

# Quick Reference

for

# Verilog<sup>®</sup> HDL

Rajeev Madhavan  
AMBIT Design Systems, Inc.



Released with permission from  
Automata Publishing Company  
San Jose, CA 95129

Cover design: Sam Starfas  
Printed by: Technical Printing, Inc. Santa Clara  
Copyright ©1993, 94, 95 Automata Publishing Company

UNIX is a registered trademark of AT&T  
Verilog is a registered trademark of Cadence Design Systems, Inc.



Copyright ©1993, 94, 95 Automata Publishing Company

Published by Automata Publishing Company

In addition to this book, the following HDL books are available  
from Automata Publishing Company:

1. Digital Design and Synthesis with Verilog HDL
2. Digital Design and Synthesis with VHDL

For additional copies of this book or for the source code to the  
examples, see the order form on the last page of the book.

This book may be reproduced or transmitted for distribution provided  
the copyright notices are retained on all copies. For all other rights  
please contact the publishers.

Automata Publishing Company  
1072 S. Saratoga-Sunnyvale Rd, Bldg A107  
San Jose, CA 95129  
Phone: 408-255-0705  
Fax: 408-253-7916

Printed in the United States of America  
10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2

ISBN 0-9627488-4-6

## Preface

This is a brief summary of the syntax and semantics of the Verilog Hardware Description Language. The summary is not intended at being an exhaustive list of all the constructs and is not meant to be complete. This reference guide also lists constructs that can be synthesized. For any clarifications and to resolve ambiguities please refer to the Verilog Language Reference Manual, Copyright © 1993 by Open Verilog International, Inc. and synthesis vendors Verilog HDL Reference Manuals.

In addition to the OVI Language Reference Manual, for further examples and explanation of the Verilog HDL, the following text book is recommended: *Digital Design and Synthesis With Verilog HDL*, Eli Sternheim, Rajvir Singh, Rajeev Madhavan and Yatin Trivedi, Copyright © 1993 by Automata Publishing Company.

Rajeev Madhavan

Copyright ©1993, 1994, 1995 Automata Publishing Company.

---

# Quick Reference for Verilog HDL

1.0	Lexical Elements .....	1
1.1	Integer Literals .....	1
1.2	Data Types .....	1
2.0	Registers and Nets .....	2
3.0	Compiler Directives .....	3
4.0	System Tasks and Functions .....	4
5.0	Reserved Keywords .....	5
6.0	Structures and Hierarchy .....	6
6.1	Module Declarations .....	6
6.2	UDP Declarations .....	7
7.0	Expressions and Operators .....	10
7.1	Parallel Expressions .....	13
7.2	Conditional Statements .....	13
7.3	Looping Statements .....	15
8.0	Named Blocks, Disabling Blocks .....	16
9.0	Tasks and Functions .....	16
10.0	Continuous Assignments .....	18
11.0	Procedural Assignments .....	18
11.1	Blocking Assignment .....	19
11.2	Non-Blocking Assignment .....	19
12.0	Gate Types, MOS and Bidirectional Switches .....	19
12.1	Gate Delays .....	21
13.0	Specify Blocks .....	22
14.0	Verilog Synthesis Constructs .....	23
14.1	Fully Supported Constructs .....	23
14.2	Partially Supported Constructs .....	24
14.3	Ignored Constructs .....	25
14.4	Unsupported Constructs .....	25
15.0	Index .....	27

All rights reserved. This document is intended as a quick reference guide to the Verilog HDL. Verilog<sup>®</sup> is a registered trademark of Cadence Design Systems, Inc.

## Use and Copyright

Copyright (c) 1994, 1995 Rajeev Madhavan

Copyright (c) 1994, 1995 Automata Publishing Company

Permission to use, copy and distribute this book for any purpose is hereby granted without fee, provided that

(i) the above copyright notices and this permission notice appear in all copies, and

(ii) the names of Rajeev Madhavan, Automata Publishing and AMBIT Design Systems may not be used in any advertising or publicity relating to this book without the specific, prior written permission of Rajeev Madhavan, Automata Publishing and AMBIT Design Systems.

THE BOOK IS PROVIDED "AS-IS" AND WITHOUT WARRANTY OF ANY KIND, EXPRESS, IMPLIED OR OTHERWISE, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION, ANY WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.

IN NO EVENT SHALL RAJEEV MADHAVAN OR AUTOMATA PUBLISHING OR AMBIT DESIGN SYSTEMS BE LIABLE FOR ANY SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL, INDIRECT OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES OF ANY KIND, OR ANY DAMAGES WHATSOEVER RESULTING FROM LOSS OF USE, PROFITS, WHETHER OR NOT ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF DAMAGE, AND ON ANY THEORY OF LIABILITY, ARISING OUT OF OR IN CONNECTION WITH THE USE OF THIS BOOK.

## 1.0 Lexical Elements

The language is case sensitive and all the keywords are lower case. White space, namely, spaces, tabs and new-lines are ignored. Verilog has two types of comments:

1. One line comments start with `//` and end at the end of the line
2. Multi-line comments start with `/*` and end with `*/`

Variable names have to start with an alphabetic character or underscore followed by alphanumeric or underscore characters. The only exception to this are the system tasks and functions which start with a dollar sign. Escaped identifiers (identifier whose first character is a backslash ( `\` )) permit non alphanumeric characters in Verilog name. The escaped name includes all the characters following the backslash until the first white space character.

### 1.1 Integer Literals

```
Binary literal  2'b1Z
Octal literal  2'o17
Decimal literal 9 or 'd9
Hexadecimal literal 3'h189
```

Integer literals can have underscores embedded in them for improved readability. For example,

```
Decimal literal 24_000
```

### 1.2 Data Types

The values `z` and `Z` stand for high impedance, and `x` and `X` stand for uninitialized variables or nets with conflicting drivers. String symbols are enclosed within double quotes ( `"string"` ).and cannot span multiple lines. Real number literals can be either in fixed notation or in scientific notation.

#### Real and Integer Variables example

```
real a, b, c ; // a,b,c to be real

integer j, k ; // integer variable
integer i[1:32] ; // array of integer variables
```

### Time, registers and variable usage

```
time newtime ;
/* time and integer are similar in functionality,
time is an unsigned 64-bit used for time variables
*/

reg [8*14:1] string ;
/* This defines a vector with range
[msb_expr: lsb_expr] */

initial begin
  a = 0.5 ; // same as 5.0e-1. real variable
  b = 1.2E12 ;
  c = 26.19_60_e-11 ; // _'s are
  // used for readability
  string = " string example " ;
  newtime =$time;
end
```

## 2.0 Registers and Nets

A register stores its value from one assignment to the next and is used to model data storage elements.

```
reg [5:0] din ;
/* a 6-bit vector register: individual bits
din[5],... din[0] */
```

Nets correspond to physical wires that connect instances. The default range of a wire or `reg` is one bit. Nets do not store values and have to be continuously driven. If a net has multiple drivers (for example two gate outputs are tied together), then the net value is resolved according to its type.

#### Net types

wire	tri
wand	triand
wor	trior
tri0	tril
supply0	supply1
triereg	

For a wire, if all the drivers have the same value then the wire resolves to this value. If all the drivers except one have a value of `z` then the wire resolves to the non `z` value. If two or more non `z` drivers have different drive strength, then the wire resolves to the stronger driver. If two drivers of equal strength have different values, then the

wire resolves to `x`. A `triereg` net behaves like a wire except that when all the drivers of the net are in high impedance (`z`) state, then the net retains its last driven value. `triereg` 's are used to model capacitive networks.

```
wire net1 ;
/* wire and tri have same functionality. tri is
used for multiple drive internal wire */

triereg (medium) capacitor ;
/* small, medium, weak are used for charge
strength modeling */
```

A `wand` net or `triand` net operates as a wired and(`wand`), and a `wor` net or `trior` net operates as a wired or (`wor`), `tri0` and `tril` nets model nets with resistive pulldown or pullup devices on them. When a `tri0` net is not driven, then its value is 0. When a `tril` net is not driven, then its value is 1. `supply0` and `supply1` model nets that are connected to the ground or power supply.

```
wand net2 ; // wired-and
wor net3 ; // wired-or
triand [4:0] net4 ; // multiple drive wand
trior net5 ; // multiple drive wor
tri0 net6 ;
tril net7 ;
supply0 gnd ; // logic 0 supply wire
supply1 vcc ; // logic 1 supply wire
```

Memories are declared using register statements with the address range specified as in the following example,

```
reg [15:0] mem16X512 [0:511];
// 16-bit by 512 word memory
// mem16X512[4] addresses word 4
// the order lsb:msb or msb:lsb is not important
```

The keyword `scalared` allows access to bits and parts of a bus and `vectored` allows the vector to be modified only collectively.

```
wire vectored [5:0] neta;
/* a 6-bit vectored net */
tril vectored [5:0] netb;
/* a 6-bit vectored tril */
```

## 3.0 Compiler Directives

Verilog has compiler directives which affect the processing of the input

files. The directives start with a grave accent ( ` ) followed by some keyword. A directive takes effect from the point that it appears in the file until either the end of all the files, or until another directive that cancels the effect of the first one is encountered. For example,

```
`define OPCODEADD 00010
```

This defines a macro named OPCODEADD. When the text `OPCODEADD appears in the text, then it is replaced by 00010. Verilog macros are simple text substitutions and do not permit arguments.

```
`ifdef SYNTH <Verilog code> `endif
```

If “SYNTH” is a defined macro, then the Verilog code until `endif is inserted for the next processing phase. If “SYNTH” is not defined macro then the code is discarded.

```
`include <Verilog file>
```

The code in <Verilog file> is inserted for the next processing phase. Other standard compiler directives are listed below:

```
`resetall - resets all compiler directives to default values
`define - text-macro substitution
`timescale 1ns / 10ps - specifies time unit/precision
`ifdef, `else, `endif - conditional compilation
`include - file inclusion
`signed, `unsigned - operator selection (OVI 2.0 only)
`celldefine, `endcelldefine - library modules
`default_nettype wire - default net types
`unconnected_drive pull0|pull1,
`nounconnected_drive -pullup or down unconnected ports
`protect and `endprotect - encryption capability
`protected and `endprotected - encryption capability
`expand_vectornets, `noexpand_vectornets,
`autoexpand_vectornets - vector expansion options
`remove_gatename, `noremove_gatenames
    - remove gate names for more than one instance
`remove_netname, `noremove_netnames
    - remove net names for more than one instance
```

## 4.0 System Tasks and Functions

System tasks are tool specific tasks and functions..

```
$display( "Example of using function");
/* display to screen */
$monitor($time, "a=%b, clk = %b,
    add=%h", a, clk, add); // monitor signals
$setuphold( posedge clk, datain, setup, hold);
// setup and hold checks
```

A list of standard system tasks and functions are listed below:

```
$display, $write - utility to display information
$fdisplay, $fwrite - write to file
$strobe, $fstrobe - display/write simulation data
$monitor, $fmonitor - monitor, display/write information to file
$time, $realtime - current simulation time
$finish - exit the simulator
$stop - stop the simulator
$setup - setup timing check
$hold, $width - hold/width timing check
$setuphold - combines hold and setup
$readmemb/$readmemh - read stimulus patterns into memory
$sreadmemb/$sreadmemh - load data into memory
$getpattern - fast processing of stimulus patterns
$history - print command history
$save, $restart, $incsave
    - saving, restarting, incremental saving
$scale - scaling timeunits from another module
$scope - descend to a particular hierarchy level
$showscopes - complete list of named blocks, tasks, modules...
$showvars - show variables at scope
```

## 5.0 Reserved Keywords

The following lists the reserved words of Verilog hardware description language, as of OVI LRM 2.0.

and	always	assign	attribute
begin	buf	bufif0	bufif1
case	cmos	deassign	default
defparam	disable	else	endattribute
end	endcase	endfunction	endprimitive
endmodule	endtable	endtask	event
for	force	forever	fork
function	highz0	highz1	if
initial	inout	input	integer
join	large	medium	module
nand	negedge	nor	not
notif0	notif1	nmos	or
output	parameter	pmos	posedge
primitive	pulldown	pullup	pull0
pull1	rcmos	reg	release
repeat	rnmos	rpmos	rtran
rtranif0	rtranif1	scalared	small
specify	specparam	strong0	strong1
supply0	supply1	table	task
tran	tranif0	tranif1	time
tri	triand	trior	triereg
tri0	tril	vectored	wait
wand	weak0	weak1	while
wire	wor		

## 6.0 Structures and Hierarchy

Hierarchical HDL structures are achieved by defining modules and instantiating modules. Nested module definitions (i.e. one module definition within another) are not permitted.

### 6.1 Module Declarations

The module name must be unique and no other module or primitive can have the same name. The port list is optional. A module without a port list or with an empty port list is typically a top level module. A macro-module is a module with a flattened hierarchy and is used by some simulators for efficiency.

module *definition example*

```
module dff (q,qb,clk,d,rst);
    input clk,d,rst ; // input signals
    output q,qb ; // output definition

    //inout for bidirectionals

    // Net type declarations
    wire dl,dbl ;

    // parameter value assignment
    paramter delay1 = 3,
        delay2 = delay1 + 1; // delay2
    // shows parameter dependance

    /* Hierarchy primitive instantiation, port
    connection in this section is by
    ordered list */

    nand #delay1 n1(cf,dl,cbf),
        n2(cbfb,clk,cf,rst);
    nand #delay2 n3(dl,d,dbl,rst),
        n4(dbl,dl,clk,cbf),
        n5(q,cbfb,qb),
        n6(qb,dbl,q,rst);

    /**** for debugging model initial begin
        #500 force dff_lab.rst = 1 ;
        #550 release dff_lab.rst;
        // upward path referencing
        end *****/

endmodule
```

**Overriding parameters example**

```

module dff_lab;
  reg data,rst;
  // Connecting ports by name.(map)
  dff d1 (.qb(outb), .q(out),
        .clk(clk),.d(data),.rst(rst));
  // overriding module parameters
  defparam
    dff_lab.dff.n1.delay1 = 5 ,
    dff_lab.dff.n2.delay2 = 6 ;
  // full-path referencing is used
  // over-riding by using #(8,9) delay1=8..

  dff d2 #(8,9) (outc, outd, clk, outb, rst);
  // clock generator
  always clk = #10 ~clk ;
  // stimulus ... contd

```

**Stimulus and Hierarchy example**

```

initial begin: stimuli // named block stimulus
  clk = 1; data = 1; rst = 0;
  #20 rst = 1;
  #20 data = 0;
  #600 $finish;
end

initial // hierarchy: downward path referencing
begin
  #100 force dff.n2.rst = 0 ;
  #200 release dff.n2.rst;
end
endmodule

```

**6.2 User Defined Primitive (UDP) Declarations**

The UDP's are used to augment the gate primitives and are defined by truth tables. Instances of UDP's can be used in the same way as gate primitives. There are 2 types of primitives:

1. Sequential UDP's permit initialization of output terminals, which are declared to be of `reg` type and they store values. Level-sensitive entries take precedence over edge-sensitive declarations. An input logic state `z` is interpreted as an `x`. Similarly, only `0`, `1`, `x` or `-` (unchanged) logic values are permitted on the output.

2. Combinational UDP's do not store values and cannot be initialized.

The following additional abbreviations are permitted in UDP declarations.

Logic/state Representation/transition	Abbreviation
don't care (0, 1 or X)	?
Transitions from logic x to logic y (xy). (01), (10), (0x), (1x), (x1), (x0) (?1) ..	(xy)
Transition from (01)	R or r
Transition from (10)	F or f
(01), (0X), (X1): positive transition	P or p
(10), (1x), (x0): negative transition	N or n
Any transition	* or (??)
binary don't care (0, 1)	B or b

**Combinational UDP's example**

```

// 3 to 1 multiplexor with 2 select

primitive mux32 (Y, in1, in2, in3, s1, s2);
  input in1, in2, in3, s1, s2;
  output Y;

  table

//in1 in2 in3 s1 s2 Y
    0 ? ? 0 0 : 0 ;
    1 ? ? 0 0 : 1 ;
    ? 0 ? 1 0 : 0 ;
    ? 1 ? 1 0 : 1 ;
    ? ? 0 ? 1 : 0 ;
    ? ? 1 ? 1 : 1 ;
    0 0 ? ? 0 : 0 ;
    1 1 ? ? 0 : 1 ;
    0 ? 0 0 ? : 0 ;
    1 ? 1 0 ? : 1 ;
    ? 0 0 1 ? : 0 ;
    ? 1 1 1 ? : 1 ;

  endtable

endprimitive

```

**Sequential Level Sensitive UDP's example**

```

// latch with async reset
primitive latch (q, clock, reset, data);
  input clock, reset, data ;
  output q;
  reg q;

  initial q = 1'b1; // initialization

  table

// clock reset data q, q+
  ? 1 ? : ? : 1 ;
  0 0 0 : ? : 0 ;
  1 0 ? : ? : - ;
  0 0 1 : ? : 1 ;

  endtable
endprimitive

```

**Sequential Edge Sensitive UDP's example**

```

// edge triggered D Flip Flop with active high,
// async set and reset
primitive dff (QN, D, CP, R, S);
  output QN;
  input D, CP, R, S;
  reg QN;

  table
// D CP R S : Qtn : Qtn+1
    1 (01) 0 0 : ? : 0;
    1 (01) 0 x : ? : 0;
    ? ? 0 x : 0 : 0;
    0 (01) 0 0 : ? : 1; // clocked data
    0 (01) x 0 : ? : 1; // pessimism
    ? ? x 0 : 1 : 1; // pessimism
    1 (x1) 0 0 : 0 : 0;
    0 (x1) 0 0 : 1 : 1;
    1 (0x) 0 0 : 0 : 0;
    0 (0x) 0 0 : 1 : 1;
    ? ? 1 ? : ? : 1; // asynch clear
    ? ? 0 1 : ? : 0; // asynchronous set
    ? n 0 0 : ? : -;
    * ? ? ? : ? : -;
    ? ? (?0) ? : ? : -;
    ? ? ? (?0) : ? : -;
    ? ? ? ? : ? : x;

  endtable
endprimitive

```

## 7.0 Expressions and Operators

Arithmetic and logical operators are used to build expressions. Expressions perform operation on one or more operands, the operands being vectored or scalar nets, registers, bit-selects, part selects, function calls or concatenations thereof.

- Unary Expression  
<operator> <operand>

```
a = !b;
```

- Binary and Other Expressions  
<operand> <operator> <operand>

```
if (a < b) // if (<expression>)
{c,d} = a + b ;
// concatenate and add operator
```

- Parentheses can be used to change the precedence of operators. For example, ((a+b) \* c)

### Operator precedence

Operator	Precedence
+, -, !, ~ (unary)	Highest
*, / %	
+, - (binary)	
<<, >>	
<, <=, >, >=	
=, ==, !=	
==, !=	
&, ~&	
^, ^~	
, ~	
&&	
?:	Lowest

- All operators associate left to right, except for the ternary operator “?:” which associates from right to left.

### Relational Operators

Operator	Application
<	a < b // is a less than b? // return 1-bit true/false
>	a > b // is a greater than b?
>=	a >= b // is a greater than or // equal to b
<=	a <= b // is a less than or // equal to b

### Arithmetic Operators

Operator	Application
*	c = a * b ; // multiply a with b
/	c = a / b ; // int divide a by b
+	sum = a + b ; // add a and b
-	diff = a - b ; // subtract b // from a
%	amodb = a % b ; // a mod(b)

### Logical Operators

Operator	Application
&&	a && b ; // is a and b true? // returns 1-bit true/false
	a    b ; // is a or b true? // returns 1-bit true/false
!	if (!a) ; // if a is not true c = b ; // assign b to c

### Equality and Identity Operators

Operator	Application
=	c = a ; // assign a to c
==	c == a ; /* is c equal to a returns 1-bit true/false applies for 1 or 0, logic equality, using X or Z oper- ands returns always false 'hx == 'h5 returns 0 */
!=	c != a ; // is c not equal to // a, retruns 1-bit true/ // false logic equality
===	a === b ; // is a identical to // b (includes 0, 1, x, z) / // 'hx === 'h5 returns 0
!==	a !== b ; // is a not // identical to b returns 1- // bit true/false

### Unary, Bitwise and Reduction Operators

Operator	Application
+	Unary plus & arithmetic(binary) addition
-	Unary negation & arithmetic (binary) subtraction
&	b = &a ; // AND all bits of a
	b =  a ; // OR all bits
^	b = ^a ; // Exclusive or all bits of a
~&, ~ , ~^	NAND, NOR, EX-NOR all bits to-gether c = ~& b ; d = ~  a ; e = ^c ;
~, &,  , ^	bit-wise NOT, AND, OR, EX-OR b = ~a ; // invert a c = b & a ; // bitwise AND a,b e = b   a ; // bitwise OR f = b ^ a ; // bitwise EX-OR
~&, ~ , ~^	bit-wise NAND, NOR, EX-NOR c = a ~& b ; d = a ~  b ; e = a ~^ b ;

**Shift Operators and other Operators**

Operator	Application
<<	a << 1 ; // shift left a by // 1-bit
>>	a >> 1 ; // shift right a by 1
?:	c = sel ? a : b ; /* if sel is true c = a, else c = b , ?: ternary operator */
{}	{co, sum } = a + b + ci ; /* add a, b, ci assign the overflow to co and the re- sult to sum: operator is called concatenation */
{ { }}	b = {3{a}} /* replicate a 3 times, equivalent to {a, a, a} */

**7.1 Parallel Expressions**

fork ... join are used for concurrent expression assignments.

fork ... join *example*

```
initial
begin: block
fork
    // This waits for the first event a
    // or b to occur
    @a disable block ;
    @b disable block ;

    // reset at absolute time 20
    #20 reset = 1 ;
    // data at absolute time 100
    #100 data = 0 ;
    // data at absolute time 120
    #120 data = 1 ;

join
end
```

**7.2 Conditional Statements**

The most commonly used conditional statement is the if, if ... else ... conditions. The statement occurs if the expressions controlling the if statement evaluates to true.

**if .. else ...conditions example**

```
always @(rst) // simple if -else
if (rst)
    // procedural assignment
    q = 0;
else // remove the above continuous assign
    deassign q;

always @(WRITE or READ or STATUS)
begin
    // if - else - if
    if (!WRITE) begin
        out = oldvalue ;
    end
    else if (!STATUS) begin
        q = newstatus ;
        STATUS = hold ;
    end
    else if (!READ) begin
        out = newvalue ;
    end
end
end
```

case, casex, casez: case statements are used for switching between multiple selections (if (case1) ... else if (case2) ... else ...). If there are multiple matches only the first is evaluated. casez treats high impedance values as don't care's and casex treats both unknown and high-impedance as don't care's.

**case statement example**

```
module d2X8 (select, out); // priority encode
input [0:2] select;
output [0:7] out;
reg [0:7] out;
always @(select) begin
    out = 0;
    case (select)
        0: out[0] = 1;
        1: out[1] = 1;
        2: out[2] = 1;
        3: out[3] = 1;
        4: out[4] = 1;
        5: out[5] = 1;
        6: out[6] = 1;
        7: out[7] = 1;
    endcase
end
endmodule
```

**casex statement example**

```
casex (state)
    // treats both x and z as don't care
    // during comparison : 3'b01z, 3'b01x, 3'b'011
    // ... match case 3'b01x
    3'b01x: fsm = 0 ;
    3'b0xx: fsm = 1 ;
    default: begin
        // default matches all other occurrences
        fsm = 1 ;
        next_state = 3'b011 ;
    end
endcase
```

**casez statement example**

```
casez (state)
    // treats z as don't care during comparison :
    // 3'b11z, 3'b1zz, ... match 3'b1??: fsm = 0 ;
    3'b1??: fsm = 0 ; // if MSB is 1, matches 3?b1??
    3'b01?: fsm = 1 ;
    default: $display("wrong state") ;
endcase
```

**7.3 Looping Statements**

forever, for, while and repeat *loops example*

```
forever
    // should be used with disable or timing control
    @(posedge clock) {co, sum} = a + b + ci ;

for (i = 0 ; i < 7 ; i=i+1)
    memory[i] = 0 ; // initialize to 0

for (i = 0 ; i <= bit-width ; i=i+1)
    // multiplier using shift left and add
    if (a[i]) out = out + ( b << (i-1) ) ;

repeat(bit-width) begin
    if (a[0]) out = b + out ;
    b = b << 1 ; // multiplier using
    a = a << 1 ; // shift left and add
end

while(delay) begin @(posedge clk) ;
    ldlang = oldldlang ;
    delay = delay - 1 ;
end
```

## 8.0 Named Blocks, Disabling Blocks

Named blocks are used to create hierarchy within modules and can be used to group a collection of assignments or expressions. `disable` statement is used to disable or de-activate any named block, tasks or modules. Named blocks, tasks can be accessed by full or reference hierarchy paths (example `dff_lab.stimuli`). Named blocks can have local variables.

### Named blocks and disable statement example

```
initial forever @(posedge reset)
  disable MAIN ; // disable named block
  // tasks, modules can also be disabled

always begin: MAIN // defining named blocks
  if (!qfull) begin
    #30 recv(new, newdata) ; // call task
    if (new) begin
      q[head] = newdata ;
      head = head + 1 ; // queue
    end
  end
  end
else
  disable recv ;
end // MAIN
```

## 9.0 Tasks and Functions

Tasks and functions permit the grouping of common procedures and then executing these procedures from different places. Arguments are passed in the form of input/inout values and all calls to functions and tasks share variables. The differences between tasks and functions are

Tasks	Functions
Permits time control	Executes in one simulation time
Can have zero or more arguments	Require at least one input
Does not return value, assigns value to outputs	Returns a single value, no special output declarations required
Can have output arguments, permits #, @, ->, wait, task calls.	Does not permit outputs, #, @, ->, wait, task calls

### task Example

```
// task are declared within modules
task recv ;
  output valid ;
  output [9:0] data ;
  begin
    valid = inreg ;
    if (valid) begin
      ackin = 1 ;
      data = qin ;
      wait (inreg) ;
      ackin = 0 ;
    end
  end
end

// task instantiation
always begin: MAIN //named definition
  if (!qfull) begin
    recv(new, newdata) ; // call task
    if (new) begin
      q[head] = newdata ;
      head = head + 1 ;
    end
  end
end else
  disable recv ;
end // MAIN
```

### function Example

```
module foo2 (cs, in1, in2, ns);
  input [1:0] cs;
  input in1, in2;
  output [1:0] ns;
  function [1:0] generate_next_state;
  input [1:0] current_state ;
  input input1, input2 ;
  reg [1:0] next_state ;
  // input1 causes 0->1 transition
  // input2 causes 1->2 transition
  // 2->0 illegal and unknown states go to 0
  begin
    case (current_state)
      2'h0 : next_state = input1 ? 2'h1 : 2'h0 ;
      2'h1 : next_state = input2 ? 2'h2 : 2'h1 ;
      2'h2 : next_state = 2'h0 ;
      default: next_state = 2'h0 ;
    endcase
    generate_next_state = next_state;
  end
endfunction // generate_next_state

  assign ns = generate_next_state(cs, in1,in2) ;
endmodule
```

## 10.0 Continous Assignments

Continous assignments imply that whenever any change on the RHS of the assignment occurs, it is evaluated and assigned to the LHS. These assignments thus drive both vector and scalar values onto nets. Continous assignments always implement combinational logic (possibly with delays). The driving strengths of a continous assignment can be specified by the user on the net types.

- Continous assignment on declaration

```
/* since only one net15 declaration exists in a
   given module only one such declarative continous
   assignment per signal is allowed */
```

```
wire #10 (atrong1, pull0) net15 = enable ;
/* delay of 10 for continous assignment with
   strengths of logic 1 as strong1 and logic 0 as
   pull0 */
```

- Continous assignment on already declared nets

```
assign #10 net15 = enable ;
assign (weak1, strong0) {s,c} = a + b ;
```

## 11.0 Procedural Assignments

Assignments to register data types may occur within `always`, `initial`, `task` and `functions`. These expressions are controlled by triggers which cause the assignments to evaluate. The variables to which the expressions are assigned must be made of bit-select or part-select or whole element of a reg, integer, real or time. These triggers can be controlled by loops, `if`, `else`... constructs. `assign` and `deassign` are used for procedural assignments and to remove the continous assignments.

```
module dff (q,qb,clk,d,rst);
  output q, qb;
  input d, rst, clk;
  reg q, qb, temp;
  always
    #1 qb = ~q ; // procedural assignment

  always @(rst)
    // procedural assignment with triggers
    if (rst) assign q = temp;
    else deassign q;

  always @(posedge clk)
    temp = d;
endmodule
```



force and release are also procedural assignments. However, they can force or release values on net data types and registers.

## 11.1 Blocking Assignment

```
module adder (a, b, ci, co, sum, clk) ;
  input a, b, ci, clk ;
  output co, sum ;
  reg co, sum;
  always @(posedge clk) // edge control
    // assign co, sum with previous value of a,b,ci
    {co,sum} = #10 a + b + ci ;
endmodule
```

## 11.2 Non-Blocking Assignment

Allows scheduling of assignments without blocking the procedural flow. Blocking assignments allow timing control which are delays, whereas, non-blocking assignments permit timing control which can be delays or event control. The non-blocking assignment is used to avoid race conditions and can model RTL assignments.

```
/* assume a = 10, b= 20 c = 30 d = 40 at start of
block */

always @(posedge clk)
  begin:block
    a <= #10 b ;
    b <= #10 c ;
    c <= #10 d ;
  end

/* at end of block + 10 time units, a = 20, b = 30,
c = 40 */
```

## 12.0 Gate Types, MOS and Bidirectional Switches

Gate declarations permit the user to instantiate different gate-types and assign drive-strengths to the logic values and also any delays

```
<gate-declaration> ::= <component>
  <drive_strength>? <delay>? <gate_instance>
  <,>?<gate_instance...> ;
```

Gate Types		Component
Gates	Allows strengths	and, nand, or, nor,xor, xnor buf, not
Three State Drivers	Allows strengths	buif0,buif1 notif0,notif1
MOS Switches	No strengths	nmos,pmos,cmos, rnmos,rpmos,rcmos
Bi-directional switches	No strengths, non resistive	tran, tranif0, tranif1
	No strengths, resistive	rtran,rtranif0, rtranif1
	Allows strengths	pullup pulldown

### Gates, switch types, and their instantiations

```
cmos i1 (out, datain, ncontrol, pcontrol);
nmos i2 (out, datain, ncontrol);
pmos i3 (out, datain, pcontrol);
pullup (neta) (netb);
pulldown (netc);
nor i4 (out, in1, in2, ...);
and i5 (out, in1, in2, ...);
nand i6 (out, in1, in2, ...);
buf i7 (out1, out2, in);
bufif1 i8 (out, in, control);
tranif1 i9 (inout1, inout2, control);
```

### Gate level instantiation example

```
// Gate level instantiations
nor (highz1, strong0) #(2:3:5) (out, in1,
  in2);
// instantiates a nor gate with out
// strength of highz1 (for 1) and
// strong0 for 0 #(2:3:5) is the
// min:typ:max delay

pullup1 (strong1) net1;
// instantiates a logic high pullup
cmos (out, data, ncontrol, pcontrol);
// MOS devices
```

The following strength definitions exists

- 4 drive strengths (supply, strong, pull, weak)
- 3 capacitor strengths (large, medium, small)
- 1 high impedance state highz

The drive strengths for each of the output signals are

- Strength of an output signal with logic value 1  
supply1, strong1, pull1, large1, weak1, highz1
- Strength of an output signal with logic value 0  
supply0, strong0, pull0, large0, weak0, highz0

Logic 0		Logic 1		Strength
supply0	Su0	supply1	Su1	7
strong0	St0	strong1	St1	6
pull0	Pu0	pull1	Pu1	5
large	La0	large	La1	4
weak0	We0	weak1	We1	3
medium	Me0	medium	Me1	2
small	Sm0	small	Sm1	1
highz0	HiZ0	highz1	HiZ0	0

## 12.1 Gate Delays

The delays allow the modeling of rise time, fall time and turn-off delays for the gates. Each of these delay types may be in the min:typ:max format. The order of the delays are #(trise, tfall, tturn-off). For example,

```
nand #(6:7:8, 5:6:7, 12:16:19)
  (out, a, b);
```

Delay	Model
# (delay)	min:typ:max delay
# (delay, delay)	rise-time delay, fall-time delay, each delay can be with min:typ:max
# (delay, delay, delay)	rise-time delay, fall-time delay and turn-off delay, each min:typ:max

For `trireg`, the decay of the capacitive network is modeled using the rise-time delay, fall-time delay and charge-decay. For example,

```
trireg (large) # (0,1,9) capacitor
// charge strength is large
// decay with tr=0, tf=1, tdecay=9
```

### 13.0 Specify Blocks

A specify block is used to specify timing information for the module in which the specify block is used. Specparams are used to declare delay constants, much like regular parameters inside a module, but unlike module parameters they cannot be overridden. Paths are used to declare time delays between inputs and outputs.

#### Timing Information using specify blocks

```
specify // similar to defparam, used for timing
specparam delay1 = 25.0, delay2 = 24.0;

// edge sensitive delays -- some simulators
// do not support this
(posedge clock) => (out1 +: in1) =
    (delay1, delay2) ;
// conditional delays
if (OPCODE == 3'h4) (in1, in2 *> out1)
    = (delay1, delay2) ;
// +: implies edge-sensitive +ve polarity
// -: implies edge sensitive -ve polarity
// *> implies multiple paths

// level sensitive delays
if (clock) (in1, in2 *> out1, out2) = 30 ;
// setuphold
$setuphold(posedge clock &&& reset,
    in1 &&& reset, 3:5:6, 2:3:6);
(reset *> out1, out2) = (2:3:5,3:4:5);

endspecify
```

## Verilog

### Synthesis Constructs

The following is a set of Verilog constructs that are supported by most synthesis tools at the time of this writing. To prevent variations in supported synthesis constructs from tool to tool, this is the least common denominator of supported constructs. Tool reference guides cover specific constructs.

### 14.0 Verilog Synthesis Constructs

Since it is very difficult for the synthesis tool to find hardware with exact delays, all absolute and relative time declarations are ignored by the tools. Also, all signals are assumed to be of maximum strength (strength 7). Boolean operations on `x` and `z` are not permitted. The constructs are classified as

- Fully supported constructs — Constructs that are supported as defined in the Verilog Language Reference Manual
- Partially supported — Constructs supported with restrictions on them
- Ignored constructs — Constructs that are ignored by the synthesis tool
- Unsupported constructs — Constructs which if used, may cause the synthesis tool to not accept the Verilog input or may cause different results between synthesis and simulation.

### 14.1 Fully Supported Constructs

```
<module instantiation,
    with named and positional notations>
<integer data types, with all bases>
<identifiers>
<subranges and slices on right-hand
    side of assignment>
<continuous assignments>
>>, <<, ? : {}
assign (procedural and declarative), begin, end
case, casex, casez, endcase
default
```

```
disable
function, endfunction
if, else, else if
input, output, inout
wire, wand, wor, tri
integer, reg
macromodule, module
parameter
supply0, supply1
task, endtask
```

### 14.2 Partially Supported Constructs

Construct	Constraints
<code>*</code> , <code>/</code> , <code>%</code>	when both operands constants, or 2nd operand power of 2.
<code>always</code>	only edge-triggered events.
<code>for</code>	bounded by static variables: only use “+” or “-” to index.
<code>posedge</code> , <code>negedge</code>	only with <code>always @ .</code>
<code>primitive</code> , <code>endprimitive</code> <code>table</code> , <code>endtable</code>	Combinational and edge-sensitive user defined primitives are often supported.
<code>&lt;=</code>	limitations on usage with blocking assignment.
<code>and</code> , <code>nand</code> , <code>or</code> , <code>nor</code> , <code>xor</code> , <code>xnor</code> , <code>buf</code> , <code>not</code> , <code>bufif0</code> , <code>bufif1</code> , <code>notif0</code> , <code>notif1</code>	gate types supported without X or Z constructs
<code>!</code> , <code>&amp;&amp;</code> , <code>  </code> , <code>~</code> , <code>&amp;</code> , <code> </code> , <code>^</code> , <code>^~</code> , <code>~^</code> , <code>~&amp;</code> , <code>~ </code> , <code>+</code> , <code>-</code> , <code>&lt;</code> , <code>&gt;</code> , <code>&lt;=</code> , <code>&gt;=</code> , <code>==</code> , <code>!=</code>	operators supported without X or Z constructs

### 14.3 Ignored Constructs

```
<intra-assignment timing controls>
<delay specifications>
scalared, vectored
small, large, medium
specify
time (some tools treat these as integers)
weak1, weak0, highz0, highz1, pull0, pull1
$keyword (some tools use these to set
          synthesis constraints)
wait (some tools support wait with a
      bounded condition)
```

- NOTES -

- NOTES -

### 14.4 Unsupported Constructs

```
<assignment with variable used as bit select
      on LHS of assignment>
<global variables>
==, !=
cmos, nmos, rcmos, rnmos, pmos, rpmos
deassign
defparam
event
force
fork, join
forever, while
initial
pullup, pulldown
release
repeat
rtran, tran, tranif0, tranif1, rtranif0,
      rtranif1
table, endtable, primitive, endprimitive
```

All rights reserved. Please send any feedback to the author.  
Verilog® is a registered trademark of Cadence Design Systems, Inc.

**Symbols**

\$display, \$write 5  
 \$fdisplay, \$fwrite 5  
 \$finish 5  
 \$getpattern 5  
 \$history 5  
 \$hold, \$width 5  
 \$monitor, \$fmonitor 5  
 \$readmemb, \$readmemh 5  
 \$save, \$restart, \$sincsave 5  
 \$scale 5  
 \$scope, \$showscopes 5  
 \$setup, \$setuphold 5  
 \$showvars 5  
 \$sreadmemb/\$sreadmemh 5  
 \$stop 5  
 \$strobe, \$fstrobe 5  
 \$time, \$realtime 5  
 /\* \*/ 1  
 // 1  
 'autoexpand\_vectornets 4  
 'celldefine, 'endcelldefine 4  
 'default\_nettype 4  
 'define 4  
 'expand\_vectornets 4  
 'noexpand\_vectornets 4  
 'ifdef, 'else, 'endif 4  
 'include 4  
 'nounconnected\_drive 4  
 'protect, 'endprotect 4  
 'protected, 'endprotected 4  
 'remove\_gatename 4  
 'noremove\_gatenames 4  
 'remove\_netname 4  
 'noremove\_netnames 4  
 'resetall 4  
 'signed, 'unsigned 4  
 'timescale 4  
 'unconnected\_drive 4

**A**

Arithmetic Operators 11

**B**

Binary Expressions 10  
 blocking assignment 19

**C**

case 14  
 casex 14  
 casez 14  
 compiler directives 3  
 continuous assignments 18

**D**

delays 21  
 disable 16

**E**

Equality Operators 12  
 Escaped identifiers 1  
 Expressions 10

**F**

for 15  
 forever 15  
 fork ... join 13  
 Fully Supported Synthesis Constructs 23  
 function 16

**G**

Gate declaration 19  
 gate-types 19

**I**

if, if ... else 13  
 Integer literals 1  
 Identity Operators 12

**L**

Logical Operators 11

**M**

Memories 3  
 module 6

**N**

Named blocks 16  
 Nets 2  
 non-blocking assignments 19

**O**

Operator precedence 10

**P**

Partially Supported Synthesis Constructs 24  
 procedural assignments 18  
 pulldown 3  
 pullup 3

**R**

reg, register 2  
 Relational Operators 11  
 repeat 15  
 reserved words 5

**S**

scalared 3  
 Sequential edge sensitive UDP 9  
 Sequential level sensitive UDP 9  
 Shift, other Operators 13  
 specify block 22  
 specparam 22  
 String symbols 1  
 supply0 3  
 supply1 3  
 switch types 20  
 Synthesis Constructs 23  
 Synthesis Ignored Constructs 25  
 Synthesis Unsupported Constructs 25

**T**

task 16  
 tri0 3  
 tri1 3  
 triand 3  
 trior 3  
 trireg 3

**U**

UDP 7  
 Unary Expression 10  
 Unary, Bitwise and Reduction Operators 12

**V**

vectored 3

**W**

wait 16  
 wand 3  
 while 15  
 wire 2  
 wor 3

**X**

x, X 1

**Z**

z, Z 1

**Verilog HDL Publications Order Form**

**Automata Publishing Company**  
 1072 S. Saratoga Sunnyvale Rd., Bldg. A107, Ste 325,  
 San Jose CA-95129. U.S.A  
 Phone: 408-255-0705 Fax: 408-253-7916

**Verilog Publications:**

Publication 1.Digital Design and Synthesis with Verilog HDL  
 Publication 2.Digital Design and Synthesis with Verilog HDL+  
 Source diskette + Quick Reference for Verilog HDL

Name: _____	Title: _____
Company: _____	
Address: _____	
_____	
City: _____	
State: _____	Zip: _____
Ph: _____	Fax: _____

Publication	1	2
Quantity		
Price per book (see below)		
Shipping (see below)		
Sales Tax (CA residents only, @current rate)		
Total amount due		

P.O Number if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Charge my Visa/MC/AmExp. # \_\_\_\_\_

Expires on: \_\_\_\_\_

Publication Qty-Price/copy	1 (US\$)	2 (US\$)
1-4	59.95	65.95
5-9	54.95	60.95
10-19	49.95	54.95
20- 44	44.95	49.95
45 - 99	39.95	44.45
100 - 500	34.95	39.00
Shipping/copy	3.00	3.00

For large volume discounts contact Automata Publishing Company