

This paper presents an alternative methodology to a traditional high-level power estimation flow, that enables the fast gathering of switching activity from SystemC RTL descriptions. The proposed methodology requires minimum effort from the designer, while reducing the steps necessary to obtain switching activity information, and requires only a C++ compiler. The resulting activity is very close to the results obtained using a commercial tool, which has a larger flow with several steps. We also show that our approach overcomes some drawbacks in the commercial tool.