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Testsofa Design Details and Theory of Operation

Carl H Miller

March 2016



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Testsofa Design Details and Theory of Operation

Overview

The Testsofa is used to explore the functioning of an integrated circuit. It characterizes pin functions via pin profiling, then serves as an interface to a Boss server which creates a finite state machine (FSM) model using branch exploration. This exploration is done via a stimulus/response process, which will be explained in the Internal Logic Testing section.

Pin Profiling

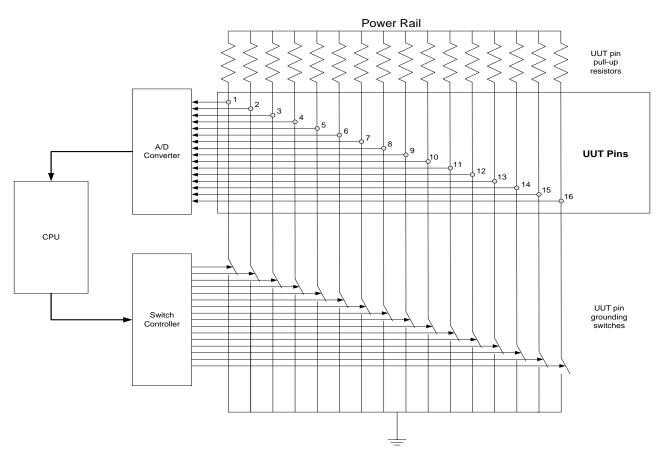
The pin profiling process is done in four phases:

Phase 1: For the scan process, the CPU sequentially measures voltages for each of the UUT pins. For each pin, the pin is first grounded via the latches and the grounding transistor. The rest of the pins are pulled toward the power voltage through their pull-up resistors. The voltages on the non-grounded pins are measured by the ADCs via the SPI port, and the sum of the voltages is stored in the array pinVoltSumPower. Next, the same pin is left pulled-high while the other pins are grounded, and the voltage on that pin is stored in the array pinVoltSumGround. The CPU repeats this process for all UUT pins.

Phase 2: The analysis process of the pin-profile algorithm starts by determining the power and ground pins. The power pin will be the pin corresponding to the lowest value in the pinVoltSumPower array and the ground pin will the pin corresponding to the lowest value in the pinVoltSumGround array. In both cases the lowest voltage results from the highest current drawn through the pull-up resistor(s).

Phase 3: With the power and ground pins determined, the algorithm then calculates the average voltage of the remaining pins. If the pulled-up ground pin voltage is less than the average voltage, the input pins will have pinVoltSumPower values less than the average and the output pins will have pinVoltSumPower values greater than the average. If the pulled-up ground pin voltage is greater than the average, the input and output pin voltages will have the opposite relationships to the average voltage.

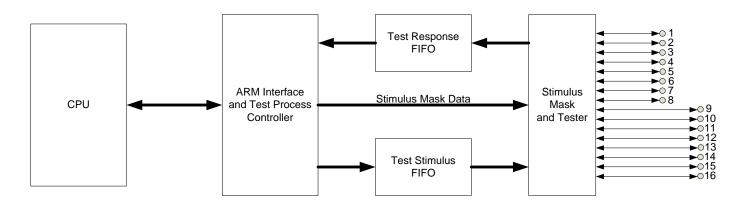
Phase 4: With the input and output pins determined, the clock and reset pins are found by setting the input pins with all possible combinations for the number of inputs. For each combination, each of the input pins is toggled between 0 and 1. The output is assumed to start at zero, the combination and pin toggled which result in a non-zero output are the clocking state and clock pin, respectively. Next, the reset pin is searched within the clocking state. Each input pin is toggled, and when the outputs go back to zero, the pin toggled will be the reset pin and its toggled state will be the active-level for the reset.



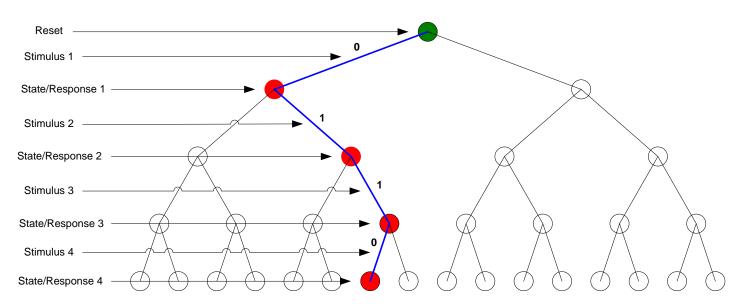
Internal Logic Testing:

Commands and requests are sent from the Boss (see next section) to the FPGA-based Tester via the CPU. The Tester's CPU Interface/Process Controller receives these, directs the testing accordingly, and sends statuses and the response data back to the CPU. The statuses are used to indicate quantities of data available. The Tester also contains a UUT Interface and separate input and output 2Kbyte FIFOs to connect the Process Controller to the UUT Interface while allowing some operational independence between them.

When the stimulus request is first received or created by the CPU, the CPU signals the Tester to clear its FIFOs and waits until they are cleared. Next, using the pin-profile, the CPU creates the Stimulus/Response Mask and connects the power and ground pins. The stimulus mask and write command/block size/data are then sent to the Tester, which places the stimulus data into the input FIFO. Whenever the Process Controller detects that the input FIFO contains data, it enables the UUT Interface, which pulls stimulus data from the input FIFO, applies it to the UUT, and pushes the response data into the output FIFO. The CPU polls the Tester for the status of the data remaining in the input FIFO until the FIFO is empty, and then sends the read command/block size to the Tester. Finally, the CPU reads the response data from the Tester's output FIFO, and converts the response data into state data.



The following diagram is a graphic representation of the process of branch exploration in a target IC with one data input pin (in addition to a clock pin). The responses, which also represent the states, form the raw tree of the FSM, which is processed through branch folding algorithms. This process of exploration and folding is repeated until all branches and states within the limit of the stimulus/response count have been found.



FSM Branch Exploration using a Stimulus/Response Process for a one-bit input

Burst Brute-Force Branch Exploration

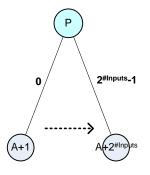
The burst explore approach simply puts the stimulus generation algorithm onto the Testsofa, itself, instead of waiting for the Boss to create the stimulus and send it to the Testsofa through the USB or Ethernet connection. This dramatically reduces the overall time for the exploration process.

The stimulus generator takes a desired node address and creates the input stimulus using an algorithm based on the Address equation in Equation 1 (see appendix B for more details).

 $Addr = \sum_{StimLndex=0}^{StimLength} [2^{\#Inputs*StimIndex} + (2^{\#Inputs})^{(StimLength-StimIndex)} Stim_{StimIndex}]$

Equation 1: Node address, where StimIndex is the position of the stimulus in the stimulus branch and StimLength is the length of the stimulus branch.

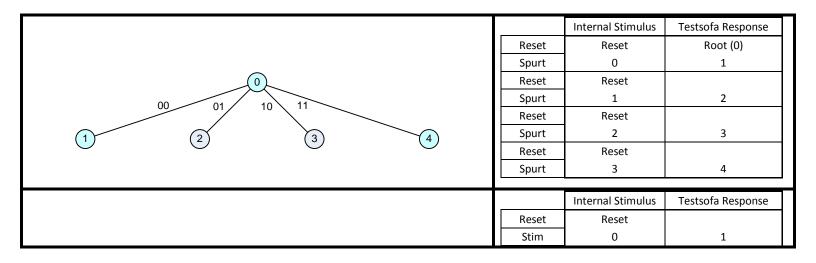
The burst explore algorithm is done breadth-wise using a series of **spurts**. A spurt is a sequence of $2^{\#Input}$ Reset/Stimulus streams starting from a parent node, one for each possible permutation of the inputs, as shown in Figure 3.



P = Parent A = Parent*2^{#Inputs}

Figure 3: Tree diagram of a spurt.

For non-root starting nodes, the spurt will include the stimulus needed to get from the root to the desired parent node address, which will be inserted between the reset and the spurt stimulus. The following chart, for a 2- input pin IC, depth of 1 branch exploration, gives the tree diagram in the left column, and the testsofa's internally generated stimulus and returned response in the right column.



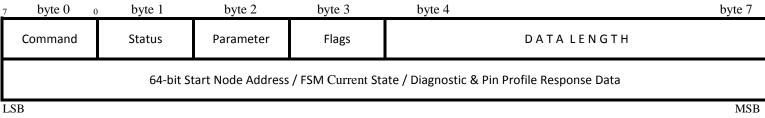
	1	1	•
	Spurt	0	5
	Reset	Reset	
00 01 10 11	Stim	0	
	Spurt	1	6
	Reset	Reset	
	Stim	0	
00/01/10/11	Spurt	2	7
(5) (6) (7) (8)	Reset	Reset	
	Stim	0	
	Spurt	3	8
		Internal Stimulus	Testsofa Response
	Reset	Reset	
\bigcirc	Stim	1	2
	Spurt	0	9
00 01 10 11	Reset	Reset	-
	Stim	1	
$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \end{pmatrix} \qquad \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ \end{pmatrix} \qquad \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ \end{pmatrix} \qquad \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ \end{pmatrix}$	Spurt	1	10
	Reset	Reset	
00/01/10/11 00/01/10/11	Stim	1	
(5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12)	Spurt	2	11
	Reset	Reset	11
	Stim	1	
		3	12
	Spurt		
	 	Internal Stimulus	Testsofa Response
	Reset	Reset	
	Stim	2	3
	Spurt	0	13
00 01 10 11	Reset	Reset	
	Stim	2	
\mathbf{M} \mathbf{M} \mathbf{M}	Spurt	1	14
00/01/10 11 $00/01/10 11 $ $00/01/10 11 $	Reset	Reset	
	Stim	2	
(5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) (14) (15) (16)	Spurt	2	15
	Reset	Reset	
	Stim	2	
	Spurt	3	16
		Internal Stimulus	Testsofa Response
	Reset	Reset	
	Stim	3	4
	Spurt	0	17
00 01 10 11	Reset	Reset	
	Stim	3	
	Spurt	1	18
	Reset	Reset	
$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Stim	3	
5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	Spurt	2	19
	Reset	Reset	
		3	
	Stim	J	
	Stim Spurt	3	20

Communications Format

The USB communications packet format between the host and the sofa consists of a 16-Byte Header followed by an optional series of 16byte state exploration data sections. Only the Branch Exploration and Burst Exploration command responses contain these data sections.

The USB header has the following format:

USB HEADER



This 16-byte header is the only structure required to be sent to the sofa from the host (i.e., the sofa will always be expecting to read 16-bytes at a time from the host). Some of the fields of the header are shared between the various host commands, that is, they serve different purposes for different commands. Specifically, the most significant 8 bytes of the header serve as both the Start Node Address and FSM Current State for Burst Exploration commands and contain the response data returned from the sofa for the Pin Profile and Diagnostic Requests. The Parameter byte is also used to specify which state machine the sofa should emulate for the FSM command and to contain the exploration depth for exploration commands (for burst exploration, only depth 1 is supported). The Flags field can be used to indicate Extended Data(by setting the field to 1), meaning that the amount of response data exceeds what can be represented by the 32-bit DataLength field. The additional length (not including what is specified in the DataLength field) is provided by a 4-byte field which will immediately follow the header. The DataLength field is also used by the Pin Profiling Request packet, to inform the sofa as to how many pins the IC being tested has.

In Response packets, the sofa will return the header, containing the same command and parameter values sent to it, the other fields may be modified, depending on the specific command sent.

Field	Value	Length	Comment
Command	0	1	Reset - instructs the test sofa to perform a reset, there is no response provided to the Host.
	1		Pin Profile – requests the # of input and output pins for the IC unit under test.
	2		Branch Exploration – currently unsupported.
	3		Burst Exploration – requests a branch exploration of depth 1 from a given node.
	4		FSM – requests the Sofa to enter into Finite State Machine emulation mode.
	5		Diagnostic - requests information related to the sofa hardware.
Status	0/1	1	Cleared by host, set to 1 by sofa to positively acknowledge requests.
Parameter	Depth	1	Used by Branch/Burst exploration requests to indicate depth to explore to / or to hold error codes.
	TableID †		Used by FSM mode requests to indicate FSM table to use.
	Error Code		If response 'Status' $== 0$, contains specific error code, see appendix C.
Flags	Bitmap ¥	1	Indicates FSM mode of operation and / or presence of extended data.
DataLength		4	Number of bytes of state exploration data.
High Octet		8	Start Node Address / FSM State / Diagnostic & Pin Profile Response Data

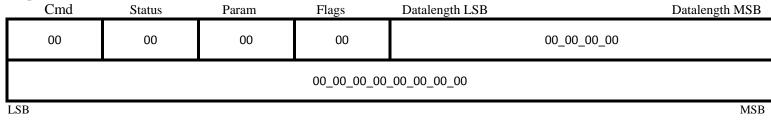
Along with 0, the following are valid values for the various fields of the header:

†Valid Table IDs are:	¥ Valid Bit Settings:
0: Exit FSM Mode	ar sr aq sq - xd ar: address, response sr: state, response
1: Triangle, 1-pin	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 <i>aq</i> : address, request <i>sq</i> : state, request
2: Tree, 1- pin	<i>xd</i> : extended data present (see above)
3: Tree, 2-pin	ar and sr set by sofa in burst explore response packets to indicate it is operating
4: Cube, 2-pin	in FSM mode and that the first octet of the state exploration data sections contains a
	node address (if ar is set) or contains 0, indicating FSM 'state' mode (if sr is set).

aq and *sq* are set by the host in both FSM Mode and burst explore request packets. In FSM Mode request packets, *aq* is set to indicate that the host is requesting the sofa to operate in FSM 'Address' mode (meaning that subsequent Burst Exploration requests will provide a 64-bit Start Node Address). When FSM Mode request packets have the *sq* bit set, this indicates that the host wishes the sofa operate in FSM 'State' mode (meaning that subsequent Burst Exploration requests the sofa operate in FSM 'State' mode (meaning that subsequent Burst Exploration requests will provide a 32-bit State value that the sofa should use to index into its State Table). Burst Exploration requests/responses will continue to maintain setting either the *aq* or *sq* / ar or sr bit accordingly until the host requests the sofa exit FSM emulation mode by issuing a FSM request with Table ID = 0. NOTE: THE *ar*,*sr*/*aq*,*sq* ARE ONLY TO BE SET WHEN OPERATING IN ONE OF THE 2 FSM MODES (Address or State mode), NOT DURING OTHER TIMES.

Reset

Request Format (Header.Cmd = 0)



The Reset request consists of 16 bytes of Zeroes and instructs the test sofa to perform a reset.

There is no response from the sofa to this command. Following a Reset, the test sofa should come up in non-fsm mode, with no pin profile data and nothing in its usb buffer.

Pin Profile

Request Format (Header.Cmd = 1)

Cmd	Status	Param	Flags	Datalength LSB		Datalength MSB				
01	00	00	00		Total # of pins on IC					
	00_00_00_00_00_00_00									
LSB										
December France										

Response Format

Cmd		Status	Param	Flags	Datalength LSB	Datalength MSB
	01 01/00 00/EC		00 / EC	00	00 Total # of pins on IC	
		# of inp	out pins		# of output pins	
L	SB					MSB

LSB

If there is no pin physical preset in the test sofa, the sofa will return error code value 5.

Branch Exploration

**

Request Format (Header.Cmd = 2)

** THE BRANCH EXPLORATION COMMAND IS CURRENTLY UNSUPPORTED ** ** THE SUPPORTED BURST EXPLORATION COMMAND IS A SUBSET OF THIS** ** COMMAND, BUT WITH A FIXED EXPLORATION DEPTH OF JUST 1 LEVEL ** ** (i.e., will always use a depth level of 1) ** **

Burst Exploration

Request Format (Header.Cmd = 3, Header. Parameter = depth (1))

Cmd	Status	Param	Flags	Datalength LSB	Datalength MSB
03	00	01	00 / aq, sq	00_00_00_00	
		5	Start Node Addres	ss / Start FSM State	
LSB					MSB

If the Header.Flags field in the Burst Exploration request packet has either the aq or sq bit set (see above), the host is operating under the assumption that the sofa is in FSM mode (see FSM Command), in which case the bytes beginning at byte 8 in the request header will be used to supply the sofa with either a machine state value to be used by the sofa to lookup a state transition in the appropriate state table (case of sq bit set), or those bytes will contain a start node address (case of aq bit set). If sofa is not currently in FSM mode it should return an error code status (see Appendix C).

NOTE: THE *aq/sq* BITS ARE ONLY TO BE SET WHEN BY THE HOST WHEN OPERATING IN ONE OF THE 2 FSM MODES (Address or State mode), NOT DURING OTHER TIMES. THE HOST SHOULD CLEAR THE *ar/sr* bits IN EACH REQUEST.

If a pin profile request has not yet been issued to the test sofa since the last Reset was performed, the test sofa will return an error code value of 4.

Burst Exploration

Response Format (Header.Cmd = 3 Header. Parameter = depth (1))

Cmd	Status	Param	Flags	Datalength LSB	Datalength MSB						
03	01/00	01 / EC	00 / ar, sr	ХХ	<_xx_xx_xx						
Start Node Address / Start FSM State											
		. 2 ^{(#Inputs*Dep}	^{pth)} 16-byte State	Exploration Data sections							
LSB					MSB						
				sponse as indicated above – in	ncluding the appropriate number of						

byte 0	byte 1	byte 2	byte 3	byte 4		byte
		Ch	ld Node Address	/ Child Node FSM State		
					.	
	Inputs	stimulus			Output state	

LSB

Under normal operation (i.e., not operating in FSM mode) using the burst exploration request data, the testsofa will apply the NodeAddress formula (solving for input stimulus, see equation 1 above) to the provided Start Node Address to infer the input stimuli required, from RESET, to bring the sofa to the state represented by the address. The sofa will then generate stimuli for all possible input combinations to effectively generate child nodes in a state tree. For each child node, its corresponding input stimulus (including RESET). will be applied, the sofa output state will be recorded and the node address of the child will be generated (via the NodeAddress formula). Note that before applying each child node's input stimulus, a RESET must be done and the full stream of input stimuli represented by the provided parent node address must be applied.

For normal burst explorations as well as for FSM Address mode, the sofa will return a 64-bit Child Node Address. For FSM State mode responses, it will return the Child Node State (same value as OutputState).

If the Header. Flags field in the Burst Exploration request packet had either the aq or sq bit set the host is operating under the assumption that the sofa is in FSM mode (see FSM Command), in which case the bytes beginning at byte 8 in the request header will be used to supply the sofa with either a machine state value to be used by the sofa to lookup a state transition in the appropriate state table (case of sq bit set), or those bytes will contain a start node address (case of aq bit set). If sofa is not currently in FSM mode it should return a 0 in the Status field to indicate it could not complete the request and an error code status (see Appendix C), otherwise the sofa should return the appropriate fsm mode bit (ar or sr) in its responses.

In FSM State mode, the sofa will not have to infer any input stimuli to bring the sofa to a particular state, and will not need to do a RESET, it will simply use the provided FSM Current State to lookup the state transitions for all possible input stimuli for the particular Finite State Machine it is emulating. In FSM Address mode, the sofa will operate as if under normal operation (see above) except that it will not need to apply physical RESETs or INPUT transitions to the hardware, but will instead apply these logically to the currently active FSM table.

The total number of state information data sections returned is dependent upon the number of input pins, in accordance with the following formula: # of sections = $2^{(\#Inputs*Depth)}$. The Child Node address is the node address corresponding to the complete set of input stimuli from RESET and including the associated input stimulus. The input stimulus field contains the input stimuli used by the sofa to generated the associated output state (i.e., for 3 inputs, this field can contain a value from 000b to 111b (7)). The output state field is the state of the IC outputs after the input stimulus is applied (following a RESET).

NOTE: THE ar/sr BITS ARE ONLY TO BE SET BY THE SOFA WHEN OPERATING IN ONE OF THE 2 FSM MODES (Address or State mode), NOT DURING OTHER TIMES. THE SOFA SHOULD CLEAR THE ag/sq bits IN EACH RESPONSE.

If a pin profile request has not yet been issued to the test sofa since the last Reset was performed, the test sofa will return an error code value of 4.

FSM Command

Request Format (Header.Cmd = 4, Header. Param = tableID)

Cmd	Status	Param	Flags	Datalength LSB	Datalength MSB
04	00	Table ID	0x08 / 0x04	00_00_00_00	
			00_00_00_00 <u>_</u>	_00_00_00_00	
LSB					MSB

The FSM command is used to request the sofa to emulate a finite state machine, using the table ID to do so. In this mode, the sofa will respond to burst exploration commands by retrieving output states from a state machine table. The Flags field indicates whether to operate in 'Address' or 'State' mode (see *aq/sq* bits above).

The following table IDs are currently supported: 0: Exit FSM Mode 1: Triangle, 1-pin 2: Tree, 1- pin 3: Tree, 2-pin 4: Cube, 2-pin

Response Format

Cmd	Status	Param	Flags	Datalength LSB		Datalength MSB
04	01/00	Table ID / EC	0x80 / 0x40		00_00_00_00	
			00_00_00_00	_00_00_00_00		
LSB						MSB

If the sofa supports this command and table ID, the Header. Status field will be returned as 1, otherwise it will be returned as 0 and an appropriate error code in the 'Param' field (see Appendix C). The sofa will acknowledge being put into either 'Address' or 'State' mode via appropriate setting of the Flags field (see ar/sr bits above). If a pin profile request has not yet been issued to the test sofa since the last Reset was performed, the test sofa will return an error code value of 4.

Diagnostics

Request Format (Header.Cmd = 5)

_	Cmd	Status	Param	Flags	Datalength LSB		Datalength MSB
	05	00	00	00		00_00_00_00	
ſ				00_00_00_00	_00_00_00_00		
L	.SB						MSB

The Diagnostic command is used to request information related to the sofa hardware:

Response Format

	Cmd	Status	Param	Flags	Datalength LSB	Datalength MSB
	05	01/00	00 / EC	00	00_00_	_00_00
	Sofa Firmw	are Version	Sofa	State	unused	unused
	LSB					MSB

The following example shows the byte stream for several commands:

Setting FSM	1 `Sta	ate' M	lode 1	with !	Table	3	
> 0x04							
0x00	0x00	0x00	0x00	0x00	0x00	0x00	0x00
004	0 0 1	002	0 10	000	000	000	000
< 0x04	0x01 0x00						
							e' state machine in 'State' mode.
success	siuny se	et sola	18111 111	oue to	use <u>2-</u>	pin tree	state machine in State mode.
Requesting							
> <mark>0x01</mark>							
0x00	0x00	0x00	0x00	0x00	0x00	0x00	0x00
6 0.01	0 01	0 00	0 00	0 00	0 00	0 00	0.00
< 0x01	0x01						
							1 3 output pins.
The res	sponse	muicai	es mai	ulere a	ue <mark>z m</mark> j	put and	s output pins.
							de) from node <mark>0x56783322</mark> to depth of 1
> <mark>0x03</mark>							
<mark>0x22</mark>	0x33	0x78	0x56	0x00	0x00	0x00	0x00
< 0x03	001	001	000	0 1 0	000	000	000
	0x01 0x33						
sofa successfully responded with data length indication of 0x40 bytes of state information							
< <mark>0x01</mark>	0x00	0x00	0x00	0x00	0x00	0x00	0x00
	0x00						
	0x00						
	0x00						
	0x00						
	0x00 0x00						
	0x00						
							rmation
The res				cspons			
	*			te 1 wi	th <mark>a sti</mark>	mulus o	<mark>of 0</mark> (both inputs low).
		-					of 1 (input 1 high, input 2 low).
							of 2 (input 1 low, input 2 high).
							of 3 (input 1 high, input 2 high).
	noue T	Produ	ees <mark>sta</mark>	ст wi	ui <mark>u su</mark>		(mput 1 mgn, mput 2 mgn).

Appendix A:

Example for 74HC194 Bidirectional Universal Shift Register chip:

Pin Profiling:

Request Types:

Empty: UUT pin-profile is unknown. Pin-profiling will need to done, which can be time-consuming. Filled: UUT pin-profile is known, so pin-profiling process can be skipped.

Request (Empty)

0	16	00	00	00	00	00	00	00	00

Res	ponse		
0	8	4	

Branch Exploration through Stimulus and Response:

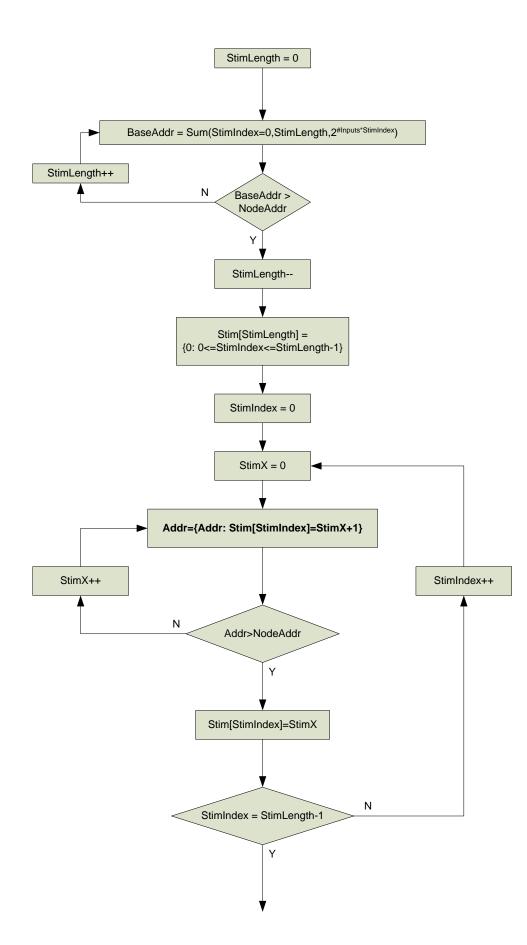
Stimulus:

|--|

Response:

Chimanilus	UUT Inputs									л о	utpı	Deenemen		
Stimulus	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	4	3	2	1	Response	
Rst	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
65	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	
64	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	8	
64	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	4	
64	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	
128	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	
128	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	
128	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	4	
64	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	8	
64	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	4	
64	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	

Appendix B:



Appendix C- Error Codes

If the test sofa cannot execute a host request, it will return a value of 0 in the response packet 'Status' field and one of the following values in the 'Parameter' field:

Value	Interpretation
0x01	Invalid Value in 'Cmd' field.
0x02	Invalid FSM Table Id.
0x03	Invalid State for Request – i.e. received burst exploration request aq/sq bit set but not currently in FSM mode, not set when in FSM mode or receive aq bit when in state mode or sq when in address mode.
0x04	No Pin Profile provided yet.
0x05	No Chip present to perform Pin Profile on.
0xFF	Internal Erorr.