

Laboratory Exercise 5

This is an exercise in implementing and using a real-time clock.

Part I

Implement a 3-digit BCD counter. Display the contents of the counter on the 7-segment displays, $HEX2 - 0$. Derive a control signal, from the 50-MHz clock signal provided on the Altera DE2 board, to increment the contents of the counter at one-second intervals. Use the pushbutton switch KEY_0 to reset the counter to 0.

1. Create a new project which will be used to implement the desired circuit on the DE2 board.
2. Write a VHDL file that specifies the desired circuit.
3. Include the VHDL file in your project and compile the circuit.
4. Simulate the designed circuit to verify its functionality.
5. Assign the pins on the FPGA to connect to the 7-segment displays and the pushbutton switch, as indicated in the User Manual for the DE2 board.
6. Recompile the circuit and download it into the FPGA chip.
7. Verify that your circuit works correctly by observing the display.

Part II

Design and implement a circuit that acts as a time-of-day clock. It should display the hour (from 0 to 23) on the 7-segment displays $HEX7 - 6$, the minute (from 0 to 60) on $HEX5 - 4$ and the second (from 0 to 60) on $HEX3 - 2$. Use the switches SW_{15-0} to preset the hour and minute parts of the time displayed by the clock.

Part III

Design and implement a reaction-timer circuit. The circuit is to operate as follows:

1. The circuit is reset by pressing the pushbutton switch KEY_0 .
2. After an elapsed time of not less than four seconds, the LED labeled $LEDR_0$ turns on. At the same time a 3-digit BCD counter starts counting in intervals of one 1/100-th of a second.
3. A person whose reflexes are being tested must press the pushbutton KEY_3 as quickly as possible to turn the LED off and freeze the counter in its present state. The count which shows the reaction time will be displayed on the 7-segment displays $HEX2 - 0$.