



# DESIGNING AN ASYNCHRONOUS FIFO USING VERILOG

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## ABSTRACT:

The First-In, First-Out (FIFO) method is used to manage computer work requests that originate from stacks or queues, assuring that the request with the earliest arrival time receives processing priority. Using the First-In, First-Out (FIFO) logic, data from one clock domain is transmitted to other clock domains upon request. This task is accomplished in the domain of hardware by a collection of flip-flops or read/write memory components. A more efficient method for constructing a First-In-First-Out (FIFO) system is to compare write and read pointers that are generated in separate clock zones and not simultaneously. The method of comparing pointers in an asynchronous FIFO is used to reduce the number of synchronization flip-flops required to construct the FIFO. In order to effectively construct and evaluate the design using this methodology, it is necessary to employ additional methodologies, as outlined in this academic article. Utilizing mixed binary/gray counters that leverage the inherent binary ripple carry logic is one method employed by this design to improve the efficacy of the First-In-First-Out (FIFO) process.

**Key Words:** Asynchronous FIFO, FIFO Design, Full and Empty Deduction

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

One clock domain is utilized to sequentially write data values into a FIFO buffer. To read data values from the same FIFO buffer one after the other, a separate clock domain is used. The times of these two clock domains are not synchronized. An asynchronous FIFO is commonly created by using Gray code pointers that are synced into the opposite time domain before issuing synchronous FIFO full or empty status signals. Comparing the pointers concurrently before setting the full or empty status bits is a fascinating and novel approach of creating FIFO full and empty bits.

### Full and Empty Deductions

The most difficult component of any FIFO system is getting the full and empty states to work correctly. As a result, something else must distinguish between full and empty. When the two points are equal, the approach divides the address space into four quadrants and decodes them using the two MSBs of the two counters. This indicates whether the FIFO was filled or emptying.

Because the wptr is one quadrant behind the rptr, FIFO is fully operational. It indicates that the memory is "possibly going full" when the write pointer is one region behind the read pointer, as shown. When the

direction button is pressed, this occurs.

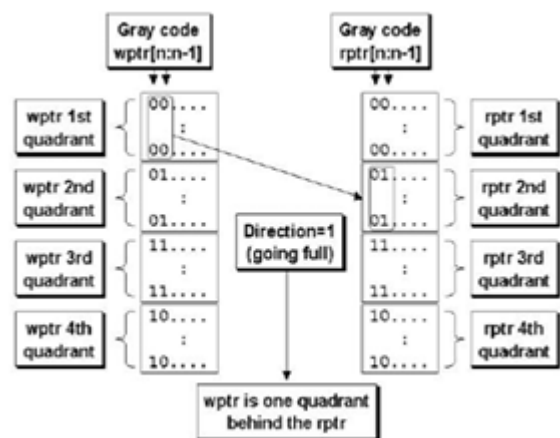


Fig-1: Because the rptr is one quadrant behind the wptr, FIFO runs out of room.



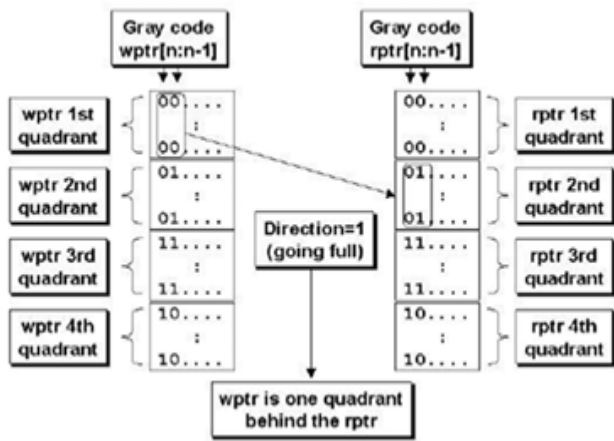


Fig-2: Because the wptr is one quadrant behind the rptr, FIFO is fully operational.

When the write pointer is one quadrant ahead of the read pointer, the status "possibly going empty" is displayed. The direction latch is not locked when this occurs.

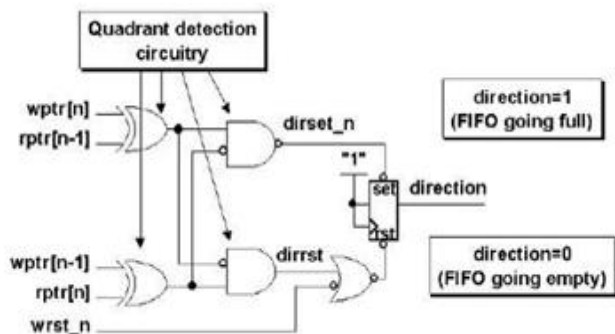


Fig -3: Because the wptr is one quadrant behind the rptr, FIFO is fully operational.

When the FIFO is reset, you may determine it "is going empty" by clearing the direction latch. The direction latch removes the ambiguity in the address identification decoder, therefore setting it up and taking it down is not time-dependent. Because it only requires two 4-input look-up tables, the Xilinx FPGA circuitry for decoding the two wptrMSBs and two rptrMSBs is simple to implement. The second, more challenging issue stems from the fact that the write and read clocks are not in sync. When one or both counters change a large number of bits at about the same moment, comparing them can result in inaccurate decoding leaps. According to the findings of this investigation, only one bit changes from one Gray count sequence to the next. There is no possibility of error during decoding because any decoder or comparator will only move from one excellent output to the next.

**FIFO2.v**

This is the module that contains all of the clock domains at the highest level. The top module serves as a wrapper for the other FIFO modules required for the architecture. If this FIFO were to be utilized in a

larger ASIC or FPGA design, the top-level wrapper would most likely be removed. This would make it easier to group the remaining FIFO modules into their respective clock domains for improved synthesis and static timing analysis.

**FIFOmем.v**

This FIFO memory buffer is used by both the write and read clock domains. This buffer is most likely a dual-port, synchronous RAM. The FIFO buffer can be utilized with various types of memory.

**async\_cmp.v**

Asynchronous pointer-comparison module signals control the "full" and "empty" state bits, which are set at various times. This section's logic is all combinational comparison logic. This code contains no sequential logic.

**rptr\_empty.v**

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This module contains the FIFO read pointer and empty-flag code, and it is mostly in sync with the read-clock domain. Only when the rptr rises can the aempty\_n signal be asserted. When the wptr grows, which is not in sync with rclk but is in sync with the rclk-domain, the signal is de-asserted.

**wptr\_full.v**

This module, which is mainly in sync with the write-clock domain, contains the FIFO write pointer and full-flag logic. Only when wptr incremented and wrst\_n occur may afull\_n be asserted. This means that asserting the afull\_n signal (an input to this module) occurs concurrently with the wclk domain, but de-asserting it occurs concurrently with the rptr incremented, which is not concurrent with wclk. At Different Times, Empty and Full Production

**Asynchronous Generation of Full And Empty**

The async\_cmp function displays the aempty\_n and afull\_n asynchronously processed signals. It is de-asserted on the rising edge of a wclk rather than the rising edge of a rclk. Similarly, the afull\_n signal is activated for a wclk and deactivated for a rclk. The following read activity will be halted by using the empty signal. The leading edge of the empty signal must be in sync with the read clock, but so must the trailing edge. This is accomplished with a two-stage synchronizer that results in r\_empty. The symmetrically equivalent approach is used to generate the w\_full signal.





input (SER) were grounded, we would know what data (0) was transferred in. It also illustrates that the right is moving two spaces, which necessitates the use of two clocks.

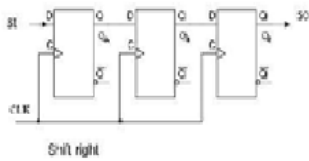
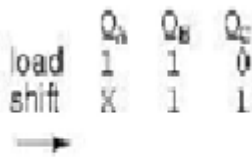


Fig-8:ShiftRight

The graphic above depicts the hardware used to shift data to the right. This figure is too simple to deal with, other than to demonstrate how simple it is in comparison to the figures that will follow.



Load and right shift

The data that has been shifted to the right is displayed above to be compared to the previous right-shifter.

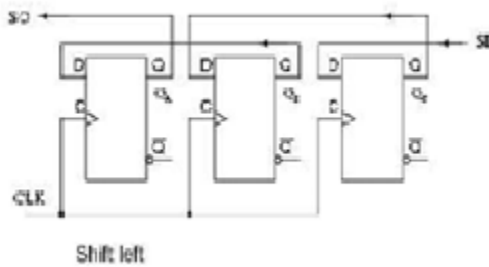
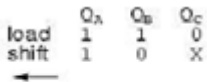


Fig-9:ShiftLeft

To shift left, we must first change the FFs. than the right gear that came before it. SI and SO are also in the wrong places. SI is relocating to QC. Transitioning from QC to QB. Moving from QB to QA. When QA cuts the link to SO, another shifter SI may be affected.



Load and left shift

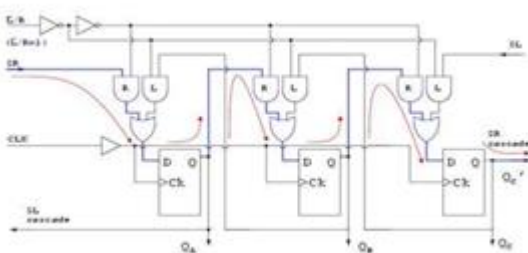


Fig-10:Left or right shift, Right Action

The letters L and R can be used to move the imaginary shift register illustrated above in either direction. Setting L/R=1 changes the typical direction, which is to the right. When L/R equals 1, the

multiplexer AND gates R are activated.

The data enters at SR, passes through QA, QB, and QC, and then exits at SR cascade. If this pin is used, the SR of something else may shift to the right. What happens if we set L/R to zero?

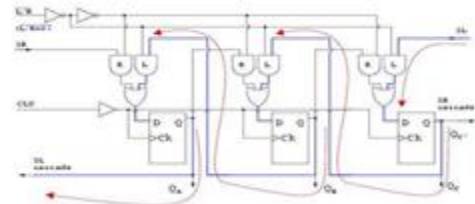


Fig-11:The shift left/right key and the left action key  
 When L/R=0, the multiplexer AND gates labeled L turn on, resulting in the identical path as shown by the arrows in the preceding "shift left" figure. The data enters at SL, passes through QC, QB, and QA, and finally exits at SL cascade. If this pin is utilized, the SL of something else may shift to the left. The simplicity of the two images above that demonstrate "shift left/right register" is the nicest part. The left-right setting L/R=0 is straightforward. The parallel data loading mentioned in the section title is required for a business part. This is seen in the following image. Now that we know how to utilize the L/R gates to shift to the left and right, let's add the SH/LD', shift/load, and "load" AND gates to allow data to be loaded in parallel from inputs DA, DB, and DC. If SH/LD' is 0 and gates R and L are both turned off. BUT gates "load" to transport data from DA to DB to DC to the FF data ports. The data will be sent to QA QB QC by the next clock CLK.

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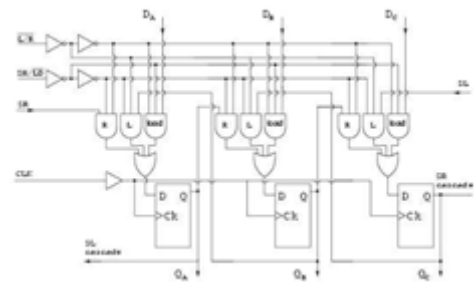


Fig-12:Load and shift (left/right).

If SH/LD' is changed to SH/LD'=1, the AND gates labelled "load" are disabled, allowing the left/ right control L/R to set the direction of shift on the L or R AND gates. Shifting is as in the previous figure. The only thing needed to produce viable integrated devices is to add the fourth AND gate to the multiplexer as alluded for the 74ALS299. This is shown in the next section for that part.

**2. DESIGN AND ANALYSE A SYNCHRONOUS FIFO**

Create and test a FIFO with various read and write logics. The data in each of the 64 sources we examined was 32 bits long. The oldest request is dealt with first when utilizing the FIFO approach to handle program



work requests from stacks or lines. A collection of flip-flops or read/write memory with FIFO logic is used in hardware to store data from one clock domain and deliver it to other clock domains when requested. The clock domain that delivers data to the FIFO is referred to as "write logic," whereas the clock domain that receives data from the FIFO is referred to as "read logic."

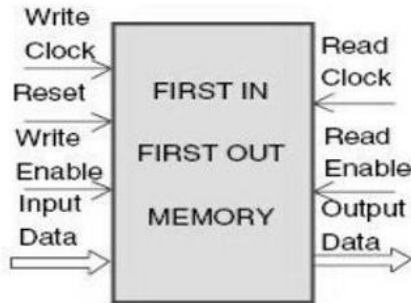


Fig-13:FIFOmemory/I/O

**3.CONCLUSIONS**

When developing an asynchronous FIFO, you must consider every detail, such as how to produce pointers and the distinction between full and empty generation. When critical aspects are overlooked, the design is frequently incorrect and easily verifiable. FIFO design issues are typically discovered by simulating a gate-level FIFO architecture and noting real delays on the back. Gray code pointers are used to safely sync FIFO pointers into the opposite clock domain. Gray code pointers are used to safely sync FIFO pointers into the opposite clock domain. The most difficult aspect of a FIFO plan may be determining the full status. Dual n-bit Gray code counters can be used to synchronize an n-bit pointer with the other clock domain as well as to perform "full" comparisons with a (n-1)-bit pointer. When doing FIFO design, another handy thing you can do is sync binary FIFO pointers using the methods provided. The FIFO-empty state is easily obtained by comparing and equaling the synchronized n-bit write pointer to the n-bit read pointer. The methods suggested in this article should be able to work with asynchronous clocks with small to big discrepancies.

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