Problem Set 3

Problem Set Issued: February 29, 2008
Problem Set Due: March 12, 2008

Problem 1: Critical Path Timing Analysis

From Lecture 9, the critical path is:

![Critical Path Diagram]

For each 4-bit carry bypass adder the critical path for generation of the carry out bit must go through one P, G unit (1 unit) and four full adders (4 units) for a total of 5 units.

Each BP signal BP, BP2, BP3, etc… is generated in parallel and equally affects the critical path so we only need to add the contribution of generating the carry out bit for a 4-bit adder once.

For the critical path computation we consider the path originating from the leftmost 4-bit adder because it must bypass the most 4-bit adder units (i.e. travel through the most 2:1 multiplexers).

For the case shown above we pass through three 2:1 multiplexers (3 units).

Finally, the critical path is dependent on the computation of the most significant sum bit (S15) which is a function of the propagate and carry-in bit (S15 = P15 xor Ci,15). Ci,15 is a function of the final 4-bit adder so the critical path must pass through an additional 4 full adders (4 units).

Adding up the critical path we have 5 + 3 + 4 = 12 units. In summary, that is 5 units for the first 4-bit adder, 3 units for the 2:1 multiplexers, and 4 units for the final sum bit, which is a function of Ci,15.

Problem 2: Twos Complement Multiplier

a) One solution is to conditionally convert x and y from 2’s complement to sign magnitude, multiply the two results, and then conditionally convert back. The condition can be performed using an XOR of each bit of the signal with the MSB of the signal, and then adding the MSB to the signal as shown below.
module mult8x8(x, y, z);
input [7:0] x, y;
output [15:0] z;

wire sign;
wire [7:0] a, b;
wire [15:0] c;

assign a = (8{x[7]}) ^ x + x[7];
assign b = (8{y[7]}) ^ y + y[7];
assign c = a * b;
assign sign = x[7] ^ y[7];
assign z = (16{sign}) ^ c + sign;
endmodule

We can test the multiplier by running it on a range of input values. You then take a look at the result and see if the answers are correct. One possible test bench could be:

`timescale 1ns / 1ps
module mult8x8_tb;
reg [7:0] x;
reg [7:0] y;
wire [15:0] z;
// uncomment the module you wish to test
// mult8x8 m8x8(x, y, z);
// signed_mult8x8 m8x8(x, y, z);

integer    i;
integer    j;
initial
    begin
        #100;
        x = 0;
        y = 0;

        for (i = 0; i < 16; i = i + 1)
            begin
                x = i;
                for (j = -8; j < 8; j = j + 1)
                    begin
                        y = j;
                        #50;
                        $display("%d * %d = %d", x, y, z);
                    end
                end
            end
end
endmodule
Here is the corresponding waveform:

![Figure 2. Waveform for mult8x8_tb](image)

b) Using the signed modifier only works in some implementations of Verilog. Luckily, the Xilinx tools have incorporated this functionality.

```verilog
module signed_mult8x8(x, y, z);
    input signed [7:0] x, y;
    output signed [15:0] z;

    assign z = x * y;
endmodule
```

**Problem 3: Generating Block RAMs**

a) Here are the steps needed to generate a 16x16 BRAM.

Right click in the “Sources” window and select the “New Source…” option. This will open a new window where you can name your module and say what kind of file you would like it to be.

![Figure 3. New Source window](image)

Click next to open up the core selection window and choose “Memories & Storage Elements/RAMs & ROMs/Single Port Block Memory v6.2”.

Click next, and then click finish. The core generator window will now appear. The default settings will do for this application. You only need to change the width and depth to be 16 and 16 respectively.

Click the button that says “Generate”. The module that you created should now appear in your “Sources” window.

b) After completing part a, you can now write a testbench as you normally would. Here is one possible testbench that writes 0x6363 to location 5, reads from location 12, and then reads from location 5 to show that the data was written correctly.
module test_mem_v;

    // Inputs
    reg [3:0] addr;
    reg clk;
    reg [15:0] din;
    reg we;

    // Outputs
    wire [15:0] dout;

    // Instantiate the Unit Under Test (UUT)
    bram_16x16 uut (
        .addr(addr),
        .clk(clk),
        .din(din),
        .dout(dout),
        .we(we)
    );

    always #5 clk <= ~clk;
    initial begin
        // Initialize Inputs
        addr = 0;
        clk = 0;
        din = 0;
        we = 0;

        // Wait 100 ns for global reset to finish
        #100;
        // falling edge at multiples of 10,
        // therefore the values below will be
        // settled by the time the rising edge comes
        addr = 4'h5;
        din = 16'h6363;
        we = 1'b1;
        #10;

---

Figure 7. Screenshot of 16x16 BRAM testbench
// we've satisfied the hold time so
// _we_ can be deasserted and the address
// can be modified
we = 0;
addr = 4'hc;
din = 16'h3c3c;
#10;
// check to see if our data was written
addr = 4'h5;

end

endmodule
Problem 4: Introduction to Video

a) Here is the code for a video controller:

```
// This module provides control signals to the ADV7125
// such that the resolution is 640x480 and the refresh
// rate is 75Hz.

// hsync is active low: high for 640 pixels of active video,
// high for 16 pixels of front porch,
// low for 96 pixels of hsync,
// high for 48 pixels of back porch

// vsync is active low: high for 480 lines of active video,
// high for 11 lines of front porch,
// low for 2 lines of vsync,
// high for 32 lines of back porch

module vga (pixel_clock, reset, hsync, vsync, sync_b,
            blank_b, pixel_count, line_count);

input pixel_clock; // 31.5 MHz pixel clock
input reset; // system reset
output hsync; // horizontal sync
output vsync; // vertical sync
output sync_b; // hardwired to Vdd
output blank_b; // composite blank
output [9:0] pixel_count; // number of the current pixel
output [9:0] line_count; // number of the current line

// 640x480 75Hz parameters

parameter PIXELS = 800;
parameter LINES = 525;
parameter HACTIVE_VIDEO = 640;
parameter HFRONT_PORCH = 16;
parameter HSYNC_PERIOD = 96;
parameter HBACK_PORCH = 48;
parameter VACTIVE_VIDEO = 480;
parameter VFRONT_PORCH = 11;
parameter VSYNC_PERIOD = 2;
parameter VBACK_PORCH = 32;

// current pixel count
reg [9:0] pixel_count = 10'b0;
reg [9:0] line_count = 10'b0;
```
// registered outputs
reg       hsync = 1'b1;
reg       vsync = 1'b1;
reg       blank_b = 1'b1;
wire      sync_b; // connected to Vdd
wire      pixel_clock;
wire [9:0] next_pixel_count;
wire [9:0] next_line_count;

always @ (posedge pixel_clock)
begin
    if (reset)
    begin
        pixel_count <= 10'b0;
        line_count <= 10'b0;
        hsync <= 1'b1;
        vsync <= 1'b1;
        blank_b <= 1'b1;
    end
    else
    begin

        pixel_count <= next_pixel_count;
        line_count <= next_line_count;

        hsync <=
            (next_pixel_count < HACTIVE_VIDEO + HFRONT_PORCH) |
            (next_pixel_count >= HACTIVE_VIDEO+HFRONT_PORCH+HSYNC_PERIOD);

        vsync <=
            (next_line_count < VACTIVE_VIDEO+VFRONT_PORCH) |
            (next_line_count >= VACTIVE_VIDEO+VFRONT_PORCH+VSYNC_PERIOD);

        // this is the and of hblank and vblank
        blank_b <=
            (next_pixel_count < HACTIVE_VIDEO) &
            (next_line_count < VACTIVE_VIDEO);

    end
end

// next state is computed with combinational logic
assign next_pixel_count = (pixel_count == PIXELS-1) ? 10'h000 : pixel_count + 1'b1;
assign next_line_count = (pixel_count == PIXELS-1) ? (line_count == LINES-1) ? 10'h000 : line_count + 1'b1 : line_count;
// since we are providing hsync and vsync to the display, we
// can hardwire composite sync to Vdd.
assign sync_b = 1'bl;

endmodule
b) Here is a screenshot of what your waveform should look like

![Figure 8. VGA testbench waveform](image)

The verilog code that was used to produce this waveform and test the VGA module is this:

```verilog
`timescale 1ns / 1ps
module vga_tb_v;

// Inputs
reg pixel_clock;
reg reset;

// Outputs
wire hsync;
wire vsync;
wire sync_b;
wire blank_b;
wire [9:0] pixel_count;
wire [9:0] line_count;

// Instantiate the Unit Under Test (UUT)
vga uut (  
    .pixel_clock(pixel_clock),
    .reset(reset),
    .hsync(hsync),
    .vsync(vsync),
    .sync_b(sync_b),
    .blank_b(blank_b),
    .pixel_count(pixel_count),
    .line_count(line_count)
);  
// define smaller parameters  
// so that simulation runs in a  
// reasonable amount of time  
defparam uut.PIXELS = 18;  
defparam uut.Lines = 11;  
defparam uut.HACTIVE_VIDEO = 10;  
defparam uut.HFRONT_PORCH = 2;  
defparam uut.HSYNC_PERIOD = 4;  
defparam uut.HBACK_PORCH = 2;  
defparam uut.VACTIVE_VIDEO = 3;  
defparam uut.VFRONT_PORCH = 3;  
defparam uut.VSYNC_PERIOD = 2;  
defparam uut.VBACK_PORCH = 3;  
always #5 pixel_clock <= ~pixel_clock;
```
initial begin
    // Initialize Inputs
    pixel_clock = 0;
    reset = 0;

    // Wait 100 ns for global reset to finish
    #100;
    #5;
    reset = 1;
    #10;
    reset = 0;
    #2000;

end

endmodule
There are multiple ways to implement the checkerboard pattern. You can count how many lines and pixels have occurred for example. If you divide the screen into 10 regions of 64x48 pixels, then you can use the sixth bit of the pixel count to change the order that colors are output by the logic that generates the rows across the screen. The code below takes a different approach to demonstrate how you can use “for” loops to generate module descriptions for you. Here we just enumerate the regions where the select bit of a mux is a 1 or a 0, then use that bit to choose the output from the second set of logic. You might be able to do something like this to generate different on-screen parts of your pong lab.

```verilog
module checkerboard(pixel, line, red, green, blue);
  input [9:0] pixel, line;
  output [7:0] red, green, blue;

  reg [7:0]    red, green, blue;
  reg flip;

  parameter WIDTH = 640;
  parameter HEIGHT = 480;
  parameter ROW_HEIGHT = 96;
  parameter COL_WIDTH = 128;
  integer     i,j;

  always @ (pixel or line or flip)
  begin
    flip = 0;

    for (j = 0; j < 10; j = j + 1)
    begin
      if ((j*ROW_HEIGHT/2 <= line) &&
          (line < (j+1)*ROW_HEIGHT/2))
        begin
          flip = ((j%2)==0);
        end
    end

    for (i = 0; i < 10; i = i + 1)
    begin
      if ((i*COL_WIDTH/2 <= pixel) &&
          (pixel < (i+1)*COL_WIDTH/2))
        begin
          {red, green, blue} = flip ?
            (((i%2)==0) ? 24'h000000 : 24'hffffff):
            (((i%2)==0) ? 24'hffffff : 24'h000000);
        end
    end
  endmodule // checkerboard
```