Understanding Embedded - FPGAs (Field Programmable Gate Array)

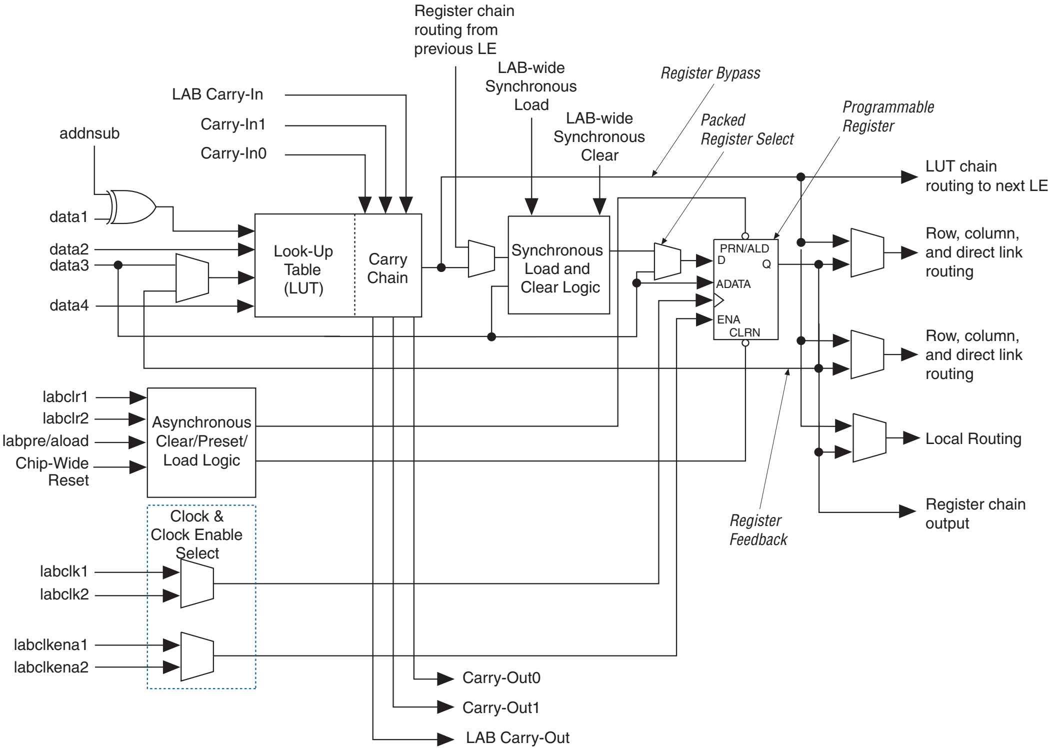
Embedded - FPGAs, or Field Programmable Gate Arrays, are advanced integrated circuits that offer unparalleled flexibility and performance for digital systems. Unlike traditional fixed-function logic devices, FPGAs can be programmed and reprogrammed to execute a wide array of logical operations, enabling customized functionality tailored to specific applications. This reprogrammability allows developers to iterate designs quickly and implement complex functions without the need for custom hardware.

Applications of Embedded - FPGAs

The versatility of Embedded - FPGAs makes them indispensable in numerous fields. In telecommunications,

Details	
Product Status	Obsolete
Number of LABs/CLBs	598
Number of Logic Elements/Cells	5980
Total RAM Bits	92160
Number of I/O	185
Number of Gates	-
Voltage - Supply	1.425V ~ 1.575V
Mounting Type	Surface Mount
Operating Temperature	0°C ~ 85°C (TJ)
Package / Case	240-BFQFP
Supplier Device Package	240-PQFP (32x32)
Purchase URL	https://www.e-xfl.com/product-detail/intel/ep1c6q240c7

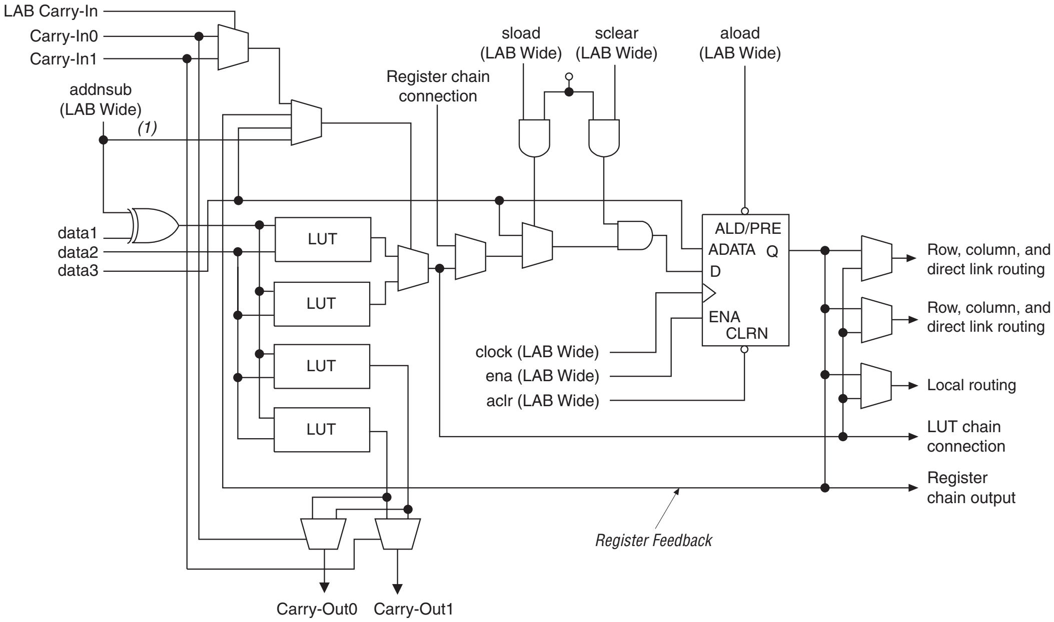
Figure 2–5. Cyclone LE



Each LE's programmable register can be configured for D, T, JK, or SR operation. Each register has data, true asynchronous load data, clock, clock enable, clear, and asynchronous load/preset inputs. Global signals, general-purpose I/O pins, or any internal logic can drive the register's clock and clear control signals. Either general-purpose I/O pins or internal logic can drive the clock enable, preset, asynchronous load, and asynchronous data. The asynchronous load data input comes from the `data3` input of the LE. For combinatorial functions, the LUT output bypasses the register and drives directly to the LE outputs.

Each LE has three outputs that drive the local, row, and column routing resources. The LUT or register output can drive these three outputs independently. Two LE outputs drive column or row and direct link routing connections and one drives local interconnect resources. This allows the LUT to drive one output while the register drives another output. This feature, called register packing, improves device utilization because the device can use the register and the LUT for unrelated

Figure 2–7. LE in Dynamic Arithmetic Mode



Note to Figure 2–7:

(1) The `addnsub` signal is tied to the carry input for the first LE of a carry chain only.

Carry-Select Chain

The carry-select chain provides a very fast carry-select function between LEs in dynamic arithmetic mode. The carry-select chain uses the redundant carry calculation to increase the speed of carry functions. The LE is configured to calculate outputs for a possible carry-in of 0 and carry-in of 1 in parallel. The `carry-in0` and `carry-in1` signals from a lower-order bit feed forward into the higher-order bit via the parallel carry chain and feed into both the LUT and the next portion of the carry chain. Carry-select chains can begin in any LE within a LAB.

The speed advantage of the carry-select chain is in the parallel pre-computation of carry chains. Since the LAB carry-in selects the precomputed carry chain, not every LE is in the critical path. Only the propagation delays between LAB carry-in generation (LE 5 and LE 10) are now part of the critical path. This feature allows the Cyclone architecture to implement high-speed counters, adders, multipliers, parity functions, and comparators of arbitrary width.

migrating through different device densities. Dedicated row interconnects route signals to and from LABs, PLLs, and M4K memory blocks within the same row. These row resources include:

- Direct link interconnects between LABs and adjacent blocks
- R4 interconnects traversing four blocks to the right or left

The direct link interconnect allows a LAB or M4K memory block to drive into the local interconnect of its left and right neighbors. Only one side of a PLL block interfaces with direct link and row interconnects. The direct link interconnect provides fast communication between adjacent LABs and/or blocks without using row interconnect resources.

The R4 interconnects span four LABs, or two LABs and one M4K RAM block. These resources are used for fast row connections in a four-LAB region. Every LAB has its own set of R4 interconnects to drive either left or right. Figure 2–9 shows R4 interconnect connections from a LAB. R4 interconnects can drive and be driven by M4K memory blocks, PLLs, and row IOEs. For LAB interfacing, a primary LAB or LAB neighbor can drive a given R4 interconnect. For R4 interconnects that drive to the right, the primary LAB and right neighbor can drive on to the interconnect. For R4 interconnects that drive to the left, the primary LAB and its left neighbor can drive on to the interconnect. R4 interconnects can drive other R4 interconnects to extend the range of LABs they can drive. R4 interconnects can also drive C4 interconnects for connections from one row to another.

External Clock Inputs

Each PLL supports single-ended or differential inputs for source-synchronous receivers or for general-purpose use. The dedicated clock pins (`CLK[3..0]`) feed the PLL inputs. These dual-purpose pins can also act as LVDS input pins. See Figure 2–25.

Table 2–8 shows the I/O standards supported by PLL input and output pins.

Table 2–8. PLL I/O Standards

I/O Standard	CLK Input	EXTCLK Output
3.3-V LVTTL/LVCMOS	✓	✓
2.5-V LVTTL/LVCMOS	✓	✓
1.8-V LVTTL/LVCMOS	✓	✓
1.5-V LVCMOS	✓	✓
3.3-V PCI	✓	✓
LVDS	✓	✓
SSTL-2 class I	✓	✓
SSTL-2 class II	✓	✓
SSTL-3 class I	✓	✓
SSTL-3 class II	✓	✓
Differential SSTL-2	—	✓

For more information on LVDS I/O support, refer to "LVDS I/O Pins" on page 2–54.

External Clock Outputs

Each PLL supports one differential or one single-ended output for source-synchronous transmitters or for general-purpose external clocks. If the PLL does not use these `PLL_OUT` pins, the pins are available for use as general-purpose I/O pins. The `PLL_OUT` pins support all I/O standards shown in Table 2–8.

The external clock outputs do not have their own V_{CC} and ground voltage supplies. Therefore, to minimize jitter, do not place switching I/O pins next to these output pins. The EP1C3 device in the 100-pin TQFP package does not have dedicated clock output pins. The EP1C6 device in the 144-pin TQFP package only supports dedicated clock outputs from PLL 1.

Clock Feedback

Cyclone PLLs have three modes for multiplication and/or phase shifting:

- Zero delay buffer mode—The external clock output pin is phase-aligned with the clock input pin for zero delay.
- Normal mode—If the design uses an internal PLL clock output, the normal mode compensates for the internal clock delay from the input clock pin to the IOE registers. The external clock output pin is phase shifted with respect to the clock input pin if connected in this mode. You defines which internal clock output from the PLL should be phase-aligned to compensate for internal clock delay.
- No compensation mode—In this mode, the PLL will not compensate for any clock networks.

Phase Shifting

Cyclone PLLs have an advanced clock shift capability that enables programmable phase shifts. You can enter a phase shift (in degrees or time units) for each PLL clock output port or for all outputs together in one shift. You can perform phase shifting in time units with a resolution range of 125 to 250 ps. The finest resolution equals one eighth of the VCO period. The VCO period is a function of the frequency input and the multiplication and division factors. Each clock output counter can choose a different phase of the VCO period from up to eight taps. You can use this clock output counter along with an initial setting on the post-scale counter to achieve a phase-shift range for the entire period of the output clock. The phase tap feedback to the m counter can shift all outputs to a single phase. The Quartus II software automatically sets the phase taps and counter settings according to the phase shift entered.

Lock Detect Signal

The lock output indicates that there is a stable clock output signal in phase with the reference clock. Without any additional circuitry, the lock signal may toggle as the PLL begins tracking the reference clock. Therefore, you may need to gate the lock signal for use as a system-control signal. For correct operation of the lock circuit below –20 C, $f_{IN/N} > 200$ MHz.

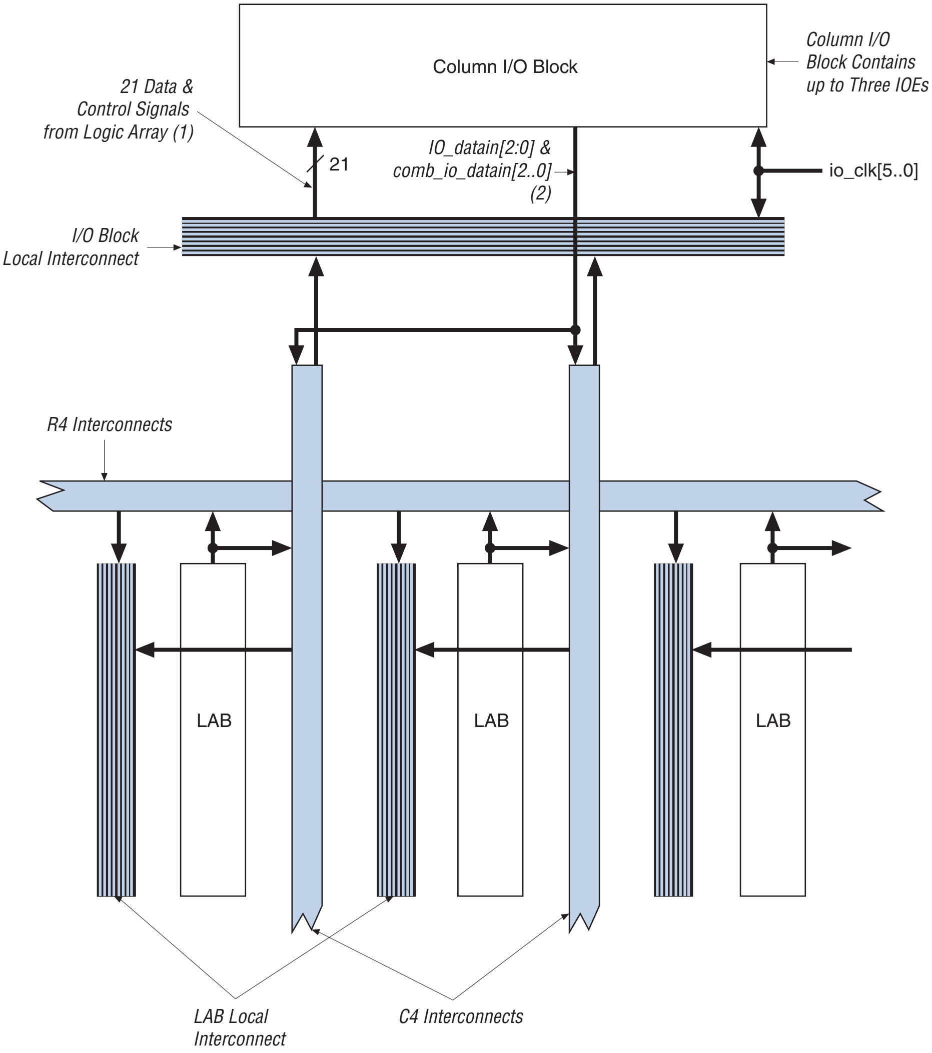
I/O Structure

IOEs support many features, including:

- Differential and single-ended I/O standards
- 3.3-V, 64- and 32-bit, 66- and 33-MHz PCI compliance
- Joint Test Action Group (JTAG) boundary-scan test (BST) support
- Output drive strength control
- Weak pull-up resistors during configuration
- Slew-rate control
- Tri-state buffers
- Bus-hold circuitry
- Programmable pull-up resistors in user mode
- Programmable input and output delays
- Open-drain outputs
- DQ and DQS I/O pins

Cyclone device IOEs contain a bidirectional I/O buffer and three registers for complete embedded bidirectional single data rate transfer. Figure 2–27 shows the Cyclone IOE structure. The IOE contains one input register, one output register, and one output enable register. You can use the input registers for fast setup times and output registers for fast clock-to-output times. Additionally, you can use the output enable (OE) register for fast clock-to-output enable timing. The Quartus II software automatically duplicates a single OE register that controls multiple output or bidirectional pins. IOEs can be used as input, output, or bidirectional pins.

Figure 2–29. Column I/O Block Connection to the Interconnect

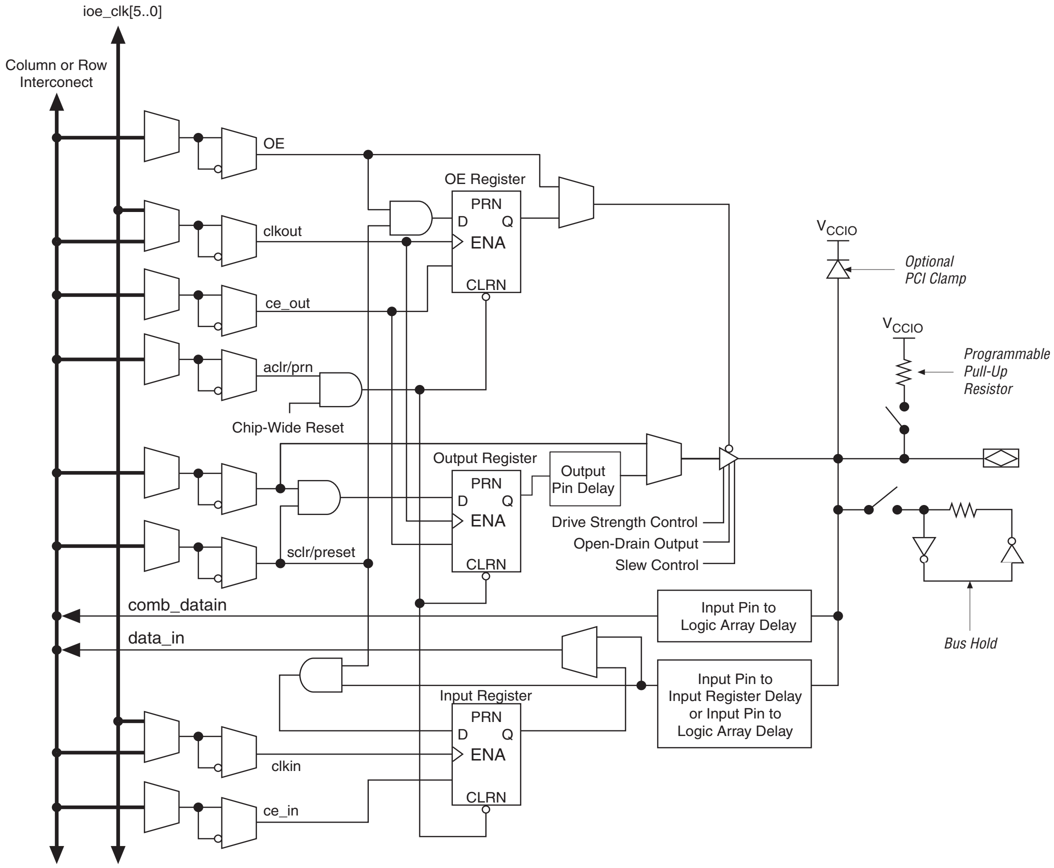


Notes to Figure 2–29:

(1) The 21 data and control signals consist of three data out lines, `io_dataout[2..0]`, three output enables, `io_coe[2..0]`, three input clock enables, `io_cce_in[2..0]`, three output clock enables, `io_cce_out[2..0]`, three clocks, `io_cclk[2..0]`, three asynchronous clear signals, `io_caclr[2..0]`, and three synchronous clear signals, `io_csclr[2..0]`.

(2) Each of the three IOEs in the column I/O block can have one `io_datain` input (combinatorial or registered) and one `comb_io_datain` (combinatorial) input.

Figure 2–32. Cyclone IOE in Bidirectional I/O Configuration



The Cyclone device IOE includes programmable delays to ensure zero hold times, minimize setup times, or increase clock to output times.

A path in which a pin directly drives a register may require a programmable delay to ensure zero hold time, whereas a path in which a pin drives a register through combinatorial logic may not require the delay. Programmable delays decrease input-pin-to-logic-array and IOE input register delays. The Quartus II Compiler can program these delays

Table 2–10. DQ Pin Groups (Part 2 of 2)

Device	Package	Number of × 8 DQ Pin Groups	Total DQ Pin Count
EP1C6	144-pin TQFP	4	32
	240-pin PQFP	4	32
	256-pin FineLine BGA	4	32
EP1C12	240-pin PQFP	4	32
	256-pin FineLine BGA	4	32
	324-pin FineLine BGA	8	64
EP1C20	324-pin FineLine BGA	8	64
	400-pin FineLine BGA	8	64

Note to Table 2–10:

(1) EP1C3 devices in the 100-pin TQFP package do not have any DQ pin groups in I/O bank 1.

A programmable delay chain on each DQS pin allows for either a 90° phase shift (for DDR SDRAM), or a 72° phase shift (for FCRAM) which automatically center-aligns input DQS synchronization signals within the data window of their corresponding DQ data signals. The phase-shifted DQS signals drive the global clock network. This global DQS signal clocks DQ signals on internal LE registers.

These DQS delay elements combine with the PLL's clocking and phase shift ability to provide a complete hardware solution for interfacing to high-speed memory.

The clock phase shift allows the PLL to clock the DQ output enable and output paths. The designer should use the following guidelines to meet 133 MHz performance for DDR SDRAM and FCRAM interfaces:

- The DQS signal must be in the middle of the DQ group it clocks
- Resynchronize the incoming data to the logic array clock using successive LE registers or FIFO buffers
- LE registers must be placed in the LAB adjacent to the DQ I/O pin column it is fed by

Figure 2–34 illustrates DDR SDRAM and FCRAM interfacing from the I/O through the dedicated circuitry to the logic array.

Advanced I/O Standard Support

Cyclone device IOEs support the following I/O standards:

- 3.3-V LVTTL/LVCMOS
- 2.5-V LVTTL/LVCMOS
- 1.8-V LVTTL/LVCMOS
- 1.5-V LVCMOS
- 3.3-V PCI
- LVDS
- RSDS
- SSTL-2 class I and II
- SSTL-3 class I and II
- Differential SSTL-2 class II (on output clocks only)

Table 2–12 describes the I/O standards supported by Cyclone devices.

Table 2–12. Cyclone I/O Standards

I/O Standard	Type	Input Reference Voltage (V_{REF}) (V)	Output Supply Voltage (V_{CCIO}) (V)	Board Termination Voltage (V_{TT}) (V)
3.3-V LVTTL/LVCMOS	Single-ended	N/A	3.3	N/A
2.5-V LVTTL/LVCMOS	Single-ended	N/A	2.5	N/A
1.8-V LVTTL/LVCMOS	Single-ended	N/A	1.8	N/A
1.5-V LVCMOS	Single-ended	N/A	1.5	N/A
3.3-V PCI *(1)*	Single-ended	N/A	3.3	N/A
LVDS *(2)*	Differential	N/A	2.5	N/A
RSDS *(2)*	Differential	N/A	2.5	N/A
SSTL-2 class I and II	Voltage-referenced	1.25	2.5	1.25
SSTL-3 class I and II	Voltage-referenced	1.5	3.3	1.5
Differential SSTL-2 *(3)*	Differential	1.25	2.5	1.25

Notes to Table 2–12:

(1) There is no megafunction support for EP1C3 devices for the PCI compiler. However, EP1C3 devices support PCI by using the LVTTL 16-mA I/O standard and drive strength assignments in the Quartus II software. The device requires an external diode for PCI compliance.

(2) EP1C3 devices in the 100-pin TQFP package do not support the LVDS and RSDS I/O standards.

(3) This I/O standard is only available on output clock pins (`PLL_OUT` pins). EP1C3 devices in the 100-pin package do not support this I/O standard as it does not have `PLL_OUT` pins.

Cyclone devices contain four I/O banks, as shown in Figure 2–35. I/O banks 1 and 3 support all the I/O standards listed in Table 2–12. I/O banks 2 and 4 support all the I/O standards listed in Table 2–12 except the 3.3-V PCI standard. I/O banks 2 and 4 contain dual-purpose DQS, DQ, Each I/O bank can support multiple standards with the same V_{CCIO} for input and output pins. For example, when V_{CCIO} is 3.3-V, a bank can support LVTTL, LVCMOS, 3.3-V PCI, and SSTL-3 for inputs and outputs.

LVDS I/O Pins

A subset of pins in all four I/O banks supports LVDS interfacing. These dual-purpose LVDS pins require an external-resistor network at the transmitter channels in addition to 100-Ω termination resistors on receiver channels. These pins do not contain dedicated serialization or deserialization circuitry; therefore, internal logic performs serialization and deserialization functions.

Table 2–13 shows the total number of supported LVDS channels per device density.

Table 2–13. Cyclone Device LVDS Channels

Device	Pin Count	Number of LVDS Channels
EP1C3	100	*(1)*
	144	34
EP1C4	324	103
	400	129
EP1C6	144	29
	240	72
	256	72
EP1C12	240	66
	256	72
	324	103
EP1C20	324	95
	400	129

Note to Table 2–13:

(1) EP1C3 devices in the 100-pin TQFP package do not support the LVDS I/O standard.

MultiVolt I/O Interface

The Cyclone architecture supports the MultiVolt I/O interface feature, which allows Cyclone devices in all packages to interface with systems of different supply voltages. The devices have one set of V_{CC} pins for internal operation and input buffers (V_{CCINT}), and four sets for I/O output drivers (V_{CCIO}).

☞ Cyclone devices must be within the first 8 devices in a JTAG chain. All of these devices have the same JTAG controller. If any of the Cyclone devices are in the 9th or after they will fail configuration. This does not affect the SignalTap® II logic analyzer.

For more information on JTAG, refer to the following documents:

- *AN 39: IEEE Std. 1149.1 (JTAG) Boundary-Scan Testing in Altera Devices*
- *Jam Programming & Test Language Specification*

SignalTap II Embedded Logic Analyzer

Cyclone devices feature the SignalTap II embedded logic analyzer, which monitors design operation over a period of time through the IEEE Std. 1149.1 (JTAG) circuitry. A designer can analyze internal logic at speed without bringing internal signals to the I/O pins. This feature is particularly important for advanced packages, such as FineLine BGA packages, because it can be difficult to add a connection to a pin during the debugging process after a board is designed and manufactured.

Configuration

The logic, circuitry, and interconnects in the Cyclone architecture are configured with CMOS SRAM elements. Altera FPGAs are reconfigurable and every device is tested with a high coverage production test program so the designer does not have to perform fault testing and can instead focus on simulation and design verification.

Cyclone devices are configured at system power-up with data stored in an Altera configuration device or provided by a system controller. The Cyclone device's optimized interface allows the device to act as controller in an active serial configuration scheme with the new low-cost serial configuration device. Cyclone devices can be configured in under 120 ms using serial data at 20 MHz. The serial configuration device can be programmed via the ByteBlaster II download cable, the Altera Programming Unit (APU), or third-party programmers.

In addition to the new low-cost serial configuration device, Altera offers in-system programmability (ISP)-capable configuration devices that can configure Cyclone devices via a serial data stream. The interface also enables microprocessors to treat Cyclone devices as memory and configure them by writing to a virtual memory location, making reconfiguration easy. After a Cyclone device has been configured, it can be reconfigured in-circuit by resetting the device and loading new data. Real-time changes can be made during system operation, enabling innovative reconfigurable computing applications.

Operating Modes

The Cyclone architecture uses SRAM configuration elements that require configuration data to be loaded each time the circuit powers up. The process of physically loading the SRAM data into the device is called configuration. During initialization, which occurs immediately after configuration, the device resets registers, enables I/O pins, and begins to operate as a logic device. Together, the configuration and initialization processes are called command mode. Normal device operation is called user mode.

SRAM configuration elements allow Cyclone devices to be reconfigured in-circuit by loading new configuration data into the device. With real-time reconfiguration, the device is forced into command mode with a device pin. The configuration process loads different configuration data, reinitializes the device, and resumes user-mode operation. Designers can perform in-field upgrades by distributing new configuration files either within the system or remotely.

A built-in weak pull-up resistor pulls all user I/O pins to V_{CCIO} before and during device configuration.

The configuration pins support 1.5-V/1.8-V or 2.5-V/3.3-V I/O standards. The voltage level of the configuration output pins is determined by the V_{CCIO} of the bank where the pins reside. The bank V_{CCIO} selects whether the configuration inputs are 1.5-V, 1.8-V, 2.5-V, or 3.3-V compatible.

Configuration Schemes

Designers can load the configuration data for a Cyclone device with one of three configuration schemes (see Table 3–5), chosen on the basis of the target application. Designers can use a configuration device, intelligent controller, or the JTAG port to configure a Cyclone device. A low-cost configuration device can automatically configure a Cyclone device at system power-up.

Table 4–2. Cyclone Device Recommended Operating Conditions (Part 2 of 2)

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions	Minimum	Maximum	Unit
V_O	Output voltage		0	V_{CCIO}	V
T_J	Operating junction temperature	For commercial use	0	85	° C
		For industrial use	–40	100	° C
		For extended-temperature use	–40	125	° C

Table 4–3. Cyclone Device DC Operating Conditions *Note (6)*

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions	Minimum	Typical	Maximum	Unit
I_I	Input pin leakage current	$V_I = V_{CCIOmax}$ to 0 V *(8)*	–10	—	10	μA
I_{OZ}	Tri-stated I/O pin leakage current	$V_O = V_{CCIOmax}$ to 0 V *(8)*	–10	—	10	μA
I_{CC0}	V_{CC} supply current (standby) (All M4K blocks in power-down mode) *(7)*	EP1C3	—	4	—	mA
		EP1C4	—	6	—	mA
		EP1C6	—	6	—	mA
		EP1C12	—	8	—	mA
		EP1C20	—	12	—	mA
R_{CONF} *(9)*	Value of I/O pin pull-up resistor before and during configuration	$V_I = 0$ V; $V_{CCIO} = 3.3$ V	15	25	50	kΩ
		$V_I = 0$ V; $V_{CCIO} = 2.5$ V	20	45	70	kΩ
		$V_I = 0$ V; $V_{CCIO} = 1.8$ V	30	65	100	kΩ
		$V_I = 0$ V; $V_{CCIO} = 1.5$ V	50	100	150	kΩ
	Recommended value of I/O pin external pull-down resistor before and during configuration	—	—	1	2	kΩ

Table 4–4. LVTTL Specifications

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions	Minimum	Maximum	Unit
V_{CCIO}	Output supply voltage	—	3.0	3.6	V
V_{IH}	High-level input voltage	—	1.7	4.1	V
V_{IL}	Low-level input voltage	—	–0.5	0.7	V
V_{OH}	High-level output voltage	$I_{OH} = -4$ to -24 mA *(11)*	2.4	—	V
V_{OL}	Low-level output voltage	$I_{OL} = 4$ to 24 mA *(11)*	—	0.45	V

Table 4–5. LVCMOS Specifications

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions	Minimum	Maximum	Unit
V_{CCIO}	Output supply voltage	—	3.0	3.6	V
V_{IH}	High-level input voltage	—	1.7	4.1	V
V_{IL}	Low-level input voltage	—	–0.5	0.7	V
V_{OH}	High-level output voltage	V_{CCIO} = 3.0, I_{OH} = –0.1 mA	V_{CCIO} – 0.2	—	V
V_{OL}	Low-level output voltage	V_{CCIO} = 3.0, I_{OL} = 0.1 mA	—	0.2	V

Table 4–6. 2.5-V I/O Specifications

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions	Minimum	Maximum	Unit
V_{CCIO}	Output supply voltage	—	2.375	2.625	V
V_{IH}	High-level input voltage	—	1.7	4.1	V
V_{IL}	Low-level input voltage	—	–0.5	0.7	V
V_{OH}	High-level output voltage	I_{OH} = –0.1 mA	2.1	—	V
		I_{OH} = –1 mA	2.0	—	V
		I_{OH} = –2 to –16 mA *(11)*	1.7	—	V
V_{OL}	Low-level output voltage	I_{OL} = 0.1 mA	—	0.2	V
		I_{OH} = 1 mA	—	0.4	V
		I_{OH} = 2 to 16 mA *(11)*	—	0.7	V

Table 4–7. 1.8-V I/O Specifications

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions	Minimum	Maximum	Unit
V_{CCIO}	Output supply voltage	—	1.65	1.95	V
V_{IH}	High-level input voltage	—	0.65 × V_{CCIO}	2.25 *(12)*	V
V_{IL}	Low-level input voltage	—	–0.3	0.35 × V_{CCIO}	V
V_{OH}	High-level output voltage	I_{OH} = –2 to –8 mA *(11)*	V_{CCIO} – 0.45	—	V
V_{OL}	Low-level output voltage	I_{OL} = 2 to 8 mA *(11)*	—	0.45	V

Power Consumption

Designers can use the Altera web Early Power Estimator to estimate the device power.

Cyclone devices require a certain amount of power-up current to successfully power up because of the nature of the leading-edge process on which they are fabricated. Table 4–17 shows the maximum power-up current required to power up a Cyclone device.

Table 4–17. Cyclone Maximum Power-Up Current (I_{CCINT}) Requirements (In-Rush Current)

Device	Commercial Specification	Industrial Specification	Unit
EP1C3	150	180	mA
EP1C4	150	180	mA
EP1C6	175	210	mA
EP1C12	300	360	mA
EP1C20	500	600	mA

Notes to Table 4–17:

(1) The Cyclone devices (except for the EP1C20 device) meet the power up specification for Mini PCI.

(2) The lot codes 9G0082 to 9G2999, or 9G3109 and later comply to the specifications in Table 4–17 and meet the Mini PCI specification. Lot codes appear at the top of the device.

(3) The lot codes 9H0004 to 9H29999, or 9H3014 and later comply to the specifications in this table and meet the Mini PCI specification. Lot codes appear at the top of the device.

Designers should select power supplies and regulators that can supply this amount of current when designing with Cyclone devices. This specification is for commercial operating conditions. Measurements were performed with an isolated Cyclone device on the board. Decoupling capacitors were not used in this measurement. To factor in the current for decoupling capacitors, sum up the current for each capacitor using the following equation:

$$I = C\,(dV/dt)$$

The exact amount of current that is consumed varies according to the process, temperature, and power ramp rate. If the power supply or regulator can supply more current than required, the Cyclone device may consume more current than the maximum current specified in Table 4–17. However, the device does not require any more current to successfully power up than what is listed in Table 4–17.

The duration of the I_{CCINT} power-up requirement depends on the V_{CCINT} voltage supply rise time. The power-up current consumption drops when the V_{CCINT} supply reaches approximately 0.75 V. For example, if the V_{CCINT} rise time has a linear rise of 15 ms, the current consumption spike drops by 7.5 ms.

Typically, the user-mode current during device operation is lower than the power-up current in Table 4–17. Altera recommends using the Cyclone Power Calculator, available on the Altera web site, to estimate the user-mode I_{CCINT} consumption and then select power supplies or regulators based on the higher value.

Timing Model

The DirectDrive technology and MultiTrack interconnect ensure predictable performance, accurate simulation, and accurate timing analysis across all Cyclone device densities and speed grades. This section describes and specifies the performance, internal, external, and PLL timing specifications.

All specifications are representative of worst-case supply voltage and junction temperature conditions.

Preliminary and Final Timing

Timing models can have either preliminary or final status. The Quartus® II software issues an informational message during the design compilation if the timing models are preliminary. Table 4–18 shows the status of the Cyclone device timing models.

Preliminary status means the timing model is subject to change. Initially, timing numbers are created using simulation results, process data, and other known parameters. These tests are used to make the preliminary numbers as close to the actual timing parameters as possible.

Final timing numbers are based on actual device operation and testing. These numbers reflect the actual performance of the device under worst-case voltage and junction temperature conditions.

Table 4–18. Cyclone Device Timing Model Status

Device	Preliminary	Final
EP1C3	—	✓
EP1C4	—	✓
EP1C6	—	✓
EP1C12	—	✓
EP1C20	—	✓

Performance

The maximum internal logic array clock tree frequency is limited to the specifications shown in Table 4–19.

Table 4–19. Clock Tree Maximum Performance Specification

Parameter	Definition	-6 Speed Grade			-7 Speed Grade			-8 Speed Grade			Units
		Min	Typ	Max	Min	Typ	Max	Min	Typ	Max	
Clock tree f_{MAX}	Maximum frequency that the clock tree can support for clocking registered logic	—	—	405	—	—	320	—	—	275	MHz

Table 4–20 shows the Cyclone device performance for some common designs. All performance values were obtained with the Quartus II software compilation of library of parameterized modules (LPM) functions or megafunctions. These performance values are based on EP1C6 devices in 144-pin TQFP packages.

Table 4–20. Cyclone Device Performance

Resource Used	Design Size and Function	Mode	Resources Used			Performance		
			LEs	M4K Memory Bits	M4K Memory Blocks	-6 Speed Grade (MHz)	-7 Speed Grade (MHz)	-8 Speed Grade (MHz)
LE	16-to-1 multiplexer	—	21	—	—	405.00	320.00	275.00
	32-to-1 multiplexer	—	44	—	—	317.36	284.98	260.15
	16-bit counter	—	16	—	—	405.00	320.00	275.00
	64-bit counter *(1)*	—	66	—	—	208.99	181.98	160.75

Table 4–22. IOE Internal Timing Microparameter Descriptions

Symbol	Parameter
t_{SU}	IOE input and output register setup time before clock
t_{H}	IOE input and output register hold time after clock
t_{CO}	IOE input and output register clock-to-output delay
$t_{PIN2COMBOUT\_R}$	Row input pin to IOE combinatorial output
$t_{PIN2COMBOUT\_C}$	Column input pin to IOE combinatorial output
$t_{COMBIN2PIN\_R}$	Row IOE data input to combinatorial output pin
$t_{COMBIN2PIN\_C}$	Column IOE data input to combinatorial output pin
t_{CLR}	Minimum clear pulse width
t_{PRE}	Minimum preset pulse width
t_{CLKHL}	Minimum clock high or low time

Table 4–23. M4K Block Internal Timing Microparameter Descriptions

Symbol	Parameter
t_{M4KRC}	Synchronous read cycle time
t_{M4KWC}	Synchronous write cycle time
$t_{M4KWERESU}$	Write or read enable setup time before clock
$t_{M4KWEREH}$	Write or read enable hold time after clock
$t_{M4KBESU}$	Byte enable setup time before clock
t_{M4KBEH}	Byte enable hold time after clock
$t_{M4KDATAASU}$	A port data setup time before clock
$t_{M4KDATAAH}$	A port data hold time after clock
$t_{M4KADDRASU}$	A port address setup time before clock
$t_{M4KADDRAH}$	A port address hold time after clock
$t_{M4KDATABSU}$	B port data setup time before clock
$t_{M4KDATABH}$	B port data hold time after clock
$t_{M4KADDRBSU}$	B port address setup time before clock
$t_{M4KADDRBH}$	B port address hold time after clock
$t_{M4KDATACO1}$	Clock-to-output delay when using output registers
$t_{M4KDATACO2}$	Clock-to-output delay without output registers
$t_{M4KCLKHL}$	Minimum clock high or low time
t_{M4KCLR}	Minimum clear pulse width

Table 4–29. Cyclone Global Clock External I/O Timing Parameters Notes (1), (2) (Part 2 of 2)

Symbol	Parameter	Conditions
$t_{OUTCOPLL}$	Clock-to-output delay output or bidirectional pin using IOE output register with global clock enhanced PLL with default phase setting	C_{LOAD} = 10 pF

Notes to Table 4–29:

(1) These timing parameters are sample-tested only.

(2) These timing parameters are for IOE pins using a 3.3-V LVTTL, 24-mA setting. Designers should use the Quartus II software to verify the external timing for any pin.

Tables 4–30 through 4–31 show the external timing parameters on column and row pins for EP1C3 devices.

Table 4–30. EP1C3 Column Pin Global Clock External I/O Timing Parameters

Symbol	-6 Speed Grade		-7 Speed Grade		-8 Speed Grade		Unit
	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	
t_{INSU}	3.085	—	3.547	—	4.009	—	ns
t_{INH}	0.000	—	0.000	—	0.000	—	ns
t_{OUTCO}	2.000	4.073	2.000	4.682	2.000	5.295	ns
$t_{INSUPLL}$	1.795	—	2.063	—	2.332	—	ns
t_{INHPLL}	0.000	—	0.000	—	0.000	—	ns
$t_{OUTCOPLL}$	0.500	2.306	0.500	2.651	0.500	2.998	ns

Table 4–31. EP1C3 Row Pin Global Clock External I/O Timing Parameters

Symbol	-6 Speed Grade		-7 Speed Grade		-8 Speed Grade		Unit
	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	
t_{INSU}	3.157	—	3.630	—	4.103	—	ns
t_{INH}	0.000	—	0.000	—	0.000	—	ns
t_{OUTCO}	2.000	3.984	2.000	4.580	2.000	5.180	ns
$t_{INSUPLL}$	1.867	—	2.146	—	2.426	—	ns
t_{INHPLL}	0.000	—	0.000	—	0.000	—	ns
$t_{OUTCOPLL}$	0.500	2.217	0.500	2.549	0.500	2.883	ns