

Warmup

A co-worker has implemented the circuit below in VHDL.
How do you check that it is correct?

Submit your answer on pollev.com/stevenbell699

ES 4: Testing and debugging VHDL

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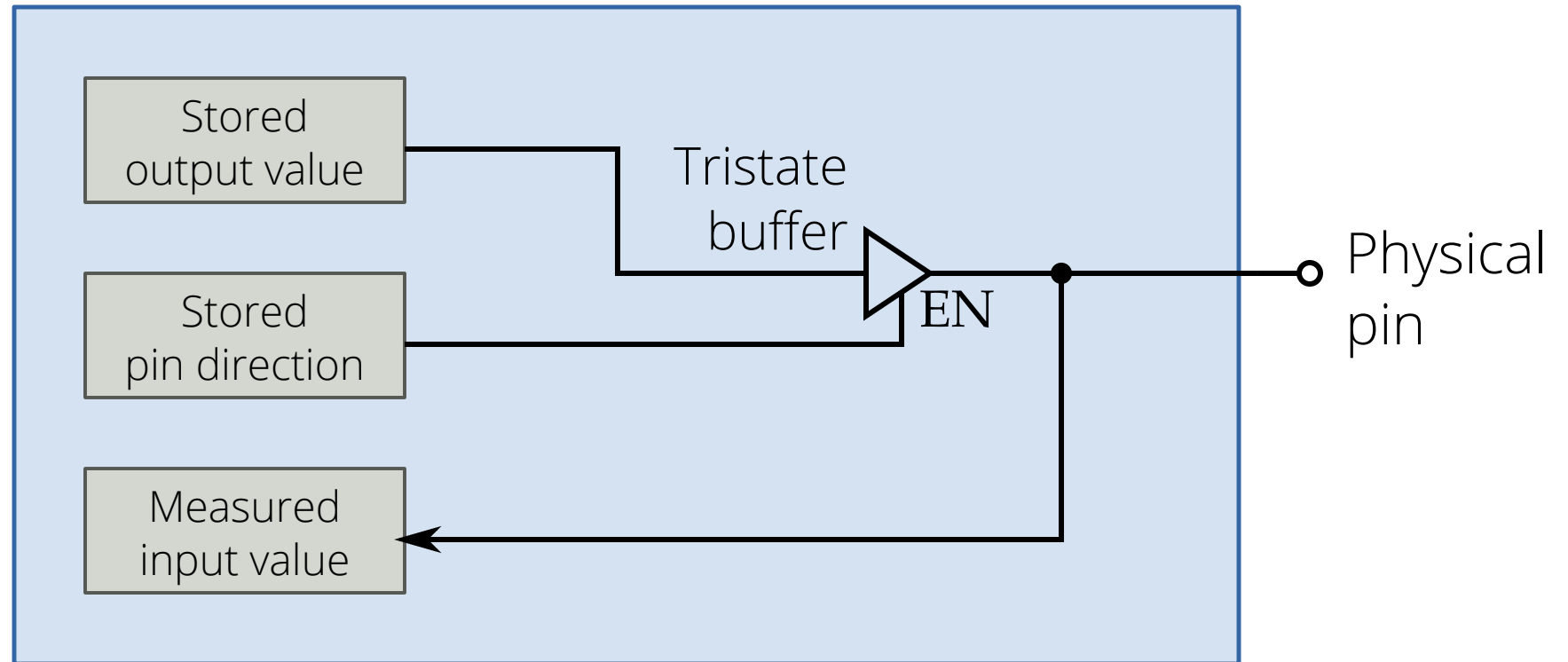
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By the end of class today, you should be able to:

- Use the VHDL **process** structure for combinational logic and print-style debugging
- Write a testbench for combinational logic
- Explain the difference between synthesizable and non-synthesizable VHDL constructs

Quiz question: tristates

In	Enable	Out
0	0	Z
1	0	Z
0	1	0
1	1	1



Quiz question: clocks

We'll talk about this after the midterm.

Demo time: why is VHDL useful?

Using submodules (aka structural modeling)

```
architecture synth of multigate is
  component andgate is
    port(
      a : in std_logic;
      b : in std_logic;
      y : out std_logic
    );
  end component;
  signal ab : std_logic;
begin
  and1 : andgate port map(signalA, signalB, ab);
  and2 : andgate port map(ab, signalC, result);
end;
```

Inside an "architecture"
Component declaration

Instantiations

Logistics stuff

Labs are being graded

HW 1 is graded; HW 2 is in process

CELT is coming on Monday

Printing debugging info

```
report "hello, world!";
```

```
signal a : std_logic_vector(3 downto 0);
```

```
report "A is " & to_string(a);
```

(concatenation)

(conversion to string)

Printing debugging info

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report "hello, world!";
```

```
signal a : std_logic_vector(3 downto 0);
```

```
report "A is " & to_string(a);
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(conversion to string)

Only in VHDL 2008!

Process block

```
process (SENSITIVITY) is  
begin  
    -- if/case/print go here  
end process;
```

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If sensitivity includes:

all \updownarrow \longrightarrow Combinational logic

clk \uparrow \longrightarrow Flip-flop / register

After the midterm
clk \uparrow + data \updownarrow \longrightarrow Latch

Nothing \longrightarrow Testbench (continuous evaluation)

Something else \longrightarrow Bad things you probably didn't want.

Practice!

<http://vhdlweb.com:8000>

Testbenches

A testbench is an entity with no ports,
and non-synthesizable code to test a submodule.

Useful bits in a testbench

`wait` Wait forever (halt)

`wait for 5 ns`

`assert CONDITION report "MESSAGE" severity SEVERITY`

`report` Print something to the console log

Practice!

<http://vhdlweb.com:8000>

What is one question you have from today?

Submit your answer on **pollev.com/stevenbell699**

For tomorrow *(Thursday is the new Monday)*

1. Read the book (5.1-5.2) and complete the pre-class quiz
2. Homework 4 is due next Monday (2/25) via **provide es4 hw4**
3. Lab report 2 due next Wednesday (2/27)