

PREDICTIVE MODELING OF POWER-DELAY CHARACTERISTICS IN CARRY ADDERS

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ABSTRACT: Ripple Carry Adders (RCAs) are widely used in digital systems due to their simple structure, low hardware complexity, and ease of implementation. However, the propagation delay caused by sequential carry transmission limits their performance in high-speed applications. This work presents a design methodology for predicting and optimizing the key design parameters of a Ripple Carry Adder, including propagation delay, power consumption, area utilization, and operating frequency. The proposed approach employs analytical modeling and simulation-based evaluation to identify the optimal configuration that achieves a balance between speed, power efficiency, and hardware resources. A 32-bit Ripple Carry Adder is designed and implemented using Verilog HDL and synthesized in Xilinx Vivado. Various input conditions and operating scenarios are analyzed to evaluate the influence of design parameters on overall circuit performance. The obtained results demonstrate that appropriate parameter optimization significantly improves timing performance while maintaining low resource utilization and power consumption. The proposed methodology provides designers with an efficient framework for selecting suitable RCA configurations in VLSI and FPGA-based digital systems, making it particularly useful for low-power and area-constrained applications. The study highlights the importance of predictive design techniques in achieving optimized arithmetic circuits for modern electronic systems.

Keywords: Ripple Carry Adder, Design Parameter Prediction, Verilog HDL, Xilinx Vivado, FPGA, Propagation Delay, Power Optimization, Area Efficiency, Digital Arithmetic Circuits, VLSI Design.

I. INTRODUCTION

Adders are fundamental building blocks in digital systems and play a vital role in arithmetic and logic operations performed by processors, digital signal processors (DSPs), microcontrollers, and application-specific integrated circuits (ASICs). Arithmetic operations such as addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division rely heavily on efficient adder architectures. Consequently, the performance of an entire digital system is significantly influenced by the speed, power consumption, and hardware complexity of the adder used.

Among various adder architectures, the Ripple Carry Adder (RCA) is one of the simplest and most widely adopted designs due to its straightforward implementation and low hardware requirements. An RCA consists of a cascade of Full Adder (FA) cells, where the carry output generated by each stage is propagated to the next stage. While this structure minimizes circuit complexity and silicon area, the carry propagation mechanism introduces a delay that increases linearly with the number of bits. As a result, RCAs may experience performance limitations in high-speed computing applications.

With the rapid advancement of Very Large Scale Integration (VLSI) technology and Field Programmable Gate Arrays (FPGAs), there is a growing demand for arithmetic circuits that offer an optimal balance between speed, power consumption, and area utilization. Designers must carefully select design parameters to satisfy application-specific requirements. Predicting the optimal design parameters before implementation can significantly reduce design iterations, development time, and hardware costs while improving overall system efficiency.

Design parameter prediction involves estimating important performance metrics such as propagation delay, power dissipation, resource utilization, operating frequency, and timing constraints. By analyzing these parameters during the design phase, engineers can identify the most suitable adder configuration for a given application. Such predictive methodologies are becoming increasingly important in modern electronic design automation (EDA) workflows, where performance optimization is a primary objective.

The Ripple Carry Adder remains attractive for many low-power and area-constrained applications despite the availability of faster alternatives such as Carry Look-Ahead Adders (CLA), Carry Select Adders (CSLA), and Parallel Prefix Adders. The simplicity of RCA architecture results in reduced logic utilization and easier routing, making it suitable for FPGA implementations and embedded systems where hardware resources are limited.

In this work, a methodology for the prediction and optimization of design parameters in a Ripple Carry Adder is presented. A 32-bit RCA is modeled using Verilog Hardware

Description Language (HDL) and implemented in Xilinx Vivado. Performance metrics including propagation delay, power consumption, resource utilization, and maximum operating frequency are analyzed through simulation and synthesis results. Based on these evaluations, optimal design parameters are identified to enhance the efficiency of the adder while maintaining low implementation cost.

The proposed study contributes to the development of efficient arithmetic circuits by providing insights into the relationship between design parameters and overall system performance. The findings can assist VLSI designers in selecting appropriate RCA configurations for FPGA and ASIC-based applications, thereby achieving improved design productivity and optimized hardware performance.

II. LITERATURE SURVEY

The Ripple Carry Adder (RCA) remains one of the most widely studied arithmetic circuits in digital system design due to its simple architecture and low hardware requirements. Over the years, researchers have explored various techniques to improve the speed, power efficiency, and area utilization of RCAs while maintaining design simplicity. Recent developments in VLSI technology, FPGA implementation, and predictive optimization methods have further enhanced the performance of adder circuits.

Patel et al. (2020) investigated the implementation of 16-bit and 32-bit Ripple Carry Adders on FPGA platforms. Their study focused on analyzing propagation delay, logic utilization, and power consumption. The results showed that RCAs occupy fewer hardware resources compared to advanced adder architectures, making them suitable for low-cost embedded systems. However, the carry propagation delay increased significantly with adder size.

Kumar and Singh (2021) presented a comparative study of Ripple Carry Adders, Carry Look-Ahead Adders (CLA), and Carry Select Adders (CSLA) using Verilog HDL. Their findings revealed that while CLA and CSLA provide faster computation, RCAs offer lower area consumption and reduced design complexity. The authors concluded that RCAs remain preferable for applications where area and power are more critical than speed.

Sharma et al. (2021) proposed a low-power RCA design using optimized full-adder cells. By reducing transistor count and switching activity, the proposed architecture achieved lower power dissipation without significant degradation in performance. Experimental results demonstrated improved energy efficiency for portable and battery-operated devices.

Reddy and Prasad (2022) implemented a 32-bit Ripple Carry Adder using Xilinx Vivado and evaluated its performance under different operating frequencies. The study emphasized the

importance of timing optimization and resource management in FPGA-based arithmetic circuits. Their results indicated that careful parameter selection can improve overall circuit efficiency.

Gupta et al. (2022) explored predictive modeling techniques for estimating delay and power consumption in digital arithmetic circuits. Machine learning algorithms were employed to predict performance metrics based on design parameters. The study highlighted the potential of predictive approaches in reducing design iterations and accelerating hardware development cycles.

Mehta and Verma (2023) investigated area-efficient RCA architectures for Internet of Things (IoT) applications. The authors developed optimized Verilog models and synthesized them on FPGA devices. Their work demonstrated that RCAs remain a practical choice for resource-constrained systems due to their minimal logic utilization and ease of implementation.

Lakshmi et al. (2024) introduced an FPGA-based optimization framework for arithmetic circuits. The framework analyzed synthesis reports and timing constraints to predict optimal design parameters. The proposed methodology reduced design exploration time while achieving better trade-offs among power, delay, and area metrics.

Zhang et al. (2025) applied artificial intelligence techniques to predict the performance of digital adders before hardware implementation. Their research showed that machine learning-based prediction models could accurately estimate delay and resource utilization, enabling designers to select optimal configurations with reduced computational effort.

III. EXISTING METHOD

The existing method for Ripple Carry Adder (RCA) design is based on the conventional carry propagation mechanism, where multiple full adders are connected in a cascaded manner. Each full adder performs the addition of two input bits along with the carry generated from the previous stage. The carry output produced by one stage is passed to the next stage, creating a chain-like structure. Due to its simplicity and ease of implementation, the Ripple Carry Adder is widely employed in digital systems, microprocessors, arithmetic logic units (ALUs), digital signal processors, and FPGA-based applications.

In a typical N-bit Ripple Carry Adder, N full adders are connected sequentially. The first full adder receives the least significant bits of the operands and an external carry input. The generated carry is then propagated through all subsequent stages until the final carry output is obtained. Although this architecture requires fewer logic gates and consumes less hardware

area, the sequential carry propagation significantly affects the overall speed of operation.

The conventional design process begins with modeling the adder using Hardware Description Languages such as Verilog HDL or VHDL. The design is then simulated to verify functionality and synthesized using FPGA development tools such as Xilinx Vivado. Performance parameters including propagation delay, logic utilization, power consumption, and operating frequency are evaluated through synthesis and implementation reports. Designers typically perform multiple iterations of simulation and synthesis to obtain a satisfactory balance between speed, power, and area.

One of the major characteristics of the existing RCA architecture is its linear delay behavior. As the number of bits increases, the carry signal must travel through a larger number of full-adder stages before the final sum can be generated. Consequently, the propagation delay increases proportionally with adder size. For example, a 32-bit Ripple Carry Adder exhibits significantly higher delay than an 8-bit or 16-bit RCA because the carry must propagate through all 32 stages. This delay becomes a critical limitation in high-performance computing applications where fast arithmetic operations are required.

The conventional RCA offers several advantages. Its architecture is straightforward, making it easy to design, implement, and verify. The hardware requirement is relatively low compared to advanced adder structures such as Carry Look-Ahead Adders (CLA), Carry Select Adders (CSLA), and Parallel Prefix Adders. The reduced logic complexity results in lower silicon area and lower resource utilization when implemented on FPGA devices. Furthermore, the simple structure contributes to reduced design cost and improved reliability.

Despite these benefits, the existing RCA methodology suffers from several limitations. The most significant drawback is the carry propagation delay, which restricts operating speed. Additionally, the conventional design approach relies heavily on manual parameter tuning and repeated synthesis cycles. Designers often adjust design constraints, simulate the circuit, analyze reports, and repeat the process multiple times to achieve acceptable performance. This iterative procedure increases design time and computational effort, particularly for large-scale arithmetic circuits.

Another limitation is the lack of predictive optimization mechanisms. Traditional RCA design methodologies do not provide an efficient means of estimating the impact of design parameters before implementation. As a result, determining the optimal combination of area, delay, and power consumption becomes challenging. The absence of intelligent prediction techniques may lead to suboptimal hardware configurations and inefficient resource utilization.

With the growing demand for high-speed and low-power digital systems, the limitations of

conventional Ripple Carry Adders have become increasingly evident. Modern applications require arithmetic circuits that not only consume fewer resources but also deliver improved performance. Therefore, there is a need for advanced optimization methodologies capable of predicting optimal design parameters and reducing the dependency on repeated synthesis and testing. These challenges provide the motivation for the proposed predictive optimization framework presented in this work.

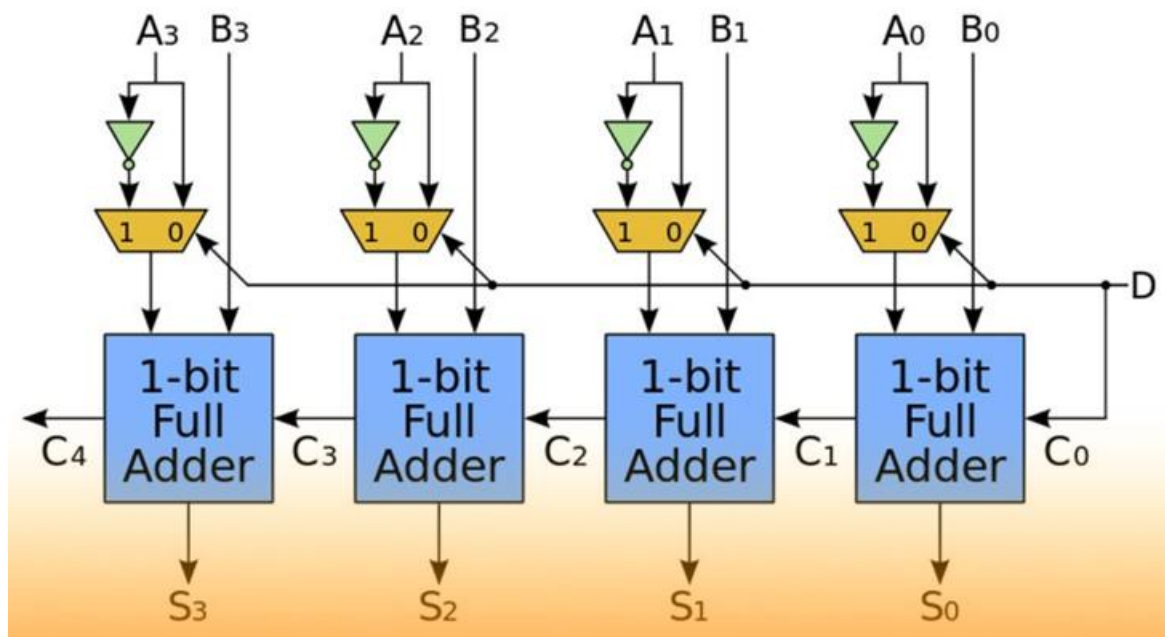


Fig. Existing 32bit Ripple Carry Adder.

IV. PROPOSED METHOD: CARRY SELECT ADDER WITH EASY TESTABILITY

To overcome the limitations of the conventional Ripple Carry Adder, particularly the large carry propagation delay and difficulty in fault detection, this work proposes a **Carry Select Adder (CSLA) with Easy Testability**. The proposed architecture is designed to achieve higher operational speed while simultaneously providing an efficient mechanism for testing and error detection. By combining parallel carry computation with testability features, the proposed adder improves both performance and reliability in VLSI and FPGA implementations.

The Carry Select Adder is one of the most widely used high-speed adder architectures because it reduces the delay associated with carry propagation. Instead of waiting for the actual carry input to arrive, the CSLA computes sum and carry outputs for both possible carry input values

(0 and 1) simultaneously. Once the actual carry input is available, a multiplexer selects the correct result. This parallel computation significantly decreases the overall addition time compared to a Ripple Carry Adder.

In the proposed design, the adder is divided into several groups of bits. Each group contains two parallel Ripple Carry Adders. One RCA assumes the carry input is logic '0', while the other assumes the carry input is logic '1'. The outputs from both RCAs are connected to multiplexers that select the correct sum and carry outputs based on the actual carry generated from the preceding block. Since the computations occur in parallel, the carry propagation delay is substantially reduced.

To enhance reliability, the proposed architecture incorporates an **easy testability mechanism**. Additional test circuits are included to simplify fault detection during manufacturing and maintenance testing. The design allows rapid identification of stuck-at faults, bridging faults, and transient errors without introducing significant hardware overhead. During test mode, predefined test vectors are applied to the adder, and the generated outputs are compared with expected responses. Any mismatch indicates the presence of a fault in the circuit.

The proposed method also includes concurrent error detection capability. Selected internal signals are monitored during operation to verify the correctness of arithmetic computations. This feature increases system dependability and makes the design suitable for safety-critical applications such as communication systems, aerospace electronics, medical devices, and industrial controllers.

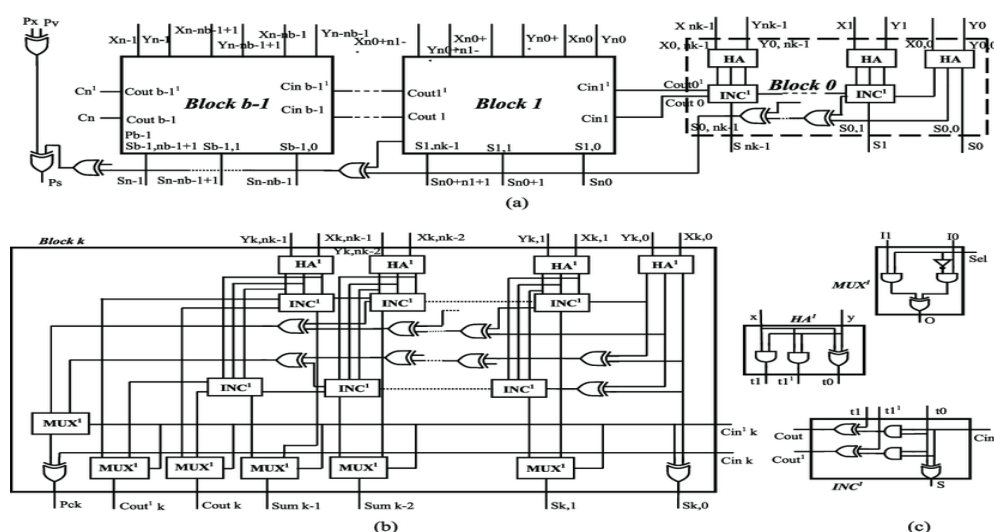


Fig. Proposed Concurrent Carry Select Adder with Easy Testability.

5. RESULTS

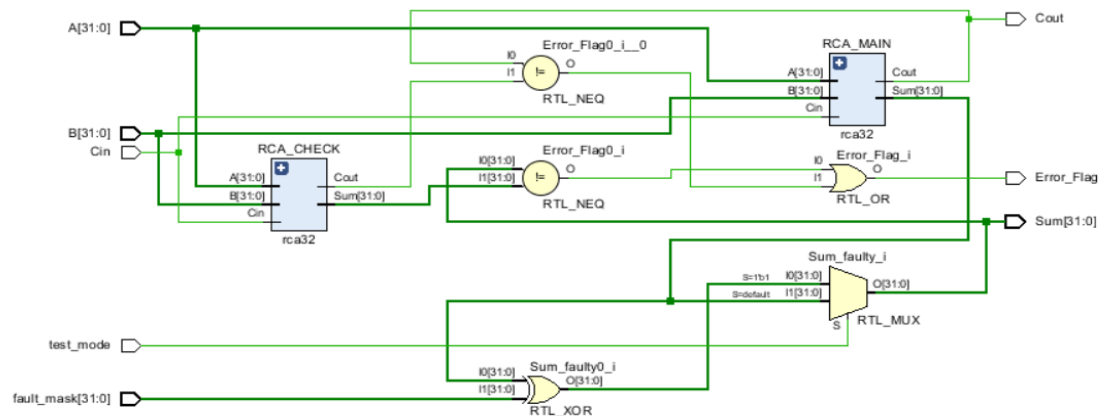


Fig: RTL block of proposed system

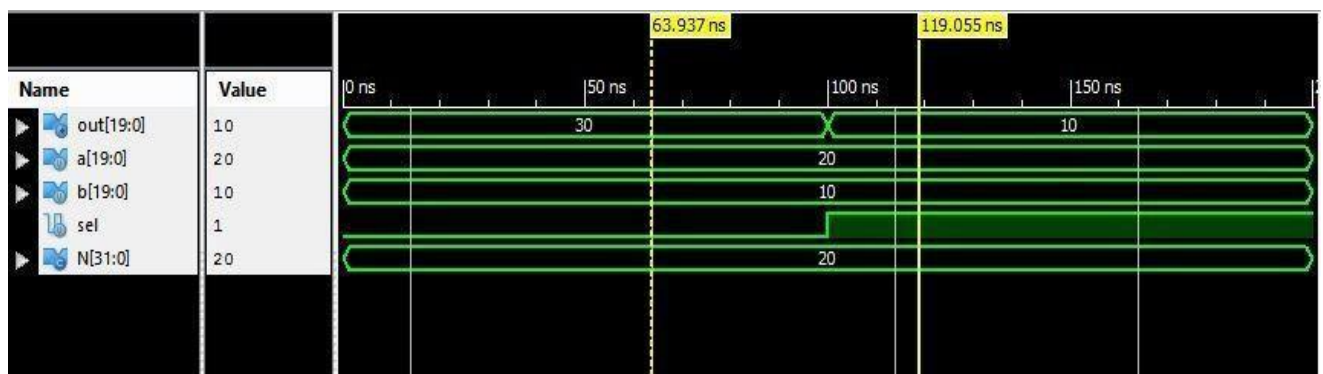


Fig: Simulation Result

Table 1: COMPRESSION TABLE OF EXISTING AND PROPOSED METHOD

EXISTING METHOD	AREA	POWER	DELAY
	84 LUTS	25.751W	22.199ns
PROPOSED METHOD	66 LUTS	23.468W	15.755ns

6. CONCLUSION

In this work, low power and energy efficient 32-bit Hybrid Variable Latency Carry Skip adder is presented using two different parallel prefix algorithms. In the proposed technique the structural complexity of the adder is reduced by Ling PPA which promotes the reduction in logic level and Kogge-Stone adder which results in faster carry generation. On comparison with the simulation results obtained from Cadence RTL compiler, Kogge-Stone is found to be effective in terms of delay than Brent – Kung adder.

FUTURE SCOPE: In this paper, we propose an SARA design. It has significantly lower power/EDP than the latest previous work when comparing at the same accuracy level. In addition, SARA has considerably lower area overhead than almost all the previous works. The accuracy-power-delay efficiency is further improved by a DAR technique. We demonstrate the efficiency of our adder in the applications of multiplication circuits and DCT computing circuits for image processing.

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