

# Signals & Variables (1A)

---

## Concurrent & Sequential Signal Assignments

Copyright (c) 2012 Young W. Lim.

Permission is granted to copy, distribute and/or modify this document under the terms of the GNU Free Documentation License, Version 1.2 or any later version published by the Free Software Foundation; with no Invariant Sections, no Front-Cover Texts, and no Back-Cover Texts. A copy of the license is included in the section entitled "GNU Free Documentation License".

Please send corrections (or suggestions) to [youngwlim@hotmail.com](mailto:youngwlim@hotmail.com).

This document was produced by using OpenOffice and Octave.

# Sequential Statement

- Wait Statement
- Assertion Statement
- Report Statement
- Generate Statement
- Signal Assignment
- Variable Assignment
- Procedure Call
- If
- Case
- Loop
- Next
- Exit
- Return
- Null

- **Case Statement**
- **If Statement**
- **Loop Statement**
- **Process Statement**
- **Subprogram Body**

- Sequential Signal Assignment

- Conditional Signal Assignment
- Selected Signal Assignment

X

# Concurrent Statement

- Block Statement
- **Process Statement**
- Component Statement
- Generate Statement
- **Concurrent Signal Assignment**
- Concurrent Assertion
- Concurrent Procedure Call

- **Architecture Body**
- **Block Statement**
- **Generate Statement**

- Conditional Signal Assignment
- Selected Signal Assignemnt

# Concurrent Signal Assignment

- **Conditional** Signal Assignment

```
Z <= A or B [ after 1 ns ] when SEL = "00" else  
A or C [ after 2 ns ] when SEL = "01" else  
A or D [ after 2 ns ] when SEL = "10" else  
A or E [ after 3 ns ] when SEL = "11" else  
A or F [ after 4 ns ] ;
```

condition

- **Selected** Signal Assignment

```
with SEL select  
Z <= A or B [ after 1 ns ] when "00",  
A or C [ after 2 ns ] when "01",  
A or D [ after 3 ns ] when "10",  
A or E [ after 4 ns ] when "11",  
A or F [ after 5 ns ] when others;
```

selection

# Conditional Signal Assignment (1)

```
Z <= A or B [after 1 ns] ;
```

← simple concurrent statement

```
Z <= A or B [after 1 ns] when S0 = '1' ;
```

← One condition

```
Z <= A or B [after 1 ns] when S0 = '1' else  
C or D [after 2 ns] ;
```

← One condition with 'else'

```
Z <= A or B [after 1 ns] when S0 = '1' else  
C or D [after 2 ns] when S1 = '1' else  
E or F [after 3 ns] ;
```

← Two conditions with 'else'

## Concurrent Signal Assignment

- Conditional Signal Assignment
- Selected Signal Assignment

# Conditional Signal Assignment (2)

```
Z <= A or B [after 1 ns] ;
```

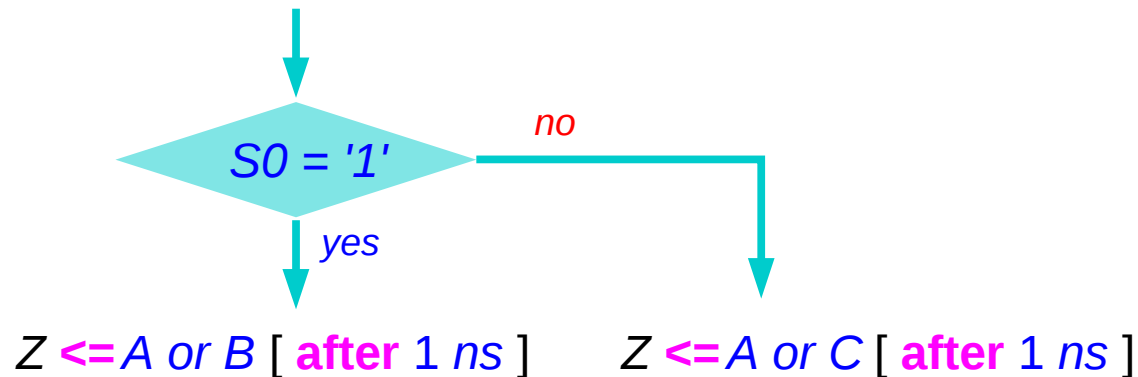
← simple concurrent statement

```
Z <= A or B [after 1 ns] when S0 = '1' ;
```

← One condition

```
Z <= A or B [after 1 ns] when S0 = '1' else  
C or D [after 2 ns] ;
```

← One condition with 'else'



# Conditional Signal Assignment (3)

```
Z <= A or B [after 1 ns] ;
```

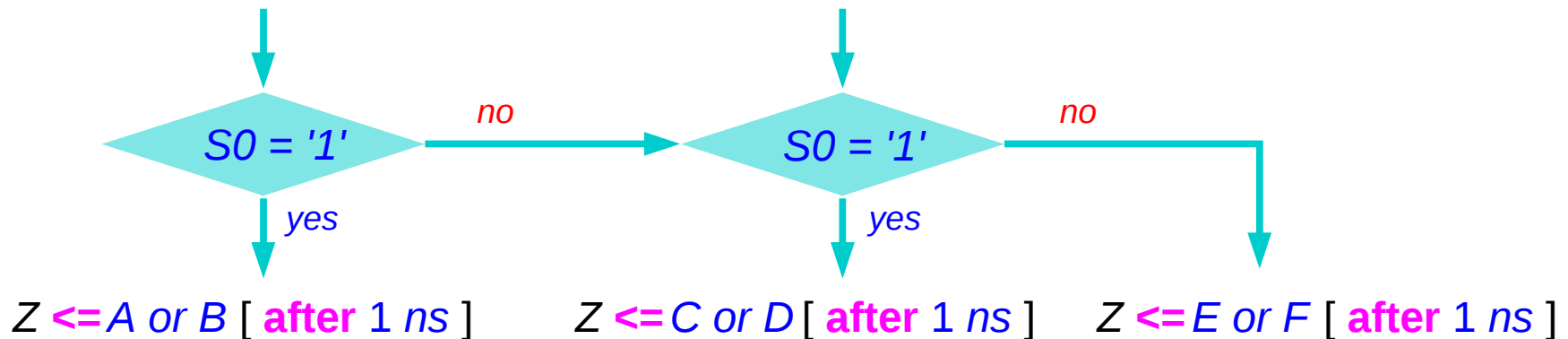
← simple concurrent statement

```
Z <= A or B [after 1 ns] when S0 = '1' ;
```

← One condition

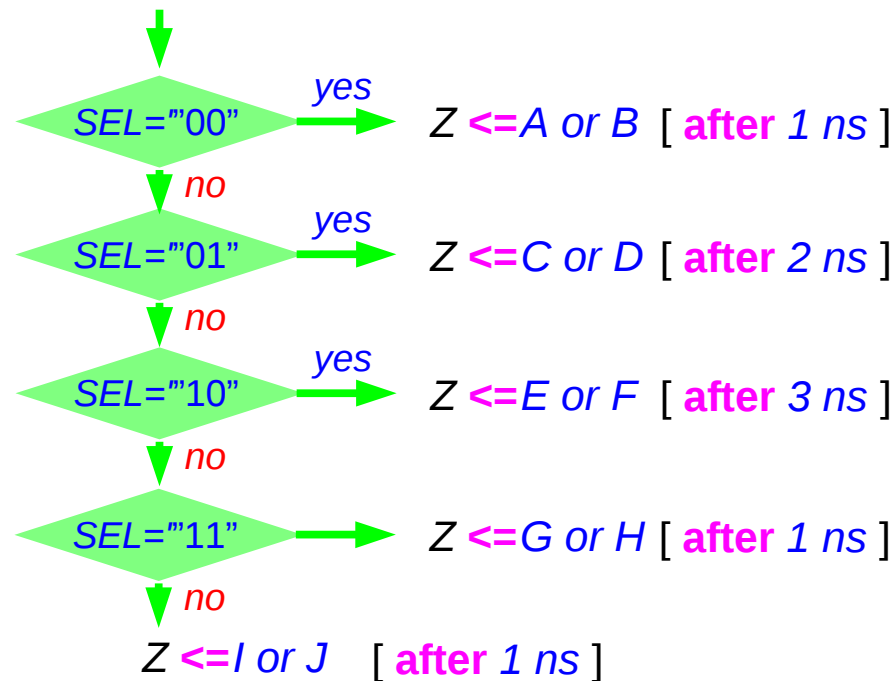
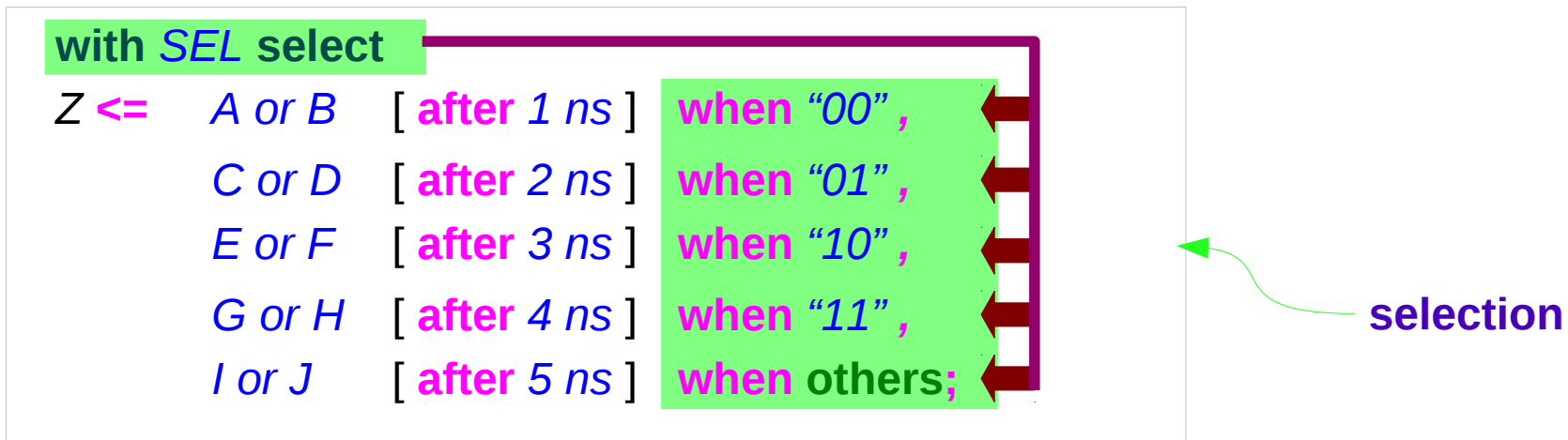
```
Z <= A or B [after 1 ns] when S0 = '1' else  
C or D [after 2 ns] when S1 = '1' else  
E or F [after 3 ns] ;
```

← Two conditions with 'else'

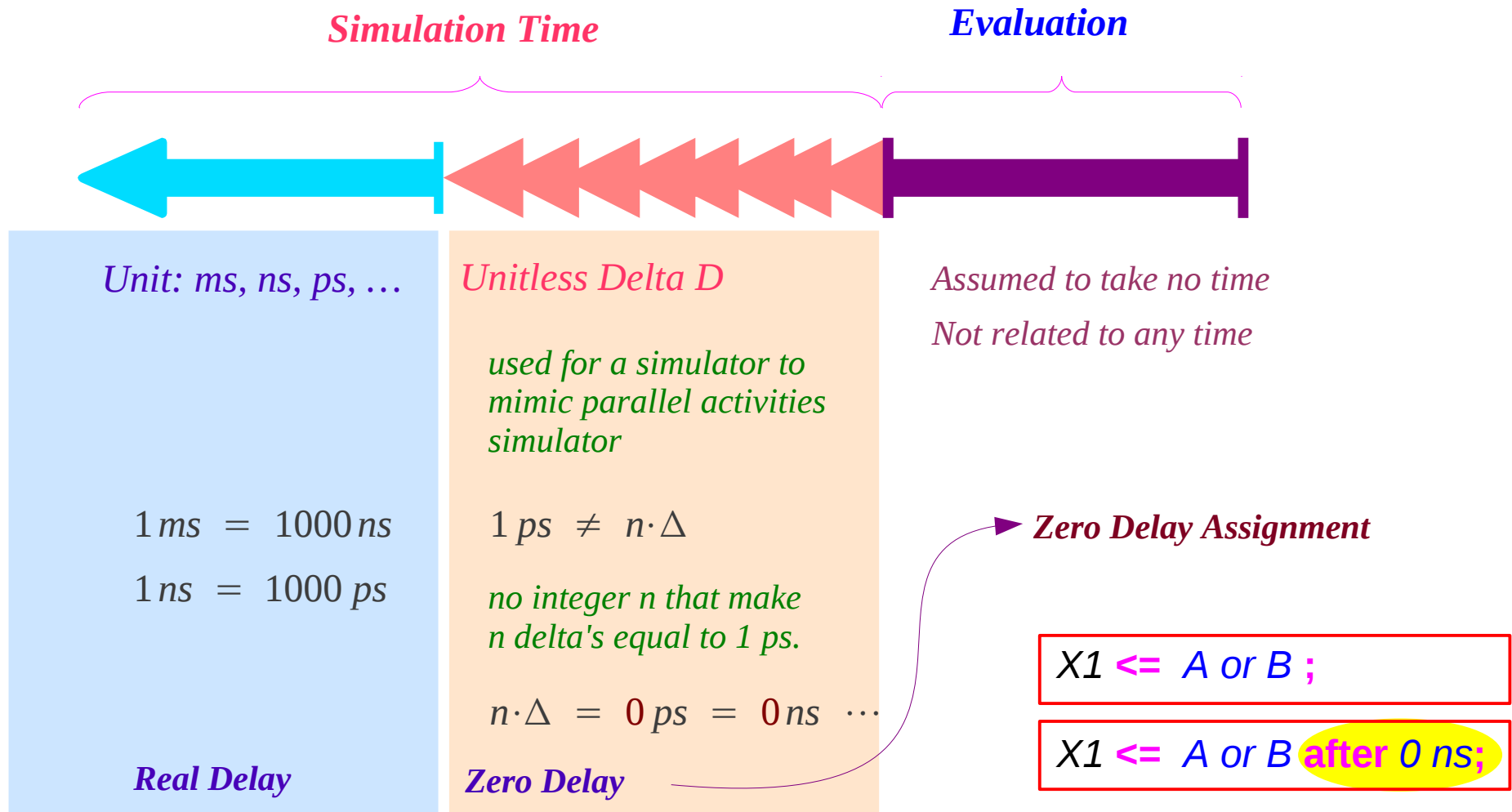




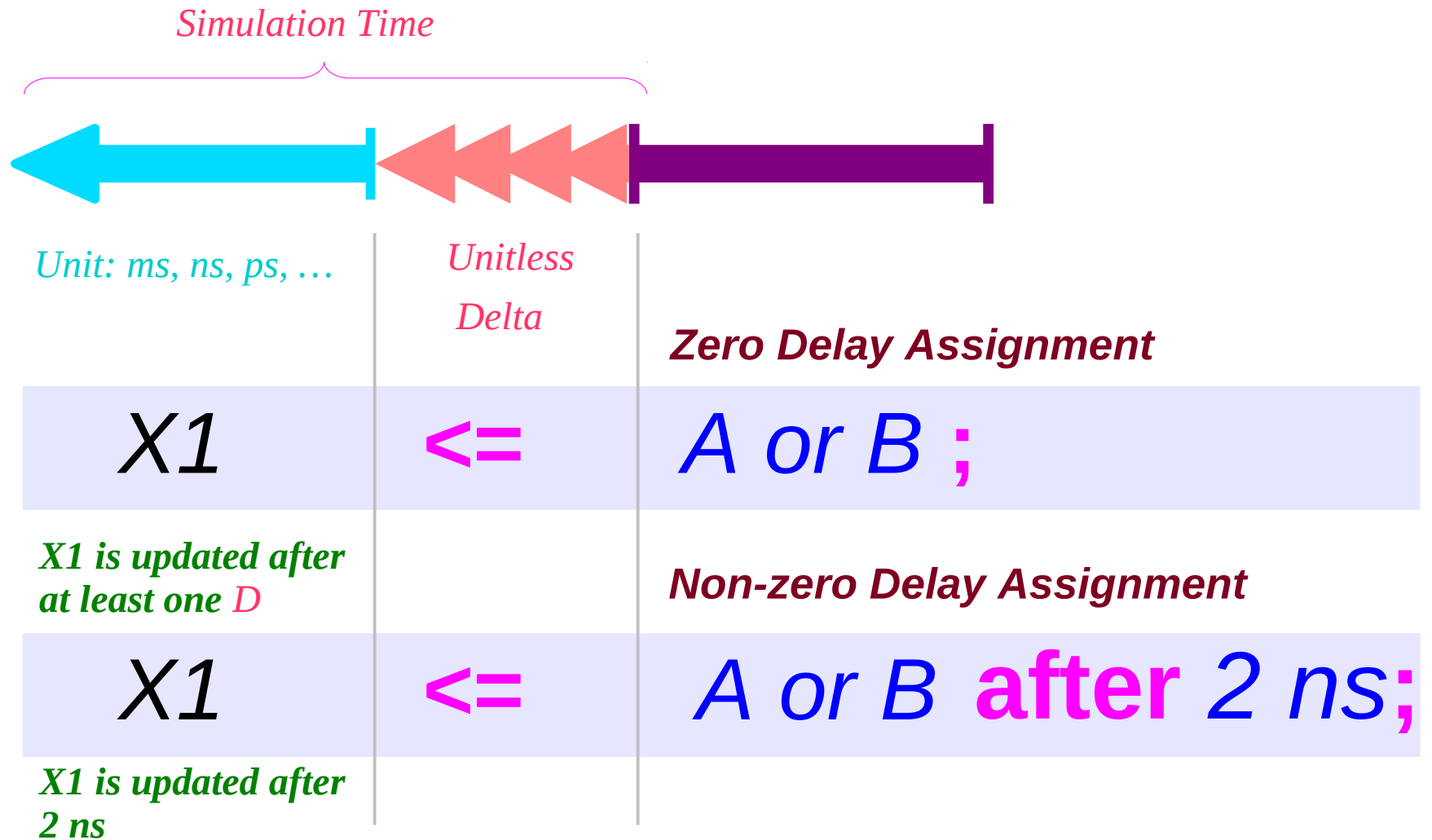
# Selected Signal Assignment



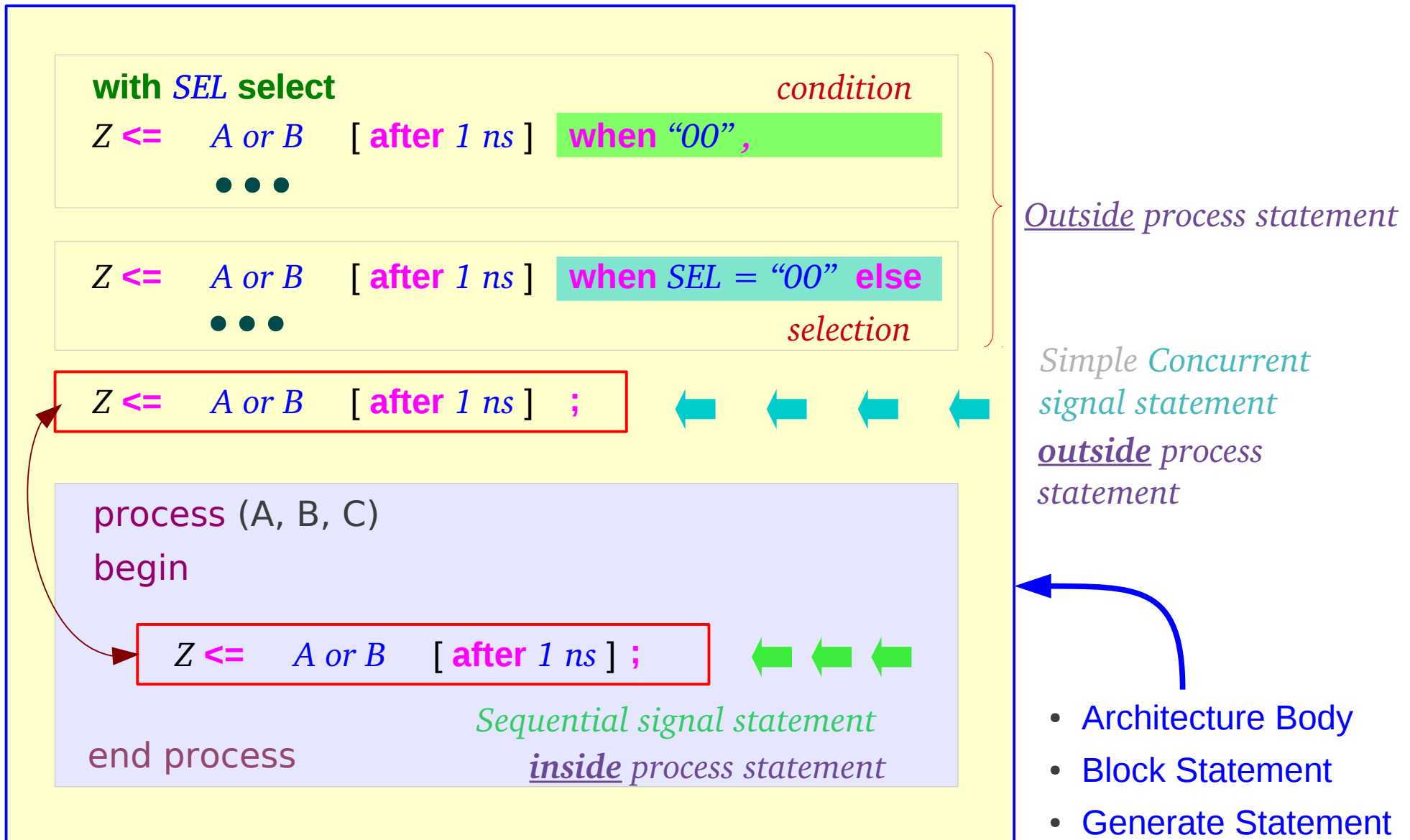
# Simulation Time (1)



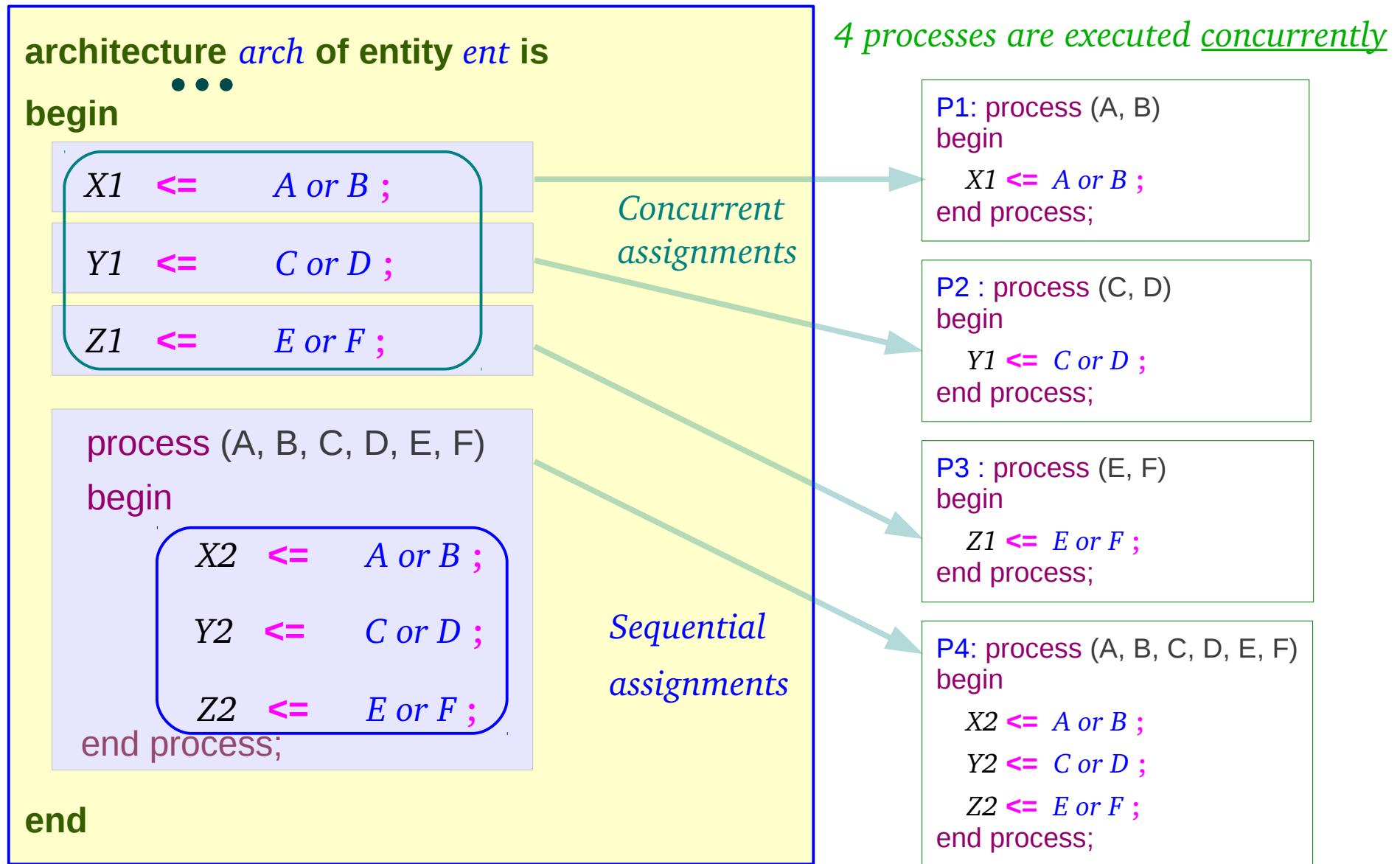
# Simulation Time (2)



# Concurrent vs Sequential (1)



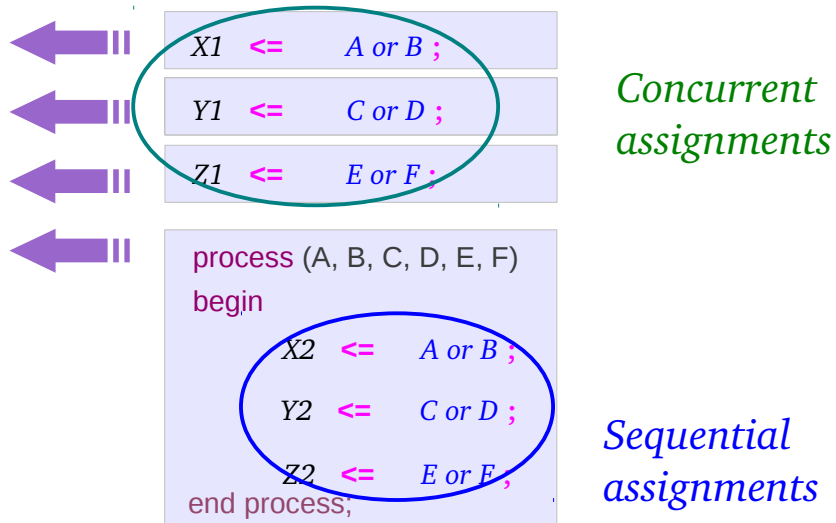
# Concurrent vs Sequential (2)



# Concurrent vs Sequential (3)

## Simulation of parallel activities

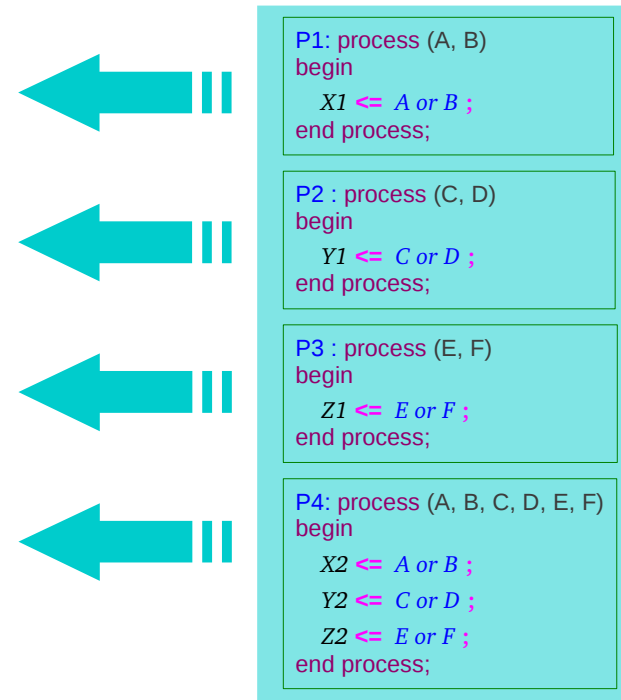
4 processes are executed concurrently



*The order of statements is important*

## Non-deterministic Execution Order

Don't know which process executes first among P1 ~ P4.



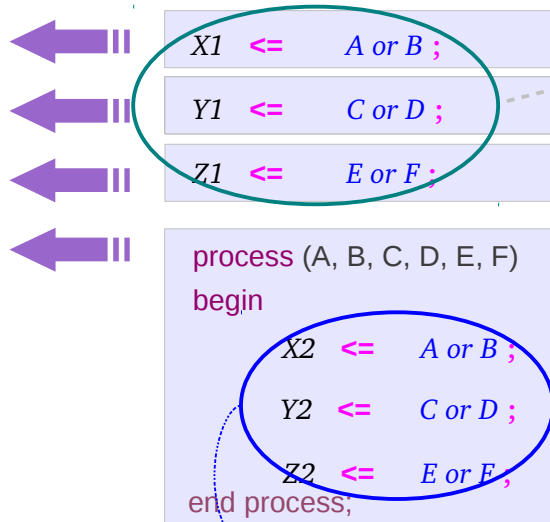
end

# Concurrent vs Sequential (4)

*Simulation of parallel activities*

*4 processes are executed concurrently*

**zero delay assignments**

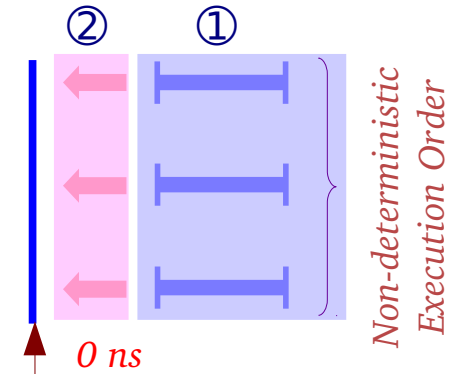


- \* *The order of statements is important*
1. *scheduled after some delta time*
  2. *non-blocking assignment*

*only lumped view*

②①

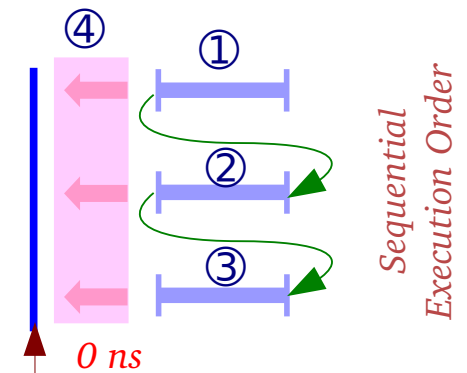
**Concurrent assignments**



**Sequential assignments**

*lumped view*

④

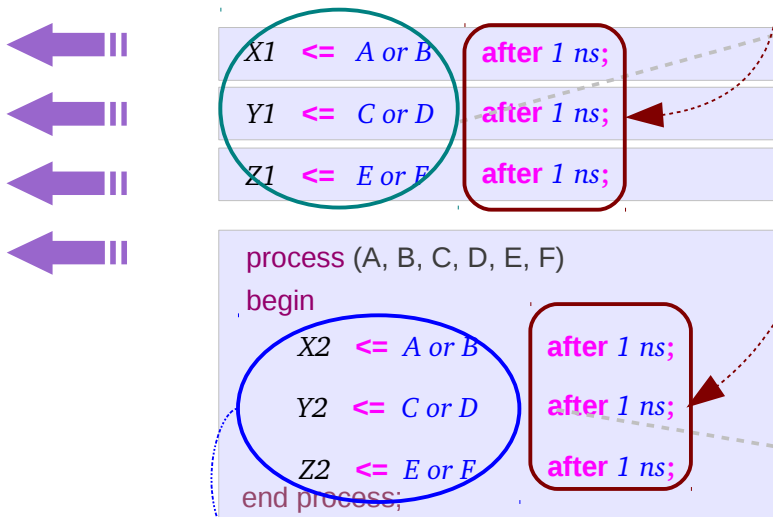


# Concurrent vs Sequential (5)

*Simulation of parallel activities*

*4 processes are executed concurrently*

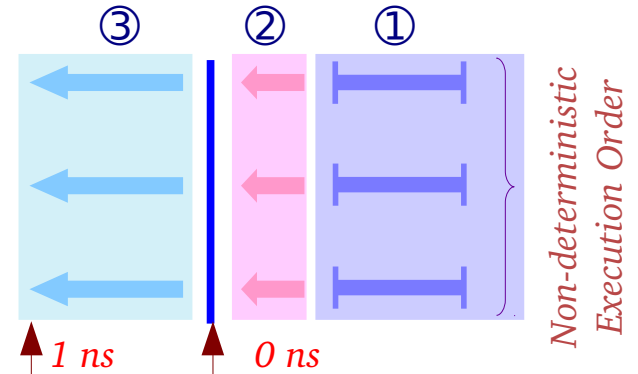
**nonzero delay assignments**



- \* The order of statements is important
- 1. scheduled after some delta time
- 2. non-blocking assignment

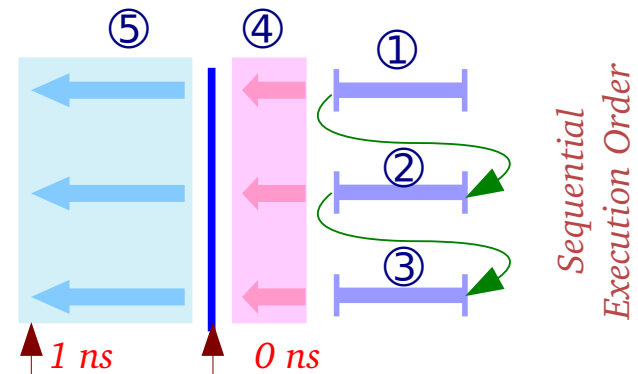
only lumped view  
③②①

**Concurrent assignments**



**Sequential assignments**

lumped view  
⑤④





# Zero Delay Assignment

architecture *arch* of entity *ent* is

•••

begin

X1 | <= | A or B ;

Y1 | <= | C or D ;

Z1 | <= | E or F ;

process (A, B, C, D, E, F)

begin

X2 | <= | A or B ;

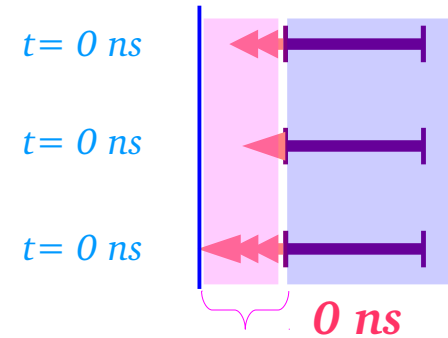
Y2 | <= | C or D ;

Z2 | <= | E or F ;

end process;

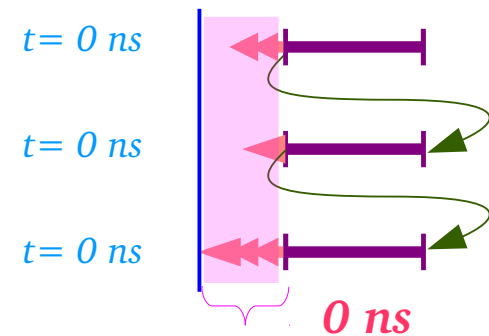
end

$\Delta$  time Evaluation



The exact no of delta is determined by the simulator and the context

$\Delta$  time Evaluation



Updated values

# Non-Zero Delay Assignment

architecture *arch* of entity *ent* is  
 ...  
 begin

```

←X1 | <= | A or B | after 1 ns;
←Y1 | <= | C or D | after 3 ns;
←Z1 | <= | E or F | after 2 ns;
    
```

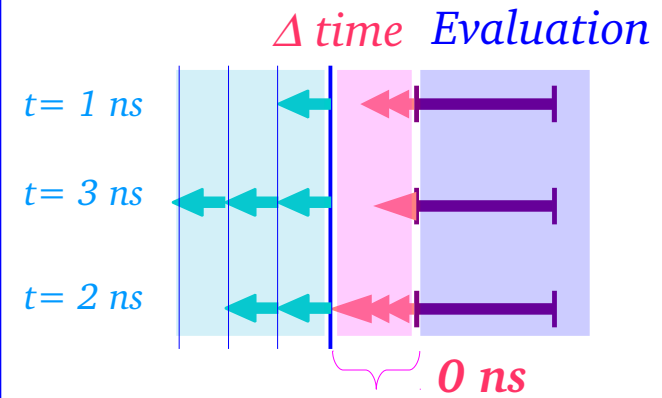
process (A, B, C, D, E, F)

begin

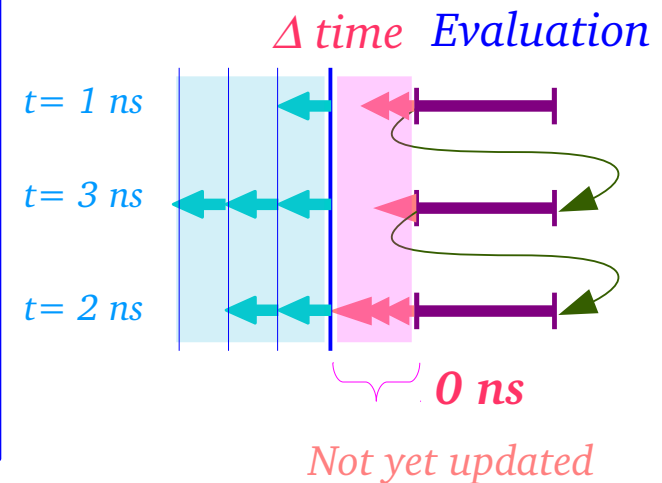
```

←X2 | <= | A or B | after 1 ns;
←Y2 | <= | C or D | after 3 ns;
←Z2 | <= | E or F | after 2 ns;
end process;
    
```

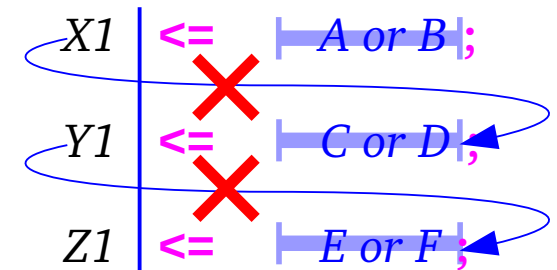
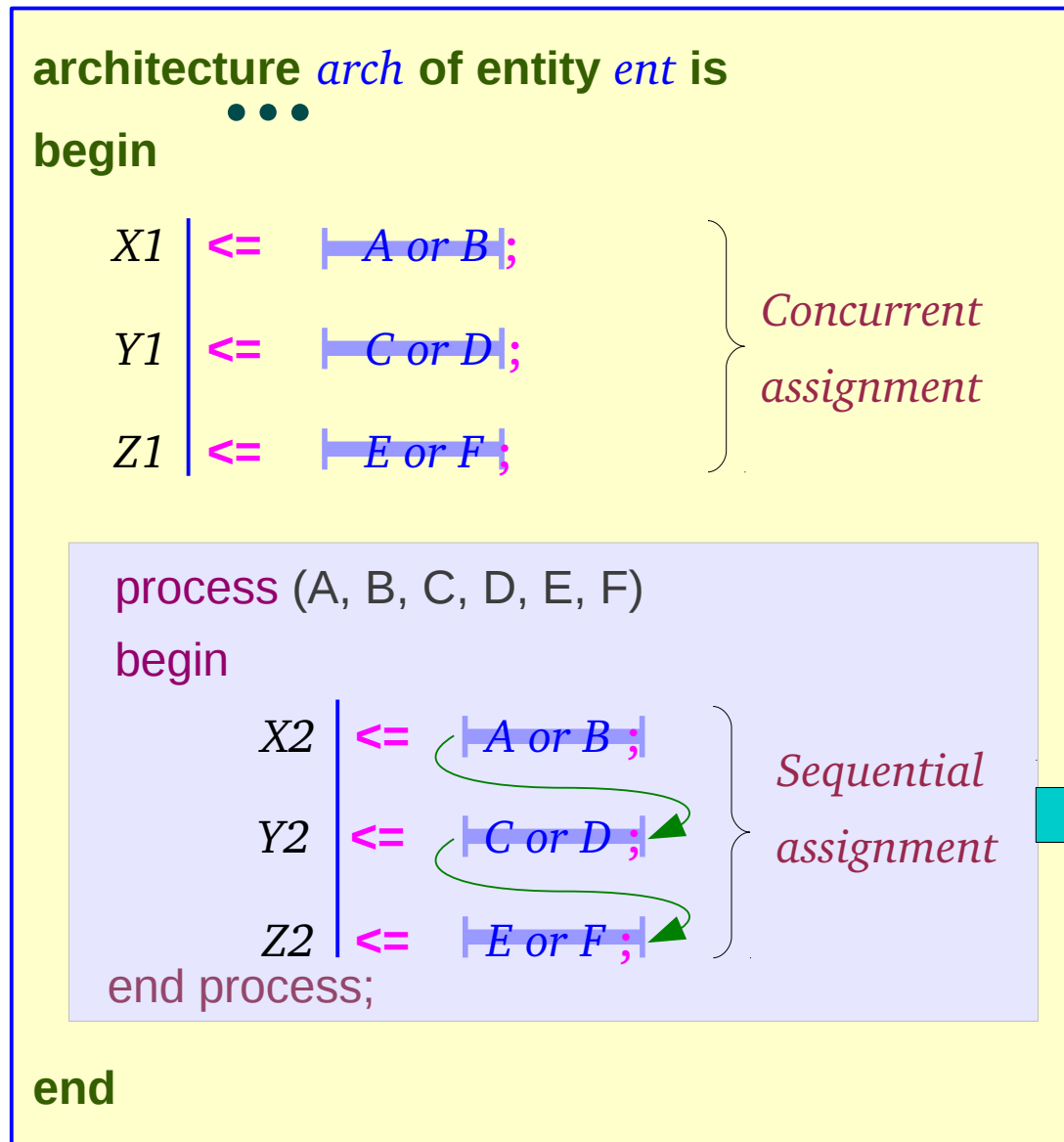
end



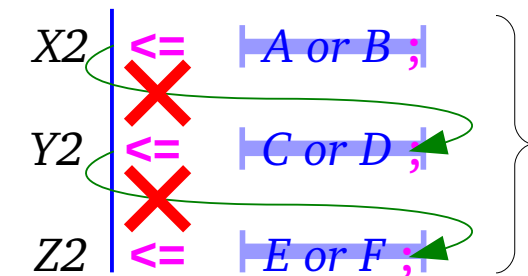
The exact no of delta is determined by the simulator and the context



# Non-blocking Assignment (1)



*non-blocking assignment*

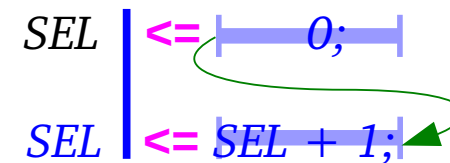


# Non-blocking Assignment (2)

```
process (A, I0, I1)
begin
  SEL <= 0;
  if (A='1') then SEL <= SEL + 1; end if;
  case SEL is
    when 0
      Q <= I0;
    when 1
      Q <= I1;
  end case;
end process;
```

*Scheduled on the next delta time*

➡ *SEL value will not be updated until the next delta time*



## **Non-blocking Assignment**

*Without waiting the next delta time, it can continue to process the next sequential statement  
(processed with the wrong value of SEL)*

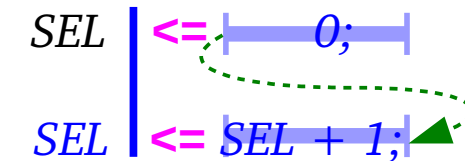
# Non-blocking Assignment (3)

```
process
begin
  SEL <= A or B;
  wait for 0 ns;
  if (A='1') then SEL <= SEL + 1; end if;
  wait for 0 ns;
  case SEL is
    when 0
      Q <= I0;
    when 1
      Q <= I1;
  end case;
  wait on A, I0, I1;
end process;
```

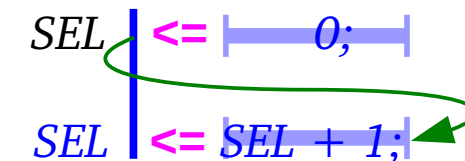
*Wait for one delta time*

**Non-blocking**

: next statement **before** update



*wait for 0 ns;*



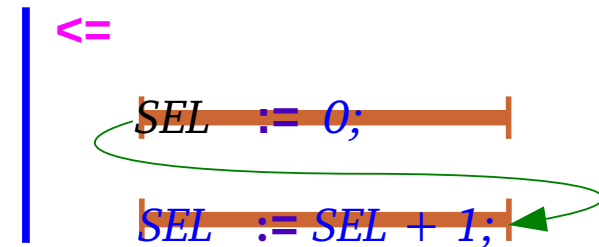
**Blocking**

: next statement **after** update

# Non-blocking Assignment (4)

```
process (A, I0, I1)
  variable SEL : integer range 0 to 1;
begin
  SEL := A or B;
  if (A='1') then SEL := SEL + 1; end if;
  case SEL is
    when 0
      Q <= I0;
    when 1
      Q <= I1;
  end case;
end process;
```

*Variable SEL changes its value immediately.*



# General MUX model

```
process (A, I0, I1)
begin
  case A is
    When '0'
      Q <= I0;
    When '1'
      Q <= I1;
  end case;
end process;
```

# Variable Assignment (1)

```
architecture arch of entity ent is
```

```
...
```

```
begin
```

```
X1 <= A or B after 1 ns;
```

```
Y1 <= C or D after 3 ns;
```

```
Z1 := E or F ;
```

```
process (A, B, C, D, E, F)
```

```
variable Y2, Z2 : bit;
```

```
begin
```

```
X2 <= A or B after 1 ns;
```

```
Y2 := C or D after 3 ns;
```

```
Z2 := E or F ;
```

```
end process;
```

```
end
```

The Variable assignment is a sequential statement and cannot be used outside a process statement.

The variable is **declared** here. They are used for **local storage** in process statement and subprogram body.

The variable assignment has nothing to do with time. It executes immediately. It can not have an **after** clause



# Variable Assignment (2)

```
process (A, B, C, D, E, F)
```

```
variable Z2 : bit;
```

```
begin
```

```
X2 <= A or B after 1 ns;
```

```
Y2 <= C or D after 3 ns;
```

```
Z2 := E or F ;
```

```
end process;
```

```
X2 <= A or B after 1 ns;
```

```
Y2 <= C or D after 3 ns;
```

```
Z2 := E or F ;
```

```
process (A, B, C, D, E, F)
```

```
variable Y2 : bit;
```

```
begin
```

```
X2 <= A or B after 1 ns;
```

```
Y2 := C or D ;
```

```
Z2 <= E or F after 2 ns;
```

```
end process;
```

```
X2 <= A or B after 1 ns;
```

```
Y2 := C or D ;
```

```
Z2 <= E or F after 2 ns;
```

# Variable Assignment (3)

```
process (A, B, C, D, E, F)
```

```
  variable Z2 : bit;
```

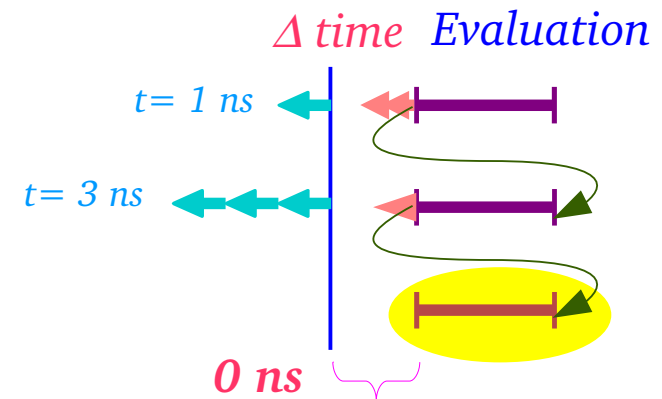
```
begin
```

```
  X2 <= A or B after 1 ns;
```

```
  Y2 <= C or D after 3 ns;
```

```
  Z2 := E or F ;
```

```
end process;
```



The variable assignment has nothing to do with time. It executes immediately.

```
process (A, B, C, D, E, F)
```

```
  variable Y2 : bit;
```

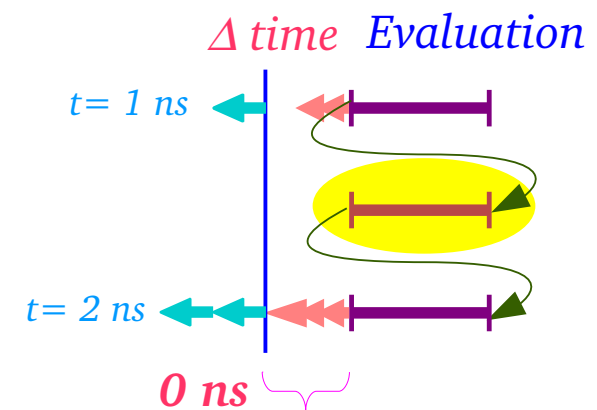
```
begin
```

```
  X2 <= A or B after 1 ns;
```

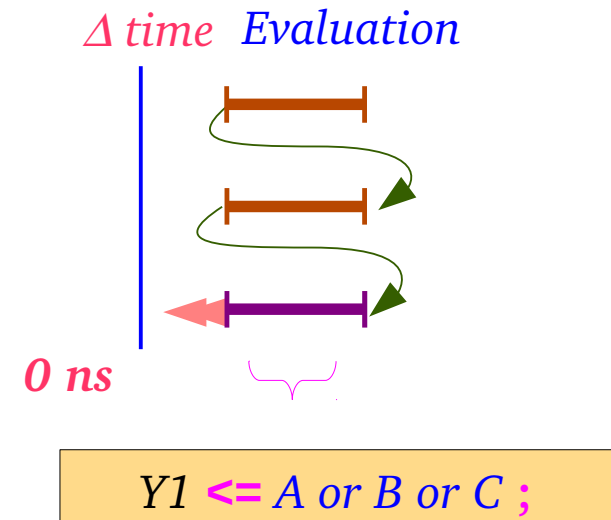
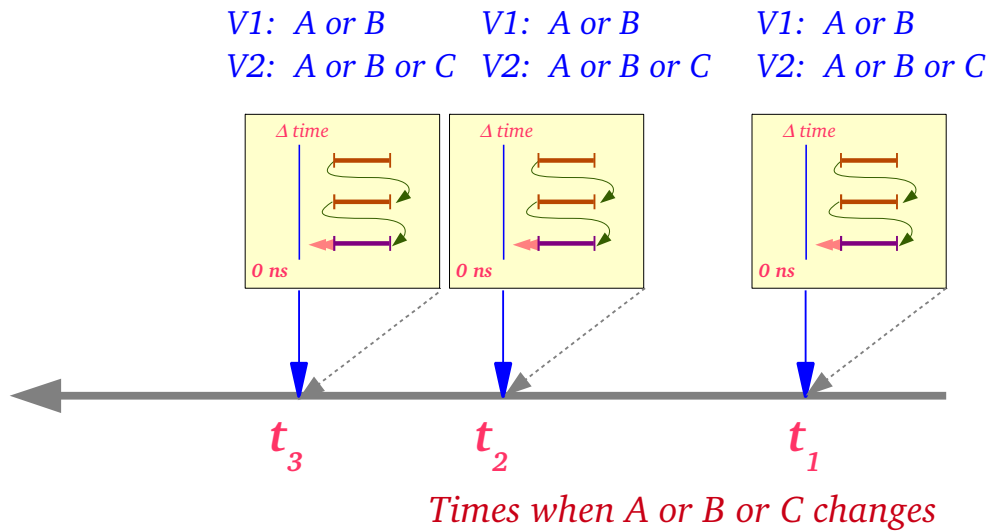
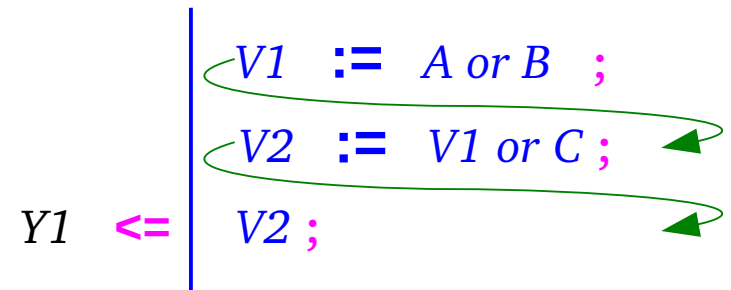
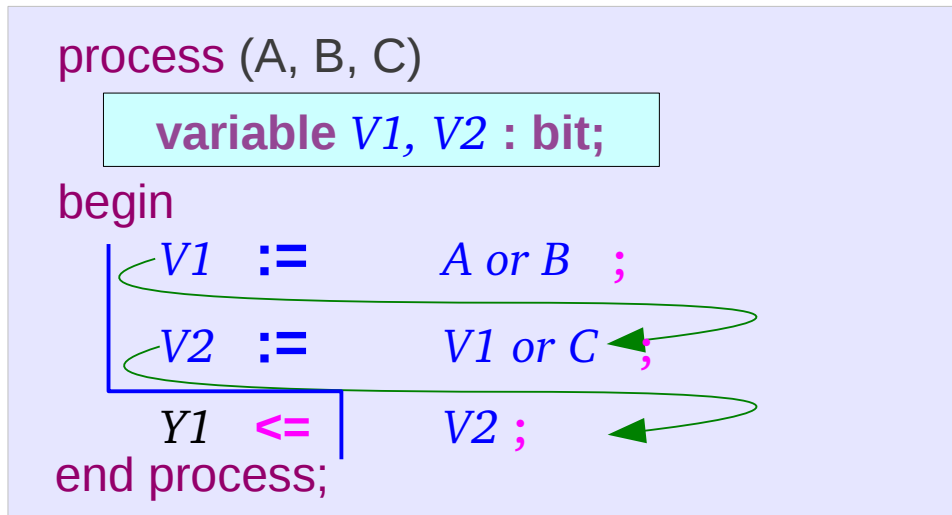
```
  Y2 := C or D ;
```

```
  Z2 <= E or F after 2 ns;
```

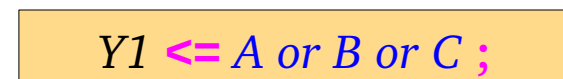
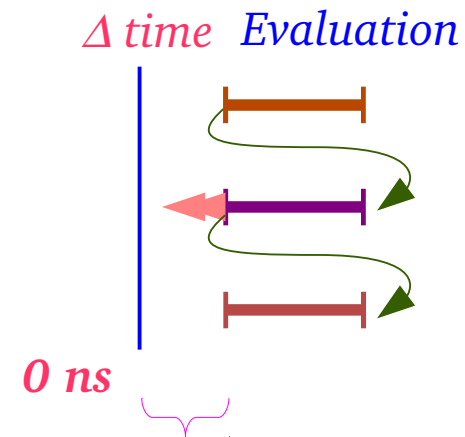
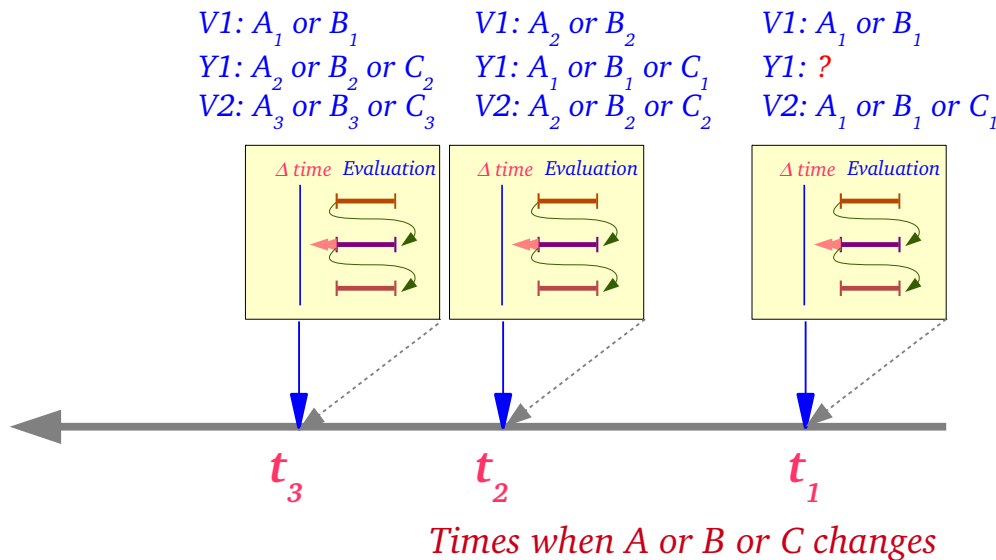
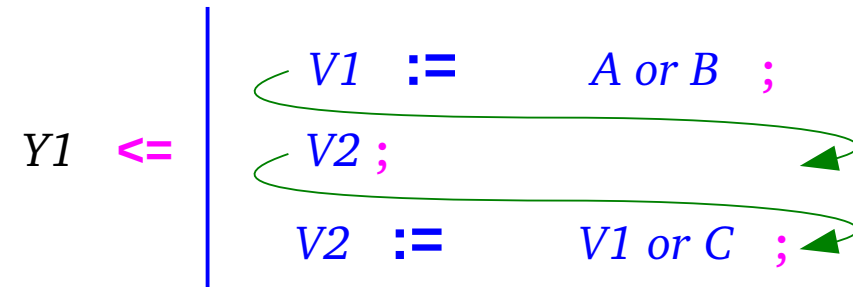
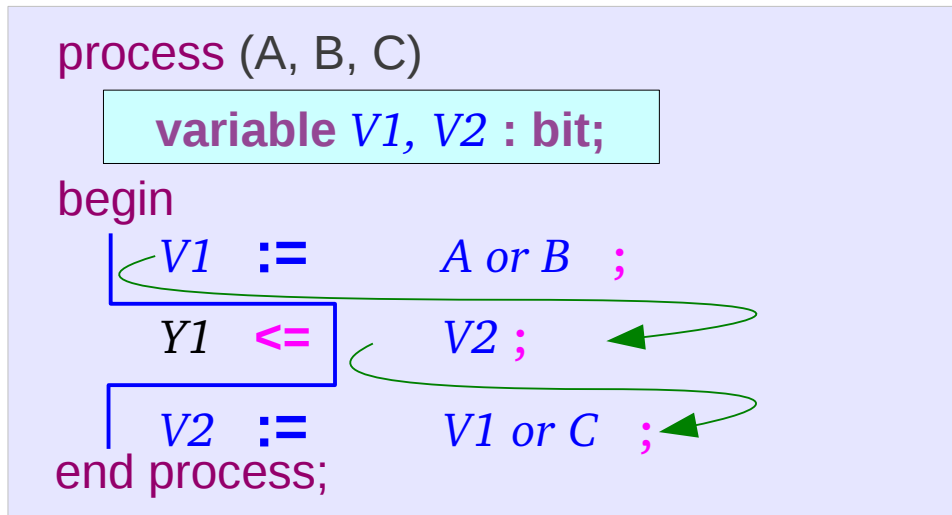
```
end process;
```



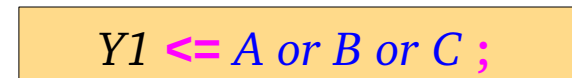
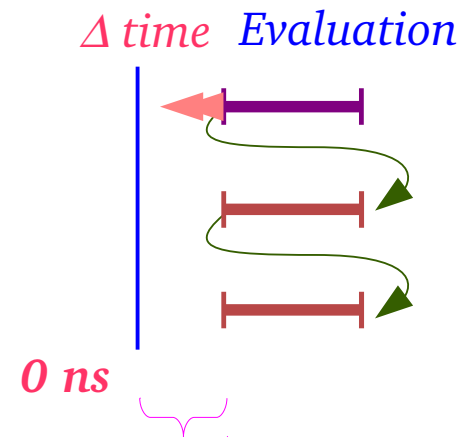
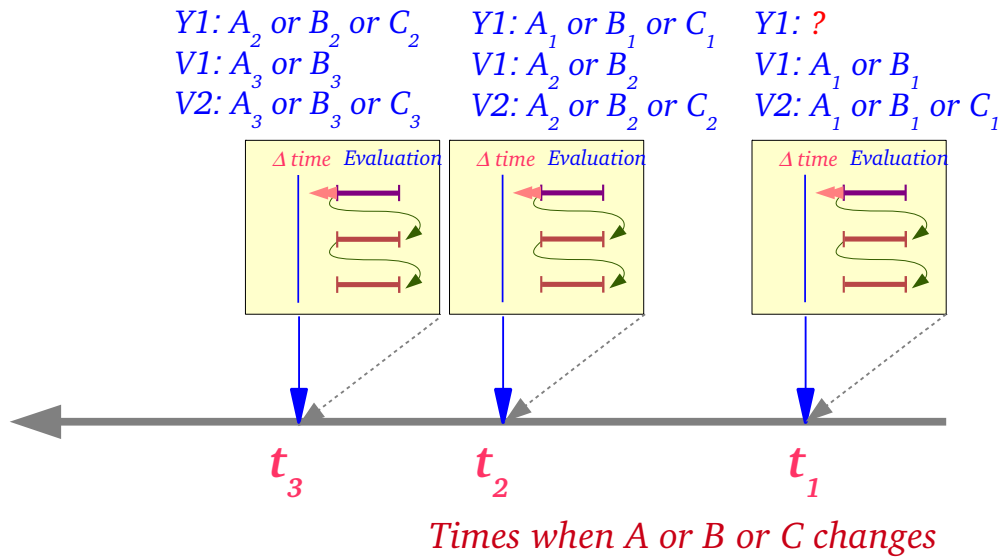
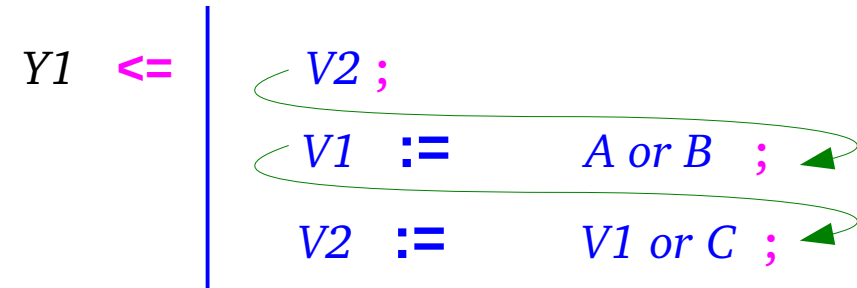
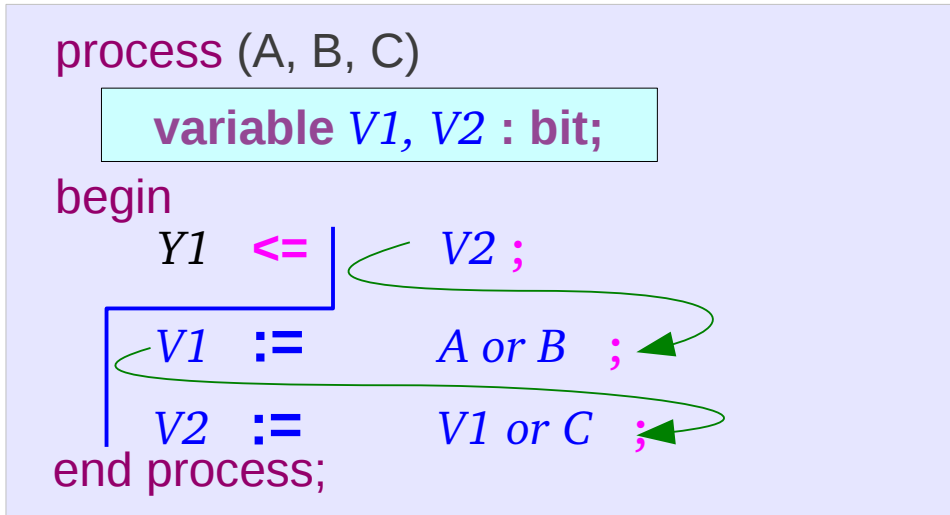
# Mixed Assignments Example (1)



# Mixed Assignments Example (2)



# Mixed Assignments Example (3)



# Mixed Assignments Example (4)

process (A, B, C)

variable V1, V2 : bit;

begin

V1 := A or B ;

V2 := V1 or C ;

Y1 <= V2 ;

end process;

process (A, B, C)

variable V1, V2 : bit;

begin

Y1 <= V2 ;

V1 := A or B ;

V2 := V1 or C ;

end process;

process (A, B, C)

variable V1, V2 : bit;

begin

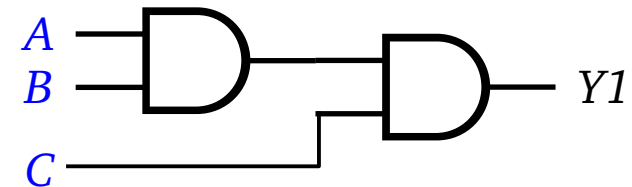
V1 := A or B ;

Y1 <= V2 ;

V2 := V1 or C ;

end process;

*Same Synthesis Result*



## References

- [1] <http://en.wikipedia.org/>
- [2] J. V. Spiegel, VHDL Tutorial,  
[http://www.seas.upenn.edu/~ese171/vhdl/vhdl\\_primer.html](http://www.seas.upenn.edu/~ese171/vhdl/vhdl_primer.html)
- [3] J. R. Armstrong, F. G. Gray, Structured Logic Design with VHDL
- [4] Z. Navabi, VHDL Analysis and Modeling of Digital Systems
- [5] D. Smith, HDL Chip Design
- [6] <http://www.csee.umbc.edu/portal/help/VHDL/stdpkg.html>
- [7] VHDL Tutorial - VHDL online [www.vhdl-online.de/tutorial/](http://www.vhdl-online.de/tutorial/)