

STA summary

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1. STA:

a. delay calculation considering PVT corners:

- i. cell delay && net delay
- ii. crosstalk delta delay
- iii. clock uncertainty
- iv. clock latency
- v. clock recovery
- vi. CRPR
- vii. derating delay for OCV by PVT variation

b. define appropriate SDC:

- i. one-cycle path
- ii. multicycle path
- iii. false path
- iv. set_disable_timing
- v. half-cycle path
- vi. time across clock domain
- vii. multiple clock
- viii. data to data
- ix. clock gating

c. obtain slack by setup check && hold check

2. Tlaunch && Tcapture (the appropriate time for setup check && hold check) by:

- a. one-cycle path
- b. multicycle path
 - i. set_multicycle_path 3 -setup \ -from [get_pins UFF0/Q] \ -to [get_pins UFF1/D]
- c. half-cycle path
 - i. to relax hold check
- d. timing across clock domain
 - i. set_multicycle_path 4 -setup \ -from [get_clocks CLKM] -to [get_clocks CLKP] -end
- e. multiple clock
 - i. integer multiple
 - ii. non-integer multiple
 - iii. Phase-shift

3. Cell delay by Timing Arcs in Timing Library

- a. Combinational logic (e.g. inverter cell):
 - i. [input transition, output load cap] in 2D-timing model
- b. Sequential logic (from CLK to Q):
 - i. [clock transition, output load cap] in 2D-timing model

4. Setup time && Hold time Constraints in Timing Library

- a. Sequential logic (from CLK to D):
 - i. [clock transition, data transition] in 2D-timing model

5. Max delay for setup check: $\max\{T_{\text{launch}} + T_{\text{co}} + T_{\text{data}}\} > T_{\text{capture}} + T_{\text{cycle}}$ -

Tsetup

- a. Normally a Tcycle slack

- 6. **Min delay for hold check:** $\min\{T_{\text{launch}} + T_{\text{co}} + T_{\text{data}}\} < T_{\text{capture}} + T_{\text{hold}}$
 - a. For capture path, hold check is a Tcycle prior to setup check by default
 - b. Use set_multicycle_path to define the time for setup check && hold check in launch path && capture path

7. Length in wireload model due to interconnect parasitics

- a. Decided by fanout
- b. Derive R: $\text{length} * R_{\text{coeff}}$
- c. Derive C: $\text{length} * C_{\text{coeff}}$
- d. Derive Area: $\text{length} * \text{area_coeff}$

8. Clock

a. Clock Uncertainty:

- i. clock skew: difference in timing between two or more signals, maybe data, clock or both
- ii. clock jitter
- iii. another pessimism
- iv. usage: set_clock_uncertainty 0.250 -setup [get_clocks BZCLK]

b. Clock Latency:

- i. clock latency: total time from clock source to an end point
- ii. usage: set_clock_latency 2.2 [get_clocks BZCLK]

9. SI: Crosstalk and Noise

a. Glitch:

- i. refers to noise caused on a steady victim signal due to coupling of switching activity of neighboring aggressors

b. Crosstalk delta delay

- i. by coupling of switching activity of the victim with the switching activity of the aggressors
- ii. positive delta delay > forward in time > late
- iii. negative delta delay > backward in time > early

10. Timing Path Groups

- a. Timing paths are sorted into path groups by the clock associated with the endpoint of the path.
- b. create_clock: to create a master clock.
 - i. set_clock_transition: to specify the slew at the source of the clock.
- c. create_generated_clock: to create a clock derived from a master clock.
- d. virtual clock
 - i. used as a reference in STA analysis to specify input and output delays relative to a clock.
 - ii. used along with set_input_delay and set_output_delay.
- a. create_clock, set_input_delay (constrain input path) and set_output_delay (constrain output path) is enough to constrain four kinds of timing paths:
 - i. Input port to output port
 - ii. Input port to D pin
 - iii. Clock pin to D pin
 - iv. Clock pin to output port

11. Timing in I/O pin

- a. input:
 - i. set_drive
 - ii. set_driving_cell
 - iii. set_input_transition
- b. output:
 - i. set_load

12. Design Rule Checks

- a. set_max_transition
- b. set_max_capacitance
 - i. The capacitance on a net is calculated by taking the sum of all the pin capacitances plus any IO load plus any interconnect capacitance on the net.
- c. set_max_fanout (for synthesis)
- d. set_max_area (for synthesis)

13. Timing Analysis Refine

- a. set_case_analysis: to define the constant signals
- b. set_disable_timing: to break the timing arc
- c. set_false_path: to define the timing paths that are not real (e.g. from one clock domain to another clock domain)

14. On chip variation (OCV)

- a. the PVT on single die affect the distribution of cell delay and wire delay.
- b. setup check in OCV (SS):
 - i. set_timing_derate -early 0.8 #-early: capture path
 - ii. set_timing_derate -late 1.1 #-late: launch path
- c. hold check in OCV (FF):
 - i. set_timing_derate -early 0.9 #-early: launch path
 - ii. set_timing_derate -late 1.2 #-late: capture path
- d. Clock Reconvergence Pessimism Removal (CRPR):
 - i. CPP itself is the delay difference along this common portion of the clock tree due to different deratings for launch and capture clock paths.

15. Time borrowing

- a. Latch, opening edge, closing edge
- b. Time borrowed from end point
 - i. No time borrowing: slack over 0
 - ii. Time borrowing: slack equal to 0

16. Data to Data Check

- a. setup check: zero-cycle check
 - i. usage: set_data_check -from SDA (related pin) -to SCTRL (constrained pin) -setup 2.1
- b. hold check: a Tcycle prior to setup check at the capture edge
 - i. usage: set_multicycle_path -1 -hold -to UAND0/A2

17. Clock Gating

- a. active-high clock gating
 - i. When gating signal is 1 (active-high), [AND or NAND] cell can

- generate clock signal of 1.
- ii. Usage: set_clock_gating_check -high [get_cells UMUX0]
- iii. Gating signal changes when clock signal of 0.
- iv. for hold check, use inverter to delay launch path
- b. active-low clock gating
 - i. When gating signal is 0 (active-low), [OR or NOR] cell can produce clock signal of 0.
 - ii. Gating signal changes when clock signal of 1.
- c. ICG: latch combined with gating cell
 - i. latch: to align the edge of gating signal with the edge of clock signal to generate the gating signal that satisfies setup check and hold check