications. A summary of the examples is listed in [Tables 6-1](#)

Table 6-1 SystemVerilog Example Summary

Example Name	Level	Description
tb_apb_svt_uvm_basic_sys	Basic	The example consists of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A top-level testbench in SystemVerilog• A dummy DUT in the testbench, which has two APB interfaces• An UVM verification environment• Two APB System ENVs in the UVM verification environment• Two tests illustrating directed and random transaction generation
tb_apb_svt_uvm_basic_program_sys	Basic	The example demonstrates the usage of program block. It consists of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A top-level testbench in SystemVerilog• A dummy DUT in the testbench, which has two APB interfaces• The <code>apb_basic_tb.sv</code> file containing the user program in the example• An UVM verification environment• Two APB System ENVs in the UVM verification environment• Two tests illustrating directed and random transaction generation
tb_apb_svt_uvm_intermediate_sys	Intermediate	Not yet supported
tb_apb_svt_uvm_advanced_sys	Advanced	Not yet supported

6.2 Installing and Running the Examples

Below are the steps for installing and running example `tb_apb_svt_uvm_basic_sys`. Similar steps are also applicable for other examples:

1. Install the example using the following command line:

```
% cd <location where example is to be installed>
% mkdir design_dir <provide any name of your choice>
% $DESIGNWARE_HOME/bin/dw_vip_setup -path ./design_dir -e
  amba_svt/tb_apb_svt_uvm_basic_sys -svtb
```

The example would get installed under:

```
<design_dir>/examples/sverilog/amba_svt/tb_apb_svt_uvm_basic_sys
```

2. Use either one of the following to run the testbench:

- a. Use the Makefile:

Three tests are provided in the "tests" directory.

The tests are:

- ✧ `ts.base_test.sv`
- ✧ `ts.directed_test.sv`
- ✧ `ts.random_wr_rd_test.sv`

For example, to run test `ts.directed_test.sv`, do following:

```
gmake USE_SIMULATOR=vcsvlog directed_test WAVES=1
```

Invoke "gmake help" to show more options.

- b. Use the sim script:

For example, to run test `ts.random_wr_rd_test.sv`, do following:

```
./run_apb_svt_uvm_basic_sys -w random_wr_rd_test vcsvlog
```

Invoke " ./run_apb_svt_uvm_basic_sys -help" to show more options.

For more details of installing and running the example, refer to the README file in the example, located at:
`$DESIGNWARE_HOME/vip/svt/amba_svt/latest/examples/sverilog/tb_apb_svt_uvm_basic_sys/README`

or

```
<design_dir>/examples/sverilog/amba_svt/tb_apb_svt_uvm_basic_sys/README
```

6.2.1 Defines for Increasing Number of Masters and Slaves

The default max number of slaves that can be used in an `apb_system_env` is 16. This can be increased up to a maximum value of 128. To use more than 16 slaves in an APB system, you need to define the macro `+define+SVT_APB_MAX_NUM_SLAVES_<value>`.

For example:

To use 100 APB slaves in a single APB system env:

1. Add compile time option `" +define+SVT_APB_MAX_NUM_SLAVES_100"`

2. In the VIP configuration, do:

```
svt_apb_system_configuration::num_slaves=100;
```

6.2.2 Support for UVM version 1.2

While using UVM 1.2, note the below requirements:

- ❖ When using VCS version H-2013.06-SP1 and lower versions, you must define the `USE_UVM_RESOURCE_CONVERTER` macro. This macro is not required to be defined with VCS version I-2014.03-SP1 and higher versions.
- ❖ It is not required to define the `UVM_DISABLE_AUTO_ITEM_RECORDING` macro.

6.3 Steps to Integrate the UVM_REG With APB VIP

The following are the steps to integrate the `uvm_reg` flow with APB Master Agent:

1. Generate the System Verilog file for the register definition, using the `ralgen` utility.
`ralgen -uvm -t <apb_regmodel> <>.ralf` will generate a System Verilog file with register definition.
2. Instantiate and create the `RAL/uvm_reg` model in the `uvm_env` and pass that handle to the APB Master agent.

```
// Declare RAL model.
ral_sys_apb_svt_uvm_basic_slave regmodel;
virtual function void build_phase(uvm_phase phase);
super.build_phase(phase);
..
/** Check if regmodel is passed to env if not then create and lock it. */
if (regmodel == null) begin
    regmodel = ral_sys_apb_svt_uvm_basic_slave::type_id::create("regmodel");
    regmodel.build();
    regmodel.set_hdl_path_root(hdl_path);
    `uvm_info("build_phase", "Reg Model created", UVM_LOW)
    regmodel.lock_model();
end
uvm_config_db#(uvm_reg_block)::set(this, "apb_system_env.master", "apb_regmodel",
regmodel);
..
endfunction : build_phase
```

3. Call the `reset()` function of the `regmodel` from the `reset_phase` of `uvm_env`.

```
// Reset the register model
task reset_phase(uvm_phase phase);
phase.raise_objection(this, "Resetting regmodel");
regmodel.reset();
phase.drop_objection(this);
endtask
```

4. To enable the `uvm_reg` adapter of the APB Master agent, do the following:
Set the `uvm_reg_enable`, `svt_apb_system_configuration` attribute to one for the desired APB Master agent.

```
apb_sys_cfg.uvm_reg_enable= 1;
```
5. Modify the `uvm_reg` tests if required, and execute them.
The complete example is available in the VIP installation (`tb_apb_svt_uvm_basic_ral_sys`).



Note Download the example using the `dw_vip_setup_utility` (see “6.2 Installing and Running the Examples” on page 50).

6.4 Master to Slave Path Access Coverage

This feature allows user to identify the APB bridge to slave paths covered during the simulation. The cover group name defined for this purpose is `trans_cross_master_to_slave_path_access`. Note that this coverage works in conjunction with the APB Complex Memory Map feature. Refer to APB Class Reference HTML for details of the cover group.

Below are the steps needed to enable this feature:

1. Enable the cover group by setting apb configuration
`svt_apb_configuration::trans_cross_master_to_slave_path_access_cov_enable` to 1.
2. Enable the APB Complex Memory Map feature by setting system configuration
`svt_apb_system_configuration::enable_complex_memory_map` to 1.
3. Define macro `SVT_AMBA_PATH_COV_DEST_NAMES` with the names of the slaves in the system. These are user defined names, which identify the slave ports within the system. These names will be used in the bin names of the cover group.
For example,

```
`define SVT_AMBA_PATH_COV_DEST_NAMES slave_0, slave_1, slave_2, slave_3, slave_4, slave_5
```
4. In the system configuration, assign the bridge name to
`svt_apb_system_configuration::source_requester_name`. This is a user defined name, which identifies the master port. This name will be used in the bin names of the cover group.
For example,

```
apb_sys_cfg.source_requester_name = $sformatf("master_%0d", 0);
```
5. In bridge configuration, pushback the slave names in to
`svt_apb_system_configuration::path_cov_slave_names`. Note that these names should match the names specified in the macro `SVT_AMBA_PATH_COV_DEST_NAMES`. These names signify the slave ports to which the bridge can communicate.
For example,

```
apb_sys_cfg.path_cov_slave_names.push_back(svt_amba_addr_mapper::slave_0);  
apb_sys_cfg.path_cov_slave_names.push_back(svt_amba_addr_mapper::slave_1);  
apb_sys_cfg.path_cov_slave_names.push_back(svt_amba_addr_mapper::slave_2);  
apb_sys_cfg.path_cov_slave_names.push_back(svt_amba_addr_mapper::slave_3);  
apb_sys_cfg.path_cov_slave_names.push_back(svt_amba_addr_mapper::slave_4);  
apb_sys_cfg.path_cov_slave_names.push_back(svt_amba_addr_mapper::slave_5);
```

6. Slave configuration `svt_apb_configuration::svt_amba_addr_mapper dest_addr_mappers[]` is the address mapper, which specifies the slave memory map as part of the APB Complex Memory Map feature.
7. In the Slave configuration, instantiate the address mapper.
For example,

```
apb_sys_cfg.slave_cfg[0].dest_addr_mappers = new;
apb_sys_cfg.slave_cfg[0].dest_addr_mappers[0] =
svt_amba_addr_mapper::type_id::create("apb_slave_addr_mapper");
```
8. In the Slave configuration, specify the name for the slave port. Note that this name should match the name specified in the macro `SVT_AMBA_PATH_COV_DEST_NAMES`. This name helps to identify the slave port. This name will be used in the bin names of the cover group.
For example,

```
apb_sys_cfg.slave_cfg[0].dest_addr_mappers[0].path_cov_slave_component_name =
svt_amba_addr_mapper::slave_0;
```
9. Below is an optional step. This step needs to be done only if, for a given address, the destination is different based on originating master. Note that these names should match the names specified in `svt_apb_system_configuration::source_requester_name`.
For example,

```
apb_sys_cfg.slave_cfg[0].dest_addr_mappers[0].source_masters.push_back("bridgemaster_0");
```

Once the above configurations are done, run the simulation, and review the cover group `trans_cross_master_to_slave_path_access` in coverage report.



A

Reporting Problems

A.1 Introduction

This chapter outlines the process for working through and reporting VIP transactor issues encountered in the field. It describes the data you must submit when a problem is initially reported to Synopsys. After a review of the initial information, Synopsys may decide to request adjustments to the information being requested, which is the focus of the next section. This section outlines the process for working through and reporting problems. It shows how to use Debug Automation to enable all the debug capabilities of any VIP. In addition, the VIP provides a case submittal tool to help you pack and send all pertinent debug information to Synopsys Support.

A.2 Debug Automation

Every Synopsys model contains a feature called “debug automation”. It is enabled through *svt_debug_opts* plusarg. The Debug Automation feature allows you to enable all relevant debug information. The following are critical features of debug automation:

- ❖ Enabled by the use of a command line run-time plusarg.
- ❖ Can be enabled on individual VIP instances or multiple instances using regular expressions.
- ❖ Enables debug or verbose message verbosity:
 - ◆ The timing window for message verbosity modification can be controlled by supplying *start_time* and *end_time*.
- ❖ Enables at one time any, or all, standard debug features of the VIP:
 - ◆ Transaction Trace File generation
 - ◆ Transaction Reporting enabled in the transcript
 - ◆ PA database generation enabled
 - ◆ Debug Port enabled
 - ◆ Optionally, generates a file name *svt_model_out.fsd* when Verdi libraries are available

When the Debug feature is enabled, then all VIP instances that are enabled for debug will have their messages routed to a file named *svt_debug.transcript*.

A.3 Enabling and Specifying Debug Automation Features

Debug Automation is enabled through the use of a run-time plusarg named *+svt_debug_opts*. This plusarg accepts an optional string-based specification to control various aspects Debug Automation. If this

command control specification is not supplied, then the feature will default to being enabled on all VIP instances with the default options listed as follows:

Note the following about the plusarg:

- ❖ The command control string is a comma separated string that is split into the multiple fields.
- ❖ All fields are optional and can be supplied in any order.

The command control string uses the following format (white space is disallowed):

```
inst:<inst>,type:<string>,feature:<string>,start_time:<longint>,end_time:<longint>,verbosity:<string>
```

The following table explains each control string:

Table A-1 Control Strings for Debug Automation plusarg

Field	Description
inst	Identifies the VIP instance to apply the debug automation features. Regular expressions can be used to identify multiple VIP instances. If this value is not supplied, and if a type value is not supplied, then the debug automation feature will be enabled on all VIP instances.
type	Identifies a class type to apply the debug automation features. When this value is supplied then debug automation will be enabled for all instances of this class type.
feature	Identifies a sub-feature that can be defined by VIP designers to identify smaller grouping of functionality that is specific to that title. The definition and implementation of this field is left to VIP designers, and by default it has no effect on the debug automation feature. (Specific to VIP titles)
start_time	Identifies when the debug verbosity settings will be applied. The time must be supplied in terms of the timescale that the VIP is compiled. If this value is not supplied, then the verbosity settings will be applied at time zero.
end_time	Identifies when the debug verbosity settings will be removed. The time must be supplied in terms of the timescale that the VIP is compiled. If this value is not supplied, then the debug verbosity remains in effect until the end of the simulation.
verbosity	Message verbosity setting that is applied at the <code>start_time</code> . Two values are accepted in all methodologies: <code>DEBUG</code> and <code>VERBOSE</code> . UVM and OVM users can also supply the verbosity that is native to their respective methodologies (<code>UVM_HIGH/UVM_FULL</code> and <code>OVM_HIGH/OVM_FULL</code>). If this value is not supplied then the verbosity defaults to <code>DEBUG/UVM_HIGH/OVM_HIGH</code> . When this feature is enabled, then all VIP instances that are enabled for debug will have their messages routed to a file named <code>svt_debug.transcript</code> .

Examples:

Enable on all VIP instances with default options:

```
+svt_debug_opts
```

Enable on all instances:

- ❖ containing the string "endpoint" with a verbosity of `UVM_HIGH`
- ❖ starting at time zero (default) until the end of the simulation (default):

```
+svt_debug_opts=inst:/. *endpoint.*/,verbosity:UVM_HIGH
```

Enable on all instances:

- ❖ starting at time 1000 until time 1500:

```
+svt_debug_opts=start_time:1000,end_time:1500,verbosity:VERBOSE
```

Enable debug feature on all instances using default options:

- ❖ By setting the macro SVT_DEBUG_OPTS to 1 in the command line, the debug feature is enabled on all instances using default options. The macro will enable the XMLs and Trace files.

```
gmake <testname> SVT_DEBUG_OPTS=1 PA=FSDB
```

**Note**

The SVT_DEBUG_OPTS option is available through the installed VIP examples, but if required, in customer environments, then a similar feature should be added to their environment. The PA=FSDB option is available in public examples and is required to enable Verdi libraries, and that when this option is used, then the Debug Opts file will record VIP activity to a file named `svt_model_log.fsdb`. In addition, the SVT Automated Debug feature will enable waveform generation to an FSDB file, if the Verdi libraries are available. When enabled this feature, it should cause the simulator to dump waveform information only for the VIP interfaces.

When this feature is enabled then all VIP instances that have been enabled for debug will have their messages routed to a file named `svt_debug.transcript`.

A.4 Debug Automation Outputs

The Automated Debug feature generates a *svt_debug.out* file. It records important information about the debug feature itself, and data about the environment that the VIPs are operating in. This file records the following information:

- ❖ The compiled timeunit for the SVT package
- ❖ The compiled timeunit for each SVT VIP package
- ❖ Version information for the SVT library
- ❖ Version information for each SVT VIP
- ❖ Every SVT VIP instance, and whether the VIP instance has been enabled for debug
- ❖ For every SVT VIP enabled for debug, a list of configuration properties that have been modified to enable debug will be listed
- ❖ A list of all methodology phases will be recorded, along with the start time for each phase

The following are the output files generated:

- ❖ *svt_debug.out*: It records important information about the debug feature itself, and data about the environment that the VIPs are operating. One file is optionally created when this feature is enabled, depending on if the Verdi libraries are available.
- ❖ *svt_debug.transcript*: Log files generated by the simulation run.
- ❖ *svt_model_log.fsdb*: Contains PA FSDB information (if the VIP supports this), and which contains other recorded activity. The additional information records signal activity associated with the VIP interface, TLM input (through SIPP ports), other TLM output activity, configurations applied to the VIP, and all callback activity (recorded by before and after callback execution).

A.5 FSDB File Generation

To enable FSDB writing capabilities, the simulator compile-time options and environment must be updated to enable this. The steps to enable this are specific to the simulator being used (the {LINUX/LINUX64} label needs to be replaced based on the platform being used). The ability to write to an FSDB file requires that the user supplies the Verdi dumper libraries when they compile their testbench. If these are not supplied then the VIP will not be enabled to generate the *svt_model_log.fsdb* file.

A.5.1 VCS

The following must be added to the compile-time command:

```
-debug_access
```

For more information on how to set the FSDB dumping libraries, see Appendix B section in *Linking Novas Files with Simulators and Enabling FSDB Dumping* guide available at:

```
$VERDI_HOME/doc/linking_dumping.pdf.
```

A.5.2 Questa

The following must be added to the compile-time command:

```
+define+SVT_FSDB_ENABLE -pli novas_fli.so
```

A.5.3 Incisive

The following must be added to the compile-time command:

```
+define+SVT_FSDB_ENABLE -access +r
```

A.6 Initial Customer Information

Follow these steps when you call the Synopsys Support Center:

1. Before you contact technical support, be prepared to provide the following:
 - ◆ A description of the issue under investigation.
 - ◆ A description of your verification environment.

Enable the Debug Opts feature. For more information, see the [Debug Automation](#).

A.7 Sending Debug Information to Synopsys

To help you debug testing issues, follow the given instructions to pack all pertinent debug information into one file which you can send to Synopsys (or to other users in your company):

1. Create a description of the issue under investigation. Include the simulation time and bus cycle of the failure, as well as any error or warning messages that are part of the failure.
2. Create a description of your verification environment. Assemble information about your simulation environment, making sure to include:
 - ◆ OS type and version
 - ◆ Testbench language (SystemVerilog or Verilog)
 - ◆ Simulator and version
 - ◆ DUT languages (Verilog)

3. Use the VIP case submittal tool to pack a file with the appropriate debug information. It has the following usage syntax:

```
$DESIGNWARE_HOME/bin/snps_vip_debug [-directory <path>]
```

The tool will generate a "<username>.<uniqid>.svd" file in the current directory. The following files are packed into a single file:

- ✧ FSDB
- ✧ HISTL
- ✧ MISC
- ✧ SLID
- ✧ SVTO
- ✧ SVTX
- ✧ TRACE
- ✧ VCD
- ✧ VPD
- ✧ XML

If any one of the above files are present, then the files will be saved in the "<username>.<uniqid>.svd" in the current directory. The simulation transcript file will not be part of this and it will be saved separately.

The -directory switch can be specified to select an alternate source directory.

4. You will be prompted by the case submittal tool with the option to include additional files within the SVD file. The simulation transcript files cannot be automatically identified and it must be provided during this step.
5. The case submittal tool will display options on how to send the file to Synopsys.

A.8 Limitations

Enabling DEBUG or VERBOSE verbosity is an expensive operation, both in terms of runtime and disk space utilization. The following steps can be used to minimize this cost:

- ❖ Only enable the VIP instance necessary for debug. By default, the +svt_debug_opts command enables Debug Opts on all instances, but the 'inst' argument can be used to select a specific instance.
- ❖ Use the start_time and end_time arguments to limit the verbosity changes to the specific time window that needs to be debugged.

