Yosys Manual

Clifford Wolf

Abstract

Most of today's digital design is done in HDL code (mostly Verilog or VHDL) and with the help of HDL synthesis tools.

In special cases such as synthesis for coarse-grain cell libraries or when testing new synthesis algorithms it might be necessary to write a custom HDL synthesis tool or add new features to an existing one. It this cases the availability of a Free and Open Source (FOSS) synthesis tool that can be used as basis for custom tools would be helpful.

In the absence of such a tool, the Yosys Open SYnthesis Suite (Yosys) was developped. This document covers the design and implementation of this tool. At the moment the main focus of Yosys lies on the high-level aspects of digital synthesis. The pre-existing FOSS logic-synthesis tool ABC is used by Yosys to perform advanced gate-level optimizations.

An evaluation of Yosys based on real-world designs is included. It is shown that Yosys can be used as-is to synthesize such designs. The results produced by Yosys in this tests where successflly verified using formal verification and are comparable in quality to the results produced by a commercial synthesis tool.

This document was originally published as bachelor thesis at the Vienna University of Technology [Wol13].

Abbreviations

AIG	And-Inverter-Graph
ASIC	Application-Specific Integrated Circuit
AST	Abstract Syntax Tree
BDD	Binary Decicion Diagram
BLIF	Berkeley Logic Interchange Format
EDA	Electronic Design Automation
EDIF	Electronic Design Interchange Format
ER Diagram	Entity-Relationship Diagram
FOSS	Free and Open-Source Software
FPGA	Field-Programmable Gate Array
FSM	Finite-state machine
HDL	Hardware Description Language
LPM	Library of Parameterized Modules
RTLIL	RTL Intermediate Language
RTL	Register Transfer Level
SAT	Satisfiability Problem
VHDL	VHSIC Hardware Description Language
VHSIC	Very-High-Speed Integrated Circuit
YOSYS	Yosys Open SYnthesis Suite

Contents

Chapter 1

Introduction

This document presents the Free and Open Source (FOSS) Verilog HDL synthesis tool "Yosys". Its design and implementation as well as its performance on real-world designs is discussed in this document.

1.1 History of Yosys

A Hardware Description Language (HDL) is a computer language used to describe circuits. A HDL synthesis tool is a computer program that takes a formal description of a circuit written in an HDL as input and generates a netlist that implements the given circuit as output.

Currently the most widely used and supported HDLs for digital circuits are Verilog [Ver06][Ver02] and VHDL[1] [VHD09][VHD04]. Both HDLs are used for test and verification purposes as well as logic synthesis, resulting in a set of synthesizable and a set of non-synthesizable language features. In this document we only look at the synthesizable subset of the language features.

In recent work on heterogeneous coarse-grain reconfigurable logic [WGS+12] the need for a custom application-specific HDL synthesis tool emerged. It was soon realised that a synthesis tool that understood Verilog or VHDL would be preferred over a synthesis tool for a custom HDL. Given an existing Verilog or VHDL front end, the work for writing the necessary additional features and integrating them in an existing tool can be estimated to be about the same as writing a new tool with support for a minimalistic custom HDL.

The proposed custom HDL synthesis tool should be licensed under a Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) licence. So an existing FOSS Verilog or VHDL synthesis tool would have been needed as basis to build upon. The main advantages of choosing Verilog or VHDL is the ability to synthesize existing HDL code and to mitigate the requirement for circuit-designers to learn a new language. In order to take full advantage of any existing FOSS Verilog or VHDL tool, such a tool would have to provide a feature-complete implementation of the synthesizable HDL subset.

Basic RTL synthesis is a well understood field [HS96]. Lexing, parsing and processing of computer languages [ASU86] is a thoroughly researched field. All the information required to write such tools has been openly available for a long time, and it is therefore likely that a FOSS HDL synthesis tool with a feature-complete Verilog or VHDL front end must exist which can be used as a basis for a custom RTL synthesis tool.

Due to the author's preference for Verilog over VHDL it was decided early on to go for Verilog instead of VHDL[2]. So the existing FOSS Verilog synthesis tools were evaluated (see App. **??**). The results of this evaluation are utterly devastating. Therefore a completely new Verilog synthesis tool was implemented and is recommended as basis for custom synthesis tools. This is the tool that is discussed in this document.

[1] VHDL is an acronym for "VHSIC hardware description language" and VHSIC is an acronym for "Very-High-Speed Integrated Circuits".
[2] A quick investigation into FOSS VHDL tools yielded similar grim results for FOSS VHDL synthesis tools.

1.2 Structure of this Document

The structure of this document is as follows:

Chapter 1 is this introduction.

Chapter 2 covers a short introduction to the world of HDL synthesis. Basic principles and the terminology are outlined in this chapter.

Chapter 3 gives the quickest possible outline to how the problem of implementing a HDL synthesis tool is approached in the case of Yosys.

Chapter 4 contains a more detailed overview of the implementation of Yosys. This chapter covers the data structures used in Yosys to represent a design in detail and is therefore recommended reading for everyone who is interested in understanding the Yosys internals.

Chapter 5 covers the internal cell library used by Yosys. This is especially important knowledge for anyone who wants to understand the intermediate netlists used internally by Yosys.

Chapter 6 gives a tour to the internal APIs of Yosys. This is recommended reading for everyone who actually wants to read or write Yosys source code. The chapter concludes with an example loadable module for Yosys.

Chapters 7, 8, and 9 cover three important pieces of the synthesis pipeline: The Verilog frontend, the optimization passes and the technology mapping to the target architecture, respectively.

Chapter **??** covers the evaluation of the performance (correctness and quality) of Yosys on real-world input data. The chapter concludes the main part of this document with conclusions and outlook to future work.

Various appendices, including a command reference manual (App. C) and an evaluation of pre-existing FOSS Verilog synthesis tools (App. **??**) complete this document.

Chapter 2

Basic Principles

This chapter contains a short introduction to the basic principles of digital circuit synthesis.

2.1 Levels of Abstraction

Digital circuits can be represented at different levels of abstraction. During the design process a circuit is usually first specified using a higher level abstraction. Implementation can then be understood as finding a functionally equivalent representation at a lower abstraction level. When this is done automatically using software, the term *synthesis* is used.

So synthesis is the automatic conversion of a high-level representation of a circuit to a functionally equivalent low-level representation of a circuit. Figure 2.1 lists the different levels of abstraction and how they relate to different kinds of synthesis.

Regardless of the way a lower level representation of a circuit is obtained (synthesis or manual design), the lower level representation is usually verified by comparing simulation results of the lower level and the higher level representation [1]. Therefore even if no synthesis is used, there must still be a simulatable representation of the circuit in all levels to allow for verification of the design.

[1] In recent years formal equivalence checking also became an important verification method for validating RTL and lower abstraction representation of the design.

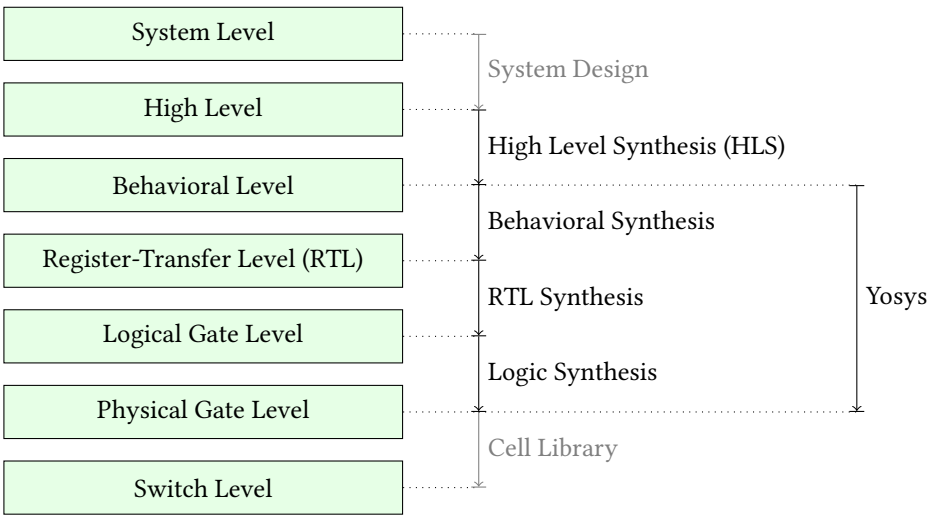


Figure 2.1: Different levels of abstraction and synthesis.

Note: The exact meaning of terminology such as "High-Level" is of course not fixed over time. For example the HDL "ABEL" was first introduced in 1985 as "A High-Level Design Language for Programmable Logic Devices" [LHBB85], but would not be considered a "High-Level Language" today.

2.1.1 System Level

The System Level abstraction of a system only looks at its biggest building blocks like CPUs and computing cores. At this level the circuit is usually described using traditional programming languages like C/C++ or Matlab. Sometimes special software libraries are used that are aimed at simulation circuits on the system level, such as SystemC.

Usually no synthesis tools are used to automatically transform a system level representation of a circuit to a lower-level representation. But system level design tools exist that can be used to connect system level building blocks.

The IEEE 1685-2009 standard defines the IP-XACT file format that can be used to represent designs on the system level and building blocks that can be used in such system level designs. [IP-10]

2.1.2 High Level

The high-level abstraction of a system (sometimes referred to as *algorithmic* level) is also often represented using traditional programming languages, but with a reduced feature set. For example when representing a design at the high level abstraction in C, pointers can only be used to mimic concepts that can be found in hardware, such as memory interfaces. Full featured dynamic memory management is not allowed as it has no corresponding concept in digital circuits.

Tools exist to synthesize high level code (usually in the form of C/C++/SystemC code with additional metadata) to behavioural HDL code (usually in the form of Verilog or VHDL code). Aside from the many commercial tools for high level synthesis there are also a number of FOSS tools for high level synthesis [16] [19].

2.1.3 Behavioural Level

At the behavioural abstraction level a language aimed at hardware description such as Verilog or VHDL is used to describe the circuit, but so-called *behavioural modelling* is used in at least part of the circuit description. In behavioural modelling there must be a language feature that allows for imperative programming to be used to describe data paths and registers. This is the `always`-block in Verilog and the `process`-block in VHDL.

In behavioural modelling, code fragments are provided together with a *sensitivity list*; a list of signals and conditions. In simulation, the code fragment is executed whenever a signal in the sensitivity list changes its value or a condition in the sensitivity list is triggered. A synthesis tool must be able to transfer this representation into an appropriate datapath followed by the appropriate types of register.

For example consider the following Verilog code fragment:

```
1 always @(posedge clk)
2         y <= a + b;
```

In simulation the statement `y <= a + b` is executed whenever a positive edge on the signal `clk` is detected. The synthesis result however will contain an adder that calculates the sum `a + b` all the time, followed by a d-type flip-flop with the adder output on its D-input and the signal `y` on its Q-output.

Usually the imperative code fragments used in behavioural modelling can contain statements for conditional execution (**`if`**- and **`case`**-statements in Verilog) as well as loops, as long as those loops can be completely unrolled.

Interestingly there seems to be no other FOSS Tool that is capable of performing Verilog or VHDL behavioural syntheses besides Yosys (see App. **??**).

2.1.4 Register-Transfer Level (RTL)

On the Register-Transfer Level the design is represented by combinatorial data paths and registers (usually d-type flip flops). The following Verilog code fragment is equivalent to the previous Verilog example, but is in RTL representation:

```
1 assign tmp = a + b;         // combinatorial data path
2
3 always @(posedge clk)       // register
4         y <= tmp;
```

A design in RTL representation is usually stored using HDLs like Verilog and VHDL. But only a very limited subset of features is used, namely minimalistic `always`-blocks (Verilog) or `process`-blocks (VHDL) that model the register type used and unconditional assignments for the datapath logic. The use of HDLs on this level simplifies simulation as no additional tools are required to simulate a design in RTL representation.

Many optimizations and analyses can be performed best at the RTL level. Examples include FSM detection and optimization, identification of memories or other larger building blocks and identification of shareable resources.

Note that RTL is the first abstraction level in which the circuit is represented as a graph of circuit elements (registers and combinatorial cells) and signals. Such a graph, when encoded as list of cells and connections, is called a netlist.

RTL synthesis is easy as each circuit node element in the netlist can simply be replaced with an equivalent gate-level circuit. However, usually the term *RTL synthesis* does not only refer to synthesizing an RTL netlist to a gate level netlist but also to performing a number of highly sophisticated optimizations within the RTL representation, such as the examples listed above.

A number of FOSS tools exist that can perform isolated tasks within the domain of RTL synthesis steps. But there seems to be no FOSS tool that covers a wide range of RTL synthesis operations.

2.1.5 Logical Gate Level

At the logical gate level the design is represented by a netlist that uses only cells from a small number of single-bit cells, such as basic logic gates (AND, OR, NOT, XOR, etc.) and registers (usually D-Type Flip-flops).

A number of netlist formats exists that can be used on this level, e.g. the Electronic Design Interchange Format (EDIF), but for ease of simulation often a HDL netlist is used. The latter is a HDL file (Verilog or VHDL) that only uses the most basic language constructs for instantiation and connecting of cells.

There are two challenges in logic synthesis: First finding opportunities for optimizations within the gate level netlist and second the optimal (or at least good) mapping of the logic gate netlist to an equivalent netlist of physically available gate types.

The simplest approach to logic synthesis is *two-level logic synthesis*, where a logic function is converted into a sum-of-products representation, e.g. using a Karnaugh map. This is a simple approach, but has exponential worst-case effort and cannot make efficient use of physical gates other than AND/NAND-, OR/NOR- and NOT-Gates.

Therefore modern logic synthesis tools utilize much more complicated *multi-level logic synthesis* algorithms [BHSV90]. Most of these algorithms convert the logic function to a Binary-Decision-Diagram (BDD) or And-Inverter-Graph (AIG) and work from that representation. The former has the advantage that it has a unique normalized form. The latter has much better worst case performance and is therefore better suited for the synthesis of large logic functions.

Good FOSS tools exists for multi-level logic synthesis [27] [26] [28].

Yosys contains basic logic synthesis functionality but can also use ABC [27] for the logic synthesis step. Using ABC is recommended.

2.1.6 Physical Gate Level

On the physical gate level only gates are used that are physically available on the target architecture. In some cases this may only be NAND, NOR and NOT gates as well as D-Type registers. In other cases this might include cells that are more complex than the cells used at the logical gate level (e.g. complete half-adders). In the case of an FPGA-based design the physical gate level representation is a netlist of LUTs with optional output registers, as these are the basic building blocks of FPGA logic cells.

For the synthesis tool chain this abstraction is usually the lowest level. In case of an ASIC-based design the cell library might contain further information on how the physical cells map to individual switches (transistors).

2.1.7 Switch Level

A switch level representation of a circuit is a netlist utilizing single transistors as cells. Switch level modelling is possible in Verilog and VHDL, but is seldom used in modern designs, as in modern digital ASIC or FPGA flows the physical gates are considered the atomic build blocks of the logic circuit.

2.1.8 Yosys

Yosys is a Verilog HDL synthesis tool. This means that it takes a behavioural design description as input and generates an RTL, logical gate or physical gate level description of the design as output. Yosys' main strengths are behavioural and RTL synthesis. A wide range of commands (synthesis passes) exist within Yosys that can be used to perform a wide range of synthesis tasks within the domain of behavioural, rtl and logic synthesis. Yosys is designed to be extensible and therefore is a good basis for implementing custom synthesis tools for specialised tasks.

2.2 Features of Synthesizable Verilog

The subset of Verilog [Ver06] that is synthesizable is specified in a separate IEEE standards document, the IEEE standard 1364.1-2002 [Ver02]. This standard also describes how certain language constructs are to be interpreted in the scope of synthesis.

This section provides a quick overview of the most important features of synthesizable Verilog, structured in order of increasing complexity.

2.2.1 Structural Verilog

Structural Verilog (also known as *Verilog Netlists*) is a Netlist in Verilog syntax. Only the following language constructs are used in this case:

- Constant values
- Wire and port declarations
- Static assignments of signals to other signals
- Cell instantiations

Many tools (especially at the back end of the synthesis chain) only support structural Verilog as input. ABC is an example of such a tool. Unfortunately there is no standard specifying what *Structural Verilog* actually is, leading to some confusion about what syntax constructs are supported in structural Verilog when it comes to features such as attributes or multi-bit signals.

2.2.2 Expressions in Verilog

In all situations where Verilog accepts a constant value or signal name, expressions using arithmetic operations such as +, - and *, boolean operations such as & (AND), | (OR) and ^ (XOR) and many others (comparison operations, unary operator, etc.) can also be used.

During synthesis these operators are replaced by cells that implement the respective function.

Many FOSS tools that claim to be able to process Verilog in fact only support basic structural Verilog and simple expressions. Yosys can be used to convert full featured synthesizable Verilog to this simpler subset, thus enabling such applications to be used with a richer set of Verilog features.

2.2.3 Behavioural Modelling

Code that utilizes the Verilog `always` statement is using *Behavioural Modelling*. In behavioural modelling, a circuit is described by means of imperative program code that is executed on certain events, namely any change, a rising edge, or a falling edge of a signal. This is a very flexible construct during simulation but is only synthesizable when one of the following is modelled:

- **Asynchronous or latched logic**
  In this case the sensitivity list must contain all expressions that are used within the `always` block. The syntax `@*` can be used for these cases. Examples of this kind include:

```
1  // asynchronous
2  always @* begin
3          if (add_mode)
4                  y <= a + b;
5          else
6                  y <= a - b;
7  end
8
9  // latched
10 always @* begin
11         if (!hold)
12                 y <= a + b;
13 end
```

  Note that latched logic is often considered bad style and in many cases just the result of sloppy HDL design. Therefore many synthesis tools generate warnings whenever latched logic is generated.

- **Synchronous logic (with optional synchronous reset)**
  This is logic with d-type flip-flops on the output. In this case the sensitivity list must only contain the respective clock edge. Example:

```
1  // counter with synchronous reset
2  always @(posedge clk) begin
3          if (reset)
4                  y <= 0;
5          else
6                  y <= y + 1;
7  end
```

- **Synchronous logic with asynchronous reset**
  This is logic with d-type flip-flops with asynchronous resets on the output. In this case the sensitivity list must only contain the respective clock and reset edges. The values assigned in the reset branch must be constant. Example:

```
1 // counter with asynchronous reset
2 always @(posedge clk, posedge reset) begin
3         if (reset)
4                 y <= 0;
5         else
6                 y <= y + 1;
7 end
```

Many synthesis tools support a wider subset of flip-flops that can be modelled using `always`-statements (including Yosys). But only the ones listed above are covered by the Verilog synthesis standard and when writing new designs one should limit herself or himself to these cases.

In behavioural modelling, blocking assignments (=) and non-blocking assignments (<=) can be used. The concept of blocking vs. non-blocking assignment is one of the most misunderstood constructs in Verilog [CI00].

The blocking assignment behaves exactly like an assignment in any imperative programming language, while with the non-blocking assignment the right hand side of the assignment is evaluated immediately but the actual update of the left hand side register is delayed until the end of the time-step. For example the Verilog code `a <= b; b <= a;` exchanges the values of the two registers. See Sec. ?? for a more detailed description of this behaviour.

2.2.4 Functions and Tasks

Verilog supports *Functions* and *Tasks* to bundle statements that are used in multiple places (similar to *Procedures* in imperative programming). Both constructs can be implemented easily by substituting the function/task-call with the body of the function or task.

2.2.5 Conditionals, Loops and Generate-Statements

Verilog supports **`if-else`**-statements and **`for`**-loops inside **`always`**-statements.

It also supports both features in **`generate`**-statements on the module level. This can be used to selectively enable or disable parts of the module based on the module parameters (**`if-else`**) or to generate a set of similar subcircuits (**`for`**).

While the **`if-else`**-statement inside an always-block is part of behavioural modelling, the three other cases are (at least for a synthesis tool) part of a built-in macro processor. Therefore it must be possible for the synthesis tool to completely unroll all loops and evaluate the condition in all **`if-else`**-statement in **`generate`**-statements using const-folding.

Examples for this can be found in Fig. ?? and Fig. ?? in App. ??.

2.2.6 Arrays and Memories

Verilog supports arrays. This is in general a synthesizable language feature. In most cases arrays can be synthesized by generating addressable memories. However, when complex or asynchronous access patterns are used, it is not possible to model an array as memory. In these cases the array must be modelled using individual signals for each word and all accesses to the array must be implemented using large multiplexers.

In some cases it would be possible to model an array using memories, but it is not desired. Consider the following delay circuit:

```
1  module (clk, in_data, out_data);
2
3  parameter BITS = 8;
4  parameter STAGES = 4;
5
6  input clk;
7  input [BITS-1:0] in_data;
8  output [BITS-1:0] out_data;
9  reg [BITS-1:0] ffs [STAGES-1:0];
10
11 integer i;
12 always @(posedge clk) begin
13         ffs[0] <= in_data;
14         for (i = 1; i < STAGES; i = i+1)
15                 ffs[i] <= ffs[i-1];
16 end
17
18 assign out_data = ffs[STAGES-1];
19
20 endmodule
```

This could be implemented using an addressable memory with STAGES input and output ports. A better implementation would be to use a simple chain of flip-flops (a so-called shift register). This better implementation can either be obtained by first creating a memory-based implementation and then optimizing it based on the static address signals for all ports or directly identifying such situations in the language front end and converting all memory accesses to direct accesses to the correct signals.

2.3 Challenges in Digital Circuit Synthesis

This section summarizes the most important challenges in digital circuit synthesis. Tools can be characterized by how well they address these topics.

2.3.1 Standards Compliance

The most important challenge is compliance with the HDL standards in question (in case of Verilog the IEEE Standards 1364.1-2002 and 1364-2005). This can be broken down in two items:

- Completeness of implementation of the standard
- Correctness of implementation of the standard

Completeness is mostly important to guarantee compatibility with existing HDL code. Once a design has been verified and tested, HDL designers are very reluctant regarding changes to the design, even if it is only about a few minor changes to work around a missing feature in a new synthesis tool.

Correctness is crucial. In some areas this is obvious (such as correct synthesis of basic behavioural models). But it is also crucial for the areas that concern minor details of the standard, such as the exact rules for handling signed expressions, even when the HDL code does not target different synthesis tools. This is because (unlike software source code that is only processed by compilers), in most design flows HDL code is not only processed by the synthesis tool but also by one or more simulators and sometimes even a formal verification tool. It is key for this verification process that all these tools use the same interpretation for the HDL code.

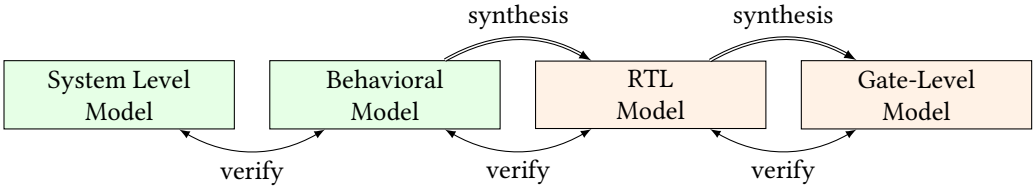


Figure 2.2: Typical design flow. Green boxes represent manually created models. Orange boxes represent models generated by synthesis tools.

2.3.2 Optimizations

Generally it is hard to give a one-dimensional description of how well a synthesis tool optimizes the design. First of all because not all optimizations are applicable to all designs and all synthesis tasks. Some optimizations work (best) on a coarse-grained level (with complex cells such as adders or multipliers) and others work (best) on a fine-grained level (single bit gates). Some optimizations target area and others target speed. Some work well on large designs while others don't scale well and can only be applied to small designs.

A good tool is capable of applying a wide range of optimizations at different levels of abstraction and gives the designer control over which optimizations are performed (or skipped) and what the optimization goals are.

2.3.3 Technology Mapping

Technology mapping is the process of converting the design into a netlist of cells that are available in the target architecture. In an ASIC flow this might be the process-specific cell library provided by the fab. In an FPGA flow this might be LUT cells as well as special function units such as dedicated multipliers. In a coarse-grain flow this might even be more complex special function units.

An open and vendor independent tool is especially of interest if it supports a wide range of different types of target architectures.

2.4 Script-Based Synthesis Flows

A digital design is usually started by implementing a high-level or system-level simulation of the desired function. This description is then manually transformed (or re-implemented) into a synthesizable lower-level description (usually at the behavioural level) and the equivalence of the two representations is verified by simulating both and comparing the simulation results.

Then the synthesizable description is transformed to lower-level representations using a series of tools and the results are again verified using simulation. This process is illustrated in Fig. 2.2.

In this example the System Level Model and the Behavioural Model are both manually written design files. After the equivalence of system level model and behavioural model has been verified, the lower level representations of the design can be generated using synthesis tools. Finally the RTL Model and the Gate-Level Model are verified and the design process is finished.

However, in any real-world design effort there will be multiple iterations for this design process. The reason for this can be the late change of a design requirement or the fact that the analysis of a low-abstraction model (e.g. gate-level timing analysis) revealed that a design change is required in order to meet the design requirements (e.g. maximum possible clock speed).

Whenever the behavioural model or the system level model is changed their equivalence must be re-verified by re-running the simulations and comparing the results. Whenever the behavioural model is changed the synthesis must be re-run and the synthesis results must be re-verified.

Token-Type	Token-Value
TOK_ASSIGN	-
TOK_IDENTIFIER	"foo"
TOK_EQ	-
TOK_IDENTIFIER	"bar"
TOK_PLUS	-
TOK_NUMBER	42
TOK_SEMICOLON	-

Table 2.1: Exemplary token list for the statement "`assign foo = bar + 42;`".

In order to guarantee reproducibility it is important to be able to re-run all automatic steps in a design project with a fixed set of settings easily. Because of this, usually all programs used in a synthesis flow can be controlled using scripts. This means that all functions are available via text commands. When such a tool provides a GUI, this is complementary to, and not instead of, a command line interface.

Usually a synthesis flow in an UNIX/Linux environment would be controlled by a shell script that calls all required tools (synthesis and simulation/verification in this example) in the correct order. Each of these tools would be called with a script file containing commands for the respective tool. All settings required for the tool would be provided by these script files so that no manual interaction would be necessary. These script files are considered design sources and should be kept under version control just like the source code of the system level and the behavioural model.

2.5 Methods from Compiler Design

Some parts of synthesis tools involve problem domains that are traditionally known from compiler design. This section addresses some of these domains.

2.5.1 Lexing and Parsing

The best known concepts from compiler design are probably *lexing* and *parsing*. These are two methods that together can be used to process complex computer languages easily. [ASU86]

A *lexer* consumes single characters from the input and generates a stream of *lexical tokens* that consist of a *type* and a *value*. For example the Verilog input "`assign foo = bar + 42;`" might be translated by the lexer to the list of lexical tokens given in Tab. 2.1.

The lexer is usually generated by a lexer generator (e.g. `flex` [17]) from a description file that is using regular expressions to specify the text pattern that should match the individual tokens.

The lexer is also responsible for skipping ignored characters (such as whitespace outside string constants and comments in the case of Verilog) and converting the original text snippet to a token value.

Note that individual keywords use different token types (instead of a keyword type with different token values). This is because the parser usually can only use the Token-Type to make a decision on the grammatical role of a token.

The parser then transforms the list of tokens into a parse tree that closely resembles the productions from the computer languages grammar. As the lexer, the parser is also typically generated by a code generator (e.g. `bison` [18]) from a grammar description in Backus-Naur Form (BNF).

Let's consider the following BNF (in Bison syntax):

```
1 assign_stmt: TOK_ASSIGN TOK_IDENTIFIER TOK_EQ expr TOK_SEMICOLON;
2 expr: TOK_IDENTIFIER | TOK_NUMBER | expr TOK_PLUS expr;
```

The parser converts the token list to the parse tree in Fig. 2.3. Note that the parse tree never actually exists as a whole as data structure in memory. Instead the parser calls user-specified code snippets (so-called *reduce-functions*) for all inner nodes of the parse tree in depth-first order.

In some very simple applications (e.g. code generation for stack machines) it is possible to perform the task at hand directly in the reduce functions. But usually the reduce functions are only used to build an in-memory data structure with the relevant information from the parse tree. This data structure is called an *abstract syntax tree* (AST).

The exact format for the abstract syntax tree is application specific (while the format of the parse tree and token list are mostly dictated by the grammar of the language at hand). Figure 2.4 illustrates what an AST for the parse tree in Fig. 2.3 could look like.

Usually the AST is then converted into yet another representation that is more suitable for further processing. In compilers this is often an assembler-like three-address-code intermediate representation. [ASU86]

2.5.2 Multi-Pass Compilation

Complex problems are often best solved when split up into smaller problems. This is certainly true for compilers as well as for synthesis tools. The components responsible for solving the smaller problems can be connected in two different ways: through *Single-Pass Pipelining* and by using *Multiple Passes*.

Traditionally a parser and lexer are connected using the pipelined approach: The lexer provides a function that is called by the parser. This function reads data from the input until a complete lexical token has been read. Then this token is returned to the parser. So the lexer does not first generate a complete list of lexical tokens and then pass it to the parser. Instead they run concurrently and the parser can consume tokens as the lexer produces them.

The single-pass pipelining approach has the advantage of lower memory footprint (at no time must the complete design be kept in memory) but has the disadvantage of tighter coupling between the interacting components.

Therefore single-pass pipelining should only be used when the lower memory footprint is required or the components are also conceptually tightly coupled. The latter certainly is the case for a parser and its lexer. But when data is passed between two conceptually loosely coupled components it is often beneficial to use a multi-pass approach.

In the multi-pass approach the first component processes all the data and the result is stored in a in-memory data structure. Then the second component is called with this data. This reduces complexity, as only one component is running at a time. It also improves flexibility as components can be exchanged easier.

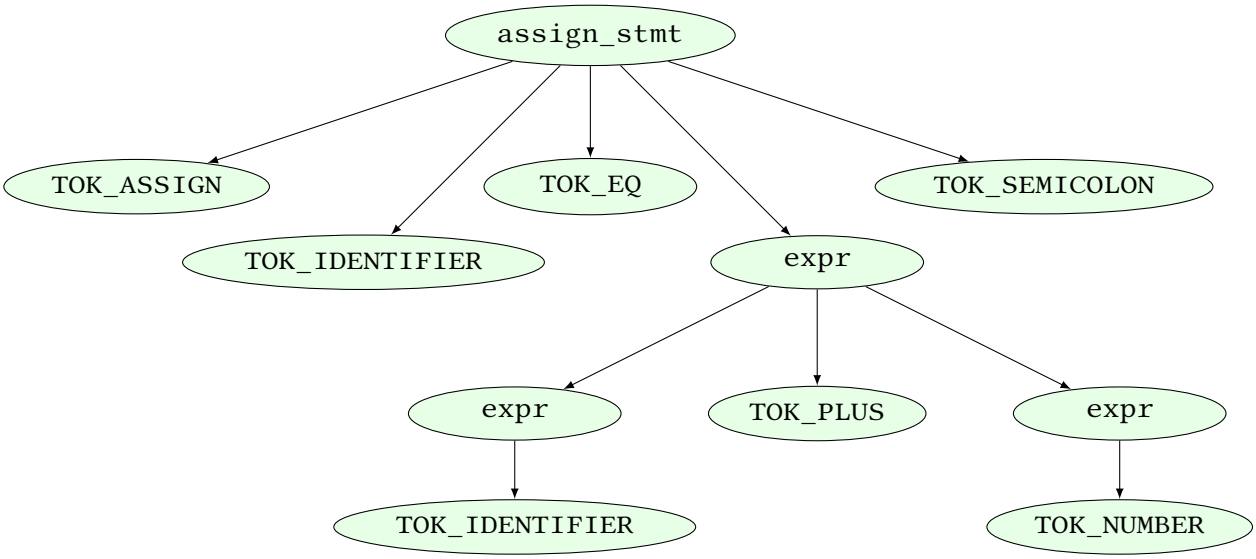


Figure 2.3: Example parse tree for the Verilog expression "`assign foo = bar + 42;`".

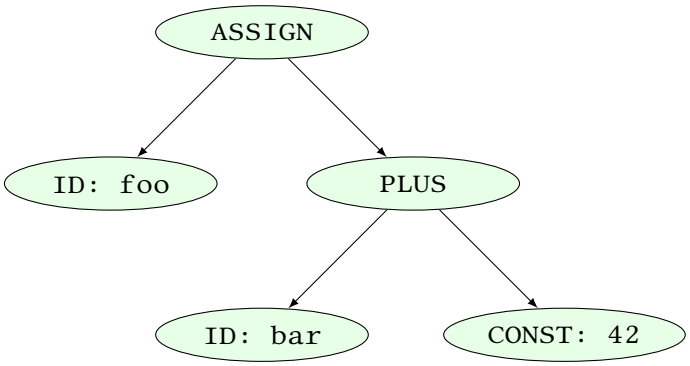


Figure 2.4: Example abstract syntax tree for the Verilog expression "`assign foo = bar + 42;`".

Most modern compilers are multi-pass compilers.

Chapter 3

Approach

Yosys is a tool for synthesising (behavioural) Verilog HDL code to target architecture netlists. Yosys aims at a wide range of application domains and thus must be flexible and easy to adapt to new tasks. This chapter covers the general approach followed in the effort to implement this tool.

3.1 Data- and Control-Flow

The data- and control-flow of a typical synthesis tool is very similar to the data- and control-flow of a typical compiler: different subsystems are called in a predetermined order, each consuming the data generated by the last subsystem and generating the data for the next subsystem (see Fig. 3.1).

The first subsystem to be called is usually called a *frontend*. It does not process the data generated by another subsystem but instead reads the user input—in the case of a HDL synthesis tool, the behavioural HDL code.

The subsystems that consume data from previous subsystems and produce data for the next subsystems (usually in the same or a similar format) are called *passes*.

The last subsystem that is executed transforms the data generated by the last pass into a suitable output format and writes it to a disk file. This subsystem is usually called the *backend*.

In Yosys all frontends, passes and backends are directly available as commands in the synthesis script. Thus the user can easily create a custom synthesis flow just by calling passes in the right order in a synthesis script.

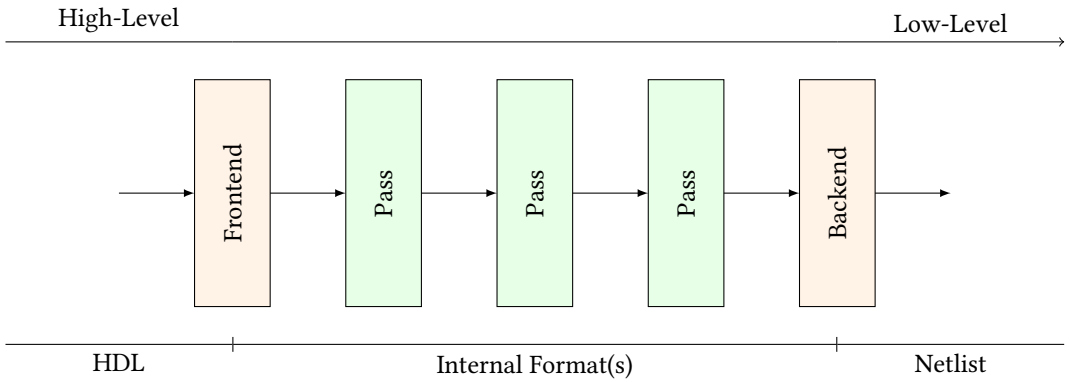


Figure 3.1: General data- and control-flow of a synthesis tool

3.2 Internal Formats in Yosys

Yosys uses two different internal formats. The first is used to store an abstract syntax tree (AST) of a Verilog input file. This format is simply called *AST* and is generated by the Verilog Frontend. This data structure is consumed by a subsystem called *AST Frontend*[1]. This AST Frontend then generates a design in Yosys' main internal format, the Register-Transfer-Level-Intermediate-Language (RTLIL) representation. It does that by first performing a number of simplifications within the AST representation and then generating RTLIL from the simplified AST data structure.

The RTLIL representation is used by all passes as input and outputs. This has the following advantages over using different representational formats between different passes:

- The passes can be rearranged in a different order and passes can be removed or inserted.
- Passes can simply pass-thru the parts of the design they don't change without the need to convert between formats. In fact Yosys passes output the same data structure they received as input and performs all changes in place.
- All passes use the same interface, thus reducing the effort required to understand a pass when reading the Yosys source code, e.g. when adding additional features.

The RTLIL representation is basically a netlist representation with the following additional features:

- An internal cell library with fixed-function cells to represent RTL datapath and register cells as well as logical gate-level cells (single-bit gates and registers).
- Support for multi-bit values that can use individual bits from wires as well as constant bits to represent coarse-grain netlists.
- Support for basic behavioural constructs (if-then-else structures and multi-case switches with a sensitivity list for updating the outputs).
- Support for multi-port memories.

The use of RTLIL also has the disadvantage of having a very powerful format between all passes, even when doing gate-level synthesis where the more advanced features are not needed. In order to reduce complexity for passes that operate on a low-level representation, these passes check the features used in the input RTLIL and fail to run when unsupported high-level constructs are used. In such cases a pass that transforms the higher-level constructs to lower-level constructs must be called from the synthesis script first.

3.3 Typical Use Case

The following example script may be used in a synthesis flow to convert the behavioural Verilog code from the input file `design.v` to a gate-level netlist `synth.v` using the cell library described by the Liberty file [25] `cells.lib`:

```
1 # read input file to internal representation
2 read_verilog design.v
3
4 # convert high-level behavioral parts ("processes") to d-type flip-flops and muxes
5 proc
6
7 # perform some simple optimizations
```

[1] In Yosys the term *pass* is only used to refer to commands that operate on the RTLIL data structure.

```
8  opt
9
10 # convert high-level memory constructs to d-type flip-flops and multiplexers
11 memory
12
13 # perform some simple optimizations
14 opt
15
16 # convert design to (logical) gate-level netlists
17 techmap
18
19 # perform some simple optimizations
20 opt
21
22 # map internal register types to the ones from the cell library
23 dfflibmap -liberty cells.lib
24
25 # use ABC to map remaining logic to cells from the cell library
26 abc -liberty cells.lib
27
28 # cleanup
29 opt
30
31 # write results to output file
32 write_verilog synth.v
```

A detailed description of the commands available in Yosys can be found in App. C.

Chapter 4

Implementation Overview

Yosys is an extensible open source hardware synthesis tool. It is aimed at designers who are looking for an easily accessible, universal, and vendor-independent synthesis tool, as well as scientists who do research in electronic design automation (EDA) and are looking for an open synthesis framework that can be used to test algorithms on complex real-world designs.

Yosys can synthesize a large subset of Verilog 2005 and has been tested with a wide range of real-world designs, including the OpenRISC 1200 CPU [23], the openMSP430 CPU [22], the OpenCores I^2C master [20] and the k68 CPU [21].

As of this writing a Yosys VHDL frontend is in development.

Yosys is written in C++ (using some features from the new C++11 standard). This chapter describes some of the fundamental Yosys data structures. For the sake of simplicity the C++ type names used in the Yosys implementation are used in this chapter, even though the chapter only explains the conceptual idea behind it and can be used as reference to implement a similar system in any language.

4.1 Simplified Data Flow

Figure 4.1 shows the simplified data flow within Yosys. Rectangles in the figure represent program modules and ellipses internal data structures that are used to exchange design data between the program modules.

Design data is read in using one of the frontend modules. The high-level HDL frontends for Verilog and VHDL code generate an abstract syntax tree (AST) that is then passed to the AST frontend. Note that both HDL frontends use the same AST representation that is powerful enough to cover the Verilog HDL and VHDL language.

The AST Frontend then compiles the AST to Yosys's main internal data format, the RTL Intermediate Language (RTLIL). A more detailed description of this format is given in the next section.

There is also a text representation of the RTLIL data structure that can be parsed using the ILANG Frontend.

The design data may then be transformed using a series of passes that all operate on the RTLIL representation of the design.

Finally the design in RTLIL representation is converted back to text by one of the backends, namely the Verilog Backend for generating Verilog netlists and the ILANG Backend for writing the RTLIL data in the same format that is understood by the ILANG Frontend.

With the exception of the AST Frontend, which is called by the high-level HDL frontends and can't be called directly by the user, all program modules are called by the user (usually using a synthesis script that contains text commands for Yosys).

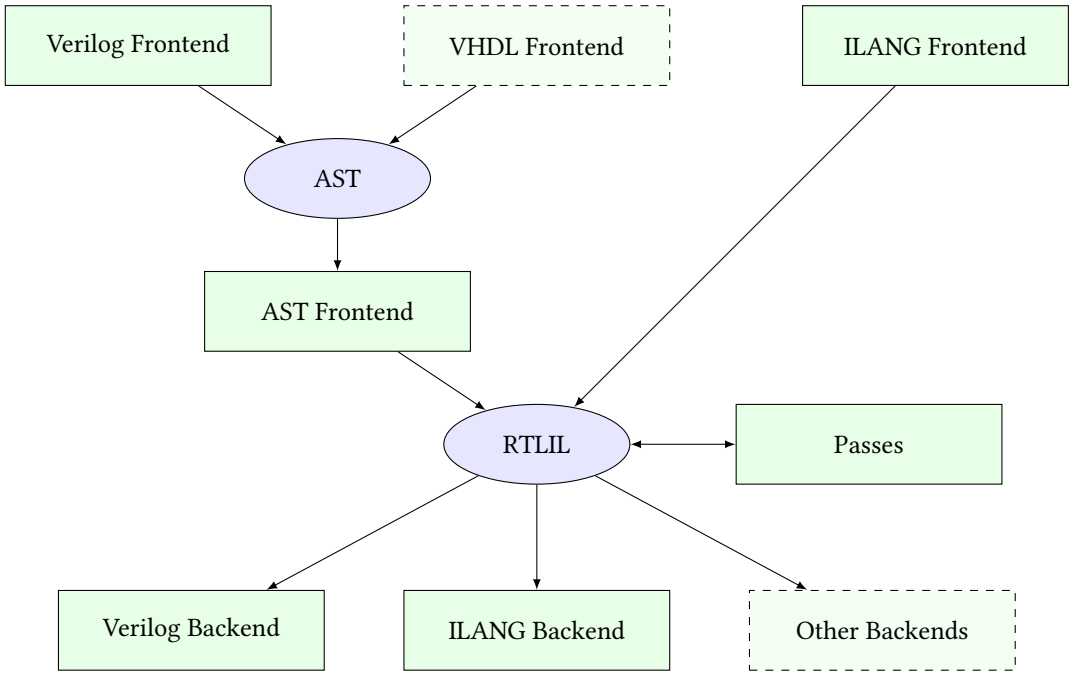


Figure 4.1: Yosys simplified data flow (ellipses: data structures, rectangles: program modules)

By combining passes in different ways and/or adding additional passes to Yosys it is possible to adapt Yosys to a wide range of applications. For this to be possible it is key that (1) all passes operate on the same data structure (RTLIL) and (2) that this data structure is powerful enough to represent the design in different stages of the synthesis.

4.2 The RTL Intermediate Language

All frontends, passes and backends in Yosys operate on a design in RTLIL[1] representation. The only exception are the high-level frontends that use the AST representation as an intermediate step before generating RTLIL data.

In order to avoid reinventing names for the RTLIL classes, they are simply referred to by their full C++ name, i.e. including the `RTLIL::` namespace prefix, in this document.

Figure 4.2 shows a simplified Entity-Relationship Diagram (ER Diagram) of RTLIL. In $1 : N$ relationships the arrow points from the N side to the 1. For example one RTLIL::Design contains N (zero to many) instances of RTLIL::Module. A two-pointed arrow indicates a $1 : 1$ relationship.

The RTLIL::Design is the root object of the RTLIL data structure. There is always one "current design" in memory which passes operate on, frontends add data to and backends convert to exportable formats. But in some cases passes internally generate additional RTLIL::Design objects. For example when a pass is reading an auxiliary Verilog file such as a cell library, it might create an additional RTLIL::Design object and call the Verilog frontend with this other object to parse the cell library.

There is only one active RTLIL::Design object that is used by all frontends, passes and backends called by the user, e.g. using a synthesis script. The RTLIL::Design then contains zero to many RTLIL::Module objects. This corresponds to modules in Verilog or entities in VHDL. Each module in turn contains objects from three different categories:

[1] The *Language* in *RTL Intermediate Language* refers to the fact, that RTLIL also has a text representation, usually referred to as *Intermediate Language* (ILANG).

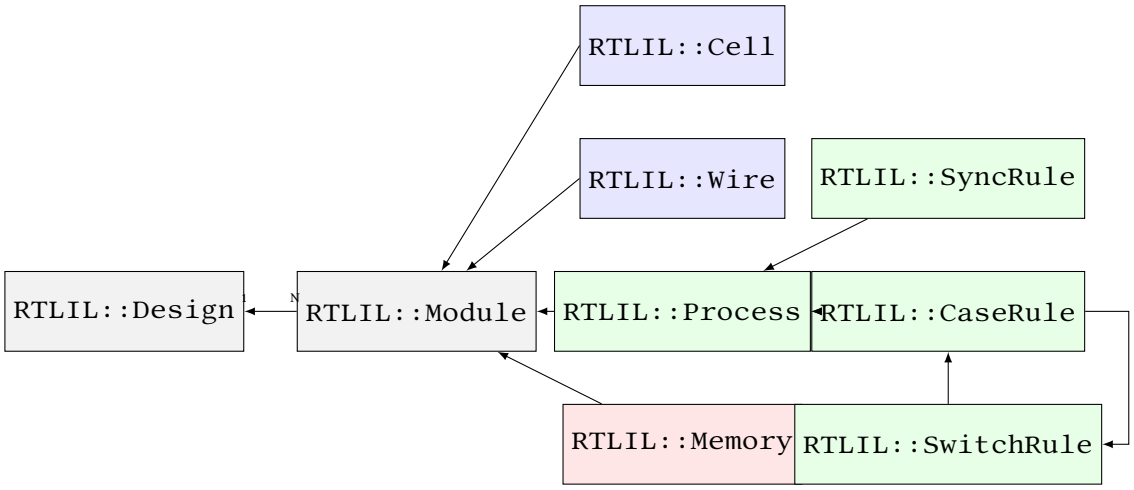


Figure 4.2: Simplified RTLIL Entity-Relationship Diagram

- RTLIL::Cell and RTLIL::Wire objects represent classical netlist data.
- RTLIL::Process objects represent the decision trees (if-then-else statements, etc.) and synchronization declarations (clock signals and sensitivity) from Verilog `always` and VHDL `process` blocks.
- RTLIL::Memory objects represent addressable memories (arrays).

Usually the output of the synthesis procedure is a netlist, i.e. all RTLIL::Process and RTLIL::Memory objects must be replaced by RTLIL::Cell and RTLIL::Wire objects by synthesis passes.

All features of the HDL that cannot be mapped directly to these RTLIL classes must be transformed to an RTLIL-compatible representation by the HDL frontend. This includes Verilog-features such as generate-blocks, loops and parameters.

The following sections contain a more detailed description of the different parts of RTLIL and rationale behind some of the design decisions.

4.2.1 RTLIL Identifiers

All identifiers in RTLIL (such as module names, port names, signal names, cell types, etc.) follow the following naming convention: they must either start with a backslash (\) or a dollar sign ($).

Identifiers starting with a backslash are public visible identifiers. Usually they originate from one of the HDL input files. For example the signal name "`\sig42`" is most likely a signal that was declared using the name "`sig42`" in an HDL input file. On the other hand the signal name "`$sig42`" is an auto-generated signal name. The backends convert all identifiers that start with a dollar sign to identifiers that do not collide with identifiers that start with a backslash.

This has three advantages:

- First, it is impossible that an auto-generated identifier collides with an identifier that was provided by the user.
- Second, the information about which identifiers were originally provided by the user is always available which can help guide some optimizations. For example the "opt_rmunused" tries to preserve signals with a user-provided name but doesn't hesitate to delete signals that have auto-generated names when they just duplicate other signals.

- Third, the delicate job of finding suitable auto-generated public visible names is deferred to one central location. Internally auto-generated names that may hold important information for Yosys developers can be used without disturbing external tools. For example the Verilog backend assigns names in the form *_integer_*.

In order to avoid programming errors, the RTLIL data structures check if all identifiers start with either a backslash or a dollar sign and generate a runtime error if this rule is violated.

All RTLIL identifiers are case sensitive.

4.2.2 RTLIL::Design and RTLIL::Module

The RTLIL::Design object is basically just a container for RTLIL::Module objects. In addition to a list of RTLIL::Module objects the RTLIL::Design also keeps a list of *selected objects*, i.e. the objects that passes should operate on. In most cases the whole design is selected and therefore passes operate on the whole design. But this mechanism can be useful for more complex synthesis jobs in which only parts of the design should be affected by certain passes.

Besides the objects shown in the ER diagram in Fig. 4.2 an RTLIL::Module object contains the following additional properties:

- The module name
- A list of attributes
- A list of connections between wires
- An optional frontend callback used to derive parametrized variations of the module

The attributes can be Verilog attributes imported by the Verilog frontend or attributes assigned by passes. They can be used to store additional metadata about modules or just mark them to be used by certain part of the synthesis script but not by others.

Verilog and VHDL both support parametric modules (known as "generic entities" in VHDL). The RTLIL format does not support parametric modules itself. Instead each module contains a callback function into the AST frontend to generate a parametrized variation of the RTLIL::Module as needed. This callback then returns the auto-generated name of the parametrized variation of the module. (A hash over the parameters and the module name is used to prohibit the same parametrized variation from being generated twice. For modules with only a few parameters, a name directly containing all parameters is generated instead of a hash string.)

4.2.3 RTLIL::Cell and RTLIL::Wire

A module contains zero to many RTLIL::Cell and RTLIL::Wire objects. Objects of these types are used to model netlists. Usually the goal of all synthesis efforts is to convert all modules to a state where the functionality of the module is implemented only by cells from a given cell library and wires to connect these cells with each other. Note that module ports are just wires with a special property.

An RTLIL::Wire object has the following properties:

- The wire name
- A list of attributes
- A width (buses are just wires with a width > 1)
- If the wire is a port: port number and direction (input/output/inout)

As with modules, the attributes can be Verilog attributes imported by the Verilog frontend or attributes assigned by passes.

In Yosys, busses (signal vectors) are represented using a single wire object with a width > 1. So Yosys does not convert signal vectors to individual signals. This makes some aspects of RTLIL more complex but enables Yosys to be used for coarse grain synthesis where the cells of the target architecture operate on entire signal vectors instead of single bit wires.

An RTLIL::Cell object has the following properties:

- The cell name and type
- A list of attributes
- A list of parameters (for parametric cells)
- Cell ports and the connections of ports to wires and constants

The connections of ports to wires are coded by assigning an RTLIL::SigSpec to each cell port. The RTLIL::SigSpec data type is described in the next section.

4.2.4 RTLIL::SigSpec

A "signal" is everything that can be applied to a cell port. I.e.

- Any constant value of arbitrary bit-width
  For example: `1337, 16'b0000010100111001, 1'b1, 1'bx`
- All bits of a wire or a selection of bits from a wire
  For example: `mywire, mywire[24], mywire[15:8]`
- Concatenations of the above
  For example: `{16'd1337, mywire[15:8]}`

The RTLIL::SigSpec data type is used to represent signals. The RTLIL::Cell object contains one RTLIL::SigSpec for each cell port.

In addition, connections between wires are represented using a pair of RTLIL::SigSpec objects. Such pairs are needed in different locations. Therefore the type name RTLIL::SigSig was defined for such a pair.

4.2.5 RTLIL::Process

When a high-level HDL frontend processes behavioural code it splits it up into data path logic (e.g. the expression `a + b` is replaced by the output of an adder that takes `a` and `b` as inputs) and an RTLIL::Process that models the control logic of the behavioural code. Let's consider a simple example:

```
1 module ff_with_en_and_async_reset(clock, reset, enable, d, q);
2 input clock, reset, enable, d;
3 output reg q;
4 always @(posedge clock, posedge reset)
5         if (reset)
6                 q <= 0;
7         else if (enable)
8                 q <= d;
9 endmodule
```

In this example there is no data path and therefore the RTLIL::Module generated by the frontend only contains a few RTLIL::Wire objects and an RTLIL::Process. The RTLIL::Process in ILANG syntax:

```
1  process $proc$ff_with_en_and_async_reset.v:4$1
2          assign $0\q[0:0] \q
3          switch \reset
4                  case 1'1
5                          assign $0\q[0:0] 1'0
6                  case
7                          switch \enable
8                                  case 1'1
9                                          assign $0\q[0:0] \d
10                                 case
11                         end
12         end
13         sync posedge \clock
14                 update \q $0\q[0:0]
15         sync posedge \reset
16                 update \q $0\q[0:0]
17 end
```

This RTLIL::Process contains two RTLIL::SyncRule objects, two RTLIL::SwitchRule objects and five RTLIL::CaseRule objects. The wire `$0\q[0:0]` is an automatically created wire that holds the next value of `\q`. The lines 2 . . . 12 describe how `$0\q[0:0]` should be calculated. The lines 13 . . . 16 describe how the value of `$0\q[0:0]` is used to update `\q`.

An RTLIL::Process is a container for zero or more RTLIL::SyncRule objects and exactly one RTLIL::CaseRule object, which is called the *root case*.

An RTLIL::SyncRule object contains an (optional) synchronization condition (signal and edge-type) and zero or more assignments (RTLIL::SigSig).

An RTLIL::CaseRule is a container for zero or more assignments (RTLIL::SigSig) and zero or more RTLIL::SwitchRule objects. An RTLIL::SwitchRule objects is a container for zero or more RTLIL::CaseRule objects.

In the above example the lines 2 . . . 12 are the root case. Here `$0\q[0:0]` is first assigned the old value `\q` as default value (line 2). The root case also contains an RTLIL::SwitchRule object (lines 3 . . . 12). Such an object is very similar to the C `switch` statement as it uses a control signal (`\reset` in this case) to determine which of its cases should be active. The RTLIL::SwitchRule object then contains one RTLIL::CaseRule object per case. In this example there is a case[2] for `\reset == 1` that causes `$0\q[0:0]` to be set (lines 4 and 5) and a default case that in turn contains a switch that sets `$0\q[0:0]` to the value of `\d` if `\enable` is active (lines 6 . . . 11).

The lines 13 . . . 16 then cause `\q` to be updated whenever there is a positive clock edge on `\clock` or `\reset`.

In order to generate such a representation, the language frontend must be able to handle blocking and nonblocking assignments correctly. However, the language frontend does not need to identify the correct type of storage element for the output signal or generate multiplexers for the decision tree. This is done by passes that work on the RTLIL representation. Therefore it is relatively easy to substitute these steps with other algorithms that target different target architectures or perform optimizations or other transformations on the decision trees before further processing them.

One of the first actions performed on a design in RTLIL representation in most synthesis scripts is identifying asynchronous resets. This is usually done using the `proc_arst` pass. This pass transforms the above example to the following RTLIL::Process:

[2] The syntax 1 ' 1 in the ILANG code specifies a constant with a length of one bit (the first "1"), and this bit is a one (the second "1").

```
process $proc$ff_with_en_and_async_reset.v:4$1
        assign $0\q[0:0] \q
        switch \enable
                case 1'1
                        assign $0\q[0:0] \d
                case
        end
        sync posedge \clock
                update \q $0\q[0:0]
        sync high \reset
                update \q 1'0
end
```

This pass has transformed the outer RTLIL::SwitchRule into a modified RTLIL::SyncRule object for the `\reset` signal. Further processing converts the RTLIL::Process into e.g. a d-type flip-flop with asynchronous reset and a multiplexer for the enable signal:

```
cell $adff $procdff$6
        parameter \ARST_POLARITY 1'1
        parameter \ARST_VALUE 1'0
        parameter \CLK_POLARITY 1'1
        parameter \WIDTH 1
        connect \ARST \reset
        connect \CLK \clock
        connect \D $0\q[0:0]
        connect \Q \q
end
cell $mux $procmux$3
        parameter \WIDTH 1
        connect \A \q
        connect \B \d
        connect \S \enable
        connect \Y $0\q[0:0]
end
```

Different combinations of passes may yield different results. Note that `$adff` and `$mux` are internal cell types that still need to be mapped to cell types from the target cell library.

Some passes refuse to operate on modules that still contain RTLIL::Process objects as the presence of these objects in a module increases the complexity. Therefore the passes to translate processes to a netlist of cells are usually called early in a synthesis script. The `proc` pass calls a series of other passes that together perform this conversion in a way that is suitable for most synthesis tasks.

4.2.6 RTLIL::Memory

For every array (memory) in the HDL code an RTLIL::Memory object is created. A memory object has the following properties:

- The memory name
- A list of attributes
- The width of an addressable word

- The size of the memory in number of words

All read accesses to the memory are transformed to `$memrd` cells and all write accesses to `$memwr` cells by the language frontend. These cells consist of independent read- and write-ports to the memory. The `\MEMID` parameter on these cells is used to link them together and to the RTLIL::Memory object they belong to.

The rationale behind using separate cells for the individual ports versus creating a large multiport memory cell right in the language frontend is that the separate `$memrd` and `$memwr` cells can be consolidated using resource sharing. As resource sharing is a non-trivial optimization problem where different synthesis tasks can have different requirements it lends itself to do the optimisation in separate passes and merge the RTLIL::Memory objects and `$memrd` and `$memwr` cells to multiport memory blocks after resource sharing is completed.

The `memory` pass performs this conversion and can (depending on the options passed to it) transform the memories directly to d-type flip-flops and address logic or yield multiport memory blocks (represented using `$mem` cells).

See Sec. 5.1.5 for details about the memory cell types.

4.3 Command Interface and Synthesis Scripts

Yosys reads and processes commands from synthesis scripts, command line arguments and an interactive command prompt. Yosys commands consist of a command name and an optional whitespace separated list of arguments. Commands are terminated using the newline character or a semicolon (`;`). Empty lines and lines starting with the hash sign (#) are ignored. See Sec. 3.3 for an example synthesis script.

The command `help` can be used to access the command reference manual.

Most commands can operate not only on the entire design but also specifically on *selected* parts of the design. For example the command `dump` will print all selected objects in the current design while `dump foobar` will only print the module `foobar` and `dump *` will print the entire design regardless of the current selection.

The selection mechanism is very powerful. For example the command `dump */t:$add %x:+[A] */w:* %i` will print all wires that are connected to the `\A` port of a `$add` cell. Detailed documentation of the select framework can be found in the command reference for the `select` command.

4.4 Source Tree and Build System

The Yosys source tree is organized into the following top-level directories:

- `backends/`
  This directory contains a subdirectory for each of the backend modules.
- `frontends/`
  This directory contains a subdirectory for each of the frontend modules.
- `kernel/`
  This directory contains all the core functionality of Yosys. This includes the functions and definitions for working with the RTLIL data structures (`rtlil.h` and `rtlil.cc`), the main() function (`driver.cc`), the internal framework for generating log messages (`log.h` and `log.cc`), the internal framework for registering and calling passes (`register.h` and `register.cc`), some core commands that are not really passes (`select.cc`, `show.cc`, ...) and a couple of other small utility libraries.
- `passes/`
  This directory contains a subdirectory for each pass or group of passes. For example as of this writing the directory `passes/opt/` contains the code for seven passes: `opt`, `opt_const`, `opt_muxtree`, `opt_reduce`, `opt_rmdff`, `opt_rmunused` and `opt_share`.

- `techlibs/`
  This directory contains simulation models and standard implementations for the cells from the internal cell library.

- `tests/`
  This directory contains a couple of test cases. Most of the smaller tests are executed automatically when `make test` is called. The larger tests must be executed manually. Most of the larger tests require downloading external HDL source code and/or external tools. The tests range from comparing simulation results of the synthesized design to the original sources to logic equivalence checking of entire CPU cores.

The top-level Makefile includes `frontends/*/Makefile.inc`, `passes/*/Makefile.inc` and `backends/*/Makefile.inc`. So when extending Yosys it is enough to create a new directory in `frontends/`, `passes/` or `backends/` with your sources and a `Makefile.inc`. The Yosys kernel automatically detects all commands linked with Yosys. So it is not needed to add additional commands to a central list of commands.

Good starting points for reading example source code to learn how to write passes are `passes/opt/opt_rmdff.cc` and `passes/opt/opt_share.cc`.

See the top-level README file for a quick *Getting Started* guide and build instructions. The Yosys build is based solely on Makefiles.

Users of the Qt Creator IDE can generate a QT Creator project file using `make qtcreator`. Users of the Eclipse IDE can use the "Makefile Project with Existing Code" project type in the Eclipse "New Project" dialog (only available after the CDT plugin has been installed) to create an Eclipse project in order to programming extensions to Yosys or just browse the Yosys code base.

Chapter 5

Internal Cell Library

Most of the passes in Yosys operate on netlists, i.e. they only care about the RTLIL::Wire and RTLIL::Cell objects in an RTLIL::Module. This chapter discusses the cell types used by Yosys to represent a behavioural design internally.

This chapter is split in two parts. In the first part the internal RTL cells are covered. These cells are used to represent the design on a coarse grain level. Like in the original HDL code on this level the cells operate on vectors of signals and complex cells like adders exist. In the second part the internal gate cells are covered. These cells are used to represent the design on a fine-grain gate-level. All cells from this category operate on single bit signals.

5.1 RTL Cells

Most of the RTL cells closely resemble the operators available in HDLs such as Verilog or VHDL. Therefore Verilog operators are used in the following sections to define the behaviour of the RTL cells.

Note that all RTL cells have parameters indicating the size of inputs and outputs. When passes modify RTL cells they must always keep the values of these parameters in sync with the size of the signals connected to the inputs and outputs.

Simulation models for the RTL cells can be found in the file `techlibs/common/simlib.v` in the Yosys source tree.

5.1.1 Unary Operators

All unary RTL cells have one input port `\A` and one output port `\Y`. They also have the following parameters:

- `\A_SIGNED`
  Set to a non-zero value if the input `\A` is signed and therefore should be sign-extended when needed.
- `\A_WIDTH`
  The width of the input port `\A`.
- `\Y_WIDTH`
  The width of the output port `\Y`.

Table 5.1 lists all cells for unary RTL operators.

Note that `$reduce_or` and `$reduce_bool` actually represent the same logic function. But the HDL frontends generate them in different situations. A `$reduce_or` cell is generated when the prefix `|` operator is being used. A `$reduce_bool` cell is generated when a bit vector is used as a condition in an `if`-statement or `?:`-expression.

Verilog	Cell Type
Y = ~A	$not
Y = +A	$pos
Y = -A	$neg
Y = &A	$reduce_and
Y = |A	$reduce_or
Y = ^A	$reduce_xor
Y = ~^A	$reduce_xnor
Y = |A	$reduce_bool
Y = !A	$logic_not

Table 5.1: Cell types for unary operators with their corresponding Verilog expressions.

5.1.2 Binary Operators

All binary RTL cells have two input ports \A and \B and one output port \Y. They also have the following parameters:

- \A_SIGNED
  Set to a non-zero value if the input \A is signed and therefore should be sign-extended when needed.
- \A_WIDTH
  The width of the input port \A.
- \B_SIGNED
  Set to a non-zero value if the input \B is signed and therefore should be sign-extended when needed.
- \B_WIDTH
  The width of the input port \B.
- \Y_WIDTH
  The width of the output port \Y.

Table 5.2 lists all cells for binary RTL operators.

5.1.3 Multiplexers

Multiplexers are generated by the Verilog HDL frontend for ?:-expressions. Multiplexers are also generated by the proc pass to map the decision trees from RTLIL::Process objects to logic.

The simplest multiplexer cell type is $mux. Cells of this type have a \WIDTH parameter and data inputs \A and \B and a data output \Y, all of the specified width. This cell also has a single bit control input \S. If \S is 0 the value from the \A input is sent to the output, if it is 1 the value from the \B input is sent to the output. So the $mux cell implements the function Y = S ? B : A.

The $pmux cell is used to multiplex between many inputs using a one-hot select signal. Cells of this type have a \WIDTH and a \S_WIDTH parameter and inputs \A, \B, and \S and an output \Y. The \S input is \S_WIDTH bits wide. The \A input and the output are both \WIDTH bits wide and the \B input is \WIDTH*\S_WIDTH bits wide. When all bits of \S are zero, the value from \A input is sent to the output. If the n'th bit from \S is set, the value n'th \WIDTH bits wide slice of the \B input is sent to the output. When more than one bit from \S is set the output is undefined. Cells of this type are used to model "parallel cases" (defined by using the parallel_case attribute or detected by an optimization).

Behavioural code with cascaded if-then-else- and case-statements usually results in trees of multiplexer cells. Many passes (from various optimizations to FSM extraction) heavily depend on these multiplexer trees to understand dependencies between signals. Therefore optimizations should not break these multiplexer trees (e.g. by replacing a multiplexer between a calculated signal and a constant zero with an $and gate).

Verilog	Cell Type
Y = A & B	$and
Y = A | B	$or
Y = A ^ B	$xor
Y = A ~^ B	$xnor
Y = A << B	$shl
Y = A >> B	$shr
Y = A <<< B	$sshl
Y = A >>> B	$sshr
Y = A && B	$logic_and
Y = A || B	$logic_or
Y = A === B	$eqx
Y = A !== B	$nex

Verilog	Cell Type
Y = A < B	$lt
Y = A <= B	$le
Y = A == B	$eq
Y = A != B	$ne
Y = A >= B	$ge
Y = A > B	$gt
Y = A + B	$add
Y = A - B	$sub
Y = A * B	$mul
Y = A / B	$div
Y = A % B	$mod
Y = A ** B	$pow

Table 5.2: Cell types for binary operators with their corresponding Verilog expressions.

5.1.4 Registers

D-Type Flip-Flops are represented by `$dff` cells. These cells have a clock port `\CLK`, an input port `\D` and an output port `\Q`. The following parameters are available for $dff cells:

- `\WIDTH`
  The width of input `\D` and output `\Q`.
- `\CLK_POLARITY`
  Clock is active on the positive edge if this parameter has the value `1'b1` and on the negative edge if this parameter is `1'b0`.

D-Type Flip-Flops with asynchronous resets are represented by `$adff` cells. As the `$dff` cells they have `\CLK`, `\D` and `\Q` ports. In addition they also have a single-bit `\ARST` input port for the reset pin and the following additional two parameters:

- `\ARST_POLARITY`
  The asynchronous reset is high-active if this parameter has the value `1'b1` and low-active if this parameter is `1'b0`.
- `\ARST_VALUE`
  The state of `\Q` will be set to this value when the reset is active.

Note that the `$adff` cell can only be used when the reset value is constant.

Usually these cells are generated by the `proc` pass using the information in the designs RTLIL::Process objects.

FIXME:
Add information about `$sr` cells (set-reset flip-flops) and d-type latches.

5.1.5 Memories

Memories are either represented using RTLIL::Memory objects and `$memrd` and `$memwr` cells or simply by using `$mem` cells.

In the first alternative the RTLIL::Memory objects hold the general metadata for the memory (bit width, size in number of words, etc.) and for each port a `$memrd` (read port) or `$memwr` (write port) cell is created. Having

individual cells for read and write ports has the advantage that they can be consolidated using resource sharing passes. In some cases this drastically reduces the number of required ports on the memory cell.

The `$memrd` cells have a clock input \CLK, an enable input \EN, an address input \ADDR, and a data output \DATA. They also have the following parameters:

- \MEMID
  The name of the RTLIL::Memory object that is associated with this read port.
- \ABITS
  The number of address bits (width of the \ADDR input port).
- \WIDTH
  The number of data bits (width of the \DATA output port).
- \CLK_ENABLE
  When this parameter is non-zero, the clock is used. Otherwise this read port is asynchronous and the \CLK input is not used.
- \CLK_POLARITY
  Clock is active on the positive edge if this parameter has the value `1'b1` and on the negative edge if this parameter is `1'b0`.
- \TRANSPARENT
  If this parameter is set to `1'b1`, a read and write to the same address in the same cycle will return the new value. Otherwise the old value is returned.

The `$memwr` cells have a clock input \CLK, an enable input \EN (one enable bit for each data bit), an address input \ADDR and a data input \DATA. They also have the following parameters:

- \MEMID
  The name of the RTLIL::Memory object that is associated with this read port.
- \ABITS
  The number of address bits (width of the \ADDR input port).
- \WIDTH
  The number of data bits (width of the \DATA output port).
- \CLK_ENABLE
  When this parameter is non-zero, the clock is used. Otherwise this read port is asynchronous and the \CLK input is not used.
- \CLK_POLARITY
  Clock is active on positive edge if this parameter has the value `1'b1` and on the negative edge if this parameter is `1'b0`.
- \PRIORITY
  The cell with the higher integer value in this parameter wins a write conflict.

The HDL frontend models a memory using RTLIL::Memory objects and asynchronous `$memrd` and `$memwr` cells. The `memory` pass (i.e. its various sub-passes) migrates `$dff` cells into the `$memrd` and `$memwr` cells making them synchronous, then converts them to a single `$mem` cell and (optionally) maps this cell type to `$dff` cells for the individual words and multiplexer-based address decoders for the read and write interfaces. When the last step is disabled or not possible, a `$mem` cell is left in the design.

The `$mem` cell provides the following parameters:

- \MEMID
  The name of the original RTLIL::Memory object that became this $mem cell.
- \SIZE
  The number of words in the memory.
- \ABITS
  The number of address bits.
- \WIDTH
  The number of data bits per word.
- \RD_PORTS
  The number of read ports on this memory cell.
- \RD_CLK_ENABLE
  This parameter is \RD_PORTS bits wide, containing a clock enable bit for each read port.
- \RD_CLK_POLARITY
  This parameter is \RD_PORTS bits wide, containing a clock polarity bit for each read port.
- \RD_TRANSPARENT
  This parameter is \RD_PORTS bits wide, containing a transparent bit for each read port.
- \WR_PORTS
  The number of write ports on this memory cell.
- \WR_CLK_ENABLE
  This parameter is \WR_PORTS bits wide, containing a clock enable bit for each write port.
- \WR_CLK_POLARITY
  This parameter is \WR_PORTS bits wide, containing a clock polarity bit for each write port.

The $mem cell has the following ports:

- \RD_CLK
  This input is \RD_PORTS bits wide, containing all clock signals for the read ports.
- \RD_EN
  This input is \RD_PORTS bits wide, containing all enable signals for the read ports.
- \RD_ADDR
  This input is \RD_PORTS*\ABITS bits wide, containing all address signals for the read ports.
- \RD_DATA
  This input is \RD_PORTS*\WIDTH bits wide, containing all data signals for the read ports.
- \WR_CLK
  This input is \WR_PORTS bits wide, containing all clock signals for the write ports.
- \WR_EN
  This input is \WR_PORTS*\WIDTH bits wide, containing all enable signals for the write ports.
- \WR_ADDR
  This input is \WR_PORTS*\ABITS bits wide, containing all address signals for the write ports.
- \WR_DATA
  This input is \WR_PORTS*\WIDTH bits wide, containing all data signals for the write ports.

The techmap pass can be used to manually map $mem cells to specialized memory cells on the target architecture, such as block ram resources on an FPGA.

Verilog	Cell Type
`Y = ~A`	`$_NOT_`
`Y = A & B`	`$_AND_`
`Y = A | B`	`$_OR_`
`Y = A ^ B`	`$_XOR_`
`Y = S ? B : A`	`$_MUX_`
`always` `@(`**`negedge`** `C) Q <= D`	`$_DFF_N_`
`always` `@(`**`posedge`** `C) Q <= D`	`$_DFF_P_`

ClkEdge	*RstLvl*	*RstVal*	Cell Type
`negedge`	0	0	`$_DFF_NN0_`
`negedge`	0	1	`$_DFF_NN1_`
`negedge`	1	0	`$_DFF_NP0_`
`negedge`	1	1	`$_DFF_NP1_`
`posedge`	0	0	`$_DFF_PN0_`
`posedge`	0	1	`$_DFF_PN1_`
`posedge`	1	0	`$_DFF_PP0_`
`posedge`	1	1	`$_DFF_PP1_`

Table 5.3: Cell types for gate level logic networks

5.1.6 Finite State Machines

FIXME:
Add a brief description of the `$fsm` cell type.

5.2 Gates

For gate level logic networks, fixed function single bit cells are used that do not provide any parameters.

Simulation models for these cells can be found in the file `techlibs/common/simcells.v` in the Yosys source tree.

Table 5.3 lists all cell types used for gate level logic. The cell types `$_NOT_`, `$_AND_`, `$_OR_`, `$_XOR_` and `$_MUX_` are used to model combinatorial logic. The cell types `$_DFF_N_` and `$_DFF_P_` represent d-type flip-flops.

The cell types `$_DFF_NN0_`, `$_DFF_NN1_`, `$_DFF_NP0_`, `$_DFF_NP1_`, `$_DFF_PN0_`, `$_DFF_PN1_`, `$_DFF_PP0_` and `$_DFF_PP1_` implement d-type flip-flops with asynchronous resets. The values in the table for these cell types relate to the following Verilog code template, where *RstEdge* is **`posedge`** if *RstLvl* if 1, and **`negedge`** otherwise.

```
always @(ClkEdge C, RstEdge R)
        if (R == RstLvl)
                Q <= RstVal;
        else
                Q <= D;
```

In most cases gate level logic networks are created from RTL networks using the `techmap` pass. The flip-flop cells from the gate level logic network can be mapped to physical flip-flop cells from a Liberty file using the `dfflibmap` pass. The combinatorial logic cells can be mapped to physical cells from a Liberty file via ABC [27] using the `abc` pass.

FIXME:
Add information about `$assert`, `$assume`, and `$equiv` cells.

FIXME:
Add information about `$slice` and `$concat` cells.

FIXME:
Add information about `$alu`, `$macc`, `$fa`, and `$lcu` cells.

FIXME:
Add information about `$dffe`, `$dffsr`, `$dlatch`, and `$dlatchsr` cells.

FIXME:
Add information about `$_DFFE_??_`, `$_DFFSR_???_`, `$_DLATCH_?_`, and `$_DLATCHSR_???_` cells.

FIXME:
Add information about `$_NAND_`, `$_NOR_`, `$_XNOR_`, `$_AOI3_`, `$_OAI3_`, `$_AOI4_`, and `$_OAI4_` cells.

Chapter 6

Programming Yosys Extensions

This chapter contains some bits and pieces of information about programming yosys extensions. Also consult the section on programming in the "Yosys Presentation" (can be downloaded from the Yosys website as PDF) and don't be afraid to ask questions on the Yosys Subreddit.

6.1 The "CodingReadme" File

The following is an excerpt of the `CodingReadme` file from the Yosys source tree.

CodingReadme

```
Getting Started
===============


Outline of a Yosys command
--------------------------

Here is a the C++ code for a "hello_world" Yosys command (hello.cc):

        #include "kernel/yosys.h"

        USING_YOSYS_NAMESPACE
        PRIVATE_NAMESPACE_BEGIN

        struct HelloWorldPass : public Pass {
                HelloWorldPass() : Pass("hello_world") { }
                virtual void execute(vector<string>, Design*) {
                        log("Hello World!\n");
                }
        } HelloWorldPass;

        PRIVATE_NAMESPACE_END

This can be built into a Yosys module using the following command:

        yosys-config --exec --cxx --cxxflags --ldflags -o hello.so -shared hello.cc --

```

```
Or short:

        yosys-config --build hello.so hello.cc

And then executed using the following command:

        yosys -m hello.so -p hello_world


Yosys Data Structures
---------------------

Here is a short list of data structures that you should make yourself familiar
with before you write C++ code for Yosys. The following data structures are all
defined when "kernel/yosys.h" is included and USING_YOSYS_NAMESPACE is used.

  1. Yosys Container Classes

Yosys uses dict<K, T> and pool<T> as main container classes. dict<K, T> is
essentially a replacement for std::unordered_map<K, T> and pool<T> is a
replacement for std::unordered_set<T>. The main characteristics are:

        - dict<K, T> and pool<T> are about 2x faster than the std containers

        - references to elements in a dict<K, T> or pool<T> are invalidated by
          insert and remove operations (similar to std::vector<T> on push_back()).

        - some iterators are invalidated by erase(). specifically, iterators
          that have not passed the erased element yet are invalidated. (erase()
          itself returns valid iterator to the next element.)

        - no iterators are invalidated by insert(). elements are inserted at
          begin(). i.e. only a new iterator that starts at begin() will see the
          inserted elements.

        - the method .count(key, iterator) is like .count(key) but only
          considers elements that can be reached via the iterator.

        - iterators can be compared. it1 < it2 means that the position of t2
          can be reached via t1 but not vice versa.

        - the method .sort() can be used to sort the elements in the container
          the container stays sorted until elements are added or removed.

        - dict<K, T> and pool<T> will have the same order of iteration across
          all compilers, standard libraries and architectures.

In addition to dict<K, T> and pool<T> there is also an idict<K> that
creates a bijective map from K to the integers. For example:

        idict<string, 42> si;
        log("%d\n", si("hello"));      // will print 42
        log("%d\n", si("world"));      // will print 43
        log("%d\n", si.at("world"));   // will print 43
```

```
        log("%d\n", si.at("dummy"));   // will throw exception
        log("%s\n", si[42].c_str());  // will print hello
        log("%s\n", si[43].c_str());  // will print world
        log("%s\n", si[44].c_str());  // will throw exception

It is not possible to remove elements from an idict.

Finally mfp<K> implements a merge-find set data structure (aka. disjoint-set or
union-find) over the type K ("mfp" = merge-find-promote).

  2. Standard STL data types

In Yosys we use std::vector<T> and std::string whenever applicable. When
dict<K, T> and pool<T> are not suitable then std::map<K, T> and std::set<T>
are used instead.

The types std::vector<T> and std::string are also available as vector<T>
and string in the Yosys namespace.

  3. RTLIL objects

The current design (essentially a collection of modules, each defined by a
netlist) is stored in memory using RTLIL object (declared in kernel/rtlil.h,
automatically included by kernel/yosys.h). You should glance over at least
the declarations for the following types in kernel/rtlil.h:

        RTLIL::IdString
                This is a handle for an identifier (e.g. cell or wire name).
                It feels a lot like a std::string, but is only a single int
                in size. (The actual string is stored in a global lookup
                table.)

        RTLIL::SigBit
                A single signal bit. I.e. either a constant state (0, 1,
                x, z) or a single bit from a wire.

        RTLIL::SigSpec
                Essentially a vector of SigBits.

        RTLIL::Wire
        RTLIL::Cell
                The building blocks of the netlist in a module.

        RTLIL::Module
        RTLIL::Design
                The module is a container with connected cells and wires
                in it. The design is a container with modules in it.

All this types are also available without the RTLIL:: prefix in the Yosys
namespace.

  4. SigMap and other Helper Classes

There are a couple of additional helper classes that are in wide use
```

```
in Yosys. Most importantly there is SigMap (declared in kernel/sigtools.h).

When a design has many wires in it that are connected to each other, then a
single signal bit can have multiple valid names. The SigMap object can be used
to map SigSpecs or SigBits to unique SigSpecs and SigBits that consistently
only use one wire from such a group of connected wires. For example:

        SigBit a = module->addWire(NEW_ID);
        SigBit b = module->addWire(NEW_ID);
        module->connect(a, b);

        log("%d\n", a == b); // will print 0

        SigMap sigmap(module);
        log("%d\n", sigmap(a) == sigmap(b)); // will print 1


Using the RTLIL Netlist Format
------------------------------

In the RTLIL netlist format the cell ports contain SigSpecs that point to the
Wires. There are no references in the other direction. This has two direct
consequences:

(1) It is very easy to go from cells to wires but hard to go in the other way.

(2) There is no danger in removing cells from the netlists, but removing wires
can break the netlist format when there are still references to the wire
somewhere in the netlist.

The solution to (1) is easy: Create custom indexes that allow you to make fast
lookups for the wire-to-cell direction. You can either use existing generic
index structures to do that (such as the ModIndex class) or write your own
index. For many application it is simplest to construct a custom index. For
example:

        SigMap sigmap(module);
        dict<SigBit, Cell*> sigbit_to_driver_index;

        for (auto cell : module->cells())
                for (auto &conn : cell->connections())
                        if (cell->output(conn.first))
                                for (auto bit : sigmap(conn.second))
                                        sigbit_to_driver_index[bit] = cell;

Regarding (2): There is a general theme in Yosys that you don't remove wires
from the design. You can rename them, unconnect them, but you do not actually remove
the Wire object from the module. Instead you let the "clean" command take care
of the dangling wires. On the other hand it is safe to remove cells (as long as
you make sure this does not invalidate a custom index you are using in your code).


Example Code
------------
```

```
197
198 The following yosys commands are a good starting point if you are looking for examples
199 of how to use the Yosys API:
200
201         manual/CHAPTER_Prog/stubnets.cc
202         manual/PRESENTATION_Prog/my_cmd.cc
203
204
205 Notes on the existing codebase
206 ------------------------------
207
208 For historical reasons not all parts of Yosys adhere to the current coding
209 style. When adding code to existing parts of the system, adhere to this guide
210 for the new code instead of trying to mimic the style of the surrounding code.
211
212
213
214 Coding Style
215 ============
216
217
218 Formatting of code
219 ------------------
220
221 - Yosys code is using tabs for indentation. Tabs are 8 characters.
222
223 - A continuation of a statement in the following line is indented by
224   two additional tabs.
225
226 - Lines are as long as you want them to be. A good rule of thumb is
227   to break lines at about column 150.
228
229 - Opening braces can be put on the same or next line as the statement
230   opening the block (if, switch, for, while, do). Put the opening brace
231   on its own line for larger blocks, especially blocks that contains
232   blank lines.
233
234 - Otherwise stick to the Linux Kernel Coding Style:
235     https://www.kernel.org/doc/Documentation/CodingStyle
236
237
238 C++ Language
239 -------------
240
241 Yosys is written in C++11. At the moment only constructs supported by
242 gcc 4.6 are allowed in Yosys code. This will change in future releases.
243
244 In general Yosys uses "int" instead of "size_t". To avoid compiler
245 warnings for implicit type casts, always use "GetSize(foobar)" instead
246 of "foobar.size()". (GetSize() is defined in kernel/yosys.h)
247
248 Use range-based for loops whenever applicable.
```

6.2 The "stubsnets" Example Module

The following is the complete code of the "stubsnets" example module. It is included in the Yosys source distribution as `manual/CHAPTER_Prog/stubnets.cc`.

stubnets.cc

```
// This is free and unencumbered software released into the public domain.
//
// Anyone is free to copy, modify, publish, use, compile, sell, or
// distribute this software, either in source code form or as a compiled
// binary, for any purpose, commercial or non-commercial, and by any
// means.

#include "kernel/yosys.h"
#include "kernel/sigtools.h"

#include <string>
#include <map>
#include <set>

USING_YOSYS_NAMESPACE
PRIVATE_NAMESPACE_BEGIN

// this function is called for each module in the design
static void find_stub_nets(RTLIL::Design *design, RTLIL::Module *module, bool report_b
{
        // use a SigMap to convert nets to a unique representation
        SigMap sigmap(module);

        // count how many times a single-bit signal is used
        std::map<RTLIL::SigBit, int> bit_usage_count;

        // count output lines for this module (needed only for summary output at the e
        int line_count = 0;

        log("Looking for stub wires in module %s:\n", RTLIL::id2cstr(module->name));

        // For all ports on all cells
        for (auto &cell_iter : module->cells_)
        for (auto &conn : cell_iter.second->connections())
        {
                // Get the signals on the port
                // (use sigmap to get a uniqe signal name)
                RTLIL::SigSpec sig = sigmap(conn.second);

                // add each bit to bit_usage_count, unless it is a constant
                for (auto &bit : sig)
                        if (bit.wire != NULL)
                                bit_usage_count[bit]++;
        }

        // for each wire in the module
        for (auto &wire_iter : module->wires_)
        {
```

```
49                  RTLIL::Wire *wire = wire_iter.second;
50
51                  // .. but only selected wires
52                  if (!design->selected(module, wire))
53                          continue;
54
55                  // add +1 usage if this wire actually is a port
56                  int usage_offset = wire->port_id > 0 ? 1 : 0;
57
58                  // we will record which bits of the (possibly multi-bit) wire are stub
59                  std::set<int> stub_bits;
60
61                  // get a signal description for this wire and split it into separate b
62                  RTLIL::SigSpec sig = sigmap(wire);
63
64                  // for each bit (unless it is a constant):
65                  // check if it is used at least two times and add to stub_bits otherwi
66                  for (int i = 0; i < GetSize(sig); i++)
67                          if (sig[i].wire != NULL && (bit_usage_count[sig[i]] + usage_of
68                                  stub_bits.insert(i);
69
70                  // continue if no stub bits found
71                  if (stub_bits.size() == 0)
72                          continue;
73
74                  // report stub bits and/or stub wires, don't report single bits
75                  // if called with report_bits set to false.
76                  if (GetSize(stub_bits) == GetSize(sig)) {
77                          log("  found stub wire: %s\n", RTLIL::id2cstr(wire->name));
78                  } else {
79                          if (!report_bits)
80                                  continue;
81                          log("  found wire with stub bits: %s [", RTLIL::id2cstr(wire->
82                          for (int bit : stub_bits)
83                                  log("%s%d", bit == *stub_bits.begin() ? "" : ", ", bit
84                          log("]\n");
85                  }
86
87                  // we have outputted a line, increment summary counter
88                  line_count++;
89          }
90
91          // report summary
92          if (report_bits)
93                  log("  found %d stub wires or wires with stub bits.\n", line_count);
94          else
95                  log("  found %d stub wires.\n", line_count);
96  }
97
98  // each pass contains a singleton object that is derived from Pass
99  struct StubnetsPass : public Pass {
100         StubnetsPass() : Pass("stubnets") { }
101         virtual void execute(std::vector<std::string> args, RTLIL::Design *design)
102         {
```

```
103                 // variables to mirror information from passed options
104                 bool report_bits = 0;
105
106                 log_header("Executing STUBNETS pass (find stub nets).\n");
107
108                 // parse options
109                 size_t argidx;
110                 for (argidx = 1; argidx < args.size(); argidx++) {
111                         std::string arg = args[argidx];
112                         if (arg == "-report_bits") {
113                                 report_bits = true;
114                                 continue;
115                         }
116                         break;
117                 }
118
119                 // handle extra options (e.g. selection)
120                 extra_args(args, argidx, design);
121
122                 // call find_stub_nets() for each module that is either
123                 // selected as a whole or contains selected objects.
124                 for (auto &it : design->modules_)
125                         if (design->selected_module(it.first))
126                                 find_stub_nets(design, it.second, report_bits);
127         }
128 } StubnetsPass;
129
130 PRIVATE_NAMESPACE_END
```

Makefile

```
1  test: stubnets.so
2          yosys -ql test1.log -m ./stubnets.so test.v -p "stubnets"
3          yosys -ql test2.log -m ./stubnets.so test.v -p "opt; stubnets"
4          yosys -ql test3.log -m ./stubnets.so test.v -p "techmap; opt; stubnets -report
5          tail test1.log test2.log test3.log
6
7  stubnets.so: stubnets.cc
8          yosys-config --exec --cxx --cxxflags --ldflags -o $@ -shared $^ --ldlibs
9
10 clean:
11         rm -f test1.log test2.log test3.log
12         rm -f stubnets.so stubnets.d
```

test.v

```
1  module uut(in1, in2, in3, out1, out2);
2
3  input [8:0] in1, in2, in3;
4  output [8:0] out1, out2;
5
6  assign out1 = in1 + in2 + (in3 >> 4);
7
8  endmodule
```

Chapter 7

The Verilog and AST Frontends

This chapter provides an overview of the implementation of the Yosys Verilog and AST frontends. The Verilog frontend reads Verilog-2005 code and creates an abstract syntax tree (AST) representation of the input. This AST representation is then passed to the AST frontend that converts it to RTLIL data, as illustrated in Fig. 7.1.

7.1 Transforming Verilog to AST

The *Verilog frontend* converts the Verilog sources to an internal AST representation that closely resembles the structure of the original Verilog code. The Verilog frontend consists of three components, the *Preprocessor*, the *Lexer* and the *Parser*.

The source code to the Verilog frontend can be found in `frontends/verilog/` in the Yosys source tree.

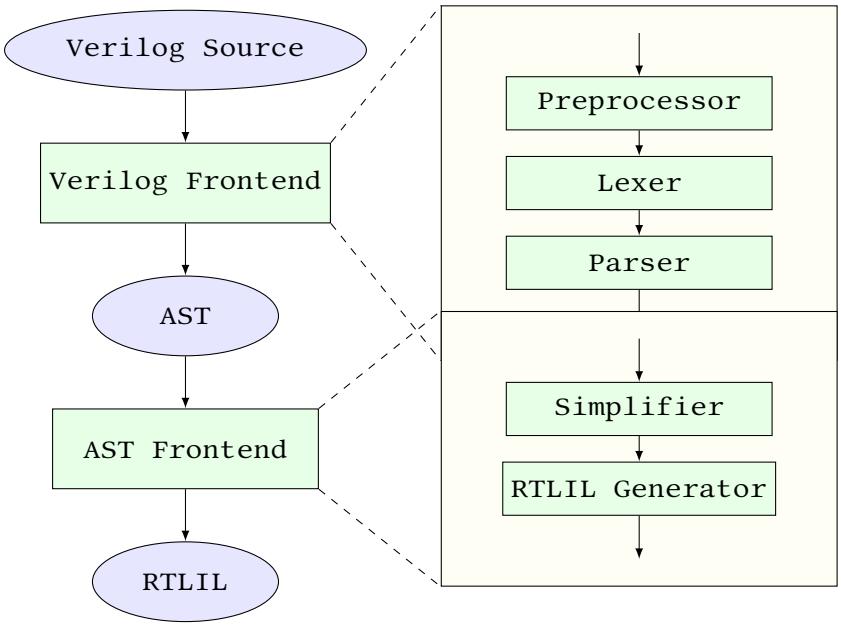


Figure 7.1: Simplified Verilog to RTLIL data flow

7.1.1 The Verilog Preprocessor

The Verilog preprocessor scans over the Verilog source code and interprets some of the Verilog compiler directives such as **`include**, **`define** and **`ifdef**.

It is implemented as a C++ function that is passed a file descriptor as input and returns the pre-processed Verilog code as a `std::string`.

The source code to the Verilog Preprocessor can be found in `frontends/verilog/preproc.cc` in the Yosys source tree.

7.1.2 The Verilog Lexer

The Verilog Lexer is written using the lexer generator *flex* [17]. Its source code can be found in `frontends/verilog/lexer.l` in the Yosys source tree. The lexer does little more than identifying all keywords and literals recognised by the Yosys Verilog frontend.

The lexer keeps track of the current location in the Verilog source code using some global variables. These variables are used by the constructor of AST nodes to annotate each node with the source code location it originated from.

Finally the lexer identifies and handles special comments such as "*//synopsys translate_off*" and "*//synopsys full_case*". (It is recommended to use **`ifdef** constructs instead of the Synsopsys translate_on/off comments and attributes such as `(* full_case *)` over "*//synopsys full_case*" whenever possible.)

7.1.3 The Verilog Parser

The Verilog Parser is written using the parser generator *bison* [18]. Its source code can be found in `frontends/verilog/parser.y` in the Yosys source tree.

It generates an AST using the `AST::AstNode` data structure defined in `frontends/ast/ast.h`. An `AST::AstNode` object has the following properties:

- **The node type**
  This enum (`AST::AstNodeType`) specifies the role of the node. Table 7.1 contains a list of all node types.
- **The child nodes**
  This is a list of pointers to all children in the abstract syntax tree.
- **Attributes**
  As almost every AST node might have Verilog attributes assigned to it, the `AST::AstNode` has direct support for attributes. Note that the attribute values are again AST nodes.
- **Node content**
  Each node might have additional content data. A series of member variables exist to hold such data. For example the member `std::string str` can hold a string value and is used e.g. in the `AST_IDENTIFIER` node type to store the identifier name.
- **Source code location**
  Each `AST::AstNode` is automatically annotated with the current source code location by the `AST::AstNode` constructor. It is stored in the `std::string filename` and **`int`** `linenum` member variables.

The `AST::AstNode` constructor can be called with up to two child nodes that are automatically added to the list of child nodes for the new object. This simplifies the creation of AST nodes for simple expressions a bit. For example the bison code for parsing multiplications:

```
1         basic_expr '*' attr basic_expr {
2                 $$ = new AstNode(AST_MUL, $1, $4);
3                 append_attr($$, $3);
4         } |
```

The generated AST data structure is then passed directly to the AST frontend that performs the actual conversion to RTLIL.

Note that the Yosys command `read_verilog` provides the options `-yydebug` and `-dump_ast` that can be used to print the parse tree or abstract syntax tree respectively.

7.2 Transforming AST to RTLIL

The *AST Frontend* converts a set of modules in AST representation to modules in RTLIL representation and adds them to the current design. This is done in two steps: *simplification* and *RTLIL generation*.

The source code to the AST frontend can be found in `frontends/ast/` in the Yosys source tree.

7.2.1 AST Simplification

A full-featured AST is too complex to be transformed into RTLIL directly. Therefore it must first be brought into a simpler form. This is done by calling the `AST::AstNode::simplify()` method of all `AST_MODULE` nodes in the AST. This initiates a recursive process that performs the following transformations on the AST data structure:

AST Node Type	Corresponding Verilog Construct
AST_NONE	This Node type should never be used.
AST_DESIGN	This node type is used for the top node of the AST tree. It has no corresponding Verilog construct.
AST_MODULE, AST_TASK, AST_FUNCTION	**module**, **task** and **function**
AST_WIRE	**input**, **output**, **wire**, **reg** and **integer**
AST_MEMORY	Verilog Arrays
AST_AUTOWIRE	Created by the simplifier when an undeclared signal name is used.
AST_PARAMETER, AST_LOCALPARAM	**parameter** and **localparam**
AST_PARASET	Parameter set in cell instantiation
AST_ARGUMENT	Port connection in cell instantiation
AST_RANGE	Bit-Index in a signal or element index in array
AST_CONSTANT	A literal value
AST_CELLTYPE	The type of cell in cell instantiation
AST_IDENTIFIER	An Identifier (signal name in expression or cell/task/etc. name in other contexts)
AST_PREFIX	Construct an identifier in the form `<prefix>[<index>].<suffix>` (used only in advanced generate constructs)
AST_FCALL, AST_TCALL	Call to function or task
AST_TO_SIGNED, AST_TO_UNSIGNED	The `$signed()` and `$unsigned()` functions

Table 7.1: AST node types with their corresponding Verilog constructs.
(continued on next page)

AST Node Type	Corresponding Verilog Construct
AST_CONCAT AST_REPLICATE	The { . . . } and { . . . { . . . } } operators
AST_BIT_NOT, AST_BIT_AND, AST_BIT_OR, AST_BIT_XOR, AST_BIT_XNOR	The bitwise operators ~, &, |, ^ and ~^
AST_REDUCE_AND, AST_REDUCE_OR, AST_REDUCE_XOR, AST_REDUCE_XNOR	The unary reduction operators ~, &, |, ^ and ~^
AST_REDUCE_BOOL	Conversion from multi-bit value to boolean value (equivalent to AST_REDUCE_OR)
AST_SHIFT_LEFT, AST_SHIFT_RIGHT, AST_SHIFT_SLEFT, AST_SHIFT_SRIGHT	The shift operators <<, >>, <<< and >>>
AST_LT, AST_LE, AST_EQ, AST_NE, AST_GE, AST_GT	The relational operators <, <=, ==, !=, >= and >
AST_ADD, AST_SUB, AST_MUL, AST_DIV, AST_MOD, AST_POW	The binary operators +, -, *, /, % and **
AST_POS, AST_NEG	The prefix operators + and -
AST_LOGIC_AND, AST_LOGIC_OR, AST_LOGIC_NOT	The logic operators &&, || and !
AST_TERNARY	The ternary ? : -operator
AST_MEMRD AST_MEMWR	Read and write memories. These nodes are generated by the AST simplifier for writes/reads to/from Verilog arrays.
AST_ASSIGN	An **assign** statement
AST_CELL	A cell instantiation
AST_PRIMITIVE	A primitive cell (**and**, **nand**, **or**, etc.)
AST_ALWAYS, AST_INITIAL	Verilog **always**- and **initial**-blocks
AST_BLOCK	A **begin**-**end**-block
AST_ASSIGN_EQ. AST_ASSIGN_LE	Blocking (=) and nonblocking (<=) assignments within an **always**- or **initial**-block
AST_CASE. AST_COND, AST_DEFAULT	The **case** (**if**) statements, conditions within a case and the default case respectively
AST_FOR	A **for**-loop with an **always**- or **initial**-block
AST_GENVAR, AST_GENBLOCK, AST_GENFOR, AST_GENIF	The **genvar** and **generate** keywords and **for** and **if** within a generate block.
AST_POSEDGE, AST_NEGEDGE, AST_EDGE	Event conditions for **always** blocks.

Table 7.1: AST node types with their corresponding Verilog constructs.
(continuation from previous page)

- Inline all task and function calls.
- Evaluate all **generate**-statements and unroll all **for**-loops.
- Perform const folding where it is necessary (e.g. in the value part of AST_PARAMETER, AST_LOCALPARAM, AST_PARASET and AST_RANGE nodes).
- Replace AST_PRIMITIVE nodes with appropriate AST_ASSIGN nodes.
- Replace dynamic bit ranges in the left-hand-side of assignments with AST_CASE nodes with AST_COND children for each possible case.

- Detect array access patterns that are too complicated for the RTLIL::Memory abstraction and replace them with a set of signals and cases for all reads and/or writes.
- Otherwise replace array accesses with AST_MEMRD and AST_MEMWR nodes.

In addition to these transformations, the simplifier also annotates the AST with additional information that is needed for the RTLIL generator, namely:

- All ranges (width of signals and bit selections) are not only const folded but (when a constant value is found) are also written to member variables in the AST_RANGE node.
- All identifiers are resolved and all AST_IDENTIFIER nodes are annotated with a pointer to the AST node that contains the declaration of the identifier. If no declaration has been found, an AST_AUTOWIRE node is created and used for the annotation.

This produces an AST that is fairly easy to convert to the RTLIL format.

7.2.2 Generating RTLIL

After AST simplification, the AST::AstNode::genRTLIL() method of each AST_MODULE node in the AST is called. This initiates a recursive process that generates equivalent RTLIL data for the AST data.

The AST::AstNode::genRTLIL() method returns an RTLIL::SigSpec structure. For nodes that represent expressions (operators, constants, signals, etc.), the cells needed to implement the calculation described by the expression are created and the resulting signal is returned. That way it is easy to generate the circuits for large expressions using depth-first recursion. For nodes that do not represent an expression (such as AST_CELL), the corresponding circuit is generated and an empty RTLIL::SigSpec is returned.

7.3 Synthesizing Verilog always Blocks

For behavioural Verilog code (code utilizing **always**- and **initial**-blocks) it is necessary to also generate RTLIL::Process objects. This is done in the following way:

- Whenever AST::AstNode::genRTLIL() encounters an **always**- or **initial**-block, it creates an instance of AST_INTERNAL::ProcessGenerator. This object then generates the RTLIL::Process object for the block. It also calls AST::AstNode::genRTLIL() for all right-hand-side expressions contained within the block.
- First the AST_INTERNAL::ProcessGenerator creates a list of all signals assigned within the block. It then creates a set of temporary signals using the naming scheme $<*number*>\<*original_name*> for each of the assigned signals.
- Then an RTLIL::Process is created that assigns all intermediate values for each left-hand-side signal to the temporary signal in its RTLIL::CaseRule/RTLIL::SwitchRule tree.
- Finally a RTLIL::SyncRule is created for the RTLIL::Process that assigns the temporary signals for the final values to the actual signals.
- Calls to AST::AstNode::genRTLIL() are generated for right hand sides as needed. When blocking assignments are used, AST::AstNode::genRTLIL() is configured using global variables to use the temporary signals that hold the correct intermediate values whenever one of the previously assigned signals is used in an expression.

Unfortunately the generation of a correct `RTLIL::CaseRule`/`RTLIL::SwitchRule` tree for behavioural code is a non-trivial task. The AST frontend solves the problem using the approach described on the following pages. The following example illustrates what the algorithm is supposed to do. Consider the following Verilog code:

```
always @(posedge clock) begin
        out1 = in1;
        if (in2)
                out1 = !out1;
        out2 <= out1;
        if (in3)
                out2 <= out2;
        if (in4)
                if (in5)
                        out3 <= in6;
                else
                        out3 <= in7;
        out1 = out1 ^ out2;
end
```

This is translated by the Verilog and AST frontends into the following RTLIL code (attributes, cell parameters and wire declarations not included):

```
cell $logic_not $logic_not$<input>:4$2
  connect \A \in1
  connect \Y $logic_not$<input>:4$2_Y
end
cell $xor $xor$<input>:13$3
  connect \A $1\out1[0:0]
  connect \B \out2
  connect \Y $xor$<input>:13$3_Y
end
process $proc$<input>:1$1
  assign $0\out3[0:0] \out3
  assign $0\out2[0:0] $1\out1[0:0]
  assign $0\out1[0:0] $xor$<input>:13$3_Y
  switch \in2
    case 1'1
      assign $1\out1[0:0] $logic_not$<input>:4$2_Y
    case
      assign $1\out1[0:0] \in1
  end
  switch \in3
    case 1'1
      assign $0\out2[0:0] \out2
    case
  end
  switch \in4
    case 1'1
      switch \in5
        case 1'1
          assign $0\out3[0:0] \in6
        case
          assign $0\out3[0:0] \in7
      end
```

```
33      case
34    end
35    sync posedge \clock
36      update \out1 $0\out1[0:0]
37      update \out2 $0\out2[0:0]
38      update \out3 $0\out3[0:0]
39  end
```

Note that the two operators are translated into separate cells outside the generated process. The signal `out1` is assigned using blocking assignments and therefore `out1` has been replaced with a different signal in all expressions after the initial assignment. The signal `out2` is assigned using nonblocking assignments and therefore is not substituted on the right-hand-side expressions.

The `RTLIL::CaseRule`/`RTLIL::SwitchRule` tree must be interpreted the following way:

- On each case level (the body of the process is the *root case*), first the actions on this level are evaluated and then the switches within the case are evaluated. (Note that the last assignment on line 13 of the Verilog code has been moved to the beginning of the RTLIL process to line 13 of the RTLIL listing.)

  I.e. the special cases deeper in the switch hierarchy override the defaults on the upper levels. The assignments in lines 12 and 22 of the RTLIL code serve as an example for this.

  Note that in contrast to this, the order within the `RTLIL::SwitchRule` objects within a `RTLIL::CaseRule` is preserved with respect to the original AST and Verilog code.

- The whole `RTLIL::CaseRule`/`RTLIL::SwitchRule` tree describes an asynchronous circuit. I.e. the decision tree formed by the switches can be seen independently for each assigned signal. Whenever one assigned signal changes, all signals that depend on the changed signals are to be updated. For example the assignments in lines 16 and 18 in the RTLIL code in fact influence the assignment in line 12, even though they are in the "wrong order".

The only synchronous part of the process is in the `RTLIL::SyncRule` object generated at line 35 in the RTLIL code. The sync rule is the only part of the process where the original signals are assigned. The synchronization event from the original Verilog code has been translated into the synchronization type (`posedge`) and signal (`\clock`) for the `RTLIL::SyncRule` object. In the case of this simple example the `RTLIL::SyncRule` object is later simply transformed into a set of d-type flip-flops and the `RTLIL::CaseRule`/`RTLIL::SwitchRule` tree to a decision tree using multiplexers.

In more complex examples (e.g. asynchronous resets) the part of the `RTLIL::CaseRule`/`RTLIL::SwitchRule` tree that describes the asynchronous reset must first be transformed to the correct `RTLIL::SyncRule` objects. This is done by the `proc_adff` pass.

7.3.1 The ProcessGenerator Algorithm

The `AST_INTERNAL::ProcessGenerator` uses the following internal state variables:

- `subst_rvalue_from` and `subst_rvalue_to`
  These two variables hold the replacement pattern that should be used by `AST::AstNode::genRTLIL()` for signals with blocking assignments. After initialization of `AST_INTERNAL::ProcessGenerator` these two variables are empty.

- `subst_lvalue_from` and `subst_lvalue_to`
  These two variables contain the mapping from left-hand-side signals (`\`*<name>*) to the current temporary signal for the same thing (initially `$0\`*<name>*).

- `current_case`
  A pointer to a `RTLIL::CaseRule` object. Initially this is the root case of the generated `RTLIL::Process`.

As the algorithm runs these variables are continuously modified as well as pushed to the stack and later restored to their earlier values by popping from the stack.

On startup the ProcessGenerator generates a new `RTLIL::Process` object with an empty root case and initializes its state variables as described above. Then the `RTLIL::SyncRule` objects are created using the synchronization events from the AST_ALWAYS node and the initial values of `subst_lvalue_from` and `subst_lvalue_to`. Then the AST for this process is evaluated recursively.

During this recursive evaluation, three different relevant types of AST nodes can be discovered: AST_ASSIGN_LE (nonblocking assignments), AST_ASSIGN_EQ (blocking assignments) and AST_CASE (**`if`** or **`case`** statement).

7.3.1.1 Handling of Nonblocking Assignments

When an AST_ASSIGN_LE node is discovered, the following actions are performed by the ProcessGenerator:

- The left-hand-side is evaluated using `AST::AstNode::genRTLIL()` and mapped to a temporary signal name using `subst_lvalue_from` and `subst_lvalue_to`.
- The right-hand-side is evaluated using `AST::AstNode::genRTLIL()`. For this call, the values of `subst_rvalue_from` and `subst_rvalue_to` are used to map blocking-assigned signals correctly.
- Remove all assignments to the same left-hand-side as this assignment from the `current_case` and all cases within it.
- Add the new assignment to the `current_case`.

7.3.1.2 Handling of Blocking Assignments

When an AST_ASSIGN_EQ node is discovered, the following actions are performed by the ProcessGenerator:

- Perform all the steps that would be performed for a nonblocking assignment (see above).
- Remove the found left-hand-side (before lvalue mapping) from `subst_rvalue_from` and also remove the respective bits from `subst_rvalue_to`.
- Append the found left-hand-side (before lvalue mapping) to `subst_rvalue_from` and append the found right-hand-side to `subst_rvalue_to`.

7.3.1.3 Handling of Cases and if-Statements

When an AST_CASE node is discovered, the following actions are performed by the ProcessGenerator:

- The values of `subst_rvalue_from`, `subst_rvalue_to`, `subst_lvalue_from` and `subst_lvalue_to` are pushed to the stack.
- A new `RTLIL::SwitchRule` object is generated, the selection expression is evaluated using `AST::AstNode::genRTLIL()` (with the use of `subst_rvalue_from` and `subst_rvalue_to`) and added to the `RTLIL::SwitchRule` object and the object is added to the `current_case`.

- All lvalues assigned to within the AST_CASE node using blocking assignments are collected and saved in the local variable `this_case_eq_lvalue`.
- New temporary signals are generated for all signals in `this_case_eq_lvalue` and stored in `this_case_eq_ltemp`.
- The signals in `this_case_eq_lvalue` are mapped using `subst_rvalue_from` and `subst_rvalue_to` and the resulting set of signals is stored in `this_case_eq_rvalue`.

Then the following steps are performed for each AST_COND node within the AST_CASE node:

- Set `subst_rvalue_from`, `subst_rvalue_to`, `subst_lvalue_from` and `subst_lvalue_to` to the values that have been pushed to the stack.
- Remove `this_case_eq_lvalue` from `subst_lvalue_from`/`subst_lvalue_to`.
- Append `this_case_eq_lvalue` to `subst_lvalue_from` and append `this_case_eq_ltemp` to `subst_lvalue_to`.
- Push the value of `current_case`.
- Create a new `RTLIL::CaseRule`. Set `current_case` to the new object and add the new object to the `RTLIL::SwitchRule` created above.
- Add an assignment from `this_case_eq_rvalue` to `this_case_eq_ltemp` to the new `current_case`.
- Evaluate the compare value for this case using `AST::AstNode::genRTLIL()` (with the use of `subst_rvalue_from` and `subst_rvalue_to`) modify the new `current_case` accordingly.
- Recursion into the children of the AST_COND node.
- Restore `current_case` by popping the old value from the stack.

Finally the following steps are performed:

- The values of `subst_rvalue_from`, `subst_rvalue_to`, `subst_lvalue_from` and `subst_lvalue_to` are popped from the stack.
- The signals from `this_case_eq_lvalue` are removed from the `subst_rvalue_from`/`subst_rvalue_to`-pair.
- The value of `this_case_eq_lvalue` is appended to `subst_rvalue_from` and the value of `this_case_eq_ltemp` is appended to `subst_rvalue_to`.
- Map the signals in `this_case_eq_lvalue` using `subst_lvalue_from`/`subst_lvalue_to`.
- Remove all assignments to signals in `this_case_eq_lvalue` in `current_case` and all cases within it.
- Add an assignment from `this_case_eq_ltemp` to `this_case_eq_lvalue` to `current_case`.

7.3.1.4 Further Analysis of the Algorithm for Cases and if-Statements

With respect to nonblocking assignments the algorithm is easy: later assignments invalidate earlier assignments. For each signal assigned using nonblocking assignments exactly one temporary variable is generated (with the `$0`-prefix) and this variable is used for all assignments of the variable.

Note how all the `_eq_`-variables become empty when no blocking assignments are used and many of the steps in the algorithm can then be ignored as a result of this.

For a variable with blocking assignments the algorithm shows the following behaviour: First a new temporary variable is created. This new temporary variable is then registered as the assignment target for all assignments for this variable within the cases for this `AST_CASE` node. Then for each case the new temporary variable is first assigned the old temporary variable. This assignment is overwritten if the variable is actually assigned in this case and is kept as a default value otherwise.

This yields an `RTLIL::CaseRule` that assigns the new temporary variable in all branches. So when all cases have been processed a final assignment is added to the containing block that assigns the new temporary variable to the old one. Note how this step always overrides a previous assignment to the old temporary variable. Other than nonblocking assignments, the old assignment could still have an effect somewhere in the design, as there have been calls to `AST::AstNode::genRTLIL()` with a `subst_rvalue_from`/`subst_rvalue_to`-tuple that contained the right-hand-side of the old assignment.

7.3.2 The proc pass

The ProcessGenerator converts a behavioural model in AST representation to a behavioural model in `RTLIL::Process` representation. The actual conversion from a behavioural model to an RTL representation is performed by the `proc` pass and the passes it launches:

- `proc_clean` and `proc_rmdead`
  These two passes just clean up the `RTLIL::Process` structure. The `proc_clean` pass removes empty parts (eg. empty assignments) from the process and `proc_rmdead` detects and removes unreachable branches from the process's decision trees.
- `proc_arst`
  This pass detects processes that describe d-type flip-flops with asynchronous resets and rewrites the process to better reflect what they are modelling: Before this pass, an asynchronous reset has two edge-sensitive sync rules and one top-level `RTLIL::SwitchRule` for the reset path. After this pass the sync rule for the reset is level-sensitive and the top-level `RTLIL::SwitchRule` has been removed.
- `proc_mux`
  This pass converts the `RTLIL::CaseRule`/`RTLIL::SwitchRule`-tree to a tree of multiplexers per written signal. After this, the `RTLIL::Process` structure only contains the `RTLIL::SyncRules` that describe the output registers.
- `proc_dff`
  This pass replaces the `RTLIL::SyncRules` to d-type flip-flops (with asynchronous resets if necessary).
- `proc_clean`
  A final call to `proc_clean` removes the now empty `RTLIL::Process` objects.

Performing these last processing steps in passes instead of in the Verilog frontend has two important benefits:

First it improves the transparency of the process. Everything that happens in a separate pass is easier to debug, as the RTLIL data structures can be easily investigated before and after each of the steps.

Second it improves flexibility. This scheme can easily be extended to support other types of storage-elements, such as sr-latches or d-latches, without having to extend the actual Verilog frontend.

7.4 Synthesizing Verilog Arrays

FIXME:
Add some information on the generation of `$memrd` and `$memwr` cells and how they are processed in the `memory` pass.

7.5 Synthesizing Parametric Designs

FIXME:
Add some information on the `RTLIL::Module::derive()` method and how it is used to synthesize parametric modules via the `hierarchy` pass.

Chapter 8

Optimizations

Yosys employs a number of optimizations to generate better and cleaner results. This chapter outlines these optimizations.

8.1 Simple Optimizations

The Yosys pass `opt` runs a number of simple optimizations. This includes removing unused signals and cells and const folding. It is recommended to run this pass after each major step in the synthesis script. At the time of this writing the `opt` pass executes the following passes that each perform a simple optimization:

- Once at the beginning of `opt`:
  - `opt_const`
  - `opt_share -nomux`
- Repeat until result is stable:
  - `opt_muxtree`
  - `opt_reduce`
  - `opt_share`
  - `opt_rmdff`
  - `opt_clean`
  - `opt_const`

The following section describes each of the `opt_*` passes.

8.1.1 The opt_const pass

This pass performs const folding on the internal combinational cell types described in Chap. 5. This means a cell with all constant inputs is replaced with the constant value this cell drives. In some cases this pass can also optimize cells with some constant inputs.

Table 8.1 shows the replacement rules used for optimizing an `$_AND_` gate. The first three rules implement the obvious const folding rules. Note that 'any' might include dynamic values calculated by other parts of the circuit. The following three lines propagate undef (X) states. These are the only three cases in which it is allowed to propagate an undef according to Sec. 5.1.10 of IEEE Std. 1364-2005 [Ver06].

A-Input	B-Input	Replacement
any	0	0
0	any	0
1	1	1
X/Z	X/Z	X
1	X/Z	X
X/Z	1	X
any	X/Z	0
X/Z	any	0
a	1	a
1	b	b

Table 8.1: Const folding rules for $_AND_ cells as used in `opt_const`.

The next two lines assume the value 0 for undef states. These two rules are only used if no other substitutions are possible in the current module. If other substitutions are possible they are performed first, in the hope that the 'any' will change to an undef value or a 1 and therefore the output can be set to undef.

The last two lines simply replace an $_AND_ gate with one constant-1 input with a buffer.

Besides this basic const folding the `opt_const` pass can replace 1-bit wide `$eq` and `$ne` cells with buffers or not-gates if one input is constant.

The `opt_const` pass is very conservative regarding optimizing `$mux` cells, as these cells are often used to model decision-trees and breaking these trees can interfere with other optimizations.

8.1.2 The opt_muxtree pass

This pass optimizes trees of multiplexer cells by analyzing the select inputs. Consider the following simple example:

```
1 module uut(a, y);
2 input a;
3 output [1:0] y = a ? (a ? 1 : 2) : 3;
4 endmodule
```

The output can never be 2, as this would require `a` to be 1 for the outer multiplexer and 0 for the inner multiplexer. The `opt_muxtree` pass detects this contradiction and replaces the inner multiplexer with a constant 1, yielding the logic for `y = a ? 1 : 3`.

8.1.3 The opt_reduce pass

This is a simple optimization pass that identifies and consolidates identical input bits to `$reduce_and` and `$reduce_or` cells. It also sorts the input bits to ease identification of shareable `$reduce_and` and `$reduce_or` cells in other passes.

This pass also identifies and consolidates identical inputs to multiplexer cells. In this case the new shared select bit is driven using a `$reduce_or` cell that combines the original select bits.

Lastly this pass consolidates trees of `$reduce_and` cells and trees of `$reduce_or` cells to single large `$reduce_and` or `$reduce_or` cells.

These three simple optimizations are performed in a loop until a stable result is produced.

8.1.4 The opt_rmdff pass

This pass identifies single-bit d-type flip-flops (`$_DFF_*`, `$dff`, and `$adff` cells) with a constant data input and replaces them with a constant driver.

8.1.5 The opt_clean pass

This pass identifies unused signals and cells and removes them from the design. It also creates an `\unused_bits` attribute on wires with unused bits. This attribute can be used for debugging or by other optimization passes.

8.1.6 The opt_share pass

This pass performs trivial resource sharing. This means that this pass identifies cells with identical inputs and replaces them with a single instance of the cell.

The option `-nomux` can be used to disable resource sharing for multiplexer cells (`$mux` and `$pmux`. This can be useful as it prevents multiplexer trees to be merged, which might prevent `opt_muxtree` to identify possible optimizations.

8.2 FSM Extraction and Encoding

The `fsm` pass performs finite-state-machine (FSM) extraction and recoding. The `fsm` pass simply executes the following other passes:

- Identify and extract FSMs:
  - `fsm_detect`
  - `fsm_extract`
- Basic optimizations:
  - `fsm_opt`
  - `opt_clean`
  - `fsm_opt`
- Expanding to nearby gate-logic (if called with `-expand`):
  - `fsm_expand`
  - `opt_clean`
  - `fsm_opt`
- Re-code FSM states (unless called with `-norecode`):
  - `fsm_recode`
- Print information about FSMs:
  - `fsm_info`
- Export FSMs in KISS2 file format (if called with `-export`):
  - `fsm_export`
- Map FSMs to RTL cells (unless called with `-nomap`):

- `fsm_map`

The `fsm_detect` pass identifies FSM state registers and marks them using the `\fsm_encoding= "auto"` attribute. The `fsm_extract` extracts all FSMs marked using the `\fsm_encoding` attribute (unless `\fsm_encoding` is set to `"none"`) and replaces the corresponding RTL cells with a `$fsm` cell. All other `fsm_*` passes operate on these `$fsm` cells. The `fsm_map` call finally replaces the `$fsm` cells with RTL cells.

Note that these optimizations operate on an RTL netlist. I.e. the `fsm` pass should be executed after the `proc` pass has transformed all `RTLIL::Process` objects to RTL cells.

The algorithms used for FSM detection and extraction are influenced by a more general reported technique [STGR10].

8.2.1 FSM Detection

The `fsm_detect` pass identifies FSM state registers. It sets the `\fsm_encoding= "auto"` attribute on any (multi-bit) wire that matches the following description:

- Does not already have the `\fsm_encoding` attribute.
- Is not an output of the containing module.
- Is driven by single `$dff` or `$adff` cell.
- The \D-Input of this `$dff` or `$adff` cell is driven by a multiplexer tree that only has constants or the old state value on its leaves.
- The state value is only used in the said multiplexer tree or by simple relational cells that compare the state value to a constant (usually `$eq` cells).

This heuristic has proven to work very well. It is possible to overwrite it by setting `\fsm_encoding= "auto"` on registers that should be considered FSM state registers and setting `\fsm_encoding= "none"` on registers that match the above criteria but should not be considered FSM state registers.

8.2.2 FSM Extraction

The `fsm_extract` pass operates on all state signals marked with the `\fsm_encoding (!= "none")` attribute. For each state signal the following information is determined:

- The state registers
- The asynchronous reset state if the state registers use asynchronous reset
- All states and the control input signals used in the state transition functions
- The control output signals calculated from the state signals and control inputs
- A table of all state transitions and corresponding control inputs- and outputs

The state registers (and asynchronous reset state, if applicable) is simply determined by identifying the driver for the state signal.

From there the `$mux`-tree driving the state register inputs is recursively traversed. All select inputs are control signals and the leaves of the `$mux`-tree are the states. The algorithm fails if a non-constant leaf that is not the state signal itself is found.

The list of control outputs is initialized with the bits from the state signal. It is then extended by adding all values that are calculated by cells that compare the state signal with a constant value.

In most cases this will cover all uses of the state register, thus rendering the state encoding arbitrary. If however a design uses e.g. a single bit of the state value to drive a control output directly, this bit of the state signal will be transformed to a control output of the same value.

Finally, a transition table for the FSM is generated. This is done by using the `ConstEval` C++ helper class (defined in `kernel/consteval.h`) that can be used to evaluate parts of the design. The `ConstEval` class can be asked to calculate a given set of result signals using a set of signal-value assignments. It can also be passed a list of stop-signals that abort the `ConstEval` algorithm if the value of a stop-signal is needed in order to calculate the result signals.

The `fsm_extract` pass uses the `ConstEval` class in the following way to create a transition table. For each state:

1. Create a `ConstEval` object for the module containing the FSM
2. Add all control inputs to the list of stop signals
3. Set the state signal to the current state
4. Try to evaluate the next state and control output
5. If step 4 was not successful:
   - Recursively goto step 4 with the offending stop-signal set to 0.
   - Recursively goto step 4 with the offending stop-signal set to 1.
6. If step 4 was successful: Emit transition

Finally a `$fsm` cell is created with the generated transition table and added to the module. This new cell is connected to the control signals and the old drivers for the control outputs are disconnected.

8.2.3 FSM Optimization

The `fsm_opt` pass performs basic optimizations on `$fsm` cells (not including state recoding). The following optimizations are performed (in this order):

- Unused control outputs are removed from the `$fsm` cell. The attribute `\unused_bits` (that is usually set by the `opt_clean` pass) is used to determine which control outputs are unused.
- Control inputs that are connected to the same driver are merged.
- When a control input is driven by a control output, the control input is removed and the transition table altered to give the same performance without the external feedback path.
- Entries in the transition table that yield the same output and only differ in the value of a single control input bit are merged and the different bit is removed from the sensitivity list (turned into a don't-care bit).
- Constant inputs are removed and the transition table is altered to give an unchanged behaviour.
- Unused inputs are removed.

8.2.4 FSM Recoding

The `fsm_recode` pass assigns new bit pattern to the states. Usually this also implies a change in the width of the state signal. At the moment of this writing only one-hot encoding with all-zero for the reset state is supported.

The `fsm_recode` pass can also write a text file with the changes performed by it that can be used when verifying designs synthesized by Yosys using Synopsys Formality [24].

8.3 Logic Optimization

Yosys can perform multi-level combinational logic optimization on gate-level netlists using the external program ABC [27]. The `abc` pass extracts the combinational gate-level parts of the design, passes it through ABC, and re-integrates the results. The `abc` pass can also be used to perform other operations using ABC, such as technology mapping (see Sec. 9.3 for details).

Chapter 9

Technology Mapping

Previous chapters outlined how HDL code is transformed into an RTL netlist. The RTL netlist is still based on abstract coarse-grain cell types like arbitrary width adders and even multipliers. This chapter covers how an RTL netlist is transformed into a functionally equivalent netlist utilizing the cell types available in the target architecture.

Technology mapping is often performed in two phases. In the first phase RTL cells are mapped to an internal library of single-bit cells (see Sec. 5.2). In the second phase this netlist of internal gate types is transformed to a netlist of gates from the target technology library.

When the target architecture provides coarse-grain cells (such as block ram or ALUs), these must be mapped to directly form the RTL netlist, as information on the coarse-grain structure of the design is lost when it is mapped to bit-width gate types.

9.1 Cell Substitution

The simplest form of technology mapping is cell substitution, as performed by the `techmap` pass. This pass, when provided with a Verilog file that implements the RTL cell types using simpler cells, simply replaces the RTL cells with the provided implementation.

When no map file is provided, `techmap` uses a built-in map file that maps the Yosys RTL cell types to the internal gate library used by Yosys. The curious reader may find this map file as `techlibs/common/techmap.v` in the Yosys source tree.

Additional features have been added to `techmap` to allow for conditional mapping of cells (see `help techmap` or Sec. C.115). This can for example be useful if the target architecture supports hardware multipliers for certain bit-widths but not for others.

A usual synthesis flow would first use the `techmap` pass to directly map some RTL cells to coarse-grain cells provided by the target architecture (if any) and then use techmap with the built-in default file to map the remaining RTL cells to gate logic.

9.2 Subcircuit Substitution

Sometimes the target architecture provides cells that are more powerful than the RTL cells used by Yosys. For example a cell in the target architecture that can calculate the absolute-difference of two numbers does not match any single RTL cell type but only combinations of cells.

For these cases Yosys provides the `extract` pass that can match a given set of modules against a design and identify the portions of the design that are identical (i.e. isomorphic subcircuits) to any of the given modules. These matched subcircuits are then replaced by instances of the given modules.

The `extract` pass also finds basic variations of the given modules, such as swapped inputs on commutative cell types.

In addition to this the `extract` pass also has limited support for frequent subcircuit mining, i.e. the process of finding recurring subcircuits in the design. This has a few applications, including the design of new coarse-grain architectures [GW13].

The hard algorithmic work done by the `extract` pass (solving the isomorphic subcircuit problem and frequent subcircuit mining) is performed using the SubCircuit library that can also be used stand-alone without Yosys (see Sec. A.3).

9.3 Gate-Level Technology Mapping

On the gate-level the target architecture is usually described by a "Liberty file". The Liberty file format is an industry standard format that can be used to describe the behaviour and other properties of standard library cells [25].

Mapping a design utilizing the Yosys internal gate library (e.g. as a result of mapping it to this representation using the `techmap` pass) is performed in two phases.

First the register cells must be mapped to the registers that are available on the target architectures. The target architecture might not provide all variations of d-type flip-flops with positive and negative clock edge, high-active and low-active asynchronous set and/or reset, etc. Therefore the process of mapping the registers might add additional inverters to the design and thus it is important to map the register cells first.

Mapping of the register cells may be performed by using the `dfflibmap` pass. This pass expects a Liberty file as argument (using the `-liberty` option) and only uses the register cells from the Liberty file.

Secondly the combinational logic must be mapped to the target architecture. This is done using the external program ABC [27] via the `abc` pass by using the `-liberty` option to the pass. Note that in this case only the combinatorial cells are used from the cell library.

Occasionally Liberty files contain trade secrets (such as sensitive timing information) that cannot be shared freely. This complicates processes such as reporting bugs in the tools involved. When the information in the Liberty file used by Yosys and ABC are not part of the sensitive information, the additional tool `yosys-filterlib` (see Sec. B.2) can be used to strip the sensitive information from the Liberty file.

Appendix A

Auxiliary Libraries

The Yosys source distribution contains some auxiliary libraries that are bundled with Yosys.

A.1 SHA1

The files in `libs/sha1/` provide a public domain SHA1 implementation written by Steve Reid, Bruce Guenter, and Volker Grabsch. It is used for generating unique names when specializing parameterized modules.

A.2 BigInt

The files in `libs/bigint/` provide a library for performing arithmetic with arbitrary length integers. It is written by Matt McCutchen [29].

The BigInt library is used for evaluating constant expressions, e.g. using the `ConstEval` class provided in `kernel/consteval.h`.

A.3 SubCircuit

The files in `libs/subcircuit` provide a library for solving the subcircuit isomorphism problem. It is written by Clifford Wolf and based on the Ullmann Subgraph Isomorphism Algorithm [Ull76]. It is used by the `extract` pass (see `help extract` or Sec. C.34).

A.4 ezSAT

The files in `libs/ezsat` provide a library for simplifying generating CNF formulas for SAT solvers. It also contains bindings of MiniSAT. The ezSAT library is written by Clifford Wolf. It is used by the `sat` pass (see `help sat` or Sec. C.93).

Appendix B

Auxiliary Programs

Besides the main `yosys` executable, the Yosys distribution contains a set of additional helper programs.

B.1 yosys-config

The `yosys-config` tool (an auto-generated shell-script) can be used to query compiler options and other information needed for building loadable modules for Yosys. FIXME: See Sec. 6 for details.

B.2 yosys-filterlib

The `yosys-filterlib` tool is a small utility that can be used to strip or extract information from a Liberty file. See Sec. 9.3 for details.

B.3 yosys-abc

This is a unmodified copy of ABC [27]. Not all versions of Yosys work with all versions of ABC. So Yosys comes with its own yosys-abc to avoid compatibility issues between the two.

Appendix C

Command Reference Manual

C.1 abc – use ABC for technology mapping

```
    abc [options] [selection]

This pass uses the ABC tool [1] for technology mapping of yosys's internal gate
library to a target architecture.

    -exe <command>
        use the specified command name instead of "yosys-abc" to execute ABC.
        This can e.g. be used to call a specific version of ABC or a wrapper.

    -script <file>
        use the specified ABC script file instead of the default script.

        if <file> starts with a plus sign (+), then the rest of the filename
        string is interpreted as the command string to be passed to ABC. The
        leading plus sign is removed and all commas (,) in the string are
        replaced with blanks before the string is passed to ABC.

        if no -script parameter is given, the following scripts are used:

        for -liberty without -constr:
          strash; scorr; ifraig; retime {D}; strash; dch -f; map {D}

        for -liberty with -constr:
          strash; scorr; ifraig; retime {D}; strash; dch -f; map {D};
               buffer; upsize {D}; dnsize {D}; stime -p

        for -lut:
          strash; scorr; ifraig; retime; strash; dch -f; if

        otherwise:
          strash; scorr; ifraig; retime; strash; dch -f; map

    -fast
        use different default scripts that are slightly faster (at the cost
        of output quality):
```

```
36
37          for -liberty without -constr:
38            retime {D}; map {D}
39
40          for -liberty with -constr:
41            retime {D}; map {D}; buffer; upsize {D}; dnsize {D}; stime -p
42
43          for -lut:
44            retime; if
45
46          otherwise:
47            retime; map
48
49      -liberty <file>
50          generate netlists for the specified cell library (using the liberty
51          file format).
52
53      -constr <file>
54          pass this file with timing constraints to ABC. use with -liberty.
55
56          a constr file contains two lines:
57              set_driving_cell <cell_name>
58              set_load <floating_point_number>
59
60          the set_driving_cell statement defines which cell type is assumed to
61          drive the primary inputs and the set_load statement sets the load in
62          femtofarads for each primary output.
63
64      -D <picoseconds>
65          set delay target. the string {D} in the default scripts above is
66          replaced by this option when used, and an empty string otherwise.
67
68      -lut <width>
69          generate netlist using luts of (max) the specified width.
70
71      -lut <w1>:<w2>
72          generate netlist using luts of (max) the specified width <w2>. All
73          luts with width <= <w1> have constant cost. for luts larger than <w1>
74          the area cost doubles with each additional input bit. the delay cost
75          is still constant for all lut widths.
76
77      -luts <cost1>,<cost2>,<cost3>,<sizeN>:<cost4-N>,..
78          generate netlist using luts. Use the specified costs for luts with 1,
79          2, 3, .. inputs.
80
81      -g type1,type2,...
82          Map the the specified list of gate types. Supported gates types are:
83          AND, NAND, OR, NOR, XOR, XNOR, MUX, AOI3, OAI3, AOI4, OAI4.
84          (The NOT gate is always added to this list automatically.)
85
86      -dff
87          also pass $_DFF_?_ and $_DFFE_??_ cells through ABC. modules with many
88          clock domains are automatically partitioned in clock domains and each
89          domain is passed through ABC independently.
```

```
90
91      -clk [!]<clock-signal-name>[,[!]<enable-signal-name>]
92          use only the specified clock domain. this is like -dff, but only FF
93          cells that belong to the specified clock domain are used.
94
95      -keepff
96          set the "keep" attribute on flip-flop output wires. (and thus preserve
97          them, for example for equivalence checking.)
98
99      -nocleanup
100         when this option is used, the temporary files created by this pass
101         are not removed. this is useful for debugging.
102
103     -showtmp
104         print the temp dir name in log. usually this is suppressed so that the
105         command output is identical across runs.
106
107     -markgroups
108         set a 'abcgroup' attribute on all objects created by ABC. The value of
109         this attribute is a unique integer for each ABC process started. This
110         is useful for debugging the partitioning of clock domains.
111
112 When neither -liberty nor -lut is used, the Yosys standard cell library is
113 loaded into ABC before the ABC script is executed.
114
115 This pass does not operate on modules with unprocessed processes in it.
116 (I.e. the 'proc' pass should be used first to convert processes to netlists.)
117
118 [1] http://www.eecs.berkeley.edu/~alanmi/abc/
```

C.2 add – add objects to the design

```
1       add <command> [selection]
2
3   This command adds objects to the design. It operates on all fully selected
4   modules. So e.g. 'add -wire foo' will add a wire foo to all selected modules.
5
6
7       add {-wire|-input|-inout|-output} <name> <width> [selection]
8
9   Add a wire (input, inout, output port) with the given name and width. The
10  command will fail if the object exists already and has different properties
11  than the object to be created.
12
13
14      add -global_input <name> <width> [selection]
15
16  Like 'add -input', but also connect the signal between instances of the
17  selected modules.
```

C.3 aigmap – map logic to and-inverter-graph circuit

```
    aigmap [options] [selection]

Replace all logic cells with circuits made of only $_AND_ and
$_NOT_ cells.

    -nand
        Enable creation of $_NAND_ cells
```

C.4 alumacc – extract ALU and MACC cells

```
    alumacc [selection]

This pass translates arithmetic operations like $add, $mul, $lt, etc. to $alu
and $macc cells.
```

C.5 cd – a shortcut for 'select -module <name>'

```
    cd <modname>

This is just a shortcut for 'select -module <modname>'.


    cd <cellname>

When no module with the specified name is found, but there is a cell
with the specified name in the current module, then this is equivalent
to 'cd <celltype>'.

    cd ..

This is just a shortcut for 'select -clear'.
```

C.6 check – check for obvious problems in the design

```
    check [options] [selection]

This pass identifies the following problems in the current design:

 - combinatorial loops

 - two or more conflicting drivers for one wire

 - used wires that do not have a driver

When called with -noinit then this command also checks for wires which have
```

```
the 'init' attribute set.

When called with -assert then the command will produce an error if any
problems are found in the current design.
```

C.7 chparam – re-evaluate modules with new parameters

```
    chparam [ -set name value ]... [selection]

Re-evaluate the selected modules with new parameters. String values must be
passed in double quotes (").


    chparam -list [selection]

List the available parameters of the selected modules.
```

C.8 clean – remove unused cells and wires

```
    clean [options] [selection]

This is identical to 'opt_clean', but less verbose.

When commands are separated using the ';;' token, this command will be executed
between the commands.

When commands are separated using the ';;;' token, this command will be executed
in -purge mode between the commands.
```

C.9 connect – create or remove connections

```
    connect [-nomap] [-nounset] -set <lhs-expr> <rhs-expr>

Create a connection. This is equivalent to adding the statement 'assign
<lhs-expr> = <rhs-expr>;' to the Verilog input. Per default, all existing
drivers for <lhs-expr> are unconnected. This can be overwritten by using
the -nounset option.


    connect [-nomap] -unset <expr>

Unconnect all existing drivers for the specified expression.


    connect [-nomap] -port <cell> <port> <expr>

Connect the specified cell port to the specified cell port.
```

```

Per default signal alias names are resolved and all signal names are mapped
the the signal name of the primary driver. Using the -nomap option deactivates
this behavior.

The connect command operates in one module only. Either only one module must
be selected or an active module must be set using the 'cd' command.

This command does not operate on module with processes.
```

C.10 connwrappers – replace undef values with defined constants

```
    connwrappers [options] [selection]

Wrappers are used in coarse-grain synthesis to wrap cells with smaller ports
in wrapper cells with a (larger) constant port size. I.e. the upper bits
of the wrapper output are signed/unsigned bit extended. This command uses this
knowledge to rewire the inputs of the driven cells to match the output of
the driving cell.

    -signed <cell_type> <port_name> <width_param>
    -unsigned <cell_type> <port_name> <width_param>
        consider the specified signed/unsigned wrapper output

    -port <cell_type> <port_name> <width_param> <sign_param>
        use the specified parameter to decide if signed or unsigned

The options -signed, -unsigned, and -port can be specified multiple times.
```

C.11 copy – copy modules in the design

```
    copy old_name new_name

Copy the specified module. Note that selection patterns are not supported
by this command.
```

C.12 cover – print code coverage counters

```
    cover [options] [pattern]

Print the code coverage counters collected using the cover() macro in the Yosys
C++ code. This is useful to figure out what parts of Yosys are utilized by a
test bench.

    -q
        Do not print output to the normal destination (console and/or log file)
```

```
    -o file
        Write output to this file, truncate if exists.

    -a file
        Write output to this file, append if exists.

    -d dir
        Write output to a newly created file in the specified directory.

When one or more pattern (shell wildcards) are specified, then only counters
matching at least one pattern are printed.


It is also possible to instruct Yosys to print the coverage counters on program
exit to a file using environment variables:

    YOSYS_COVER_DIR="{dir-name}" yosys {args}

        This will create a file (with an auto-generated name) in this
        directory and write the coverage counters to it.

    YOSYS_COVER_FILE="{file-name}" yosys {args}

        This will append the coverage counters to the specified file.


Hint: Use the following AWK command to consolidate Yosys coverage files:

    gawk '{ p[$3] = $1; c[$3] += $2; } END { for (i in p)
      printf "%-60s %10d %s\n", p[i], c[i], i; }' {files} | sort -k3


Coverage counters are only available in Yosys for Linux.
```

C.13 delete – delete objects in the design

```
    delete [selection]

Deletes the selected objects. This will also remove entire modules, if the
whole module is selected.


    delete {-input|-output|-port} [selection]

Does not delete any object but removes the input and/or output flag on the
selected wires, thus 'deleting' module ports.
```

C.14 design – save, restore and reset current design

```
    design -reset

Clear the current design.


    design -save <name>

Save the current design under the given name.


    design -stash <name>

Save the current design under the given name and then clear the current design.


    design -push

Push the current design to the stack and then clear the current design.


    design -pop

Reset the current design and pop the last design from the stack.


    design -load <name>

Reset the current design and load the design previously saved under the given
name.


    design -copy-from <name> [-as <new_mod_name>] <selection>

Copy modules from the specified design into the current one. The selection is
evaluated in the other design.


    design -copy-to <name> [-as <new_mod_name>] [selection]

Copy modules from the current design into the specified one.
```

C.15 dff2dffe – transform $dff cells to $dffe cells

```
    dff2dffe [options] [selection]

This pass transforms $dff cells driven by a tree of multiplexers with one or
more feedback paths to $dffe cells. It also works on gate-level cells such as
$_DFF_P_, $_DFF_N_ and $_MUX_.

    -unmap
        operate in the opposite direction: replace $dffe cells with combinations
```

```
        of $dff and $mux cells. the options below are ignore in unmap mode.

    -direct <internal_gate_type> <external_gate_type>
        map directly to external gate type. <internal_gate_type> can
        be any internal gate-level FF cell (except $_DFFE_??_). the
        <external_gate_type> is the cell type name for a cell with an
        identical interface to the <internal_gate_type>, except it
        also has an high-active enable port 'E'.
          Usually <external_gate_type> is an intermediate cell type
        that is then translated to the final type using 'techmap'.

    -direct-match <pattern>
        like -direct for all DFF cell types matching the expression.
        this will use $__DFFE_* as <external_gate_type> matching the
        internal gate type $_DFF_*_, except for $_DFF_[NP]_, which is
        converted to $_DFFE_[NP]_.
```

C.16 dffinit – set INIT param on FF cells

```
    dffinit [options] [selection]

This pass sets an FF cell parameter to the the initial value of the net it
drives. (This is primarily used in FPGA flows.)

    -ff <cell_name> <output_port> <init_param>
        operate on the specified cell type. this option can be used
        multiple times.
```

C.17 dfflibmap – technology mapping of flip-flops

```
    dfflibmap [-prepare] -liberty <file> [selection]

Map internal flip-flop cells to the flip-flop cells in the technology
library specified in the given liberty file.

This pass may add inverters as needed. Therefore it is recommended to
first run this pass and then map the logic paths to the target technology.

When called with -prepare, this command will convert the internal FF cells
to the internal cell types that best match the cells found in the given
liberty file.
```

C.18 dffsr2dff – convert DFFSR cells to simpler FF cell types

```
    dffsr2dff [options] [selection]

This pass converts DFFSR cells ($dffsr, $_DFFSR_???_) and ADFF cells ($adff,
$_DFF_???_) to simpler FF cell types when any of the set/reset inputs is unused.
```

C.19 dump – print parts of the design in ilang format

```
    dump [options] [selection]

Write the selected parts of the design to the console or specified file in
ilang format.

    -m
        also dump the module headers, even if only parts of a single
        module is selected

    -n
        only dump the module headers if the entire module is selected

    -o <filename>
        write to the specified file.

    -a <filename>
        like -outfile but append instead of overwrite
```

C.20 echo – turning echoing back of commands on and off

```
    echo on

Print all commands to log before executing them.


    echo off

Do not print all commands to log before executing them. (default)
```

C.21 edgetypes – list all types of edges in selection

```
    edgetypes [options] [selection]

This command lists all unique types of 'edges' found in the selection. An 'edge'
is a 4-tuple of source and sink cell type and port name.
```

C.22 equiv_add – add a $equiv cell

```
    equiv_add [-try] gold_sig gate_sig

This command adds an $equiv cell for the specified signals.


    equiv_add [-try] -cell gold_cell gate_cell

This command adds $equiv cells for the ports of the specified cells.
```

C.23 equiv_induct – proving $equiv cells using temporal induction

```
    equiv_induct [options] [selection]

Uses a version of temporal induction to prove $equiv cells.

Only selected $equiv cells are proven and only selected cells are used to
perform the proof.

    -undef
        enable modelling of undef states

    -seq <N>
        the max. number of time steps to be considered (default = 4)

This command is very effective in proving complex sequential circuits, when
the internal state of the circuit quickly propagates to $equiv cells.

However, this command uses a weak definition of 'equivalence': This command
proves that the two circuits will not diverge after they produce equal
outputs (observable points via $equiv) for at least <N> cycles (the <N>
specified via -seq).

Combined with simulation this is very powerful because simulation can give
you confidence that the circuits start out synced for at least <N> cycles
after reset.
```

C.24 equiv_make – prepare a circuit for equivalence checking

```
    equiv_make [options] gold_module gate_module equiv_module

This creates a module annotated with $equiv cells from two presumably
equivalent modules. Use commands such as 'equiv_simple' and 'equiv_status'
to work with the created equivalent checking module.

    -inames
        Also match cells and wires with $... names.

    -blacklist <file>
        Do not match cells or signals that match the names in the file.

    -encfile <file>
        Match FSM encodings using the description from the file.
        See 'help fsm_recode' for details.

Note: The circuit created by this command is not a miter (with something like
a trigger output), but instead uses $equiv cells to encode the equivalence
checking problem. Use 'miter -equiv' if you want to create a miter circuit.
```

C.25 equiv_mark – mark equivalence checking regions

```
    equiv_mark [options] [selection]

This command marks the regions in an equivalence checking module. Region 0 is
the proven part of the circuit. Regions with higher numbers are connected
unproven subcricuits. The integer attribute 'equiv_region' is set on all
wires and cells.
```

C.26 equiv_miter – extract miter from equiv circuit

```
    equiv_miter [options] miter_module [selection]

This creates a miter module for further analysis of the selected $equiv cells.

    -trigger
        Create a trigger output

    -cmp
        Create cmp_* outputs for individual unproven $equiv cells

    -assert
        Create a $assert cell for each unproven $equiv cell

    -undef
        Create compare logic that handles undefs correctly
```

C.27 equiv_purge – purge equivalence checking module

```
    equiv_purge [options] [selection]

This command removes the proven part of an equivalence checking module, leaving
only the unproven segments in the design. This will also remove and add module
ports as needed.
```

C.28 equiv_remove – remove $equiv cells

```
    equiv_remove [options] [selection]

This command removes the selected $equiv cells. If neither -gold nor -gate is
used then only proven cells are removed.

    -gold
        keep gold circuit

    -gate
        keep gate circuit
```

C.29 equiv_simple – try proving simple $equiv instances

```
    equiv_simple [options] [selection]

This command tries to prove $equiv cells using a simple direct SAT approach.

    -v
        verbose output

    -undef
        enable modelling of undef states

    -nogroup
        disabling grouping of $equiv cells by output wire

    -seq <N>
        the max. number of time steps to be considered (default = 1)
```

C.30 equiv_status – print status of equivalent checking module

```
    equiv_status [options] [selection]

This command prints status information for all selected $equiv cells.

    -assert
        produce an error if any unproven $equiv cell is found
```

C.31 equiv_struct – structural equivalence checking

```
    equiv_struct [options] [selection]

This command adds additional $equiv cells based on the assumption that the
gold and gate circuit are structurally equivalent. Note that this can introduce
bad $equiv cells in cases where the netlists are not structurally equivalent,
for example when analyzing circuits with cells with commutative inputs. This
command will also de-duplicate gates.

    -fwd
        by default this command performans forward sweeps until nothing can
        be merged by forwards sweeps, then backward sweeps until forward
        sweeps are effective again. with this option set only forward sweeps
        are performed.

    -fwonly <cell_type>
        add the specified cell type to the list of cell types that are only
        merged in forward sweeps and never in backward sweeps. $equiv is in
        this list automatically.

    -icells
```

```
        by default, the internal RTL and gate cell types are ignored. add
        this option to also process those cell types with this command.

    -maxiter <N>
        maximum number of iterations to run before aborting
```

C.32 eval – evaluate the circuit given an input

```
    eval [options] [selection]

This command evaluates the value of a signal given the value of all required
inputs.

    -set <signal> <value>
        set the specified signal to the specified value.

    -set-undef
        set all unspecified source signals to undef (x)

    -table <signal>
        create a truth table using the specified input signals

    -show <signal>
        show the value for the specified signal. if no -show option is passed
        then all output ports of the current module are used.
```

C.33 expose – convert internal signals to module ports

```
    expose [options] [selection]

This command exposes all selected internal signals of a module as additional
outputs.

    -dff
        only consider wires that are directly driven by register cell.

    -cut
        when exposing a wire, create an input/output pair and cut the internal
        signal path at that wire.

    -shared
        only expose those signals that are shared among the selected modules.
        this is useful for preparing modules for equivalence checking.

    -evert
        also turn connections to instances of other modules to additional
        inputs and outputs and remove the module instances.

    -evert-dff
        turn flip-flops to sets of inputs and outputs.
```

```
23
24      -sep <separator>
25          when creating new wire/port names, the original object name is suffixed
26          with this separator (default: '.') and the port name or a type
27          designator for the exposed signal.
```

C.34 extract – find subcircuits and replace them with cells

```
1       extract -map <map_file> [options] [selection]
2       extract -mine <out_file> [options] [selection]
3
4   This pass looks for subcircuits that are isomorphic to any of the modules
5   in the given map file and replaces them with instances of this modules. The
6   map file can be a Verilog source file (*.v) or an ilang file (*.il).
7
8       -map <map_file>
9           use the modules in this file as reference. This option can be used
10          multiple times.
11
12      -map %<design-name>
13          use the modules in this in-memory design as reference. This option can
14          be used multiple times.
15
16      -verbose
17          print debug output while analyzing
18
19      -constports
20          also find instances with constant drivers. this may be much
21          slower than the normal operation.
22
23      -nodefaultswaps
24          normally builtin port swapping rules for internal cells are used per
25          default. This turns that off, so e.g. 'a^b' does not match 'b^a'
26          when this option is used.
27
28      -compat <needle_type> <haystack_type>
29          Per default, the cells in the map file (needle) must have the
30          type as the cells in the active design (haystack). This option
31          can be used to register additional pairs of types that should
32          match. This option can be used multiple times.
33
34      -swap <needle_type> <port1>,<port2>[,...]
35          Register a set of swappable ports for a needle cell type.
36          This option can be used multiple times.
37
38      -perm <needle_type> <port1>,<port2>[,...] <portA>,<portB>[,...]
39          Register a valid permutation of swappable ports for a needle
40          cell type. This option can be used multiple times.
41
42      -cell_attr <attribute_name>
43          Attributes on cells with the given name must match.
44
```

```
    -wire_attr <attribute_name>
        Attributes on wires with the given name must match.

    -ignore_parameters
        Do not use parameters when matching cells.

    -ignore_param <cell_type> <parameter_name>
        Do not use this parameter when matching cells.

This pass does not operate on modules with unprocessed processes in it.
(I.e. the 'proc' pass should be used first to convert processes to netlists.)

This pass can also be used for mining for frequent subcircuits. In this mode
the following options are to be used instead of the -map option.

    -mine <out_file>
        mine for frequent subcircuits and write them to the given ilang file

    -mine_cells_span <min> <max>
        only mine for subcircuits with the specified number of cells
        default value: 3 5

    -mine_min_freq <num>
        only mine for subcircuits with at least the specified number of matches
        default value: 10

    -mine_limit_matches_per_module <num>
        when calculating the number of matches for a subcircuit, don't count
        more than the specified number of matches per module

    -mine_max_fanout <num>
        don't consider internal signals with more than <num> connections

The modules in the map file may have the attribute 'extract_order' set to an
integer value. Then this value is used to determine the order in which the pass
tries to map the modules to the design (ascending, default value is 0).

See 'help techmap' for a pass that does the opposite thing.
```

C.35 flatten – flatten design

```
    flatten [selection]

This pass flattens the design by replacing cells by their implementation. This
pass is very similar to the 'techmap' pass. The only difference is that this
pass is using the current design as mapping library.

Cells and/or modules with the 'keep_hierarchy' attribute set will not be
flattened by this command.
```

C.36 freduce – perform functional reduction

```
    freduce [options] [selection]

This pass performs functional reduction in the circuit. I.e. if two nodes are
equivalent, they are merged to one node and one of the redundant drivers is
disconnected. A subsequent call to 'clean' will remove the redundant drivers.

    -v, -vv
        enable verbose or very verbose output

    -inv
        enable explicit handling of inverted signals

    -stop <n>
        stop after <n> reduction operations. this is mostly used for
        debugging the freduce command itself.

    -dump <prefix>
        dump the design to <prefix>_<module>_<num>.il after each reduction
        operation. this is mostly used for debugging the freduce command.

This pass is undef-aware, i.e. it considers don't-care values for detecting
equivalent nodes.

All selected wires are considered for rewiring. The selected cells cover the
circuit that is analyzed.
```

C.37 fsm – extract and optimize finite state machines

```
    fsm [options] [selection]

This pass calls all the other fsm_* passes in a useful order. This performs
FSM extraction and optimization. It also calls opt_clean as needed:

    fsm_detect          unless got option -nodetect
    fsm_extract

    fsm_opt
    opt_clean
    fsm_opt

    fsm_expand          if got option -expand
    opt_clean           if got option -expand
    fsm_opt             if got option -expand

    fsm_recode          unless got option -norecode

    fsm_info

    fsm_export          if got option -export
    fsm_map             unless got option -nomap
```

```

Options:

    -expand, -norecode, -export, -nomap
        enable or disable passes as indicated above

    -encoding type
    -fm_set_fsm_file file
    -encfile file
        passed through to fsm_recode pass
```

C.38 fsm_detect – finding FSMs in design

```
    fsm_detect [selection]

This pass detects finite state machines by identifying the state signal.
The state signal is then marked by setting the attribute 'fsm_encoding'
on the state signal to "auto".

Existing 'fsm_encoding' attributes are not changed by this pass.

Signals can be protected from being detected by this pass by setting the
'fsm_encoding' attribute to "none".
```

C.39 fsm_expand – expand FSM cells by merging logic into it

```
    fsm_expand [selection]

The fsm_extract pass is conservative about the cells that belong to a finite
state machine. This pass can be used to merge additional auxiliary gates into
the finite state machine.
```

C.40 fsm_export – exporting FSMs to KISS2 files

```
    fsm_export [-noauto] [-o filename] [-origenc] [selection]

This pass creates a KISS2 file for every selected FSM. For FSMs with the
'fsm_export' attribute set, the attribute value is used as filename, otherwise
the module and cell name is used as filename. If the parameter '-o' is given,
the first exported FSM is written to the specified filename. This overwrites
the setting as specified with the 'fsm_export' attribute. All other FSMs are
exported to the default name as mentioned above.

    -noauto
        only export FSMs that have the 'fsm_export' attribute set

    -o filename
```

```
        filename of the first exported FSM

    -origenc
        use binary state encoding as state names instead of s0, s1, ...
```

C.41 fsm_extract – extracting FSMs in design

```
    fsm_extract [selection]

This pass operates on all signals marked as FSM state signals using the
'fsm_encoding' attribute. It consumes the logic that creates the state signal
and uses the state signal to generate control signal and replaces it with an
FSM cell.

The generated FSM cell still generates the original state signal with its
original encoding. The 'fsm_opt' pass can be used in combination with the
'opt_clean' pass to eliminate this signal.
```

C.42 fsm_info – print information on finite state machines

```
    fsm_info [selection]

This pass dumps all internal information on FSM cells. It can be useful for
analyzing the synthesis process and is called automatically by the 'fsm'
pass so that this information is included in the synthesis log file.
```

C.43 fsm_map – mapping FSMs to basic logic

```
    fsm_map [selection]

This pass translates FSM cells to flip-flops and logic.
```

C.44 fsm_opt – optimize finite state machines

```
    fsm_opt [selection]

This pass optimizes FSM cells. It detects which output signals are actually
not used and removes them from the FSM. This pass is usually used in
combination with the 'opt_clean' pass (see also 'help fsm').
```

C.45 fsm_recode – recoding finite state machines

```
    fsm_recode [options] [selection]

This pass reassign the state encodings for FSM cells. At the moment only
one-hot encoding and binary encoding is supported.
    -encoding <type>
        specify the encoding scheme used for FSMs without the
        'fsm_encoding' attribute or with the attribute set to 'auto'.

    -fm_set_fsm_file <file>
        generate a file containing the mapping from old to new FSM encoding
        in form of Synopsys Formality set_fsm_* commands.

    -encfile <file>
        write the mappings from old to new FSM encoding to a file in the
        following format:

            .fsm <module_name> <state_signal>
            .map <old_bitpattern> <new_bitpattern>
```

C.46 help – display help messages

```
    help  ..............  list all commands
    help <command>  .....  print help message for given command
    help -all  ..........  print complete command reference

    help -cells .........  list all cell types
    help <celltype>  ....  print help message for given cell type
    help <celltype>+  ...  print verilog code for given cell type
```

C.47 hierarchy – check, expand and clean up design hierarchy

```
    hierarchy [-check] [-top <module>]
    hierarchy -generate <cell-types> <port-decls>

In parametric designs, a module might exists in several variations with
different parameter values. This pass looks at all modules in the current
design an re-runs the language frontends for the parametric modules as
needed.

    -check
        also check the design hierarchy. this generates an error when
        an unknown module is used as cell type.

    -purge_lib
        by default the hierarchy command will not remove library (blackbox)
        modules. use this option to also remove unused blackbox modules.

```

```
    -libdir <directory>
        search for files named <module_name>.v in the specified directory
        for unknown modules and automatically run read_verilog for each
        unknown module.

    -keep_positionals
        per default this pass also converts positional arguments in cells
        to arguments using port names. this option disables this behavior.

    -nokeep_asserts
        per default this pass sets the "keep" attribute on all modules
        that directly or indirectly contain one or more $assert cells. this
        option disables this behavior.

    -top <module>
        use the specified top module to built a design hierarchy. modules
        outside this tree (unused modules) are removed.

        when the -top option is used, the 'top' attribute will be set on the
        specified top module. otherwise a module with the 'top' attribute set
        will implicitly be used as top module, if such a module exists.

    -auto-top
        automatically determine the top of the design hierarchy and mark it.

In -generate mode this pass generates blackbox modules for the given cell
types (wildcards supported). For this the design is searched for cells that
match the given types and then the given port declarations are used to
determine the direction of the ports. The syntax for a port declaration is:

    {i|o|io}[@<num>]:<portname>

Input ports are specified with the 'i' prefix, output ports with the 'o'
prefix and inout ports with the 'io' prefix. The optional <num> specifies
the position of the port in the parameter list (needed when instantiated
using positional arguments). When <num> is not specified, the <portname> can
also contain wildcard characters.

This pass ignores the current selection and always operates on all modules
in the current design.
```

C.48 hilomap – technology mapping of constant hi- and/or lo-drivers

```
    hilomap [options] [selection]

Map constants to 'tielo' and 'tiehi' driver cells.

    -hicell <celltype> <portname>
        Replace constant hi bits with this cell.

    -locell <celltype> <portname>
        Replace constant lo bits with this cell.
```

```
10
11      -singleton
12          Create only one hi/lo cell and connect all constant bits
13          to that cell. Per default a separate cell is created for
14          each constant bit.
```

C.49 history – show last interactive commands

```
1       history
2
3   This command prints all commands in the shell history buffer. This are
4   all commands executed in an interactive session, but not the commands
5   from executed scripts.
```

C.50 ice40_ffinit – iCE40: handle FF init values

```
1       ice40_ffinit [options] [selection]
2
3   Remove zero init values for FF output signals. Add inverters to implement
4   nonzero init values.
```

C.51 ice40_ffssr – iCE40: merge synchronous set/reset into FF cells

```
1       ice40_ffssr [options] [selection]
2
3   Merge synchronous set/reset $_MUX_ cells into iCE40 FFs.
```

C.52 ice40_opt – iCE40: perform simple optimizations

```
1       ice40_opt [options] [selection]
2
3   This command executes the following script:
4
5       do
6           <ice40 specific optimizations>
7           opt_const -mux_undef -undriven [-full]
8           opt_share
9           opt_rmdff
10          opt_clean
11      while <changed design>
```

C.53 iopadmap – technology mapping of i/o pads (or buffers)

```
    iopadmap [options] [selection]

Map module inputs/outputs to PAD cells from a library. This pass
can only map to very simple PAD cells. Use 'techmap' to further map
the resulting cells to more sophisticated PAD cells.

    -inpad <celltype> <portname>[:<portname>]
        Map module input ports to the given cell type with the
        given output port name. if a 2nd portname is given, the
        signal is passed through the pad call, using the 2nd
        portname as input.

    -outpad <celltype> <portname>[:<portname>]
    -inoutpad <celltype> <portname>[:<portname>]
        Similar to -inpad, but for output and inout ports.

    -widthparam <param_name>
        Use the specified parameter name to set the port width.

    -nameparam <param_name>
        Use the specified parameter to set the port name.

    -bits
        create individual bit-wide buffers even for ports that
        are wider. (the default behavior is to create word-wide
        buffers using -widthparam to set the word size on the cell.)
```

C.54 json – write design in JSON format

```
    json [options] [selection]

Write a JSON netlist of all selected objects.

    -o <filename>
        write to the specified file.

    -aig
        also include AIG models for the different gate types

See 'help write_json' for a description of the JSON format used.
```

C.55 log – print text and log files

```
    log string

Print the given string to the screen and/or the log file. This is useful for TCL
scripts, because the TCL command "puts" only goes to stdout but not to
```

```
logfiles.

    -stdout
        Print the output to stdout too. This is useful when all Yosys is executed
        with a script and the -q (quiet operation) argument to notify the user.

    -stderr
        Print the output to stderr too.

    -nolog
        Don't use the internal log() command. Use either -stdout or -stderr,
        otherwise no output will be generated at all.

    -n
        do not append a newline
```

C.56 ls – list modules or objects in modules

```
    ls [selection]

When no active module is selected, this prints a list of modules.

When an active module is selected, this prints a list of objects in the module.
```

C.57 lut2mux – convert $lut to $_MUX_

```
    lut2mux [options] [selection]

This pass converts $lut cells to $_MUX_ gates.
```

C.58 maccmap – mapping macc cells

```
    maccmap [-unmap] [selection]

This pass maps $macc cells to yosys $fa and $alu cells. When the -unmap option
is used then the $macc cell is mapped to $add, $sub, etc. cells instead.
```

C.59 memory – translate memories to basic cells

```
    memory [-nomap] [-nordff] [-bram <bram_rules>] [selection]

This pass calls all the other memory_* passes in a useful order:

    memory_dff [-nordff]
    opt_clean
```

```
    memory_share
    opt_clean
    memory_collect
    memory_bram -rules <bram_rules>     (when called with -bram)
    memory_map                          (skipped if called with -nomap)

This converts memories to word-wide DFFs and address decoders
or multiport memory blocks if called with the -nomap option.
```

C.60 memory_bram – map memories to block rams

```
    memory_bram -rules <rule_file> [selection]

This pass converts the multi-port $mem memory cells into block ram instances.
The given rules file describes the available resources and how they should be
used.

The rules file contains a set of block ram description and a sequence of match
rules. A block ram description looks like this:

    bram RAMB1024X32     # name of BRAM cell
      init 1             # set to '1' if BRAM can be initialized
      abits 10           # number of address bits
      dbits 32           # number of data bits
      groups 2           # number of port groups
      ports  1 1         # number of ports in each group
      wrmode 1 0         # set to '1' if this groups is write ports
      enable 4 1         # number of enable bits
      transp 0 2         # transparent (for read ports)
      clocks 1 2         # clock configuration
      clkpol 2 2         # clock polarity configuration
    endbram

For the option 'transp' the value 0 means non-transparent, 1 means transparent
and a value greater than 1 means configurable. All groups with the same
value greater than 1 share the same configuration bit.

For the option 'clocks' the value 0 means non-clocked, and a value greater
than 0 means clocked. All groups with the same value share the same clock
signal.

For the option 'clkpol' the value 0 means negative edge, 1 means positive edge
and a value greater than 1 means configurable. All groups with the same value
greater than 1 share the same configuration bit.

Using the same bram name in different bram blocks will create different variants
of the bram. Verilog configuration parameters for the bram are created as needed.

It is also possible to create variants by repeating statements in the bram block
and appending '@<label>' to the individual statements.

A match rule looks like this:
```

```
42
43      match RAMB1024X32
44        max waste 16384    # only use this bram if <= 16k ram bits are unused
45        min efficiency 80  # only use this bram if efficiency is at least 80%
46      endmatch
47
48  It is possible to match against the following values with min/max rules:
49
50      words  ........  number of words in memory in design
51      abits  ........  number of address bits on memory in design
52      dbits  ........  number of data bits on memory in design
53      wports  .......  number of write ports on memory in design
54      rports  .......  number of read ports on memory in design
55      ports  ........  number of ports on memory in design
56      bits  .........  number of bits in memory in design
57      dups ..........  number of duplications for more read ports
58
59      awaste  .......  number of unused address slots for this match
60      dwaste  .......  number of unused data bits for this match
61      bwaste  .......  number of unused bram bits for this match
62      waste  ........  total number of unused bram bits (bwaste*dups)
63      efficiency  ...  total percentage of used and non-duplicated bits
64
65      acells  .......  number of cells in 'address-direction'
66      dcells  .......  number of cells in 'data-direction'
67      cells  ........  total number of cells (acells*dcells*dups)
68
69  The interface for the created bram instances is derived from the bram
70  description. Use 'techmap' to convert the created bram instances into
71  instances of the actual bram cells of your target architecture.
72
73  A match containing the command 'or_next_if_better' is only used if it
74  has a higher efficiency than the next match (and the one after that if
75  the next also has 'or_next_if_better' set, and so forth).
76
77  A match containing the command 'make_transp' will add external circuitry
78  to simulate 'transparent read', if necessary.
79
80  A match containing the command 'make_outreg' will add external flip-flops
81  to implement synchronous read ports, if necessary.
82
83  A match containing the command 'shuffle_enable A' will re-organize
84  the data bits to accommodate the enable pattern of port A.
```

C.61 memory_collect – creating multi-port memory cells

```
1       memory_collect [selection]
2
3   This pass collects memories and memory ports and creates generic multiport
4   memory cells.
```

C.62 memory_dff – merge input/output DFFs into memories

```
    memory_dff [options] [selection]

This pass detects DFFs at memory ports and merges them into the memory port.
I.e. it consumes an asynchronous memory port and the flip-flops at its
interface and yields a synchronous memory port.

    -nordfff
        do not merge registers on read ports
```

C.63 memory_map – translate multiport memories to basic cells

```
    memory_map [selection]

This pass converts multiport memory cells as generated by the memory_collect
pass to word-wide DFFs and address decoders.
```

C.64 memory_share – consolidate memory ports

```
    memory_share [selection]

This pass merges share-able memory ports into single memory ports.

The following methods are used to consolidate the number of memory ports:

  - When write ports are connected to async read ports accessing the same
    address, then this feedback path is converted to a write port with
    byte/part enable signals.

  - When multiple write ports access the same address then this is converted
    to a single write port with a more complex data and/or enable logic path.

  - When multiple write ports are never accessed at the same time (a SAT
    solver is used to determine this), then the ports are merged into a single
    write port.

Note that in addition to the algorithms implemented in this pass, the $memrd
and $memwr cells are also subject to generic resource sharing passes (and other
optimizations) such as opt_share.
```

C.65 memory_unpack – unpack multi-port memory cells

```
    memory_unpack [selection]

This pass converts the multi-port $mem memory cells into individual $memrd and
$memwr cells. It is the counterpart to the memory_collect pass.
```

C.66 miter – automatically create a miter circuit

```
    miter -equiv [options] gold_name gate_name miter_name

Creates a miter circuit for equivalence checking. The gold- and gate- modules
must have the same interfaces. The miter circuit will have all inputs of the
two source modules, prefixed with 'in_'. The miter circuit has a 'trigger'
output that goes high if an output mismatch between the two source modules is
detected.

    -ignore_gold_x
        a undef (x) bit in the gold module output will match any value in
        the gate module output.

    -make_outputs
        also route the gold- and gate-outputs to 'gold_*' and 'gate_*' outputs
        on the miter circuit.

    -make_outcmp
        also create a cmp_* output for each gold/gate output pair.

    -make_assert
        also create an 'assert' cell that checks if trigger is always low.

    -flatten
        call 'flatten; opt_const -keepdc -undriven;;' on the miter circuit.


    miter -assert [options] module [miter_name]

Creates a miter circuit for property checking. All input ports are kept,
output ports are discarded. An additional output 'trigger' is created that
goes high when an assert is violated. Without a miter_name, the existing
module is modified.

    -make_outputs
        keep module output ports.

    -flatten
        call 'flatten; opt_const -keepdc -undriven;;' on the miter circuit.
```

C.67 muxcover – cover trees of MUX cells with wider MUXes

```
    muxcover [options] [selection]

Cover trees of $_MUX_ cells with $_MUX{4,8,16}_ cells

    -mux4, -mux8, -mux16
        Use the specified types of MUXes. If none of those options are used,
        the effect is the same as if all of them where used.

    -nodecode
```

```
        Do not insert decoder logic. This reduces the number of possible
        substitutions, but guarantees that the resulting circuit is not
        less efficient than the original circuit.
```

C.68 nlutmap – map to LUTs of different sizes

```
    nlutmap [options] [selection]

This pass uses successive calls to 'abc' to map to an architecture. That
provides a small number of differently sized LUTs.

    -luts N_1,N_2,N_3,...
        The number of LUTs with 1, 2, 3, ... inputs that are
        available in the target architecture.

Excess logic that does not fit into the specified LUTs is mapped back
to generic logic gates ($_AND_, etc.).
```

C.69 opt – perform simple optimizations

```
    opt [options] [selection]

This pass calls all the other opt_* passes in a useful order. This performs
a series of trivial optimizations and cleanups. This pass executes the other
passes in the following order:

    opt_const [-mux_undef] [-mux_bool] [-undriven] [-clkinv] [-fine] [-full] [-keepdc]
    opt_share [-share_all] -nomux

    do
        opt_muxtree
        opt_reduce [-fine] [-full]
        opt_share [-share_all]
        opt_rmdff
        opt_clean [-purge]
        opt_const [-mux_undef] [-mux_bool] [-undriven] [-clkinv] [-fine] [-full] [-kee
    while <changed design>

When called with -fast the following script is used instead:

    do
        opt_const [-mux_undef] [-mux_bool] [-undriven] [-clkinv] [-fine] [-full] [-kee
        opt_share [-share_all]
        opt_rmdff
        opt_clean [-purge]
    while <changed design in opt_rmdff>

Note: Options in square brackets (such as [-keepdc]) are passed through to
the opt_* commands when given to 'opt'.
```

C.70 opt_clean – remove unused cells and wires

```
    opt_clean [options] [selection]

This pass identifies wires and cells that are unused and removes them. Other
passes often remove cells but leave the wires in the design or reconnect the
wires but leave the old cells in the design. This pass can be used to clean up
after the passes that do the actual work.

This pass only operates on completely selected modules without processes.

    -purge
        also remove internal nets if they have a public name
```

C.71 opt_const – perform const folding

```
    opt_const [options] [selection]

This pass performs const folding on internal cell types with constant inputs.

    -mux_undef
        remove 'undef' inputs from $mux, $pmux and $_MUX_ cells

    -mux_bool
        replace $mux cells with inverters or buffers when possible

    -undriven
        replace undriven nets with undef (x) constants

    -clkinv
        optimize clock inverters by changing FF types

    -fine
        perform fine-grain optimizations

    -full
        alias for -mux_undef -mux_bool -undriven -fine

    -keepdc
        some optimizations change the behavior of the circuit with respect to
        don't-care bits. for example in 'a+0' a single x-bit in 'a' will cause
        all result bits to be set to x. this behavior changes when 'a+0' is
        replaced by 'a'. the -keepdc option disables all such optimizations.
```

C.72 opt_muxtree – eliminate dead trees in multiplexer trees

```
    opt_muxtree [selection]

This pass analyzes the control signals for the multiplexer trees in the design
```

```
and identifies inputs that can never be active. It then removes this dead
branches from the multiplexer trees.

This pass only operates on completely selected modules without processes.
```

C.73 opt_reduce – simplify large MUXes and AND/OR gates

```
    opt_reduce [options] [selection]

This pass performs two interlinked optimizations:

1. it consolidates trees of large AND gates or OR gates and eliminates
duplicated inputs.

2. it identifies duplicated inputs to MUXes and replaces them with a single
input with the original control signals OR'ed together.

    -fine
      perform fine-grain optimizations

    -full
      alias for -fine
```

C.74 opt_rmdff – remove DFFs with constant inputs

```
    opt_rmdff [selection]

This pass identifies flip-flops with constant inputs and replaces them with
a constant driver.
```

C.75 opt_share – consolidate identical cells

```
    opt_share [options] [selection]

This pass identifies cells with identical type and input signals. Such cells
are then merged to one cell.

    -nomux
        Do not merge MUX cells.

    -share_all
        Operate on all cell types, not just built-in types.
```

C.76 plugin – load and list loaded plugins

```
    plugin [options]

Load and list loaded plugins.

    -i <plugin_filename>
        Load (install) the specified plugin.

    -a <alias_name>
        Register the specified alias name for the loaded plugin

    -l
        List loaded plugins
```

C.77 pmuxtree – transform $pmux cells to trees of $mux cells

```
    pmuxtree [options] [selection]

This pass transforms $pmux cells to a trees of $mux cells.
```

C.78 prep – generic synthesis script

```
    prep [options]

This command runs a conservative RTL synthesis. A typical application for this
is the preparation stage of a verification flow. This command does not operate
on partly selected designs.

    -top <module>
        use the specified module as top module (default='top')

    -nordff
        passed to 'memory_dff'. prohibits merging of FFs into memory read ports

    -run <from_label>[:<to_label>]
        only run the commands between the labels (see below). an empty
        from label is synonymous to 'begin', and empty to label is
        synonymous to the end of the command list.


The following commands are executed by this synthesis command:

    begin:
        hierarchy -check [-top <top>]

    prep:
        proc
        opt_const
```

```
        opt_clean
        check
        opt -keepdc
        wreduce
        memory_dff [-nordff]
        opt_clean
        memory_collect
        opt -keepdc -fast

    check:
        stat
        check
```

C.79 proc – translate processes to netlists

```
    proc [options] [selection]

This pass calls all the other proc_* passes in the most common order.

    proc_clean
    proc_rmdead
    proc_init
    proc_arst
    proc_mux
    proc_dlatch
    proc_dff
    proc_clean

This replaces the processes in the design with multiplexers,
flip-flops and latches.

The following options are supported:

    -global_arst [!]<netname>
        This option is passed through to proc_arst.
```

C.80 proc_arst – detect asynchronous resets

```
    proc_arst [-global_arst [!]<netname>] [selection]

This pass identifies asynchronous resets in the processes and converts them
to a different internal representation that is suitable for generating
flip-flop cells with asynchronous resets.

    -global_arst [!]<netname>
        In modules that have a net with the given name, use this net as async
        reset for registers that have been assign initial values in their
        declaration ('reg foobar = constant_value;'). Use the '!' modifier for
        active low reset signals. Note: the frontend stores the default value
        in the 'init' attribute on the net.
```

C.81 proc_clean – remove empty parts of processes

```
    proc_clean [selection]

This pass removes empty parts of processes and ultimately removes a process
if it contains only empty structures.
```

C.82 proc_dff – extract flip-flops from processes

```
    proc_dff [selection]

This pass identifies flip-flops in the processes and converts them to
d-type flip-flop cells.
```

C.83 proc_dlatch – extract latches from processes

```
    proc_dlatch [selection]

This pass identifies latches in the processes and converts them to
d-type latches.
```

C.84 proc_init – convert initial block to init attributes

```
    proc_init [selection]

This pass extracts the 'init' actions from processes (generated from Verilog
'initial' blocks) and sets the initial value to the 'init' attribute on the
respective wire.
```

C.85 proc_mux – convert decision trees to multiplexers

```
    proc_mux [selection]

This pass converts the decision trees in processes (originating from if-else
and case statements) to trees of multiplexer cells.
```

C.86 proc_rmdead – eliminate dead trees in decision trees

```
    proc_rmdead [selection]

This pass identifies unreachable branches in decision trees and removes them.
```

C.87 qwp – quadratic wirelength placer

```
    qwp [options] [selection]

This command runs quadratic wirelength placement on the selected modules and
annotates the cells in the design with 'qwp_position' attributes.

    -ltr
        Add left-to-right constraints: constrain all inputs on the left border
        outputs to the right border.

    -alpha
        Add constraints for inputs/outputs to be placed in alphanumerical
        order along the y-axis (top-to-bottom).

    -grid N
        Number of grid divisions in x- and y-direction. (default=16)

    -dump <html_file_name>
        Dump a protocol of the placement algorithm to the html file.

Note: This implementation of a quadratic wirelength placer uses exact
dense matrix operations. It is only a toy-placer for small circuits.
```

C.88 read_blif – read BLIF file

```
    read_blif [filename]

Load modules from a BLIF file into the current design.
```

C.89 read_ilang – read modules from ilang file

```
    read_ilang [filename]

Load modules from an ilang file to the current design. (ilang is a text
representation of a design in yosys's internal format.)
```

C.90 read_liberty – read cells from liberty file

```
    read_liberty [filename]

Read cells from liberty file as modules into current design.

    -lib
        only create empty blackbox modules

    -ignore_redef
```

```
        ignore re-definitions of modules. (the default behavior is to
        create an error message.)

    -ignore_miss_func
        ignore cells with missing function specification of outputs

    -ignore_miss_dir
        ignore cells with a missing or invalid direction
        specification on a pin

    -setattr <attribute_name>
        set the specified attribute (to the value 1) on all loaded modules
```

C.91 read_verilog – read modules from Verilog file

```
    read_verilog [options] [filename]

Load modules from a Verilog file to the current design. A large subset of
Verilog-2005 is supported.

    -sv
        enable support for SystemVerilog features. (only a small subset
        of SystemVerilog is supported)

    -formal
        enable support for assert() and assume() from SystemVerilog
        replace the implicit -D SYNTHESIS with -D FORMAL

    -dump_ast1
        dump abstract syntax tree (before simplification)

    -dump_ast2
        dump abstract syntax tree (after simplification)

    -dump_vlog
        dump ast as Verilog code (after simplification)

    -yydebug
        enable parser debug output

    -nolatches
        usually latches are synthesized into logic loops
        this option prohibits this and sets the output to 'x'
        in what would be the latches hold condition

        this behavior can also be achieved by setting the
        'nolatches' attribute on the respective module or
        always block.

    -nomem2reg
        under certain conditions memories are converted to registers
        early during simplification to ensure correct handling of
```

```
38          complex corner cases. this option disables this behavior.
39
40          this can also be achieved by setting the 'nomem2reg'
41          attribute on the respective module or register.
42
43          This is potentially dangerous. Usually the front-end has good
44          reasons for converting an array to a list of registers.
45          Prohibiting this step will likely result in incorrect synthesis
46          results.
47
48      -mem2reg
49          always convert memories to registers. this can also be
50          achieved by setting the 'mem2reg' attribute on the respective
51          module or register.
52
53      -nomeminit
54          do not infer $meminit cells and instead convert initialized
55          memories to registers directly in the front-end.
56
57      -ppdump
58          dump Verilog code after pre-processor
59
60      -nopp
61          do not run the pre-processor
62
63      -nodpi
64          disable DPI-C support
65
66      -lib
67          only create empty blackbox modules. This implies -DBLACKBOX.
68
69      -noopt
70          don't perform basic optimizations (such as const folding) in the
71          high-level front-end.
72
73      -icells
74          interpret cell types starting with '$' as internal cell types
75
76      -ignore_redef
77          ignore re-definitions of modules. (the default behavior is to
78          create an error message.)
79
80      -defer
81          only read the abstract syntax tree and defer actual compilation
82          to a later 'hierarchy' command. Useful in cases where the default
83          parameters of modules yield invalid or not synthesizable code.
84
85      -noautowire
86          make the default of `default_nettype be "none" instead of "wire".
87
88      -setattr <attribute_name>
89          set the specified attribute (to the value 1) on all loaded modules
90
91      -Dname[=definition]
```

```
        define the preprocessor symbol 'name' and set its optional value
        'definition'

    -Idir
        add 'dir' to the directories which are used when searching include
        files

The command 'verilog_defaults' can be used to register default options for
subsequent calls to 'read_verilog'.

Note that the Verilog frontend does a pretty good job of processing valid
verilog input, but has not very good error reporting. It generally is
recommended to use a simulator (for example Icarus Verilog) for checking
the syntax of the code, rather than to rely on read_verilog for that.
```

C.92 rename – rename object in the design

```
    rename old_name new_name

Rename the specified object. Note that selection patterns are not supported
by this command.


    rename -enumerate [-pattern <pattern>] [selection]

Assign short auto-generated names to all selected wires and cells with private
names. The -pattern option can be used to set the pattern for the new names.
The character % in the pattern is replaced with a integer number. The default
pattern is '_%_'.

    rename -hide [selection]

Assign private names (the ones with $-prefix) to all selected wires and cells
with public names. This ignores all selected ports.

    rename -top new_name

Rename top module.
```

C.93 sat – solve a SAT problem in the circuit

```
    sat [options] [selection]

This command solves a SAT problem defined over the currently selected circuit
and additional constraints passed as parameters.

    -all
        show all solutions to the problem (this can grow exponentially, use
        -max <N> instead to get <N> solutions)

```

```
    -max <N>
        like -all, but limit number of solutions to <N>

    -enable_undef
        enable modeling of undef value (aka 'x-bits')
        this option is implied by -set-def, -set-undef et. cetera

    -max_undef
        maximize the number of undef bits in solutions, giving a better
        picture of which input bits are actually vital to the solution.

    -set <signal> <value>
        set the specified signal to the specified value.

    -set-def <signal>
        add a constraint that all bits of the given signal must be defined

    -set-any-undef <signal>
        add a constraint that at least one bit of the given signal is undefined

    -set-all-undef <signal>
        add a constraint that all bits of the given signal are undefined

    -set-def-inputs
        add -set-def constraints for all module inputs

    -show <signal>
        show the model for the specified signal. if no -show option is
        passed then a set of signals to be shown is automatically selected.

    -show-inputs, -show-outputs, -show-ports
        add all module (input/output) ports to the list of shown signals

    -show-regs, -show-public, -show-all
        show all registers, show signals with 'public' names, show all signals

    -ignore_div_by_zero
        ignore all solutions that involve a division by zero

    -ignore_unknown_cells
        ignore all cells that can not be matched to a SAT model

The following options can be used to set up a sequential problem:

    -seq <N>
        set up a sequential problem with <N> time steps. The steps will
        be numbered from 1 to N.

        note: for large <N> it can be significantly faster to use
        -tempinduct-baseonly -maxsteps <N> instead of -seq <N>.

    -set-at <N> <signal> <value>
    -unset-at <N> <signal>
        set or unset the specified signal to the specified value in the
```

```
        given timestep. this has priority over a -set for the same signal.

    -set-assumes
        set all assumptions provided via $assume cells

    -set-def-at <N> <signal>
    -set-any-undef-at <N> <signal>
    -set-all-undef-at <N> <signal>
        add undef constraints in the given timestep.

    -set-init <signal> <value>
        set the initial value for the register driving the signal to the value

    -set-init-undef
        set all initial states (not set using -set-init) to undef

    -set-init-def
        do not force a value for the initial state but do not allow undef

    -set-init-zero
        set all initial states (not set using -set-init) to zero

    -dump_vcd <vcd-file-name>
        dump SAT model (counter example in proof) to VCD file

    -dump_json <json-file-name>
        dump SAT model (counter example in proof) to a WaveJSON file.

    -dump_cnf <cnf-file-name>
        dump CNF of SAT problem (in DIMACS format). in temporal induction
        proofs this is the CNF of the first induction step.

The following additional options can be used to set up a proof. If also -seq
is passed, a temporal induction proof is performed.

    -tempinduct
        Perform a temporal induction proof. In a temporal induction proof it is
        proven that the condition holds forever after the number of time steps
        specified using -seq.

    -tempinduct-def
        Perform a temporal induction proof. Assume an initial state with all
        registers set to defined values for the induction step.

    -tempinduct-baseonly
        Run only the basecase half of temporal induction (requires -maxsteps)

    -tempinduct-inductonly
        Run only the induction half of temporal induction

    -tempinduct-skip <N>
        Skip the first <N> steps of the induction proof.

        note: this will assume that the base case holds for <N> steps.
```

```
        this must be proven independently with "-tempinduct-baseonly
        -maxsteps <N>". Use -initsteps if you just want to set a
        minimal induction length.

    -prove <signal> <value>
        Attempt to proof that <signal> is always <value>.

    -prove-x <signal> <value>
        Like -prove, but an undef (x) bit in the lhs matches any value on
        the right hand side. Useful for equivalence checking.

    -prove-asserts
        Prove that all asserts in the design hold.

    -prove-skip <N>
        Do not enforce the prove-condition for the first <N> time steps.

    -maxsteps <N>
        Set a maximum length for the induction.

    -initsteps <N>
        Set initial length for the induction.
        This will speed up the search of the right induction length
        for deep induction proofs.

    -stepsize <N>
        Increase the size of the induction proof in steps of <N>.
        This will speed up the search of the right induction length
        for deep induction proofs.

    -timeout <N>
        Maximum number of seconds a single SAT instance may take.

    -verify
        Return an error and stop the synthesis script if the proof fails.

    -verify-no-timeout
        Like -verify but do not return an error for timeouts.

    -falsify
        Return an error and stop the synthesis script if the proof succeeds.

    -falsify-no-timeout
        Like -falsify but do not return an error for timeouts.
```

C.94 scatter – add additional intermediate nets

```
    scatter [selection]

This command adds additional intermediate nets on all cell ports. This is used
for testing the correct use of the SigMap helper in passes. If you don't know
what this means: don't worry -- you only need this pass when testing your own
```

```
extensions to Yosys.

Use the opt_clean command to get rid of the additional nets.
```

C.95 scc – detect strongly connected components (logic loops)

```
    scc [options] [selection]

This command identifies strongly connected components (aka logic loops) in the
design.

    -expect <num>
        expect to find exactly <num> SSCs. A different number of SSCs will
        produce an error.

    -max_depth <num>
        limit to loops not longer than the specified number of cells. This
        can e.g. be useful in identifying small local loops in a module that
        implements one large SCC.

    -nofeedback
        do not count cells that have their output fed back into one of their
        inputs as single-cell scc.

    -all_cell_types
        Usually this command only considers internal non-memory cells. With
        this option set, all cells are considered. For unknown cells all ports
        are assumed to be bidirectional 'inout' ports.

    -set_attr <name> <value>
    -set_cell_attr <name> <value>
    -set_wire_attr <name> <value>
        set the specified attribute on all cells and/or wires that are part of
        a logic loop. the special token {} in the value is replaced with a
        unique identifier for the logic loop.

    -select
        replace the current selection with a selection of all cells and wires
        that are part of a found logic loop
```

C.96 script – execute commands from script file

```
    script <filename> [<from_label>:<to_label>]

This command executes the yosys commands in the specified file.

The 2nd argument can be used to only execute the section of the
file between the specified labels. An empty from label is synonymous
for the beginning of the file and an empty to label is synonymous
for the end of the file.
```

```

If only one label is specified (without ':') then only the block
marked with that label (until the next label) is executed.
```

C.97 select – modify and view the list of selected objects

```
    select [ -add | -del | -set <name> ] {-read <filename> | <selection>}
    select [ -assert-none | -assert-any ] {-read <filename> | <selection>}
    select [ -list | -write <filename> | -count | -clear ]
    select -module <modname>

Most commands use the list of currently selected objects to determine which part
of the design to operate on. This command can be used to modify and view this
list of selected objects.

Note that many commands support an optional [selection] argument that can be
used to override the global selection for the command. The syntax of this
optional argument is identical to the syntax of the <selection> argument
described here.

    -add, -del
        add or remove the given objects to the current selection.
        without this options the current selection is replaced.

    -set <name>
        do not modify the current selection. instead save the new selection
        under the given name (see @<name> below). to save the current selection,
        use "select -set <name> %"

    -assert-none
        do not modify the current selection. instead assert that the given
        selection is empty. i.e. produce an error if any object matching the
        selection is found.

    -assert-any
        do not modify the current selection. instead assert that the given
        selection is non-empty. i.e. produce an error if no object matching
        the selection is found.

    -assert-count N
        do not modify the current selection. instead assert that the given
        selection contains exactly N objects.

    -list
        list all objects in the current selection

    -write <filename>
        like -list but write the output to the specified file

    -read <filename>
        read the specified file (written by -write)

```

```
    -count
        count all objects in the current selection

    -clear
        clear the current selection. this effectively selects the whole
        design. it also resets the selected module (see -module). use the
        command 'select *' to select everything but stay in the current module.

    -none
        create an empty selection. the current module is unchanged.

    -module <modname>
        limit the current scope to the specified module.
        the difference between this and simply selecting the module
        is that all object names are interpreted relative to this
        module after this command until the selection is cleared again.

When this command is called without an argument, the current selection
is displayed in a compact form (i.e. only the module name when a whole module
is selected).

The <selection> argument itself is a series of commands for a simple stack
machine. Each element on the stack represents a set of selected objects.
After this commands have been executed, the union of all remaining sets
on the stack is computed and used as selection for the command.

Pushing (selecting) object when not in -module mode:

    <mod_pattern>
        select the specified module(s)

    <mod_pattern>/<obj_pattern>
        select the specified object(s) from the module(s)

Pushing (selecting) object when in -module mode:

    <obj_pattern>
        select the specified object(s) from the current module

A <mod_pattern> can be a module name, wildcard expression (*, ?, [..])
matching module names, or one of the following:

    A:<pattern>, A:<pattern>=<pattern>
        all modules with an attribute matching the given pattern
        in addition to = also <, <=, >=, and > are supported

An <obj_pattern> can be an object name, wildcard expression, or one of
the following:

    w:<pattern>
        all wires with a name matching the given wildcard pattern

    i:<pattern>, o:<pattern>, x:<pattern>
        all inputs (i:), outputs (o:) or any ports (x:) with matching names
```

```
101
102     s:<size>, s:<min>:<max>
103         all wires with a matching width
104
105     m:<pattern>
106         all memories with a name matching the given pattern
107
108     c:<pattern>
109         all cells with a name matching the given pattern
110
111     t:<pattern>
112         all cells with a type matching the given pattern
113
114     p:<pattern>
115         all processes with a name matching the given pattern
116
117     a:<pattern>
118         all objects with an attribute name matching the given pattern
119
120     a:<pattern>=<pattern>
121         all objects with a matching attribute name-value-pair.
122         in addition to = also <, <=, >=, and > are supported
123
124     r:<pattern>, r:<pattern>=<pattern>
125         cells with matching parameters. also with <, <=, >= and >.
126
127     n:<pattern>
128         all objects with a name matching the given pattern
129         (i.e. 'n:' is optional as it is the default matching rule)
130
131     @<name>
132         push the selection saved prior with 'select -set <name> ...'
133
134 The following actions can be performed on the top sets on the stack:
135
136     %
137         push a copy of the current selection to the stack
138
139     %%
140         replace the stack with a union of all elements on it
141
142     %n
143         replace top set with its invert
144
145     %u
146         replace the two top sets on the stack with their union
147
148     %i
149         replace the two top sets on the stack with their intersection
150
151     %d
152         pop the top set from the stack and subtract it from the new top
153
154     %D
```

```
        like %d but swap the roles of two top sets on the stack

    %c
        create a copy of the top set from the stack and push it

    %x[<num1>|*][.<num2>][:<rule>[:<rule>..]]
        expand top set <num1> num times according to the specified rules.
        (i.e. select all cells connected to selected wires and select all
        wires connected to selected cells) The rules specify which cell
        ports to use for this. the syntax for a rule is a '-' for exclusion
        and a '+' for inclusion, followed by an optional comma separated
        list of cell types followed by an optional comma separated list of
        cell ports in square brackets. a rule can also be just a cell or wire
        name that limits the expansion (is included but does not go beyond).
        select at most <num2> objects. a warning message is printed when this
        limit is reached. When '*' is used instead of <num1> then the process
        is repeated until no further object are selected.

    %ci[<num1>|*][.<num2>][:<rule>[:<rule>..]]
    %co[<num1>|*][.<num2>][:<rule>[:<rule>..]]
        similar to %x, but only select input (%ci) or output cones (%co)

    %xe[...] %cie[...] %coe
        like %x, %ci, and %co but only consider combinatorial cells

    %a
        expand top set by selecting all wires that are (at least in part)
        aliases for selected wires.

    %s
        expand top set by adding all modules that implement cells in selected
        modules

    %m
        expand top set by selecting all modules that contain selected objects

    %M
        select modules that implement selected cells

    %C
        select cells that implement selected modules

    %R[<num>]
        select <num> random objects from top selection (default 1)

Example: the following command selects all wires that are connected to a
'GATE' input of a 'SWITCH' cell:

    select */t:SWITCH %x:+[GATE] */t:SWITCH %d
```

C.98 setattr – set/unset attributes on objects

```
    setattr [ -mod ] [ -set name value | -unset name ]... [selection]

Set/unset the given attributes on the selected objects. String values must be
passed in double quotes (").

When called with -mod, this command will set and unset attributes on modules
instead of objects within modules.
```

C.99 setparam – set/unset parameters on objects

```
    setparam [ -set name value | -unset name ]... [selection]

Set/unset the given parameters on the selected cells. String values must be
passed in double quotes (").
```

C.100 setundef – replace undef values with defined constants

```
    setundef [options] [selection]

This command replaced undef (x) constants with defined (0/1) constants.

    -undriven
        also set undriven nets to constant values

    -zero
        replace with bits cleared (0)

    -one
        replace with bits set (1)

    -random <seed>
        replace with random bits using the specified integer als seed
        value for the random number generator.
```

C.101 share – perform sat-based resource sharing

```
    share [options] [selection]

This pass merges shareable resources into a single resource. A SAT solver
is used to determine if two resources are share-able.

  -force
    Per default the selection of cells that is considered for sharing is
    narrowed using a list of cell types. With this option all selected
    cells are considered for resource sharing.

```

```
    IMPORTANT NOTE: If the -all option is used then no cells with internal
    state must be selected!

  -aggressive
    Per default some heuristics are used to reduce the number of cells
    considered for resource sharing to only large resources. This options
    turns this heuristics off, resulting in much more cells being considered
    for resource sharing.

  -fast
    Only consider the simple part of the control logic in SAT solving, resulting
    in much easier SAT problems at the cost of maybe missing some opportunities
    for resource sharing.

  -limit N
    Only perform the first N merges, then stop. This is useful for debugging.
```

C.102 shell – enter interactive command mode

```
    shell

This command enters the interactive command mode. This can be useful
in a script to interrupt the script at a certain point and allow for
interactive inspection or manual synthesis of the design at this point.

The command prompt of the interactive shell indicates the current
selection (see 'help select'):

    yosys>
        the entire design is selected

    yosys*>
        only part of the design is selected

    yosys [modname]>
        the entire module 'modname' is selected using 'select -module modname'

    yosys [modname]*>
        only part of current module 'modname' is selected

When in interactive shell, some errors (e.g. invalid command arguments)
do not terminate yosys but return to the command prompt.

This command is the default action if nothing else has been specified
on the command line.

Press Ctrl-D or type 'exit' to leave the interactive shell.
```

C.103 show – generate schematics using graphviz

```
    show [options] [selection]

Create a graphviz DOT file for the selected part of the design and compile it
to a graphics file (usually SVG or PostScript).

    -viewer <viewer>
        Run the specified command with the graphics file as parameter.

    -format <format>
        Generate a graphics file in the specified format.
        Usually <format> is 'svg' or 'ps'.

    -lib <verilog_or_ilang_file>
        Use the specified library file for determining whether cell ports are
        inputs or outputs. This option can be used multiple times to specify
        more than one library.

        note: in most cases it is better to load the library before calling
        show with 'read_verilog -lib <filename>'. it is also possible to
        load liberty files with 'read_liberty -lib <filename>'.

    -prefix <prefix>
        generate <prefix>.* instead of ~/.yosys_show.*

    -color <color> <object>
        assign the specified color to the specified object. The object can be
        a single selection wildcard expressions or a saved set of objects in
        the @<name> syntax (see "help select" for details).

    -label <text> <object>
        assign the specified label text to the specified object. The object can
        be a single selection wildcard expressions or a saved set of objects in
        the @<name> syntax (see "help select" for details).

    -colors <seed>
        Randomly assign colors to the wires. The integer argument is the seed
        for the random number generator. Change the seed value if the colored
        graph still is ambiguous. A seed of zero deactivates the coloring.

    -colorattr <attribute_name>
        Use the specified attribute to assign colors. A unique color is
        assigned to each unique value of this attribute.

    -width
        annotate busses with a label indicating the width of the bus.

    -signed
        mark ports (A, B) that are declared as signed (using the [AB]_SIGNED
        cell parameter) with an asterisk next to the port name.

    -stretch
        stretch the graph so all inputs are on the left side and all outputs
        (including inout ports) are on the right side.

```

```
    -pause
        wait for the use to press enter to before returning

    -enum
        enumerate objects with internal ($-prefixed) names

    -long
        do not abbreviate objects with internal ($-prefixed) names

    -notitle
        do not add the module name as graph title to the dot file

When no <format> is specified, 'dot' is used. When no <format> and <viewer> is
specified, 'xdot' is used to display the schematic.

The generated output files are '~/.yosys_show.dot' and '~/.yosys_show.<format>',
unless another prefix is specified using -prefix <prefix>.

Yosys on Windows and YosysJS use different defaults: The output is written
to 'show.dot' in the current directory and new viewer is launched.
```

C.104 simplemap – mapping simple coarse-grain cells

```
    simplemap [selection]

This pass maps a small selection of simple coarse-grain cells to yosys gate
primitives. The following internal cell types are mapped by this pass:

  $not, $pos, $and, $or, $xor, $xnor
  $reduce_and, $reduce_or, $reduce_xor, $reduce_xnor, $reduce_bool
  $logic_not, $logic_and, $logic_or, $mux, $tribuf
  $sr, $dff, $dffsr, $adff, $dlatch
```

C.105 singleton – create singleton modules

```
    singleton [selection]

By default, a module that is instantiated by several other modules is only
kept once in the design. This preserves the original modularity of the design
and reduces the overall size of the design in memory. But it prevents certain
optimizations and other operations on the design. This pass creates singleton
modules for all selected cells. The created modules are marked with the
'singleton' attribute.

This commands only operates on modules that by themself have the 'singleton'
attribute set (the 'top' module is a singleton implicitly).
```

C.106 splice – create explicit splicing cells

```
    splice [options] [selection]

This command adds $slice and $concat cells to the design to make the splicing
of multi-bit signals explicit. This for example is useful for coarse grain
synthesis, where dedicated hardware is needed to splice signals.

    -sel_by_cell
        only select the cell ports to rewire by the cell. if the selection
        contains a cell, than all cell inputs are rewired, if necessary.

    -sel_by_wire
        only select the cell ports to rewire by the wire. if the selection
        contains a wire, than all cell ports driven by this wire are wired,
        if necessary.

    -sel_any_bit
        it is sufficient if the driver of any bit of a cell port is selected.
        by default all bits must be selected.

    -wires
        also add $slice and $concat cells to drive otherwise unused wires.

    -no_outputs
        do not rewire selected module outputs.

    -port <name>
        only rewire cell ports with the specified name. can be used multiple
        times. implies -no_output.

    -no_port <name>
        do not rewire cell ports with the specified name. can be used multiple
        times. can not be combined with -port <name>.

By default selected output wires and all cell ports of selected cells driven
by selected wires are rewired.
```

C.107 splitnets – split up multi-bit nets

```
    splitnets [options] [selection]

This command splits multi-bit nets into single-bit nets.

    -format char1[char2[char3]]
        the first char is inserted between the net name and the bit index, the
        second char is appended to the netname. e.g. -format () creates net
        names like 'mysignal(42)'. the 3rd character is the range separation
        character when creating multi-bit wires. the default is '[]:'.

    -ports
        also split module ports. per default only internal signals are split.
```

```

    -driver
        don't blindly split nets in individual bits. instead look at the driver
        and split nets so that no driver drives only part of a net.
```

C.108 stat – print some statistics

```
    stat [options] [selection]

Print some statistics (number of objects) on the selected portion of the
design.

    -top <module>
        print design hierarchy with this module as top. if the design is fully
        selected and a module has the 'top' attribute set, this module is used
        default value for this option.

    -liberty <liberty_file>
        use cell area information from the provided liberty file

    -width
        annotate internal cell types with their word width.
        e.g. $add_8 for an 8 bit wide $add cell.
```

C.109 submod – moving part of a module to a new submodule

```
    submod [-copy] [selection]

This pass identifies all cells with the 'submod' attribute and moves them to
a newly created module. The value of the attribute is used as name for the
cell that replaces the group of cells with the same attribute value.

This pass can be used to create a design hierarchy in flat design. This can
be useful for analyzing or reverse-engineering a design.

This pass only operates on completely selected modules with no processes
or memories.


    submod -name <name> [-copy] [selection]

As above, but don't use the 'submod' attribute but instead use the selection.
Only objects from one module might be selected. The value of the -name option
is used as the value of the 'submod' attribute above.

By default the cells are 'moved' from the source module and the source module
will use an instance of the new module after this command is finished. Call
with -copy to not modify the source module.
```

C.110 synth – generic synthesis script

```
    synth [options]

This command runs the default synthesis script. This command does not operate
on partly selected designs.

    -top <module>
        use the specified module as top module (default='top')

    -encfile <file>
        passed to 'fsm_recode' via 'fsm'

    -nofsm
        do not run FSM optimization

    -noabc
        do not run abc (as if yosys was compiled without ABC support)

    -noalumacc
        do not run 'alumacc' pass. i.e. keep arithmetic operators in
        their direct form ($add, $sub, etc.).

    -nordff
        passed to 'memory'. prohibits merging of FFs into memory read ports

    -run <from_label>[:<to_label>]
        only run the commands between the labels (see below). an empty
        from label is synonymous to 'begin', and empty to label is
        synonymous to the end of the command list.


The following commands are executed by this synthesis command:

    begin:
        hierarchy -check [-top <top>]

    coarse:
        proc
        opt_const
        opt_clean
        check
        opt
        wreduce
        alumacc
        share
        opt
        fsm
        opt -fast
        memory -nomap
        opt_clean

    fine:
        opt -fast -full
```

```
        memory_map
        opt -full
        techmap
        opt -fast
        abc -fast
        opt -fast

    check:
        hierarchy -check
        stat
        check
```

C.111 synth_greenpak4 – synthesis for GreenPAK4 FPGAs

```
    synth_greenpak4 [options]

This command runs synthesis for GreenPAK4 FPGAs. This work is experimental.

    -top <module>
        use the specified module as top module (default='top')

    -blif <file>
        write the design to the specified BLIF file. writing of an output file
        is omitted if this parameter is not specified.

    -edif <file>
        write the design to the specified edif file. writing of an output file
        is omitted if this parameter is not specified.

    -run <from_label>:<to_label>
        only run the commands between the labels (see below). an empty
        from label is synonymous to 'begin', and empty to label is
        synonymous to the end of the command list.

    -noflatten
        do not flatten design before synthesis

    -retime
        run 'abc' with -dff option


The following commands are executed by this synthesis command:

    begin:
        read_verilog -lib +/greenpak4/cells_sim.v
        hierarchy -check -top <top>

    flatten:          (unless -noflatten)
        proc
        flatten
        tribuf -logic

```

```
    coarse:
        synth -run coarse

    fine:
        opt -fast -mux_undef -undriven -fine
        memory_map
        opt -undriven -fine
        techmap
        dfflibmap -prepare -liberty +/greenpak4/gp_dff.lib
        opt -fast
        abc -dff     (only if -retime)

    map_luts:
        nlutmap -luts 0,8,16,2
        clean

    map_cells:
        techmap -map +/greenpak4/cells_map.v
        clean

    check:
        hierarchy -check
        stat
        check -noinit

    blif:
        write_blif -gates -attr -param <file-name>

    edif:
        write_edif <file-name>
```

C.112 synth_ice40 – synthesis for iCE40 FPGAs

```
    synth_ice40 [options]

This command runs synthesis for iCE40 FPGAs. This work is experimental.

    -top <module>
        use the specified module as top module (default='top')

    -blif <file>
        write the design to the specified BLIF file. writing of an output file
        is omitted if this parameter is not specified.

    -edif <file>
        write the design to the specified edif file. writing of an output file
        is omitted if this parameter is not specified.

    -run <from_label>:<to_label>
        only run the commands between the labels (see below). an empty
        from label is synonymous to 'begin', and empty to label is
        synonymous to the end of the command list.
```

```
20
21      -noflatten
22          do not flatten design before synthesis
23
24      -retime
25          run 'abc' with -dff option
26
27      -nocarry
28          do not use SB_CARRY cells in output netlist
29
30      -nobram
31          do not use SB_RAM40_4K* cells in output netlist
32
33      -abc2
34          run two passes of 'abc' for slightly improved logic density
35
36
37  The following commands are executed by this synthesis command:
38
39      begin:
40          read_verilog -lib +/ice40/cells_sim.v
41          hierarchy -check -top <top>
42
43      flatten:          (unless -noflatten)
44          proc
45          flatten
46          tribuf -logic
47
48      coarse:
49          synth -run coarse
50
51      bram:             (skip if -nobram)
52          memory_bram -rules +/ice40/brams.txt
53          techmap -map +/ice40/brams_map.v
54
55      fine:
56          opt -fast -mux_undef -undriven -fine
57          memory_map
58          opt -undriven -fine
59          techmap -map +/techmap.v [-map +/ice40/arith_map.v]
60          abc -dff      (only if -retime)
61          ice40_opt
62
63      map_ffs:
64          dffsr2dff
65          dff2dffe -direct-match $_DFF_*
66          techmap -map +/ice40/cells_map.v
67          opt_const -mux_undef
68          simplemap
69          ice40_ffinit
70          ice40_ffssr
71          ice40_opt -full
72
73      map_luts:
```

```
        abc          (only if -abc2)
        ice40_opt    (only if -abc2)
        abc -lut 4
        clean

    map_cells:
        techmap -map +/ice40/cells_map.v
        clean

    check:
        hierarchy -check
        stat
        check -noinit

    blif:
        write_blif -gates -attr -param <file-name>

    edif:
        write_edif <file-name>
```

C.113 synth_xilinx – synthesis for Xilinx FPGAs

```
    synth_xilinx [options]

This command runs synthesis for Xilinx FPGAs. This command does not operate on
partly selected designs. At the moment this command creates netlists that are
compatible with 7-Series Xilinx devices.

    -top <module>
        use the specified module as top module

    -edif <file>
        write the design to the specified edif file. writing of an output file
        is omitted if this parameter is not specified.

    -run <from_label>:<to_label>
        only run the commands between the labels (see below). an empty
        from label is synonymous to 'begin', and empty to label is
        synonymous to the end of the command list.

    -flatten
        flatten design before synthesis

    -retime
        run 'abc' with -dff option


The following commands are executed by this synthesis command:

    begin:
        read_verilog -lib +/xilinx/cells_sim.v
        read_verilog -lib +/xilinx/brams_bb.v
```

```
        read_verilog -lib +/xilinx/drams_bb.v
        hierarchy -check -top <top>

    flatten:     (only if -flatten)
        proc
        flatten

    coarse:
        synth -run coarse

    bram:
        memory_bram -rules +/xilinx/brams.txt
        techmap -map +/xilinx/brams_map.v

    dram:
        memory_bram -rules +/xilinx/drams.txt
        techmap -map +/xilinx/drams_map.v

    fine:
        opt -fast -full
        memory_map
        dffsr2dff
        dff2dffe
        opt -full
        techmap -map +/techmap.v -map +/xilinx/arith_map.v
        opt -fast

    map_luts:
        abc -luts 2:2,3,6:5,10,20 [-dff]
        clean

    map_cells:
        techmap -map +/xilinx/cells_map.v
        dffinit -ff FDRE Q INIT -ff FDCE Q INIT -ff FDPE Q INIT
        clean

    check:
        hierarchy -check
        stat
        check -noinit

    edif:     (only if -edif)
        write_edif <file-name>
```

C.114 tcl – execute a TCL script file

```
    tcl <filename>

This command executes the tcl commands in the specified file.
Use 'yosys cmd' to run the yosys command 'cmd' from tcl.

The tcl command 'yosys -import' can be used to import all yosys
```

```
commands directly as tcl commands to the tcl shell. The yosys
command 'proc' is wrapped using the tcl command 'procs' in order
to avoid a name collision with the tcl builtin command 'proc'.
```

C.115 techmap – generic technology mapper

```
    techmap [-map filename] [selection]

This pass implements a very simple technology mapper that replaces cells in
the design with implementations given in form of a Verilog or ilang source
file.

    -map filename
        the library of cell implementations to be used.
        without this parameter a builtin library is used that
        transforms the internal RTL cells to the internal gate
        library.

    -map %<design-name>
        like -map above, but with an in-memory design instead of a file.

    -extern
        load the cell implementations as separate modules into the design
        instead of inlining them.

    -max_iter <number>
        only run the specified number of iterations.

    -recursive
        instead of the iterative breadth-first algorithm use a recursive
        depth-first algorithm. both methods should yield equivalent results,
        but may differ in performance.

    -autoproc
        Automatically call "proc" on implementations that contain processes.

    -assert
        this option will cause techmap to exit with an error if it can't map
        a selected cell. only cell types that end on an underscore are accepted
        as final cell types by this mode.

    -D <define>, -I <incdir>
        this options are passed as-is to the Verilog frontend for loading the
        map file. Note that the Verilog frontend is also called with the
        '-ignore_redef' option set.

When a module in the map file has the 'techmap_celltype' attribute set, it will
match cells with a type that match the text value of this attribute. Otherwise
the module name will be used to match the cell.

When a module in the map file has the 'techmap_simplemap' attribute set, techmap
will use 'simplemap' (see 'help simplemap') to map cells matching the module.
```

```
47
48  When a module in the map file has the 'techmap_maccmap' attribute set, techmap
49  will use 'maccmap' (see 'help maccmap') to map cells matching the module.
50
51  When a module in the map file has the 'techmap_wrap' attribute set, techmap
52  will create a wrapper for the cell and then run the command string that the
53  attribute is set to on the wrapper module.
54
55  All wires in the modules from the map file matching the pattern _TECHMAP_*
56  or *._TECHMAP_* are special wires that are used to pass instructions from
57  the mapping module to the techmap command. At the moment the following special
58  wires are supported:
59
60      _TECHMAP_FAIL_
61          When this wire is set to a non-zero constant value, techmap will not
62          use this module and instead try the next module with a matching
63          'techmap_celltype' attribute.
64
65          When such a wire exists but does not have a constant value after all
66          _TECHMAP_DO_* commands have been executed, an error is generated.
67
68      _TECHMAP_DO_*
69          This wires are evaluated in alphabetical order. The constant text value
70          of this wire is a yosys command (or sequence of commands) that is run
71          by techmap on the module. A common use case is to run 'proc' on modules
72          that are written using always-statements.
73
74          When such a wire has a non-constant value at the time it is to be
75          evaluated, an error is produced. That means it is possible for such a
76          wire to start out as non-constant and evaluate to a constant value
77          during processing of other _TECHMAP_DO_* commands.
78
79          A _TECHMAP_DO_* command may start with the special token 'CONSTMAP; '.
80          in this case techmap will create a copy for each distinct configuration
81          of constant inputs and shorted inputs at this point and import the
82          constant and connected bits into the map module. All further commands
83          are executed in this copy. This is a very convenient way of creating
84          optimized specializations of techmap modules without using the special
85          parameters described below.
86
87          A _TECHMAP_DO_* command may start with the special token 'RECURSION; '.
88          then techmap will recursively replace the cells in the module with their
89          implementation. This is not affected by the -max_iter option.
90
91          It is possible to combine both prefixes to 'RECURSION; CONSTMAP; '.
92
93  In addition to this special wires, techmap also supports special parameters in
94  modules in the map file:
95
96      _TECHMAP_CELLTYPE_
97          When a parameter with this name exists, it will be set to the type name
98          of the cell that matches the module.
99
100     _TECHMAP_CONSTMSK_<port-name>_
```

```
    _TECHMAP_CONSTVAL_<port-name>_
        When this pair of parameters is available in a module for a port, then
        former has a 1-bit for each constant input bit and the latter has the
        value for this bit. The unused bits of the latter are set to undef (x).

    _TECHMAP_BITS_CONNMAP_
    _TECHMAP_CONNMAP_<port-name>_
        For an N-bit port, the _TECHMAP_CONNMAP_<port-name>_ parameter, if it
        exists, will be set to an N*_TECHMAP_BITS_CONNMAP_ bit vector containing
        N words (of _TECHMAP_BITS_CONNMAP_ bits each) that assign each single
        bit driver a unique id. The values 0-3 are reserved for 0, 1, x, and z.
        This can be used to detect shorted inputs.

When a module in the map file has a parameter where the according cell in the
design has a port, the module from the map file is only used if the port in
the design is connected to a constant value. The parameter is then set to the
constant value.

A cell with the name _TECHMAP_REPLACE_ in the map file will inherit the name
of the cell that is being replaced.

See 'help extract' for a pass that does the opposite thing.

See 'help flatten' for a pass that does flatten the design (which is
essentially techmap but using the design itself as map library).
```

C.116 tee – redirect command output to file

```
    tee [-q] [-o logfile|-a logfile] cmd

Execute the specified command, optionally writing the commands output to the
specified logfile(s).

    -q
        Do not print output to the normal destination (console and/or log file)

    -o logfile
        Write output to this file, truncate if exists.

    -a logfile
        Write output to this file, append if exists.
```

C.117 test_abcloop – automatically test handling of loops in abc command

```
    test_abcloop [options]

Test handling of logic loops in ABC.

```

```
    -n {integer}
        create this number of circuits and test them (default = 100).

    -s {positive_integer}
        use this value as rng seed value (default = unix time).
```

C.118 test_autotb – generate simple test benches

```
    test_autotb [options] [filename]

Automatically create primitive Verilog test benches for all modules in the
design. The generated testbenches toggle the input pins of the module in
a semi-random manner and dumps the resulting output signals.

This can be used to check the synthesis results for simple circuits by
comparing the testbench output for the input files and the synthesis results.

The backend automatically detects clock signals. Additionally a signal can
be forced to be interpreted as clock signal by setting the attribute
'gentb_clock' on the signal.

The attribute 'gentb_constant' can be used to force a signal to a constant
value after initialization. This can e.g. be used to force a reset signal
low in order to explore more inner states in a state machine.

    -n <int>
        number of iterations the test bench should run (default = 1000)
```

C.119 test_cell – automatically test the implementation of a cell type

```
    test_cell [options] {cell-types}

Tests the internal implementation of the given cell type (for example '$add')
by comparing SAT solver, EVAL and TECHMAP implementations of the cell types..

Run with 'all' instead of a cell type to run the test on all supported
cell types. Use for example 'all /$add' for all cell types except $add.

    -n {integer}
        create this number of cell instances and test them (default = 100).

    -s {positive_integer}
        use this value as rng seed value (default = unix time).

    -f {ilang_file}
        don't generate circuits. instead load the specified ilang file.

    -w {filename_prefix}
        don't test anything. just generate the circuits and write them
        to ilang files with the specified prefix
```

```
21
22      -map {filename}
23          pass this option to techmap.
24
25      -simlib
26          use "techmap -map +/simlib.v -max_iter 2 -autoproc"
27
28      -aigmap
29          instead of calling "techmap", call "aigmap"
30
31      -muxdiv
32          when creating test benches with dividers, create an additional mux
33          to mask out the division-by-zero case
34
35      -script {script_file}
36          instead of calling "techmap", call "script {script_file}".
37
38      -const
39          set some input bits to random constant values
40
41      -nosat
42          do not check SAT model or run SAT equivalence checking
43
44      -noeval
45          do not check const-eval models
46
47      -v
48          print additional debug information to the console
49
50      -vlog {filename}
51          create a Verilog test bench to test simlib and write_verilog
```

C.120 torder – print cells in topological order

```
1       torder [options] [selection]
2
3   This command prints the selected cells in topological order.
4
5       -stop <cell_type> <cell_port>
6           do not use the specified cell port in topological sorting
7
8       -noautostop
9           by default Q outputs of internal FF cells and memory read port outputs
10          are not used in topological sorting. this option deactivates that.
```

C.121 trace – redirect command output to file

```
1       trace cmd
2
3   Execute the specified command, logging all changes the command performs on
```

```
the design in real time.
```

C.122 tribuf – infer tri-state buffers

```
    tribuf [options] [selection]

This pass transforms $mux cells with 'z' inputs to tristate buffers.

    -merge
        merge multiple tri-state buffers driving the same net
        into a single buffer.

    -logic
        convert tri-state buffers that do not drive output ports
        to non-tristate logic. this option implies -merge.
```

C.123 verific – load Verilog and VHDL designs using Verific

```
    verific {-vlog95|-vlog2k|-sv2005|-sv2009|-sv} <verilog-file>..

Load the specified Verilog/SystemVerilog files into Verific.


    verific {-vhdl87|-vhdl93|-vhdl2k|-vhdl2008} <vhdl-file>..

Load the specified VHDL files into Verific.


    verific -import [-gates] {-all | <top-module>..}

Elaborate the design for the specified top modules, import to Yosys and
reset the internal state of Verific. A gate-level netlist is created
when called with -gates.

Visit http://verific.com/ for more information on Verific.
```

C.124 verilog_defaults – set default options for read_verilog

```
    verilog_defaults -add [options]

Add the specified options to the list of default options to read_verilog.


    verilog_defaults -clear
Clear the list of Verilog default options.


```

```
    verilog_defaults -push    verilog_defaults -pop
Push or pop the list of default options to a stack. Note that -push does
not imply -clear.
```

C.125 vhdl2verilog – importing VHDL designs using vhdl2verilog

```
    vhdl2verilog [options] <vhdl-file>..

This command reads VHDL source files using the 'vhdl2verilog' tool and the
Yosys Verilog frontend.

    -out <out_file>
        do not import the vhdl2verilog output. instead write it to the
        specified file.

    -vhdl2verilog_dir <directory>
        do use the specified vhdl2verilog installation. this is the directory
        that contains the setup_env.sh file. when this option is not present,
        it is assumed that vhdl2verilog is in the PATH environment variable.

    -top <top-entity-name>
        The name of the top entity. This option is mandatory.

The following options are passed as-is to vhdl2verilog:

    -arch <architecture_name>
    -unroll_generate
    -nogenericeval
    -nouniquify
    -oldparser
    -suppress <list>
    -quiet
    -nobanner
    -mapfile <file>

vhdl2verilog can be obtained from:
http://www.edautils.com/vhdl2verilog.html
```

C.126 wreduce – reduce the word size of operations if possible

```
    wreduce [options] [selection]

This command reduces the word size of operations. For example it will replace
the 32 bit adders in the following code with adders of more appropriate widths:

    module test(input [3:0] a, b, c, output [7:0] y);
        assign y = a + b + c + 1;
    endmodule
```

C.127 write_blif – write design to BLIF file

```
    write_blif [options] [filename]

Write the current design to an BLIF file.

    -top top_module
        set the specified module as design top module

    -buf <cell-type> <in-port> <out-port>
        use cells of type <cell-type> with the specified port names for buffers

    -unbuf <cell-type> <in-port> <out-port>
        replace buffer cells with the specified name and port names with
        a .names statement that models a buffer

    -true <cell-type> <out-port>
    -false <cell-type> <out-port>
    -undef <cell-type> <out-port>
        use the specified cell types to drive nets that are constant 1, 0, or
        undefined. when '-' is used as <cell-type>, then <out-port> specifies
        the wire name to be used for the constant signal and no cell driving
        that wire is generated.

The following options can be useful when the generated file is not going to be
read by a BLIF parser but a custom tool. It is recommended to not name the output
file *.blif when any of this options is used.

    -icells
        do not translate Yosys's internal gates to generic BLIF logic
        functions. Instead create .subckt or .gate lines for all cells.

    -gates
        print .gate instead of .subckt lines for all cells that are not
        instantiations of other modules from this design.

    -conn
        do not generate buffers for connected wires. instead use the
        non-standard .conn statement.

    -attr
        use the non-standard .attr statement to write cell attributes

    -param
        use the non-standard .param statement to write cell parameters

    -cname
        use the non-standard .cname statement to write cell names

    -blackbox
        write blackbox cells with .blackbox statement.

    -impltf
        do not write definitions for the $true, $false and $undef wires.
```

C.128 write_btor – write design to BTOR file

```
    write_btor [filename]

Write the current design to an BTOR file.
```

C.129 write_edif – write design to EDIF netlist file

```
    write_edif [options] [filename]

Write the current design to an EDIF netlist file.

    -top top_module
        set the specified module as design top module

Unfortunately there are different "flavors" of the EDIF file format. This
command generates EDIF files for the Xilinx place&route tools. It might be
necessary to make small modifications to this command when a different tool
is targeted.
```

C.130 write_file – write a text to a file

```
    write_file [options] output_file [input_file]

Write the text from the input file to the output file.

    -a
        Append to output file (instead of overwriting)


Inside a script the input file can also can a here-document:

    write_file hello.txt <<EOT
    Hello World!
    EOT
```

C.131 write_ilang – write design to ilang file

```
    write_ilang [filename]

Write the current design to an 'ilang' file. (ilang is a text representation
of a design in yosys's internal format.)

    -selected
        only write selected parts of the design.
```

C.132 write_intersynth – write design to InterSynth netlist file

```
    write_intersynth [options] [filename]

Write the current design to an 'intersynth' netlist file. InterSynth is
a tool for Coarse-Grain Example-Driven Interconnect Synthesis.

    -notypes
        do not generate celltypes and conntypes commands. i.e. just output
        the netlists. this is used for postsilicon synthesis.

    -lib <verilog_or_ilang_file>
        Use the specified library file for determining whether cell ports are
        inputs or outputs. This option can be used multiple times to specify
        more than one library.

    -selected
        only write selected modules. modules must be selected entirely or
        not at all.

http://www.clifford.at/intersynth/
```

C.133 write_json – write design to a JSON file

```
    write_json [options] [filename]

Write a JSON netlist of the current design.

    -aig
        include AIG models for the different gate types


The general syntax of the JSON output created by this command is as follows:

    {
      "modules": {
        <module_name>: {
          "ports": {
            <port_name>: <port_details>,
            ...
          },
          "cells": {
            <cell_name>: <cell_details>,
            ...
          },
          "netnames": {
            <net_name>: <net_details>,
            ...
          }
        }
      },
      "models": {
```

```
        ...
      },
    }

Where <port_details> is:

    {
      "direction": <"input" | "output" | "inout">,
      "bits": <bit_vector>
    }

And <cell_details> is:

    {
      "hide_name": <1 | 0>,
      "type": <cell_type>,
      "parameters": {
        <parameter_name>: <parameter_value>,
        ...
      },
      "attributes": {
        <attribute_name>: <attribute_value>,
        ...
      },
      "port_directions": {
        <port_name>: <"input" | "output" | "inout">,
        ...
      },
      "connections": {
        <port_name>: <bit_vector>,
        ...
      },
    }

And <net_details> is:

    {
      "hide_name": <1 | 0>,
      "bits": <bit_vector>
    }

The "hide_name" fields are set to 1 when the name of this cell or net is
automatically created and is likely not of interest for a regular user.

The "port_directions" section is only included for cells for which the
interface is known.

Module and cell ports and nets can be single bit wide or vectors of multiple
bits. Each individual signal bit is assigned a unique integer. The <bit_vector>
values referenced above are vectors of this integers. Signal bits that are
connected to a constant driver are denoted as string "0" or "1" instead of
a number.

For example the following Verilog code:
```

```
    module test(input x, y);
      (* keep *) foo #(.P(42), .Q(1337))
          foo_inst (.A({x, y}), .B({y, x}), .C({4'd10, {4{x}}}));
    endmodule

Translates to the following JSON output:

    {
      "modules": {
        "test": {
          "ports": {
            "x": {
              "direction": "input",
              "bits": [ 2 ]
            },
            "y": {
              "direction": "input",
              "bits": [ 3 ]
            }
          },
          "cells": {
            "foo_inst": {
              "hide_name": 0,
              "type": "foo",
              "parameters": {
                "Q": 1337,
                "P": 42
              },
              "attributes": {
                "keep": 1,
                "src": "test.v:2"
              },
              "connections": {
                "C": [ 2, 2, 2, 2, "0", "1", "0", "1" ],
                "B": [ 2, 3 ],
                "A": [ 3, 2 ]
              }
            }
          },
          "netnames": {
            "y": {
              "hide_name": 0,
              "bits": [ 3 ],
              "attributes": {
                "src": "test.v:1"
              }
            },
            "x": {
              "hide_name": 0,
              "bits": [ 2 ],
              "attributes": {
                "src": "test.v:1"
              }
```

```
            }
          }
        }
      }
    }

The models are given as And-Inverter-Graphs (AIGs) in the following form:

    "models": {
      <model_name>: [
        /*   0 */ [ <node-spec> ],
        /*   1 */ [ <node-spec> ],
        /*   2 */ [ <node-spec> ],
        ...
      ],
      ...
    },

The following node-types may be used:

    [ "port", <portname>, <bitindex>, <out-list> ]
      - the value of the specified input port bit

    [ "nport", <portname>, <bitindex>, <out-list> ]
      - the inverted value of the specified input port bit

    [ "and", <node-index>, <node-index>, <out-list> ]
      - the ANDed value of the specified nodes

    [ "nand", <node-index>, <node-index>, <out-list> ]
      - the inverted ANDed value of the specified nodes

    [ "true", <out-list> ]
      - the constant value 1

    [ "false", <out-list> ]
      - the constant value 0

All nodes appear in topological order. I.e. only nodes with smaller indices
are referenced by "and" and "nand" nodes.

The optional <out-list> at the end of a node specification is a list of
output portname and bitindex pairs, specifying the outputs driven by this node.

For example, the following is the model for a 3-input 3-output $reduce_and cell
inferred by the following code:

    module test(input [2:0] in, output [2:0] out);
      assign in = &out;
    endmodule

    "$reduce_and:3U:3": [
      /*   0 */ [ "port", "A", 0 ],
      /*   1 */ [ "port", "A", 1 ],
```

```
      /*   2 */ [ "and", 0, 1 ],
      /*   3 */ [ "port", "A", 2 ],
      /*   4 */ [ "and", 2, 3, "Y", 0 ],
      /*   5 */ [ "false", "Y", 1, "Y", 2 ]
    ]

Future version of Yosys might add support for additional fields in the JSON
format. A program processing this format must ignore all unknown fields.
```

C.134 write_smt2 – write design to SMT-LIBv2 file

```
    write_smt2 [options] [filename]

Write a SMT-LIBv2 [1] description of the current design. For a module with name
'<mod>' this will declare the sort '<mod>_s' (state of the module) and the
functions operating on that state.

The '<mod>_s' sort represents a module state. Additional '<mod>_n' functions
are provided that can be used to access the values of the signals in the module.
Only ports, and signals with the 'keep' attribute set are made available via
such functions. Without the -bv option, multi-bit wires are exported as
separate functions of type Bool for the individual bits. With the -bv option
multi-bit wires are exported as single functions of type BitVec.

The '<mod>_t' function evaluates to 'true' when the given pair of states
describes a valid state transition.

The '<mod>_a' function evaluates to 'true' when the given state satisfies
the asserts in the module.

The '<mod>_u' function evaluates to 'true' when the given state satisfies
the assumptions in the module.

The '<mod>_i' function evaluates to 'true' when the given state conforms
to the initial state.

    -verbose
        this will print the recursive walk used to export the modules.

    -bv
        enable support for BitVec (FixedSizeBitVectors theory). with this
        option set multi-bit wires are represented using the BitVec sort and
        support for coarse grain cells (incl. arithmetic) is enabled.

    -mem
        enable support for memories (via ArraysEx theory). this option
        also implies -bv. only $mem cells without merged registers in
        read ports are supported. call "memory" with -nordff to make sure
        that no registers are merged into $mem read ports. '<mod>_m' functions
        will be generated for accessing the arrays that are used to represent
        memories.

```

```
    -regs
        also create '<mod>_n' functions for all registers.

    -wires
        also create '<mod>_n' functions for all public wires.

    -tpl <template_file>
        use the given template file. the line containing only the token '%%'
        is replaced with the regular output of this command.

[1] For more information on SMT-LIBv2 visit http://smt-lib.org/ or read David
R. Cok's tutorial: http://www.grammatech.com/resources/smt/SMTLIBTutorial.pdf

-------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Example:

Consider the following module (test.v). We want to prove that the output can
never transition from a non-zero value to a zero value.

        module test(input clk, output reg [3:0] y);
          always @(posedge clk)
            y <= (y << 1) | ^y;
        endmodule

For this proof we create the following template (test.tpl).

        ; we need QF_UFBV for this poof
        (set-logic QF_UFBV)

        ; insert the auto-generated code here
        %%

        ; declare two state variables s1 and s2
        (declare-fun s1 () test_s)
        (declare-fun s2 () test_s)

        ; state s2 is the successor of state s1
        (assert (test_t s1 s2))

        ; we are looking for a model with y non-zero in s1
        (assert (distinct (|test_n y| s1) #b0000))

        ; we are looking for a model with y zero in s2
        (assert (= (|test_n y| s2) #b0000))

        ; is there such a model?
        (check-sat)

The following yosys script will create a 'test.smt2' file for our proof:

        read_verilog test.v
        hierarchy -check; proc; opt; check -assert
        write_smt2 -bv -tpl test.tpl test.smt2
```

```

Running 'cvc4 test.smt2' will print 'unsat' because y can never transition
from non-zero to zero in the test design.
```

C.135 write_smv – write design to SMV file

```
    write_smv [options] [filename]

Write an SMV description of the current design.

    -verbose
        this will print the recursive walk used to export the modules.

    -tpl <template_file>
        use the given template file. the line containing only the token '%%'
        is replaced with the regular output of this command.

THIS COMMAND IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION
```

C.136 write_spice – write design to SPICE netlist file

```
    write_spice [options] [filename]

Write the current design to an SPICE netlist file.

    -big_endian
        generate multi-bit ports in MSB first order
        (default is LSB first)

    -neg net_name
        set the net name for constant 0 (default: Vss)

    -pos net_name
        set the net name for constant 1 (default: Vdd)

    -nc_prefix
        prefix for not-connected nets (default: _NC)

    -top top_module
        set the specified module as design top module
```

C.137 write_verilog – write design to Verilog file

```
    write_verilog [options] [filename]

Write the current design to a Verilog file.

```

```
    -norename
        without this option all internal object names (the ones with a dollar
        instead of a backslash prefix) are changed to short names in the
        format '_<number>_'.

    -noattr
        with this option no attributes are included in the output

    -attr2comment
        with this option attributes are included as comments in the output

    -noexpr
        without this option all internal cells are converted to Verilog
        expressions.

    -blackboxes
        usually modules with the 'blackbox' attribute are ignored. with
        this option set only the modules with the 'blackbox' attribute
        are written to the output file.

    -selected
        only write selected modules. modules must be selected entirely or
        not at all.
```

Appendix D

Application Notes

This appendix contains copies of the Yosys application notes.

Yosys Application Note 010: Converting Verilog to BLIF

Clifford Wolf
November 2013

***Abstract*—Verilog-2005 is a powerful Hardware Description Language (HDL) that can be used to easily create complex designs from small HDL code. It is the preferred method of design entry for many designers[1].**

The Berkeley Logic Interchange Format (BLIF) [6] is a simple file format for exchanging sequential logic between programs. It is easy to generate and easy to parse and is therefore the preferred method of design entry for many authors of logic synthesis tools.

Yosys [1] is a feature-rich Open-Source Verilog synthesis tool that can be used to bridge the gap between the two file formats. It implements most of Verilog-2005 and thus can be used to import modern behavioral Verilog designs into BLIF-based design flows without dependencies on proprietary synthesis tools.

The scope of Yosys goes of course far beyond Verilog logic synthesis. But it is a useful and important feature and this Application Note will focus on this aspect of Yosys.

I. Installation

Yosys written in C++ (using features from C++11) and is tested on modern Linux. It should compile fine on most UNIX systems with a C++11 compiler. The README file contains useful information on building Yosys and its prerequisites.

Yosys is a large and feature-rich program with a couple of dependencies. It is, however, possible to deactivate some of the dependencies in the Makefile, resulting in features in Yosys becoming unavailable. When problems with building Yosys are encountered, a user who is only interested in the features of Yosys that are discussed in this Application Note may deactivate `TCL`, `Qt` and `MiniSAT` support in the `Makefile` and may opt against building `yosys-abc`.

This Application Note is based on GIT Rev. `e216e0e` from 2013-11-23 of Yosys [1]. The Verilog sources used for the examples are taken from yosys-bigsim [2], a collection of real-world designs used for regression testing Yosys.

II. Getting Started

We start our tour with the Navré processor from yosys-bigsim. The Navré processor [3] is an Open Source AVR clone. It is a single module (`softusb_navre`) in a single design file (`softusb_navre.v`). It also is using only features that map nicely to the BLIF format, for example it only uses synchronous resets.

Converting `softusb_navre.v` to `softusb_navre.blif` could not be easier:

```
1 yosys -o softusb_navre.blif -S softusb_navre.v
```

Listing 1. Calling Yosys without script file

Behind the scenes Yosys is controlled by synthesis scripts that execute commands that operate on Yosys' internal state. For example, the `-o softusb_navre.blif` option just adds the command `write_blif softusb_navre.blif` to the end of the script. Likewise a file on the command line – `softusb_navre.v` in this case – adds the command `read_verilog softusb_navre.v` to the beginning of the synthesis script. In both cases the file type is detected from the file extension.

Finally the option `-S` instantiates a built-in default synthesis script. Instead of using `-S` one could also specify the synthesis commands for the script on the command line using the `-p` option, either using individual options for each command or by passing one big command string with a semicolon-separated list of commands. But in most cases it is more convenient to use an actual script file.

III. Using a Synthesis Script

With a script file we have better control over Yosys. The following script file replicates what the command from the last section did:

```
1 read_verilog softusb_navre.v
2 hierarchy
3 proc; opt; memory; opt; techmap; opt
4 write_blif softusb_navre.blif
```

Listing 2. `softusb_navre.ys`

The first and last line obviously read the Verilog file and write the BLIF file.

The 2nd line checks the design hierarchy and instantiates parametrized versions of the modules in the design, if necessary. In the case of this simple design this is a no-op. However, as a general rule a synthesis script should always contain this command as first command after reading the input files.

The 3rd line does most of the actual work:

- The command `opt` is the Yosys' built-in optimizer. It can perform some simple optimizations such as const-folding and removing unconnected parts of the design. It is common practice to call opt after each major step in the synthesis procedure. In cases where too much optimization is not appreciated (for example when analyzing a design), it is recommended to call `clean` instead of `opt`.
- The command `proc` converts *processes* (Yosys' internal representation of Verilog `always`- and `initial`-blocks) to circuits of multiplexers and storage elements (various types of flip-flops).
- The command `memory` converts Yosys' internal representations of arrays and array accesses to multi-port block memories, and then maps this block memories to address decoders and flip-flops, unless the option `-nomap` is used, in which case the multi-port block memories stay in the design and can then be mapped to architecture-specific memory primitives using other commands.
- The command `techmap` turns a high-level circuit with coarse grain cells such as wide adders and multipliers to a fine-grain circuit of simple logic primitives and single-bit storage elements. The command does that by substituting the complex cells by circuits of simpler cells. It is possible to provide a custom set of rules for this process in the form of a Verilog source file, as we will see in the next section.

Now Yosys can be run with the filename of the synthesis script as argument:

```
1 yosys softusb_navre.ys
```

Listing 3. Calling Yosys with script file

[1]The other half prefers VHDL, a very different but – of course – equally powerful language.

Now that we are using a synthesis script we can easily modify how Yosys synthesizes the design. The first thing we should customize is the call to the `hierarchy` command:

Whenever it is known that there are no implicit blackboxes in the design, i.e. modules that are referenced but are not defined, the `hierarchy` command should be called with the `-check` option. This will then cause synthesis to fail when implicit blackboxes are found in the design.

The 2nd thing we can improve regarding the `hierarchy` command is that we can tell it the name of the top level module of the design hierarchy. It will then automatically remove all modules that are not referenced from this top level module.

For many designs it is also desired to optimize the encodings for the finite state machines (FSMs) in the design. The `fsm` command finds FSMs, extracts them, performs some basic optimizations and then generate a circuit from the extracted and optimized description. It would also be possible to tell the `fsm` command to leave the FSMs in their extracted form, so they can be further processed using custom commands. But in this case we don't want that.

So now we have the final synthesis script for generating a BLIF file for the Navré CPU:

```
1 read_verilog softusb_navre.v
2 hierarchy -check -top softusb_navre
3 proc; opt; memory; opt; fsm; opt; techmap; opt
4 write_blif softusb_navre.blif
```

Listing 4. `softusb_navre.ys` (improved)

IV. Advanced Example: The Amber23 ARMv2a CPU

Our 2nd example is the Amber23 [4] ARMv2a CPU. Once again we base our example on the Verilog code that is included in yosys-bigsim [2].

The problem with this core is that it contains no dedicated reset logic. Instead the coding techniques shown in Listing 6 are used to define reset values for the global asynchronous reset in an FPGA implementation. This design can not be expressed in BLIF as it is. Instead we need to use a synthesis script that transforms this form to synchronous resets that can be expressed in BLIF.

(Note that there is no problem if this coding techniques are used to model ROM, where the register is initialized using this syntax but is never updated otherwise.)

```
1 read_verilog a23_alu.v
2 read_verilog a23_barrel_shift_fpga.v
3 read_verilog a23_barrel_shift.v
4 read_verilog a23_cache.v
5 read_verilog a23_coprocessor.v
6 read_verilog a23_core.v
7 read_verilog a23_decode.v
8 read_verilog a23_execute.v
9 read_verilog a23_fetch.v
10 read_verilog a23_multiply.v
11 read_verilog a23_ram_register_bank.v
12 read_verilog a23_register_bank.v
13 read_verilog a23_wishbone.v
14 read_verilog generic_sram_byte_en.v
15 read_verilog generic_sram_line_en.v
16 hierarchy -check -top a23_core
17 add -global_input globrst 1
18 proc -global_arst globrst
19 techmap -map adff2dff.v
20 opt; memory; opt; fsm; opt; techmap
21 write_blif amber23.blif
```

Listing 5. `amber23.ys`

```
1 reg [7:0] a = 13, b;
2 initial b = 37;
```

Listing 6. Implicit coding of global asynchronous resets

Listing 5 shows the synthesis script for the Amber23 core. In line 17 the `add` command is used to add a 1-bit wide global input signal with the name `globrst`. That means that an input with that name is added to each module in the design hierarchy and then all module instantiations are altered so that this new signal is connected throughout the whole design hierarchy.

In line 18 the `proc` command is called. But in this script the signal name `globrst` is passed to the command as a global reset signal for resetting the registers to their assigned initial values.

Finally in line 19 the `techmap` command is used to replace all instances of flip-flops with asynchronous resets with flip-flops with synchronous resets. The map file used for this is shown in Listing 7. Note how the `techmap_celltype` attribute is used in line 1 to tell the techmap command which cells to replace in the design, how the _TECHMAP_FAIL_ wire in lines 15 and 16 (which evaluates to a constant value) determines if the parameter set is compatible with this replacement circuit, and how the _TECHMAP_DO_ wire in line 13 provides a mini synthesis-script to be used to process this cell.

```
1  (* techmap_celltype = "$adff" *)
2  module adff2dff (CLK, ARST, D, Q);
3
4  parameter WIDTH = 1;
5  parameter CLK_POLARITY = 1;
6  parameter ARST_POLARITY = 1;
7  parameter ARST_VALUE = 0;
8
9  input CLK, ARST;
10 input [WIDTH-1:0] D;
11 output reg [WIDTH-1:0] Q;
12
13 wire [1023:0] _TECHMAP_DO_ = "proc";
14
15 wire _TECHMAP_FAIL_ =
16     !CLK_POLARITY || !ARST_POLARITY;
17
18 always @(posedge CLK)
19         if (ARST)
20                 Q <= ARST_VALUE;
21         else
22                 Q <= D;
23
24 endmodule
```

Listing 7. `adff2dff.v`

```
#include <stdint.h>
#include <stdbool.h>

#define BITMAP_SIZE 64
#define OUTPORT 0x10000000

static uint32_t bitmap[BITMAP_SIZE/32];

static void bitmap_set(uint32_t idx) { bitmap[idx/32] |= 1 << (idx % 32); }
static bool bitmap_get(uint32_t idx) { return (bitmap[idx/32] & (1 << (idx % 32))) != 0; }
static void output(uint32_t val) { *((volatile uint32_t*)OUTPORT) = val; }

int main() {
        uint32_t i, j, k;
        output(2);
        for (i = 0; i < BITMAP_SIZE; i++) {
                if (bitmap_get(i)) continue;
                output(3+2*i);
                for (j = 2*(3+2*i);; j += 3+2*i) {
                        if (j%2 == 0) continue;
                        k = (j-3)/2;
                        if (k >= BITMAP_SIZE) break;
                        bitmap_set(k);
                }
        }
        output(0);
        return 0;
}
```

Listing 8. Test program for the Amber23 CPU (Sieve of Eratosthenes). Compiled using GCC 4.6.3 for ARM with `-Os -marm -march=armv2a -mno-thumb-interwork -ffreestanding`, linked with `--fix-v4bx` set and booted with a custom setup routine written in ARM assembler.

V. Verification of the Amber23 CPU

The BLIF file for the Amber23 core, generated using Listings 5 and 7 and the version of the Amber23 RTL source that is bundled with yosys-bigsim, was verified using the test-bench from yosys-bigsim. It successfully executed the program shown in Listing 8 in the test-bench.

For simulation the BLIF file was converted back to Verilog using ABC [5]. So this test includes the successful transformation of the BLIF file into ABC's internal format as well.

The only thing left to write about the simulation itself is that it probably was one of the most energy inefficient and time consuming ways of successfully calculating the first 31 primes the author has ever conducted.

VI. Limitations

At the time of this writing Yosys does not support multi-dimensional memories, does not support writing to individual bits of array elements, does not support initialization of arrays with `$readmemb` and `$readmemh`, and has only limited support for tristate logic, to name just a few limitations.

That being said, Yosys can synthesize an overwhelming majority of real-world Verilog RTL code. The remaining cases can usually be modified to be compatible with Yosys quite easily.

The various designs in yosys-bigsim are a good place to look for examples of what is within the capabilities of Yosys.

VII. Conclusion

Yosys is a feature-rich Verilog-2005 synthesis tool. It has many uses, but one is to provide an easy gateway from high-level Verilog code to low-level logic circuits.

The command line option `-S` can be used to quickly synthesize Verilog code to BLIF files without a hassle.

With custom synthesis scripts it becomes possible to easily perform high-level optimizations, such as re-encoding FSMs. In some extreme cases, such as the Amber23 ARMv2 CPU, the more advanced Yosys features can be used to change a design to fit a certain need without actually touching the RTL code.

References

[1] Clifford Wolf. The Yosys Open SYnthesis Suite.
http://www.clifford.at/yosys/

[2] yosys-bigsim, a collection of real-world Verilog designs for regression testing purposes.
https://github.com/cliffordwolf/yosys-bigsim

[3] Sebastien Bourdeauducq. Navré AVR clone (8-bit RISC).
http://opencores.org/project,navre

[4] Conor Santifort. Amber ARM-compatible core.
http://opencores.org/project,amber

[5] Berkeley Logic Synthesis and Verification Group. ABC: A System for Sequential Synthesis and Verification.
http://www.eecs.berkeley.edu/~alanmi/abc/

[6] Berkeley Logic Interchange Format (BLIF)
http://vlsi.colorado.edu/~vis/blif.ps

Yosys Application Note 011: Interactive Design Investigation

Clifford Wolf
Original Version December 2013

***Abstract*—Yosys [1] can be a great environment for building custom synthesis flows. It can also be an excellent tool for teaching and learning Verilog based RTL synthesis. In both applications it is of great importance to be able to analyze the designs it produces easily.**

This Yosys application note covers the generation of circuit diagrams with the Yosys `show` command, the selection of interesting parts of the circuit using the `select` command, and briefly discusses advanced investigation commands for evaluating circuits and solving SAT problems.

I. Installation and Prerequisites

This Application Note is based on the Yosys [1] GIT Rev. `2b90ba1` from 2013-12-08. The README file covers how to install Yosys. The `show` command requires a working installation of GraphViz [2] and [3] for generating the actual circuit diagrams.

II. Overview

This application note is structured as follows:

Sec. III introduces the `show` command and explains the symbols used in the circuit diagrams generated by it.

Sec. IV introduces additional commands used to navigate in the design, select portions of the design, and print additional information on the elements in the design that are not contained in the circuit diagrams.

Sec. V introduces commands to evaluate the design and solve SAT problems within the design.

Sec. VI concludes the document and summarizes the key points.

III. Introduction to the `show` command

The `show` command generates a circuit diagram for the design in its current state. Various options can be used to change the appearance of the circuit diagram, set the name and format for the output file, and so forth. When called without any special options, it saves the circuit diagram in a temporary file and launches `xdot` to display the diagram. Subsequent calls to `show` re-use the `xdot` instance (if still running).

```
1  $ cat example.ys
2  read_verilog example.v
3  show -pause
4  proc
5  show -pause
6  opt
7  show -pause
8
9  $ cat example.v
10 module example(input clk, a, b, c,
11                output reg [1:0] y);
12     always @(posedge clk)
13         if (c)
14             y <= c ? a + b : 2'd0;
15 endmodule
```

Figure 1. Yosys script with `show` commands and example design

A. A simple circuit

Fig. 1 shows a simple synthesis script and a Verilog file that demonstrate the usage of `show` in a simple setting. Note that `show` is called with the `-pause` option, that halts execution of the Yosys script until the user presses the Enter key. The `show -pause` command also allows the user to enter an interactive shell to further investigate the circuit before continuing synthesis.

So this script, when executed, will show the design after each of the three synthesis commands. The generated circuit diagrams are shown in Fig. 2.

The first diagram (from top to bottom) shows the design directly after being read by the Verilog front-end. Input and output ports are displayed as octagonal shapes. Cells are displayed as rectangles with inputs on the left and outputs on the right side. The cell labels are two lines long: The first line contains a unique identifier for the cell and the second line contains the cell type. Internal cell types are prefixed with a dollar sign. The Yosys manual contains a chapter on the internal cell library used in Yosys.

Constants are shown as ellipses with the constant value as label. The syntax `<bit_width>'<bits>` is used for for constants that are not 32-bit wide and/or contain bits that are not 0 or 1 (i.e. `x` or `z`). Ordinary 32-bit constants are written using decimal numbers.

Single-bit signals are shown as thin arrows pointing from the driver to the load. Signals that are multiple bits wide are shown as think arrows.

Finally *processes* are shown in boxes with round corners. Processes are Yosys' internal representation of the decision-trees and synchronization events modelled in a Verilog `always`-block. The label reads PROC followed by a unique identifier in the first line and contains the source code location of the original `always`-block in the 2nd line. Note how the multiplexer from the `?:`-expression is represented as a `$mux` cell but the multiplexer from the `if`-statement is yet still hidden within the process.

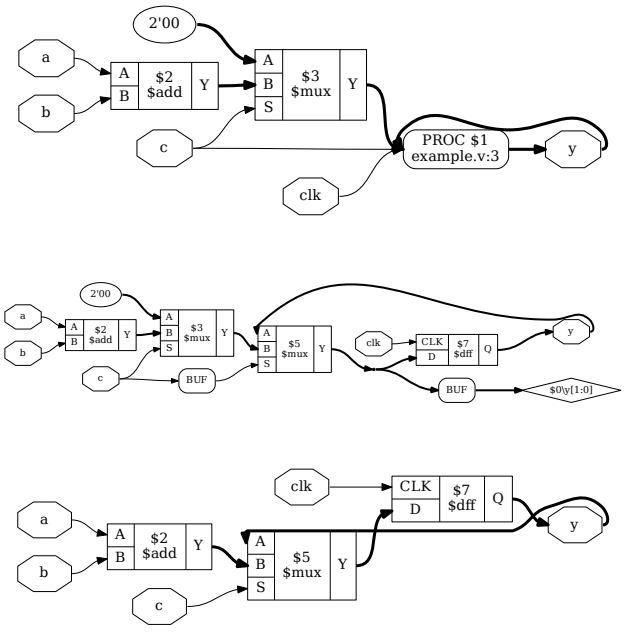


Figure 2. Output of the three `show` commands from Fig. 1

The `proc` command transforms the process from the first diagram into a multiplexer and a d-type flip-flip, which brings us to the 2nd diagram.

The Rhombus shape to the right is a dangling wire. (Wire nodes are only shown if they are dangling or have "public" names, for example names assigned from the Verilog input.) Also note that the design now contains two instances of a BUF-node. This are artefacts left behind by the `proc`-command. It is quite usual to see such artefacts after calling commands that perform changes in the design, as most commands only care about doing the transformation in the least complicated way, not about cleaning up after them. The next call to `clean` (or `opt`, which includes `clean` as one of its operations) will clean up this artefacts. This operation is so common in Yosys scripts that it can simply be abbreviated with the `;;` token, which doubles as separator for commands. Unless one wants to specifically analyze this artefacts left behind some operations, it is therefore recommended to always call `clean` before calling `show`.

In this script we directly call `opt` as next step, which finally leads us to the 3rd diagram in Fig. 2. Here we see that the `opt` command not only has removed the artifacts left behind by `proc`, but also determined correctly that it can remove the first `$mux` cell without changing the behavior of the circuit.

B. Break-out boxes for signal vectors

As has been indicated by the last example, Yosys is can manage signal vectors (aka. multi-bit wires or buses) as native objects. This provides great advantages when analyzing circuits that operate on wide integers. But it also introduces some additional complexity when the individual bits of of a signal vector are accessed. The example show in Fig. 3 and 4 demonstrates how such circuits are visualized by the `show` command.

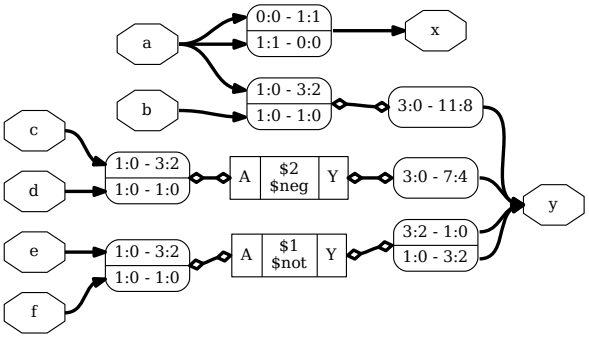
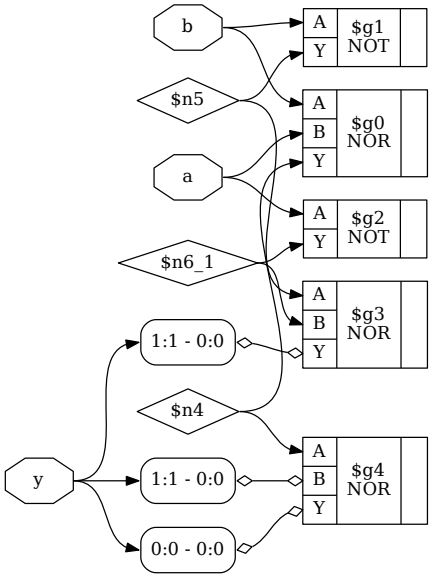


Figure 3. Output of `yosys -p 'proc; opt; show' splice.v`

```
1  module splice_demo(a, b, c, d, e, f, x, y);
2
3  input [1:0] a, b, c, d, e, f;
4  output [1:0] x = {a[0], a[1]};
5
6  output [11:0] y;
7  assign {y[11:4], y[1:0], y[3:2]} =
8                  {a, b, -{c, d}, ~{e, f}};
9
10 endmodule
```

Figure 4. `splice.v`



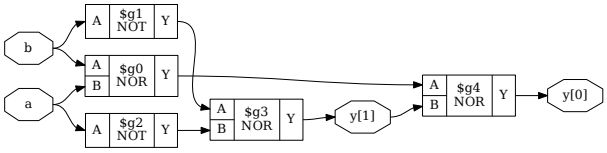


Figure 5. Effects of `splitnets` command and of providing a cell library. (The circuit is a half-adder built from simple CMOS gates.)

The key elements in understanding this circuit diagram are of course the boxes with round corners and rows labeled `<MSB_LEFT>:<LSB_LEFT> – <MSB_RIGHT>:<LSB_RIGHT>`. Each of this boxes has one signal per row on one side and a common signal for all rows on the other side. The `<MSB>:<LSB>` tuples specify which bits of the signals are broken out and connected. So the top row of the box connecting the signals `a` and `x` indicates that the bit 0 (i.e. the range 0:0) from signal `a` is connected to bit 1 (i.e. the range 1:1) of signal `x`.

Lines connecting such boxes together and lines connecting such boxes to cell ports have a slightly different look to emphasise that they are not actual signal wires but a necessity of the graphical representation. This distinction seems like a technicality, until one wants to debug a problem related to the way Yosys internally represents signal vectors, for example when writing custom Yosys commands.

C. Gate level netlists

Finally Fig. 5 shows two common pitfalls when working with designs mapped to a cell library. The top figure has two problems: First Yosys did not have access to the cell library when this diagram was generated, resulting in all cell ports defaulting to being inputs. This is why all ports are drawn on the left side the cells are awkwardly arranged in a large column. Secondly the two-bit vector `y` requires breakout-boxes for its individual bits, resulting in an unnecessary complex diagram.

For the 2nd diagram Yosys has been given a description of the cell library as Verilog file containing blackbox modules. There are two ways to load cell descriptions into Yosys: First the Verilog file for the cell library can be passed directly to the `show` command using the `-lib <filename>` option. Secondly it is possible to load cell libraries into the design with the `read_verilog -lib <filename>` command. The 2nd method has the great advantage that the library only needs to be loaded once and can then be used in all subsequent calls to the `show` command.

In addition to that, the 2nd diagram was generated after `splitnet -ports` was run on the design. This command splits all signal vectors into individual signal bits, which is often desirable when looking at gate-level circuits. The `-ports` option is required to also split module ports. Per default the command only operates on interior signals.

D. Miscellaneous notes

Per default the `show` command outputs a temporary `dot` file and launches `xdot` to display it. The options `-format`, `-viewer` and `-prefix` can be used to change format, viewer and filename prefix. Note that the `pdf` and `ps` format are the only formats that support plotting multiple modules in one run.

In densely connected circuits it is sometimes hard to keep track of the individual signal wires. For this cases it can be useful to call `show` with the `-colors <integer>` argument, which randomly assigns colors to the nets. The integer (> 0) is used as seed value for the random color assignments. Sometimes it is necessary it try some values to find an assignment of colors that looks good.

The command `help show` prints a complete listing of all options supported by the `show` command.

IV. Navigating the design

Plotting circuit diagrams for entire modules in the design brings us only helps in simple cases. For complex modules the generated circuit diagrams are just stupidly big and are no help at all. In such cases one first has to select the relevant portions of the circuit.

In addition to *what* to display one also needs to carefully decide *when* to display it, with respect to the synthesis flow. In general it is a good idea to troubleshoot a circuit in the earliest state in which a problem can be reproduced. So if, for example, the internal state before calling the `techmap` command already fails to verify, it is better to troubleshoot the coarse-grain version of the circuit before `techmap` than the gate-level circuit after `techmap`.

Note: It is generally recommended to verify the internal state of a design by writing it to a Verilog file using `write_verilog -noexpr` and using the simulation models from `simlib.v` and `simcells.v` from the Yosys data directory (as printed by `yosys-config --datdir`).

A. Interactive Navigation

Once the right state within the synthesis flow for debugging the circuit has been identified, it is recommended to simply add the `shell` command to the matching place in the synthesis script. This command will stop the synthesis at the specified moment and go to shell mode, where the user can interactively enter commands.

For most cases, the shell will start with the whole design selected (i.e. when the synthesis script does not already narrow the selection). The command `ls` can now be used to create a list of all modules. The command `cd` can be used to switch to one of the modules (type `cd ..` to switch back). Now the `ls` command lists the objects within that module. Fig. 6 demonstrates this using the design from Fig. 1.

```
yosys> ls

1 modules:
  example

yosys> cd example

yosys [example]> ls

7 wires:
  $0\y[1:0]
  $add$example.v:5$2_Y
  a
  b
  c
  clk
  y

3 cells:
  $add$example.v:5$2
  $procdff$7
  $procmux$5
```

Figure 6. Demonstration of `ls` and `cd` using `example.v` from Fig. 1

There is a thing to note in Fig. 6: We can see that the cell names from Fig. 2 are just abbreviations of the actual cell names, namely the part after the last dollar-sign. Most auto-generated names (the ones starting with a dollar sign) are rather long and contains some additional information on the origin of the named object. But in most cases those names can simply be abbreviated using the last part.

Usually all interactive work is done with one module selected using the `cd` command. But it is also possible to work from the design-context (`cd ..`). In this case all object names must be prefixed with `<module_name>/`. For example `a*/b*` would refer to all objects whose names start with `b` from all modules whose names start with `a`.

The `dump` command can be used to print all information about an object. For example `dump $2` will print Fig. 7. This can for example be useful to determine the names of nets connected to cells, as the net-names are usually suppressed in the circuit diagram if they are auto-generated.

For the remainder of this document we will assume that the commands are run from module-context and not design-context.

```
attribute \src "example.v:5"
cell $add $add$example.v:5$2
  parameter \A_SIGNED 0
  parameter \A_WIDTH 1
  parameter \B_SIGNED 0
  parameter \B_WIDTH 1
  parameter \Y_WIDTH 2
  connect \A \a
  connect \B \b
  connect \Y $add$example.v:5$2_Y
end
```

Figure 7. Output of `dump $2` using the design from Fig. 1 and Fig. 2

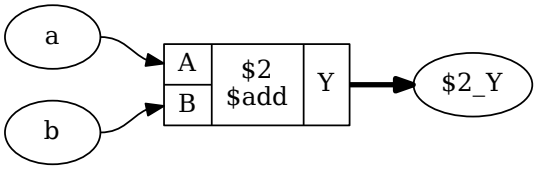


Figure 8. Output of show after `select $2` or `select t:$add` (see also Fig. 2)

B. Working with selections

When a module is selected using the `cd` command, all commands (with a few exceptions, such as the `read_*` and `write_*` commands) operate only on the selected module. This can also be useful for synthesis scripts where different synthesis strategies should be applied to different modules in the design.

But for most interactive work we want to further narrow the set of selected objects. This can be done using the `select` command.

For example, if the command `select $2` is executed, a subsequent `show` command will yield the diagram shown in Fig. 8. Note that the nets are now displayed in ellipses. This indicates that they are not selected, but only shown because the diagram contains a cell that is connected to the net. This of course makes no difference for the circuit that is shown, but it can be a useful information when manipulating selections.

Objects can not only be selected by their name but also by other properties. For example `select t:$add` will select all cells of type `$add`. In this case this is also yields the diagram shown in Fig. 8.

The output of `help select` contains a complete syntax reference for matching different properties.

Many commands can operate on explicit selections. For example the command `dump t:$add` will print information on all `$add` cells in the active module. Whenever a command has `[selection]` as last argument in its usage help, this means that it will use the engine behind the `select` command to evaluate additional arguments and use the resulting selection instead of the selection created by the last `select` command.

Normally the `select` command overwrites a previous selection. The commands `select -add` and `select -del` can be used to add or remove objects from the current selection.

The command `select -clear` can be used to reset the selection to the default, which is a complete selection of everything in the current module.

```
1  module foobaraddsub(a, b, c, d, fa, fs, ba, bs);
2    input [7:0] a, b, c, d;
3    output [7:0] fa, fs, ba, bs;
4    assign fa = a + (* foo *) b;
5    assign fs = a - (* foo *) b;
6    assign ba = c + (* bar *) d;
7    assign bs = c - (* bar *) d;
8  endmodule
```

Figure 9. Test module for operations on selections

```
1  module sumprod(a, b, c, sum, prod);
2
3    input [7:0] a, b, c;
4    output [7:0] sum, prod;
5
6    (* sumstuff *)
7    assign sum = a + b + c;
8    (* *)
9
10   assign prod = a * b * c;
11
12 endmodule
```

Figure 10. Another test module for operations on selections

C. Operations on selections

The `select` command is actually much more powerful than it might seem on the first glimpse. When it is called with multiple arguments, each argument is evaluated and pushed separately on a stack. After all arguments have been processed it simply creates the union of all elements on the stack. So the following command will select all `$add` cells and all objects with the `foo` attribute set:

```
select t:$add a:foo
```

(Try this with the design shown in Fig. 9. Use the `select -list` command to list the current selection.)

In many cases simply adding more and more stuff to the selection is an ineffective way of selecting the interesting part of the design. Special arguments can be used to combine the elements on the stack. For example the `%i` arguments pops the last two elements from the stack, intersects them, and pushes the result back on the stack. So the following command will select all $add cells that have the `foo` attribute set:

```
select t:$add a:foo %i
```

The listing in Fig. 10 uses the Yosys non-standard `(* ... *)` syntax to set the attribute `sumstuff` on all cells generated by the first assign statement. (This works on arbitrary large blocks of Verilog code an can be used to mark portions of code for analysis.)

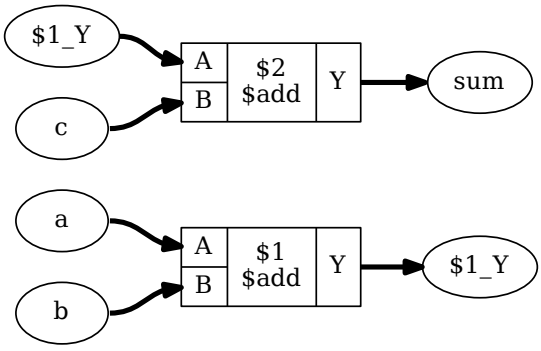


Figure 11. Output of `show a:sumstuff` on Fig. 10

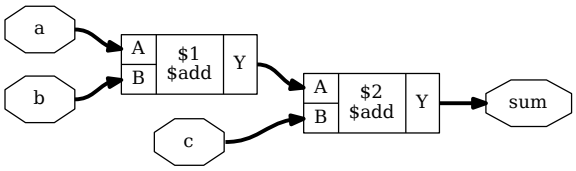


Figure 12. Output of `show a:sumstuff %x` on Fig. 10

Selecting `a:sumstuff` in this module will yield the circuit diagram shown in Fig. 11. As only the cells themselves are selected, but not the temporary wire `$1_Y`, the two adders are shown as two disjunct parts. This can be very useful for global signals like clock and reset signals: just unselect them using a command such as `select -del clk rst` and each cell using them will get its own net label.

In this case however we would like to see the cells connected properly. This can be achieved using the `%x` action, that broadens the selection, i.e. for each selected wire it selects all cells connected to the wire and vice versa. So `show a:sumstuff %x` yields the diagram shown in Fig. 12.

D. Selecting logic cones

Fig. 12 shows what is called the *input cone* of `sum`, i.e. all cells and signals that are used to generate the signal `sum`. The `%ci` action can be used to select the input cones of all object in the top selection in the stack maintained by the `select` command.

As the `%x` action, this commands broadens the selection by one "step". But this time the operation only works against the direction of data flow. That means, wires only select cells via output ports and cells only select wires via input ports.

Fig. 13 show the sequence of diagrams generated by the following commands:

```
show prod
show prod %ci
show prod %ci %ci
show prod %ci %ci %ci
```

When selecting many levels of logic, repeating `%ci` over and over again can be a bit dull. So there is a shortcut for that: the number of iterations can be appended to the action. So for example the action `%ci3` is identical to performing the `%ci` action three times.

The action `%ci*` performs the `%ci` action over and over again until it has no effect anymore.

In most cases there are certain cell types and/or ports that should not be considered for the `%ci` action, or we only want to follow certain cell types and/or ports. This can be achieved using additional patterns that can be appended to the `%ci` action.

Lets consider the design from Fig. 14. It serves no purpose other than being a non-trivial circuit for demonstrating some of the advanced Yosys features. We synthesize the circuit using `proc; opt; memory; opt` and change to the `memdemo` module with `cd memdemo`. If we type `show` now we see the diagram shown in Fig. 15.

But maybe we are only interested in the tree of multiplexers that select the output value. In order to get there, we would start by just showing the output signal and its immediate predecessors:

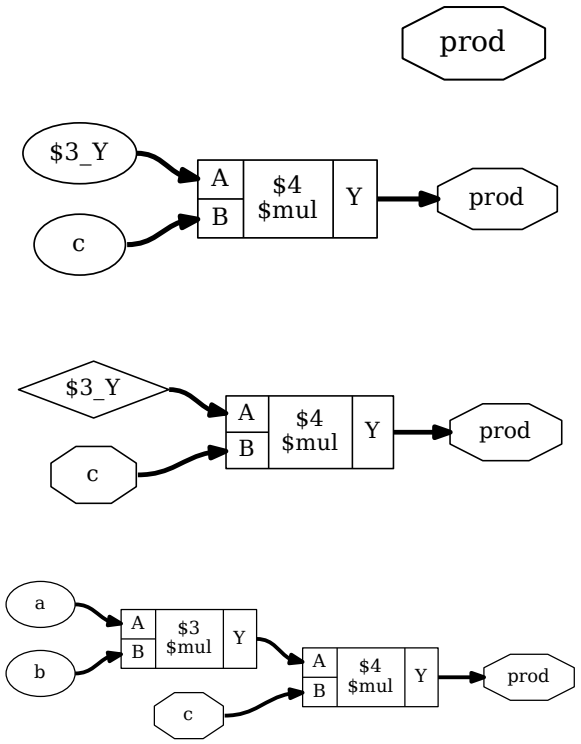


Figure 13. Objects selected by `select prod %ci...`

```
show y %ci2
```

From this we would learn that `y` is driven by a `$dff cell`, that `y` is connected to the output port Q, that the `clk` signal goes into the CLK input port of the cell, and that the data comes from a auto-generated wire into the input D of the flip-flop cell.

As we are not interested in the clock signal we add an additional pattern to the `%ci` action, that tells it to only follow ports Q and D of `$dff` cells:

```
show y %ci2:+$dff[Q,D]
```

```
1  module memdemo(clk, d, y);
2
3  input clk;
4  input [3:0] d;
5  output reg [3:0] y;
6
7  integer i;
8  reg [1:0] s1, s2;
9  reg [3:0] mem [0:3];
10
11 always @(posedge clk) begin
12     for (i = 0; i < 4; i = i+1)
13         mem[i] <= mem[(i+1) % 4] + mem[(i+2) % 4];
14     { s2, s1 } = d ? { s1, s2 } ^ d : 4'b0;
15     mem[s1] <= d;
16     y <= mem[s2];
17 end
18
19 endmodule
```

Figure 14. Demo circuit for demonstrating some advanced Yosys features

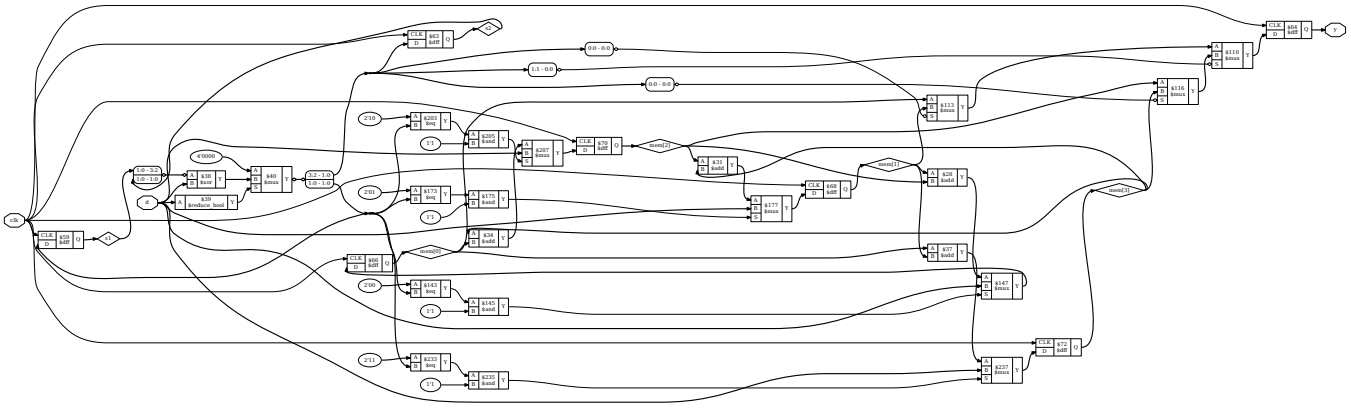


Figure 15. Complete circuit diagram for the design shown in Fig. 14

To add a pattern we add a colon followed by the pattern to the `%ci` action. The pattern it self starts with `-` or `+`, indicating if it is an include or exclude pattern, followed by an optional comma separated list of cell types, followed by an optional comma separated list of port names in square brackets.

Since we know that the only cell considered in this case is a `$dff` cell, we could as well only specify the port names:

```
show y %ci2:+[Q,D]
```

Or we could decide to tell the `%ci` action to not follow the CLK input:

```
show y %ci2:-[CLK]
```

Next we would investigate the next logic level by adding another `%ci2` to the command:

```
show y %ci2:-[CLK] %ci2
```

From this we would learn that the next cell is a `$mux` cell and we would add additional pattern to narrow the selection on the path we are interested. In the end we would end up with a command such as

```
show y %ci2:+$dff[Q,D] %ci*:-$mux[S]:-$dff
```

in which the first `%ci` jumps over the initial d-type flip-flop and the 2nd action selects the entire input cone without going over multiplexer select inputs and flip-flop cells. The diagram produces by this command is shown in Fig. 16.

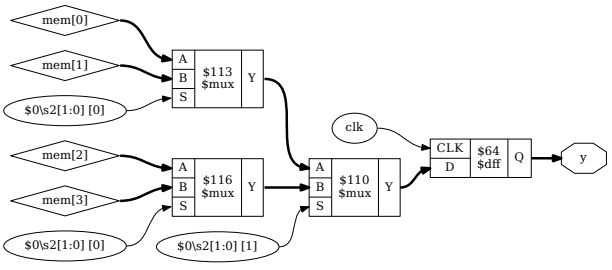


Figure 16. Output of `show y %ci2:+$dff[Q,D] %ci*:-$mux[S]:-$dff`

Similar to `%ci` exists an action `%co` to select output cones that accepts the same syntax for pattern and repetition. The `%x` action mentioned previously also accepts this advanced syntax.

This actions for traversing the circuit graph, combined with the actions for boolean operations such as intersection (`%i`) and difference (`%d`) are powerful tools for extracting the relevant portions of the circuit under investigation.

See `help select` for a complete list of actions available in selections.

E. Storing and recalling selections

The current selection can be stored in memory with the command `select -set <name>`. It can later be recalled using `select @<name>`. In fact, the `@<name>` expression pushes the stored selection on the stack maintained by the `select` command. So for example

```
select @foo @bar %i
```

will select the intersection between the stored selections `foo` and `bar`.

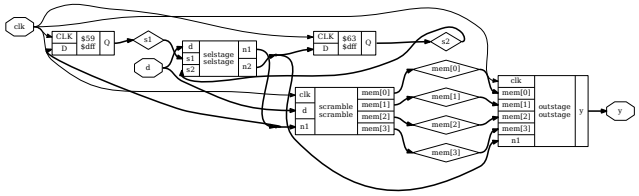
In larger investigation efforts it is highly recommended to maintain a script that sets up relevant selections, so they can easily be recalled, for example when Yosys needs to be re-run after a design or source code change.

The `history` command can be used to list all recent interactive commands. This feature can be useful for creating such a script from the commands used in an interactive session.

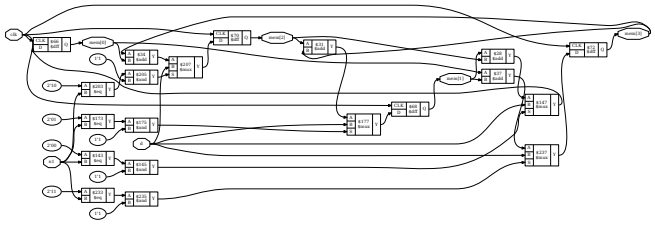
V. Advanced investigation techniques

When working with very large modules, it is often not enough to just select the interesting part of the module. Instead it can be useful to extract the interesting part of the circuit into a separate module. This can for example be useful if one wants to run a series of synthesis commands on the critical part of the module and wants to carefully read all the debug output created by the commands in order to spot a problem. This kind of troubleshooting is much easier if the circuit under investigation is encapsulated in a separate module.

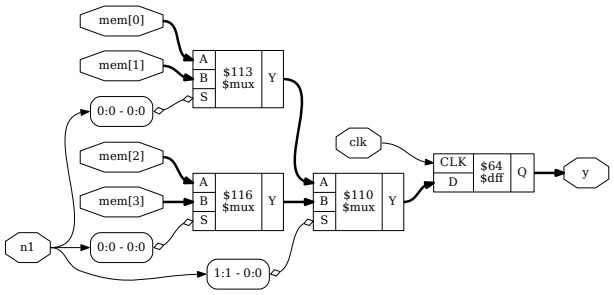
Fig. 17 shows how the `submod` command can be used to split the circuit from Fig. 14 and 15 into its components. The `-name` option is used to specify the name of the new module and also the name of the new cell in the current module.



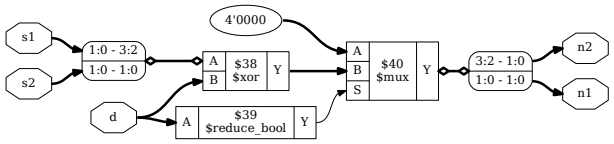
memdemo



scramble



outstage



selstage

```
1 select -set outstage y %ci2:+$dff[Q,D] %ci*:-$mux[S]:-$dff
2 select -set selstage y %ci2:+$dff[Q,D] %ci*:-$dff @outstage %d
3 select -set scramble mem* %ci2 %ci*:-$dff mem* %d @selstage %d
4 submod -name scramble @scramble
5 submod -name outstage @outstage
6 submod -name selstage @selstage
```

Figure 17. The circuit from Fig. 14 and 15 broken up using `submod`

A. Evaluation of combinatorial circuits

The `eval` command can be used to evaluate combinatorial circuits. For example (see Fig. 17 for the circuit diagram of `selstage`):

```
yosys [selstage]> eval -set s2,s1 4'b1001 -set d 4'hc -show n2 -show n1

9. Executing EVAL pass (evaluate the circuit given an input).
Full command line: eval -set s2,s1 4'b1001 -set d 4'hc -show n2 -show n1
 Eval result: \n2 = 2'10.
 Eval result: \n1 = 2'10.
```

So the `-set` option is used to set input values and the `-show` option is used to specify the nets to evaluate. If no `-show` option is specified, all selected output ports are used per default.

If a necessary input value is not given, an error is produced. The option `-set-undef` can be used to instead set all unspecified input nets to undef (x).

The `-table` option can be used to create a truth table. For example:

```
yosys [selstage]> eval -set-undef -set d[3:1] 0 -table s1,d[0]

10. Executing EVAL pass (evaluate the circuit given an input).
Full command line: eval -set-undef -set d[3:1] 0 -table s1,d[0]

  \s1 \d [0] |  \n1  \n2
---- ------ | ---- ----
2'00    1'0 | 2'00 2'00
2'00    1'1 | 2'xx 2'00
2'01    1'0 | 2'00 2'00
2'01    1'1 | 2'xx 2'01
2'10    1'0 | 2'00 2'00
2'10    1'1 | 2'xx 2'10
2'11    1'0 | 2'00 2'00
2'11    1'1 | 2'xx 2'11

Assumed undef (x) value for the following signals: \s2
```

Note that the `eval` command (as well as the `sat` command discussed in the next sections) does only operate on flattened modules. It can not analyze signals that are passed through design hierarchy levels. So the `flatten` command must be used on modules that instantiate other modules before this commands can be applied.

B. Solving combinatorial SAT problems

Often the opposite of the `eval` command is needed, i.e. the circuits output is given and we want to find the matching input signals. For small circuits with only a few input bits this can be accomplished by trying all possible input combinations, as it is done by the `eval -table` command. For larger circuits however, Yosys provides the `sat` command that uses a SAT [4] solver [5] to solve this kind of problems.

The `sat` command works very similar to the `eval` command. The main difference is that it is now also possible to set output values and find the corresponding input values. For Example:

```
yosys [selstage]> sat -show s1,s2,d -set s1 s2 -set n2,n1 4'b1001

11. Executing SAT pass (solving SAT problems in the circuit).
Full command line: sat -show s1,s2,d -set s1 s2 -set n2,n1 4'b1001

 Setting up SAT problem:
 Import set-constraint: \s1 = \s2
 Import set-constraint: { \n2 \n1 } = 4'1001
 Final constraint equation: { \n2 \n1 \s1 } = { 4'1001 \s2 }
 Imported 3 cells to SAT database.
 Import show expression: { \s1 \s2 \d }

 Solving problem with 81 variables and 207 clauses..
 SAT solving finished - model found:

 Signal Name                 Dec       Hex           Bin
-------------------- ---------- ---------- --------------
 \d                           9          9          1001
 \s1                          0          0            00
 \s2                          0          0            00
```

Note that the `sat` command supports signal names in both arguments to the `-set` option. In the above example we used `-set s1 s2` to constraint `s1` and `s2` to be equal. When more complex

```
1 module primetest(p, a, b, ok);
2 input [15:0] p, a, b;
3 output ok = p != a*b || a == 1 || b == 1;
4 endmodule
```

Figure 18. A simple miter circuit for testing if a number is prime. But it has a problem (see main text and Fig. 19).

```
yosys [primetest]> sat -prove ok 1 -set p 31

8. Executing SAT pass (solving SAT problems in the circuit).
Full command line: sat -prove ok 1 -set p 31

Setting up SAT problem:
Import set-constraint: \p = 16'0000000000011111
Final constraint equation: \p = 16'0000000000011111
Imported 6 cells to SAT database.
Import proof-constraint: \ok = 1'1
Final proof equation: \ok = 1'1

Solving problem with 2790 variables and 8241 clauses..
SAT proof finished - model found: FAIL!

   ______                    ___       ___       _ _                 _ _
  (_____ \                  / __)     / __)     (_) |               | | |
   _____) )___ ___   ___ _| |__    _| |__ _____ _| | _____  __| | |
  |  ____/ ___) _ \ / _ (_   __)  (_   __|____ | | || ___ |/ _  |_|
  | |    | |  | |_| | |_| || |       | |  / ___ | | || ____( (_| |_
  |_|    |_|   \___/ \___/ |_|       |_|  \_____|_|\_)_____)\____|_|


  Signal Name                 Dec        Hex                    Bin
  -------------------- ---------- ---------- --------------------
  \a                         15029       3ab5      0011101010110101
  \b                          4099       1003      0001000000000011
  \ok                            0          0                     0
  \p                            31         1f      0000000000011111

yosys [primetest]> sat -prove ok 1 -set p 31 -set a[15:8],b[15:8] 0

9. Executing SAT pass (solving SAT problems in the circuit).
Full command line: sat -prove ok 1 -set p 31 -set a[15:8],b[15:8] 0

Setting up SAT problem:
Import set-constraint: \p = 16'0000000000011111
Import set-constraint: { \a [15:8] \b [15:8] } = 16'0000000000000000
Final constraint equation: { \a [15:8] \b [15:8] \p } = { 16'0000000000000000 16'0000000000011111 }
Imported 6 cells to SAT database.
Import proof-constraint: \ok = 1'1
Final proof equation: \ok = 1'1

Solving problem with 2790 variables and 8257 clauses..
SAT proof finished - no model found: SUCCESS!

                 /$$$$$$      /$$$$$$$$     /$$$$$$$
                /$$__  $$    | $$_____/    | $$__  $$
               | $$  \ $$    | $$          | $$  \ $$
               | $$  | $$    | $$$$$       | $$  | $$
               | $$  | $$    | $$__/       | $$  | $$
               | $$/$$ $$    | $$          | $$  | $$
               |  $$$$$$/ /$$| $$$$$$$$ /$$| $$$$$$$//$$
                \____ $$$|__/|________/|__/|_______/|__/
                     \__/
```

Figure 19. Experiments with the miter circuit from Fig. 18. The first attempt of proving that 31 is prime failed because the SAT solver found a creative way of factorizing 31 using integer overflow.

constraints are needed, a wrapper circuit must be constructed that checks the constraints and signals if the constraint was met using an extra output port, which then can be forced to a value using the `-set` option. (Such a circuit that contains the circuit under test plus additional constraint checking circuitry is called a *miter* circuit.)

Fig. 18 shows a miter circuit that is supposed to be used as a prime number test. If `ok` is 1 for all input values `a` and `b` for a given `p`, then `p` is prime, or at least that is the idea.

The Yosys shell session shown in Fig. 19 demonstrates that SAT solvers can even find the unexpected solutions to a problem: Using integer overflow there actually is a way of "factorizing" 31. The clean solution would of course be to perform the test in 32 bits, for example by replacing `p != a*b` in the miter with `p != {16'd0,a}*b`, or by using a temporary variable for the 32 bit product `a*b`. But as 31 fits well into 8 bits (and as the purpose

of this document is to show off Yosys features) we can also simply force the upper 8 bits of `a` and `b` to zero for the `sat` call, as is done in the second command in Fig. 19 (line 31).

The `-prove` option used in this example works similar to `-set`, but tries to find a case in which the two arguments are not equal. If such a case is not found, the property is proven to hold for all inputs that satisfy the other constraints.

It might be worth noting, that SAT solvers are not particularly efficient at factorizing large numbers. But if a small factorization problem occurs as part of a larger circuit problem, the Yosys SAT solver is perfectly capable of solving it.

C. Solving sequential SAT problems

The SAT solver functionality in Yosys can not only be used to solve combinatorial problems, but can also solve sequential problems. Let's consider the entire `memdemo` module from Fig. 14 and suppose we want to know which sequence of input values for `d` will cause the output `y` to produce the sequence 1, 2, 3 from any initial state. Fig. 20 show the solution to this question, as produced by the following command:

```
sat -seq 6 -show y -show d -set-init-undef \
  -max_undef -set-at 4 y 1 -set-at 5 y 2 -set-at 6 y 3
```

The `-seq 6` option instructs the `sat` command to solve a sequential problem in 6 time steps. (Experiments with lower number of steps have show that at least 3 cycles are necessary to bring the circuit in a state from which the sequence 1, 2, 3 can be produced.)

The `-set-init-undef` option tells the `sat` command to initialize all registers to the undef (`x`) state. The way the `x` state is treated in Verilog will ensure that the solution will work for any initial state.

The `-max_undef` option instructs the `sat` command to find a solution with a maximum number of undefs. This way we can see clearly which inputs bits are relevant to the solution.

Finally the three `-set-at` options add constraints for the `y` signal to play the 1, 2, 3 sequence, starting with time step 4.

It is not surprising that the solution sets `d = 0` in the first step, as this is the only way of setting the `s1` and `s2` registers to a known value. The input values for the other steps are a bit harder to work out manually, but the SAT solver finds the correct solution in an instant.

There is much more to write about the `sat` command. For example, there is a set of options that can be used to performs sequential proofs using temporal induction [6]. The command `help sat` can be used to print a list of all options with short descriptions of their functions.

VI. Conclusion

Yosys provides a wide range of functions to analyze and investigate designs. For many cases it is sufficient to simply display circuit diagrams, maybe use some additional commands to narrow the scope of the circuit diagrams to the interesting parts of the circuit. But some cases require more than that. For this applications Yosys provides commands that can be used to further inspect the behavior of the circuit, either by evaluating which output values are generated from certain input values (`eval`) or by evaluation which input values and initial conditions can result in a certain behavior at the outputs (`sat`). The SAT command can even be used to prove (or disprove) theorems regarding the circuit, in more advanced cases with the additional help of a miter circuit.

This features can be powerful tools for the circuit designer using Yosys as a utility for building circuits and the software developer using Yosys as a framework for new algorithms alike.

References

[1] Clifford Wolf. The Yosys Open SYnthesis Suite. http://www.clifford.at/yosys/

[2] Graphviz - Graph Visualization Software. http://www.graphviz.org/

[3] xdot.py - an interactive viewer for graphs written in Graphviz's dot language. https://github.com/jrfonseca/xdot.py

[4] *Circuit satisfiability problem* on Wikipedia http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Circuit_satisfiability

[5] MiniSat: a minimalistic open-source SAT solver. http://minisat.se/

[6] Niklas Een and Niklas Sörensson (2003). Temporal Induction by Incremental SAT Solving. http://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/summary?doi=10.1.1.4.8161

```
yosys [memdemo]> sat -seq 6 -show y -show d -set-init-undef \
        -max_undef -set-at 4 y 1 -set-at 5 y 2 -set-at 6 y 3

6. Executing SAT pass (solving SAT problems in the circuit).
Full command line: sat -seq 6 -show y -show d -set-init-undef
        -max_undef -set-at 4 y 1 -set-at 5 y 2 -set-at 6 y 3

Setting up time step 1:
Final constraint equation: { } = { }
Imported 29 cells to SAT database.

Setting up time step 2:
Final constraint equation: { } = { }
Imported 29 cells to SAT database.

Setting up time step 3:
Final constraint equation: { } = { }
Imported 29 cells to SAT database.

Setting up time step 4:
Import set-constraint for timestep: \y = 4'0001
Final constraint equation: \y = 4'0001
Imported 29 cells to SAT database.

Setting up time step 5:
Import set-constraint for timestep: \y = 4'0010
Final constraint equation: \y = 4'0010
Imported 29 cells to SAT database.

Setting up time step 6:
Import set-constraint for timestep: \y = 4'0011
Final constraint equation: \y = 4'0011
Imported 29 cells to SAT database.

Setting up initial state:
Final constraint equation: { \y \s2 \s1 \mem[3] \mem[2] \mem[1]
                        \mem[0] } = 24'xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Import show expression: \y
Import show expression: \d

Solving problem with 10322 variables and 27881 clauses..
SAT model found. maximizing number of undefs.
SAT solving finished - model found:

  Time Signal Name                 Dec
 Hex|           Bin                                          |
  ---- -------------------- ---------- ---------- ----------
  init \mem[0]                        --                     |
   -- |          xxxx                                        |
  init \mem[1]                        --                     |
   -- |          xxxx                                        |
  init \mem[2]                        --                     |
   -- |          xxxx                                        |
  init \mem[3]                        --                     |
   -- |          xxxx                                        |
  init \s1                            --                     |
   -- |            xx                                        |
  init \s2                            --                     |
   -- |            xx                                        |
  init \y                             --                     |
   -- |          xxxx                                        |
  ---- -------------------- ---------- ---------- ----------
     1 \d                              0                      |
   0  |          0000                                        |
     1 \y                             --                     |
   -- |          xxxx                                        |
  ---- -------------------- ---------- ---------- ----------
     2 \d                              1                      |
   1  |          0001                                        |
     2 \y                             --                     |
   -- |          xxxx                                        |
  ---- -------------------- ---------- ---------- ----------
     3 \d                              2                      |
   2  |          0010                                        |
     3 \y                              0                      |
   0  |          0000                                        |
  ---- -------------------- ---------- ---------- ----------
     4 \d                              3                      |
   3  |          0011                                        |
     4 \y                              1                      |
   1  |          0001                                        |
  ---- -------------------- ---------- ---------- ----------
     5 \d                             --                     |
   -- |           001x                                       |
     5 \y                              2                      |
   2  |          0010                                        |
  ---- -------------------- ---------- ---------- ----------
     6 \d                             --                     |
   -- |           xxxx                                       |
     6 \y                              3                      |
   3  |          0011                                        |
```


Figure 20. Solving a sequential SAT problem in the memdemo module from Fig. 14.

Yosys Application Note 012: Converting Verilog to BTOR

Ahmed Irfan and Clifford Wolf
April 2015

***Abstract*—Verilog-2005 is a powerful Hardware Description Language (HDL) that can be used to easily create complex designs from small HDL code. BTOR [3] is a bit-precise word-level format for model checking. It is a simple format and easy to parse. It allows to model the model checking problem over the theory of bit-vectors with one-dimensional arrays, thus enabling to model Verilog designs with registers and memories. Yosys [1] is an Open-Source Verilog synthesis tool that can be used to convert Verilog designs with simple assertions to BTOR format.**

I. Installation

Yosys written in C++ (using features from C++11) and is tested on modern Linux. It should compile fine on most UNIX systems with a C++11 compiler. The README file contains useful information on building Yosys and its prerequisites.

Yosys is a large and feature-rich program with some dependencies. For this work, we may deactivate other extra features such as TCL and ABC support in the `Makefile`.

This Application Note is based on GIT Rev. `082550f` from 2015-04-04 of Yosys [1].

II. Quick Start

We assume that the Verilog design is synthesizable and we also assume that the design does not have multi-dimensional memories. As BTOR implicitly initializes registers to zero value and memories stay uninitialized, we assume that the Verilog design does not contain initial blocks. For more details about the BTOR format, please refer to [3].

We provide a shell script `verilog2btor.sh` which can be used to convert a Verilog design to BTOR. The script can be found in the `backends/btor` directory. The following example shows its usage:

```
verilog2btor.sh fsm.v fsm.btor test
```

Listing 1. Using verilog2btor script

The script `verilog2btor.sh` takes three parameters. In the above example, the first parameter `fsm.v` is the input design, the second parameter `fsm.btor` is the file name of BTOR output, and the third parameter `test` is the name of top module in the design.

To specify the properties (that need to be checked), we have two options:

- We can use the Verilog `assert` statement in the procedural block or module body of the Verilog design, as shown in Listing 2. This is the preferred option.
- We can use a single-bit output wire, whose name starts with `safety`. The value of this output wire needs to be driven low when the property is met, i.e. the solver will try to find a model that makes the safety pin go high. This is demonstrated in Listing 3.

```
module test(input clk, input rst, output y);

  reg [2:0] state;

  always @(posedge clk) begin
    if (rst || state == 3) begin
      state <= 0;
    end else begin
      assert(state < 3);
      state <= state + 1;
    end
  end

  assign y = state[2];

  assert property (y !== 1'b1);

endmodule
```

Listing 2. Specifying property in Verilog design with `assert`

```
module test(input clk, input rst,
    output y, output safety1);

  reg [2:0] state;

  always @(posedge clk) begin
    if (rst || state == 3)
      state <= 0;
    else
      state <= state + 1;
  end

  assign y = state[2];

  assign safety1 = !(y !== 1'b1);

endmodule
```

Listing 3. Specifying property in Verilog design with output wire

We can run Boolector [2] 1.4.1[1] on the generated BTOR file:

```
$ boolector fsm.btor
unsat
```

Listing 4. Running boolector on BTOR file

We can also use nuXmv [4], but on BTOR designs it does not support memories yet. With the next release of nuXmv, we will be also able to verify designs with memories.

III. Detailed Flow

Yosys is able to synthesize Verilog designs up to the gate level. We are interested in keeping registers and memories when synthesizing the design. For this purpose, we describe a customized Yosys synthesis flow, that is also provided by the `verilog2btor.sh`

[1] Newer version of Boolector do not support sequential models. Boolector 1.4.1 can be built with picosat-951. Newer versions of picosat have an incompatible API.

script. Listing 5 shows the Yosys commands that are executed by `verilog2btor.sh`.

```
1  read_verilog -sv $1;
2  hierarchy -top $3; hierarchy -libdir $DIR;
3  hierarchy -check;
4  proc; opt;
5  opt_const -mux_undef; opt;
6  rename -hide;;;
7  splice; opt;
8  memory_dff -wr_only; memory_collect;;
9  flatten;;
10 memory_unpack;
11 splitnets -driver;
12 setundef -zero -undriven;
13 opt;;;
14 write_btor $2;
```

Listing 5. Synthesis Flow for BTOR with memories

Here is short description of what is happening in the script line by line:

1) Reading the input file.
2) Setting the top module in the hierarchy and trying to read automatically the files which are given as `include` in the file read in first line.
3) Checking the design hierarchy.
4) Converting processes to multiplexers (muxs) and flip-flops.
5) Removing undef signals from muxs.
6) Hiding all signal names that are not used as module ports.
7) Explicit type conversion, by introducing slice and concat cells in the circuit.
8) Converting write memories to synchronous memories, and collecting the memories to multi-port memories.
9) Flattening the design to get only one module.
10) Separating read and write memories.
11) Splitting the signals that are partially assigned
12) Setting undef to zero value.
13) Final optimization pass.
14) Writing BTOR file.

For detailed description of the commands mentioned above, please refer to the Yosys documentation, or run `yosys -h` *command_name*.

The script presented earlier can be easily modified to have a BTOR file that does not contain memories. This is done by removing the line number 8 and 10, and introduces a new command `memory` at line number 8. Listing 6 shows the modified Yosys script file:

```
read_verilog -sv $1;
hierarchy -top $3; hierarchy -libdir $DIR;
hierarchy -check;
proc; opt;
opt_const -mux_undef; opt;
rename -hide;;;
splice; opt;
memory;;
flatten;;
splitnets -driver;
setundef -zero -undriven;
opt;;;
write_btor $2;
```

Listing 6. Synthesis Flow for BTOR without memories

IV. Example

Here is an example Verilog design that we want to convert to BTOR:

```
module array(input clk);

  reg [7:0] counter;
  reg [7:0] mem [7:0];

  always @(posedge clk) begin
    counter <= counter + 8'd1;
    mem[counter] <= counter;
  end

  assert property (!(counter > 8'd0) ||
    mem[counter - 8'd1] == counter - 8'd1);

endmodule
```

Listing 7. Example - Verilog Design

The generated BTOR file that contain memories, using the script shown in Listing 5:

```
1 var 1 clk
2 array 8 3
3 var 8 $auto$rename.cc:150:execute$20
4 const 8 00000001
5 sub 8 3 4
6 slice 3 5 2 0
7 read 8 2 6
8 slice 3 3 2 0
9 add 8 3 4
10 const 8 00000000
11 ugt 1 3 10
12 not 1 11
13 const 8 11111111
14 slice 1 13 0 0
15 one 1
16 eq 1 1 15
17 and 1 16 14
18 write 8 3 2 8 3
19 acond 8 3 17 18 2
20 anext 8 3 2 19
21 eq 1 7 5
22 or 1 12 21
23 const 1 1
24 one 1
25 eq 1 23 24
26 cond 1 25 22 24
27 root 1 -26
28 cond 8 1 9 3
29 next 8 3 28
```

Listing 8. Example - Converted BTOR with memory

And the BTOR file obtained by the script shown in Listing 6, which expands the memory into individual elements:

```
1 var 1 clk
2 var 8 mem[0]
3 var 8 $auto$rename.cc:150:execute$20
4 slice 3 3 2 0
5 slice 1 4 0 0
6 not 1 5
7 slice 1 4 1 1
8 not 1 7
9 slice 1 4 2 2
10 not 1 9
11 and 1 8 10
12 and 1 6 11
13 cond 8 12 3 2
14 cond 8 1 13 2
15 next 8 2 14
16 const 8 00000001
17 add 8 3 16
18 const 8 00000000
19 ugt 1 3 18
20 not 1 19
21 var 8 mem[2]
22 and 1 7 10
23 and 1 6 22
24 cond 8 23 3 21
25 cond 8 1 24 21
26 next 8 21 25
27 sub 8 3 16
⋮
54 cond 1 53 50 52
55 root 1 -54
⋮
77 cond 8 76 3 44
78 cond 8 1 77 44
79 next 8 44 78
```

Listing 9. Example - Converted BTOR without memory

V. Limitations

BTOR does not support initialization of memories and registers, i.e. they are implicitly initialized to value zero, so the initial block for memories need to be removed when converting to BTOR. It should also be kept in consideration that BTOR does not support the x or z values of Verilog.

Another thing to bear in mind is that Yosys will convert multi-dimensional memories to one-dimensional memories and address decoders. Therefore out-of-bounds memory accesses can yield unexpected results.

VI. Conclusion

Using the described flow, we can use Yosys to generate word-level verification benchmarks with or without memories from Verilog designs.

References

[1] Clifford Wolf. The Yosys Open SYnthesis Suite. http://www.clifford.at/yosys/

[2] Robert Brummayer and Armin Biere, Boolector: An Efficient SMT Solver for Bit-Vectors and Arrays http://fmv.jku.at/boolector/

[3] Robert Brummayer and Armin Biere and Florian Lonsing, BTOR: Bit-Precise Modelling of Word-Level Problems for Model Checking
http://fmv.jku.at/papers/BrummayerBiereLonsing-BPR08.pdf
[4] Roberto Cavada and Alessandro Cimatti and Michele Dorigatti and Alberto Griggio and Alessandro Mariotti and Andrea Micheli and Sergio Mover and Marco Roveri and Stefano Tonetta, The nuXmv Symbolic Model Checker
https://es-static.fbk.eu/tools/nuxmv/index.php

Bibliography

[ASU86] Aho, Alfred V. ; Sethi, Ravi ; Ullman, Jeffrey D.: *Compilers: principles, techniques, and tools*. Boston, MA, USA : Addison-Wesley Longman Publishing Co., Inc., 1986. – ISBN 0–201–10088–6

[BHSV90] Brayton, R.K. ; Hachtel, G.D. ; Sangiovanni-Vincentelli, A.L.: Multilevel logic synthesis. In: *Proceedings of the IEEE* 78 (1990), Nr. 2, S. 264–300. http://dx.doi.org/10.1109/5.52213. – DOI 10.1109/5.52213. – ISSN 0018–9219

[CI00] Cummings, Clifford E. ; Inc, Sunburst D.: Nonblocking Assignments in Verilog Synthesis, Coding Styles That Kill. In: *SNUG (Synopsys Users Group) 2000 User Papers, section-MC1 (1 st paper*, 2000

[GW13] Glaser, Johann ; Wolf, Clifford: Methodology and Example-Driven Interconnect Synthesis for Designing Heterogeneous Coarse-Grain Reconfigurable Architectures. In: Haase, Jan (Hrsg.): *Advances in Models, Methods, and Tools for Complex Chip Design — Selected contributions from FDL'12*. Springer, 2013. – to appear

[HS96] Hachtel, G D. ; Somenzi, F: *Logic Synthesis and Verification Algorithms*. 1996

[IP-10] IEEE Standard for IP-XACT, Standard Structure for Packaging, Integrating, and Reusing IP within Tools Flows. In: *IEEE Std 1685-2009* (2010), S. C1–360. http://dx.doi.org/10.1109/IEEESTD.2010.5417309. – DOI 10.1109/IEEESTD.2010.5417309

[LHBB85] Lee, Kyu Y. ; Holley, Michael ; Bailey, Mary ; Bright, Walter: A High-Level Design Language for Programmable Logic Devices. In: *VLSI Design (Manhasset NY: CPM Publications)* (June 1985), S. 50–62

[STGR10] Shi, Yiqiong ; Ting, Chan W. ; Gwee, Bah-Hwee ; Ren, Ye: A highly efficient method for extracting FSMs from flattened gate-level netlist. In: *Circuits and Systems (ISCAS), Proceedings of 2010 IEEE International Symposium on*, 2010, S. 2610–2613

[Ull76] Ullmann, J. R.: An Algorithm for Subgraph Isomorphism. In: *J. ACM* 23 (1976), Januar, Nr. 1, S. 31–42. http://dx.doi.org/10.1145/321921.321925. – DOI 10.1145/321921.321925. – ISSN 0004–5411

[Ver02] IEEE Standard for Verilog Register Transfer Level Synthesis. In: *IEEE Std 1364.1-2002* (2002). http://dx.doi.org/10.1109/IEEESTD.2002.94220. – DOI 10.1109/IEEESTD.2002.94220

[Ver06] IEEE Standard for Verilog Hardware Description Language. In: *IEEE Std 1364-2005 (Revision of IEEE Std 1364-2001)* (2006). http://dx.doi.org/10.1109/IEEESTD.2006.99495. – DOI 10.1109/IEEESTD.2006.99495

[VHD04] IEEE Standard for VHDL Register Transfer Level (RTL) Synthesis. In: *IEEE Std 1076.6-2004 (Revision of IEEE Std 1076.6-1999)* (2004). http://dx.doi.org/10.1109/IEEESTD.2004.94802. – DOI 10.1109/IEEESTD.2004.94802

[VHD09] IEEE Standard VHDL Language Reference Manual. In: *IEEE Std 1076-2008 (Revision of IEEE Std 1076-2002)* (2009), 26. http://dx.doi.org/10.1109/IEEESTD.2009.4772740. – DOI 10.1109/IEEESTD.2009.4772740

[WGS+12] Wolf, Clifford ; Glaser, Johann ; Schupfer, Florian ; Haase, Jan ; Grimm, Christoph: Example-driven interconnect synthesis for heterogeneous coarse-grain reconfigurable logic. In: *FDL Proceeding of the 2012 Forum on Specification and Design Languages*, 2012, S. 194–201

[Wol13] Wolf, Clifford: *Design and Implementation of the Yosys Open SYnthesis Suite.* 2013. – Bachelor Thesis, Vienna University of Technology

Internet References

[16] C-to-Verilog. http://www.c-to-verilog.com/.

[17] Flex. http://flex.sourceforge.net/.

[18] GNU Bison. http://www.gnu.org/software/bison/.

[19] LegUp. http://legup.eecg.utoronto.ca/.

[20] OpenCores I^2C Core. http://opencores.org/project,i2c.

[21] OpenCores k68 Core. http://opencores.org/project,k68.

[22] openMSP430 CPU. http://opencores.org/project,openmsp430.

[23] OpenRISC 1200 CPU. http://opencores.org/or1k/OR1200_OpenRISC_Processor.

[24] Synopsys Formality Equivalence Checking. http://www.synopsys.com/Tools/Verification/FormalEquivalence/Pages/Formality.aspx.

[25] The Liberty Library Modeling Standard. http://www.opensourceliberty.org/.

[26] Armin Biere, Johannes Kepler University Linz, Austria. AIGER. http://fmv.jku.at/aiger/.

[27] Berkeley Logic Synthesis and Verification Group. ABC: A System for Sequential Synthesis and Verification. HQ Rev b5750272659f, 2012-10-28, http://www.eecs.berkeley.edu/~alanmi/abc/.

[28] M. group at Berkeley studies logic synthesis and verification for VLSI design. MVSIS: Logic Synthesis and Verification. Version 3.0, http://embedded.eecs.berkeley.edu/mvsis/.

[29] M. McCutchen. C++ Big Integer Library. http://mattmccutchen.net/bigint/.