



NEWS LETTER

September 2013

Fractal expands Crossfire with Diagnose tool

Diagnose is the new Crossfire GUI designed for users that just want to analyze the crossfire results. The setup and test definition sections of Crossfire are completely shielded from the user.

The user can view, report, filter, waive and analyse the generated Crossfire messages. Reports can be generated as HTML on a “per rule” or a “per format” basis. It’s possible to get more info on the generated messages and the analyse button can display the formats with errors and/or can generate graphical plots from the data. Waiving rules can easily be generated for undesired (error) messages and can be exported to a (pre-defined) directory location (Click & Waive). Previously stored “waiving rules” can be inspected, edited, and disabled if desired.

Watch the video clip on:
[Click here to watch Diagnose video](#)

New formats for IP validation added to Crossfire

With the latest Crossfire release we now also support the Spectre and SPEF data formats.

HTML reporting extension

The new HTML reporting has the option to generate reports on a per format basis. When the HTML reports are created in this style all the checks related to one specific format will be collected and displayed on one page.

This way of reporting may be helpful for designers who are only interested in

problems in one specific format rather than in a specific check for all formats.

Format ID	waive	set-up	warning	error	fatal
PartScan	0	0	0	0	0
Out_Abs	0	0	0	0	0
Out_Lev	2	0	0	0	0
Out_Sym	0	0	0	0	0
Parsing OpenAccess: Out_Sym	0	0	0	0	0
Parsing cadence_dft: dft_sch	0	0	0	0	0
Parsing cadence_sil: cadence_sil	0	0	0	0	0
Parsing document: document	0	0	3	0	0
Parsing Ief: Ief	0	0	0	0	0
Parsing Irtson: Irtson	0	0	0	0	0
Parsing sil: sil	0	0	0	0	0
Parsing spectre: SPICE_TDR_sch	0	0	0	0	0
Parsing spec: SPICE_sch	0	0	0	0	0
Parsing verilog: verilog	0	0	0	0	0
SPICE_TDR_sch	0	0	0	0	0
SPICE_sch	2	0	0	0	0
cadence_sil	0	0	0	0	0
dft_sch	0	0	0	0	0
dft_lev	0	0	0	2	0
dft_sym	0	0	0	0	0
document	0	0	0	0	0
Ief	0	0	0	2	0
Irtson	0	0	0	2	0
sil	0	0	0	2	0
synopsys	0	0	0	0	0
verilog	0	0	0	0	0
Total	4	0	3	8	0

HTML Report: Top level report on a per format basis

Crossfire Updates

Recently Crossfire has been improved in various areas:

- Diagnose tool released ([video](#))
- Improved waiving system ([video](#))
- HTML & CSV reports per format. (Per rule is still available.)
- Parsers speed-up:
 - GDSII: 1 time parsing speedup 10x
 - SPICE: Speedup 10x in some cases
- Mode definitions treated much more efficiently. Check speed-up can be enormous depending on data size
- New rules added:
 - Arc presence check
 - Check for obsolete tables
 - Power down function check
 - Related power pin check
 - STD cell pin access check for ungridded design



About Crossfire

Crossfire reports mismatches or modelling errors for Libraries and IP that can seriously delay an IC design project.

Library and IP integrity checking has become a mandatory step for a “state of the art” deep submicron design because of:

- The sheer number of different views
- The complexity of the views (ECSM, CCS)
- The loss of valuable design time
- Time to market

Crossfire helps CAD teams and IC designers achieving a high quality of design data in a short time.

Crossfire assures that the information represented across the various views is consistent and does not contain anomalies.

Crossfire usability features

- Graphical setup creation & run environment as well as batch runs
- Powerful hierarchical configuration language supporting macro functions
- Graphical debugging (message > double click > open relevant views)
- Graphical output filtering (zoom in on cells/formats/error-types)
- Waiving mechanism
- HTML and CSV reports
- Automatic setup generation
- Generic setups

Crossfire integration features

API for creating database independent checks, available in: Perl, Tcl and Python
Existing customer validation scripts can be integrated

Visualisation messages/results from customer scripts (double click opens message)

Crossfire Interview

Visualization and browsing of database contents

Opens e.g. LEF, GDS, CDB, OA and Milkyway views in a single window

About Fractal Technologies

Fractal Technologies is a privately held company with offices in Campbell, California and Eindhoven, the Netherlands. The company was founded by a small group of highly recognized EDA professionals.

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