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Lab 1
Introduction to Workview

1 Objectives

The question "Is what I asked for what I wanted?" is ubiquitous in design; this lab introduces the tools we use to "ask for" designs, and the tools we use to try to answer this question. We use a "schematic capture" system (really just a schematic-specific drawing program) to specify designs, and a circuit simulator to estimate how those designs will behave when we build them.

We use Workview Office, an extensive electronic CAD (Computer-Aided Design) system that allows you to enter digital circuit schematics and simulate them. The six parts you will use in this lab are

- **Workview office manager**—A menubar which launches other applications. The icon on the far left is a menu, and you can add other icons.
- **Project Manager**—creates/manages projects
- **ViewDraw**—schematic capture
- **ViewVsm**—prepares ViewDraw schematics for simulation
- **ViewSim**—logic circuit simulation
- **Vwave**—graphical display of simulation waveforms

Workview Office, like most Windows programs, uses small, unclear icons for different features. However, if you hold your mouse over one of the icons for a few seconds, a little flag will pop up naming that button. The Workview Office programs can be launched from the program manager, or from the button bar. Sometimes the button bar will be full of applications, and other times it will be empty, so when in doubt, use the Program Manager.

2 Prelab

Things to do/know *before* coming to lab:

- **Learn Windows:** Workview runs under Microsoft Windows NT 4.0 (same interface as Windows 95), so you need to know how to use pull-down menus, move windows, get around the program and file manager, etc. Your best bet is to bother a colleague, but the TAs may also be helpful.

  Save your work often. This is your only real defense against software bugs. Saving your work often means both on the network, and onto your personal floppy disk. For periodic excitement, Windows NT and the network will combine to randomly trucate saved files. For safety, first make sure those files you think you are copying from the network to your floppy are not corrupted. We will announce outbreaks of network flakiness, usually in November, but you don't want to be the one who finds the problem by losing half your file contents. This is good practice for the "Real World", where snafus also can't be avoided.

  Remember, `Ctrl-Alt-Del` is your friend (this interrupts things under Windows NT, giving you a chance to kill buggy programs, change your password, etc).

  When a particular mouse button isn't mentioned, assume the left. For example "click" usually means "click with the left mouse button."

- **Read through this lab.**

3 Get Started

A word of warning: Really big systems like Windows and Workview are never entirely bug-free or perfectly set up, so don't be surprised when something unexpected like an incomprehensible error message comes up. The best thing to do is to click OK and hope that that it is. Especially ignore things concerning license keys.

Power on the computer if necessary. It should happily boot into Windows NT. Log in. Your log in name should be your Cory account log in name. If you do not have a cory account, you will need to obtain one and contact your lab TA.

4 Start Workview

To enter a schematic, you need to start Workview and create a "project." Workview should place a menu bar in the upper right-hand corner of your screen when you log in. You can add programs to this menu for easy access, but for now, open ViewDraw from the Program Manager, in the Workview section.

4.1 Start Project Manager

Double-click the Project Manager icon (it looks like a file drawer) to start the Workview environment. The Program Manager program manages projects (collections of schematics).

4.2 Create a New Project

First, you need to select a directory for your project. In the place where in says primary directory, choose browse and type U:\username\lab1. You also need to add the necessary libraries. In the New Project Wizard, when prompted to import a new search order, select U:\WVLIB\VIEWDRAW.INI, and click OK. This adds all the needed libraries. Once this is done, choose Save from the File menu.

4.3 Start ViewDraw

¿From the Program Manager, start ViewDraw to create a schematic. Ignore any error messages by clicking OK. From the file menu, select New. When it asks for type, select schematic, and name it MYXOR.

The ViewDraw window has a line of menus across the top, a drawing area in the center, and rows of buttons across the left and the right. The buttons on the left are for selecting and drawing, and the ones on the right control the view.

The buttons on the left control the function of the left mouse button. From the top down, they are:

1. Select
2. Add Component
3. Add Fub
4. Add Net
5. Add Bus
6. Add Pin
7. Add Array
8. Draw Arc
9. Draw Box
10. Draw Circle

11. Draw Line
12. Insert Text

For the select button, clicking on an item selects it, or you can drag to select a group. Double clicking on an item brings up a properties dialog, and dragging on a selected object moves it around. Holding down control while dragging, copies objects. Hitting delete will remove all selected objects.

The Add Component button brings up a dialog box, which will allow you select a component from a library (xc4000e). Click on the image of the component and then clicking in the work area will put down a component, and then it will retun to select mode. Other options just allow you to click and drag to add an item.

The right hand buttons control the view. They are (from top to bottom)

1. Full Page (views entire page)
2. Zoom in
3. Zoom out
4. Zoom in an area
5. Zoom in on selected items
6. Save current zoom
7. Restore zoom
8. Open Symbol
9. Open Schematic
10. Go to the next page of the same schematic.

In addition, ViewDraw has compiled a list of all the functions most commonly used and placed it into 1 menu that can be accessed by simply holding down the mouse's right button while the mouse is within the span of the Workspace (see the next section). Move the mouse, while the right button is still depressed, up or down to access the different functions or submenus of still more functions.

4.4 Workspace

The ViewDraw window displays a reduced view of the 11 by 17 inch (B-sized) schematic drawing area, so a normal-sized gate will appear very small to begin with. Increase the zoom four times to increase the view until a grid appears. Later, when you have added some components, you may want to try the zoom and pan features.

5 Enter an XOR Gate Schematic

Use ViewDraw to create a schematic for an XOR gate using Figure 1 as a guide.

5.1 Add Components

We need four NAND2 gates to build an XOR. Place them as follows:

1. Select the add component button.
2. Select the (xc4000e) library.
3. Scroll the list of buttons in the top of the dialog and click the NAND2.1 item in the list.
4. Click on the symbol of the NAND2.

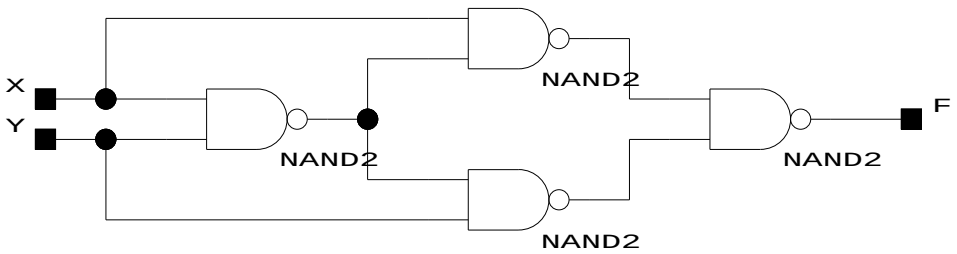


Figure 1: Schematic for an xor

5. Drag the component dialog out of the way and move the outline of the NAND gate to where you want it placed.

6. Press the left mouse button to place the component.

7. To place another component of the same type, repeat the process. Or, you may want to try the Edit ⇒ Copy function.

5.2 Add and Delete Wires

Erudite electrical engineers call wires "nets." We will, too.

- Select the net button to start creating wires.

- Left-click over a pin on a gate (an input or output) or on an existing net to add a segment, and drag to the destination. If the destination is on a pin of a gate, the net will be completed. Doing this in empty space allows you to put bends in nets where you want them. Doing this on an existing net will connect them and draw a red circle (a "solder dot") at the connection point.

- If the destination is an empty location, you will create a *dangling net*, indicated by a big red box on the end of the net.

  Dangling nets can be later extended to complete nets, or can be used to indicate an input or output wire that eventually will be connected to other schematics.

- Choose the select button, and left-click to select segments of nets you want to remove (it will turn white when selected), and press the `Del` key to remove the net(s). This also works for gates.

- Go into select mode, and left-click to select segments to move, and drag to move it around.

5.3 Add Labels

Label every dangling net in your schematic so the outside world (in this case, the simulator ViewSim – see the section below) has a way to refer to the inputs and outputs of your design. Move into select mode.

1. Double-click one of the dangling nets (with a red square at the end), which brings up a dialog box.

2. Ensure that Visible and Local are selected, and Inverted is not selected.

3. Enter the name you want for the selected net, making sure that no special caracters are used besides "_" (underscore). E.g., X, Y, and F. Click OK.

4. You can then select the label and drag it around, to a position which suits your taste.

It is unnecessary to draw wires between everything you want connected: nets with the same label in the same component[1] are connected implicitly. When this facility makes your schematic clearer, use it. In addition, a schematic may consist of multiple pages, each ending in .1, .2 etc. Such nets are connected across multiple sheets of the same schematic. Although this is often a useful feature, it may confuse a schematic, making it harder to debug.

5.4 Save the Schematic

Select File ⇒ Save and Check to save your work. Saving a design performs some simple checks on it, such as verifying that no net is given two different labels. Keep correcting errors and saving until no errors appear.

Remember to save often and use Save and Check, otherwise, no new netlist is created!

5.5 Print the Schematic

There are too few trees in the world as it is, and 210 students each printing fifteen copies of some silly little XOR schematic doesn't help the problem. So please print only if you find it absolutely necessary. We do not require a printout for the lab—just show it to the TA.

6 Run ViewSim

6.1 Create the Wirelist

Much of CAD is converting information from one form to another, often just to make it more palatable for the next converter. For example, ViewDraw has a particular way of looking at a design (gates with drawn nets, labels, etc.), but the simulator ViewSim doesn't care about where the nets are drawn, only what they connect. Thus, the program ViewVsm is used to convert from what ViewDraw likes to what ViewSim likes.

Select the ViewVSM application, and have it run on the design name MYXOR. If all goes well, you will see 0 error(s) and 0 warning(s) in file myxor.vsm. If not, return to ViewDraw and correct any errors. Re-run ViewVSM until you get no errors.

6.2 Start ViewSim

1. Click ViewSim in the Workview menu bar, or open it from the Program Manager.

2. Open the netlist by choosing File ⇒ Load Viewsim Netlist. ViewSim will report any errors it finds in the schematic and leave you with a window.

Although there is an interface which is graphical, it is still primarily a command prompt based program. You enter commands in the little box in the lower, left hand corner of the screen.

6.3 Simulate Your XOR

Type the following commands into the command box:

[1] Nets with the same name in different components are *not* connected.

```
w x y f
l x y
sim
h y
sim
h x
l y
sim
h y
sim
```

The `w` command tells ViewSim to "watch" the specified nets, that is, to print their logic values after each simulation step. The results print out in to the middle of the window. The `h` command sets a net to a logic 1, and the `l` command sets a net to a logic 0. The `sim` command makes the simulator perform a simulation step, propagating input values to compute new outputs in the logic network. By default, ViewSim used a simulation stepsize of 100 ns. You can change this with a command such as `stepsize 500ns`.

Such a sequence of commands can also be executed by placing them into a file with the extension `.CMD` and typing that name in the command box.

ViewDraw can be used to observe the state of the simulation. Bring up a ViewDraw window with the schematic as it is being simulated. Inputs, outputs, and pins on gates will have ones, zeros, and (more likely when you begin) X's indicating their current state. An X means the value is uncertain or undefined. If you change the schematic while simulating, you must re-run vsm and restart ViewSim before those changes will affect the simulation.

For more information, try the `help` command in ViewSim.

6.4 Use VWaves

ViewTrace can display the results of simulation as graphical waveforms instead of ones and zeros. Enter `wave MYXOR.vcd f x y` in `ViewSim` to start up VWaves and specify which signals to display. Then enter restart and re-enter the commands from the previous section to exercise the circuit. Zoom in on a particular time interval to view gate delays, using the Zoom menu.[2]

Close both VWaves and ViewSim when you are done.

Note: VWaves is an upgraded version of ViewTrace which we used in Fall 1997. As an added feature, signal lines are sometimes missing from the screen. Relaunching VWaves generally makes the missing signals show up.

7 Create a Symbol

To use your XOR gate in other schematics, you need to create a symbol for it. Like the NAND gates you used, the symbol for the XOR gate will consist of a shape with some pins where nets can connect. With this symbol, your XOR gate can be used just like you used the NAND gates.

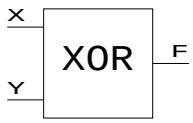


Figure 2: Symbol for an xor

Start ViewDraw if necessary. Choose File ⇒ New, and make a new symbol, named MYXOR.

7.1 Draw the Symbol

Draw a box one tick mark in from the boundary.

1. Click on the box tool.

[2] Unfortunately, the Xilinx libraries do not have reliable timing information for real designs, so these delays should not be used when designing for the Xilinx. It is actually impossible to accurately model the gate delays in an FPGA, as we will discuss later.

2. Click in one corner and drag your mouse across to the desired opposite corner. Release the mouse button to complete the box.

7.2 Add Pins

You need to define the interface between your XOR schematic and the outside world. ViewDraw uses "pins" to define which signals enter and leave a schematic. We need to add pins named X, Y, and F, which connect to the three dangling nets in the XOR schematic, or, if you came up with new names in your own schematic, make sure that you use those same names then in your own symbol. Use the following procedure to add three pins to your symbol.

1. Select the pin tool.
2. Left-click on the edge of the box you drew to start a pin, and drag to the outer box to complete it.

7.3 Label Pins

The pins need to be labeled with names corresponding to nets in the schematic. Use the following procedure to label the three pins X, Y, and F. Go into select mode and double click on a pin. In the dialog box, enter the label name, either X, Y, or F. You also need to set the attributes. Make the PINTYPE attribute be IN for X and Y, and OUT for pin F, and make the attribute invisible so that you do not see it.

Note: Pins may be both inputs and outputs by setting PINTYPE = BI. None of the pins in the XOR symbol should be given this type.

7.4 Add Text

To distinguish our XOR gate from every other box-shaped symbol, we will write "MYXOR" on it as follows.

1. Choose the text tool.
2. Click where you want the text to appear.
3. Go into select mode, and double click on the text to change it to "MYXOR".

7.5 Save It

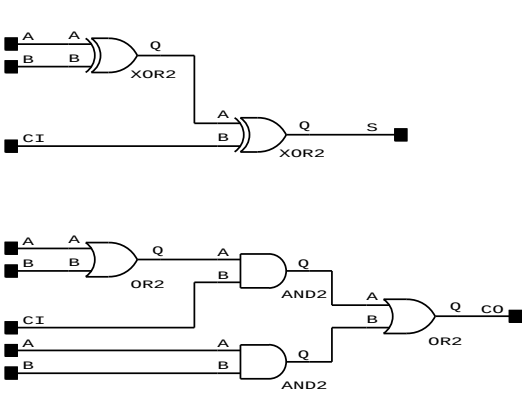
Save the symbol by selecting File ⇒ Save. The symbol can now be used in other schematics.

8 4-Bit Ripple Adder

In this section, you will use Workview to draw and simulate a full-adder, then you will extend this basic block to a 4-bit ripple adder.

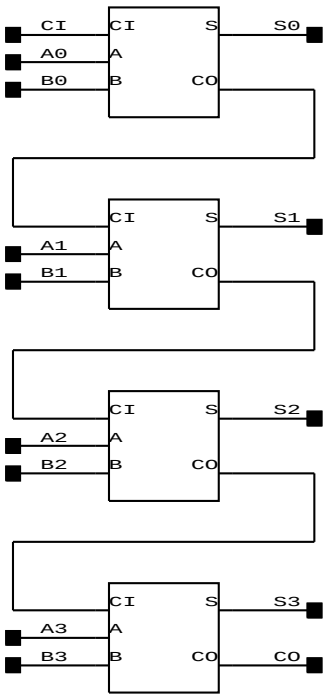
The truth table in Figure 3a defines a full-adder. The full-adder has three inputs, A, B (two addends), and CI (carry in), and two outputs, S (sum) and CO (carry out).

A multi-bit ripple adder can be built from smaller multi-bit ripple adders or single bit adders (a full adder). Figure 3b shows a 4-bit ripple adder built from four full-adders. A 4-bit adder adds two 4-bit numbers to produce a 4-bit result and a carry out bit. Enter the design and simulate with the data as shown on the checkoff page.



A	B	CI	S	CO
0	0	0	0	0
0	0	1	1	0
0	1	0	1	0
0	1	1	0	1
1	0	0	1	0
1	0	1	0	1
1	1	0	0	1
1	1	1	1	1

(a)



(b)

Figure 3: (a) full-adder and (b) 4-bit adder

Name: _____

Lab Section (Check one)

M: ☐AM ☐PM T: ☐AM ☐PM W: ☐AM ☐PM Th: ☐PM

9 Checkoffs

To save yourself (and the TA) time, complete *all* the sections below, then have the TA examine your work.

9.1 Create and Simulate a Full Adder Cell

Figure 3a shows a typical full-adder. Enter it into Workview and build a symbol for it. Bring up ViewSim and ViewTrace, and simulate the full adder to obtain a waveform representation of the truth table.

Show your TA a working full adder

TA: _____(40%)

9.2 Create 4-Bit Adder

Using Figure 3b as a guide, build a 4-bit adder

TA: _____(20%)

9.3 Simulate the 4-Bit Adder

Simulate the 4-bit adder for the following inputs and determine the delay through the adder for each.

	Delay
0000 + 0000	_____
0101 + 1111	_____
0000 + 1111	_____
1111 + 0001	_____

- What is the worst-case delay for this adder?
- Why do you think this is the maximum?

TA: _____(40%)

9.4 Turned In On Time

TA: _____(full credit (100%))

9.5 Turned In One Week Late

TA: _____(1/2 credit (50% x Points))