# E·XFL



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#### Understanding <u>Embedded - FPGAs (Field</u> <u>Programmable Gate Array)</u>

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	Active			
Number of LABs/CLBs	-			
Number of Logic Elements/Cells	-			
Total RAM Bits	-			
Number of I/O	49			
Number of Gates	20000			
Voltage - Supply	1.425V ~ 1.575V			
Mounting Type	Surface Mount			
Operating Temperature	-20°C ~ 85°C (TJ)			
Package / Case	68-VFQFN Exposed Pad			
Supplier Device Package	68-QFN (8x8)			
Purchase URL	https://www.e-xfl.com/product-detail/microchip-technology/a3pn020-qng68			

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### Clock Aggregation Architecture

This clock aggregation feature allows a balanced clock tree, which improves clock skew. The physical regions for clock aggregation are defined from left to right and shift by one spine. For chip global networks, there are three types of clock aggregation available, as shown in Figure 3-10:

- Long lines that can drive up to four adjacent spines (A)
- Long lines that can drive up to two adjacent spines (B)
- Long lines that can drive one spine (C)

There are three types of clock aggregation available for the quadrant spines, as shown in Figure 3-10:

- I/Os or local resources that can drive up to four adjacent spines
- I/Os or local resources that can drive up to two adjacent spines
- I/Os or local resources that can drive one spine

As an example, A3PE600 and AFS600 devices have twelve spine locations: T1, T2, T3, T4, T5, T6, B1, B2, B3, B4, B5, and B6. Table 3-7 shows the clock aggregation you can have in A3PE600 and AFS600.



Figure 3-10 • Four Spines Aggregation

Clock Aggregation	Spine			
1 spine	T1, T2, T3, T4, T5, T6, B1, B2, B3, B4, B5, B6			
2 spines	T1:T2, T2:T3, T3:T4, T4:T5, T5:T6, B1:B2, B2:B3, B3:B4, B4:B5, B5:B6			
4 spines	B1:B4, B2:B5, B3:B6, T1:T4, T2:T5, T3:T6			

The clock aggregation for the quadrant spines can cross over from the left to right quadrant, but not from top to bottom. The quadrant spine assignment T1:T4 is legal, but the quadrant spine assignment T1:B1 is not legal. Note that this clock aggregation is hardwired. You can always assign signals to spine T1 and B2 by instantiating a buffer, but this may add skew in the signal.

Clock Conditioning Circuits in Low Power Flash Devices and Mixed Signal FPGAs

Dividers n and m (the input divider and feedback divider, respectively) provide integer frequency division factors from 1 to 128. The output dividers u, v, and w provide integer division factors from 1 to 32. Frequency scaling of the reference clock CLKA is performed according to the following formulas:

$$f_{GLA} = f_{CLKA} \times m / (n \times u) - GLA Primary PLL Output Clock$$

$$EQ 4-1$$

$$f_{GLB} = f_{YB} = f_{CLKA} \times m / (n \times v) - GLB Secondary 1 PLL Output Clock(s)$$

$$EQ 4-2$$

$$f_{GLC} = f_{YC} = f_{CLKA} \times m / (n \times w) - GLC Secondary 2 PLL Output Clock(s)$$

EQ 4-3

SmartGen provides a user-friendly method of generating the configured PLL netlist, which includes automatically setting the division factors to achieve the closest possible match to the requested frequencies. Since the five output clocks share the n and m dividers, the achievable output frequencies are interdependent and related according to the following formula:

$$f_{GLA} = f_{GLB} \times (v / u) = f_{GLC} \times (w / u)$$

EQ 4-4

#### **Clock Delay Adjustment**

There are a total of seven configurable delay elements implemented in the PLL architecture.

Two of the delays are located in the feedback path, entitled System Delay and Feedback Delay. System Delay provides a fixed delay of 2 ns (typical), and Feedback Delay provides selectable delay values from 0.6 ns to 5.56 ns in 160 ps increments (typical). For PLLs, delays in the feedback path will effectively advance the output signal from the PLL core with respect to the reference clock. Thus, the System and Feedback delays generate negative delay on the output clock. Additionally, each of these delays can be independently bypassed if necessary.

The remaining five delays perform traditional time delay and are located at each of the outputs of the PLL. Besides the fixed global driver delay of 0.755 ns for each of the global networks, the global multiplexer outputs (GLA, GLB, and GLC) each feature an additional selectable delay value, as given in Table 4-7.

Device	Typical	Starting Values	Increments	Ending Value
ProASIC3	200 ps	0 to 735 ps	200 ps	6.735 ns
IGLOO/ProASIC3L 1.5 V	360 ps	0 to 1.610 ns	360 ps	12.410 ns
IGLOO/ProASIC3L 1.2 V	580 ps	0 to 2.880 ns	580 ps	20.280 ns

Table 4-7 • Delay Values in Libero SoC Software per Device Family

The additional YB and YC signals have access to a selectable delay from 0.6 ns to 5.56 ns in 160 ps increments (typical). This is the same delay value as the CLKDLY macro. It is similar to CLKDLY, which bypasses the PLL core just to take advantage of the phase adjustment option with the delay value.

The following parameters must be taken into consideration to achieve minimum delay at the outputs (GLA, GLB, GLC, YB, and YC) relative to the reference clock: routing delays from the PLL core to CCC outputs, core outputs and global network output delays, and the feedback path delay. The feedback path delay acts as a time advance of the input clock and will offset any delays introduced beyond the PLL core output. The routing delays are determined from back-annotated simulation and are configuration-dependent.

Clock Conditioning Circuits in Low Power Flash Devices and Mixed Signal FPGAs

Each group of control bits is assigned a specific location in the configuration shift register. For a list of the 81 configuration bits (C[80:0]) in the CCC and a description of each, refer to "PLL Configuration Bits Description" on page 90. The configuration register can be serially loaded with the new configuration data and programmed into the CCC using the following ports:

- SDIN: The configuration bits are serially loaded into a shift register through this port. The LSB of the configuration data bits should be loaded first.
- SDOUT: The shift register contents can be shifted out (LSB first) through this port using the shift operation.
- SCLK: This port should be driven by the shift clock.
- SSHIFT: The active-high shift enable signal should drive this port. The configuration data will be shifted into the shift register if this signal is HIGH. Once SSHIFT goes LOW, the data shifting will be halted.
- SUPDATE: The SUPDATE signal is used to configure the CCC with the new configuration bits when shifting is complete.

To access the configuration ports of the shift register (SDIN, SDOUT, SSHIFT, etc.), the user should instantiate the CCC macro in his design with appropriate ports. Microsemi recommends that users choose SmartGen to generate the CCC macros with the required ports for dynamic reconfiguration.

Users must familiarize themselves with the architecture of the CCC core and its input, output, and configuration ports to implement the desired delay and output frequency in the CCC structure. Figure 4-22 shows a model of the CCC with configurable blocks and switches.

Clock Conditioning Circuits in Low Power Flash Devices and Mixed Signal FPGAs

# Software Configuration

SmartGen automatically generates the desired CCC functional block by configuring the control bits, and allows the user to select two CCC modes: Static PLL and Delayed Clock (CLKDLY).

### Static PLL Configuration

The newly implemented Visual PLL Configuration Wizard feature provides the user a quick and easy way to configure the PLL with the desired settings (Figure 4-23). The user can invoke SmartGen to set the parameters and generate the netlist file with the appropriate flash configuration bits set for the CCCs. As mentioned in "PLL Macro Block Diagram" on page 69, the input reference clock CLKA can be configured to be driven by Hardwired I/O, External I/O, or Core Logic. The user enters the desired settings for all the parameters (output frequency, output selection, output phase adjustment, clock delay, feedback delay, and system delay). Notice that the actual values (divider values, output frequency, delay values, and phase) are shown to aid the user in reaching the desired design frequency in real time. These values are typical-case data. Best- and worst-case data can be observed through static timing analysis in SmartTime within Designer.

For dynamic configuration, the CCC parameters are defined using either the external JTAG port or an internally defined serial interface via the built-in dynamic shift register. This feature provides the ability to compensate for changes in the external environment.



Figure 4-23 • Visual PLL Configuration Wizard

SRAM and FIFO Memories in Microsemi's Low Power Flash Devices

without reprogramming the device. Dynamic flag settings are determined by register values and can be altered without reprogramming the device by reloading the register values either from the design or through the UJTAG interface described in the "Initializing the RAM/FIFO" section on page 148.

SmartGen can also configure the FIFO to continue counting after the FIFO is full. In this configuration, the FIFO write counter will wrap after the counter is full and continue to write data. With the FIFO configured to continue to read after the FIFO is empty, the read counter will also wrap and re-read data that was previously read. This mode can be used to continually read back repeating data patterns stored in the FIFO (Figure 6-15).

Figure 6-15 • SmartGen FIFO Configuration Interface

FIFOs configured using SmartGen can also make use of the port mapping feature to configure the names of the ports.

#### Limitations

Users should be aware of the following limitations when configuring SRAM blocks for low power flash devices:

- SmartGen does not track the target device in a family, so it cannot determine if a configured memory block will fit in the target device.
- Dual-port RAMs with different read and write aspect ratios are not supported.
- Cascaded memory blocks can only use a maximum of 64 blocks of RAM.
- The Full flag of the FIFO is sensitive to the maximum depth of the actual physical FIFO block, not the depth requested in the SmartGen interface.