



香港中文大學

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

CENG3430 Rapid Prototyping of Digital Systems

Lecture 01:

Introduction to VHDL

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- Basic Structure of a VHDL Module
 - 1) Library Declaration
 - 2) Entity Declaration
 - External Signal (I/O Pins)
 - 3) Architecture Body
 - Internal Signal
 - Architectural Design Methods
 - ① Data Flow Design (concurrent statements)
 - ② Structural Design (“**port map**”)
 - ③ Behavioral Design (sequential statements)
 - Concurrent vs. Sequential Statements
 - Design Constructions



A VHDL file

1) Library Declaration

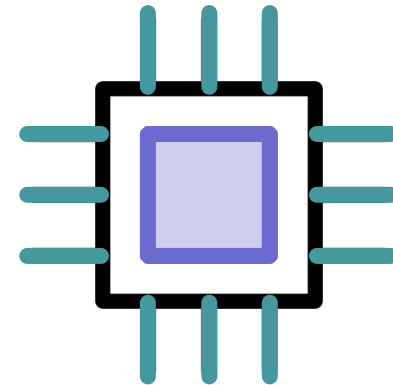
```
library IEEE;  
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;  
use IEEE.std_logic_arith.all;  
use IEEE.std_logic_unsigned.all;
```

2) Entity Declaration

Define the signals that can be seen outside externally (I/O pins)

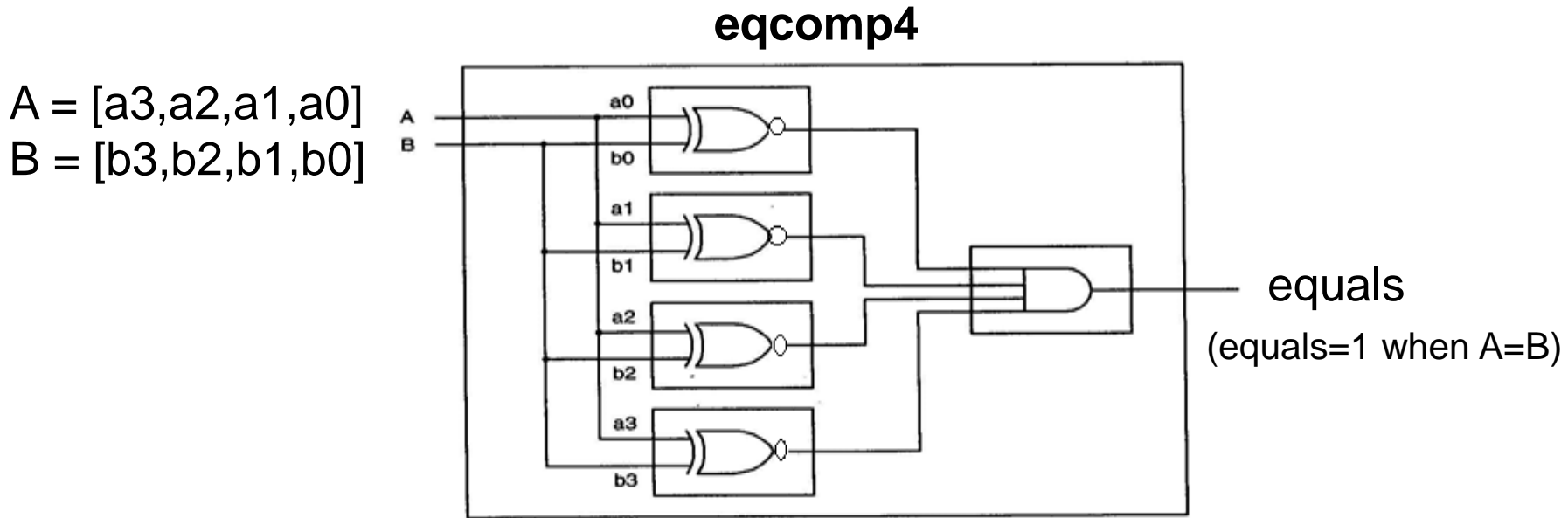
3) Architecture Body

Define the internal signals and operations of the desired function



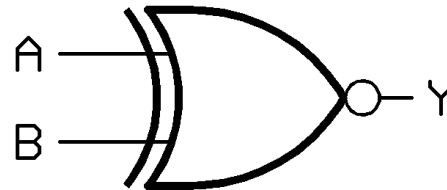
Example: 4-bit Comparator in VHDL (1/2)

- **Schematic Circuit** of a 4-bit Comparator



*Recall: Exclusive NOR (XNOR)

- When A=B, Output Y = 0
- Otherwise, Output Y = 1



Truth Table

A	B	Y
0	0	1
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	1

Example: 4-bit Comparator in VHDL (2/2)

- Code of 4-bit Comparator in VHDL:

eqcomp4.vhd

```
1  --the code starts here , "a comment"
```

**Library
Declaration**

```
2  library IEEE;
```

```
3  use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
```

**Entity
Declaration**

```
4  entity eqcomp4 is
```

```
5  port (a, b: in std_logic_vector(3 downto 0);
```

```
6         equals: out std_logic);
```

```
7  end eqcomp4;
```

**Architecture
Body**

```
8  architecture arch_eqcomp4 of eqcomp4 is
```

```
9  begin
```

```
10     equals <= '1' when (a = b) else '0';
```

```
11     -- "comment line"
```

```
12 end arch_eqcomp4;
```



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Entity Declaration



entity enclosed by the identifier **eqcomp4** (entered by the user)

port defines the external signals (i.e., I/O pins)

1 --the code starts here , "a comment"

2 library IEEE;

3 use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;

4 **entity** **eqcomp4** is

5 **port** (**a**, **b**: **in** std_logic_vector(3 downto 0);

6 **equals**: **out** std_logic);

7 end **eqcomp4**;

...

a, **b**, **equals** are the identifiers of external signals

std_logic, **std_logic_vector** are the logic types of external signals

in, **out** are the modes of external signals

Library
Declaration

Entity
Declaration

Architecture
Body



- **Identifiers:** Used to **name** any object in VHDL
- **Naming Rules:**
 - 1) Made up of only alphabets, numbers, and underscores
 - 2) First character must be a letter
 - 3) Last character **CANNOT** be an underscore
 - 4) Two connected underscores are **NOT** allowed
 - 5) VHDL-reserved words are **NOT** allowed
 - 6) VHDL is **NOT** case sensitive
 - Txclk, Txclk, TXCLK, TxClk are all equivalent

VHDL Reserved Words



abs	file	of	select
access	for	on	severity
after	function	open	shared
alias		or	signal
all	generate	others	sla
and	generic	out	sll
architecture	guarded		sra
array		package	srl
assert	if	port	subtype
attribute	impure	postponed	
	in	procedure	then
begin	inertial	process	to
block	inout	pure	transport
body	is		type
buffer		range	
bus	label	record	unaffected
	library	register	units
case	linkage	reject	until
component	literal	rem	use
configuration	loop	report	
constant		return	variable
	map	rol	
disconnect	mod	ror	wait
downto			when
	nand		while
else	new		with
elsif	next		
end	nor		xnor
entity	not		xor
exit	null		

Class Exercise 1.1

Student ID: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____

- Determine whether the following identifiers are legal or not. If not, please give your reasons.
 - tx_clk
 - _tx_clk
 - Three_State_Enable
 - 8B10B
 - sel7D
 - HIT_1124
 - large#number
 - link__bar
 - select
 - rx_clk_

External Signals (I/O Pin)



- An **external signal** (or I/O pin) is a physical wire that can carry logic information.
- Many **logic types** are eligible for external signals, e.g.,
 - **bit**: can be logic '1' or '0' only
 - **std_logic**: can be logic 'U', 'X', '0', '1', 'Z', 'W', 'L', 'H', or '-'
 - 9-valued standard logic (IEEE standard 1164)
 - E.g., equals: `out std_logic;`
 - **std_logic_vector**: a group of wires (i.e., a **signal bus**)
 - E.g., `a, b: in std_logic_vector(3 downto 0);`
 - Each of `a(3)`, `a(2)`, `a(1)`, `a(0)` is a **std_logic** signal.
- VHDL is **strongly-typed** language.
 - Signals of different base types **CANNOT** to assigned to each other without the use of type-conversion.

IEEE 1164: 9-valued Logic Standard



- 'U': Uninitialized
- 'X': **Forcing** Unknown
- '0': **Forcing** 0
- '1': **Forcing** 1
- 'Z': High Impedance (Float)
- 'W': Weak Unknown
- 'L': Weak 0
- 'H': Weak 1
- '-': Don't care

VHDL Resolution Table

	U	X	0	1	Z	W	L	H	-
U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U
X	U	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
0	U	X	0	X	0	0	0	0	X
1	U	X	X	1	1	1	1	1	X
Z	U	X	0	1	Z	W	L	H	X
W	U	X	0	1	W	W	W	W	X
L	U	X	0	1	L	W	L	W	X
H	U	X	0	1	H	W	W	H	X

- Rule: When 2 signals meet, the **forcing** signal dominates.

Resolved Logic Concept

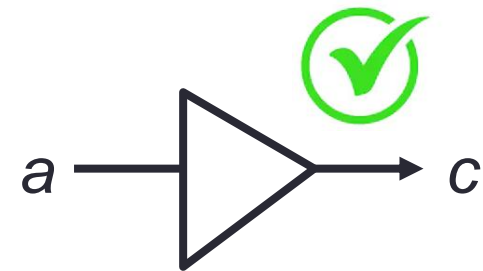


- **Resolved Logic** (Multi-value Signal): Multiple outputs can be connected together to drive a signal.
 - The **resolution function** is used to determine how multiple values from different sources (drivers) for a signal will be reduced to one value.

- **Single-value Signal Assignment:**

```
signal a, c: bit;
```

```
c <= a;
```



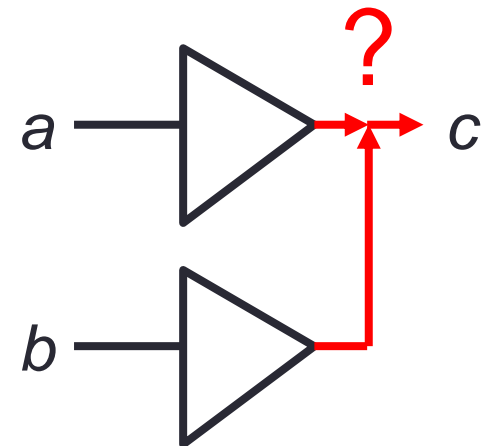
- **Multi-value Signal Assignment:**

```
signal a, b, c: bit;
```

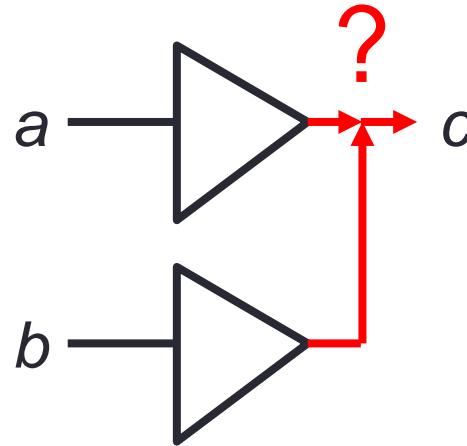
```
c <= a;
```

```
c <= b;
```

← We need to “resolve” it!



std_logic vs. std_ulogic (1/2)



- `std_logic`: a type of **resolved logic**, that means a signal can be driven by 2 inputs.
- `std_`**u**`logic` (“**u**” means unresolved): a type of **unresolved logic**, that means a signal **CANNOT** be driven by 2 inputs.

std_logic vs. std_ulogic (2/2)



- How to use it?

```
library IEEE;
```

```
use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
```

```
entity
```

```
architecture
```

Class Exercise 1.2

Student ID: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____

```
1 library IEEE; eqcomp4.vhd
2 use IEEE.std_logic_1164.all;
3 entity eqcomp4 is
4 port (a, b: in std_logic_vector(3 downto 0 );
5       equals: out std_logic);
6 end eqcomp4;
7 architecture arch_eqcomp4 of eqcomp4 is
8 begin
9     equals <= '1' when (a = b) else '0';
10 end arch_eqcomp4;
```

- How many input and output pins are there in the code?

Answer: _____

- What are their names and their types?

Answer: _____

- What is the difference between `std_logic` and `std_logic_vector`?

Answer: _____

Modes of I/O Pins



- Modes of I/O pin must be explicitly specified in **port** of entity declaration:

Example:

```
entity eqcomp4 is
  port (a, b: in std_logic_vector(3 downto 0);
        equals: out std_logic);
end eqcomp4;
```

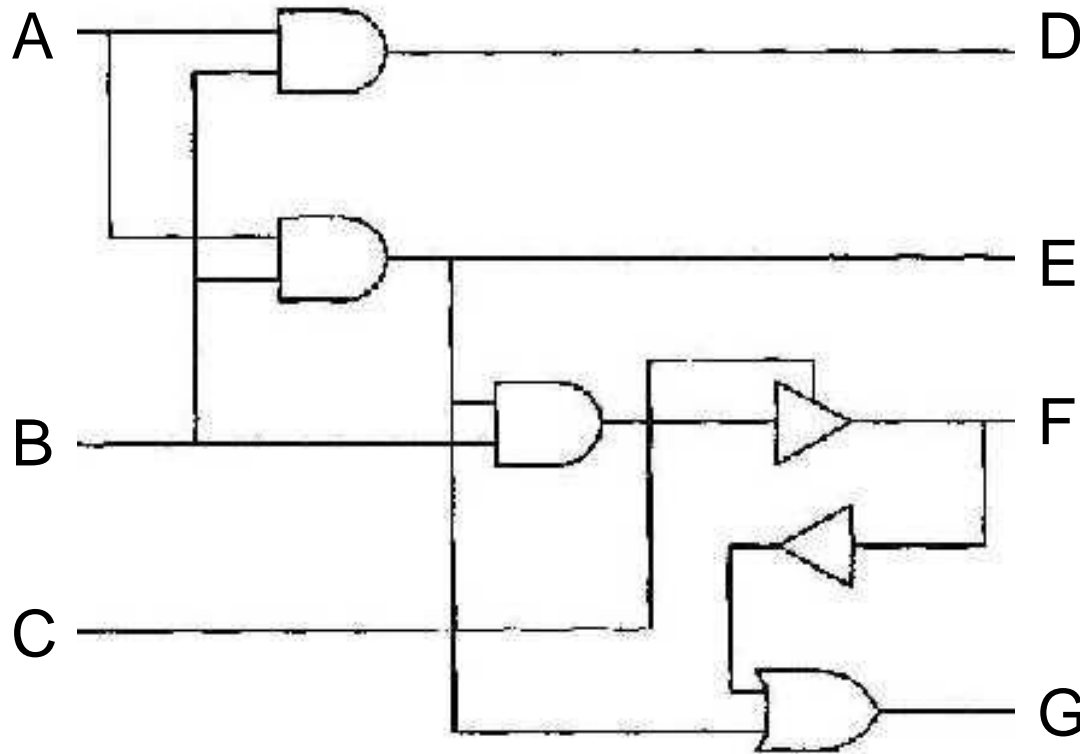
- There are 4 available modes of I/O pins:
 - 1) **in**: Data flows **in** only
 - 2) **out**: Data flows **out** only (cannot be read back by the entity)
 - 3) **inout**: Data flows **bi-directionally** (i.e., in or out)
 - 4) **buffer**: Similar to **out** but it can be **read back** by the entity

Class Exercise 1.3

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Name: _____

- Based on the following schematic, identify the modes of the IO pins.



[Reviews for Common Logic Gates](#)



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Architecture Body



- Architecture Body: Defines the internal of the chip

Example: the architecture body of the entity **eqcomp4**

architecture **arch_eqcomp4** of **eqcomp4** is

begin

```
    equals <= '1' when (a = b) else '0';
```

```
    -- "comment line"
```

end arch_eqcomp4;

- **arch_eqcomp4**: the architecture identifier (entered by the user)
- **equals**, **a**, **b**: I/O pins designed by the user in the entity declaration
- **begin ... end**: define the internal operation
- equals <= '1' when (a = b) else '0';
 - <= here means “signal assignment” not “less than or equal”.
 - when-else is a concurrent design construction.
- --: comment on a line

Built-in Operators



- **Logical Operators:** `and`, `or`, `nand`, `nor`, `xor`, `xnor`, `not` have their usual meanings.
- **Relation Operators** (result is Boolean)
 - `=` equal
 - `/=` not equal
 - `<` less than
 - `<=` less than or equal
 - `>` greater than
 - `>=` greater than or equal
- **Logical Shift and Rotate**
 - `sll` shift left logical, fill blank with 0
 - `srl` shift right logical, fill blank with 0
 - `rol` rotate left logical, circular operation
 - E.g., “10010101” `rol` 3 is “10101100”
 - `ror` rotate right logical, circular operation



- Basic Structure of a VHDL Module

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- ② Structural Design (“`port map`”)

- ③ Behavioral Design (sequential statements)

- Concurrent vs. Sequential Statements

- Design Constructions

Keys to design complicated architecture body!

Internal Signal



- The **entity** declares the external signals.
- The **architecture body** can also declare **signals** that can be used **internally**.

```
architecture arch_eqcomp4 of eqcomp4 is
-- Internal signals shall be declared here!
begin
...
end arch_eqcomp4;
```

– **Signal**: Represent physical wires

- E.g., **signal** s1: BIT := '1';

– **Constant**: Hold unchangeable values

- E.g., **constant** c1: BIT := '1';



```
signal SIG_NAME: <type> [ := <value> ] ;
```

Note: Signals can be declared without initialized values.

- Examples:

- `signal SIG_NAME: STD_LOGIC;`

- Declared without initialized value

- `signal SIG_NAME: STD_LOGIC := '1';`

- Signals can be declared

- In the “port” of the entity declaration (as external signals);
 - Or in the architecture body (as internal signals).



```
constant CONST_NAME: <type> := <value>;
```

Note: Constants must be declared with initialized values.

- Examples:

- `constant CONST_NAME: STD_LOGIC := 'Z';`

- `constant CONST_NAME: STD_LOGIC_VECTOR (3
downto 0) := "0-0-";`

- '-' means "don't care"

- Constants can be declared in

- Anywhere allowed for declaration.

Class Exercise 1.4

Student ID: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____

```
1  entity nandgate is
2      port (in1, in2: in STD_LOGIC;
3              out1: out STD_LOGIC);
4  end nandgate;
5  architecture nandgate_arch of nandgate is
6  _____
7  begin
8      connect1 <= in1 and in2;
9      out1<= not connect1;
10 end nandgate_arch;
```

- Declare an internal signal named “connect1” in Line 6.
 - Can you assign an I/O mode to this signal? Why?
-
- Draw the schematic circuit for the code.



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① Data Flow (Concurrent Statements)

- Data flow design method uses **concurrent statements** rather than ~~sequential statements~~.
 - Concurrent statements can be **interchanged** freely.
 - There's no “execution order” for concurrent statements.

```
1 library IEEE; %Vivado2014.4 tested ok
2 use IEEE.STD_LOGIC_1164.ALL;
3 entity eqb_comp4 is
4 port (a, b: in std_logic_vector(3 downto 0);
5       equals, bigger: out std_logic);
6 end eqb_comp4;
7 architecture dataflow4 of eqb_comp4 is
8 begin
```

```
9   equals <= '1' when (a = b) else '0'; --concurrent
10  bigger <= '1' when (a > b) else '0'; --concurrent
```

```
11 end dataflow4;
```

Lines 9 & 10 will be executed whenever signal a or b (or both) changes.

Class Exercise 1.5

Student ID: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____

- Draw the schematic circuit of this code:

```
1 library IEEE; --Vivado 14.4
2 use IEEE.STD_LOGIC_1164.ALL;
3 entity abc is
4     port (a,b,c: in std_logic;
5           y: out std_logic);
6 end abc;
7 architecture abc_arch of abc is
8     signal x : std_logic;
9     begin
10        x <= a nor b;
11        y <= x and c;
12 end abc_arch;
```

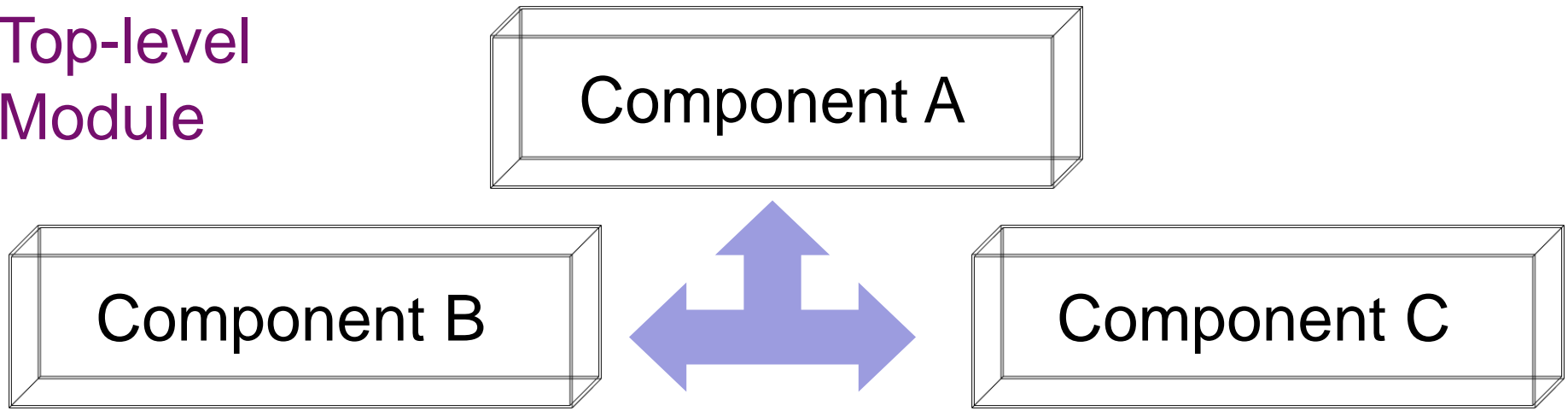
Answer:

② Structural Design (use “port map”)



- Structural Design: Like a circuit but describe it by text.

Top-level
Module



Connected by **port map** in the architecture body of the top-level design module

- **Design Steps:**

Step 1: Create **entities**

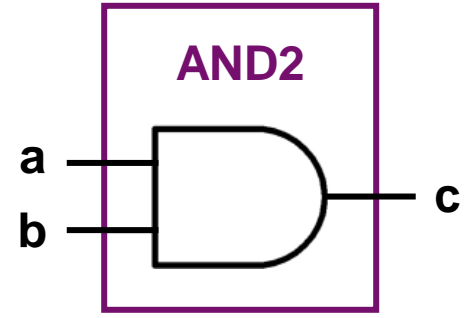
Step 2: Create **components** from **entities**

Step 3: Use “**port map**” to relate the components

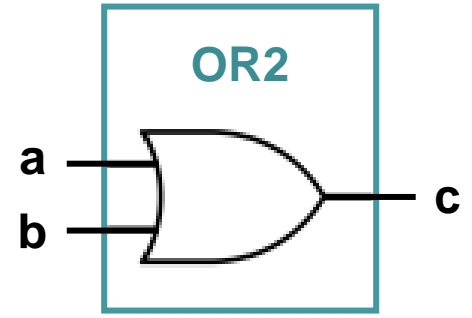
Step 1: Create Entities



```
1 library IEEE;
2 use IEEE.STD_LOGIC_1164.ALL;
3 entity and2 is
4 port (a,b: in STD_LOGIC;
5       c: out STD_LOGIC );
6 end and2;
7 architecture and2_arch of and2 is
8 begin
9   c <= a and b;
10 end and2_arch;
```



```
12 library IEEE;
13 use IEEE.STD_LOGIC_1164.ALL;
14 entity or2 is
15 port (a,b: in STD_LOGIC;
16       c: out STD_LOGIC );
17 end or2;
18 architecture or2_arch of or2 is
19 begin
20   c <= a or b;
21 end or2_arch;
```



Step 2: Create Components



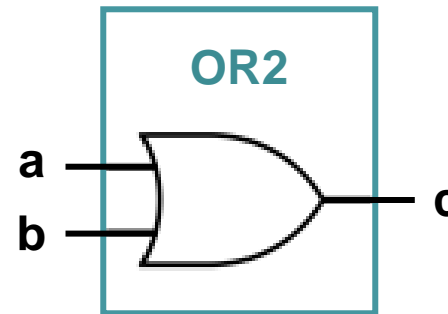
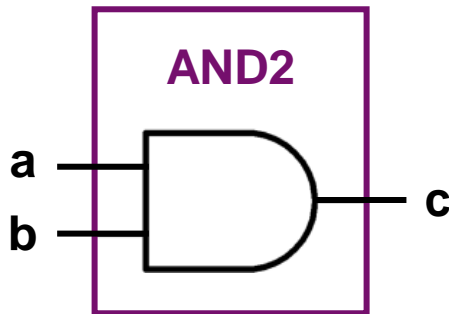
```
component and2 --create components--
```

```
    port (a,b: in std_logic; c: out std_logic);  
end component;
```

```
component or2 --create components--
```

```
    port (a,b: in std_logic; c: out std_logic);  
end component;
```

```
signal con1_signal: std_logic; --internal signal--  
                                -- (optional) --
```



Step 3: Connect Components



label1 & label 2 are line labels

```
begin
```

```
→ label1: and2 port map (in1, in2, inter_sig);
```

```
→ label2: or2 port map (inter_sig, in3, out1);
```

```
end test_arch;
```

Lines can be interchanged for the same circuit design.



Put Together: A Running Example



```
1 library IEEE;
2 use IEEE.STD_LOGIC_1164.ALL;
3 entity and2 is Step 1
4 port (a,b: in STD_LOGIC;
5       c: out STD_LOGIC );
6 end and2;
7 architecture and2_arch of and2 is
8 begin
9     c <= a and b;
10 end and2_arch;
```

```
11 -----
12 library IEEE;
13 use IEEE.STD_LOGIC_1164.ALL;
14 entity or2 is Step 1
15 port (a,b: in STD_LOGIC;
16       c: out STD_LOGIC );
17 end or2;
18 architecture or2_arch of or2 is
19 begin
20     c <= a or b;
21 end or2_arch;
```

```
1 library IEEE; Top-level Module
2 use IEEE.STD_LOGIC_1164.ALL;
3 -----
4 entity test is
5 port ( in1: in STD_LOGIC; in2: in STD_LOGIC;
6       in3: in STD_LOGIC;
7       out1: out STD_LOGIC );
8 end test;
9 architecture test_arch of test is
10 component and2 --create component Step 2
11   port (a,b: in std_logic; c: out std_logic);
12 end component ;
13 component or2 --create component
14   port (a,b: in std_logic; c: out std_logic);
15 end component ;
16 signal inter_sig: std_logic;
17 begin Step 3
18     label1: and2 port map (in1, in2, inter_sig);
19     label2: or2 port map (inter_sig, in3, out1);
20 end test_arch;
```



Class Exercise 1.6

Student ID: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____

- Draw the schematic diagram for the statements:

```
i label_u0: and2 port map (a, c, x);
```

```
ii label_u1: or2 port map (b, x, y);
```



- When will Lines i and ii be executed?

- Answer:

– Line i: _____

– Line ii: _____

Another Running Example



```
entity test_andand2 is
port ( in1: in STD_LOGIC;
       in2: in STD_LOGIC;
       in3: in STD_LOGIC;
       out1: out STD_LOGIC
);
```

```
end test_andand2;
```

```
architecture test_andand2_arch of test_andand2 is
```

```
component and2
```

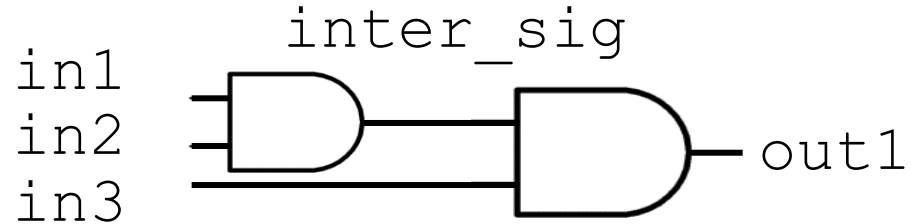
```
port (a, b: in std_logic; c: out std_logic);  
end component ;
```

```
signal inter_sig: std_logic;
```

```
begin
```

```
label1: and2 port map (in1, in2, inter_sig);  
label2: and2 port map (inter_sig, in3, out1);
```

```
end test_andand2_arch;
```



No need to create the component for the same entity for several times

But you can use the component multiple times

② Structural vs. ① Data Flow



② Structural

(“port map”)

architecture test_arch of test is

component and2

```
port (a,b: in std_logic;  
      c: out std_logic);
```

end component ;

component nor2

```
port (a,b: in std_logic;  
      c: out std_logic);
```

end component ;

signal x: std_logic;

begin

```
label1: nor2 port map (a, b, x);
```

```
label2: and2 port map (x, c, y);
```

end test_arch;

① Data Flow

(concurrent statements)

architecture test_arch of test is

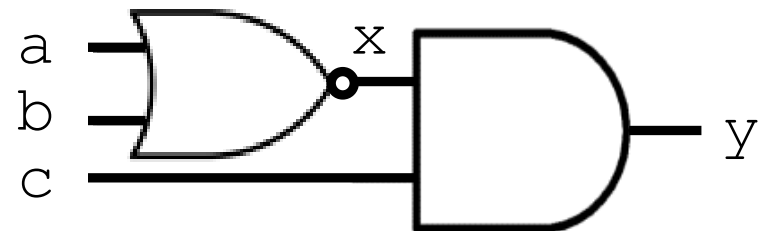
signal x : std_logic;

begin

```
x <= a nor b;
```

```
y <= x and c;
```

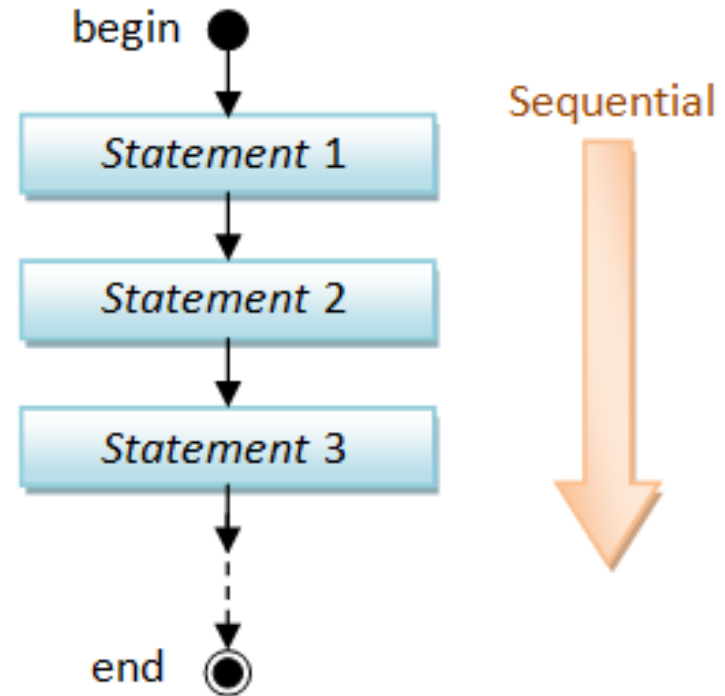
end test_arch;



③ Behavioral Design (use “**process**”)



- Behavioral design is sequential
 - Just like a sequential program



- The keyword is “**process**”:
 - The main character is “**process (sensitivity list)**”.
 - A **process** is executed when one (or more) of the signals in the **sensitivity list** changes.
 - Statements inside a process are **sequentially executed**.

Behavioral Design Example



```
library IEEE; --vivado14.4
use IEEE.STD_LOGIC_1164.ALL;
entity eqcomp4 is
port (a, b: in std_logic_vector(3 downto 0);
      equals: out std_logic);
end eqcomp4;
architecture behavioral of eqcomp4 is
begin
```

process (a, b) ← Behavioral Design: Sequential in a “process”

```
begin
```

```
    if a = b then
        equals <= '1';
    else
        equals <= '0';
    end if;
```

```
    end process;
```

```
end behavioral;
```

Sequential Execution:
Statements inside a process are sequentially executed.

Another Example? See Lab01



Hardware

```
entity AND_Gate is
    port ( A: in STD_LOGIC;
          B: in STD_LOGIC;
          C : out STD_LOGIC);
end AND_Gate;

architecture AND_arch of
AND_Gate is
begin
    C <= A and B;
end AND_arch;
```

- 1) It is legal to have a process WITHOUT a **sensitivity list**.
- 2) Such process MUST have some kinds of **time-delay** or **wait** (see Lec03 for more examples).

Simulation

```
architecture Behavioral of AND_TEST is
    component AND_Gate
        port(A, B: in STD_LOGIC;
             C: out STD_LOGIC);
    end component;
    signal ai, bi: STD_LOGIC;
    signal ci: STD_LOGIC;
begin
    AND_Gate port map (A => ai, B => bi,
                       C => ci);

    process
    begin
        ai <= '0'; bi <= '0';
        wait for 100 ns;
        ai <= '1'; bi <= '0';
        wait for 100 ns;
        ai <= '0'; bi <= '1';
        wait for 100 ns;
        ai <= '1'; bi <= '1';
        wait;
    end process;
end Behavioral;
```




- **Basic Structure of a VHDL Module**
 - 1) Library Declaration
 - 2) Entity Declaration
 - External Signal (I/O Pins)
 - 3) **Architecture Body**
 - Internal Signal
 - Architectural Design Methods
 - ① Data Flow Design (concurrent statements)
 - ② Structural Design (“`port map`”)
 - ③ Behavioral Design (sequential statements)
 - **Concurrent vs. Sequential Statements**
 - Design Constructions

Concurrent vs. Sequential Statements

- **Concurrent Statement**

- 1) Statements inside the architecture body can be executed **concurrently**, except statements enclosed by a **process**.
- 2) Every statement will be executed once whenever any signal in the right-hand-side of statement changes.

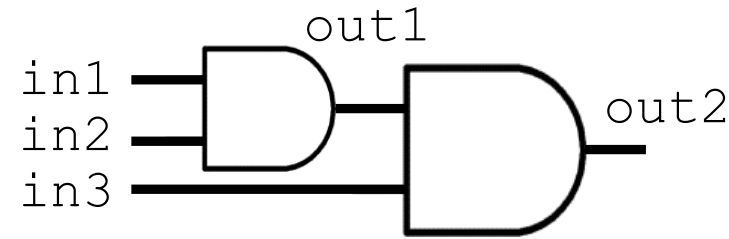
- **Sequential Statement**

- 1) Statements within a process are executed **sequentially**, and the result is obtained when the process is complete.
- 2) **process (sensitivity list)**: Whenever any signals in the sensitivity list changes its state, the process executes once.
- 3) A **process** can be treated as one **concurrent statement** in the architecture body.

Concurrent with Sequential



```
1 library IEEE; --vivado14.4 ok
2 use IEEE.STD_LOGIC_1164.ALL;
3 entity conc_ex is
4 port (in1,in2,in3: in std_logic;
5       out1,out2 : inout std_logic);
6 end conc_ex;
7 architecture for_ex_arch of conc_ex is
8 begin
```



```
9 process (in1, in2)
10 begin
11     out1 <= in1 and in2;
12 end process;
```

```
13 out2 <= out1 and in3; -- concurrent statement
```

```
14 end for_ex_arch;
```

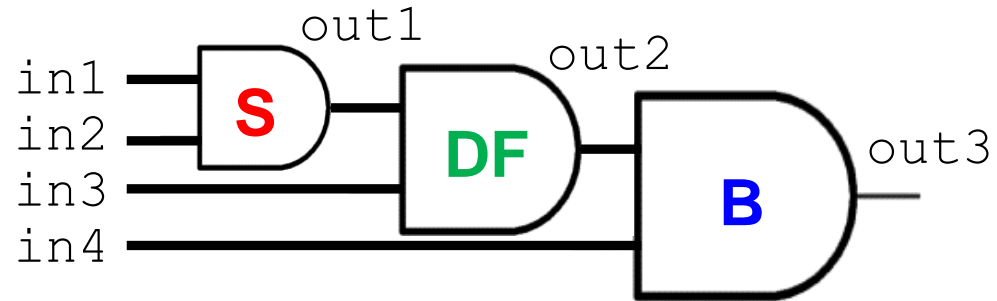
The process (9-12) and
line 13 are concurrent
and can be interchanged!

Class Exercise 1.7

Student ID: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____

- Use **structural**, **data flow**, and **behavioral** designs to implement the following circuit in VHDL:





- **Basic Structure of a VHDL Module**
 - 1) Library Declaration
 - 2) Entity Declaration
 - External Signal (I/O Pins)
 - 3) **Architecture Body**
 - Internal Signal
 - Architectural Design Methods
 - ① Data Flow Design (concurrent statements)
 - ② Structural Design (“`port map`”)
 - ③ Behavioral Design (sequential statements)
 - Concurrent vs. Sequential Statements
 - **Design Constructions**



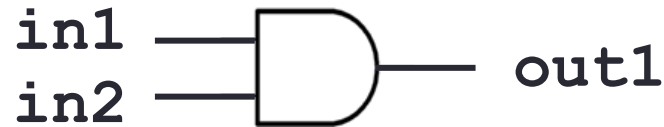
- **Concurrent:** Statements that can be stand-alone
 - 1) `when-else`
 - 2) `with-select-when`

Concurrent: **OUTSIDE** process

- **Sequential:** Statements inside the **process**
 - 1) `if-then-else`
 - 2) `case-when`
 - 3) `for-in-to-loop`

Sequential – **INSIDE** process

Concurrent 1) when-else



```
1 library IEEE;
2 use IEEE.STD_LOGIC_1164.ALL;
3 entity when_ex is
4 port (in1, in2 : in std_logic;
5       out1 : out std_logic);
6 end when_ex;
7 architecture when_ex_arch of when_ex is
8 begin
9     out1 <= '1' when in1 = '1' and in2 = '1' else '0';
10 end when_ex_arch;
```

Condition based

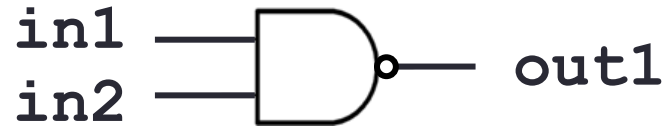
when condition is true then out1 <= '1'
otherwise then out1 <= '0'

Class Exercise 1.8

Student ID: _____ Date: _____

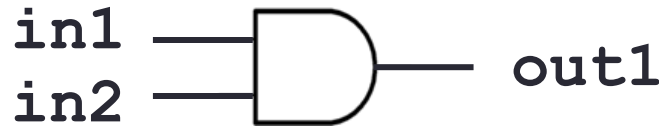
Name: _____

- Fill in line 9 using **when-else**:



```
1 library IEEE;
2 use IEEE.STD_LOGIC_1164.ALL;
3 entity when_ex is
4 port (in1, in2 : in std_logic;
5       out1 : out std_logic);
6 end when_ex;
7 architecture when_ex_arch of when_ex is
8 begin
9 _____
10 end when_ex_arch;
```


Concurrent 2) with-select-when



```
1 library IEEE;
2 use IEEE.STD_LOGIC_1164.ALL;
3 entity when_ex is
4 port (in1, in2 : in std_logic;
5       out1 : out std_logic);
6 end when_ex;
7 architecture when_ex_arch of when_ex is
8 begin
9     with in1 select Signal based
10    out1 <= in2 when '1', ← when in1='1' then out1 <= in2
11    '0' when others; ← when in1 = other cases
12    then out1 <= '0'
end when_ex_arch;
```

Class Exercise 1.9

Student ID: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____

- Fill in lines 10~11 using **with-select-when**:

```
1 library IEEE;
```

```
2 use IEEE.STD_LOGIC_1164.ALL;
```

```
3 entity when_ex is
```

```
4 port (in1, in2 : in std_logic;
```

```
5         out1 : out std_logic);
```

```
6 end when_ex;
```

```
7 architecture when_ex_arch of when_ex is
```

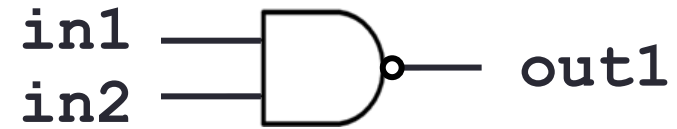
```
8 begin
```

```
9     with in1 select
```

```
10
```

```
11
```

```
12 end when_ex_arch;
```



when-else VS. with-select-when



- Concurrent 1) when-else: **Condition** based

```
out1 <= '1' when in1 = '1' and in2 = '1' else '0';
```

when in1='1' and in2='1' then out1 <= '1', otherwise out <= '0'

- Concurrent 2) with-select-when: **Signal** based

```
with in1 select
```

```
out1 <= in2 when '1', ← when in1='1' then out1 <= in2
```

```
'0' when others; ← when in1 = other cases
```

then out1 <= '0'

Design Constructions



- **Concurrent:** Statements that can be stand-alone
 - 1) `when-else`
 - 2) `with-select-when`

Concurrent: **OUTSIDE** process

- **Sequential:** Statements inside the **process**
 - 1) `if-then-else`
 - 2) `case-when`
 - 3) `for-in-to-loop`

Sequential – **INSIDE** process

Sequential 1) if-then-else



entity `if_ex` is

```
port(in1,in2: in std_logic;
      out1: out std_logic);
```

end `if_ex`;

architecture `if_ex_arch` of `if_ex` is

begin

```
process (b)
```

```
begin
```

```
    if in1 = '1' and in2 = '1' then
```

```
        out1 <= '1';
```

```
    else
```

```
        out1 <= '0';
```

```
    end if;
```

```
end process;
```

```
end if_ex_arch;
```

```
if (cond) then
    statement;
end if;
```

```
if (cond) then
    statement1;
else
    statement2;
end if;
```

```
if (cond1) then
    statement1;
elsif (cond2) then
    statement2;
elsif ...
    ...
else
    statementn;
end if;
```

Sequential 2) case-when



```
entity test_case is
  port ( in1, in2: in std_logic;
        out1,out2: out std_logic);
end test_case;
architecture case_arch of test_case is
  signal b : std_logic_vector (1 downto 0);
begin
```

```
  process (b)
  begin
```

```
    case b is
    when "00"|"11"
    when others
    end case;
```

"00" | "11" means case "00" or "11"

"=>" means "implies" not "bigger"

```
=> out1 <= '0';
    out2 <= '1';
=> out1 <= '1';
    out2 <= '0';
```

*All cases must be present:
Use **others** to complete all cases*

```
  end process;
  b <= in1 & in2;
end case_arch;
```

Class Exercise 1.10

Student ID: _____ Date: _____
Name: _____

```
1 entity test_case is
2   port ( in1, in2: in std_logic;
3         out1,out2: out std_logic);
4 end test_case;
5 architecture case_arch of test_case is
6   signal b : std_logic_vector (1 downto 0);
7 begin
8   process (b)
9   begin
10      case b is
11      when "00"|"11" => out1 <= '0';
12                          out2 <= '1';
13      when others      => out1 <= '1';
14                          out2 <= '0';
15      end case;
16   end process;
17   b <= in1 & in2;
18 end case_arch;
```

- List line numbers of concurrent statements:
Answer:

- Fill in the truth table:

b (1)	b (0)	out1	out2
0	0		
0	1		
1	0		
1	1		

Concurrent vs. Sequential Constructions



Concurrent

when-else

```
b <= "1000" when a = "00" else  
"0100" when a = "01" else  
"0010" when a = "10" else  
"0001" when a = "11";
```

Sequential

if-then-else

```
if a = "00" then b <= "1000"  
elsif a = "01" then b <= "0100"  
elsif a = "10" then b <= "0010"  
else b <= "0001"  
end if;
```

with-select-when

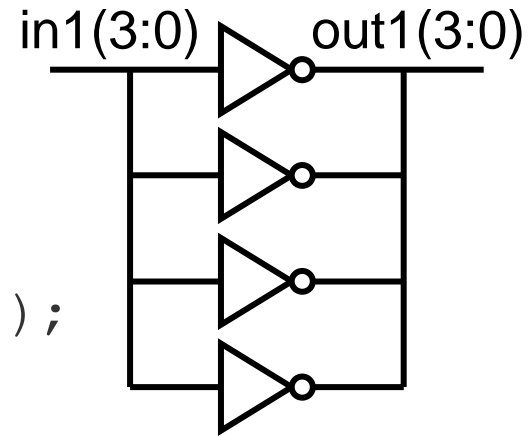
```
with a select  
b <= "1000" when "00",  
"0100" when "01",  
"0010" when "10",  
"0001" when "11";
```

case-when

```
case a is  
when "00" => b <= "1000";  
when "01" => b <= "0100";  
when "10" => b <= "0010";  
when others => b <= "0001";  
end case;
```


Sequential 3) loop (1/2)

```
library IEEE;
use IEEE.STD_LOGIC_1164.ALL;
entity for_ex is
port (in1: in std_logic_vector(3 downto 0);
      out1: out std_logic_vector(3 downto 0));
end for_ex;
architecture for_ex_arch of for_ex is
begin
```



```
    process (in1)          for-loop
    begin
        for i in 0 to 3 loop
            out1(i) <= not in1(i);
        end loop;
    end process;
```

```
    process (in1)          while-loop
    variable i: integer := 0;
    begin
        i := 0;
        while i < 4 loop
            out1(i) <= not in1(i);
            i := i + 1;
        end loop;
    end process;
```

```
end for_ex_arch;
```

Sequential 3) loop (2/2)



- for-loop

```
for i in 0 to 3 loop
  out1(i) <= not in1(i);
end loop;
```

- No need to declare the loop index (e.g., **i**).
 - It is implicitly declared within the loop.
 - It may not be modified within the loop (e.g., **i := i-1;**).
- `for-loop` is generally **supported** for synthesis.

- while-loop

```
variable i: integer:=0;
...
while i < 4 loop
  out1(i) <= not in1(i);
  ...
end loop;
```

- The while loop repeats if the condition tested is true.
 - The condition is tested before each iteration.
- `while-loop` is supported by **some** logic synthesis tools with **restrictions**.

https://www.ics.uci.edu/~jmoorkan/vhdlref/for_loop.html
<https://www.ics.uci.edu/~jmoorkan/vhdlref/while.html>



```
variable VAR_NAME: <type> [:= <value>];
```

Note: Variables can be declared without initialized values.

- **Examples:**

- `variable VAR_NAME: STD_LOGIC;`

- Declared without initialized value

- `variable VAR_NAME : STD_LOGIC := '1';`

- Variables can only be declared/used in the `process`.
- Variables are used only by programmers for internal representation (less direct relationship to hardware).

Signal vs. Variable Assignment



- Both **signals** and **variables** can be declared without initialized values.

- `signal SIG_NAME: <type> [:= <value>];`
 - `variable VAR_NAME: <type> [:= <value>];`

- Their values can be assigned after declaration.
 - Syntax of **signal** assignment:

```
SIG_NAME <=> <expression>;
```

- Syntax of **variable** assignment:

```
VAR_NAME := <expression>;
```

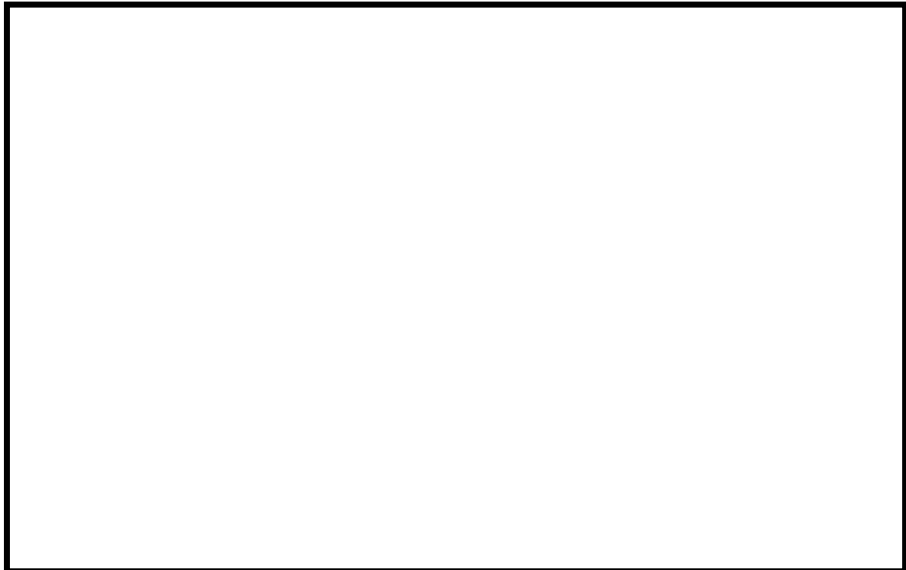
Class Exercise 1.11

Student ID: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____

- Rewrite *arch1* without using a process()

```
architecture arch1 of ex1
is
begin
    process (in1)
    begin
        for i in 0 to 3 loop
            out1(i) <= not in1(i);
        end loop;
    end process;
end for_ex_arch;
```

```
architecture arch1 of ex1
is
begin

end for_ex_arch;
```

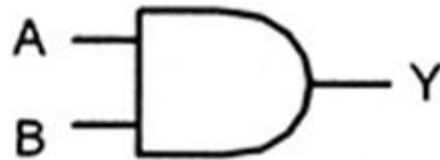


- Basic Structure of a VHDL Module
 - 1) Library Declaration
 - 2) Entity Declaration
 - External Signal (I/O Pins)
 - 3) Architecture Body
 - Internal Signal
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Review: Basic Gates in Logic Circuits



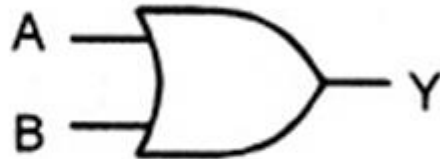
2-input
AND gate



A	B	Y
0	0	0
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	1

$$Y = A \cdot B$$

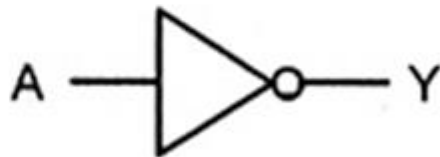
2-input
OR gate



A	B	Y
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	1

$$Y = A + B$$

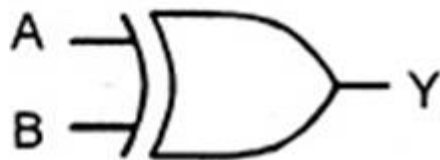
Inverter
(NOT gate)



A	Y
0	1
1	0

$$Y = \bar{A}$$

2-input
EX-OR
gate



A	B	Y
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	0

$$Y = A \oplus B$$

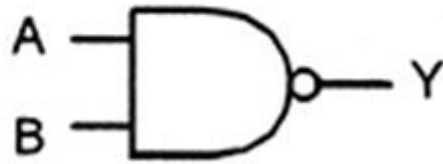
Review: NAND and NOR Gates



- In many technologies, implementation of **NAND gates** or **NOR gates** is easier than that of AND or OR gates.

– NAND Gate:

2-input
NAND
gate

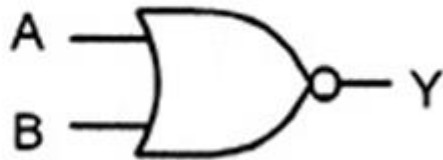


A	B	Y
0	0	1
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	0

$$Y = \overline{A \cdot B}$$

– NOR Gate:

2-input
NOR
gate



A	B	Y
0	0	1
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	0

$$Y = \overline{A + B}$$

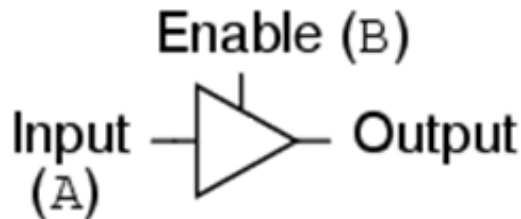
- Any logic function can be realized using only NAND gates or only NOR gates.

Review: Tristate Logic



- The concept of **tristate logic** is also essential in digital system designs.
 - Directly connecting outputs of two gates together might not operate properly, and might cause damage to the circuit.
 - One way is to use **tristate buffers**.
- Tristate buffers are gates with a **high impedance state (High-Z or Z)** in addition to high and low logic states.
 - High impedance state is equivalent to an **open circuit**.

Tristate buffer symbol



Truth table

A	B	Output
0	0	High-Z
0	1	0
1	0	High-Z
1	1	1



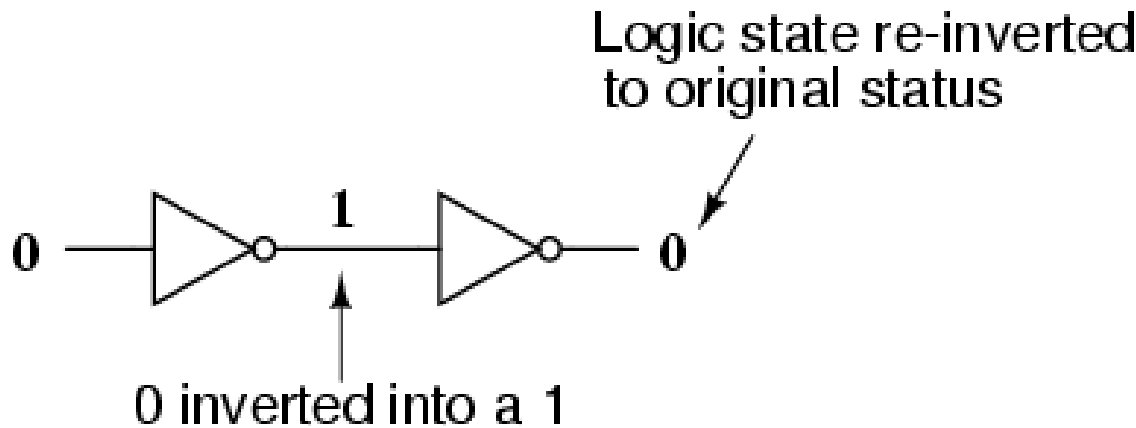
(analogy)

Review: Buffer Gate

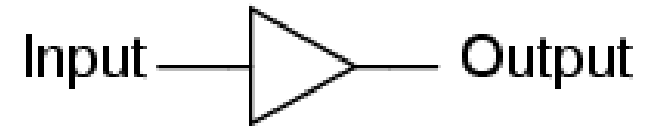


- **Double inversion** would “cancel” each other out.
 - A weak signal may be **amplified** by means of two inverters.
- For this purpose, a special logic gate called a **buffer gate** is manufactured to perform the double inversion.
 - Its symbol is simply a **triangle**, **with no inverting “bubble”** on the output terminal:

Double inversion



"Buffer" gate



Input	Output
0	0
1	1