

DESIGN A MODULE OF 256×16 NON-VOLATILE RAM FOR VECTORIZATION WITH CHIP AREA & WIRE LENGTH MINIMIZATION

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ABSTRACT: - *This paper describes a design methodology of a 256×16 RAM using VHDL to ease the description, verification, simulation and hardware realization. The 256×16 RAM has 16-bit data length. This can read and write 16-bit data. Vectorizing involves parallel access to data elements from a random access memory (RAM). However, a single memory module of conventional design can access no more than one word during each cycle of the memory clock. In this paper, a new memory organization is proposed, in which words can be formed row-wise, column-wise or diagonally at the control of an external input. The behavioral and structural representation of this design has been defined.*

Index Terms: VHDL, XILLINX, RAM, C-RAM, M-RAM, TWB, SBO

1. INTRODUCTION

The continuing research and development (R&D) effort directed toward VLSI memory technology has led to memory LSIs with lower cost, smaller size, higher speed, and more ease of use, giving system designers invaluable benefits. In the design of memory systems for specific applications, it is important to be able to analyze in prior which data parallel access capabilities are necessary to complete the computations within a cycle budget. This information can be used to determine the minimum bandwidth that is required for the memory architecture. This problem is referred to as the Storage Bandwidth Optimization (SBO) problem. Methods to handle the SBO problem have been addressed in [1][2]. In [1], a conflict graph is derived, and the effect of the changes in the conflict graph on the memory configuration (number of modules, number of ports) is described. A memory architecture that satisfies all the constraints in this graph has to be then determined. The method in [2] uses a search procedure based on area and power costs to achieve this. Recently, a procedure for memory bank customization and assignment that considers area and delay costs has been presented in [3].

2. BEHAVIOURAL DESCRIPTION OF RAM

Conventional memories of size $N \times N$ consist of N words, each of them consisting of N bits. To address this memory we need $\log_2 N$ bits to be fed to the address decoder. This type of memory requires N address lines and N data lines. Our vector memory of the same size consists of N horizontal words, N vertical words, and 2 diagonal words. To address it we need $\log_2 N$ address bits plus 2 tag bits to be fed to the address decoder. It requires $2N + 2$ address lines, and $2N$ data lines[4].

3. STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION OF RAM

In this section, we present a 256×16 memory system for the proposed row, column, and diagonals access. As concluded in the previous section, $\log_2 N$ address bits plus 2 tag bits are required to drive $2N + 2$ address lines in our memory system for vectorizing. The $\log_2 N$ bits indicate the word number, while the two tag bits indicate the way this word is formed.

4. RAM DESIGN METHODOLOGY

We are already familiar with the concept of a one bit memory. A single D-type flip flop is a one bit memory with which we can associate a unique address by using a decoder. If a decoder detects the unique binary address of its one bit memory cell on the address lines it will enable the cell. The two AND gates determine whether data is read or written. If the Read input is 1 the clock pulse is suppressed and the Q value is placed on the output data line. If the Read input is 0 the flip flop receives a clock pulse and is loaded from the data in line. Notice the asymmetry in the circuit. For reading it is merely a combinational circuit, but for writing the address and data must be present and correct when the clock pulse sets the flip flop. RAM circuits conforming to this pattern are called static RAMs, and are used in special applications [5]

4.1 Conventional RAM

conventional RAM is just a 1D RAM structure. Block diagram of conventional ram is given below

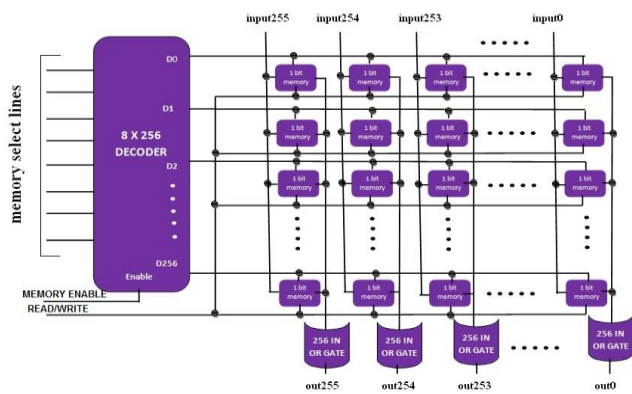


Figure 1: Block diagram of conventional 256x16 RAM

4.2 Modified RAM

In modified 2D RAM systems, each address line passes through a row of cells in the memory array, so that only cells of the same row can be accessed simultaneously. That is, memory cells are grouped together to form rows. However, since we are interested in accessing simultaneously not only cells of a row but also of a column or a diagonal, we need a way to also group together cells of columns and diagonals. This can be easily achieved by having extra address lines.[4]. The block diagram of modified RAM is given below

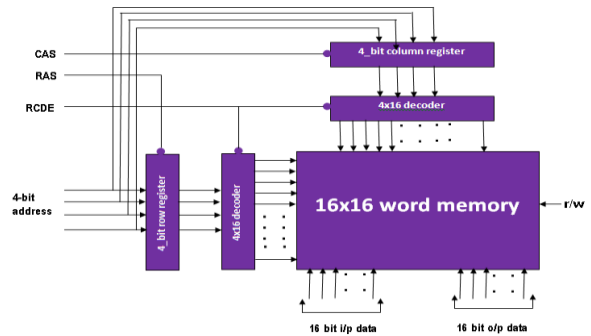


Figure 2: Block diagram of modified 256x16 RAM

4.3 Conventional 256x16 RAM (C-RAM) Vs Modified 256x16 RAM (M-RAM)

The basic difference between conventional non-virtual 256x16 RAM and modified non-virtual 256x16 RAM is that there is concept of row memory select & column memory select in modified non-virtual 256x16 RAM i.e 2-D memory selection occurs, however in conventional non-virtual 256x16 RAM 1-D memory selection occurs.

Table.1: Logic Components used in C-RAM VS M-RAM

Logic components used	Conventional 256x16 RAM		Modified 256x16 RAM	
Memory cell	Conventional memory cell	4096	Modified memory cell	4096
Decoder	8X256 decoder	1	4x16 decoder	2
OR gate	256 input OR gate	1	----	----
Register	----	----	4-bit register	2

5. SIMULATION RESULT

5.1 VHDL Test Bench Waveform of Conventional 256x16 RAM

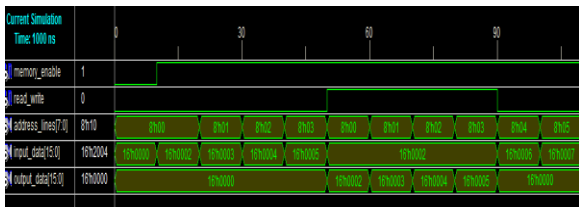


Figure 3: TBW of conventional 256x16 RAM from 0ns to 90ns

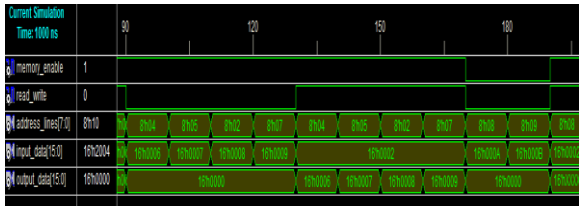


Figure 4: TBW of conventional 256x16 RAM from 90ns to 180ns

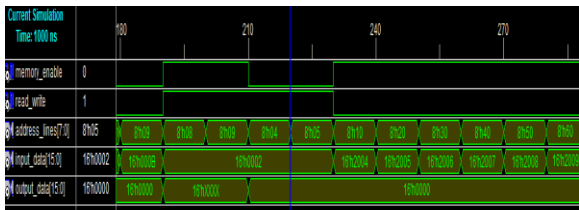


Figure 5: TBW of conventional 256x16 RAM from 180ns to 270ns

5.2 Test Bench Waveform of Modified 256x16 RAM

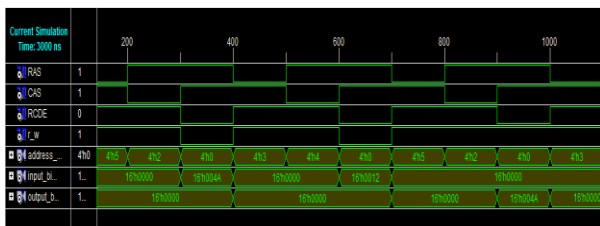


Figure 6: test bench waveform of modified RAM from 0ns to 700ns

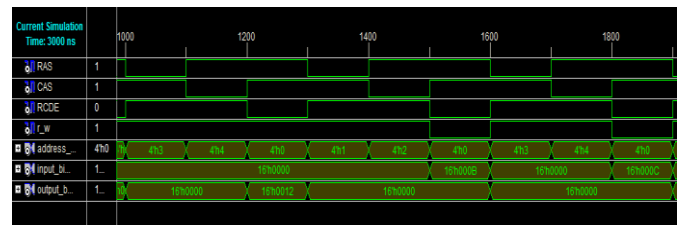


Figure 7: test bench waveform of modified RAM from 700ns to 1800ns

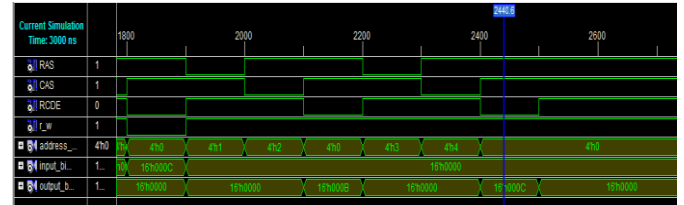


Figure 8: test bench waveform of modified RAM from 1800ns to 2600ns

6. EXPERIMENTAL RESULT

6.1 Cell Usage

Cell usage indicates the transistor count in the design. Cell usage for both RAMs are given under

Table.2: cell usage

	CONVENTIONAL RAM	MODIFIED RAM
BELS	58218	47702
AND2	28780	12658
AND3	16	18
AND4	4236	372
AND7	128	80
AND8	400	406
INV	20514	21440
OR2	4128	4128
OR4	16	16
FF/TACHES	4104	4096
LD	4104	4096
IBUF	24	26
OBUF	16	16

6.2 Delay Table

It is the actually pad to pad delay during read_write operation. pad to pad delay is one of the important factor for memory design. It indicate the time to propgate from (i) input to memory, (ii) memory to output & finally (iii) input to output. The minimization pad to pad delay confirms the wire length minimization.

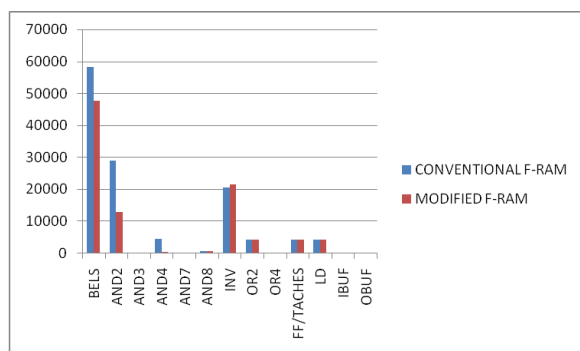
Table for pad to pad delay for both RAMs are given below

Table.3: pad to pad delay

	source pad	destination pad	delay	operation
conventional RAM	input	memory	74.26	write
	memory	output	74.26	read
modified RAM	input	memory	68.66	write
	memory	output	68.66	read

7. CONCLUSION

The cell usage in conventional & modified RAM is differentiated by a bar graph which is presented below



This bar graph indicates the component used in conventional as well as modified RAM. Here almost all section component used in modified RAM in lesser than that of conventional, which indicate the all over area minimization in chip of modified RAM.

Form the delay table of experimental result, in conventional RAM pad to pad delay during R/W operation is 74.26ns,

however in modified RAM pad to pad delay is 68.66ns, which indicates wire length minimization in modified RAM.

8. REFERENCES

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