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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	3840
Number of Logic Elements/Cells	38400
Total RAM Bits	327680
Number of I/O	508
Number of Gates	1772000
Voltage - Supply	1.71V ~ 1.89V
Mounting Type	Surface Mount
Operating Temperature	0°C ~ 85°C (TJ)
Package / Case	672-BBGA
Supplier Device Package	672-FBGA (27x27)
Purchase URL	https://www.e-xfl.com/product-detail/intel/ep20k1000cf672c8es

...and More Features

- Low-power operation design
 - 1.8-V supply voltage (see [Table 2](#))
 - Copper interconnect reduces power consumption
 - MultiVolt™ I/O support for 1.8-V, 2.5-V, and 3.3-V interfaces
 - ESBs offering programmable power-saving mode
- Flexible clock management circuitry with up to four phase-locked loops (PLLs)
 - Built-in low-skew clock tree
 - Up to eight global clock signals
 - ClockLock™ feature reducing clock delay and skew
 - ClockBoost™ feature providing clock multiplication and division
 - ClockShift™ feature providing programmable clock phase and delay shifting
- Powerful I/O features
 - Compliant with peripheral component interconnect Special Interest Group (PCI SIG) *PCI Local Bus Specification, Revision 2.2* for 3.3-V operation at 33 or 66 MHz and 32 or 64 bits
 - Support for high-speed external memories, including DDR synchronous dynamic RAM (SDRAM) and ZBT static RAM (SRAM)
 - 16 input and 16 output LVDS channels at 840 megabits per second (Mbps)
 - Direct connection from I/O pins to local interconnect providing fast t_{CO} and t_{SU} times for complex logic
 - MultiVolt I/O support for 1.8-V, 2.5-V, and 3.3-V interfaces
 - Programmable clamp to V_{CCIO}
 - Individual tri-state output enable control for each pin
 - Programmable output slew-rate control to reduce switching noise
 - Support for advanced I/O standards, including low-voltage differential signaling (LVDS), LVPECL, PCI-X, AGP, CTT, SSTL-3 and SSTL-2, GTL+, and HSTL Class I
 - Supports hot-socketing operation
 - Pull-up on I/O pins before and during configuration

Table 2. APEX 20KC Supply Voltages

Feature	Voltage
Internal supply voltage (V_{CCINT})	1.8 V
MultiVolt I/O interface voltage levels (V_{CCIO})	1.8 V, 2.5 V, 3.3 V, 5.0 V (1)

Note to [Table 2](#):

(1) APEX 20KC devices can be 5.0-V tolerant by using an external resistor.

APEX 20KC devices include additional features such as enhanced I/O standard support, CAM, additional global clocks, and enhanced ClockLock clock circuitry. Table 7 shows the features included in APEX 20KC devices.

Table 7. APEX 20KC Device Features (Part 1 of 2)	
Feature	APEX 20KC Devices
MultiCore system integration	Full support
Hot-socketing support	Full support
SignalTap logic analysis	Full support
32-/64-bit, 33-MHz PCI	Full compliance
32-/64-bit, 66-MHz PCI	Full compliance in -7 and -8 speed grades in selected devices
MultiVolt I/O	1.8-V, 2.5-V, or 3.3-V V_{CCIO} V_{CCIO} selected bank by bank 5.0-V tolerant with use of external resistor
ClockLock support	Clock delay reduction $m/(n \times v)$ clock multiplication Drive ClockLock output off-chip External clock feedback ClockShift circuitry LVDS support Up to four PLLs ClockShift clock phase adjustment
Dedicated clock and input pins	Eight

After an APEX 20KC 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.

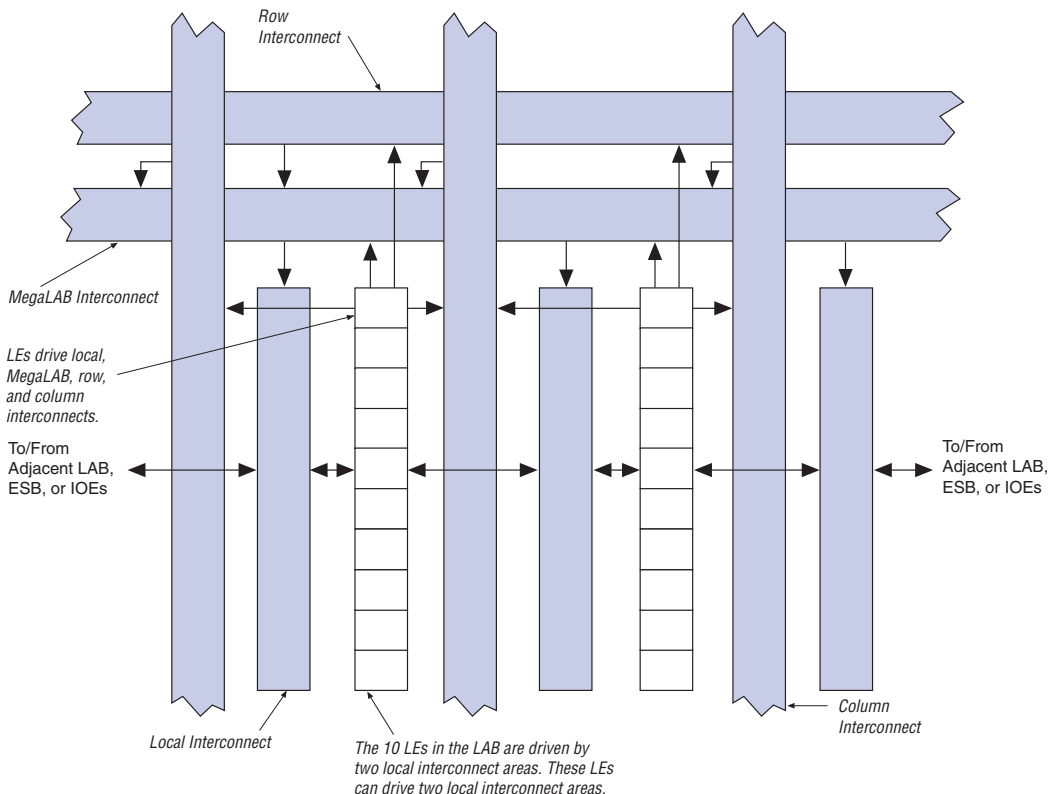
APEX 20KC devices are supported by the Altera Quartus II development system, a single, integrated package that offers HDL and schematic design entry, compilation and logic synthesis, full simulation and worst-case timing analysis, SignalTap logic analysis, and device configuration. The Quartus II software runs on Windows-based PCs, Sun SPARCstations, and HP 9000 Series 700/800 workstations.

The Quartus II software provides NativeLink interfaces to other industry-standard PC- and UNIX workstation-based EDA tools. For example, designers can invoke the Quartus II software from within third-party design tools. Further, the Quartus II software contains built-in optimized synthesis libraries; synthesis tools can use these libraries to optimize designs for APEX 20KC devices. For example, the Synopsys Design Compiler library, supplied with the Quartus II development system, includes DesignWare functions optimized for the APEX 20KC architecture.

Functional Description

APEX 20KC devices incorporate LUT-based logic, product-term-based logic, and memory into one device on an all-copper technology process. Signal interconnections within APEX 20KC devices (as well as to and from device pins) are provided by the FastTrack interconnect—a series of fast, continuous row and column channels that run the entire length and width of the device.

Each I/O pin is fed by an I/O element (IOE) located at the end of each row and column of the FastTrack interconnect. Each IOE contains a bidirectional I/O buffer and a register that can be used as either an input or output register to feed input, output, or bidirectional signals. When used with a dedicated clock pin, these registers provide exceptional performance. IOEs provide a variety of features, such as 3.3-V, 64-bit, 66-MHz PCI compliance; JTAG BST support; slew-rate control; and tri-state buffers. APEX 20KC devices offer enhanced I/O support, including support for 1.8-V I/O, 2.5-V I/O, LVCMOS, LVTTTL, LVPECL, 3.3-V PCI, PCI-X, LVDS, GTL+, SSTL-2, SSTL-3, HSTL, CTT, and 3.3-V AGP I/O standards.

Figure 3. LAB Structure

Each LAB contains dedicated logic for driving control signals to its LEs and ESBs. The control signals include clock, clock enable, asynchronous clear, asynchronous preset, asynchronous load, synchronous clear, and synchronous load signals. A maximum of six control signals can be used at a time. Although synchronous load and clear signals are generally used when implementing counters, they can also be used with other functions.

Each LAB can use two clocks and two clock enable signals. Each LAB's clock and clock enable signals are linked (e.g., any LE in a particular LAB using CLK1 will also use CLKENA1). LEs with the same clock but different clock enable signals either use both clock signals in one LAB or are placed into separate LABs.

If both the rising and falling edges of a clock are used in a LAB, both LAB-wide clock signals are used.

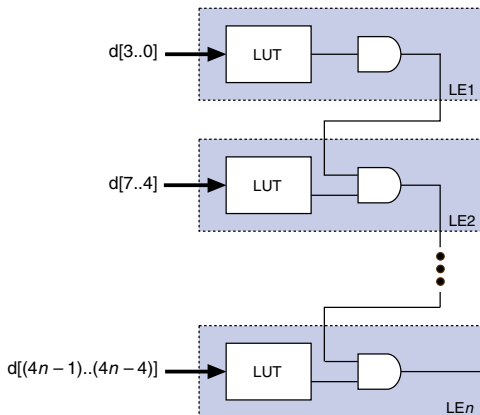
Cascade Chain

With the cascade chain, the APEX 20KC architecture can implement functions with a very wide fan-in. Adjacent LUTs can compute portions of a function in parallel; the cascade chain serially connects the intermediate values. The cascade chain can use a logical AND or logical OR (via De Morgan's inversion) to connect the outputs of adjacent LEs. Each additional LE provides four more inputs to the effective width of a function, with a short cascade delay. Cascade chain logic can be created automatically by the Quartus II Compiler during design processing, or manually by the designer during design entry.

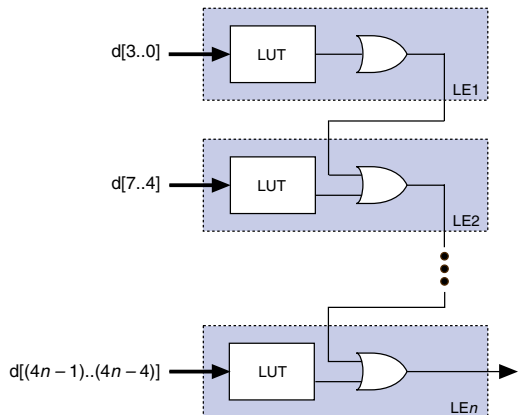
Cascade chains longer than ten LEs are implemented automatically by linking LABs together. For enhanced fitting, a long cascade chain skips alternate LABs in a MegaLAB structure. A cascade chain longer than one LAB skips either from an even-numbered LAB to the next even-numbered LAB, or from an odd-numbered LAB to the next odd-numbered LAB. For example, the last LE of the first LAB in the upper-left MegaLAB structure carries to the first LE of the third LAB in the MegaLAB structure. Figure 7 shows how the cascade function can connect adjacent LEs to form functions with a wide fan-in.

Figure 7. APEX 20KC Cascade Chain

AND Cascade Chain



OR Cascade Chain



The counter mode uses two 3-input LUTs: one generates the counter data, and the other generates the fast carry bit. A 2-to-1 multiplexer provides synchronous loading, and another AND gate provides synchronous clearing. If the cascade function is used by an LE in counter mode, the synchronous clear or load overrides any signal carried on the cascade chain. The synchronous clear overrides the synchronous load. LEs in arithmetic mode can drive out registered and unregistered versions of the LUT output.

Clear & Preset Logic Control

Logic for the register's clear and preset signals is controlled by LAB-wide signals. The LE directly supports an asynchronous clear function. The Quartus II Compiler can use a NOT-gate push-back technique to emulate an asynchronous preset or to emulate simultaneous preset and clear or asynchronous load. However, this technique uses three additional LEs per register. All emulation is performed automatically when the design is compiled. Registers that emulate simultaneous preset and load will enter an unknown state upon power-up or when the chip-wide reset is asserted.

In addition to the two clear and preset modes, APEX 20KC devices provide a chip-wide reset pin (DEV_CLRn) that resets all registers in the device. Use of this pin is controlled through an option in the Quartus II software that is set before compilation. The chip-wide reset overrides all other control signals. Registers using an asynchronous preset are preset when the chip-wide reset is asserted; this effect results from the inversion technique used to implement the asynchronous preset.

FastTrack Interconnect

In the APEX 20KC architecture, connections between LEs, ESBs, and I/O pins are provided by the FastTrack interconnect. The FastTrack interconnect is a series of continuous horizontal and vertical routing channels that traverse the device. This global routing structure provides predictable performance, even in complex designs. In contrast, the segmented routing in FPGAs requires switch matrices to connect a variable number of routing paths, increasing the delays between logic resources and reducing performance.

The FastTrack interconnect consists of row and column interconnect channels that span the entire device. The row interconnect routes signals throughout a row of MegaLAB structures; the column interconnect routes signals throughout a column of MegaLAB structures. When using the row and column interconnect, an LE, IOE, or ESB can drive any other LE, IOE, or ESB in a device. See [Figure 9](#).

Figure 10. FastTrack Connection to Local Interconnect

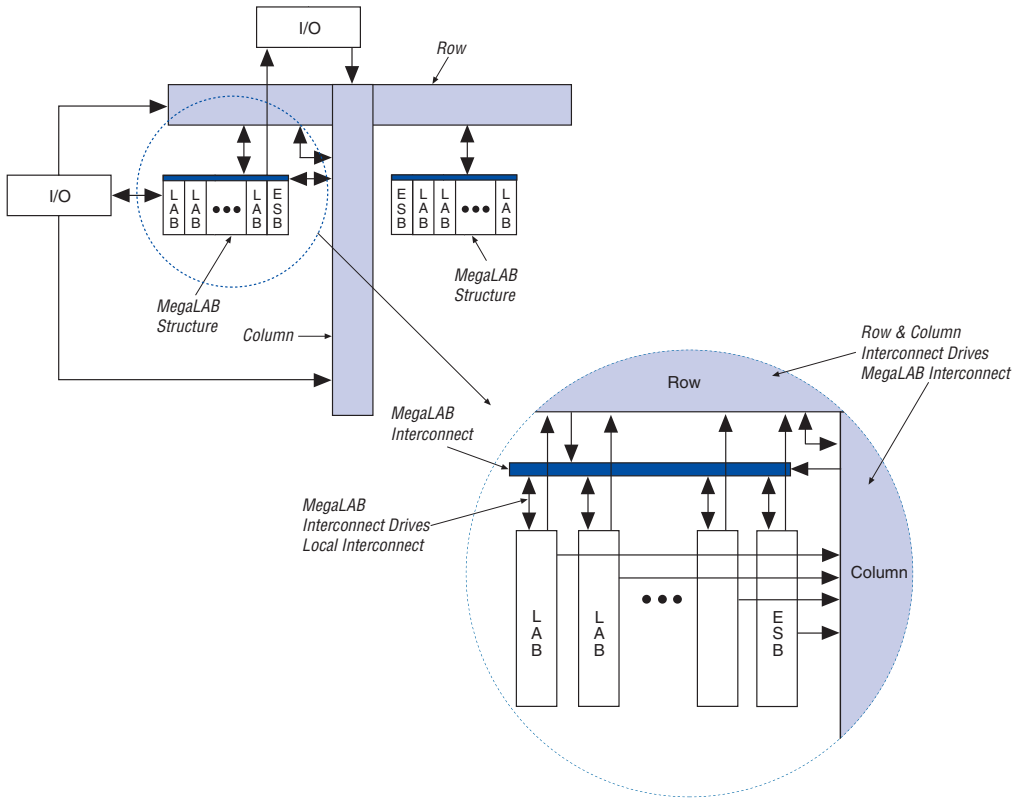
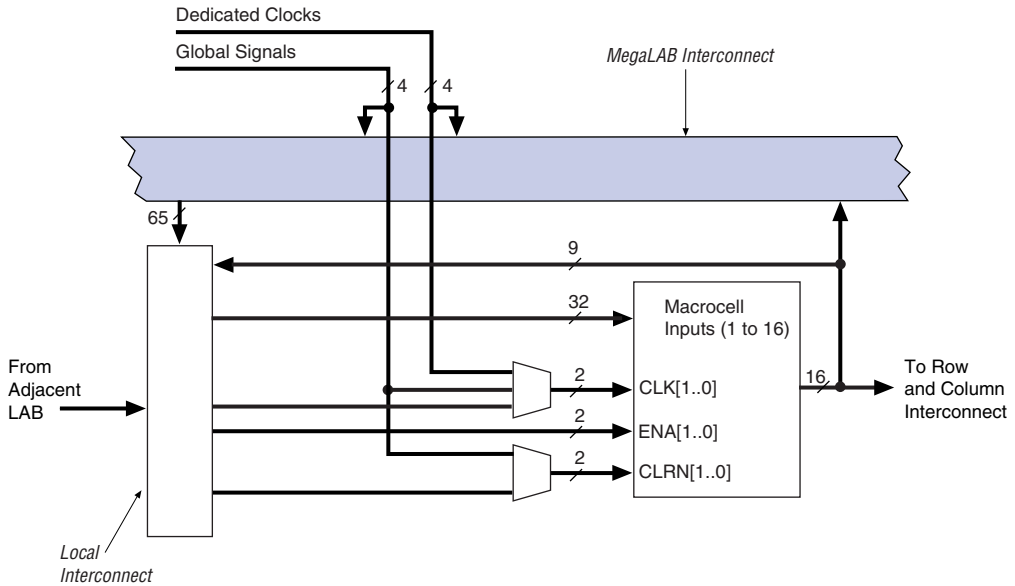


Figure 13. Product-Term Logic in ESB



Macrocells

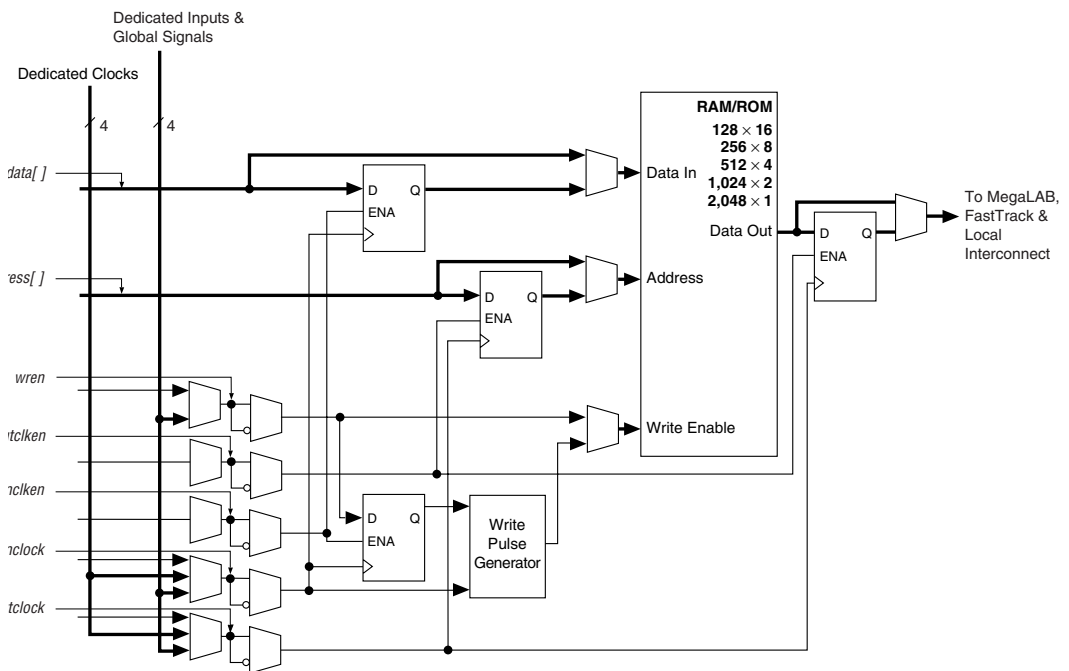
APEX 20KC macrocells can be configured individually for either sequential or combinatorial logic operation. The macrocell consists of three functional blocks: the logic array, the product-term select matrix, and the programmable register.

Combinatorial logic is implemented in the product terms. The product-term select matrix allocates these product terms for use as either primary logic inputs (to the OR and XOR gates) to implement combinatorial functions, or as parallel expanders to be used to increase the logic available to another macrocell. One product term can be inverted; the Quartus II software uses this feature to perform De Morgan's inversion for more efficient implementation of wide OR functions. The Quartus II Compiler can use a NOT-gate push-back technique to emulate an asynchronous preset. [Figure 14](#) shows the APEX 20KC macrocell.

Read/Write Clock Mode

The read/write clock mode contains two clocks. One clock controls all registers associated with writing: data input, WE, and write address. The other clock controls all registers associated with reading: read enable (RE), read address, and data output. The ESB also supports clock enable and asynchronous clear signals; these signals also control the read and write registers independently. Read/write clock mode is commonly used for applications where reads and writes occur at different system frequencies. Figure 20 shows the ESB in read/write clock mode.

Figure 20. ESB in Read/Write Clock Mode *Note (1)*



Note to Figure 20:

(1) All registers can be cleared asynchronously by ESB local interconnect signals, global signals, or the chip-wide reset.

CAM is used for high-speed search operations. When searching for data within a RAM block, the search is performed serially. Thus, finding a particular data word can take many cycles. CAM searches all addresses in parallel and outputs the address storing a particular word. When a match is found, a match flag is set high. Figure 23 shows the CAM block diagram.

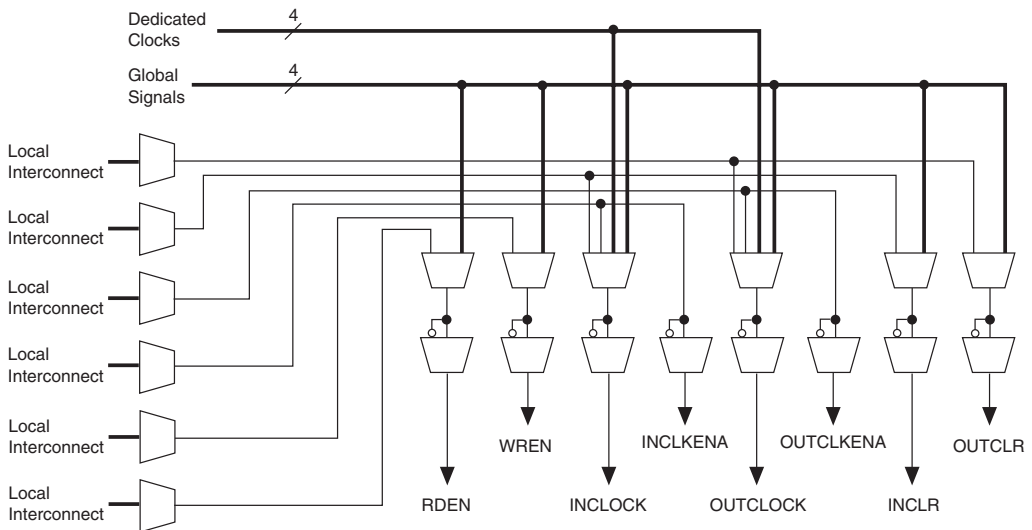


For more information on APEX 20KC devices and CAM, see *Application Note 119 (Implementing High-Speed Search Applications with APEX CAM)*.

Driving Signals to the ESB

ESBs provide flexible options for driving control signals. Different clocks can be used for the ESB inputs and outputs. Registers can be inserted independently on the data input, data output, read address, write address, WE, and RE signals. The global signals and the local interconnect can drive the WE and RE signals. The global signals, dedicated clock pins, and local interconnect can drive the ESB clock signals. Because the LEs drive the local interconnect, the LEs can control the WE and RE signals and the ESB clock, clock enable, and asynchronous clear signals. [Figure 24](#) shows the ESB control signal generation logic.

Figure 24. ESB Control Signal Generation



An ESB is fed by the local interconnect, which is driven by adjacent LEs (for high-speed connection to the ESB) or the MegaLAB interconnect. The ESB can drive the local, MegaLAB, or FastTrack interconnect routing structure to drive LEs and IOEs in the same MegaLAB structure or anywhere in the device.

Notes to Figure 25:

- (1) This programmable delay has four settings: off and three levels of delay.
- (2) The output enable and input registers are LE registers in the LAB adjacent to the bidirectional pin.

Each IOE drives a row, column, MegaLAB, or local interconnect when used as an input or bidirectional pin. A row IOE can drive a local, MegaLAB, row, and column interconnect; a column IOE can drive the column interconnect. **Figure 26** shows how a row IOE connects to the interconnect.

Figure 26. Row IOE Connection to the Interconnect

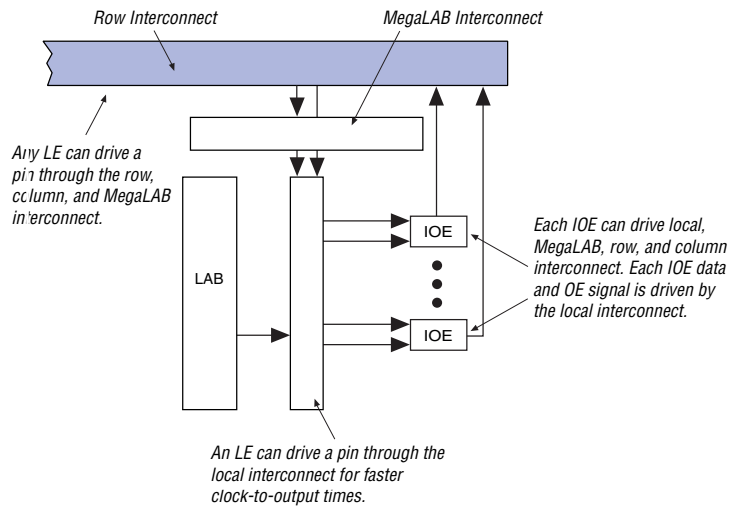
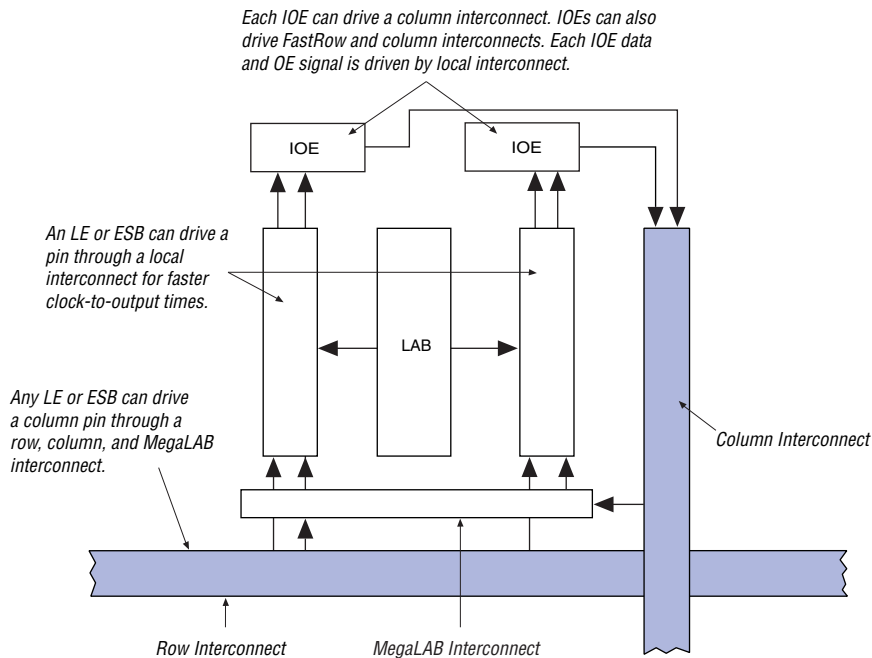


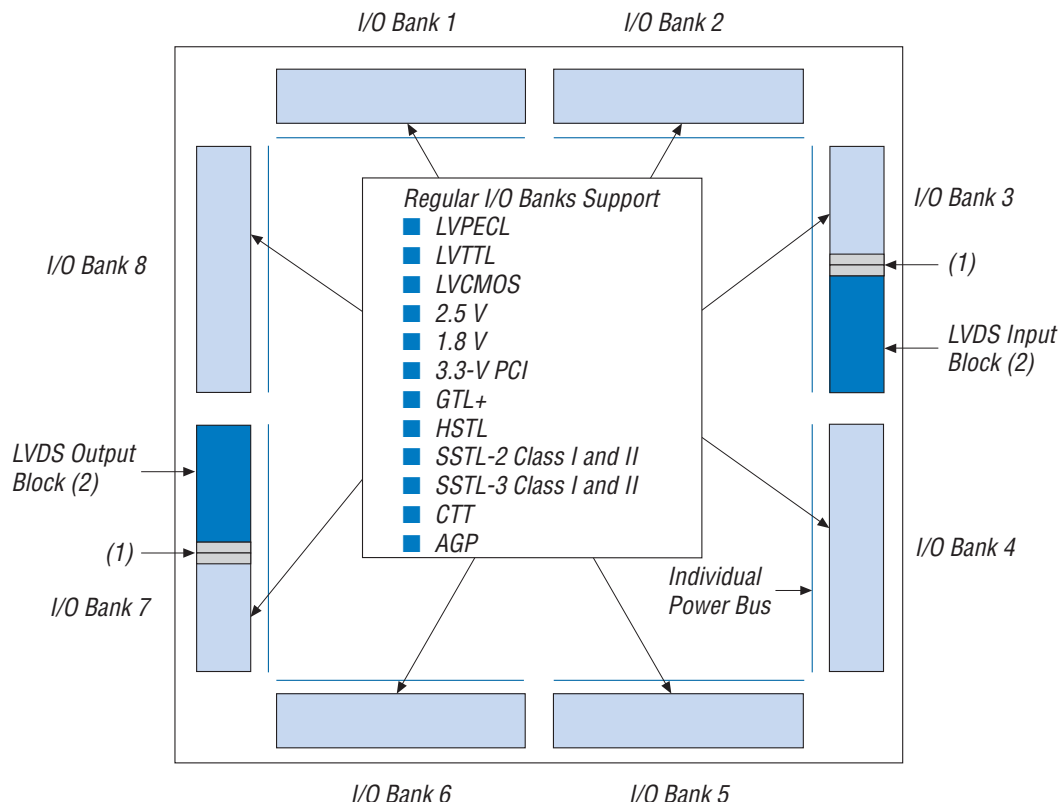
Figure 27 shows how a column IOE connects to the interconnect.

Figure 27. Column IOE Connection to the Interconnect



Dedicated Fast I/O Pins

APEX 20KC devices incorporate an enhancement to support bidirectional pins with high internal fan-out such as PCI control signals. These pins are called dedicated fast I/O pins (FAST1, FAST2, FAST3, and FAST4) and replace dedicated inputs. These pins can be used for fast clock, clear, or high fan-out logic signal distribution. They also can drive out. The dedicated fast I/O pin data output and tri-state control are driven by local interconnect from the adjacent MegaLAB for high speed.

Figure 28. APEX 20KC I/O Banks

Notes to Figure 28:

- (1) For more information on placing I/O pins in LVDS blocks, refer to the "Guidelines for Using LVDS Blocks" section in [Application Note 120 \(Using LVDS in APEX 20KE Devices\)](#).
- (2) If the LVDS input and output blocks are not used for LVDS, they can support all of the I/O standards and can be used as input, output, or bidirectional pins with V_{CCIO} set to 3.3 V, 2.5 V, or 1.8 V.

Power Sequencing & Hot Socketing

Because APEX 20KC devices can be used in a mixed-voltage environment, they have been designed specifically to tolerate any possible power-up sequence. Therefore, the V_{CCIO} and V_{CCINT} power supplies may be powered in any order.

Clock Multiplication

The APEX 20KC ClockBoost circuit can multiply or divide clocks by a programmable number. The clock can be multiplied by $m/(n \times k)$, where m and k range from 2 to 160 and n ranges from 1 to 16. Clock multiplication and division can be used for time-domain multiplexing and other functions, which can reduce design LE requirements.

Clock Phase & Delay Adjustment

The APEX 20KC ClockShift feature allows the clock phase and delay to be adjusted. The clock phase can be adjusted by 90° steps. The clock delay can be adjusted to increase or decrease the clock delay by an arbitrary amount, up to one clock period.

LVDS Support

All APEX 20KC devices support differential LVDS buffers on the input and output clock signals that interface with external devices. This is controlled in the Quartus II software by assigning the clock pins with an LVDS I/O standard assignment.

Two high-speed PLLs are designed to support the LVDS interface. When using LVDS, the I/O clock runs at a slower rate than the data transfer rate. Thus, PLLs are used to multiply the I/O clock internally to capture the LVDS data. For example, an I/O clock may run at 105 MHz to support 840 Mbps LVDS data transfer. In this example, the PLL multiplies the incoming clock by eight to support the high-speed data transfer. You can use PLLs in EP20K400C and larger devices for high-speed LVDS interfacing.

Lock Signals

The APEX 20KC ClockLock circuitry supports individual LOCK signals. The LOCK signal drives high when the ClockLock circuit has locked onto the input clock. The LOCK signals are optional for each ClockLock circuit; when not used, they are I/O pins.

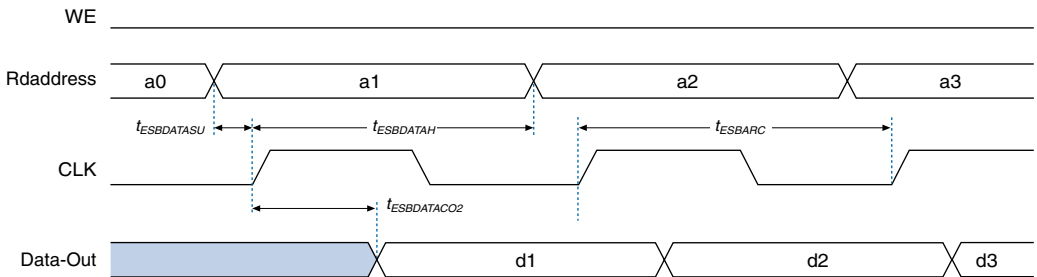
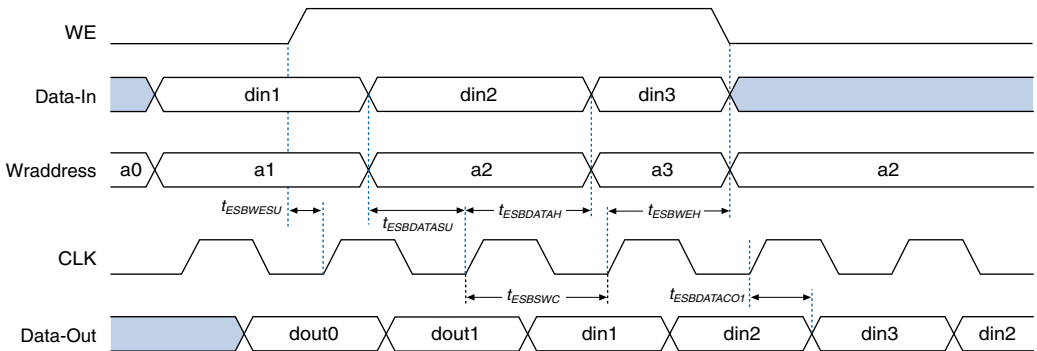
Figure 34. ESB Synchronous Timing Waveforms
ESB Synchronous Read

ESB Synchronous Write (ESB Output Registers Used)


Figure 35 shows the timing model for bidirectional I/O pin timing.

Table 42. APEX 20KC Selectable I/O Standard Input Adder Delays (Part 2 of 2) *Note (1)*

Symbol	Parameter	Condition
LVDS	Input adder delay for the LVDS I/O standard	
CTT	Input adder delay for the CTT I/O standard	
AGP	Input adder delay for the AGP I/O standard	

Table 43. APEX 20KC Selectable I/O Standard Output Adder Delays *Note (1)*

Symbol	Parameter	Condition
LVC MOS	Output adder delay for the LVC MOS I/O standard	
LVTTL	Output adder delay for the LVTTL I/O standard	Clod = 35 pF Rup = 564.5 Ω Rdn = 430 Ω (2)
2.5 V	Output adder delay for the 2.5-V I/O standard	Clod = 35 pF Rup = 450 Ω Rdn = 450 Ω (2)
1.8 V	Output adder delay for the 1.8-V I/O standard	Clod = 35 pF Rup = 520 Ω Rdn = 480 Ω (2)
PCI	Output adder delay for the PCI I/O standard	Clod = 10 pF Rup = 1M Ω Rdn = 25 Ω (2)
GTL+	Output adder delay for the GTL+ I/O standard	Clod = 30 pF Rup = 25 Ω (2)
SSTL-3 Class I	Output adder delay for the SSTL-3 Class I I/O standard	Clod1 = 0 pF Clod2 = 30 pF R = 25 Ω (2)
SSTL-3 Class II	Output adder delay for the SSTL-3 Class II I/O standard	Clod1 = 0 pF Clod2 = 30 pF R = 25 Ω (2)
SSTL-2 Class I	Output adder delay for the SSTL-2 Class I I/O standard	
SSTL-2 Class II	Output adder delay for the SSTL-2 Class II I/O standard	
LVDS	Output adder delay for the LVDS I/O standard	Clod = 4 pF R=100 Ω (2)
CTT	Output adder delay for the CTT I/O standard	
AGP	Output adder delay for the AGP I/O standard	

Note to Tables 42 and 43:

- (1) These delays report the differences in delays for different I/O standards. Add the delay for the I/O standard that is used to the external timing parameters.
- (2) See Figure 36 for more information.

Table 55. EP20K400C External Bidirectional Timing Parameters

Symbol	-7 Speed Grade		-8 Speed Grade		-9 Speed Grade		Unit
	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	
$t_{\text{INSUBIDIR}}$	1.29		1.67		1.92		ns
t_{INHBIDIR}	0.00		0.00		0.00		ns
$t_{\text{OUTCOBIDIR}}$	2.00	4.25	2.00	4.61	2.00	5.03	ns
t_{XZBIDIR}		6.55		6.97		7.35	ns
t_{ZXBIDIR}		6.55		6.97		7.36	ns
$t_{\text{INSUBIDIRPLL}}$	3.22		3.80		-		ns
$t_{\text{INHBIDIRPLL}}$	0.00		0.00		-		ns
$t_{\text{OUTCOBIDIRPLL}}$	0.50	2.27	0.50	2.55	-	-	ns
$t_{\text{XZBIDIRPLL}}$		4.62		4.84		-	ns
$t_{\text{ZXBIDIRPLL}}$		4.62		4.84		-	ns

Table 56. EP20K600C t_{MAX} LE Timing Parameters

Symbol	-7 Speed Grade		-8 Speed Grade		-9 Speed Grade		Unit
	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	
t_{SU}	0.01		0.01		0.01		ns
t_{H}	0.10		0.10		0.10		ns
t_{CO}		0.27		0.30		0.32	ns
t_{LUT}		0.65		0.78		0.92	ns

Table 59. EP20K600C Minimum Pulse Width Timing Parameters

Symbol	-7 Speed Grade		-8 Speed Grade		-9 Speed Grade		Unit
	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	
t_{CH}	1.33		1.66		2.00		ns
t_{CL}	1.33		1.66		2.00		ns
t_{CLRP}	0.20		0.20		0.20		ns
t_{PREP}	0.20		0.20		0.20		ns
t_{ESBCH}	1.33		1.66		2.00		ns
t_{ESBCL}	1.33		1.66		2.00		ns
t_{ESBWP}	1.05		1.28		1.44		ns
t_{ESBRP}	0.87		1.06		1.19		ns

Table 60. EP20K600C External Timing Parameters

Symbol	-7 Speed Grade		-8 Speed Grade		-9 Speed Grade		Unit
	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	
t_{INSU}	1.28		1.40		1.45		ns
t_{INH}	0.00		0.00		0.00		ns
t_{OUTCO}	2.00	4.29	2.00	4.77	2.00	5.11	ns
$t_{INSUPLL}$	0.80		0.91		-		ns
t_{INHPLL}	0.00		0.00		-		ns
$t_{OUTCOPLL}$	0.50	2.37	0.50	2.63	-	-	ns

Table 63. EP20K1000C t_{MAX} ESB Timing Microparameters

Symbol	-7 Speed Grade		-8 Speed Grade		-9 Speed Grade		Unit
	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	
t_{ESBARC}		1.48		1.57		1.65	ns
t_{ESBSRC}		2.36		2.50		2.73	ns
t_{ESBAWC}		2.93		3.46		3.86	ns
t_{ESBSWC}		3.08		3.43		3.83	ns
$t_{ESBWASU}$	0.51		0.50		0.52		ns
t_{ESBWAH}	0.38		0.51		0.57		ns
$t_{ESBWDSU}$	0.62		0.62		0.66		ns
t_{ESBWDH}	0.38		0.51		0.57		ns
$t_{ESBRASU}$	1.40		1.47		1.53		ns
t_{ESBRAH}	0.00		0.07		0.18		ns
$t_{ESBWESU}$	0.00		0.00		0.00		ns
$t_{ESBDATASU}$	1.92		2.19		2.35		ns
$t_{ESBWADDRSU}$	-0.20		-0.28		-0.32		ns
$t_{ESBRADDRSU}$	0.00		-0.03		-0.05		ns
$t_{ESBDATAO1}$		1.12		1.30		1.46	ns
$t_{ESBDATAO2}$		2.11		2.53		2.84	ns
t_{ESBDD}		2.56		2.96		3.30	ns
t_{PD}		1.49		1.79		2.02	ns
$t_{PTERMSU}$	0.61		0.69		0.77		ns
$t_{PTERMCO}$		1.13		1.32		1.48	ns

Table 64. EP20K1000C t_{MAX} Routing Delays

Symbol	-7 Speed Grade		-8 Speed Grade		-9 Speed Grade		Unit
	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	
t_{F1-4}		0.15		0.17		0.19	ns
t_{F5-20}		1.13		1.31		1.50	ns
t_{F20+}		2.30		2.71		3.19	ns