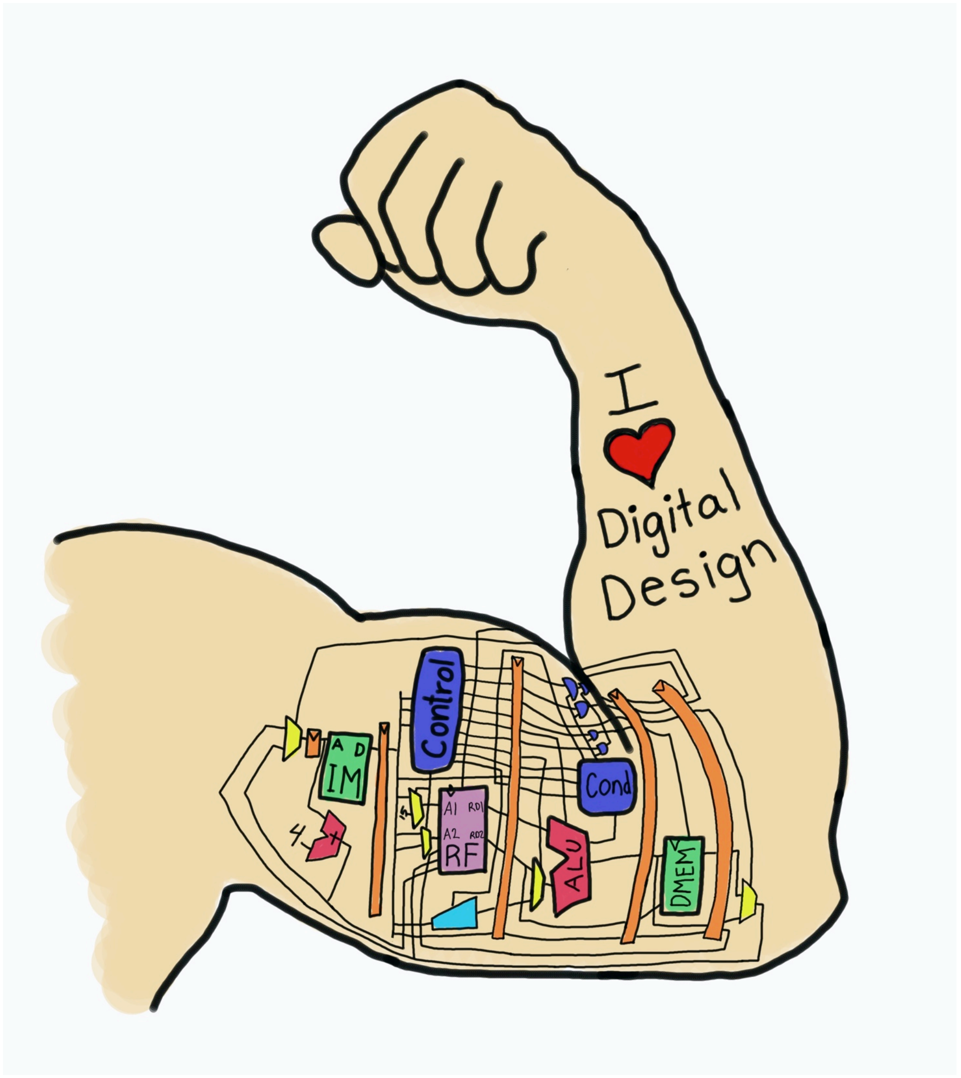
E85 Digital Design & Computer Engineering

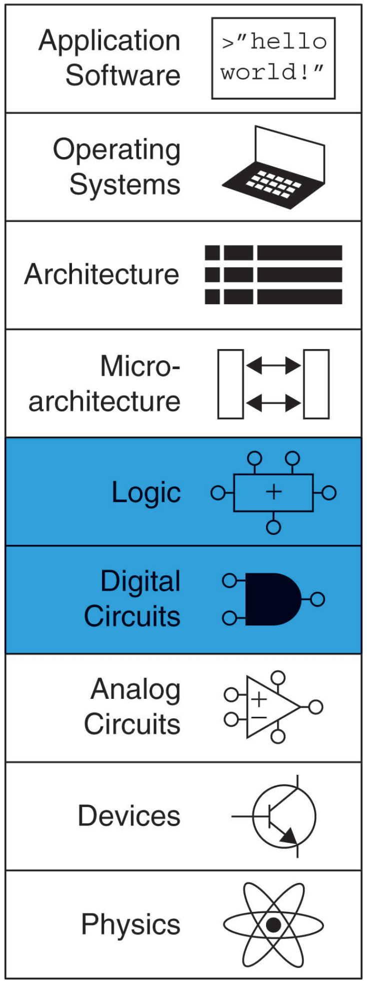


Lecture 6:
Hardware Description Languages: Verilog

HARVEY MUDD COLLEGE

Lecture 6

- **Introduction**
- **Combinational Logic**
- **Structural Modeling**
- **Sequential Logic**



Introduction

- Hardware description language (HDL):
  - specifies logic function only
  - Computer-aided design (CAD) tool produces or *synthesizes* the optimized gates
- Most commercial designs built using HDLs
- Two leading HDLs:
  - **SystemVerilog**
    - developed in 1984 by Gateway Design Automation
    - IEEE standard (1364) in 1995
    - Extended in 2005 (IEEE STD 1800-2009)
  - **VHDL 2008**
    - Developed in 1981 by the Department of Defense
    - IEEE standard (1076) in 1987
    - Updated in 2008 (IEEE STD 1076-2008)

HDL to Gates

- **Simulation**
  - Inputs applied to circuit
  - Outputs checked for correctness
  - Millions of dollars saved by debugging in simulation instead of hardware
- **Synthesis**
  - Transforms HDL code into a *netlist* describing the hardware (i.e., a list of gates and the wires connecting them)

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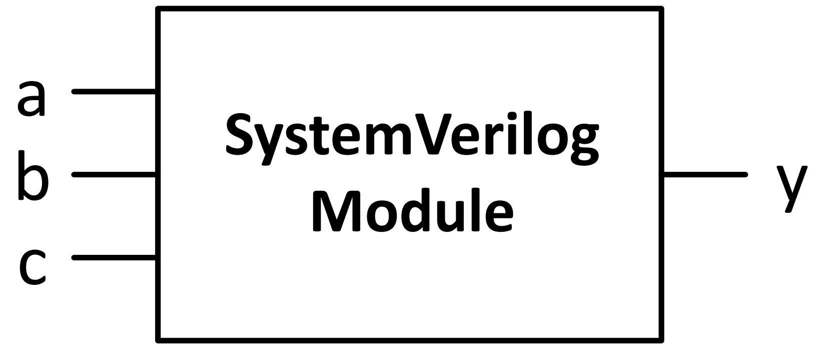
IMPORTANT: When using an HDL, think of the **hardware** the HDL should implies

SystemVerilog Modules



Two types of Modules:

- **Behavioral:** describe what a module does
- **Structural:** describe how it is built from simpler modules

Behavioral SystemVerilog

SystemVerilog:

```
module example(input  logic a, b, c,
               output logic y);
  assign y = ~a & ~b & ~c | a & ~b & ~c | a & ~b &  c;
endmodule
```

Behavioral SystemVerilog

SystemVerilog:

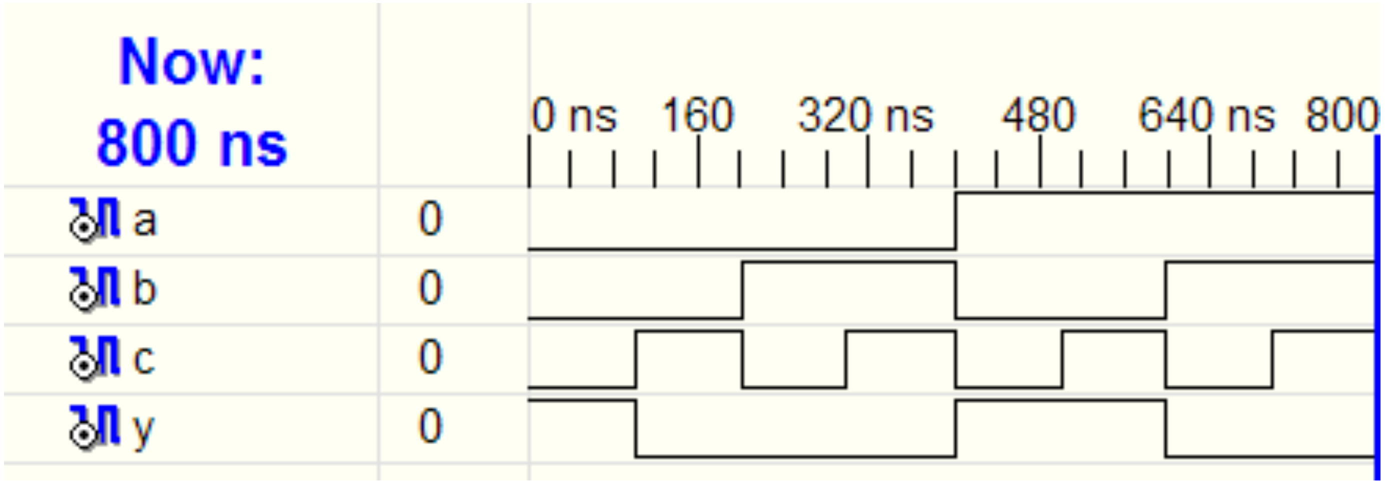
```
module example(input  logic a, b, c,
               output logic y);
  assign y = ~a & ~b & ~c | a & ~b & ~c | a & ~b &  c;
endmodule
```

- `module/endmodule`: required to begin/end module
- `example`: name of the module
- Operators:
  - `~`: NOT
  - `&`: AND
  - `|`: OR

HDL Simulation

SystemVerilog:

```
module example(input  logic a, b, c,
               output logic y);
  assign y = ~a & ~b & ~c | a & ~b & ~c | a & ~b &  c;
endmodule
```

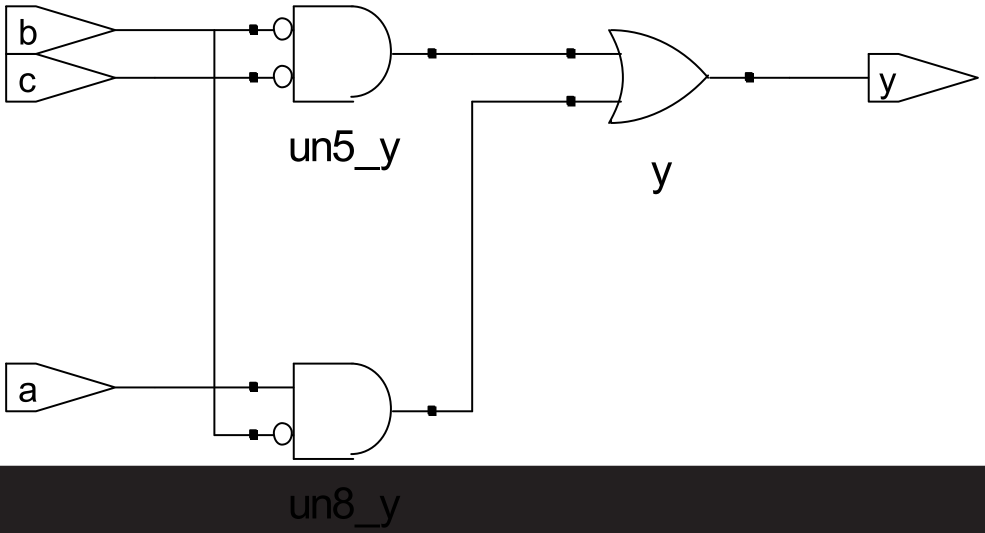


HDL Synthesis

SystemVerilog:

```
module example(input  logic a, b, c,
                      output logic y);
  assign y = ~a & ~b & ~c | a & ~b & ~c | a & ~b &  c;
endmodule
```

Synthesis:



SystemVerilog Syntax

- Case sensitive
  - **Example:** `reset` and `Reset` are not the same signal.
- No names that start with numbers
  - **Example:** `2mux` is an invalid name
- Whitespace ignored
- Comments:
  - `// single line comment`

  -
    ```
    /* multiline
           comment */
    ```

Structural Modeling - Hierarchy

```
module and3(input  logic a, b, c,
            output logic y);
  assign y = a & b & c;
endmodule


module inv(input  logic a,
           output logic y);
  assign y = ~a;
endmodule

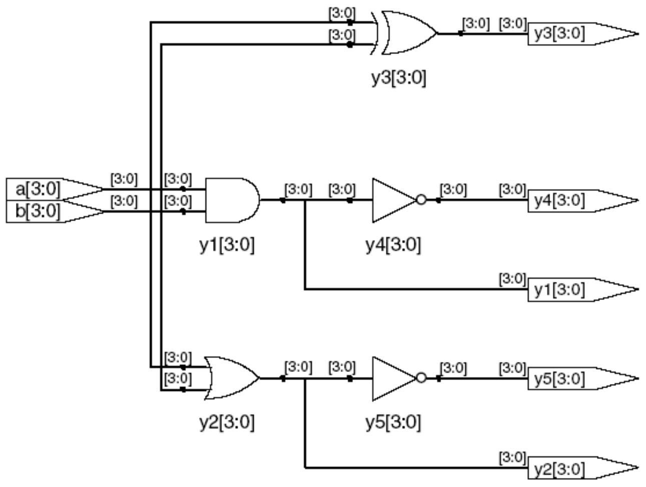

module nand3(input  logic a, b, c
             output logic y);
  logic n1;                   // internal signal

  and3 andgate(a, b, c, n1);  // instance of and3
  inv  inverter(n1, y);       // instance of inv
endmodule
```

Bitwise Operators

```
module gates(input  logic [3:0]  a, b,
             output logic [3:0] y1, y2, y3, y4, y5);
   /* Five different two-input logic
      gates acting on 4 bit busses */
   assign y1 = a & b;    // AND
   assign y2 = a | b;    // OR
   assign y3 = a ^ b;    // XOR
   assign y4 = ~(a & b); // NAND
   assign y5 = ~(a | b); // NOR
endmodule
```

Synthesis:



`//` single line comment

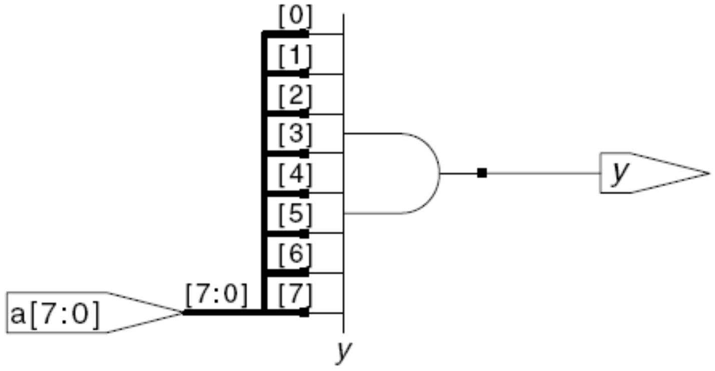
`/*…*/` multiline comment

Reduction Operators

SystemVerilog:

```
module and8(input  logic [7:0] a,
            output logic       y);
   assign y = &a;
   // &a is much easier to write than
   // assign y = a[7] & a[6] & a[5] & a[4] &
   //            a[3] & a[2] & a[1] & a[0];
endmodule
```

Synthesis:

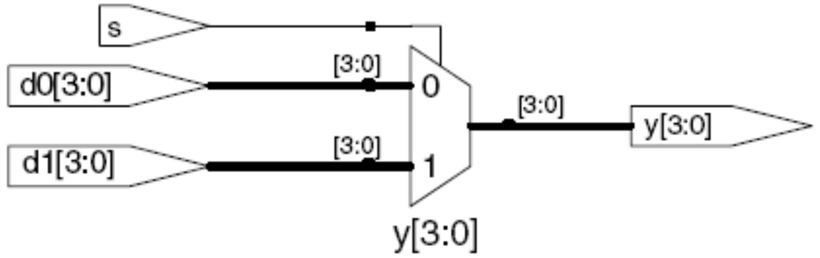


Conditional Assignment

SystemVerilog:

```
module mux2(input  logic [3:0] d0, d1,
            input  logic       s,
            output logic [3:0] y);
   assign y = s ? d1 : d0;
endmodule
```

Synthesis:



`? :` is also called a *ternary operator* because it operates on 3 inputs: `s`, `d1`, and `d0`.

Internal Variables

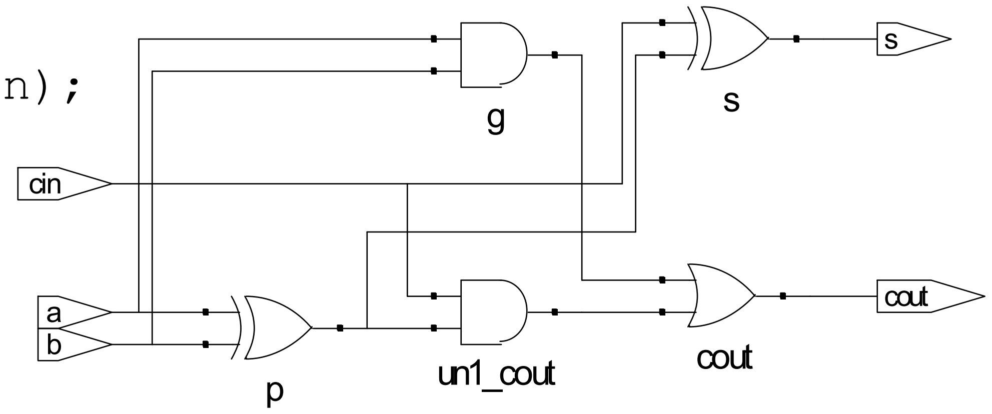
SystemVerilog:

```
module fulladder(input  logic a, b, cin,
                 output logic s, cout);
  logic p, g;   // internal nodes

  assign p = a ^ b;
  assign g = a & b;

  assign s = p ^ cin;
  assign cout = g | (p & cin);
endmodule
```

Synthesis:



Precedence

Highest

`~`	NOT
`*, /, %`	`mult, div, mod`
`+, -`	`add,sub`
`<<, >>`	`shift`
`<<<, >>>`	`arithmetic shift`
`<, <=, >, >=`	`comparison`
`==, !=`	`equal, not equal`
`&, ~&`	`AND, NAND`
`^, ~^`	`XOR, XNOR`
`|, ~|`	`OR, NOR`
`?:`	ternary operator

Lowest

Numbers

Format: N'Bvalue

N = number of bits, **B** = base

N'B is optional but recommended (default is decimal)

Number	# Bits	Base	Decimal Equivalent	Stored
3'b101	3	binary	5	101
'b11	unsized	binary	3	00…0011
8'b11	8	binary	3	00000011
8'b1010_1011	8	binary	171	10101011
3'd6	3	decimal	6	110
6'o42	6	octal	34	100010
8'hAB	8	hexadecimal	171	10101011
42	Unsized	decimal	42	00…0101010

Bit Manipulations: Example 1

```
assign y = {a[2:1], {3{b[0]}}, a[0], 6'b100_010};

// if y is a 12-bit signal, the above statement produces:
y = a[2] a[1] b[0] b[0] b[0] a[0] 1 0 0 0 1 0

// underscores (_) are used for formatting only to make
// it easier to read. SystemVerilog ignores them.
```

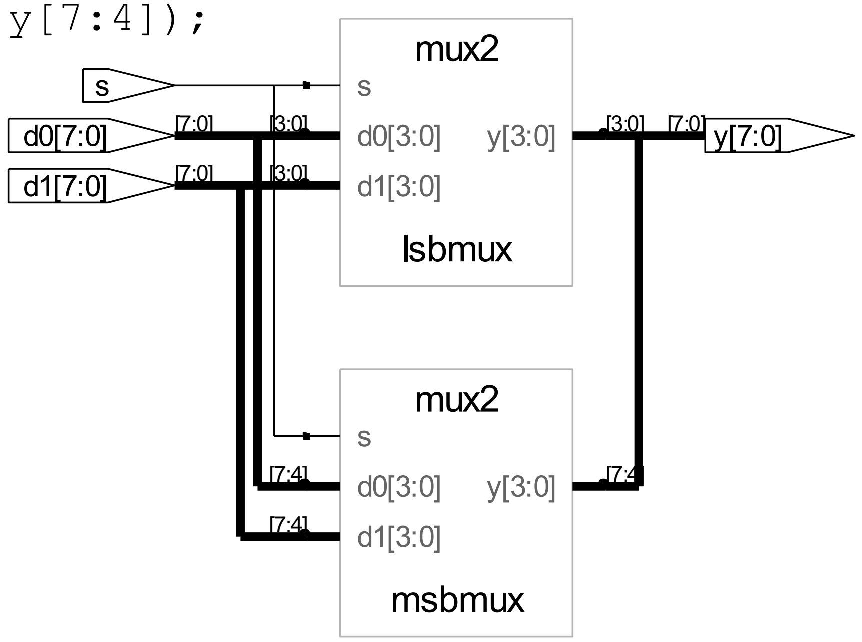
Bit Manipulations: Example 2

SystemVerilog:

```
module mux2_8(input  logic [7:0] d0, d1,
              input  logic       s,
              output logic [7:0] y);

  mux2 lsbmux(d0[3:0], d1[3:0], s, y[3:0]);
  mux2 msbmux(d0[7:4], d1[7:4], s, y[7:4]);
endmodule
```

Synthesis:

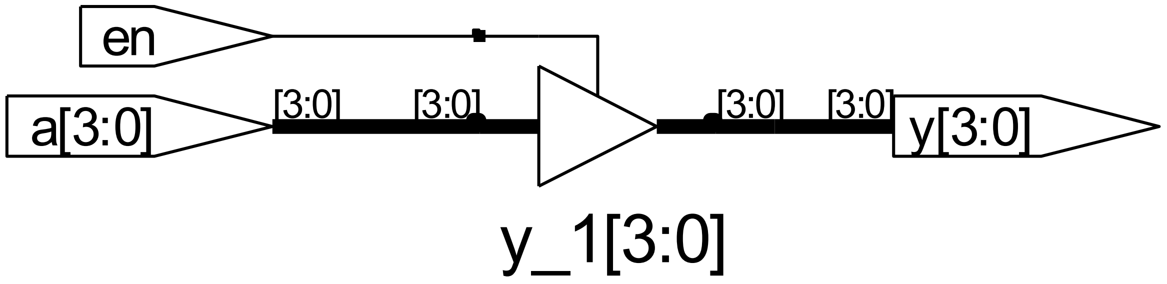


Z: Floating Output

SystemVerilog:

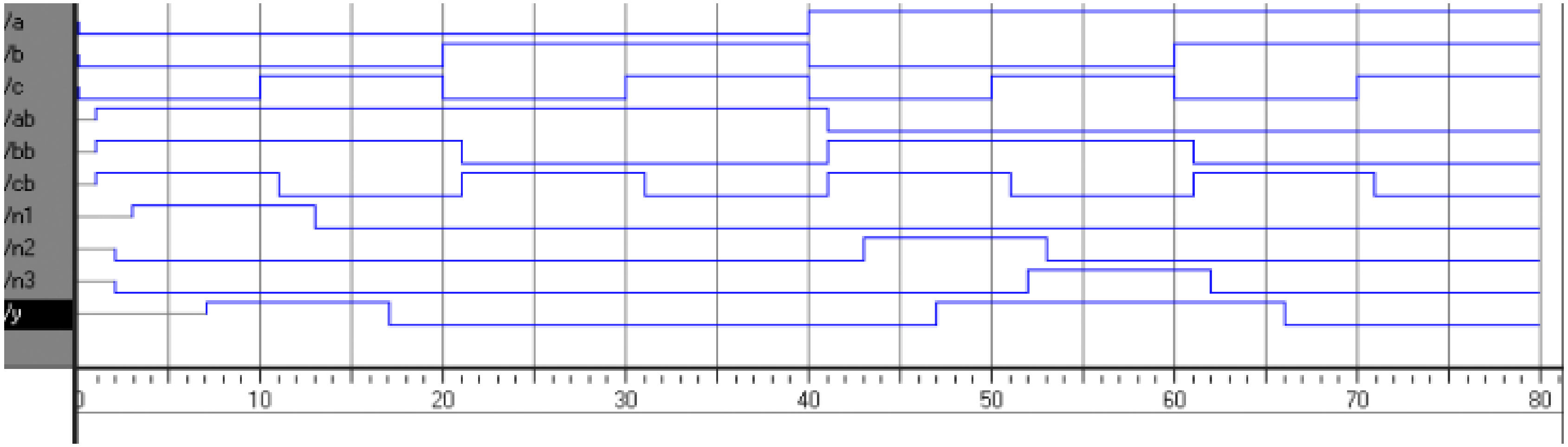
```
module tristate(input  logic [3:0] a,
                input  logic       en,
                output tri   [3:0] y);
   assign y = en ? a : 4'bz;
endmodule
```

Synthesis:



Delays

```
module example(input  logic a, b, c,
               output logic y);
  logic ab, bb, cb, n1, n2, n3;
  assign #1 {ab, bb, cb} = ~{a, b, c};
  assign #2 n1 = ab & bb & cb;
  assign #2 n2 = a & bb & cb;
  assign #2 n3 = a & bb & c;
  assign #4 y = n1 | n2 | n3;
endmodule
```



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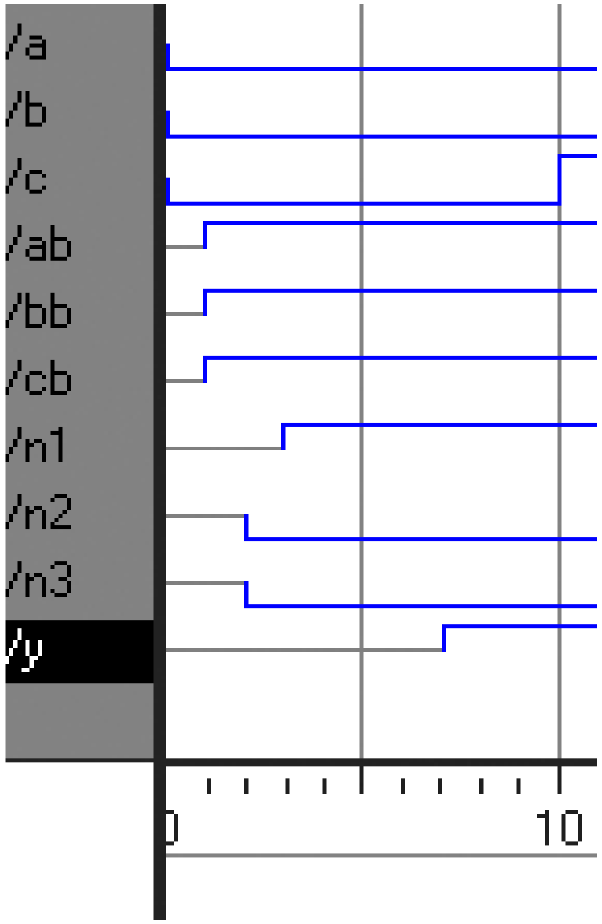

Delays

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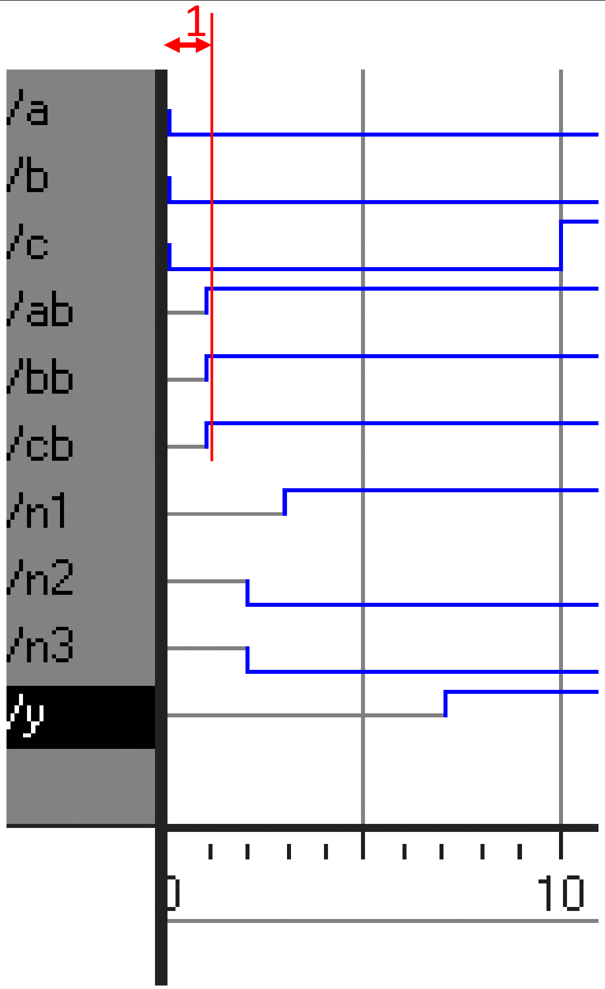

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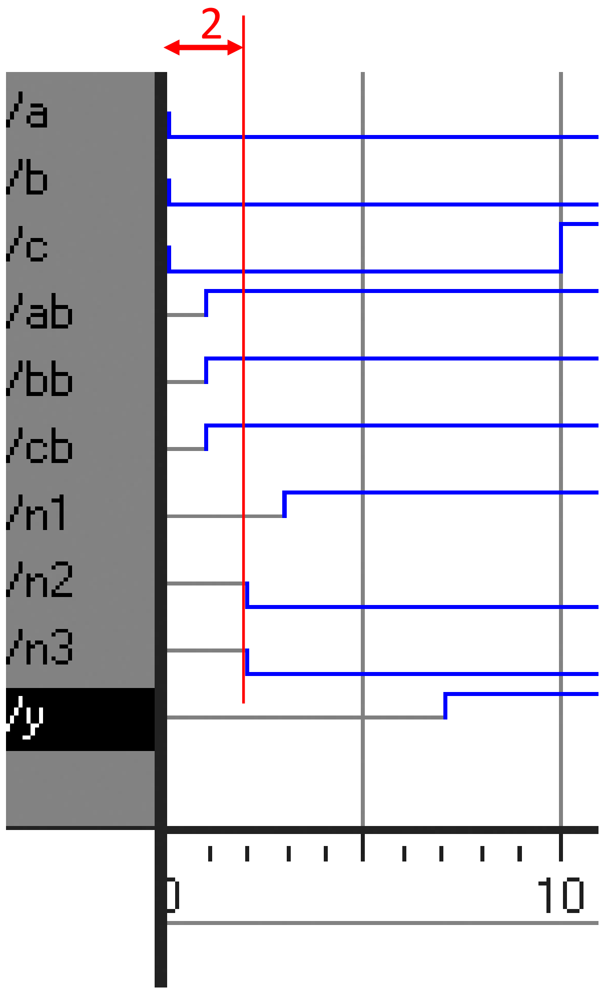
```



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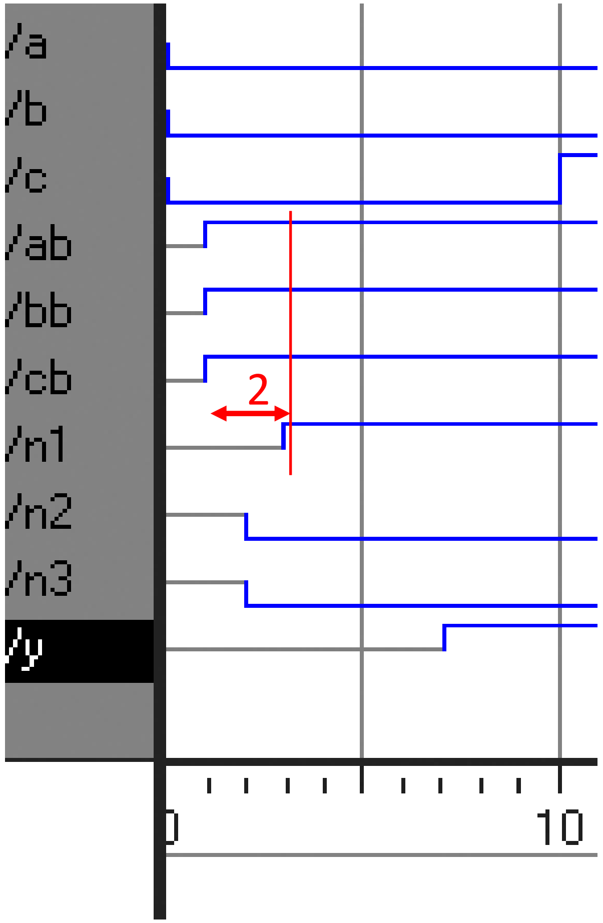

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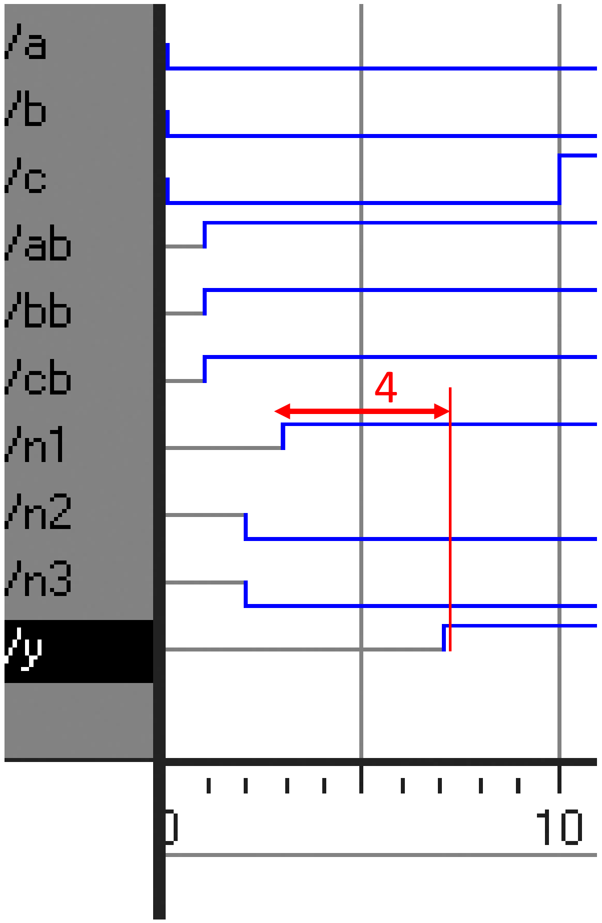


Sequential Logic

- SystemVerilog uses **idioms** to describe latches, flip-flops and FSMs
- Other coding styles may simulate correctly but produce incorrect hardware

always Statement

General Structure:

```
always @(sensitivity list)
  statement;
```

Whenever the event in `sensitivity list` occurs, `statement` is executed

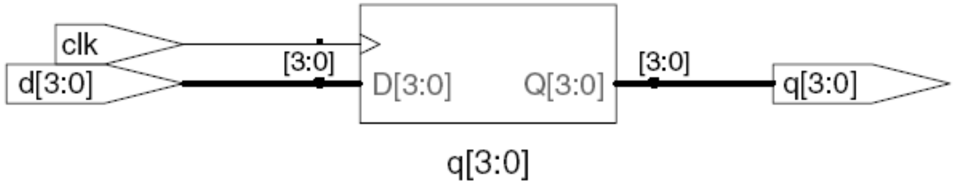
D Flip-Flop

```
module flop(input  logic       clk,
            input  logic [3:0] d,
            output logic [3:0] q);

  always_ff @(posedge clk)
    q <= d;                // pronounced “q gets d”

endmodule
```

Synthesis:



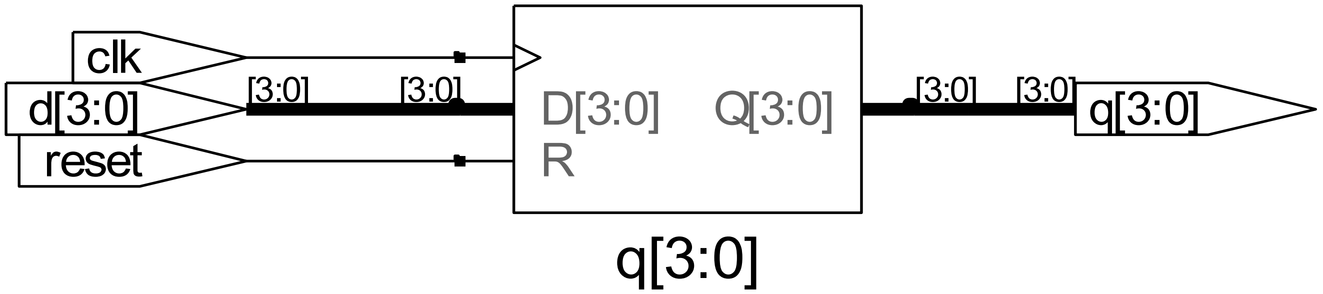
Resettable D Flip-Flop

```
module flopr(input  logic       clk,
             input  logic       reset,
             input  logic [3:0] d,
             output logic [3:0] q);

  // synchronous reset
  always_ff @(posedge clk)
    if (reset) q <= 4'b0;
    else       q <= d;

endmodule
```

Synthesis:



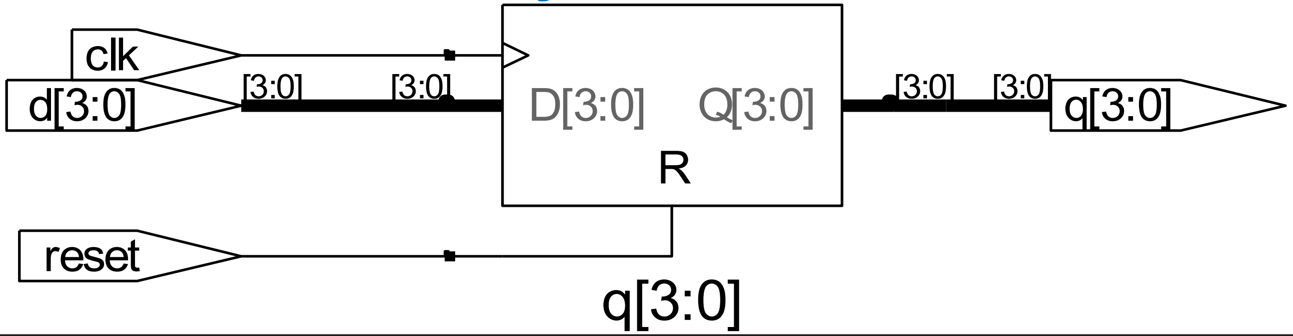
Resettable D Flip-Flop

```
module flopr(input  logic       clk,
             input  logic       reset,
             input  logic [3:0] d,
             output logic [3:0] q);

  // asynchronous reset
  always_ff @(posedge clk, posedge reset)
    if (reset) q <= 4'b0;
    else       q <= d;

endmodule
```

Synthesis:



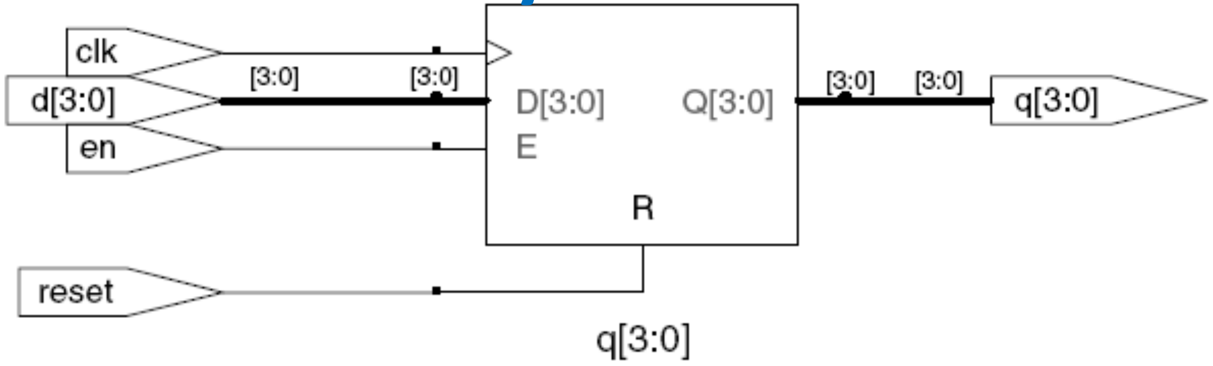
D Flip-Flop with Enable

```
module flopren(input  logic       clk,
               input  logic       reset,
               input  logic       en,
               input  logic [3:0] d,
               output logic [3:0] q);

  // enable and asynchronous reset
  always_ff @(posedge clk, posedge reset)
    if      (reset) q <= 4'b0;
    else if (en)    q <= d;

endmodule
```

Synthesis:



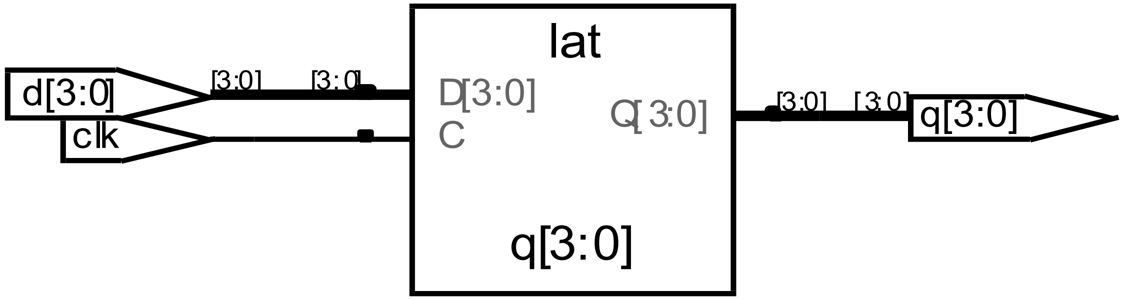
Latch

```
module latch(input  logic       clk,
             input  logic [3:0] d,
             output logic [3:0] q);

  always_latch
    if (clk) q <= d;

endmodule
```

Synthesis:



Warning: We don't use latches in this text. But you might write code that inadvertently implies a latch. Check synthesized hardware – if it has latches in it, there's an error.

Review

General Structure:

```
always @(sensitivity list)
  statement;
```

- **Flip-flop:** `always_ff`
- **Latch:** `always_latch` **(don't use)**