

Automatic Bottle Filling Plant Controller using VHDL

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ABSTRACT

In this paper, we present a research project on designing an automatic bottle filling plant controller using VHDL code. The controller is designed to automate the process of filling bottles with a specified quantity of liquid. The project aims to increase efficiency, reduce waste, and eliminate errors in the filling process. VHDL code is used to program a field programmable gate array (FPGA). The system is tested and simulated using VIVADO software, and the results show that the system is able to fill bottles accurately and efficiently.

Keywords: Automatic Bottle Filling Plant, VHDL Code, Basys3 (FPGA Board), Vivado Software.

I. INTRODUCTION:

The efficient filling of bottles is a crucial task in various industries, including beverage, pharmaceutical, and chemical. To automate the process and ensure accuracy, automatic bottle filling controllers have been developed. In this research paper, we aim to design and implement an automatic bottle filling controller using VHDL, a hardware description language commonly used in digital circuit design. Our project involves the use of VHDL to create a digital circuit that controls the filling of bottles based on input parameters such as volume and speed. The goal of this project is to provide a reliable, accurate, and cost-effective solution for the automatic filling of bottles.

The primary objective of this project is to design and implement a reliable, accurate, and cost-effective solution for the automatic filling of bottles. In doing so, we hope to provide a solution that can be easily implemented in various industries

and can improve the efficiency and accuracy of the filling process. The use of FPGA will enable us to create a digital circuit that is flexible, scalable, and can be easily modified to meet the specific requirements of different applications.

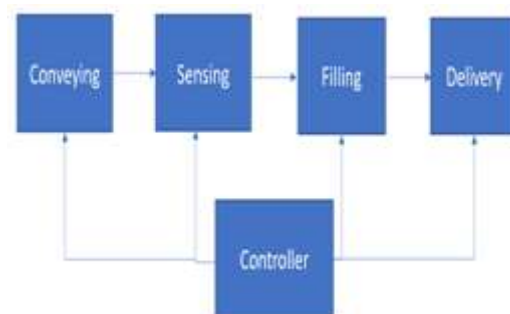


Fig.1.1 Block Diagram of automatic bottle filling controller.

Fig.1.1 shows the block diagram of states in automatic bottle filling plant controller. There are four states in this diagram i.e conveying, sensing, filling and delivering. All that's process are controlled by the controller as shown in fig.1.1.

2. Operations:

The operation of an Automatic Bottle Filling Plant Controller typically involves the following steps:

1. **Bottle Detection:** The system detects the presence of a bottle using a sensor. If a bottle is present, the system proceeds to the next step.
2. **Liquid Level Detection:** The system detects the current level of liquid in the bottle using a sensor. If the liquid level is below the desired level, the system proceeds to the next step.
2. **Valve Opening:** The system opens the valve to allow the liquid to flow into the bottle.

3. Liquid Filling: The liquid flows into the bottle until the liquid level reaches the desired level. During this process, the system monitors the liquid level to prevent overfilling.
4. Valve Closing: Once the desired liquid level is reached, the system closes the valve to stop the flow of liquid.
5. Bottle Removal: The system detects the removal of the filled bottle and waits for the next bottle to be detected.

Throughout the operation, the system continuously monitors the filling process to detect any errors or abnormalities. If an error is detected, the system stops the operation and alerts the operator. These safety features of the system prevent overfilling or any other hazards. The entire operation is controlled by the microcontroller, which is programmed using VHDL code. The VHDL code defines the behavior of the system and its interactions with the sensors, actuators, and other components.

II. FINITE STATE MACHINE (FSM):

A finite state machine (sometimes called a finite state automaton) is a computation model that can be implemented with hardware or software and can be used to simulate sequential logic and some computer programs. Finite state automata generate regular languages. Finite state machines can be used to model problems in many fields including mathematics, artificial intelligence, games, and linguistics.

There are two types of State machines:

1. Mealy Machine
2. Moore Machine

2.1 Mealy Machine:

In a Mealy machine, the output depends on both the present state and the present input. The value of the output function is a function of the transitions and the changes when the input logic on the present state is done. Mealy outputs are asynchronous. They can change immediately within an input change, independent of the clock as shown in Fig 2.1.

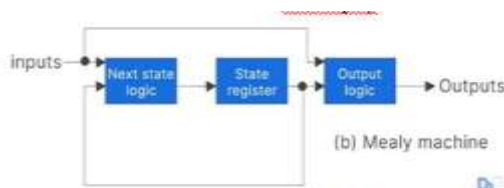


Fig 2.1 Mealy machine.

2.2 Moore Machine:

In a Moore machine, the output depends only on the present state. The value of the output function is a function of the current state and the changes at the clock edges, whenever state changes occur, as shown in Fig 2.2.

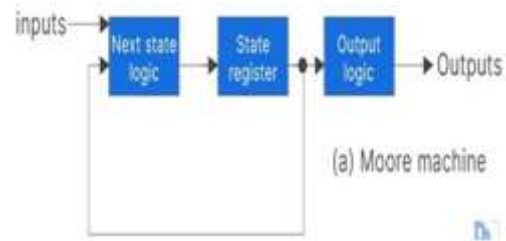


Fig 2.2 Moore machine.

III. RELATED WORK:

1. Automatic bottle filling systems using PLC: Programmable logic controllers (PLCs) have been widely used for automation in various industries, including bottle filling. PLC-based automatic bottle filling systems have been developed and implemented, which use sensors and actuators to control the filling process. These systems have been found to be reliable, accurate, and efficient.
2. Automatic bottle filling systems using microcontrollers: Microcontrollers such as Arduino have also been used for automating bottle filling. These systems use sensors and actuators, and the microcontroller is programmed to control the filling process based on the input parameters. These systems have been found to be cost-effective and easy to implement. Automatic bottle filling systems using LabVIEW: LabVIEW is a graphical programming language used for automation and data acquisition. It has been used to develop automatic bottle filling systems, where LabVIEW is used to control the filling process and monitor the system. These systems offer a user-friendly interface and real-time monitoring capabilities.
3. Research on sensors for bottle filling: Sensors play a crucial role in the automatic bottle filling process, as they are used to measure the volume of liquid and regulate the flow. There have been various studies on the development and evaluation of sensors for bottle filling, including ultrasonic, capacitive, and optical sensors. These are some examples of related work in the area of automatic bottle filling controller.

Parameters	Programmable Logic controller	Field Programmable Gate Array			
Purpose	Industrial control and automation	General-purpose programmable device.			
Functionality	Sequential and logic-based control tasks	Custom digital logic and algorithms.			
Programming	industrial-specific languages.	Hardware description languages like VHDL or Verilog.			
Power Efficiency	Power loss is more than FPGA	Power optimization based on application requirements.			

IV. IMPLEMENTATION:

In our research paper a state machine diagram is designed for the desired state machine which can control the whole bottle filling process automatically. The system requirements include the input signals from the liquid level sensors, the output signals to control the valves and pumps, and the processing blocks required to calculate the flow rate of the liquid. the system is able to detect when the bottle is full and stop the filling process. The VHDL architecture for the system will consist of input, output, and processing modules. The input module will be responsible for receiving the signals from the sensors, the processing module will calculate the flow rate and control the valves, and the output module will control the signal to stop the filling process when the bottle is full. And so on for remaining states like capping, labelling, quality checking and packaging. The VHDL code will be written for each module, including the input, processing, and output modules. The VHDL code will be verified using simulation software to ensure that it is functioning

correctly. The simulation software will provide a waveform that shows the input and output signals of the digital circuit. By analysing the waveform, the designer can verify that the VHDL code is performing the required calculations and producing the correct output signals. After verifying the VHDL code, the next step is to synthesize the VHDL code. This involves translating the VHDL code into a gate-level netlist, which describes the logic gates and their interconnections required to implement the digital circuit on the FPGA.

Once the VHDL code is synthesized, the next step is to place and route the design. This involves mapping the logic gates onto the FPGA and routing the connections between them. Finally, the FPGA can be programmed with the synthesized design and the system can be tested to ensure that it meets the system requirements. If any issues are found, the VHDL code can be modified and the synthesis and place and route steps can be repeated until the design is functioning correctly.

Name	Direction	Description
clk	INPUT	Used to give clock signal.
reset	INPUT	Used to Reset the system

empty_sensor	INPUT	Used to check whether empty bottle is detected or not
full_sensor	INPUT	Used to check whether bottle is filled or not
cap_sensor	INPUT	Used to check whether bottle is perfectly capped or not
quality_check	INPUT	Used to check quality of filled & Labeled bottle
packaging_done	INPUT	Used to give information about packaging
valve	OUTPUT	Valve to fill the bottles.
conveyor	OUTPUT	Conveyor
capper	OUTPUT	Used for capping.
labeler	OUTPUT	Used to label the bottles.
checking	OUTPUT	Used for quality checking

Table 1. Input/Outputs with remarks.

4.1 Field Programming Gate Array (FPGA)

A field-programmable gate array (FPGA) is a semiconductor device that can be configured by the designer after manufacture, hence the name "field-programmable". FPGAs are programmed using a logic circuit diagram or hardware description language (HDL) source code. This program is reprogrammable by the designer if necessary. If the FPGA is programmed by the user, the user can also modify or change the program. The implemented program in the FPGA shows the operation of the chip or kit. They can be used to implement any logic function that an application-specific integrated circuit (ASIC) might perform, but the ability to update functionality after delivery offers advantages for many applications. Field Programmable Gate Arrays (FPGAs) are widely used in rapid prototyping and proof of concept design as well as in electronic systems

where custom IC mask manufacturing is really expensive due to small quantities. The system was implemented in hardware using FPGA Basys 3. According to the design procedure,

it starts with the description of the circuit, in which the whole circuit is designed by logic, which is done using (VHDL). A functional description was then performed, followed by synthesis and post-synthesis simulations. Then the implementation and time simulation takes place and the generated file is downloaded to the target device. This system used as a target device is an FPGA kit. Circuit design or description can be done using VHDL followed by functional simulation and synthesis. The design flow is followed until timing simulation and then the generated file is downloaded to the target device (FPGA). FPGAs have gained rapid adoption and growth over the past decade because they can be used in a very wide variety of applications. A list of typical applications includes: random logic, integration of multiple SPLDs, devices

4.2 Basys3 Board:

The Basys 3 is a versatile development board that provides a hands-on learning experience for digital design and FPGA programming. It offers a range of features

and capabilities to support project development and experimentation. The board's Xilinx Artix-7 FPGA is a powerful programmable logic device that allows users to implement custom digital circuits. With 33,280 logic cells, 1,800 Kbits of block RAM, and 90 DSP slices, the FPGA provides ample resources for complex designs. The Basys3 board includes various input/output interfaces that enable interaction with the board and external devices. These interfaces include user switches, LEDs, push buttons, seven-segment displays, VGA output, USB-UART bridge, and Pmod connectors. These features allow for user input, output display, and connection with peripherals. For data storage, the board provides 256 MB of DDR3 memory, which can be used to store data during operation. Additionally, it has 16 MB of Quad-SPI flash memory that allows for non-volatile storage of FPGA configurations, ensuring easy reconfiguration of the FPGA. In summary, the Basys3 board is a popular choice for digital design and FPGA-based projects. Its Xilinx Artix-7 FPGA, I/O interfaces, memory capabilities, educational resources, and expandability make it a valuable tool for learning and prototyping digital circuits and embedded systems.

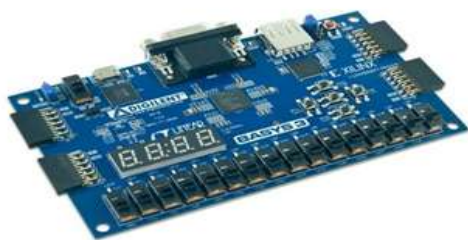


Fig4.2 Basys3kit

The Basys3 is a small circuit board that helps people learn about digital logic design using a technology called Field-Programmable Gate Arrays. It has a special chip called the Xilinx Artix-7 FPGA that can be programmed to perform different tasks. The board has buttons, switches, lights, and displays that you can use to interact with your circuit designs and see the results. It also has USB ports, a UART port, and an Ethernet port to connect to other devices like computers. To make the Basys 3 work, you use software called Vivado Design Suite or similar tools. These tools let you write and test your circuit designs, and then program the FPGA on the board. The Basys 3 is commonly used in schools and by hobbyists to learn about digital circuits and how to program

FPGAs.

V. DESIGN METHODOLOGY:

The system consists of a filling machine, a conveyor belt, sensors, and an FPGA-based controller. The filling machine is used to fill the bottles with the liquid, and the conveyor belt is used to transport the bottles to the filling machine. The sensors are used to detect the presence of bottles on the conveyor belt and the level of liquid in the filling machine. The FPGA-based controller is responsible for controlling the filling machine, conveyor belt, and sensors. The VHDL code is used to program the FPGA with the necessary control signals. The code is designed to monitor the sensors, control the conveyor belt, and fill the bottles with the required amount of liquid. The code also includes error handling routines to detect and correct errors in the filling process. The provided code represents the behavioral description of a bottle filling controller using a FSM approach. It defines an entity called 'bottlefillingplantcontroller' with input and output ports for various signals and control lines. The architecture block describes the behavior of the controller. It uses a clock ('clk') and a synchronous reset signal ('reset') to control the state transitions and actions within the FSM.

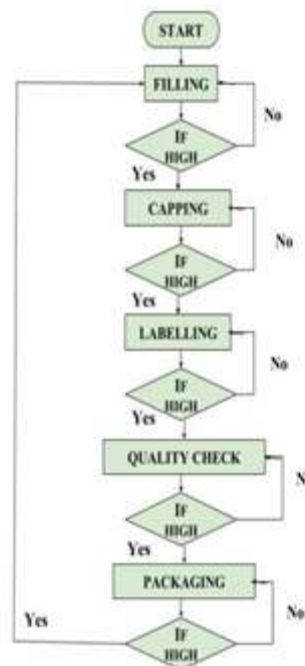


Fig5.1.Flowchartforautomaticbottlefillingcontroller

Fig. 5.1 defines the different states of the controller, including IDLE, FILLING, CAPPING, LABELING, QUALITY_CHK, and PACKAGING. The `state` signal represents the current state of the controller and is initialized to IDLE during reset. Inside the process block, the FSM is implemented using a `case` statement based on the current state. Each state has associated conditions and actions:

5.2 Description of states:

IDLE state: The controller waits for an empty bottle to be detected (`empty_sensor='1'`). When an empty bottle is detected, the conveyor is activated (`conveyor<='1'`), and the controller transitions to the FILLING state.

FILLING state: The valve is turned on (`valve<='1'`) to fill the bottle until it becomes full (`full_sensor='1'`). Once the bottle is full, the valve is turned off, the conveyor is activated, and the controller transitions to the CAPPING state.

CAPPING state: The capper is activated (`capper<='1'`) to check and tighten the bottle cap. When the cap is detected (`cap_sensor='1'`), the capper is turned off, the conveyor is activated, and the controller transitions to the LABELING state. The labeller is also activated (`labeller<='1'`) in this state.

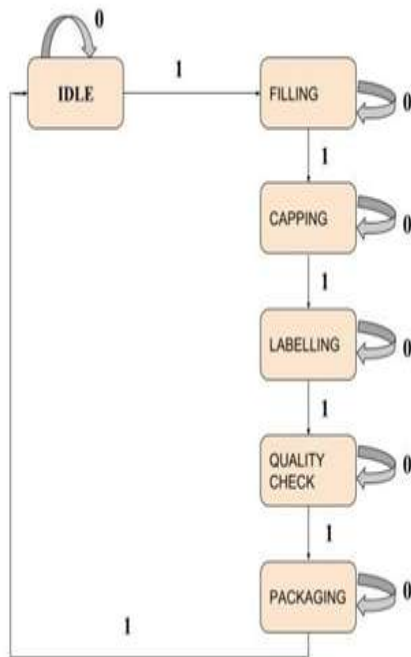


Fig 5.2. State diagram for automatic bottle filling controller.

LABELING state: The label is applied to the bottle when the labels sensor detects the bottle (`lable_sensor='1'`). After labelling, the labeler

is turned off, the conveyor is activated, and the controller transitions to the QUALITY_CHK state. The checking signal (`checking<='1'`) is activated in this state.

QUALITY_CHK

state: The quality of the filled bottle is checked (`quality_check='1'`). If the quality check passes, the checking signal is turned off, the conveyor is activated, and the controller transitions to the PACKAGING state.

PACKAGING state: The bottles are packaged (`packager<='1'`). Once packaging is completed (`packaging_done='1'`), the packager is turned off, the conveyor is activated, and the controller transitions back to the IDLE state to wait for the next empty bottle.

The code also includes default assignments for the output signals in the `others` state and during reset to ensure proper initialization and error handling. In summary, the code implements a bottle filling controller FSM that controls the filling, capping, labeling, quality checking, and packaging processes of the automatic bottle filling plant. The controller transitions between states based on specific conditions and activates the necessary components to perform the corresponding actions at each stage of the bottle filling process.

VI. SIMULATION AND TESTING:

The system is tested and simulated using Vivado software. The simulation results show that the system is able to fill bottles accurately and efficiently. The system is able to detect the presence of bottles on the conveyor belt, fill the bottles with the specified amount of liquid, and transport the bottles away from the filling machine. The system is also able to detect errors in the filling process and take corrective action.

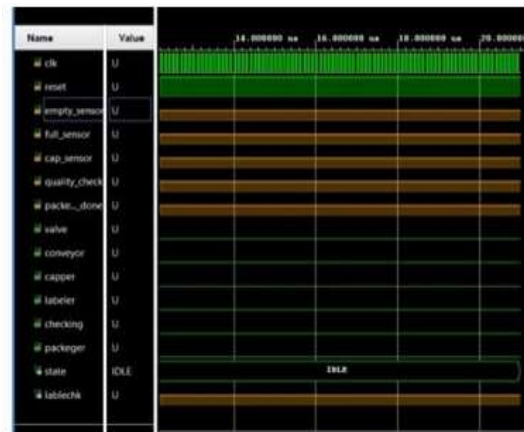


Fig 5.1 Simulation waveform showing Idle State

The fig.5.1 shows the waveform of Idle State. When we give Clock signal and reset input to high the controller goes in Idle state all the outputs like Valve, Conveyor, capper etc. all goes Low (OFF) as per the VHDL code.



Fig5.2.SimulationwaveformshowingFillingState

The fig.5.2 shows the Simulation waveform of Filling State, When we give high input to empty bottle sensor (Empty bottle detected) then controller goes to Filling state, then Valve turns On (high) and filling of bottle starts.

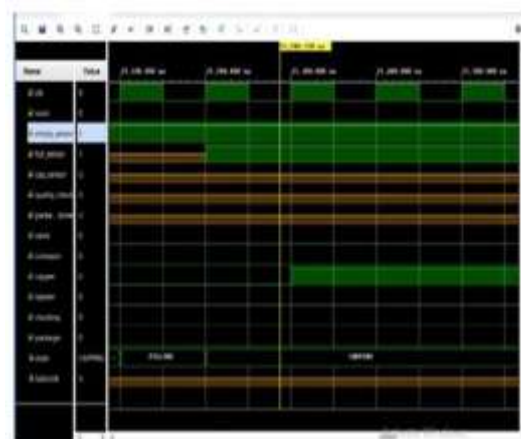


Fig 5.3SimulationwaveformshowingCappingState

The fig. 5.3 shows the Simulation waveform of Capping State, When we give high input to the bottle filled sensor (bottle is filled) then Valve turns OFF and the controller goes to Capping state, then Capper turns On (high) and Capping of bottle starts.



Fig 5.4Simulationwaveform showing LabellingState

The fig.5.4 shows the Simulation waveform of Capping State When we give high input to the Capping sensor (bottle is capped) then capper turns OFF and the controller goes to Labelling state, then Labeler turns ON and Labelling of bottle starts as per program.



Fig 5.5Simulationwaveform showingQualityCheck State

The fig.5.5 shows the Simulation waveform of Capping State, When we give high input to the Labelling sensor (bottle is Labelled) then Labeler turns OFF and the controller goes to Quality Check state, then Quality Checking turns ON and Checking of bottle starts as per program.



Fig 5.6 .Simulation waveform showing Packaging State

The fig.5.6 shows the Simulation waveform of Packaging State. When we give high input to the Quality check sensor (bottle Quality is checked) then Quality Checking turns OFF and the controller goes to Packaging state, then Packager turns ON and Packaging of bottle starts.

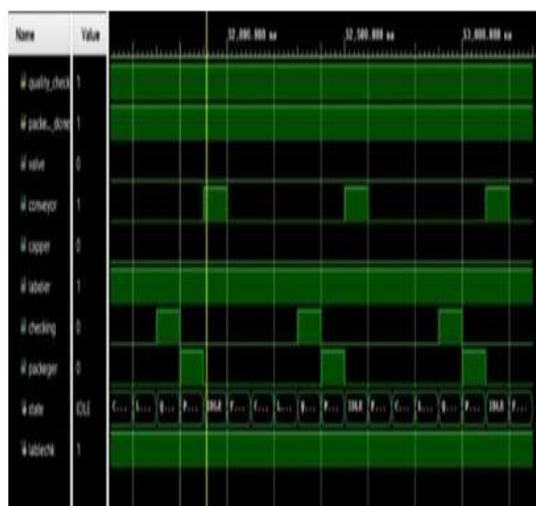


Fig 5.7. Simulation waveform For automatic bottle filling Controller

The fig.5.7 shows the Simulation waveform of automatic bottle filling Controller. As per our VHDL code controller shows the results from one state to another and so on, And this process achieves our aim to automate the bottle filling process by using FPGA.

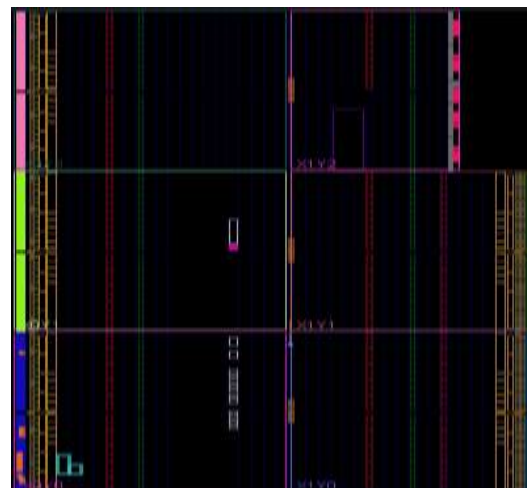


Fig 5.8 Implementation Design

Fig 5.8 shows the Implementation Design of the automatic bottle filling plant controller Using VHDL language. The automatic bottle filling plant controller consists of sensing systems to detect bottles and measure liquid levels. It controls the conveyor system for bottle transport and synchronizes the filling mechanism. The controller employs algorithms for precise control, adjusts conveyor speed, and manages the overall operation. It includes a user-friendly interface for monitoring and control, and a central unit for processing signals and coordinating components. Safety features and data logging for analysis are also incorporated.

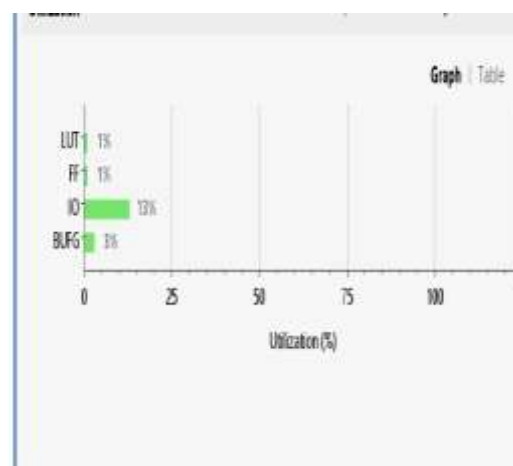


Fig.5.9 utilization graph

Above fig.5.9 is graph the utilization graph of the automatic bottle filling plant controller. An utilization graph represents resource allocation in a system over time. Designing an automatic bottle filling plant controller using VHDL involves identifying requirements, defining

architecture, writing VHDL code, simulating and verifying, synthesizing and implementing, and performing utilization analysis. Optimization techniques include resource sharing, pipeline design, parallelization, and code optimization. Utilization graphs can be generated using VHDL simulation or synthesis tools with utilization analysis capabilities.



Fig 5.10 chip power

As we see in Fig 7.3, is a diagram is of chip power of FPGA. The chip power of an FPGA (Field-Programmable Gate Array) refers to the power consumption of the FPGA chip itself. It is an important consideration in FPGA design. Factors that influence chip power include the configuration of logic elements, memory elements, interconnects, and I/O interfaces. Power consumption can vary based on the specific FPGA model, the configuration of the design, and the operating conditions. Designers aim to optimize power usage through techniques such as power gating, clock gating, and voltage scaling. Power reports estimation tools and are available to analyze and optimize chip power in FPGA designs. The RTL view of the machine is shown in figure 5.8

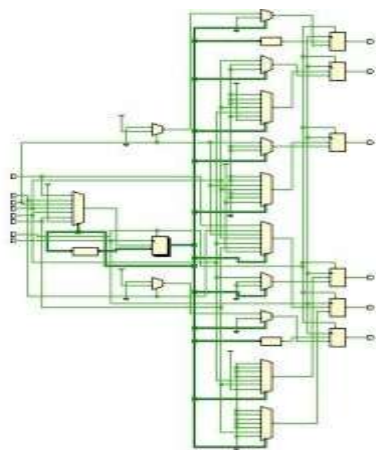


Fig 14. RTL view of Automatic bottle filling Controller.

VII. CONCLUSION:

The present FPGA based automatic bottle filling controller is implemented using FSMs with the help of Xilinx Vivado. The design is verified on the FPGA Basys 3 development Board. The VHDL-based design provides a flexible and scalable solution that can be easily adapted to different types of liquids and bottle sizes, making it applicable in various industries. By utilizing a state diagram and appropriate input and output modules, the system can accurately detect and control the filling process, ensuring that each bottle is filled to the desired level. The verification and synthesis of the VHDL code, followed by the placement and routing of the design onto the FPGA, enable the system to be implemented and programmed effectively. This simulation process ensures the correct functionality of the system, while the FPGA implementation allows for real-world testing and validation. Overall, the implementation of the Automatic Bottle Filling Controller using VHDL demonstrates the potential of digital circuit design and automation in enhancing industrial processes. The successful integration of hardware and software components paves the way for improved efficiency, accuracy, and productivity in bottle filling operations, making it a valuable contribution to the field.

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