

Release Notes

Mar.29, 2012

Benchmarks

- Mar. 29: The final contest benchmarks are released
- Nov 25: The file parser_helper.cpp is updated to fix a bug
- Nov 1: We release two more benchmarks:
 - DMA
 - leon3mp
 - Some of the previous benchmarks were modified too – please use latest versions
- Oct 10: We have 4 test benchmarks in this release:
 - simple
 - usb_phy
 - pci_bridge32
 - des_perf
- We are providing these benchmarks so that you can start development.
- It is still not certain whether we will use some of these benchmarks in the final evaluations.
 - In the event that we use these benchmarks in the final evaluations, the timing constraints and parasitics values will be different.
- See README file for more details on these benchmarks.

Preliminary Standard Cell Library

- Nov 1: library is updated
 - There is a change in delay and slope tables for some cells
 - This is not the final library that will be used in the contest evaluations. The real contest library will be released later.
- Oct 10: first release of the library
 - We are releasing a preliminary cell library for you to start development.
 - This version should give you some idea about what to expect.

Parser Helpers

- We are releasing two files: `parser_helper.h` and `parser_helper.cpp` to help you extract the relevant data from various file formats.
- Note that these parsers rely on the specific structure of contest benchmarks (e.g. line order, comments, etc.). They are not intended to be used as generic parsers for the corresponding formats.
- The contestants are free to use these parsers as is or make modifications. In any case, it is the contestants' responsibility to make sure that the parsers work as expected.
- ***The code provided here is mostly for description purposes. The organizers cannot guarantee that the provided code is free of bugs or defects.***

Timing Infrastructure

- If you are going to implement your own timer, ignore this slide.
- If you are planning to use Synopsys PrimeTime during optimization, you need to do the following:
 - Register for the contest and confirm that your university has PrimeTime license. *(If not, please contact us as soon as possible.)*
 - After we verify your license with Synopsys, we will send you an acknowledgement form stating that you will respect Synopsys IP. You will need to sign that form and return to us.
 - Only after we receive the signed form, we can send you the timing infrastructure source codes.
- Note that this is needed because many of the PrimeTime commands are intellectual property of Synopsys.