The Virtual Learning Environment for Computer Programming

## Traffic-light controller

X88681\_en

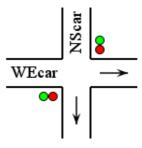
Design a controller for the traffic lights in the crossing of two unidirectional streets. One street goes from North to South (NS) and the other street goes from West to East (WE). Each street has a sensor that detects the presence of cars approaching to the traffic light.

For simplicity, we will assume that the traffic lights can only have two colors, red and green, and they switch simultaneously. This means that there is always one light at red and one light at green.

The controller must be designed in a way that cars do not have to wait more than necessary. If there are cars willing to cross in only one direction, the lights will give priority to them. If there are cars willing to cross in both directions, the traffic lights will not change. However, there is one exception: the system also has a timer that indicates that the traffic lights have not switched for a long time (possibly because there was heavy traffic going to one direction). In that case, if there are cars in both directions, the lights will switch.

In case there are no cars in either direction, the lights will not change regardless the indication of the timer.

After resetting the controller, the lights must give priority to the North-South direction.



### **Specification**

```
module traffic_light (NScar, WEcar, Timer, NSWE_light, clk, rst );
input NScar, WEcar, Timer, clk, rst;
output NSWE_light;
```

#### Input

- *NScar* is 1 when the sensor detects the presence of cars in the North-South direction.
- WEcar is 1 when the sensor detects the presence of cars in the West-East direction.
- *Timer* is 1 when the lights have not changed for a long time.
- *clk* is the clock of the controller.
- *rst* is the synchronous reset signal.

# Output

• *NSWE\_light* is the output signal. When 0, it allows cars to cross in the North-South direction. When 1, it allows cars to cross in the West-East direction.

### **Problem information**

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