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Scheduling Toolbox for MATLAB

Reference Guide

Version 1.0

Scheduling Toolbox for MATLAB Reference Guide © H.J. Lincklaen Arriëns 2006
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Table of Contents

Categorical Listing of Functions	2
Alphabetical Listing of Functions	4
ALAP	5
ALU	6
ASAP	7
cirInfo	8
fixp2hex	9
forceD	10
gen_INP	11
gen_mTB	12
hex2fixp	16
listSched	17
MUL	18
parse	19
read_OUT	20
${ m show} { m Distrib}$	21
showGraph	22
toAdjMat	23
toSFixp	24
toUFixp	25
view_cir_IO	26
xplore	27
schedGUI	28
Structure and syntax of the .cir file	30
Signed fixed-point notation	34
Setup of the .INP- and .OUT-files	36
Simulation timing setup	37
Overview of the Software Environment	38
VHDL resources	39

Categorical Listing of Functions

MATLAB resource descriptions simulating their VHDL behavior		
ALU	Simulate the behavior of the VHDL description of a registered ALU.	
MUL	Simulate the behavior of the VHDL description of a MULtiplier.	

Scheduling functions	
ALAP	Find the SSG using the ALAP method.
ASAP	Find the SSG using the ASAP method.
forceD	Find the SSG using the Force Directed Scheduling method.
listSched	Find the SSG using a List Scheduling method.

Fixed-point translation and manipulation functions		
fi xp2hex	Convert a signed value to a hex string represented by fxd-bits.	
hex2fi xp	Convert a hex string given by fxd-bits into its signed decimal equivalent.	
toSFi xp	Converts a signed fractional value to fit in SFxd bits.	
toUFi xp	Converts a signed fractional value to fit in UFxd bits.	

Info, Graph and schedule viewers		
cirlnfo	Extract and display some information from a .cir-file.	
read_0UT	Convert the hex data in an .OUT-file into decimal format.	
schedGUI	M-file for schedGUI.fig	
showDi stri b	Plot resource usage versus clock STATEs.	
showGraph	Converts 'graph.dot' to an image and opens a viewer to show it.	
vi ew_ci r_I 0	Graphical view of input circuit description.	
xpl ore	Plot design evaluation space information for a cir-file description.	

Testbench and MATLAB / VHDL file generators		
gen_mTB	Create MATLAB reference testbench files.	
gen_VHD	Create testbench, wrapper and SSG-module VHDL-files.	

Utilities, mostly for internal use only		
axDrag2	Pan and zoom with mouse and simple keystrokes.	
groupl 0s	For internal use only.	
hpgPl ot	Plot a .hpg-file in schedGUI's preview window.	
lifeTimes	For internal use only (registered outputs in resources assumed).	
mapResources	For internal use only (registered outputs in resources assumed).	
parse	Read and convert a .cir-file into internal data format.	
schedul e	Determines a time schedule (SSG).	
showREGs	Plot REGister usage.	
startup	Setup paths for msclab_et4054.	
toAdj Mat	Converts an interconnection table into an adjacency matrix.	

Graphical User Interface	e
schedGUI	GUI that combines most of the above mentioned functions.

Alphabetical Listing of Functions

for general use

ALAP	Find the SSG using the ALAP method.		
ALU	Simulate the behavior of the VHDL description of a registered ALU.		
ASAP	Find the SSG using the ASAP method.		
cirlnfo	Extract and display some information from a .cir-file.		
fi xp2hex	Convert a signed value to a hex string represented by fxd-bits.		
forceD	Find the SSG using the Force Directed Scheduling method.		
gen_I NP	Write data into the correct format for an .INP-file.		
gen_mTB	Create MATLAB reference testbench files.		
gen_VHD	Create testbench, wrapper and SSG-module VHDL-files.		
hex2fi xp	Convert a hex string given by fxd-bits into its signed decimal equivalent.		
listSched	Find the SSG using a List Scheduling method.		
MUL	Simulate the behavior of the VHDL description of a MULtiplier.		
parse	Read and convert a .cir-file into internal data format.		
read_OUT	Convert the hex data in an .OUT-file into decimal format.		
schedGUI	M-file for schedGUI.fig		
showDi stri b	Plot resource usage versus clock STATEs.		
showGraph	Converts 'graph.dot' to an image and opens a viewer to show it.		
toAdj Mat	Converts an interconnection table into an adjacency matrix.		
toSFi xp	Converts a signed fractional value to fit in SFxd bits.		
toUFi xp	Converts a signed fractional value to fit in UFxd bits.		
view_cir_I0	Graphical view of input circuit description.		
xpl ore	Plot design evaluation space information for a cir-file description.		

for internal use only

axDrag2	Pan and zoom with mouse and simple keystrokes.	
groupl 0s	For internal use only.	
hpgPl ot	Plot a .hpg-file in schedGUI's preview window.	
lifeTimes	For internal use only (registered outputs in resources assumed).	
mapResources	For internal use only (registered outputs in resources assumed).	
schedul e	Determines a time schedule (SSG).	
showREGs	Plot REGister usage.	
startup	Setup paths for msclab_et4054.	

ALAP

Purpose Find the SSG using the ALAP method.

Syntax tFrames = ALAP(adj Mat, del ayVec)

Description tFrames = ALAP(adj Mat, del ayVec) returns a two-column vector tFrames

describing the SSG (Scheduled Sequencing Graph) of the operations when scheduled according to the ALAP (As Late As Possible) method (no resource

constraints).

The unscheduled flow has to be given in adj Mat with the clock delays per resource type (e.g. MUL, ALU) as integer number of clock cycles specified in

del ayVec.

Examples

See Also ASAP Find the SSG using the ASAP method.

forceD Find the SSG using the Force Directed Scheduling method.

Find the SSG using the List Schedu;ing method.

Read and convert a .cir-file into internal data format.

toAdj Mat Converts an interconnection table into an adjacency matrix.

ALU

Purpose Simulate the behavior of the VHDL description of a registered ALU.

Syntax result = ALU(op1, op2, fxd, opcode)

Description result = ALU(op1, op2, fxd, opcode) returns the result of the operation as

specified in opcode. Here op1 and op2 are two signed fixed-point input variables, while result is the output in the same signed fixed-point format. This format has to be given in the vector fxd as [N M], where N denotes the total

number of bits, while M defines the number of fractional bits.

Valid opcodes are 'add' and 'sub'.

[result, overflow] = ALU(op1, op2, fxd, opcode, ovMode) also signals the correctness of the result in 'overflow'. A zero means that the result is unaltered and correct, overflow = 1 means that the result has been 'wrapped' (e.g. bits left of msb has been skipped) if ovMode = 'wrap' (the default choice), or has been saturated to its highest positive value or lowest negative value when

ovMode = 'sat' has been specified.

Examples

See Also MUL simulate the behavior of the VHDL description of a registered multiplier.

ASAP

Purpose Find the SSG using the ASAP method.

Syntax tFrames = ASAP(adj Mat, del ayVec)

Description tFrames = ASAP(adj Mat, del ayVec) returns a two-column vector tFrames

describing the SSG (Scheduled Sequencing Graph) of the operations when scheduled according to the ASAP (As Soon As Possible) method (no resource

constraints).

The unscheduled flow has to be given in adj Mat with the clock delays per resource type (e.g. MUL, ALU) as integer number of clock cycles specified in

del ayVec.

Examples

See Also ALAP Find the SSG using the ALAP method.

forceD Find the SSG using the Force Directed Scheduling method.

Find the SSG using the List Schedu;ing method.

parse Read and convert a .cir-file into internal data format.

toAdj Mat Converts an interconnection table into an adjacency matrix.

cirInfo

Purpose Extract and display some information from a .cir-file.

Syntax cirInfo(cirFilename)

Description cirinfo lists in the console window the total number of operations, and the

numbers of multiplications, ALU operations, coefficients, and delay elements. Also the number of external inputs and outputs are listed, followed by the input $\frac{1}{2}$

and output identifier names.

cirInfo can be used as a first test to check a .cir-file for the absence of errors.

Examples >> cirInfo('FIR5.cir')

```
totally 11 operations, of which
    6 multiplications, and
    5 ALU operations.
6 constant coefficients
5 delay elements
1 input(s): i0
1 output(s): o5
>>
```

See Also

fixp2hex

Purpose Convert a signed value to a hex string represented by fxd-bits.

Syntax hexStr = fi xp2hex(decVal, fxd)

Description hexStr = fi xp2hex(decVal, fxd) checks whether the decimal figure decVal

fits in the given fxd bits and if so, returns its hexadecimal representation as a

string.

fxd is supposed to be a two-element vector [N M], where N defines the total number of available bits and M defines the number of bits to the right of the

binary point.

If M is too low to exactly represent decVal, decVal will be truncated.

An error message is issued when N-M should be too low to represent the signed

integer part of decVal.

decVal itself can be a vector of fractional decimals.

Examples

See Also hex2fi xp Convert a hex string given by fxd-bits into its signed decimal

equivalent.

toSFi xp Converts a signed fractional value to fit in SFxd bits.

toUFi xp Converts an unsigned fractional value to fit in UFxd bits.

forceD

Purpose Find the SSG using the Force Directed Scheduling method.

Syntax tFrames = forceD(adj Mat, mul Ops)

Description tFrames = forceD(adj Mat, mul Ops) returns a two-column vector tFrames

describing the SSG (Scheduled Sequencing Graph) of the operations $\$ when scheduled according to the Force Directed Scheduling method with optimal

resource distribution.

NOTE: At the moment, the latency of the resources (MUL, ALU) is expected

to be one clock cycle.

The unscheduled flow has to be given in adj Mat, while in the vector mul Ops the resource type of the operations should be specified (a 1 means a multiplication).

Examples

See Also ALAP Find the SSG using the ALAP method.

ASAP Find the SSG using the ASAP method.

Find the SSG using the List Schedu;ing method.

Read and convert a .cir-file into internal data format.

toAdj Mat Converts an interconnection table into an adjacency matrix.

Reference Force-Directed Scheduling for the Behavioral Synthesis of ASIC's,

Pierre G. Paulin and John P. Knight,

IEEE Trans on Computer-Aided Design, Vol. 8, No. 6, JUNE 1989, pages 661-679

gen INP

Purpose Write data into the correct format for an .INP-file.

Syntax gen_I NP(i npFi I ename, fxd, coeffs, i npSi g)

Description

gen_INP(inpFilename, fxd, coeffs, inpSig) creates the file inpFilename and writes sequentially first all coefficients line by line, and next inpSig line by line in a VHDL hex representation of the fxd format to this file. The format and the start of the coefficients and the input sections will be marked with comment lines. All data values are 'rounded' before they are converted to fixed-point.

Examples

```
>> load coeffs_FIR5.mat
>> coeffs
coeffs =
    'c0'
            [-0.07556556070608]
    'c1'
            [ 0.09129209297815]
    'c2'
            [ 0.47697917208036]
    'c3'
            [ 0.47697917208036]
    'c4'
            [ 0.09129209297815]
    'c5'
            [-0.07556556070608]
>> gen_INP( 'FIR5.INP', [17 15], coeffs, -1:0.4:1 )
>> type FIR5.INP
-- [17 15] fixed-point format
-- coefficients: c0,c1,c2,c3,c4,c5
x"1F654"
x"00BAF"
x"03D0E"
x"03D0E"
x"00BAF"
x"1F654"
-- input function
x"18000"
x"1B333"
x"1E666"
x"0199A"
x"04CCD"
x"08000"
```

.INP-file format See Chapter "INP and OUT-files".

See Also read_OUT Convert the hex data in an .OUT-file into decimal format.

gen_mTB

Purpose

Create MATLAB reference testbench files.

Syntax

```
gen_mTB(ci rFi I ename, toScreen, schedMethod, varargi n)
coeffsSeq = GEN_MTB(ci rFi I ename, toScreen, schedMethod, varargi n)
```

Description

gen_mTB(cirFilename, toScreen, schedMethod, varargin) creates two MATLAB files:

a description of the SSG given in cirFilename, and a testbench-file which calls this SSG.

If toScreen is 1, these are written to the screen; if 0, they are written to disk. If cirFilename should be NAME. cir, they can be found in (a newly created directory) NAME\matlab.

• The (top-level) testbench-file will be named testbench_NAME_auto. m (see its HELP function), the SSG-file TB_NAME_auto. m. Input data for the testbench is expected to be found (line by line) in a (user created) file named NAME. INP, and output will be written to a file NAME. OUT, both in the directory NAME\matlab.

schedMethod specifies the scheduling method to be used, and can be 'ASAP', 'ALAP', 'forceD' or 'LIST'.

The parameters that follow schedMethod (indicated with varargi n here) are dependant on the method chosen, and may be values for del ayMUL, del ayALU, nMULs and/or nALUs:

- del ayMUL and del ayALU are the latencies of resp. MULtipliers and ALUs in integer multiples of a clock cycle. They are optional for 'ASAP' and 'ALAP' (default, if not specified, is 1 cycle each). At this moment they are not needed for 'forceD' (both fixed to 1). For the 'LIST' method, each of the delays needs to be specified.
- nMULs and nALUs are the number of available MULtipliers and ALUs, and have to be specified for the 'LIST' method only.

coeffsSeq = $gen_mTB(cirFilename, toScreen, schedMethod, varargin)$ also returns the names and the order of the coefficients that are expected in the . INP-file.

NOTE 1: gen_mTB expects to be run from the directory in which the . ci r-file resides.

NOTE 2: The fixed-point format of the .I NP-file should always match the format that is passed to the testbench.

Examples

```
gen_mTB( 'my_file.cir', 1, 'asap' )
gen_mTB( 'my_file.cir', 0, 'alap', 2,1 )
gen_mTB( 'my_file.cir', 0, 'forceD' )
coeffsSeq = gen_mTB( 'my_file.cir', 0, 'list', 1,1, 3,2 )
>> help testbench_my_file_auto
Syntax: TESTBENCH_ my_file_AUTO(SFxd3,DBG)
```

SFxd3 defines width of signed fractional fixed-point databus in vector $[N\ M\ x]$, where N is the total number of bits of the external I/O bus from which M are fractional bits.

 \boldsymbol{x} defines an additional number of bits with which \boldsymbol{N} should be extended inside the SSG.

If DBG = 1, intermediate results are printed.

Needs 'MY_FILE.INP' in current directory to read input data from, writes 'MY_FILE.OUT' with results.

.INP-file format See Chapter "INP and OUT-files".

See Also gen_VHD Create testbench, wrapper and SSG VHDL-files.

gen_VHD

Purpose

Create testbench, wrapper and SSG-module VHDL-files.

Syntax

gen_VHD (ci rFi I ename, SFxd3, toScreen, schedMethod, varargi n)

Description

gen_VHD(ci rFi I ename, SFxd3, toScreen, schedMethod, varargi n) creates the VHDL files needed for simulation and synthesis (a testbench, a wrapper and the SSG-module VHDL-files).

SFxd3 should be a 3-element vector $[N\ M\ x]$, in which N indicates the external buswidth (signed fixed-point), M the number of bits of N to be used for the fraction part, and x an additional number of bits for extending (the whole-number part of) N inside the SSG (to allow for intermediate results greater or less than can be represented with N bits).

If toScreen is 1, the files are written to the screen; if 0, they are written to disk. If cirFilename should be NAME.cir, they can be found in (a newly created directory) NAME\vhdI.

The (top-level) testbench-file will be named testbench_NAME_auto. vhd, the wrapper file NAME_auto. vhd, and the SSG-file NAME_SSG_auto. vhd. For simulation all vhd-files placed in the directory are needed, e.g. also the files resources_regd. vhd and txt_util2. vhd. Input data for the testbench is expected to be found (line by line) in a (user created) file named NAME. INP, and output will be written to a file NAME. OUT

Synthesis needs the files resources_reg. vhd, NAME_SSG_auto. vhd and as top level file NAME_auto. vhd.

schedMethod specifies the scheduling method to be used, and can be 'ASAP', 'ALAP', 'forceD' or 'LIST'.

The parameters that follow schedMethod (indicated with varargi n here) are dependant on the method chosen, and may be values for del ayMUL, del ayALU, nMULs and/or nALUs:

- del ayMUL and del ayALU are the latencies of resp. MULtipliers and ALUs in integer multiples of a clock cycle. They are optional for 'ASAP' and 'ALAP' (default, if not specified, is 1 cycle each). At this moment they are not needed for 'forceD' (both fixed to 1). For the 'LIST' method, each of the delays needs to be specified.
- nMULs and nALUs are the number of available MULtipliers and ALUs, and have to be specified for the 'LIST' method only.

NOTE 1: gen_VHD expects to be run from the directory in which the . ci r-file resides.

NOTE 2: The fixed-point format of the .I NP-file should always match the format that is passed to the testbench.

Examples

```
gen_VHD( 'my_file.cir', [16 15 0], 1, 'asap' )
gen_VHD( 'my_file.cir', [16 15 2], 0, 'alap', 2,1 )
gen_VHD( 'my_file.cir', [32 30 4], 0, 'forceD' )
gen_VHD( 'my_file.cir,' [24 20 8], 0, 'list', 1,1, 3,2 )
```

```
The command
>> gen_VHD( 'FIR5.cir', [17 15 1], 0, 'asap')
will result in an entity definition in FIR5_auto. vhd that looks like:
entity FIR5 is
      generic ( N_g
                         : positive := 17;
                 M_g
                         : positive := 15;
                 NX_g
                         : positive := 18;
                 MUL_delay_g : Time := 5 ns;
                 ALU_delay_g : Time := 2 ns;
                 REG_del ay_g : Time := 2 ns );
      port (Clk
                         : in std_logic;
                           in std_logic;
             Reset
             New_Sample : in std_logic;
             C0 : in std_logic_vector(N_g-1 downto 0);
                   in std_logic_vector(N_g-1 downto 0);
                   in std_logic_vector(N_g-1 downto 0);
             C3 : in std_logic_vector(N_g-1 downto 0);
                   in std_logic_vector(N_g-1 downto 0);
             C5 :
                   in std_logic_vector(N_g-1 downto 0);
             10 : in std_logic_vector(N_g-1 downto 0);
             05 : out std_logic_vector(N_g-1 downto 0);
             Done
                         : out std_l ogi c;
             Error
                         : out std_logic
      );
end FIR5;
```

See Also gen_mTB Create MATLAB reference testbench files.

hex2fixp

Purpose Convert a hex string given by fxd-bits into its signed decimal equivalent.

Syntax decVal = hex2fi xp(hexStr, fxd)

Description decVal = hex2fi xp(hexStr, fxd) converts hexStr into a (possibly fractional)

signed decimal value in fxd bits.

fxd is supposed to be a two-element vector [N M], where N defines the total number of available bits and M defines the number of bits to the right of the binary point.

An error message is issued when decVal cannot be represented in the given

fxd bits.

hexStr can be an array of strings.

NOTE: usually MATLAB's 'format long' will be necessary to represent the result with enough decimals (avoid rounding to 'short' format).

Examples

See Also fi xp2hex Convert a signed value to a hex string represented by fxd-bits.

toSFi xp Converts a signed fractional value to fit in SFxd bits.

toUFi xp Converts an unsigned fractional value to fit in UFxd bits.

listSched

Purpose Find the SSG using a List Scheduling method.

Syntax tFrames = listSched(adj Mat, del ayVec, mul Ops, nMULs, nALUs)

Description tFrames = listSched(adj Mat, del ayVec, mul Ops, nMULs, nALUs) returns a two-

column vector 'tFrames' describing the SSG (Scheduled Sequencing Graph) of the operations when scheduled according to a specified List Scheduling method under resource constraints. The unscheduled flow has to be given in adj Mat with the latency per resource type (e.g. MUL, ALU) as integer number of clock

cycles specified in del ayVec.

In the vector mul Ops the resource type of the operations should be given (a 1 means a multiplication), and the available numbers of resources in nMULs and

nALUs.

Examples

See Also ALAP Find the SSG using the ALAP method.

ASAP Find the SSG using the ASAP method.

Find the SSG using the List Schedu;ing method.

Read and convert a .cir-file into internal data format.

toAdj Mat Converts an interconnection table into an adjacency matrix.

MUL

Purpose Simulate the behavior of the VHDL description of a registered MULtiplier.

Syntax result = MUL(op1, op2, fxd)

Description result = MUL(op1, op2, fxd) returns the (signed) result of the multiplication of

op1 and op2 (both signed).

The binary fixed-point format of result, as well as that of op1 and op2 should be given in the vector fxd as [N M], where N denotes the total number of bits,

while M defines the number of fractional bits.

Examples

See Also ALU simulate the behavior of the VHDL description of a registered ALU.

parse

Purpose Read and convert a .cir-file into internal data format.

Syntax CIRC_Data = parse(inFilename)

Description

CIRC_Data = parse(inFilename) extracts data from a textual circuit description in a .cir-file. The data returned in the structure CIRC_Data contains the following fields.

CIRC_Data. i ocDef CIRC_Data. i connTbl CIRC_Data. xconnTbl CIRC_Data. opTypes CIRC_Data. opNames CIRC_Data. i npNames CIRC_Data. outNames CIRC_Data. dl ydl nps

CIRC_Data. i ocDef is a string defining the characters that are used as the first character in an opName to identify inputs, outputs and constant coefficients with. CIRC_Data. i connTbI is a (number of operations x 4) array that describes the interconnections between the operations. The first column list the operation identification numbers (opi d#), where the corresponding type and name of an opi d# can be found in CIRC_Data. opTypes and CIRC_Data. opNames respectively. Columns 2 and 3 list the opi d#s of the operations that are connected to this opi d#'s inputs. A negative sign is used to indicate that the input is connected to an input port (i np#), the name of which can be found as entry i np# in the cell-vector CIRC_Data. i npNames.

Output ports (outp#) are given in column 4, while their names are listed in CIRC Data. outNames.

If no shift operations (<< or >>) are present, i connTbl is a one dimensional (number of operations,4) array, else a (number of operations,4,2) array.

```
opTypes: mul, add, sub, ...
CIRC_Data.xconnTbl
CIRC_Data.dlydInps
```

Examples

See Also Group! 0s ...

read_OUT

Purpose

Convert the hex data in an .OUT-file into decimal format.

Syntax

```
y = READ_OUT(outFilename, fxd2)
```

 $y = READ_OUT(outFilename, fxd2, nOutputs)$

y = READ_OUT(outFilename, fxd2, nOutputs, nFracDigits)

Description

 $y = READ_OUT(outFilename, fxd2)$ returns the hex data as read from outFilename in a decimal format specified by the vector fxd2 ([N M] fixed-point format). Output is also displayed in the console window.

 $y = READ_OUT(outFilename, fxd2, nOutputs)$ should be used if the circuit for which outFilename is valid, shows more then one outputs. y will become a column vector with as many rows as given by nOutputs.

y = READ_OUT(outFilename, fxd2, nOutputs, nFracDi gits) can be used to limit the number of fractional digits that are displayed in the console window (default the sum of the numbers of digits for the whole part, the fractional point and for the fractional part together is 17).

Examples

```
>> o5 = read_OUT('FIR5\vhdl\FIR5.OUT',[17 15],1,5);
 1: x"00000" = 0.00000
 2:
     x"00000" = 0.00000
  3: x"00000" = 0.00000
  4: x"1F654" = -0.07556
     x"00203" = 0.01572
  6: x"03F11" = 0.49271
 7: x"07C1F" = 0.96970
     x"087CE" =
                 1.06097
     x"07E22" = 0.98541
 10: x"07E22" = 0.98541
     x"07E22" = 0.98541
     x"07E22" = 0.98541
13: x"07E22" = 0.98541
```

.INP-file format

See Chapter "INP and OUT-files".

See Also

gen_I NP

Write data into the correct format for an .INP-file.

showDistrib

Purpose

Plot resource usage versus clock STATEs.

Syntax

showDi stri b(ci rFi l ename, schedMethod, varargi n)

Description

showDi strib(ci rFilename, schedMethod, varargin) determines and plot the usage of the MULtipliers and ALUs for the circuit described in ci rFilename, when scheduled with the method defined with schedMethod and the optionally additional parameters in varargin.

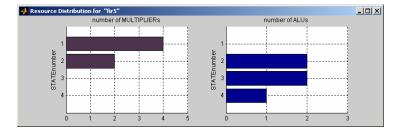
schedMethod specifies the scheduling method to be used, and can be 'ASAP', 'ALAP', 'forceD' or 'LIST'.

The parameters in varargi n are dependant on the method chosen, and may be values for del ayMUL, del ayALU, nMULs and/or nALUs:

- del ayMUL and del ayALU are the latencies of resp. MULtipliers and ALUs in integer multiples of a clock cycle. They are optional for 'ASAP' and 'ALAP' (default, if not specified, is 1 cycle each). At this moment they are not needed for 'forceD' (both fixed to 1). For the 'LIST' method, each of the delays needs to be specified.
- nMULs and nALUs are the number of available MULtipliers and ALUs, and have to be specified for the 'LIST' method only.

Examples

>> showDistrib('fir5.cir','forceD')



See Also

showGraph

Purpose Converts 'graph.dot' to an image and opens a viewer to show it.

Syntax showGraph(gFormat)

Description SHOWGRAPH(gFormat) displays the image- file that is described in 'graph. dot',

using the intermediate file 'graph. xxx' where xxx is replaced by the string

given in gFormat. Valid formats are 'png', 'j pg' and 'hpg'.

Usually, 'graph. dot' will have been created by schedGUI or by schedule.m.

Examples

See Also view_cir_IO Graphical view of cir-file description with In- and Outputs shown.

toAdjMat

Purpose Converts an interconnection table into an adjacency matrix.

Syntax adj Mat = TOADJMAT(i connTbl)

Description adj Mat = TOADJMAT(i connTbl), where i connTbl usually will be the

CIRC_Data. i connTbl output from parse. m. The adj Mat is a.o. needed as input

for the scheduling routines such as ASAP, ALAP, etc.

Examples

See Also parse Read and convert a .cir-file into internal data format.

toSFixp

Purpose Converts a signed fractional value to fit in SFxd bits.

Syntax SFi xValue = toSFi xp(decVal, SFxd)

Description SFi xValue = toSFi xp(decVal, SFxd) truncates (= towards minus infinity), if

needed, the signed decimal fractional decVal to fit in the given SFxd bits and

returns it in SFi xValue.

SFxd is supposed to be a two-element vector [N M], where N defines the total

number

of available bits and M defines the number of bits to the right of the binary point.

decVal can be a vector of signed fractional decimals.

SFi xValue = toSFi xp(decVal, SFxd, 'round') can be used to do a rounding

operation instead of just a truncation.

Examples

See Also fi xp2hex Convert a signed value to a hex string represented by fxd-bits.

hex2fi xp Convert a hex string given by fxd-bits into its signed decimal

equivalent.

toUFi xp Converts an unsigned fractional value to fit in UFxd bits.

toUFixp

Purpose Converts an unsigned fractional value to fit in UFxd bits.

Syntax UFi xVal ue = toUFi xp(decVal, UFxd)

Description UFi xValue = toUFi xp(decVal, UFxd) truncates (= towards minus infinity), if

needed, the unsigned decimal fractional decVal to fit in the given UFxd bits and

returns it in UFi xValue.

UFxd is supposed to be a two-element vector [N M], where N defines the total

number

of available bits and M defines the number of bits to the right of the binary point.

decVal can be a vector of signed fractional decimals.

Examples

See Also fi xp2hex Convert a signed value to a hex string represented by fxd-bits.

hex2fi xp Convert a hex string given by fxd-bits into its signed decimal

equivalent.

toSFi xp Converts a signed fractional value to fit in UFxd bits.

view cir IO

Purpose Graphical view of cir-file description with In- and Outputs shown.

Syntax view_cir_l0(cirFilename)

Description vi ew_ci r_I O(ci rFi I ename) shows the Data Flow Graph that is extracted from

the circuit-file cirFilename in a platform specific viewer.

An intermediate file graph_i o. png will be written in the current directory.

view_cir_IO(cirFilename, outType), where outType is a string, can be used to

specify different formats of the graph_i o-file. Valid formats besides 'png' are: 'hpg', 'jpg', ... If outType is empty, the 'png' format will be used.

vi ew_ci r_IO (ci rFi I ename, outType, topBottom) can be used to specify whether
the in and output connections may be displayed inside the graph (topBottom =
0, the default value), or should be put on seperate top and bottom lines outside
the graph (topBottom = 1).

Examples

See Also ShowGraph Opens a viewer to show image-file 'graph.xxx'.

xplore

Purpose Plot design evaluation space information for a cir-file description.

Syntax xplore(cirFilename)

xplore(cirFilename, costFacs)

xpl ore(ci rFi l ename, costFacs, del ayMUL, del ayALU)

Description

xpl ore(cirFilename) estimates the area or cost involved by different implementations of cirFilename based on the numbers of MULtipliers and ALUs available (and consequently the number of REGisters needed). All registers are taken into account, i.e. the registers needed for life-time extension, but also the feedback register (if present) and registers for each input and each output.

xpl ore (ci rFi l ename, costFacs) controls the relative areas, that are taken by MULtipliers, ALUs and REGisters with the vector costFacs. This should be a three element vector giving user definable costs factors for

[mul Cost al uCost regCost], e.g. [2 1.2 0.8].

xpl ore(ci rFi l ename, costFacs, del ayMUL, del ayALU) will perform the scheduling computations with the specified del ayMUL and del ayALU (both given in integer number of clock cycles).

Examples

See Also

schedGUI

The Graphical User Interface schedGUI can be used for quickly judging and comparing the results of different scheduling methods and scheduling parameters. It assumes a screen resolution of at least 1280×1024 to be displayed completely.

The tool can be started with schedGUI or (unfortunately not on MATLAB releases before R14) with schedGUI ('cirDir'). In case cirDir is specified, this will be schedGUI 's startup directory, otherwise schedGUI is started from the current directory. One of the .cir-files present in the startup directory can be selected for a scheduling operation.

Available scheduling methods are ASAP, ALAP, Force Directed and a List method. The List method is the only resource constrained method and needs to be informed how many multipliers and ALUs may be used at the same time.

With the ASAP, ALAP and List method, the latencies of the multipliers and ALUs can be specified (in numbers of integer clock cycles). By default, all resources will have a latency of only one clock cycle.

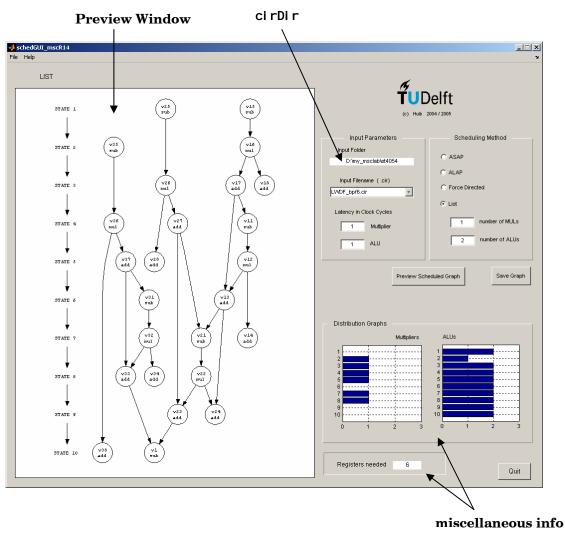


Figure 1. Screen-shot of the SchedGUI.

The result of the scheduling process, the SSG, (executed after pressing the Previ ew Schedul ed Graph button) will be made visible in the preview window. It is possible to pan and zoom out or in on this SSG with the mouse or some predefined keys (see the Menu item $Help \dashrightarrow PreviewPane\ Options$). Together with the SSG, additional information about the distribution of the multipliers and ALUs and the additional number of memory registers is listed.

The resulting SSG can then be written to an image file by pressing the Save Graph button. Supported formats in this case are 'png' and 'jpg'.

Switching to another cirDir is possible by selecting the Menu item *File --> Set Input Folder*. There is also a Menu item *File --> Print Preview*, but this one is not yet fully functional.

Drawing of the graphs is accomplished with the aid of software provided by the Graphviz (Graph Visualization Software) package. This software has originally been developed by AT&T Research, and is extended with additional tools in the course of time. Nowadays, it is licensed on an open source basis under The Common Public License. See also http://www.graphviz.org/

Structure and syntax of the .cir file

The input for the scheduling software is an ASCII text file (distinguishable by the extension '.cir'), in which basically all assignments (e.g. the operations to be performed) are written line by line. In the cir-file, one has to describe the operations that can be scheduled (a textual representation of a sequencing graph (SG)), and how this SG is connected to the outer world. Here, we will use an additional layer –the 'feedback and external I/O layer'– around the SG (which after scheduling will be an SSG) in which all feedback operations and connections have to be described: this information is thus a part of the cir-file, although not subjected to the scheduling process.

In fact, the cir-file is a description of a complete circuit (or circuit module).

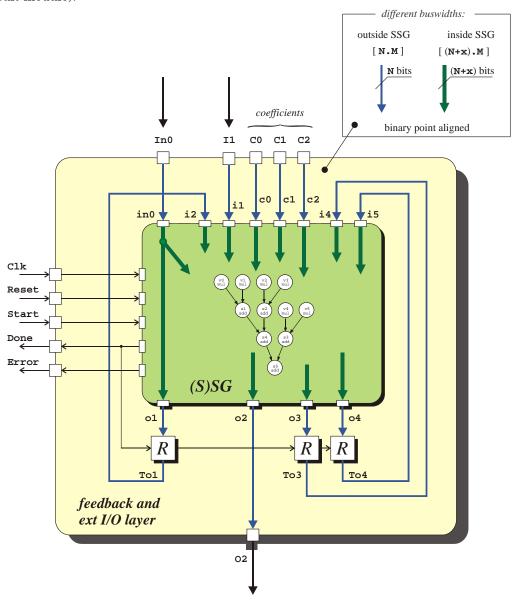


Figure 2. Concept of the cir-file description.

The concept of this setup is shown in Figure 2, for an arbitrary imaginable circuit with 2 external inputs, 1 external output and 3 coefficients.

The operations that are supported in the (S)SG are multiplications (integer shifts, see later), addition and subtractions. The feedback layer is intended for delay elements (registers) and connections. Connections between feedback layer and (S)SG vice versa, and connections to the outside world are established through **Input Ports** and **Output Ports**.

This hierarchy will be maintained when the cir-file is translated into MATLAB m-files and/or when translated into VHDL-entities and architectures.

There are some simple rules that should apply for the .cir-file to be valid:

Operations –which perform a multiplication, addition or subtraction– should be identified by a unique 'identifier' name. Such identifiers are also required for all input ports, output ports and coefficient ports. Delays are not part of the (S)SG and are connected to the (S)SG through (internal) input and output ports.

Identifiers are case sensitive and may consist only of characters and figures. The first character of an identifier indicates whether the identifier applies to an operation, input port, etc.

By default, identifiers starting with an

```
'i ' are reserved for input ports,'o' are reserved for output ports,'a' or 'c' are referring to coefficients (a special kind of inputs),
```

while all remaining characters can be used to indicate an operation (diacritic characters, underscores, etc. are not allowed).

Each operation will have two (2) inputs and one (1) output:

- **Inputs** are either connected to a previously terminated operation or an input port.
- An input which only appears at the right hand side(s) of (an) assignment(s), and never at a left hand side, is considered to be connected to an external input port.
- The **output** can be either connected to a next-in-line operation or to an output port.
- The result (e.g. the output) of an operation will have the same identifier name as the operation itself
- Floating input or outputs, as well as floating input ports and output ports, are considered
 erroneous.

An **Assignment** should have the form

Only one assignment per line is allowed.

Note that an input of an operation can be implicitly connected to an input port, as in

```
v1 = v2 - i1:
```

but that outputs have to be explicitly connected to (only one) operation, e.g.

```
o3 = v1;
```

Also note that it is common sense, given the fact that the names are displayed in output plots, to use relatively short identifiers.

Multiplications that are powers of 2 can be handled more efficiently by using a '**shift**' operation. In hardware, such a shift is just a change in bit-line interconnect.

A shift operation in the cir-file can be specified using the '>>' or '<<' operators.

A shift operation should consist of

- the identifier of the operation, the result of which should be shifted, or an input that should be shifted
- the shift operator, indicating the direction of the shift: << means a shift to the left (output value is larger than original value), while >> means a shift to the right (decreased output value, power of negative value)
- the integer number of bits (powers of two) to be shifted this all surrounded by parenthesis.

Note: The shift operation performs an arithmetic shift to the right, so the sign of the originating value is preserved. For shifts to the left, it's the user's responsibility that the shifted value is handled correctly.

All characters on a line following a '%' are considered to be a comment. The '%'-character can be the first one on a line, or can be following an assignment.

If for some reason you are not satisfied with the default start characters, it is possible to define your own identifiers by starting the cir-file (in any case before the first assignment) with the string

```
iocDef = 'xxxx';
```

where

- the first x is replaced with the new character to identify the inputs with,
- the second x with the new character for outputs, and
- the third and fourth x's with new characters for recognizing the coefficients.

e.g.

```
iocDef = 'XYab';
```

Remember that identifiers are case-sensitive.

Some remarks concerning the VHDL code for simulation and implementation.

Although not mentioned in the cir file, the VHDL code that will be generated for the circuit will define 5 other external control connections, viz.

- input ports for CI k and Reset,
- ports for the activation and completion signals: Start and Done, as well as
- an additional Error signal that will go high in case of overflow errors during calculations.

The SSG starts calculating at the first positive going clock edge of CI k, following a low-to-high transition of the Start-signal. At each following positive going CI k-edge, the next STATE is executed. Finally the Done signal is set high when the output value(s) are valid. Then the process can start all over again (see also the chapter about **Simulation timing setup**).

In the set-up used here, it is expected that the coefficients are passed to the circuit by means of a **.INP**-file. Changing the transfer characteristic of the filter –limited only by the structure used– is then very simple.

It is certainly possible, if the coefficients don't change during a simulation, to have them stored or hardwired in the **feedback and ext I/O layer**. This implies manually editing the VHDL-files or rewriting the MATLAB function.

From a computational point of view, it cannot be assumed that the data busses in the (S)SG should have the same width as in the feedback layer and the outside world. If intermediate computational results in the (S)SG would need additional bits, the bus inside the (S)SG can be made wider than the external bus.

This, however, is not influencing the cir-file and the scheduling process.

It does become crucial when simulating the circuit in MATLAB or VHDL. Indeed, it is with these functions, that this information has to be passed in the form of the fixed-point variables [N M] and [N M x]. See the next Chapter, **Signed fixed-point notation**, for a description of this notation.

Signed fixed-point notation

In most of the Digital Signal Processing designs, calculations are performed with the aid of fixed-point hardware instead of floating-point hardware. The added complexity and hardware resources that are needed by floating-point solutions are always more expensive then fixed-point solutions, and are usually only justifiable for systems with high dynamic ranges. In our filter design, we will also use a fixed-point implementation.

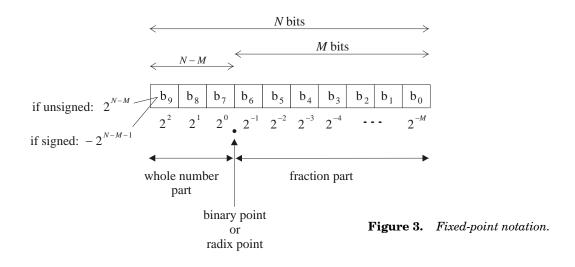
Surely, everyone is acquainted with the all integer representation, i.e. where we are dealing with only positive whole numbers. Since this is a severe limitation in calculations, it is a necessity to also be able to represent negative numbers. For this purpose, the 2's-complement method is the most widely used representation. In this representation, the MSB is assigned a negative weight (see Table B1). The most appealing advantage of this representation is the fact that no additional hardware is needed to perform additions and subtractions; the drawback is that negating a number is not merely an inversion of each bit since the number representation is asymmetrical.

	value	range
unsigned	$N_{UINT} = b_{N-1} 2^{N-1} + b_{N-2} 2^{N-2} + \dots + b_1 s^1 + b_0 s^0$	$0 \le N_{UINT} \le 2^{N-1}$
signed	$N_{SINT} = -b_{N-1}2^{N-1} + b_{N-2}2^{N-2} + \dots + b_1s^1 + b_0s^0$	$-2^{N-1} \le N_{SINT} \le (2^{N-1} - 1)$

Table 1. *N-bits integer representations* (2's complement for signed)

However, there is no reason why we should not insert a virtual binary point somewhere between the bits. In fact, for integer representations this point is just assumed to be to the right of the least significant bit. Inserting a binary point influences the weights of each bit, as is indicated in Figure 3, again for an N bits fixed point number. We distinguish a 'whole part' and a 'fraction part'.

The binary point itself is generally not coded, but its position has to be known by the software and/or the user: in our notation between the (M+1)th and the Mth bits from the right.



The relation between binary bits and decimal values, and the attainable ranges for these values, are tabulated in Table 2, given an N bit binary number of which M bits are fraction bits.

Table 2. [N M]-bits fixed point representations (2's complement for signed)

	value	range
unsigned	$N_{UMIX} = \sum_{i=M}^{N-1} b_i 2^{i-M} + \sum_{j=0}^{M-1} b_j 2^{j-M}$	$0 \le N_{UMIX} \le \left(2^{N-M} - \frac{1}{2^M}\right)$
signed	$N_{SMIX} = -b_{N-1} 2^{N-M-1} + \sum_{i=M}^{N-2} b_i 2^{i-M} + \sum_{j=0}^{M-1} b_j 2^{j-M}$	$-2^{N-M-1} \le N_{SMIX} \le \left(2^{N-M-1} - \frac{1}{2^M}\right)$

The difference between two consecutive numbers, the resolution, is thus $\frac{1}{2^M}$.

A special case is obtained when N=M+1. There is only one bit left of the binary point: the weighted sign bit which is either 0 or -1. All other bits are used to represent a fractional number less than 1. The exact range in this case can be calculated with

$$-1.0 \le N_{SFRAC} \le \left(1 - \frac{1}{2^M}\right)$$

Because of the usually lower number of bits compared with e.g. the number of bits used in MATLAB calculations, the conversion from MATLAB's "doubles" into fixed-point values will most certainly result in quantization errors (worst case errors amounts to 2^{-M} in case the translation is by

truncation, or maximally $\left| 2^{-M-1} \right|$ in case of rounding).

Together, all these quantization errors determine the final resulting computational accuracy.

In our software we use the notation [N M] to indicate a signed value with totally N bits, of which M are used for representing the fraction part: exactly as has been described above.

During the calculations, it is possible that intermediate computational results could only be represented using more then N bits. This can be the case e.g. when summing a number of positive and negative values, where the resulting value is known to always fit in the N bits. In such a case, we can increase the number of bits inside the SSG to the left of the MSB with x bits and denote it as [N M x]. Instead of N-M bits for the whole part, we now use N+x-M bits for the whole part. The software takes care for an appropriate handling of the sign-bit.

In the ALU. m, MUL. m and resources_reg. vhd files, one can see how the computations are exactly implemented.

Usually, we will use the hexadecimal (hex) format (also without a visual binary point) instead of the pure binary representation.

Setup of the .INP- and .OUT-files

The .INP file is an ASCII text file, that can be created with any plain text editor or with the aid of the gen_I NP MATLAB utility.

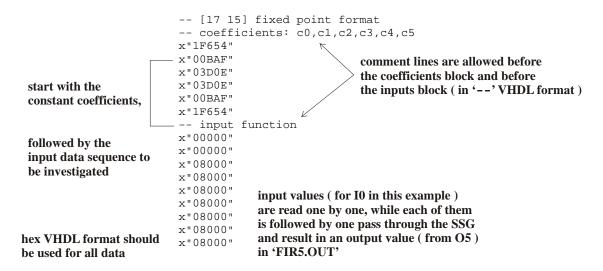
The .INP file contains

- optionally a number of comment lines (indicated by starting with --),
- all coefficients in hexadecimal format,
- optionally a number of comment lines.
- all input data in hexadecimal format.

The sequence in which the values of the coefficients should be entered, has been written in the MATLAB command window when gen_mTB had been run (normally, this is according to the identifiers of the coefficients sorted in ascending order).

Each data input line represents an input value for an (external) input port. If the circuit contains more than one input, the data lines represent the data for every input port for a particular sample. If all inputs have been handled, the data for the next sample follows, again for each input port. An example of a . I NP-listing for a 5th order FIR-filter (6 coefficients) with an input I 0 and an output called 05 is shown below.

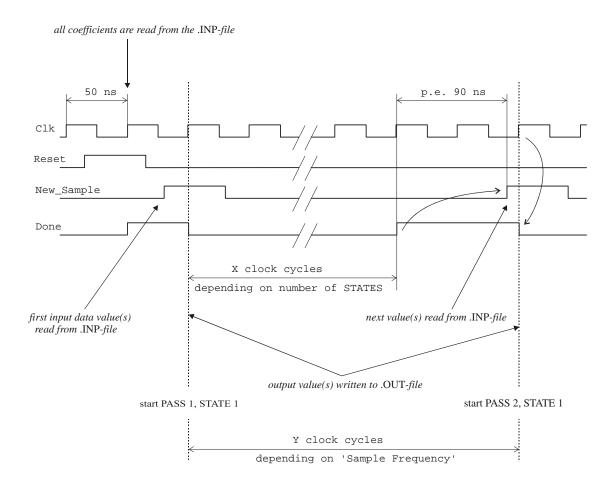
.INP-file format (both for MATLAB and VHDL)



The hex values above hold true for a [17 15] signed 2's complement fixed-point format, e.g. 2 bits for the integer part (of which the MSB reflects the weighted sign-bit) and 15 bits for the fractional part. So x''08000'' means $0_1.000_0000_0000_0000$, which is a '1' (unit step function as an input, starting at n=2). It will be clear that x''1F654'' (the first and last coefficients) represents a negative number since its sign bit is set.

In the .OUT-file, the same hex format will be used. Output is also written line by line, e.g. one data line for each output resulting from the same input sample, then the same procedure for the next sample, and so on. The .OUT-files are started with two comment lines, which a.o. lists the format in which the hex data has been written.

Simulation timing setup



The simulation starts each run with an initialization phase in which an asynchronous Reset is issued that clears all internal registers. At the first positive going edge of the (SSG/system) CI k when Reset is high, all coefficients from the .INP-file are read and the Done bit goes high to signal that the SSG is ready and awaiting.

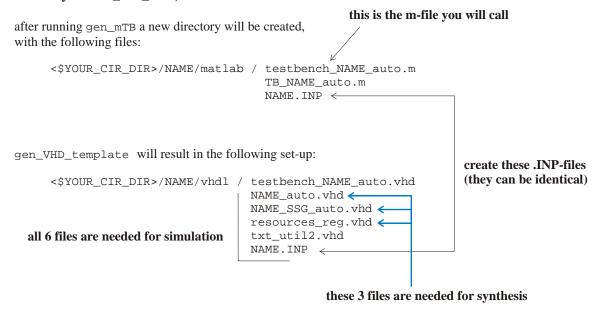
At each New_Sample (= Start) going high, a new input data value (or as many input values as there are external inputs) is (are) read from the .INP-file. At the first positive going edge of the clock, the SSG process sets Done low and starts with its first STATE. The STATES are advanced each clock period. Finally, its Done signal goes high again, and everything is halted until the next sample arrives. When this actually happens is, of course, determined by the sample frequency to SSG clock ratio and, when the sample frequency is relatively low, can take a large number of SSG clock cycles. In the simulation testbench, the time that a new sample pulse trails the Done edge is fixed and set to a value of 90 ns, slightly less then 2 clock periods (one CI k-period is set to 50 ns).

The .OUT-file is written each time that Done goes low with the same number of output values as there are external output ports.

Overview of the Software Environment

Both gen_mTB and gen_VHD will write a number of files in specific directories that will be created automatically when the programs are used for the first time.

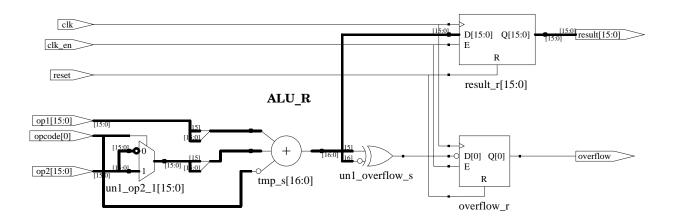
Suppose that you are working with a .cir-file called 'NAME. ci r' and that you saved this file in the directory '\$YOUR_CI R_DI R', then

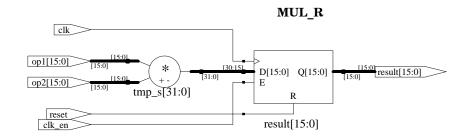


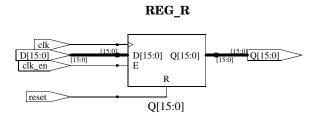
Both testbenches will write a file NAME.OUT in the directory from where they are run.

VHDL resources

If synthesized with Synplify Pro, the architectures described in resources_reg. vhd with their generic buswidths [17 15], viz. ALU_R, MUL_R and REG_R, look as shown below.







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