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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	1024
Number of Logic Elements/Cells	2432
Total RAM Bits	32768
Number of I/O	256
Number of Gates	28000
Voltage - Supply	3V ~ 3.6V
Mounting Type	Surface Mount
Operating Temperature	0°C ~ 85°C (TJ)
Package / Case	352-LBGA Exposed Pad, Metal
Supplier Device Package	352-MBGA (35x35)
Purchase URL	https://www.e-xfl.com/product-detail/xilinx/xc4028xl-3bg352c

XC4000E and XC4000X Series Compared to the XC4000

For readers already familiar with the XC4000 family of Xilinx Field Programmable Gate Arrays, the major new features in the XC4000 Series devices are listed in this section. The biggest advantages of XC4000E and XC4000X devices are significantly increased system speed, greater capacity, and new architectural features, particularly Select-RAM memory. The XC4000X devices also offer many new routing features, including special high-speed clock buffers that can be used to capture input data with minimal delay.

Any XC4000E device is pinout- and bitstream-compatible with the corresponding XC4000 device. An existing XC4000 bitstream can be used to program an XC4000E device. However, since the XC4000E includes many new features, an XC4000E bitstream cannot be loaded into an XC4000 device.

XC4000X Series devices are not bitstream-compatible with equivalent array size devices in the XC4000 or XC4000E families. However, equivalent array size devices, such as the XC4025, XC4025E, XC4028EX, and XC4028XL, are pinout-compatible.

Improvements in XC4000E and XC4000X

Increased System Speed

XC4000E and XC4000X devices can run at synchronous system clock rates of up to 80 MHz, and internal performance can exceed 150 MHz. This increase in performance over the previous families stems from improvements in both device processing and system architecture. XC4000 Series devices use a sub-micron multi-layer metal process. In addition, many architectural improvements have been made, as described below.

The XC4000XL family is a high performance 3.3V family based on 0.35 μ SRAM technology and supports system speeds to 80 MHz.

PCI Compliance

XC4000 Series -2 and faster speed grades are fully PCI compliant. XC4000E and XC4000X devices can be used to implement a one-chip PCI solution.

Carry Logic

The speed of the carry logic chain has increased dramatically. Some parameters, such as the delay on the carry chain through a single CLB (T_{BYP}), have improved by as

much as 50% from XC4000 values. See [“Fast Carry Logic” on page 18](#) for more information.

Select-RAM Memory: Edge-Triggered, Synchronous RAM Modes

The RAM in any CLB can be configured for synchronous, edge-triggered, write operation. The read operation is not affected by this change to an edge-triggered write.

Dual-Port RAM

A separate option converts the 16x2 RAM in any CLB into a 16x1 dual-port RAM with simultaneous Read/Write.

The function generators in each CLB can be configured as either level-sensitive (asynchronous) single-port RAM, edge-triggered (synchronous) single-port RAM, edge-triggered (synchronous) dual-port RAM, or as combinatorial logic.

Configurable RAM Content

The RAM content can now be loaded at configuration time, so that the RAM starts up with user-defined data.

H Function Generator

In current XC4000 Series devices, the H function generator is more versatile than in the original XC4000. Its inputs can come not only from the F and G function generators but also from up to three of the four control input lines. The H function generator can thus be totally or partially independent of the other two function generators, increasing the maximum capacity of the device.

IOB Clock Enable

The two flip-flops in each IOB have a common clock enable input, which through configuration can be activated individually for the input or output flip-flop or both. This clock enable operates exactly like the EC pin on the XC4000 CLB. This new feature makes the IOBs more versatile, and avoids the need for clock gating.

Output Drivers

The output pull-up structure defaults to a TTL-like totem-pole. This driver is an n-channel pull-up transistor, pulling to a voltage one transistor threshold below V_{cc} , just like the XC4000 family outputs. Alternatively, XC4000 Series devices can be globally configured with CMOS outputs, with p-channel pull-up transistors pulling to V_{cc} . Also, the configurable pull-up resistor in the XC4000 Series is a p-channel transistor that pulls to V_{cc} , whereas in the original XC4000 family it is an n-channel transistor that pulls to a voltage one transistor threshold below V_{cc} .

Input Thresholds

The input thresholds of 5V devices can be globally configured for either TTL (1.2 V threshold) or CMOS (2.5 V threshold), just like XC2000 and XC3000 inputs. The two global adjustments of input threshold and output level are independent of each other. The XC4000XL family has an input threshold of 1.6V, compatible with both 3.3V CMOS and TTL levels.

Global Signal Access to Logic

There is additional access from global clocks to the F and G function generator inputs.

Configuration Pin Pull-Up Resistors

During configuration, these pins have weak pull-up resistors. For the most popular configuration mode, Slave Serial, the mode pins can thus be left unconnected. The three mode inputs can be individually configured with or without weak pull-up or pull-down resistors. A pull-down resistor value of 4.7 k Ω is recommended.

The three mode inputs can be individually configured with or without weak pull-up or pull-down resistors after configuration.

The PROGRAM input pin has a permanent weak pull-up.

Soft Start-up

Like the XC3000A, XC4000 Series devices have "Soft Start-up." When the configuration process is finished and the device starts up, the first activation of the outputs is automatically slew-rate limited. This feature avoids potential ground bounce when all outputs are turned on simultaneously. Immediately after start-up, the slew rate of the individual outputs is, as in the XC4000 family, determined by the individual configuration option.

XC4000 and XC4000A Compatibility

Existing XC4000 bitstreams can be used to configure an XC4000E device. XC4000A bitstreams must be recompiled for use with the XC4000E due to improved routing resources, although the devices are pin-for-pin compatible.

Additional Improvements in XC4000X Only

Increased Routing

New interconnect in the XC4000X includes twenty-two additional vertical lines in each column of CLBs and twelve new horizontal lines in each row of CLBs. The twelve "Quad Lines" in each CLB row and column include optional repowering buffers for maximum speed. Additional high-performance routing near the IOBs enhances pin flexibility.

Faster Input and Output

A fast, dedicated early clock sourced by global clock buffers is available for the IOBs. To ensure synchronization with the regular global clocks, a Fast Capture latch driven by the early clock is available. The input data can be initially loaded into the Fast Capture latch with the early clock, then transferred to the input flip-flop or latch with the low-skew global clock. A programmable delay on the input can be used to avoid hold-time requirements. See "IOB Input Signals" on page 20 for more information.

Latch Capability in CLBs

Storage elements in the XC4000X CLB can be configured as either flip-flops or latches. This capability makes the FPGA highly synthesis-compatible.

IOB Output MUX From Output Clock

A multiplexer in the IOB allows the output clock to select either the output data or the IOB clock enable as the output to the pad. Thus, two different data signals can share a single output pad, effectively doubling the number of device outputs without requiring a larger, more expensive package. This multiplexer can also be configured as an AND-gate to implement a very fast pin-to-pin path. See "IOB Output Signals" on page 23 for more information.

Additional Address Bits

Larger devices require more bits of configuration data. A daisy chain of several large XC4000X devices may require a PROM that cannot be addressed by the eighteen address bits supported in the XC4000E. The XC4000X Series therefore extends the addressing in Master Parallel configuration mode to 22 bits.

Supported CLB memory configurations and timing modes for single- and dual-port modes are shown in [Table 3](#).

XC4000 Series devices are the first programmable logic devices with edge-triggered (synchronous) and dual-port RAM accessible to the user. Edge-triggered RAM simplifies system timing. Dual-port RAM doubles the effective throughput of FIFO applications. These features can be individually programmed in any XC4000 Series CLB.

Advantages of On-Chip and Edge-Triggered RAM

The on-chip RAM is extremely fast. The read access time is the same as the logic delay. The write access time is slightly slower. Both access times are much faster than any off-chip solution, because they avoid I/O delays.

Edge-triggered RAM, also called synchronous RAM, is a feature never before available in a Field Programmable Gate Array. The simplicity of designing with edge-triggered RAM, and the markedly higher achievable performance, add up to a significant improvement over existing devices with on-chip RAM.

Three application notes are available from Xilinx that discuss edge-triggered RAM: “XC4000E Edge-Triggered and Dual-Port RAM Capability,” “Implementing FIFOs in XC4000E RAM,” and “Synchronous and Asynchronous FIFO Designs.” All three application notes apply to both XC4000E and XC4000X RAM.

Table 3: Supported RAM Modes

	16 x 1	16 x 2	32 x 1	Edge- Triggered Timing	Level- Sensitive Timing
Single-Port	√	√	√	√	√
Dual-Port	√			√	

RAM Configuration Options

The function generators in any CLB can be configured as RAM arrays in the following sizes:

- Two 16x1 RAMs: two data inputs and two data outputs with identical or, if preferred, different addressing for each RAM
- One 32x1 RAM: one data input and one data output.

One F or G function generator can be configured as a 16x1 RAM while the other function generators are used to implement any function of up to 5 inputs.

Additionally, the XC4000 Series RAM may have either of two timing modes:

- Edge-Triggered (Synchronous): data written by the designated edge of the CLB clock. WE acts as a true clock enable.
- Level-Sensitive (Asynchronous): an external WE signal acts as the write strobe.

The selected timing mode applies to both function generators within a CLB when both are configured as RAM.

The number of read ports is also programmable:

- Single Port: each function generator has a common read and write port
- Dual Port: both function generators are configured together as a single 16x1 dual-port RAM with one write port and two read ports. Simultaneous read and write operations to the same or different addresses are supported.

RAM configuration options are selected by placing the appropriate library symbol.

Choosing a RAM Configuration Mode

The appropriate choice of RAM mode for a given design should be based on timing and resource requirements, desired functionality, and the simplicity of the design process. Recommended usage is shown in [Table 4](#).

The difference between level-sensitive, edge-triggered, and dual-port RAM is only in the write operation. Read operation and timing is identical for all modes of operation.

Table 4: RAM Mode Selection

	Level-Sens itive	Edge-Trigg ered	Dual-Port Edge-Trigg ered
Use for New Designs?	No	Yes	Yes
Size (16x1, Registered)	1/2 CLB	1/2 CLB	1 CLB
Simultaneous Read/Write	No	No	Yes
Relative Performance	X	2X	2X (4X effective)

RAM Inputs and Outputs

The F1-F4 and G1-G4 inputs to the function generators act as address lines, selecting a particular memory cell in each look-up table.

The functionality of the CLB control signals changes when the function generators are configured as RAM. The DIN/H2, H1, and SR/H0 lines become the two data inputs (D0, D1) and the Write Enable (WE) input for the 16x2 memory. When the 32x1 configuration is selected, D1 acts as the fifth address bit and D0 is the data input.

The contents of the memory cell(s) being addressed are available at the F' and G' function-generator outputs. They can exit the CLB through its X and Y outputs, or can be captured in the CLB flip-flop(s).

Configuring the CLB function generators as Read/Write memory does not affect the functionality of the other por-

Dual-Port Edge-Triggered Mode

In dual-port mode, both the F and G function generators are used to create a single 16x1 RAM array with one write port and two read ports. The resulting RAM array can be read and written simultaneously at two independent addresses. Simultaneous read and write operations at the same address are also supported.

Dual-port mode always has edge-triggered write timing, as shown in [Figure 3](#).

[Figure 6](#) shows a simple model of an XC4000 Series CLB configured as dual-port RAM. One address port, labeled A[3:0], supplies both the read and write address for the F function generator. This function generator behaves the same as a 16x1 single-port edge-triggered RAM array. The RAM output, Single Port Out (SPO), appears at the F function generator output. SPO, therefore, reflects the data at address A[3:0].

The other address port, labeled DPRA[3:0] for Dual Port Read Address, supplies the read address for the G function generator. The write address for the G function generator, however, comes from the address A[3:0]. The output from this 16x1 RAM array, Dual Port Out (DPO), appears at the G function generator output. DPO, therefore, reflects the data at address DPRA[3:0].

Therefore, by using A[3:0] for the write address and DPRA[3:0] for the read address, and reading only the DPO output, a FIFO that can read and write simultaneously is easily generated. Simultaneous access doubles the effective throughput of the FIFO.

The relationships between CLB pins and RAM inputs and outputs for dual-port, edge-triggered mode are shown in [Table 6](#). See [Figure 7 on page 16](#) for a block diagram of a CLB configured in this mode.

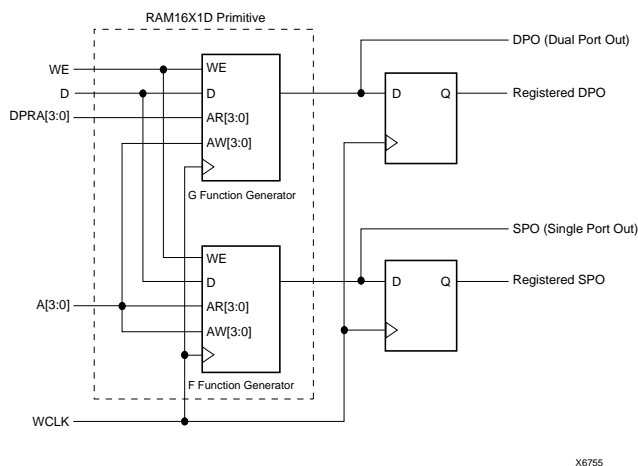


Figure 6: XC4000 Series Dual-Port RAM, Simple Model

Table 6: Dual-Port Edge-Triggered RAM Signals

RAM Signal	CLB Pin	Function
D	D0	Data In
A[3:0]	F1-F4	Read Address for F, Write Address for F and G
DPRA[3:0]	G1-G4	Read Address for G
WE	WE	Write Enable
WCLK	K	Clock
SPO	F'	Single Port Out (addressed by A[3:0])
DPO	G'	Dual Port Out (addressed by DPRA[3:0])

Note: The pulse following the active edge of WCLK (T_{WPS} in [Figure 3](#)) must be less than one millisecond wide. For most applications, this requirement is not overly restrictive; however, it must not be forgotten. Stopping WCLK at this point in the write cycle could result in excessive current and even damage to the larger devices if many CLBs are configured as edge-triggered RAM.

Single-Port Level-Sensitive Timing Mode

Note: Edge-triggered mode is recommended for all new designs. Level-sensitive mode, also called asynchronous mode, is still supported for XC4000 Series backward-compatibility with the XC4000 family.

Level-sensitive RAM timing is simple in concept but can be complicated in execution. Data and address signals are presented, then a positive pulse on the write enable pin (WE) performs a write into the RAM at the designated address. As indicated by the “level-sensitive” label, this RAM acts like a latch. During the WE High pulse, changing the data lines results in new data written to the old address. Changing the address lines while WE is High results in spurious data written to the new address—and possibly at other addresses as well, as the address lines inevitably do not all change simultaneously.

The user must generate a carefully timed WE signal. The delay on the WE signal and the address lines must be carefully verified to ensure that WE does not become active until after the address lines have settled, and that WE goes inactive before the address lines change again. The data must be stable before and after the falling edge of WE.

In practical terms, WE is usually generated by a 2X clock. If a 2X clock is not available, the falling edge of the system clock can be used. However, there are inherent risks in this approach, since the WE pulse must be guaranteed inactive before the next rising edge of the system clock. Several older application notes are available from Xilinx that discuss the design of level-sensitive RAMs.

However, the edge-triggered RAM available in the XC4000 Series is superior to level-sensitive RAM for almost every application.

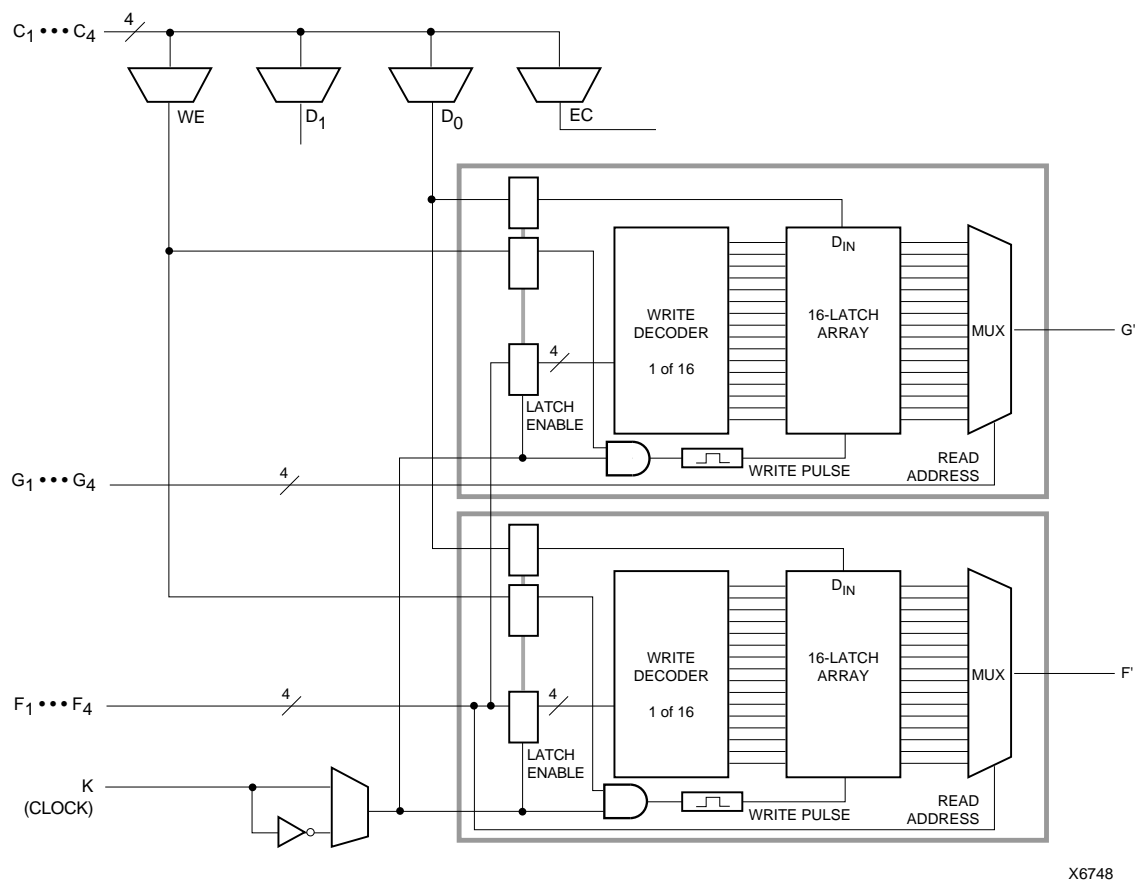


Figure 7: 16x1 Edge-Triggered Dual-Port RAM

Figure 8 shows the write timing for level-sensitive, single-port RAM.

The relationships between CLB pins and RAM inputs and outputs for single-port level-sensitive mode are shown in Table 7.

Figure 9 and Figure 10 show block diagrams of a CLB configured as 16x2 and 32x1 level-sensitive, single-port RAM.

Initializing RAM at Configuration

Both RAM and ROM implementations of the XC4000 Series devices are initialized during configuration. The initial contents are defined via an INIT attribute or property

attached to the RAM or ROM symbol, as described in the schematic library guide. If not defined, all RAM contents are initialized to all zeros, by default.

RAM initialization occurs only during configuration. The RAM content is not affected by Global Set/Reset.

Table 7: Single-Port Level-Sensitive RAM Signals

RAM Signal	CLB Pin	Function
D	D0 or D1	Data In
A[3:0]	F1-F4 or G1-G4	Address
WE	WE	Write Enable
O	F' or G'	Data Out

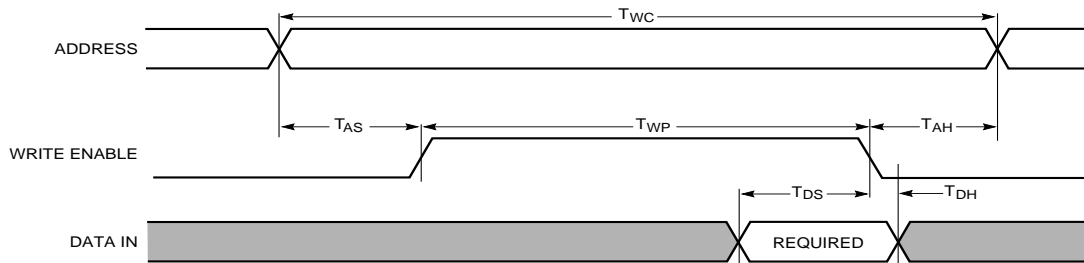


Figure 8: Level-Sensitive RAM Write Timing

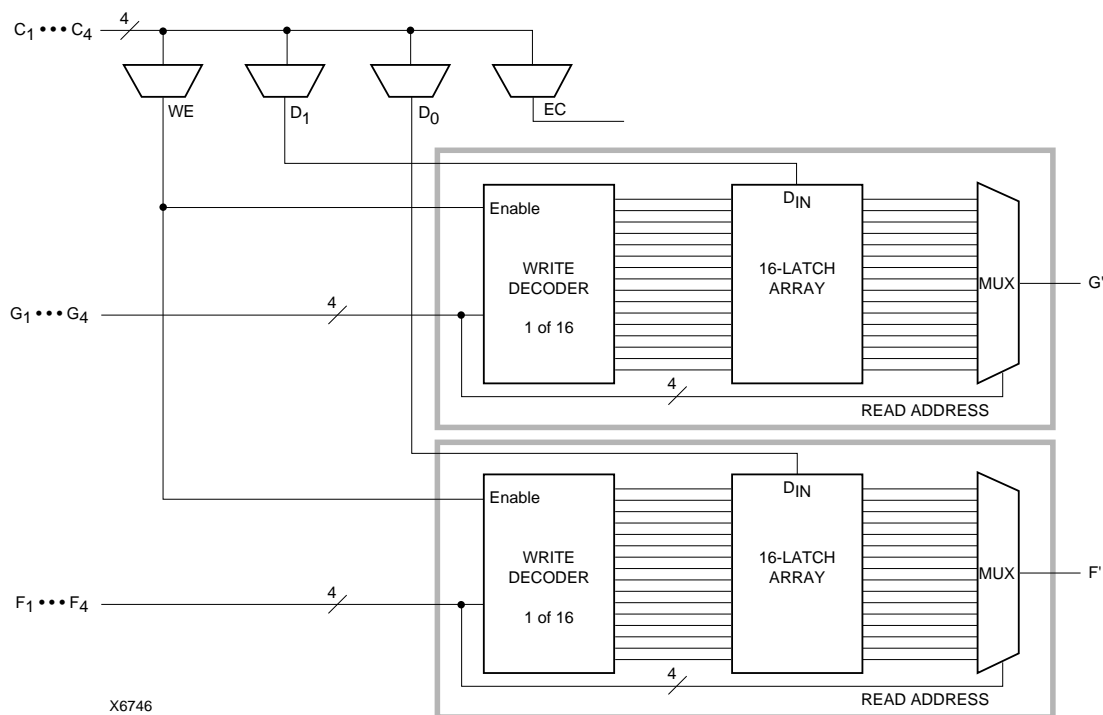


Figure 9: 16x2 (or 16x1) Level-Sensitive Single-Port RAM

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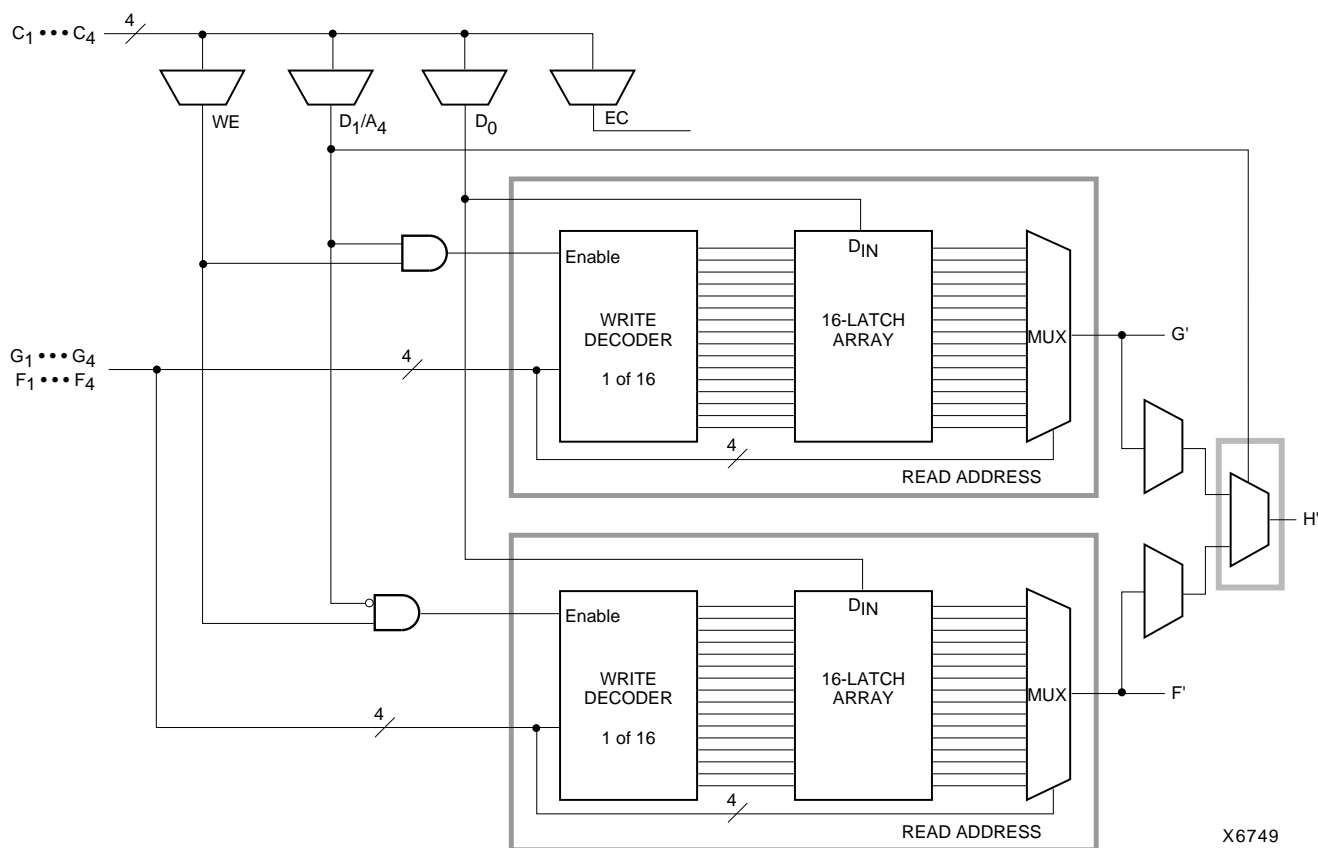


Figure 10: 32x1 Level-Sensitive Single-Port RAM (F and G addresses are identical)

Fast Carry Logic

Each CLB F and G function generator contains dedicated arithmetic logic for the fast generation of carry and borrow signals. This extra output is passed on to the function generator in the adjacent CLB. The carry chain is independent of normal routing resources.

Dedicated fast carry logic greatly increases the efficiency and performance of adders, subtractors, accumulators, comparators and counters. It also opens the door to many new applications involving arithmetic operation, where the previous generations of FPGAs were not fast enough or too inefficient. High-speed address offset calculations in micro-processor or graphics systems, and high-speed addition in digital signal processing are two typical applications.

The two 4-input function generators can be configured as a 2-bit adder with built-in hidden carry that can be expanded to any length. This dedicated carry circuitry is so fast and efficient that conventional speed-up methods like carry generate/propagate are meaningless even at the 16-bit level, and of marginal benefit at the 32-bit level.

This fast carry logic is one of the more significant features of the XC4000 Series, speeding up arithmetic and counting into the 70 MHz range.

The carry chain in XC4000E devices can run either up or down. At the top and bottom of the columns where there are no CLBs above or below, the carry is propagated to the right. (See Figure 11.) In order to improve speed in the high-capacity XC4000X devices, which can potentially have very long carry chains, the carry chain travels upward only, as shown in Figure 12. Additionally, standard interconnect can be used to route a carry signal in the downward direction.

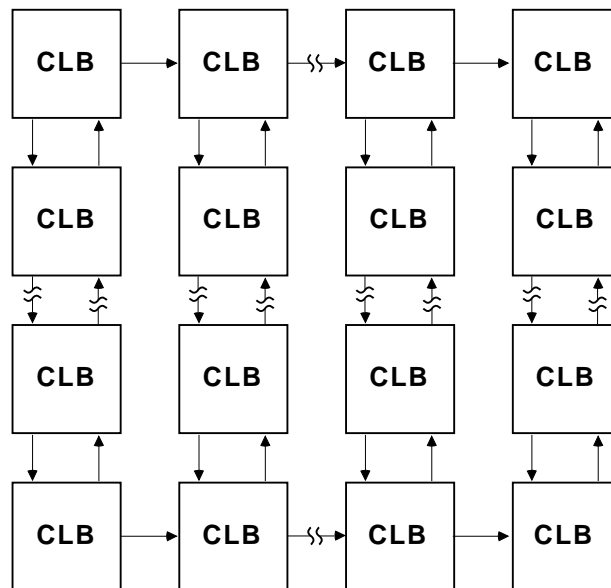
Figure 13 on page 19 shows an XC4000E CLB with dedicated fast carry logic. The carry logic in the XC4000X is similar, except that COUT exits at the top only, and the signal CINDOWN does not exist. As shown in Figure 13, the carry logic shares operand and control inputs with the function generators. The carry outputs connect to the function generators, where they are combined with the operands to form the sums.

Figure 14 on page 20 shows the details of the carry logic for the XC4000E. This diagram shows the contents of the box labeled "CARRY LOGIC" in Figure 13. The XC4000X carry logic is very similar, but a multiplexer on the pass-through carry chain has been eliminated to reduce delay. Additionally, in the XC4000X the multiplexer on the G4 path has a memory-programmable 0 input, which permits G4 to directly connect to COUT. G4 thus becomes an additional high-speed initialization path for carry-in.

The dedicated carry logic is discussed in detail in Xilinx document XAPP 013: "Using the Dedicated Carry Logic in

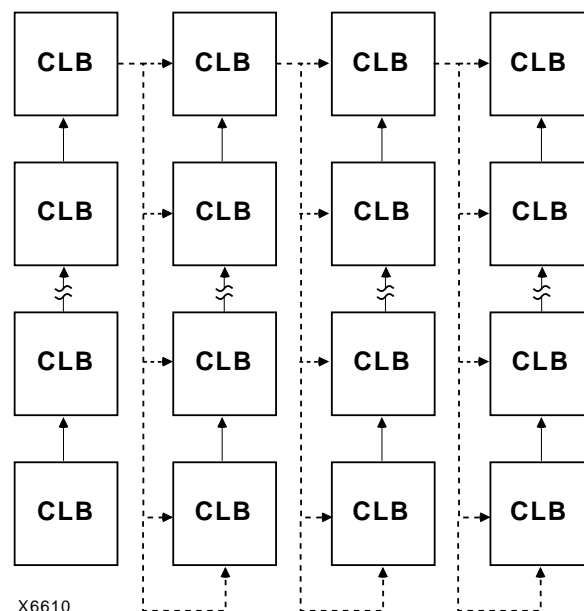
XC4000." This discussion also applies to XC4000E devices, and to XC4000X devices when the minor logic changes are taken into account.

The fast carry logic can be accessed by placing special library symbols, or by using Xilinx Relationally Placed Macros (RPMs) that already include these symbols.



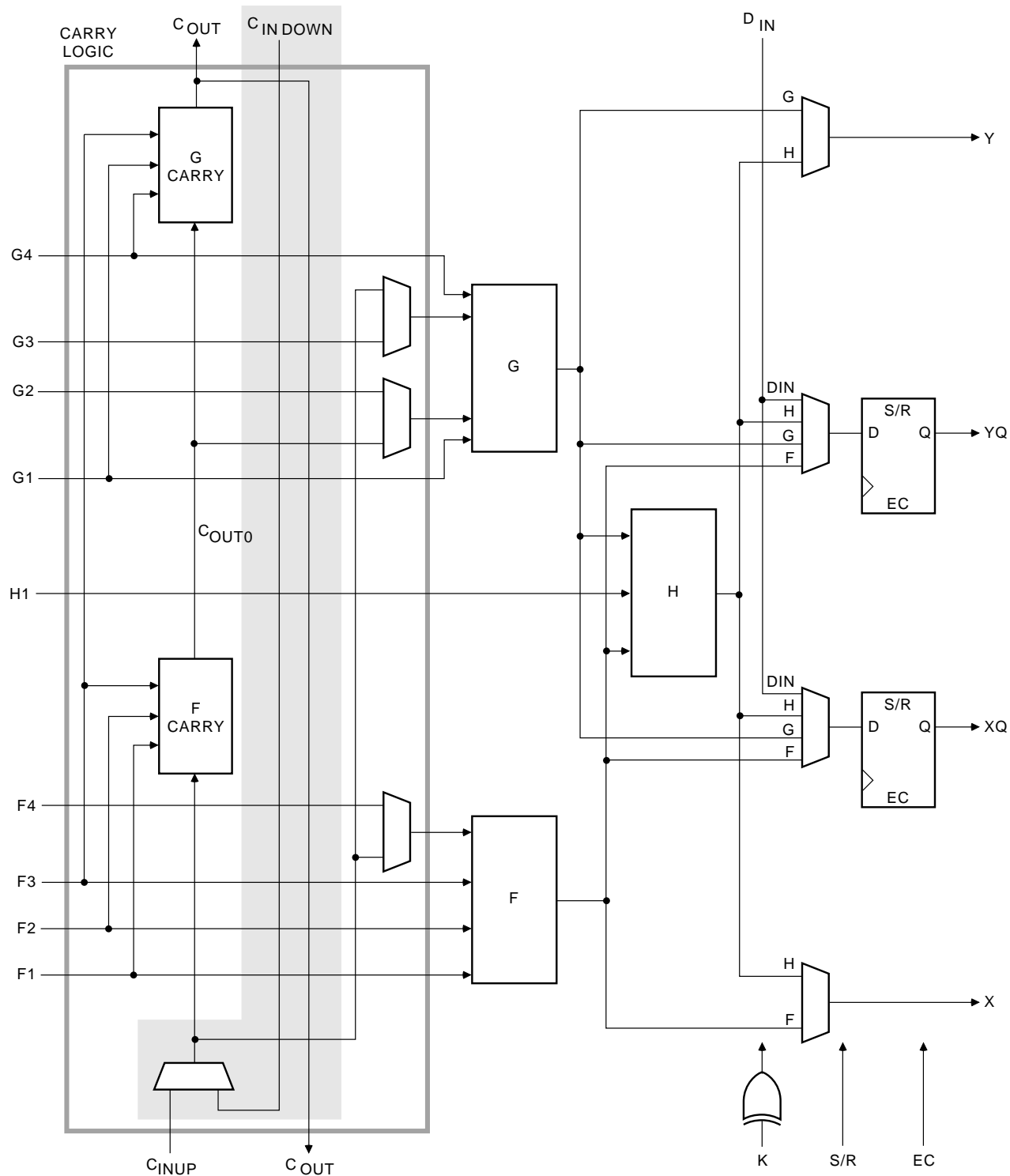
X6687

Figure 11: Available XC4000E Carry Propagation Paths



X6610

Figure 12: Available XC4000X Carry Propagation Paths (dotted lines use general interconnect)



X6699

Figure 13: Fast Carry Logic in XC4000E CLB (shaded area not present in XC4000X)

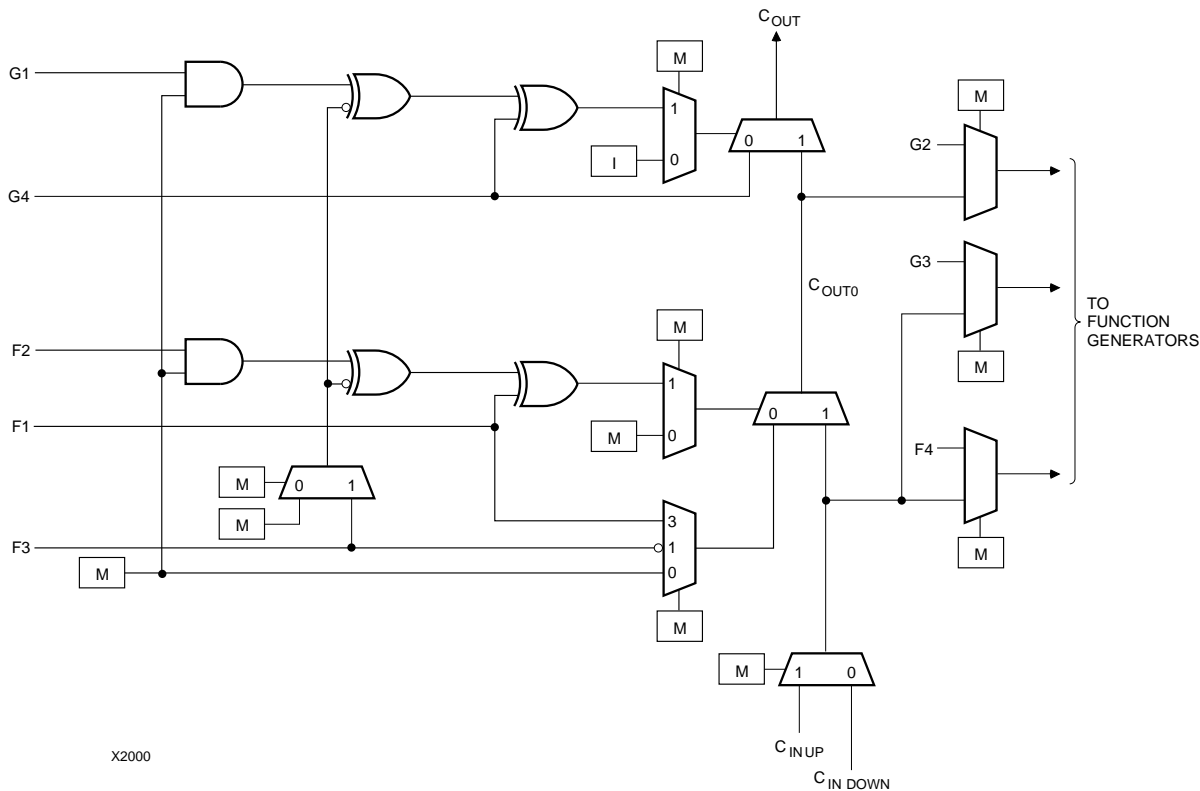


Figure 14: Detail of XC4000E Dedicated Carry Logic

Input/Output Blocks (IOBs)

User-configurable input/output blocks (IOBs) provide the interface between external package pins and the internal logic. Each IOB controls one package pin and can be configured for input, output, or bidirectional signals.

Figure 15 shows a simplified block diagram of the XC4000E IOB. A more complete diagram which includes the boundary scan logic of the XC4000E IOB can be found in Figure 40 on page 43, in the “Boundary Scan” section.

The XC4000X IOB contains some special features not included in the XC4000E IOB. These features are highlighted in a simplified block diagram found in **Figure 16**, and discussed throughout this section. When XC4000X special features are discussed, they are clearly identified in the text. Any feature not so identified is present in both XC4000E and XC4000X devices.

I/O Input Signals

Two paths, labeled I1 and I2 in [Figure 15](#) and [Figure 16](#), bring input signals into the array. Inputs also connect to an input register that can be programmed as either an edge-triggered flip-flop or a level-sensitive latch.

The choice is made by placing the appropriate library symbol. For example, IFD is the basic input flip-flop (rising edge triggered), and ILD is the basic input latch (transparent-High). Variations with inverted clocks are available, and some combinations of latches and flip-flops can be implemented in a single IOB, as described in the *XACT Libraries Guide*.

The XC4000E inputs can be globally configured for either TTL (1.2V) or 5.0 volt CMOS thresholds, using an option in the bitstream generation software. There is a slight input hysteresis of about 300mV. The XC4000E output levels are also configurable; the two global adjustments of input threshold and output level are independent.

Inputs on the XC4000XL are TTL compatible and 3.3V CMOS compatible. Outputs on the XC4000XL are pulled to the 3.3V positive supply.

The inputs of XC4000 Series 5-Volt devices can be driven by the outputs of any 3.3-Volt device, if the 5-Volt inputs are in TTL mode.

Supported sources for XC4000 Series device inputs are shown in [Table 8](#).

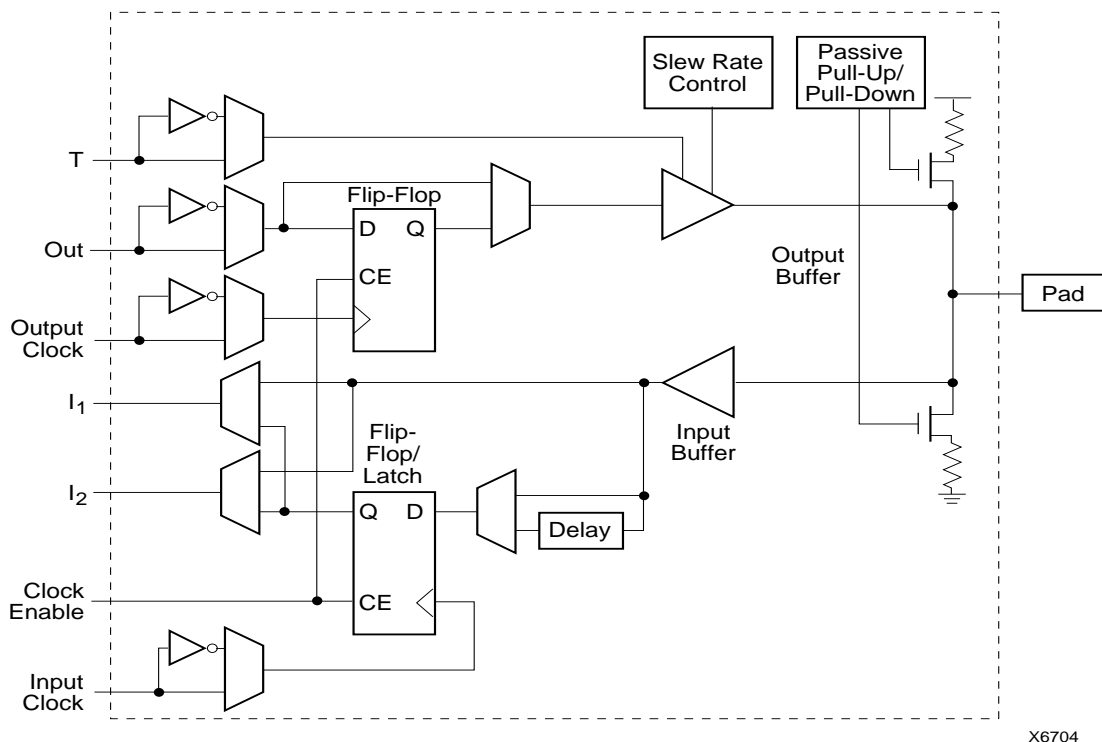


Figure 15: Simplified Block Diagram of XC4000E IOB

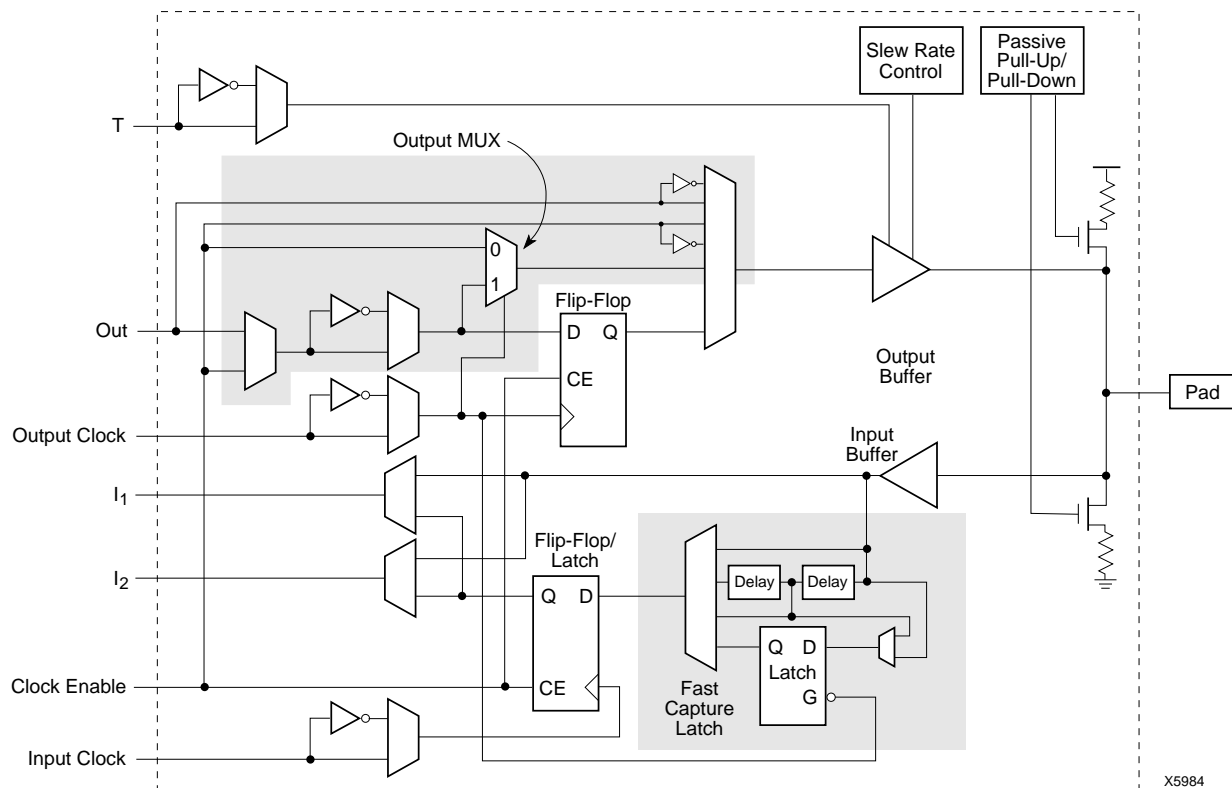


Figure 16: Simplified Block Diagram of XC4000X IOB (shaded areas indicate differences from XC4000E)

Output Multiplexer/2-Input Function Generator (XC4000X only)

As shown in [Figure 16 on page 21](#), the output path in the XC4000X IOB contains an additional multiplexer not available in the XC4000E IOB. The multiplexer can also be configured as a 2-input function generator, implementing a pass-gate, AND-gate, OR-gate, or XOR-gate, with 0, 1, or 2 inverted inputs. The logic used to implement these functions is shown in the upper gray area of [Figure 16](#).

When configured as a multiplexer, this feature allows two output signals to time-share the same output pad; effectively doubling the number of device outputs without requiring a larger, more expensive package.

When the MUX is configured as a 2-input function generator, logic can be implemented within the IOB itself. Combined with a Global Early buffer, this arrangement allows very high-speed gating of a single signal. For example, a wide decoder can be implemented in CLBs, and its output gated with a Read or Write Strobe Driven by a BUFGE buffer, as shown in [Figure 19](#). The critical-path pin-to-pin delay of this circuit is less than 6 nanoseconds.

As shown in [Figure 16](#), the IOB input pins Out, Output Clock, and Clock Enable have different delays and different flexibilities regarding polarity. Additionally, Output Clock sources are more limited than the other inputs. Therefore, the Xilinx software does not move logic into the IOB function generators unless explicitly directed to do so.

The user can specify that the IOB function generator be used, by placing special library symbols beginning with the letter "O." For example, a 2-input AND-gate in the IOB function generator is called OAND2. Use the symbol input pin labelled "F" for the signal on the critical path. This signal is placed on the OK pin — the IOB input with the shortest delay to the function generator. Two examples are shown in [Figure 20](#).

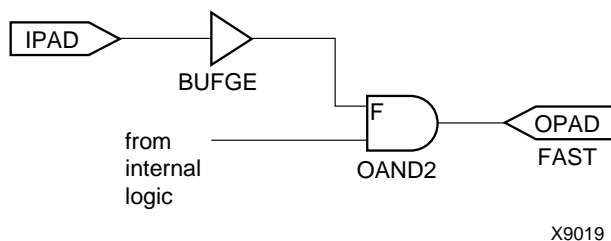


Figure 19: Fast Pin-to-Pin Path in XC4000X



Figure 20: AND & MUX Symbols in XC4000X IOB

Other IOB Options

There are a number of other programmable options in the XC4000 Series IOB.

Pull-up and Pull-down Resistors

Programmable pull-up and pull-down resistors are useful for tying unused pins to Vcc or Ground to minimize power consumption and reduce noise sensitivity. The configurable pull-up resistor is a p-channel transistor that pulls to Vcc. The configurable pull-down resistor is an n-channel transistor that pulls to Ground.

The value of these resistors is 50 kΩ – 100 kΩ. This high value makes them unsuitable as wired-AND pull-up resistors.

The pull-up resistors for most user-programmable IOBs are active during the configuration process. See [Table 22 on page 58](#) for a list of pins with pull-ups active before and during configuration.

After configuration, voltage levels of unused pads, bonded or un-bonded, must be valid logic levels, to reduce noise sensitivity and avoid excess current. Therefore, by default, unused pads are configured with the internal pull-up resistor active. Alternatively, they can be individually configured with the pull-down resistor, or as a driven output, or to be driven by an external source. To activate the internal pull-up, attach the PULLUP library component to the net attached to the pad. To activate the internal pull-down, attach the PULLDOWN library component to the net attached to the pad.

Independent Clocks

Separate clock signals are provided for the input and output flip-flops. The clock can be independently inverted for each flip-flop within the IOB, generating either falling-edge or rising-edge triggered flip-flops. The clock inputs for each IOB are independent, except that in the XC4000X, the Fast Capture latch shares an IOB input with the output clock pin.

Early Clock for IOBs (XC4000X only)

Special early clocks are available for IOBs. These clocks are sourced by the same sources as the Global Low-Skew buffers, but are separately buffered. They have fewer loads and therefore less delay. The early clock can drive either the IOB output clock or the IOB input clock, or both. The early clock allows fast capture of input data, and fast clock-to-output on output data. The Global Early buffers that drive these clocks are described in ["Global Nets and Buffers \(XC4000X only\)" on page 37](#).

Global Set/Reset

As with the CLB registers, the Global Set/Reset signal (GSR) can be used to set or clear the input and output registers, depending on the value of the INIT attribute or property. The two flip-flops can be individually configured to set

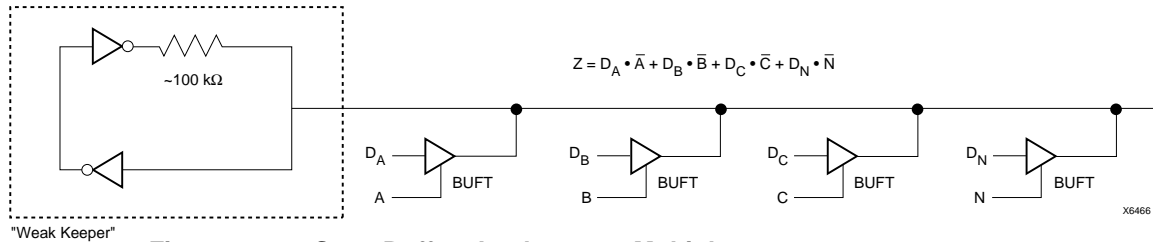


Figure 22: 3-State Buffers Implement a Multiplexer

Wide Edge Decoders

Dedicated decoder circuitry boosts the performance of wide decoding functions. When the address or data field is wider than the function generator inputs, FPGAs need multi-level decoding and are thus slower than PALs. XC4000 Series CLBs have nine inputs. Any decoder of up to nine inputs is, therefore, compact and fast. However, there is also a need for much wider decoders, especially for address decoding in large microprocessor systems.

An XC4000 Series FPGA has four programmable decoders located on each edge of the device. The inputs to each decoder are any of the IOB I1 signals on that edge plus one local interconnect per CLB row or column. Each row or column of CLBs provides up to three variables or their complements., as shown in Figure 23. Each decoder generates a High output (resistor pull-up) when the AND condition of the selected inputs, or their complements, is true. This is analogous to a product term in typical PAL devices.

Each of these wired-AND gates is capable of accepting up to 42 inputs on the XC4005E and 72 on the XC4013E. There are up to 96 inputs for each decoder on the XC4028X and 132 on the XC4052X. The decoders may also be split in two when a larger number of narrower decoders are required, for a maximum of 32 decoders per device.

The decoder outputs can drive CLB inputs, so they can be combined with other logic to form a PAL-like AND/OR structure. The decoder outputs can also be routed directly to the chip outputs. For fastest speed, the output should be on the same chip edge as the decoder. Very large PALs can be emulated by ORing the decoder outputs in a CLB. This decoding feature covers what has long been considered a weakness of older FPGAs. Users often resorted to external PALs for simple but fast decoding functions. Now, the dedicated decoders in the XC4000 Series device can implement these functions fast and efficiently.

To use the wide edge decoders, place one or more of the WAND library symbols (WAND1, WAND4, WAND8, WAND16). Attach a DECODE attribute or property to each WAND symbol. Tie the outputs together and attach a PUL-

LUP symbol. Location attributes or properties such as L (left edge) or TR (right half of top edge) should also be used to ensure the correct placement of the decoder inputs.

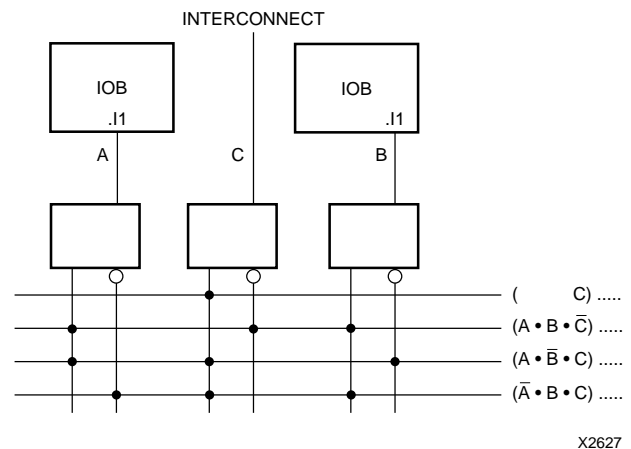


Figure 23: XC4000 Series Edge Decoding Example

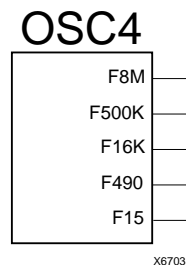


Figure 24: XC4000 Series Oscillator Symbol

On-Chip Oscillator

XC4000 Series devices include an internal oscillator. This oscillator is used to clock the power-on time-out, for configuration memory clearing, and as the source of CCLK in Master configuration modes. The oscillator runs at a nominal 8 MHz frequency that varies with process, V_{cc}, and temperature. The output frequency falls between 4 and 10 MHz.

The oscillator output is optionally available after configuration. Any two of four resynchronized taps of a built-in divider are also available. These taps are at the fourth, ninth, fourteenth and nineteenth bits of the divider. Therefore, if the primary oscillator output is running at the nominal 8 MHz, the user has access to an 8 MHz clock, plus any two of 500 kHz, 16kHz, 490Hz and 15Hz (up to 10% lower for low-voltage devices). These frequencies can vary by as much as -50% or +25%.

These signals can be accessed by placing the OSC4 library element in a schematic or in HDL code (see [Figure 24](#)).

The oscillator is automatically disabled after configuration if the OSC4 symbol is not used in the design.

Programmable Interconnect

All internal connections are composed of metal segments with programmable switching points and switching matrices to implement the desired routing. A structured, hierarchical matrix of routing resources is provided to achieve efficient automated routing.

The XC4000E and XC4000X share a basic interconnect structure. XC4000X devices, however, have additional routing not available in the XC4000E. The extra routing resources allow high utilization in high-capacity devices. All XC4000X-specific routing resources are clearly identified throughout this section. Any resources not identified as XC4000X-specific are present in all XC4000 Series devices.

This section describes the varied routing resources available in XC4000 Series devices. The implementation software automatically assigns the appropriate resources based on the density and timing requirements of the design.

Interconnect Overview

There are several types of interconnect.

- CLB routing is associated with each row and column of the CLB array.
- IOB routing forms a ring (called a VersaRing) around the outside of the CLB array. It connects the I/O with the internal logic blocks.

- Global routing consists of dedicated networks primarily designed to distribute clocks throughout the device with minimum delay and skew. Global routing can also be used for other high-fanout signals.

Five interconnect types are distinguished by the relative length of their segments: single-length lines, double-length lines, quad and octal lines (XC4000X only), and longlines. In the XC4000X, direct connects allow fast data flow between adjacent CLBs, and between IOBs and CLBs.

Extra routing is included in the IOB pad ring. The XC4000X also includes a ring of octal interconnect lines near the IOBs to improve pin-swapping and routing to locked pins.

XC4000E/X devices include two types of global buffers. These global buffers have different properties, and are intended for different purposes. They are discussed in detail later in this section.

CLB Routing Connections

A high-level diagram of the routing resources associated with one CLB is shown in [Figure 25](#). The shaded arrows represent routing present only in XC4000X devices.

[Table 14](#) shows how much routing of each type is available in XC4000E and XC4000X CLB arrays. Clearly, very large designs, or designs with a great deal of interconnect, will route more easily in the XC4000X. Smaller XC4000E designs, typically requiring significantly less interconnect, do not require the additional routing.

[Figure 27 on page 30](#) is a detailed diagram of both the XC4000E and the XC4000X CLB, with associated routing. The shaded square is the programmable switch matrix, present in both the XC4000E and the XC4000X. The L-shaped shaded area is present only in XC4000X devices. As shown in the figure, the XC4000X block is essentially an XC4000E block with additional routing.

CLB inputs and outputs are distributed on all four sides, providing maximum routing flexibility. In general, the entire architecture is symmetrical and regular. It is well suited to established placement and routing algorithms. Inputs, outputs, and function generators can freely swap positions within a CLB to avoid routing congestion during the placement and routing operation.

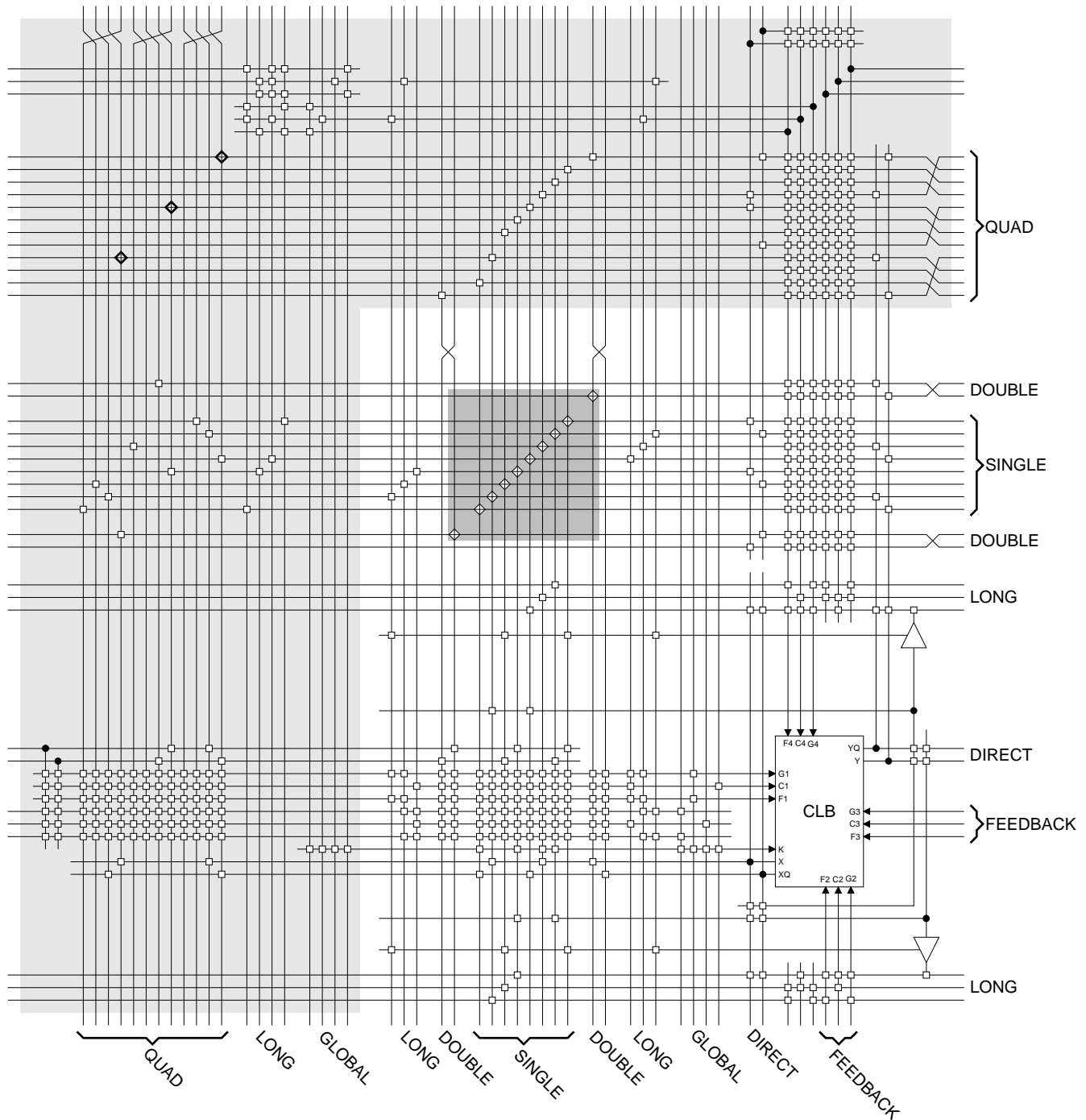


Figure 27: Detail of Programmable Interconnect Associated with XC4000 Series CLB

circuit prevents undefined floating levels. However, it is overridden by any driver, even a pull-up resistor.

Each XC4000E longline has a programmable splitter switch at its center, as does each XC4000X longline driven by TBUFs. This switch can separate the line into two independent routing channels, each running half the width or height of the array.

Each XC4000X longline not driven by TBUFs has a buffered programmable splitter switch at the 1/4, 1/2, and 3/4 points of the array. Due to the buffering, XC4000X longline performance does not deteriorate with the larger array sizes. If the longline is split, the resulting partial longlines are independent.

Routing connectivity of the longlines is shown in [Figure 27 on page 30](#).

Direct Interconnect (XC4000X only)

The XC4000X offers two direct, efficient and fast connections between adjacent CLBs. These nets facilitate a data flow from the left to the right side of the device, or from the top to the bottom, as shown in [Figure 30](#). Signals routed on the direct interconnect exhibit minimum interconnect propagation delay and use no general routing resources.

The direct interconnect is also present between CLBs and adjacent IOBs. Each IOB on the left and top device edges has a direct path to the nearest CLB. Each CLB on the right and bottom edges of the array has a direct path to the nearest two IOBs, since there are two IOBs for each row or column of CLBs.

The place and route software uses direct interconnect whenever possible, to maximize routing resources and minimize interconnect delays.



Figure 30: XC4000X Direct Interconnect

I/O Routing

XC4000 Series devices have additional routing around the IOB ring. This routing is called a VersaRing. The VersaRing facilitates pin-swapping and redesign without affecting board layout. Included are eight double-length lines spanning two CLBs (four IOBs), and four longlines. Global lines and Wide Edge Decoder lines are provided. XC4000X devices also include eight octal lines.

A high-level diagram of the VersaRing is shown in [Figure 31](#). The shaded arrows represent routing present only in XC4000X devices.

[Figure 33 on page 34](#) is a detailed diagram of the XC4000E and XC4000X VersaRing. The area shown includes two IOBs. There are two IOBs per CLB row or column, therefore this diagram corresponds to the CLB routing diagram shown in [Figure 27 on page 30](#). The shaded areas represent routing and routing connections present only in XC4000X devices.

Octal I/O Routing (XC4000X only)

Between the XC4000X CLB array and the pad ring, eight interconnect tracks provide for versatility in pin assignment and fixed pinout flexibility. (See [Figure 32 on page 33](#).)

These routing tracks are called octals, because they can be broken every eight CLBs (sixteen IOBs) by a programmable buffer that also functions as a splitter switch. The buffers are staggered, so each line goes through a buffer at every eighth CLB location around the device edge.

The octal lines bend around the corners of the device. The lines cross at the corners in such a way that the segment most recently buffered before the turn has the farthest distance to travel before the next buffer, as shown in [Figure 32](#).

Global Nets and Buffers (XC4000X only)

Eight vertical longlines in each CLB column are driven by special global buffers. These longlines are in addition to the vertical longlines used for standard interconnect. The global lines are broken in the center of the array, to allow faster distribution and to minimize skew across the whole array. Each half-column global line has its own buffered multiplexer, as shown in [Figure 35](#). The top and bottom global lines cannot be connected across the center of the device, as this connection might introduce unacceptable skew. The top and bottom halves of the global lines must be separately driven — although they can be driven by the same global buffer.

The eight global lines in each CLB column can be driven by either of two types of global buffers. They can also be driven by internal logic, because they can be accessed by single, double, and quad lines at the top, bottom, half, and quarter points. Consequently, the number of different clocks that can be used simultaneously in an XC4000X device is very large.

There are four global lines feeding the IOBs at the left edge of the device. IOBs along the right edge have eight global lines. There is a single global line along the top and bottom edges with access to the IOBs. All IOB global lines are broken at the center. They cannot be connected across the center of the device, as this connection might introduce unacceptable skew.

IOB global lines can be driven from two types of global buffers, or from local interconnect. Alternatively, top and bottom IOBs can be clocked from the global lines in the adjacent CLB column.

Two different types of clock buffers are available in the XC4000X:

- Global Low-Skew Buffers (BUFGSL)
- Global Early Buffers (BUFGE)

Global Low-Skew Buffers are the standard clock buffers. They should be used for most internal clocking, whenever a large portion of the device must be driven.

Global Early Buffers are designed to provide a faster clock access, but CLB access is limited to one-fourth of the device. They also facilitate a faster I/O interface.

[Figure 35](#) is a conceptual diagram of the global net structure in the XC4000X.

Global Early buffers and Global Low-Skew buffers share a single pad. Therefore, the same IPAD symbol can drive one buffer of each type, in parallel. This configuration is particularly useful when using the Fast Capture latches, as described in [“IOB Input Signals” on page 20](#). Paired Global

Early and Global Low-Skew buffers share a common input; they cannot be driven by two different signals.

Choosing an XC4000X Clock Buffer

The clocking structure of the XC4000X provides a large variety of features. However, it can be simple to use, without understanding all the details. The software automatically handles clocks, along with all other routing, when the appropriate clock buffer is placed in the design. In fact, if a buffer symbol called BUFG is placed, rather than a specific type of buffer, the software even chooses the buffer most appropriate for the design. The detailed information in this section is provided for those users who want a finer level of control over their designs.

If fine control is desired, use the following summary and [Table 15 on page 35](#) to choose an appropriate clock buffer.

- The simplest thing to do is to use a Global Low-Skew buffer.
- If a faster clock path is needed, try a BUFG. The software will first try to use a Global Low-Skew Buffer. If timing requirements are not met, a faster buffer will automatically be used.
- If a single quadrant of the chip is sufficient for the clocked logic, and the timing requires a faster clock than the Global Low-Skew buffer, use a Global Early buffer.

Global Low-Skew Buffers

Each corner of the XC4000X device has two Global Low-Skew buffers. Any of the eight Global Low-Skew buffers can drive any of the eight vertical Global lines in a column of CLBs. In addition, any of the buffers can drive any of the four vertical lines accessing the IOBs on the left edge of the device, and any of the eight vertical lines accessing the IOBs on the right edge of the device. (See [Figure 36 on page 38](#).)

IOBs at the top and bottom edges of the device are accessed through the vertical Global lines in the CLB array, as in the XC4000E. Any Global Low-Skew buffer can, therefore, access every IOB and CLB in the device.

The Global Low-Skew buffers can be driven by either semi-dedicated pads or internal logic.

To use a Global Low-Skew buffer, instantiate a BUFGSL element in a schematic or in HDL code. If desired, attach a LOC attribute or property to direct placement to the designated location. For example, attach a LOC=T attribute or property to direct that a BUFGSL be placed in one of the two Global Low-Skew buffers on the top edge of the device, or a LOC=TR to indicate the Global Low-Skew buffer on the top edge of the device, on the right.

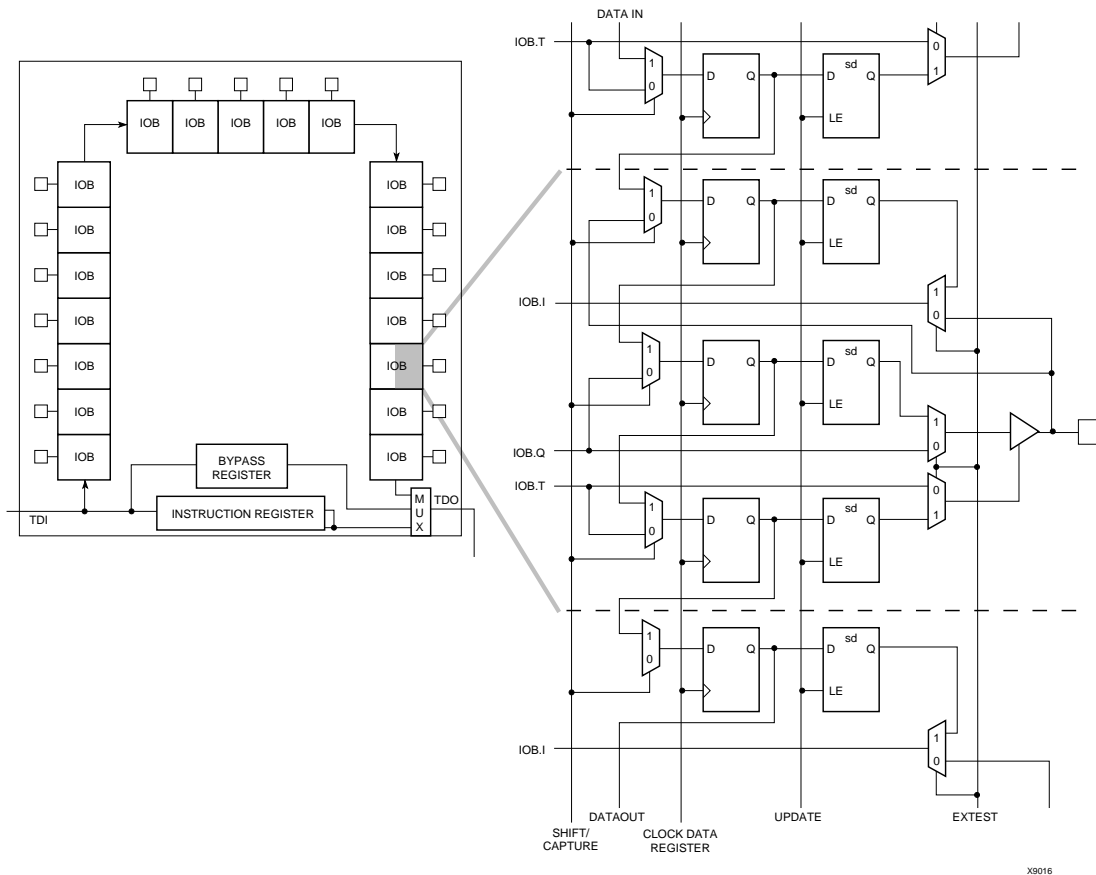


Figure 41: XC4000 Series Boundary Scan Logic

Instruction Set

The XC4000 Series boundary scan instruction set also includes instructions to configure the device and read back the configuration data. The instruction set is coded as shown in [Table 17](#).

Bit Sequence

The bit sequence within each IOB is: In, Out, 3-State. The input-only M0 and M2 mode pins contribute only the In bit to the boundary scan I/O data register, while the output-only M1 pin contributes all three bits.

The first two bits in the I/O data register are TDO.T and TDO.O, which can be used for the capture of internal signals. The final bit is BSCANT.UPD, which can be used to drive an internal net. These locations are primarily used by Xilinx for internal testing.

From a cavity-up view of the chip (as shown in XDE or Epic), starting in the upper right chip corner, the boundary scan data-register bits are ordered as shown in [Figure 42](#). The device-specific pinout tables for the XC4000 Series include the boundary scan locations for each IOB pin.

BSDL (Boundary Scan Description Language) files for XC4000 Series devices are available on the Xilinx FTP site.

Including Boundary Scan in a Schematic

If boundary scan is only to be used during configuration, no special schematic elements need be included in the schematic or HDL code. In this case, the special boundary scan pins TDI, TMS, TCK and TDO can be used for user functions after configuration.

To indicate that boundary scan remain enabled after configuration, place the BSCAN library symbol and connect the TDI, TMS, TCK and TDO pad symbols to the appropriate pins, as shown in [Figure 43](#).

Even if the boundary scan symbol is used in a schematic, the input pins TMS, TCK, and TDI can still be used as inputs to be routed to internal logic. Care must be taken not to force the chip into an undesired boundary scan state by inadvertently applying boundary scan input patterns to these pins. The simplest way to prevent this is to keep TMS High, and then apply whatever signal is desired to TDI and TCK.

Setting CCLK Frequency

For Master modes, CCLK can be generated in either of two frequencies. In the default slow mode, the frequency ranges from 0.5 MHz to 1.25 MHz for XC4000E and XC4000EX devices and from 0.6 MHz to 1.8 MHz for XC4000XL devices. In fast CCLK mode, the frequency ranges from 4 MHz to 10 MHz for XC4000E/EX devices and from 5 MHz to 15 MHz for XC4000XL devices. The frequency is selected by an option when running the bitstream generation software. If an XC4000 Series Master is driving an XC3000- or XC2000-family slave, slow CCLK mode must be used. In addition, an XC4000XL device driving a XC4000E or XC4000EX should use slow mode. Slow mode is the default.

Table 19: XC4000 Series Data Stream Formats

Data Type	All Other Modes (D0...)
Fill Byte	11111111b
Preamble Code	0010b
Length Count	COUNT(23:0)
Fill Bits	1111b
Start Field	0b
Data Frame	DATA(n-1:0)
CRC or Constant Field Check	xxxx (CRC) or 0110b
Extend Write Cycle	—
Postamble	01111111b
Start-Up Bytes	xxh
Legend:	
Not shaded	Once per bitstream
Light	Once per data frame
Dark	Once per device

Data Stream Format

The data stream (“bitstream”) format is identical for all configuration modes.

The data stream formats are shown in [Table 19](#). Bit-serial data is read from left to right, and byte-parallel data is effectively assembled from this serial bitstream, with the first bit in each byte assigned to D0.

The configuration data stream begins with a string of eight ones, a preamble code, followed by a 24-bit length count and a separator field of ones. This header is followed by the actual configuration data in frames. The length and number of frames depends on the device type (see [Table 20](#) and [Table 21](#)). Each frame begins with a start field and ends with an error check. A postamble code is required to signal the end of data for a single device. In all cases, additional start-up bytes of data are required to provide four clocks for the startup sequence at the end of configuration. Long daisy chains require additional startup bytes to shift the last data through the chain. All startup bytes are don't-cares; these bytes are not included in bitstreams created by the Xilinx software.

A selection of CRC or non-CRC error checking is allowed by the bitstream generation software. The non-CRC error checking tests for a designated end-of-frame field for each frame. For CRC error checking, the software calculates a running CRC and inserts a unique four-bit partial check at the end of each frame. The 11-bit CRC check of the last frame of an FPGA includes the last seven data bits.

Detection of an error results in the suspension of data loading and the pulling down of the $\overline{\text{INIT}}$ pin. In Master modes, CCLK and address signals continue to operate externally. The user must detect $\overline{\text{INIT}}$ and initialize a new configuration by pulsing the $\overline{\text{PROGRAM}}$ pin Low or cycling Vcc.

Start-up from a User Clock (STARTUP.CLK)

When, instead of CCLK, a user-supplied start-up clock is selected, Q1 is used to bridge the unknown phase relationship between CCLK and the user clock. This arbitration causes an unavoidable one-cycle uncertainty in the timing of the rest of the start-up sequence.

DONE Goes High to Signal End of Configuration

XC4000 Series devices read the expected length count from the bitstream and store it in an internal register. The length count varies according to the number of devices and the composition of the daisy chain. Each device also counts the number of CCLKs during configuration.

Two conditions have to be met in order for the DONE pin to go high:

- the chip's internal memory must be full, and
- the configuration length count must be met, *exactly*.

This is important because the counter that determines when the length count is met begins with the very first CCLK, not the first one after the preamble.

Therefore, if a stray bit is inserted before the preamble, or the data source is not ready at the time of the first CCLK, the internal counter that holds the number of CCLKs will be one ahead of the actual number of data bits read. At the end of configuration, the configuration memory will be full, but the number of bits in the internal counter will not match the expected length count.

As a consequence, a Master mode device will continue to send out CCLKs until the internal counter turns over to zero, and then reaches the correct length count a second time. This will take several seconds [$2^{24} * \text{CCLK period}$] — which is sometimes interpreted as the device not configuring at all.

If it is not possible to have the data ready at the time of the first CCLK, the problem can be avoided by increasing the number in the length count by the appropriate value. The *XACT User Guide* includes detailed information about manually altering the length count.

Note that DONE is an open-drain output and does not go High unless an internal pull-up is activated or an external pull-up is attached. The internal pull-up is activated as the default by the bitstream generation software.

Release of User I/O After DONE Goes High

By default, the user I/O are released one CCLK cycle after the DONE pin goes High. If CCLK is not clocked after DONE goes High, the outputs remain in their initial state — 3-stated, with a 50 k Ω - 100 k Ω pull-up. The delay from DONE High to active user I/O is controlled by an option to the bitstream generation software.

Release of Global Set/Reset After DONE Goes High

By default, Global Set/Reset (GSR) is released two CCLK cycles after the DONE pin goes High. If CCLK is not clocked twice after DONE goes High, all flip-flops are held in their initial set or reset state. The delay from DONE High to GSR inactive is controlled by an option to the bitstream generation software.

Configuration Complete After DONE Goes High

Three full CCLK cycles are required after the DONE pin goes High, as shown in [Figure 47 on page 53](#). If CCLK is not clocked three times after DONE goes High, readback cannot be initiated and most boundary scan instructions cannot be used.

Configuration Through the Boundary Scan Pins

XC4000 Series devices can be configured through the boundary scan pins. The basic procedure is as follows:

- Power up the FPGA with $\overline{\text{INIT}}$ held Low (or drive the $\overline{\text{PROGRAM}}$ pin Low for more than 300 ns followed by a High while holding $\overline{\text{INIT}}$ Low). Holding $\overline{\text{INIT}}$ Low allows enough time to issue the CONFIG command to the FPGA. The pin can be used as I/O after configuration if a resistor is used to hold $\overline{\text{INIT}}$ Low.
- Issue the CONFIG command to the TMS input
- Wait for $\overline{\text{INIT}}$ to go High
- Sequence the boundary scan Test Access Port to the SHIFT-DR state
- Toggle TCK to clock data into TDI pin.

The user must account for all TCK clock cycles after INIT goes High, as all of these cycles affect the Length Count compare.

For more detailed information, refer to the Xilinx application note XAPP017, “*Boundary Scan in XC4000 Devices*.” This application note also applies to XC4000E and XC4000X devices.