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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	160
Number of Gates	28000
Voltage - Supply	3V ~ 3.6V
Mounting Type	Surface Mount
Operating Temperature	0°C ~ 85°C (TJ)
Package / Case	208-BFQFP Exposed Pad
Supplier Device Package	208-PQFP (28x28)
Purchase URL	<a href="https://www.e-xfl.com/product-detail/xilinx/xc4028xl-3hq208c">https://www.e-xfl.com/product-detail/xilinx/xc4028xl-3hq208c</a>

## 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 $\mu$  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  $V_{cc}$ .



**Figure 1: Simplified Block Diagram of XC4000 Series CLB (RAM and Carry Logic functions not shown)**

### Flip-Flops

The CLB can pass the combinational output(s) to the interconnect network, but can also store the combinational results or other incoming data in one or two flip-flops, and connect their outputs to the interconnect network as well.

The two edge-triggered D-type flip-flops have common clock (K) and clock enable (EC) inputs. Either or both clock inputs can also be permanently enabled. Storage element functionality is described in [Table 2](#).

### Latches (XC4000X only)

The CLB storage elements can also be configured as latches. The two latches have common clock (K) and clock enable (EC) inputs. Storage element functionality is described in [Table 2](#).

### Clock Input

Each flip-flop can be triggered on either the rising or falling clock edge. The clock pin is shared by both storage elements. However, the clock is individually invertible for each storage element. Any inverter placed on the clock input is automatically absorbed into the CLB.

### Clock Enable

The clock enable signal (EC) is active High. The EC pin is shared by both storage elements. If left unconnected for either, the clock enable for that storage element defaults to the active state. EC is not invertible within the CLB.

**Table 2: CLB Storage Element Functionality (active rising edge is shown)**

Mode	K	EC	SR	D	Q
Power-Up or GSR	X	X	X	X	SR
Flip-Flop	X	X	1	X	SR
		1*	0*	D	D
Latch	0	X	0*	X	Q
	1	1*	0*	X	Q
Both	0	1*	0*	D	D
Both	X	0	0*	X	Q

Legend:

X

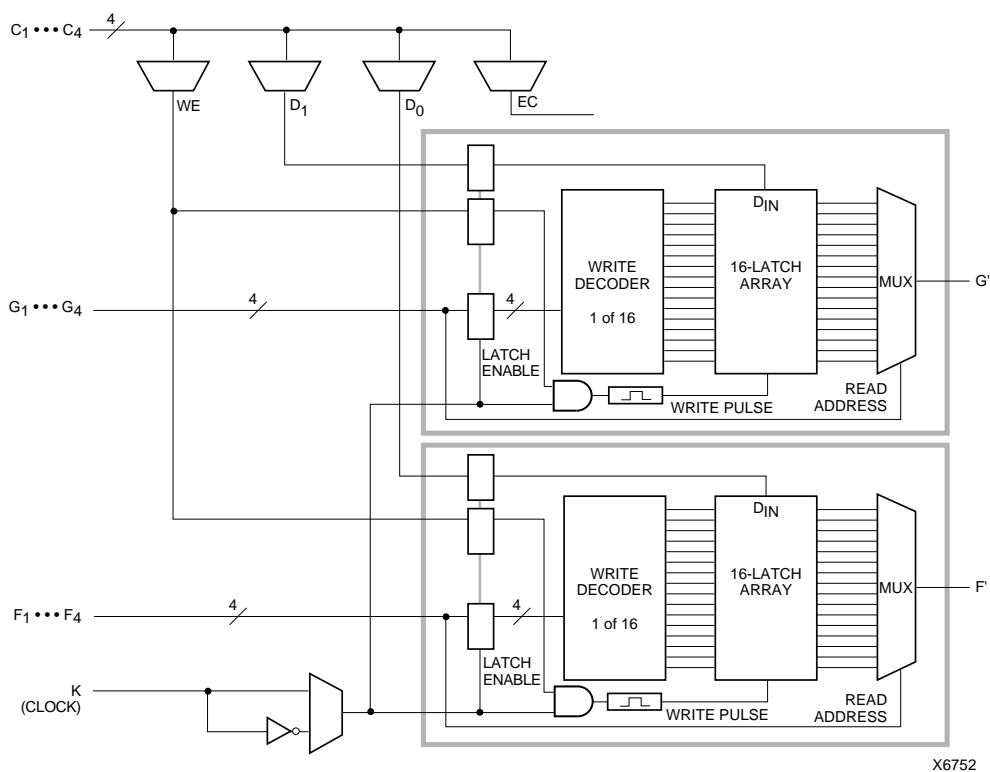
Rising edge

SR

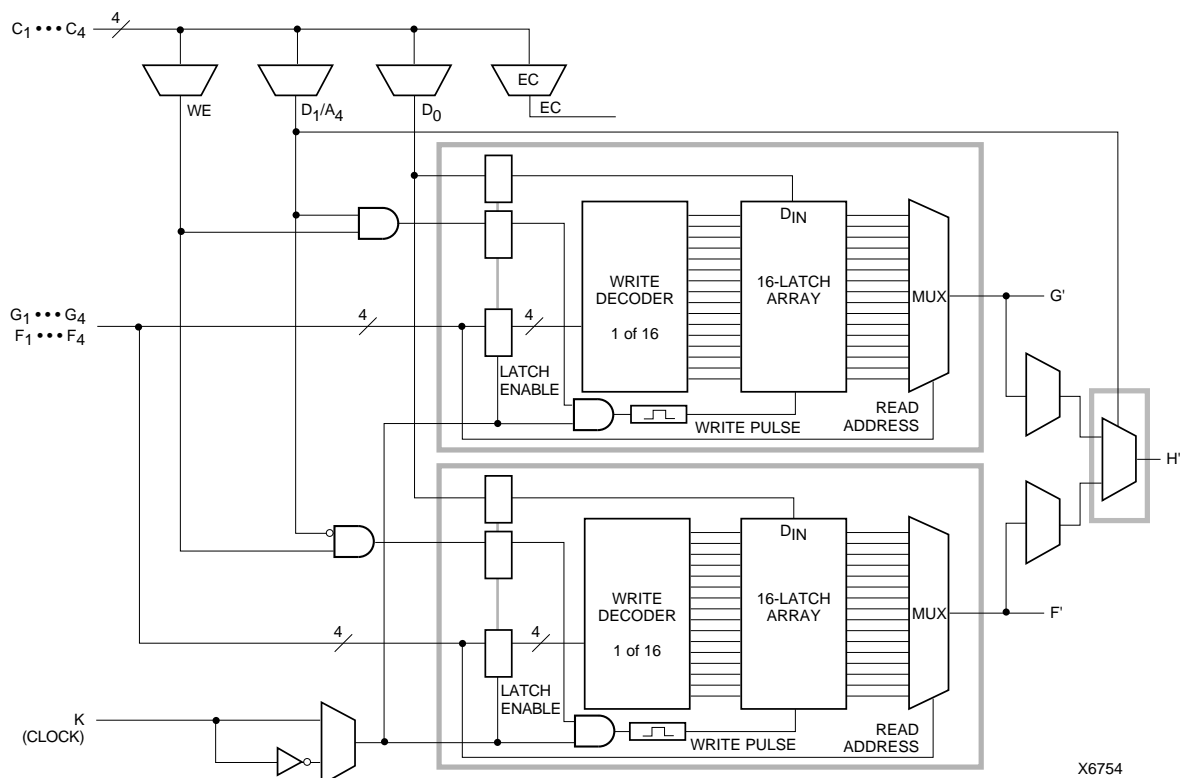
Set or Reset value. Reset is default.

0\* Input is Low or unconnected (default value)

1\* Input is High or unconnected (default value)



**Figure 4: 16x2 (or 16x1) Edge-Triggered Single-Port RAM**



**Figure 5: 32x1 Edge-Triggered 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.



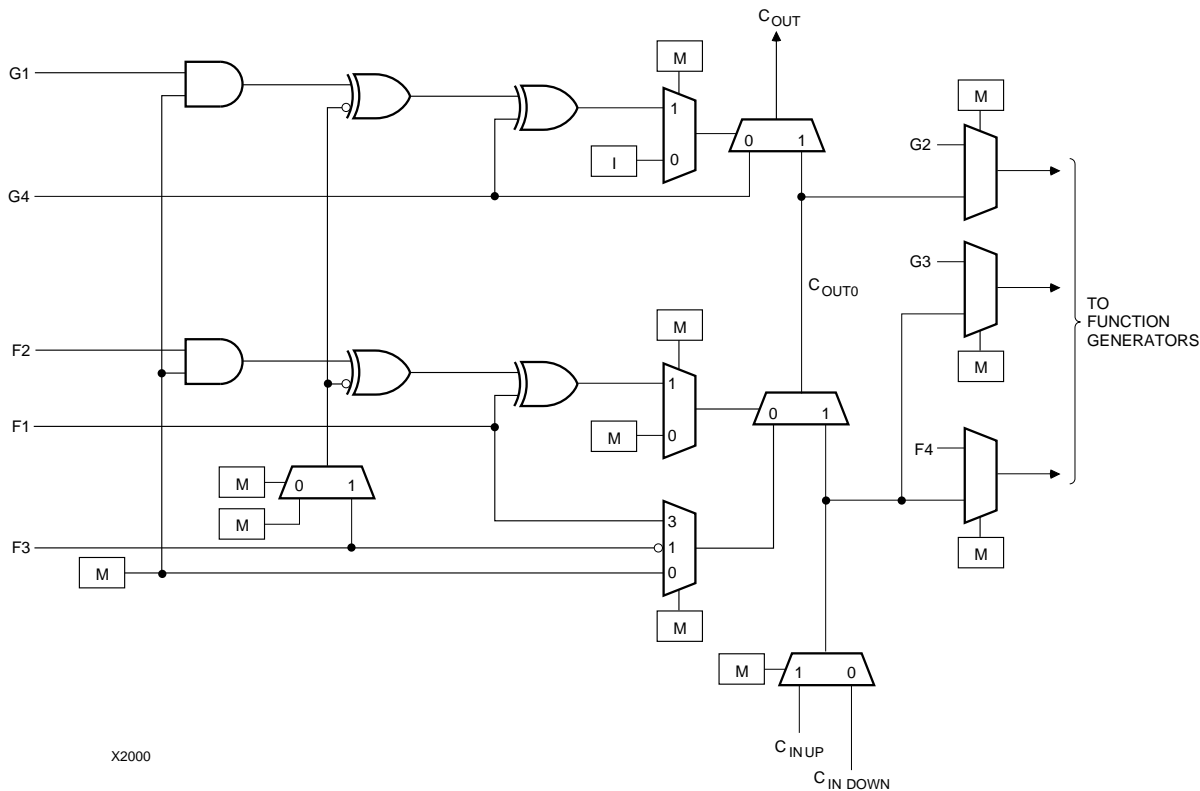
X6687

**Figure 11: Available XC4000E Carry Propagation Paths**



X6610

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



**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.

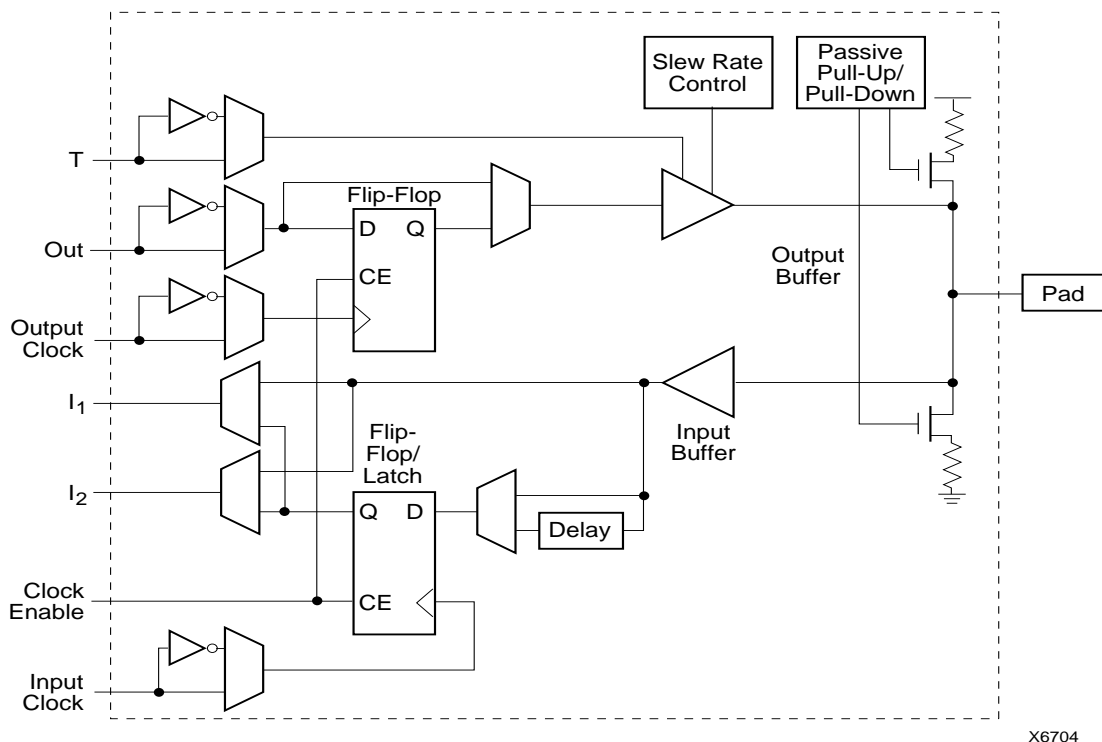
The choice is made by placing the appropriate library symbol. For example, IFD is the basic input flip-flop (rising edge triggered), and ILD is the basic input latch (transparent-High). Variations with inverted clocks are available, and some combinations of latches and flip-flops can be implemented in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

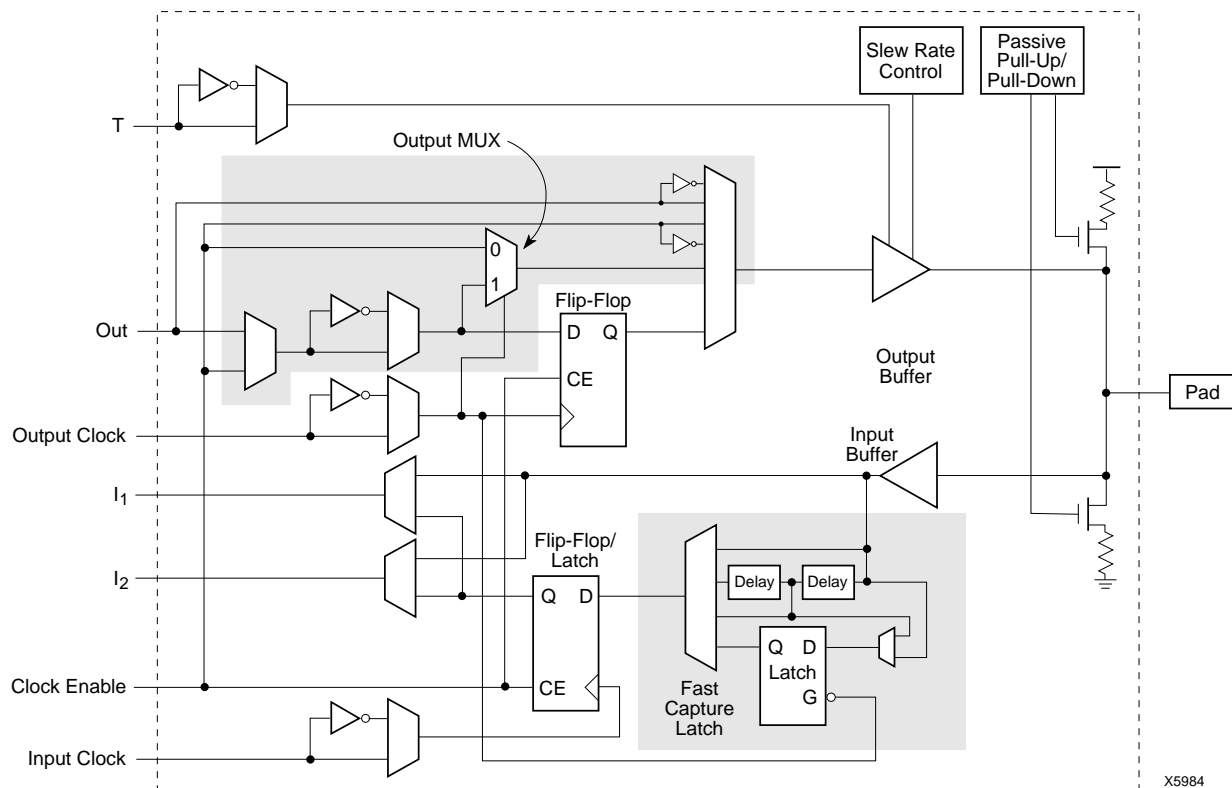
Inputs on the XC4000XL are TTL compatible and 3.3V CMOS compatible. Outputs on the XC4000XL are pulled to the 3.3V positive supply.

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)**



### Additional Input Latch for Fast Capture (XC4000X only)

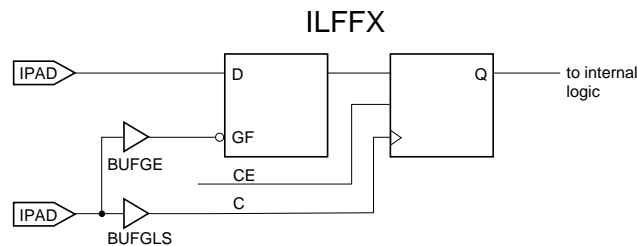
The XC4000X IOB has an additional optional latch on the input. This latch, as shown in [Figure 16](#), is clocked by the output clock — the clock used for the output flip-flop — rather than the input clock. Therefore, two different clocks can be used to clock the two input storage elements. This additional latch allows the very fast capture of input data, which is then synchronized to the internal clock by the IOB flip-flop or latch.

To use this Fast Capture technique, drive the output clock pin (the Fast Capture latching signal) from the output of one of the Global Early buffers supplied in the XC4000X. The second storage element should be clocked by a Global Low-Skew buffer, to synchronize the incoming data to the internal logic. (See [Figure 17](#).) These special buffers are described in “Global Nets and Buffers (XC4000X only)” on [page 37](#).

The Fast Capture latch (FCL) is designed primarily for use with a Global Early buffer. For Fast Capture, a single clock signal is routed through both a Global Early buffer and a Global Low-Skew buffer. (The two buffers share an input pad.) The Fast Capture latch is clocked by the Global Early buffer, and the standard IOB flip-flop or latch is clocked by the Global Low-Skew buffer. This mode is the safest way to use the Fast Capture latch, because the clock buffers on both storage elements are driven by the same pad. There is no external skew between clock pads to create potential problems.

To place the Fast Capture latch in a design, use one of the special library symbols, ILFFX or ILFLX. ILFFX is a transparent-Low Fast Capture latch followed by an active-High input flip-flop. ILFLX is a transparent-Low Fast Capture latch followed by a transparent-High input latch. Any of the clock inputs can be inverted before driving the library element, and the inverter is absorbed into the IOB. If a single BUFG output is used to drive both clock inputs, the software automatically runs the clock through both a Global Low-Skew buffer and a Global Early buffer, and clocks the Fast Capture latch appropriately.

[Figure 16 on page 21](#) also shows a two-tap delay on the input. By default, if the Fast Capture latch is used, the Xilinx software assumes a Global Early buffer is driving the clock, and selects MEDDELAY to ensure a zero hold time. Select



**Figure 17: Examples Using XC4000X FCL**

the desired delay based on the discussion in the previous subsection.

### IOB Output Signals

Output signals can be optionally inverted within the IOB, and can pass directly to the pad or be stored in an edge-triggered flip-flop. The functionality of this flip-flop is shown in [Table 11](#).

An active-High 3-state signal can be used to place the output buffer in a high-impedance state, implementing 3-state outputs or bidirectional I/O. Under configuration control, the output (OUT) and output 3-state (T) signals can be inverted. The polarity of these signals is independently configured for each IOB.

The 4-mA maximum output current specification of many FPGAs often forces the user to add external buffers, which are especially cumbersome on bidirectional I/O lines. The XC4000E and XC4000EX/XL devices solve many of these problems by providing a guaranteed output sink current of 12 mA. Two adjacent outputs can be interconnected externally to sink up to 24 mA. The XC4000E and XC4000EX/XL FPGAs can thus directly drive buses on a printed circuit board.

By default, the output pull-up structure is configured as a TTL-like totem-pole. The High driver is an n-channel pull-up transistor, pulling to a voltage one transistor threshold below Vcc. Alternatively, the outputs can be globally configured as CMOS drivers, with p-channel pull-up transistors pulling to Vcc. This option, applied using the bitstream generation software, applies to all outputs on the device. It is not individually programmable. In the XC4000XL, all outputs are pulled to the positive supply rail.

**Table 11: Output Flip-Flop Functionality (active rising edge is shown)**

Mode	Clock	Clock Enable	T	D	Q
Power-Up or GSR	X	X	0*	X	SR
Flip-Flop	X	0	0*	X	Q
		1*	0*	D	D
	X	X	1	X	Z
	0	X	0*	X	Q

Legend:

X Don't care  
 Rising edge  
 SR Set or Reset value. Reset is default.  
 0\* Input is Low or unconnected (default value)  
 1\* Input is High or unconnected (default value)  
 Z 3-state



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 28: Single- and Double-Length Lines, with Programmable Switch Matrices (PSMs)**

### Double-Length Lines

The double-length lines consist of a grid of metal segments, each twice as long as the single-length lines: they run past two CLBs before entering a switch matrix. Double-length lines are grouped in pairs with the switch matrices staggered, so that each line goes through a switch matrix at every other row or column of CLBs (see [Figure 28](#)).

There are four vertical and four horizontal double-length lines associated with each CLB. These lines provide faster signal routing over intermediate distances, while retaining routing flexibility. Double-length lines are connected by way of the programmable switch matrices. Routing connectivity is shown in [Figure 27](#).

### Quad Lines (XC4000X only)

XC4000X devices also include twelve vertical and twelve horizontal quad lines per CLB row and column. Quad lines are four times as long as the single-length lines. They are interconnected via buffered switch matrices (shown as diamonds in [Figure 27 on page 30](#)). Quad lines run past four CLBs before entering a buffered switch matrix. They are grouped in fours, with the buffered switch matrices staggered, so that each line goes through a buffered switch matrix at every fourth CLB location in that row or column. (See [Figure 29](#).)

The buffered switch matrixes have four pins, one on each edge. All of the pins are bidirectional. Any pin can drive any or all of the other pins.

Each buffered switch matrix contains one buffer and six pass transistors. It resembles the programmable switch matrix shown in [Figure 26](#), with the addition of a programmable buffer. There can be up to two independent inputs



**Figure 29: Quad Lines (XC4000X only)**

and up to two independent outputs. Only one of the independent inputs can be buffered.

The place and route software automatically uses the timing requirements of the design to determine whether or not a quad line signal should be buffered. A heavily loaded signal is typically buffered, while a lightly loaded one is not. One scenario is to alternate buffers and pass transistors. This allows both vertical and horizontal quad lines to be buffered at alternating buffered switch matrices.

Due to the buffered switch matrices, quad lines are very fast. They provide the fastest available method of routing heavily loaded signals for long distances across the device.

### Longlines

Longlines form a grid of metal interconnect segments that run the entire length or width of the array. Longlines are intended for high fan-out, time-critical signal nets, or nets that are distributed over long distances. In XC4000X devices, quad lines are preferred for critical nets, because the buffered switch matrices make them faster for high fan-out nets.

Two horizontal longlines per CLB can be driven by 3-state or open-drain drivers (TBUFs). They can therefore implement unidirectional or bidirectional buses, wide multiplexers, or wired-AND functions. (See [“Three-State Buffers” on page 26](#) for more details.)

Each horizontal longline driven by TBUFs has either two (XC4000E) or eight (XC4000X) pull-up resistors. To activate these resistors, attach a PULLUP symbol to the long-line net. The software automatically activates the appropriate number of pull-ups. There is also a weak keeper at each end of these two horizontal longlines. This

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.

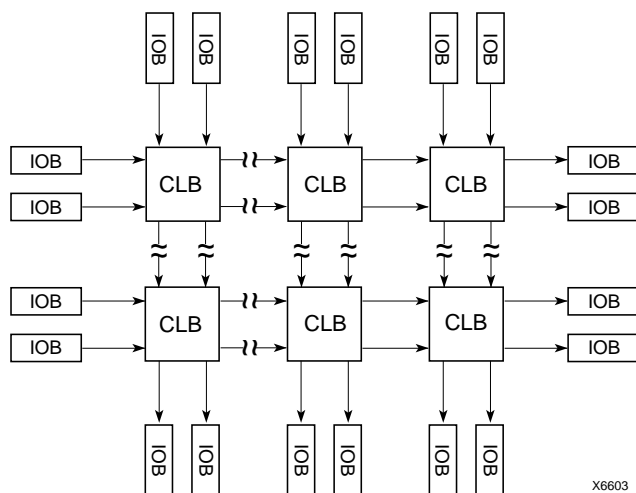
Routing connectivity of the longlines is shown in [Figure 27 on page 30](#).

### **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.

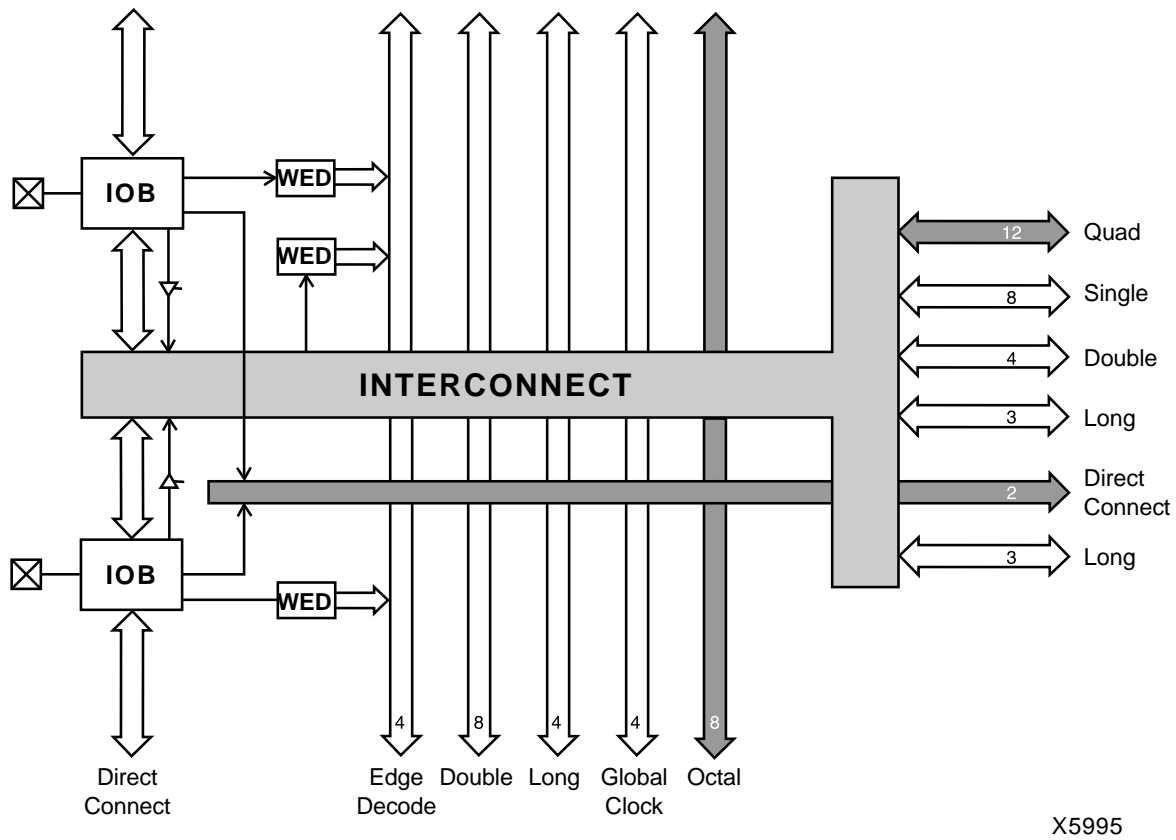
[Figure 33 on page 34](#) is a detailed diagram of the XC4000E and XC4000X VersaRing. The area shown includes two IOBs. There are two IOBs per CLB row or column, therefore this diagram corresponds to the CLB routing diagram shown in [Figure 27 on page 30](#). The shaded areas represent routing and routing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



X5995

Figure 31: High-Level Routing Diagram of XC4000 Series VersaRing (Left Edge)  
WED = Wide Edge Decoder, IOB = I/O Block (shaded arrows indicate XC4000X only)

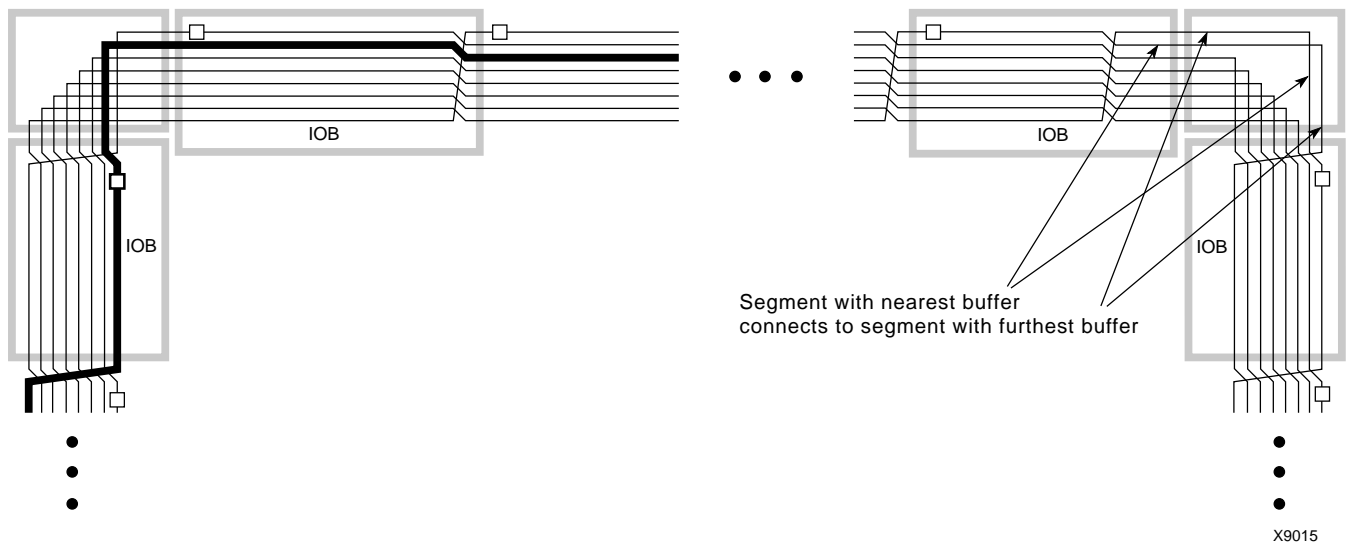


Figure 32: XC4000X Octal I/O Routing

IOB inputs and outputs interface with the octal lines via the single-length interconnect lines. Single-length lines are also used for communication between the octals and double-length lines, quads, and longlines within the CLB array.

Segmentation into buffered octals was found to be optimal for distributing signals over long distances around the device.

### Global Nets and Buffers

Both the XC4000E and the XC4000X have dedicated global networks. These networks are designed to distribute clocks and other high fanout control signals throughout the devices with minimal skew. The global buffers are described in detail in the following sections. The text descriptions and diagrams are summarized in [Table 15](#). The table shows which CLB and IOB clock pins can be sourced by which global buffers.

In both XC4000E and XC4000X devices, placement of a library symbol called BUFG results in the software choosing the appropriate clock buffer, based on the timing requirements of the design. The detailed information in these sections is included only for reference.

#### Global Nets and Buffers (XC4000E only)

Four vertical longlines in each CLB column are driven exclusively by special global buffers. These longlines are in addition to the vertical longlines used for standard interconnect. The four global lines can be driven by either of two types of global buffers. The clock pins of every CLB and IOB can also be sourced from local interconnect.

Two different types of clock buffers are available in the XC4000E:

- Primary Global Buffers (BUFGP)
- Secondary Global Buffers (BUFGS)

Four Primary Global buffers offer the shortest delay and negligible skew. Four Secondary Global buffers have slightly longer delay and slightly more skew due to potentially heavier loading, but offer greater flexibility when used to drive non-clock CLB inputs.

The Primary Global buffers must be driven by the semi-dedicated pads. The Secondary Global buffers can be sourced by either semi-dedicated pads or internal nets.

Each CLB column has four dedicated vertical Global lines. Each of these lines can be accessed by one particular Primary Global buffer, or by any of the Secondary Global buffers, as shown in [Figure 34](#). Each corner of the device has one Primary buffer and one Secondary buffer.

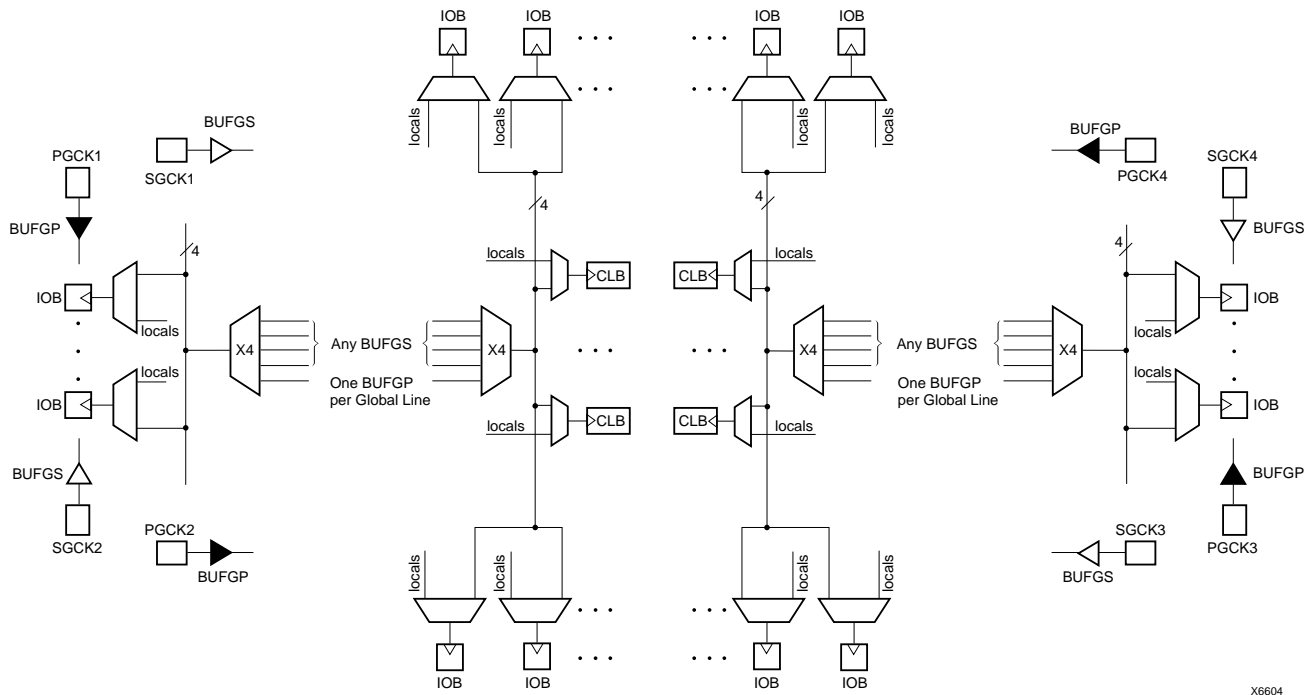
IOBs along the left and right edges have four vertical global longlines. Top and bottom IOBs can be clocked from the global lines in the adjacent CLB column.

A global buffer should be specified for all timing-sensitive global signal distribution. To use a global buffer, place a BUFGP (primary buffer), BUFGS (secondary buffer), or BUFG (either primary or secondary buffer) 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=L attribute or property to a BUFGS symbol to direct that a buffer be placed in one of the two Secondary Global buffers on the left edge of the device, or a LOC=BL to indicate the Secondary Global buffer on the bottom edge of the device, on the left.

**Table 15: Clock Pin Access**

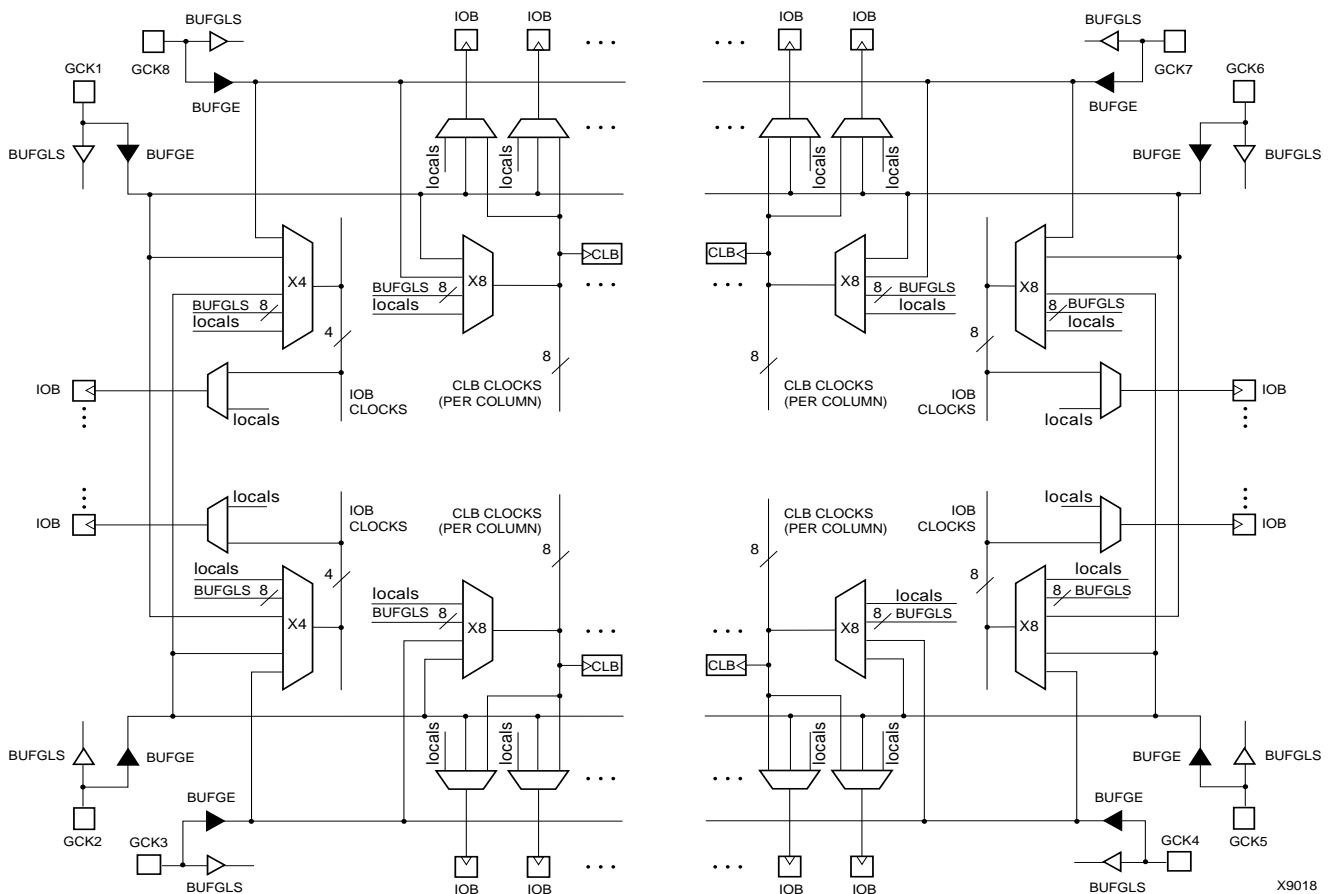
	XC4000E		XC4000X			Local Inter-connect
	BUFGP	BUFGS	BUFGLS	L & R BUFGE	T & B BUFGE	
All CLBs in Quadrant	√	√	√	√	√	√
All CLBs in Device	√	√	√			√
IOBs on Adjacent Vertical Half Edge	√	√	√	√	√	√
IOBs on Adjacent Vertical Full Edge	√	√	√	√		√
IOBs on Adjacent Horizontal Half Edge (Direct)				√		√
IOBs on Adjacent Horizontal Half Edge (through CLB globals)	√	√	√	√	√	√
IOBs on Adjacent Horizontal Full Edge (through CLB globals)	√	√	√			√

L = Left, R = Right, T = Top, B = Bottom



X6604

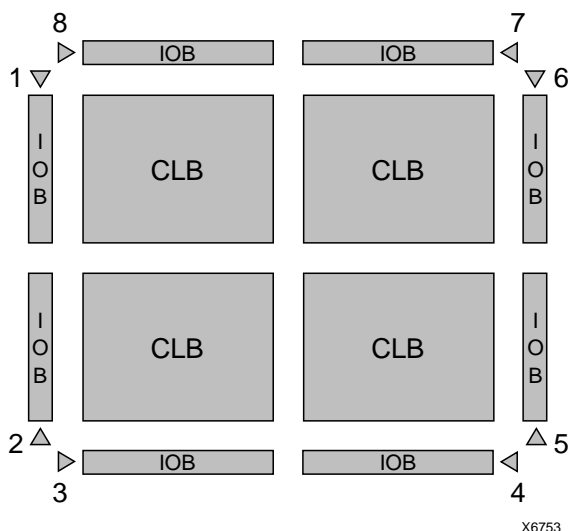
**Figure 34: XC4000E Global Net Distribution**



X9018

**Figure 35: XC4000X Global Net Distribution**





**Figure 36: Any BUFGLS (GCK1 - GCK8) Can Drive Any or All Clock Inputs on the Device**

### Global Early Buffers

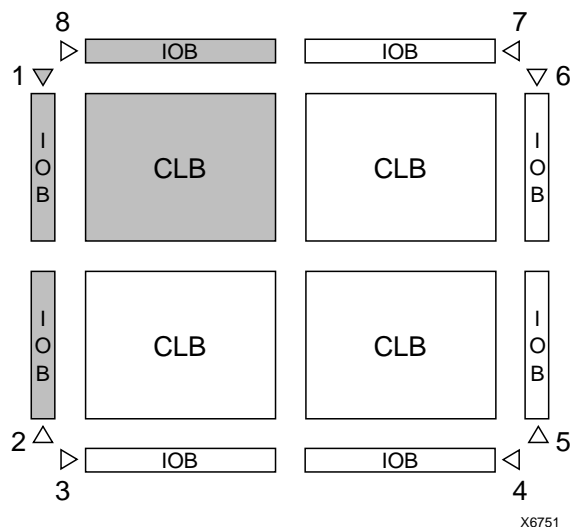
Each corner of the XC4000X device has two Global Early buffers. The primary purpose of the Global Early buffers is to provide an earlier clock access than the potentially heavily-loaded Global Low-Skew buffers. A clock source applied to both buffers will result in the Global Early clock edge occurring several nanoseconds earlier than the Global Low-Skew buffer clock edge, due to the lighter loading.

Global Early buffers also facilitate the fast capture of device inputs, using the Fast Capture latches described in **"IOB Input Signals"** on page 20. For Fast Capture, take a single clock signal, and route it through both a Global Early buffer and a Global Low-Skew buffer. (The two buffers share an input pad.) Use the Global Early buffer to clock the Fast Capture latch, and the Global Low-Skew buffer to clock the normal input flip-flop or latch, as shown in **Figure 17** on page 23.

The Global Early buffers can also be used to provide a fast Clock-to-Out on device output pins. However, an early clock in the output flip-flop IOB must be taken into consideration when calculating the internal clock speed for the design.

The Global Early buffers at the left and right edges of the chip have slightly different capabilities than the ones at the top and bottom. Refer to **Figure 37**, **Figure 38**, and **Figure 35** on page 36 while reading the following explanation.

Each Global Early buffer can access the eight vertical Global lines for all CLBs in the quadrant. Therefore, only one-fourth of the CLB clock pins can be accessed. This restriction is in large part responsible for the faster speed of the buffers, relative to the Global Low-Skew buffers.

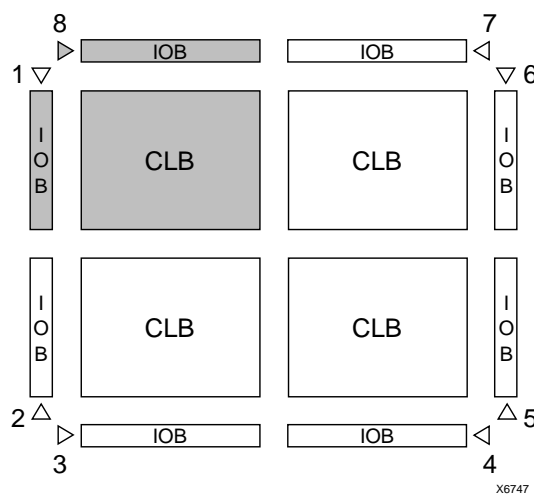


**Figure 37: Left and Right BUFGEs Can Drive Any or All Clock Inputs in Same Quadrant or Edge (GCK1 is shown. GCK2, GCK5 and GCK6 are similar.)**

The left-side Global Early buffers can each drive two of the four vertical lines accessing the IOBs on the entire left edge of the device. The right-side Global Early buffers can each drive two of the eight vertical lines accessing the IOBs on the entire right edge of the device. (See **Figure 37**.)

Each left and right Global Early buffer can also drive half of the IOBs along either the top or bottom edge of the device, using a dedicated line that can only be accessed through the Global Early buffers.

The top and bottom Global Early buffers can drive half of the IOBs along either the left or right edge of the device, as shown in **Figure 38**. They can only access the top and bottom IOBs via the CLB global lines.



**Figure 38: Top and Bottom BUFGEs Can Drive Any or All Clock Inputs in Same Quadrant (GCK8 is shown. GCK3, GCK4 and GCK7 are similar.)**



Table 16: Pin Descriptions (Continued)

Pin Name	I/O During Config.	I/O After Config.	Pin Description
TDI, TCK, TMS	I	I/O or I (JTAG)	If boundary scan is used, these pins are Test Data In, Test Clock, and Test Mode Select inputs respectively. They come directly from the pads, bypassing the IOBs. These pins can also be used as inputs to the CLB logic after configuration is completed. If the BSCAN symbol is not placed in the design, all boundary scan functions are inhibited once configuration is completed, and these pins become user-programmable I/O. The pins can be used automatically or user-constrained. To use them, use "LOC=" or place the library components TDI, TCK, and TMS instead of the usual pad symbols. Input or output buffers must still be used.
HDC	O	I/O	High During Configuration (HDC) is driven High until the I/O go active. It is available as a control output indicating that configuration is not yet completed. After configuration, HDC is a user-programmable I/O pin.
$\overline{\text{LDC}}$	O	I/O	Low During Configuration ( $\overline{\text{LDC}}$ ) is driven Low until the I/O go active. It is available as a control output indicating that configuration is not yet completed. After configuration, $\overline{\text{LDC}}$ is a user-programmable I/O pin.
$\overline{\text{INIT}}$	I/O	I/O	Before and during configuration, $\overline{\text{INIT}}$ is a bidirectional signal. A 1 k $\Omega$ - 10 k $\Omega$ external pull-up resistor is recommended. As an active-Low open-drain output, $\overline{\text{INIT}}$ is held Low during the power stabilization and internal clearing of the configuration memory. As an active-Low input, it can be used to hold the FPGA in the internal WAIT state before the start of configuration. Master mode devices stay in a WAIT state an additional 30 to 300 $\mu\text{s}$ after $\overline{\text{INIT}}$ has gone High. During configuration, a Low on this output indicates that a configuration data error has occurred. After the I/O go active, $\overline{\text{INIT}}$ is a user-programmable I/O pin.
PGCK1 - PGCK4 (XC4000E only)	Weak Pull-up	I or I/O	Four Primary Global inputs each drive a dedicated internal global net with short delay and minimal skew. If not used to drive a global buffer, any of these pins is a user-programmable I/O. The PGCK1-PGCK4 pins drive the four Primary Global Buffers. Any input pad symbol connected directly to the input of a BUFGP symbol is automatically placed on one of these pins.
SGCK1 - SGCK4 (XC4000E only)	Weak Pull-up	I or I/O	Four Secondary Global inputs each drive a dedicated internal global net with short delay and minimal skew. These internal global nets can also be driven from internal logic. If not used to drive a global net, any of these pins is a user-programmable I/O pin. The SGCK1-SGCK4 pins provide the shortest path to the four Secondary Global Buffers. Any input pad symbol connected directly to the input of a BUFGE symbol is automatically placed on one of these pins.
GCK1 - GCK8 (XC4000X only)	Weak Pull-up	I or I/O	Eight inputs can each drive a Global Low-Skew buffer. In addition, each can drive a Global Early buffer. Each pair of global buffers can also be driven from internal logic, but must share an input signal. If not used to drive a global buffer, any of these pins is a user-programmable I/O. Any input pad symbol connected directly to the input of a BUFGS or BUFG symbol is automatically placed on one of these pins.
FCLK1 - FCLK4 (XC4000XLA and XC4000XV only)	Weak Pull-up	I or I/O	Four inputs can each drive a Fast Clock (FCLK) buffer which can deliver a clock signal to any IOB clock input in the octant of the die served by the Fast Clock buffer. Two Fast Clock buffers serve the two IOB octants on the left side of the die and the other two Fast Clock buffers serve the two IOB octants on the right side of the die. On each side of the die, one Fast Clock buffer serves the upper octant and the other serves the lower octant. If not used to drive a Fast Clock buffer, any of these pins is a user-programmable I/O.

is passed through and is captured by each FPGA when it recognizes the 0010 preamble. Following the length-count data, each FPGA outputs a High on DOUT until it has received its required number of data frames.

After an FPGA has received its configuration data, it passes on any additional frame start bits and configuration data on DOUT. When the total number of configuration clocks applied after memory initialization equals the value of the 24-bit length count, the FPGAs begin the start-up sequence and become operational together. FPGA I/O are normally released two CCLK cycles after the last configuration bit is received. **Figure 47 on page 53** shows the start-up timing for an XC4000 Series device.

The daisy-chained bitstream is not simply a concatenation of the individual bitstreams. The PROM file formatter must be used to combine the bitstreams for a daisy-chained configuration.

### Multi-Family Daisy Chain

All Xilinx FPGAs of the XC2000, XC3000, and XC4000 Series use a compatible bitstream format and can, therefore, be connected in a daisy chain in an arbitrary sequence. There is, however, one limitation. The lead device must belong to the highest family in the chain. If the chain contains XC4000 Series devices, the master normally cannot be an XC2000 or XC3000 device.

The reason for this rule is shown in **Figure 47 on page 53**. Since all devices in the chain store the same length count value and generate or receive one common sequence of CCLK pulses, they all recognize length-count match on the same CCLK edge, as indicated on the left edge of **Figure 47**. The master device then generates additional CCLK pulses until it reaches its finish point F. The different families generate or require different numbers of additional CCLK pulses until they reach F. Not reaching F means that the device does not really finish its configuration, although DONE may have gone High, the outputs became active, and the internal reset was released. For the XC4000 Series device, not reaching F means that readback cannot be ini-

tiated and most boundary scan instructions cannot be used.

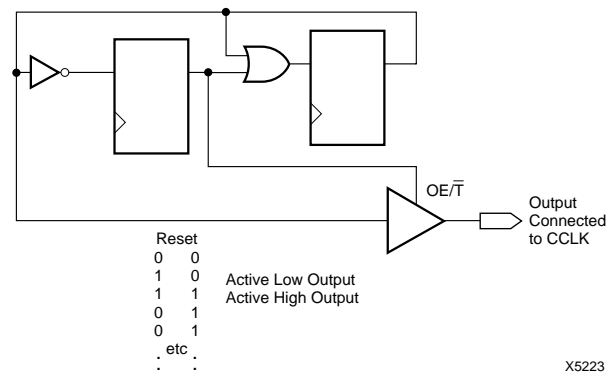
The user has some control over the relative timing of these events and can, therefore, make sure that they occur at the proper time and the finish point F is reached. Timing is controlled using options in the bitstream generation software.

### XC3000 Master with an XC4000 Series Slave

Some designers want to use an inexpensive lead device in peripheral mode and have the more precious I/O pins of the XC4000 Series devices all available for user I/O. **Figure 44** provides a solution for that case.

This solution requires one CLB, one IOB and pin, and an internal oscillator with a frequency of up to 5 MHz as a clock source. The XC3000 master device must be configured with late Internal Reset, which is the default option.

One CLB and one IOB in the lead XC3000-family device are used to generate the additional CCLK pulse required by the XC4000 Series devices. When the lead device removes the internal RESET signal, the 2-bit shift register responds to its clock input and generates an active Low output signal for the duration of the subsequent clock period. An external connection between this output and CCLK thus creates the extra CCLK pulse.



**Figure 44: CCLK Generation for XC3000 Master Driving an XC4000 Series Slave**

The default option, and the most practical one, is for DONE to go High first, disconnecting the configuration data source and avoiding any contention when the I/Os become active one clock later. Reset/Set is then released another clock period later to make sure that user-operation starts from stable internal conditions. This is the most common sequence, shown with heavy lines in [Figure 47](#), but the designer can modify it to meet particular requirements.

Normally, the start-up sequence is controlled by the internal device oscillator output (CCLK), which is asynchronous to the system clock.

XC4000 Series offers another start-up clocking option, UCLK\_NOSYNC. The three events described above need not be triggered by CCLK. They can, as a configuration option, be triggered by a user clock. This means that the device can wake up in synchronism with the user system.

When the UCLK\_SYNC option is enabled, the user can externally hold the open-drain DONE output Low, and thus stall all further progress in the start-up sequence until DONE is released and has gone High. This option can be used to force synchronization of several FPGAs to a common user clock, or to guarantee that all devices are successfully configured before any I/Os go active.

If either of these two options is selected, and no user clock is specified in the design or attached to the device, the chip could reach a point where the configuration of the device is complete and the Done pin is asserted, but the outputs do not become active. The solution is either to recreate the bit-stream specifying the start-up clock as CCLK, or to supply the appropriate user clock.

### Start-up Sequence

The Start-up sequence begins when the configuration memory is full, and the total number of configuration clocks

received since  $\overline{\text{INIT}}$  went High equals the loaded value of the length count.

The next rising clock edge sets a flip-flop Q0, shown in [Figure 48](#). Q0 is the leading bit of a 5-bit shift register. The outputs of this register can be programmed to control three events.

- The release of the open-drain DONE output
- The change of configuration-related pins to the user function, activating all IOBs.
- The termination of the global Set/Reset initialization of all CLB and IOB storage elements.

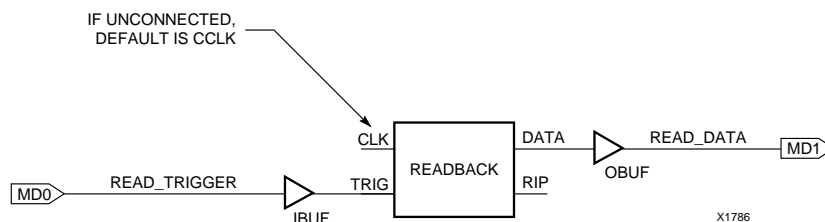
The DONE pin can also be wire-ANDed with DONE pins of other FPGAs or with other external signals, and can then be used as input to bit Q3 of the start-up register. This is called “Start-up Timing Synchronous to Done In” and is selected by either CCLK\_SYNC or UCLK\_SYNC.

When DONE is not used as an input, the operation is called “Start-up Timing Not Synchronous to DONE In,” and is selected by either CCLK\_NOSYNC or UCLK\_NOSYNC.

As a configuration option, the start-up control register beyond Q0 can be clocked either by subsequent CCLK pulses or from an on-chip user net called STARTUP.CLK. These signals can be accessed by placing the STARTUP library symbol.

### Start-up from CCLK

If CCLK is used to drive the start-up, Q0 through Q3 provide the timing. Heavy lines in [Figure 47](#) show the default timing, which is compatible with XC2000 and XC3000 devices using early DONE and late Reset. The thin lines indicate all other possible timing options.



**Figure 49: Readback Schematic Example**

## Readback Options

Readback options are: Read Capture, Read Abort, and Clock Select. They are set with the bitstream generation software.

### Read Capture

When the Read Capture option is selected, the readback data stream includes sampled values of CLB and IOB signals. The rising edge of RDBK.TRIG latches the inverted values of the four CLB outputs, the IOB output flip-flops and the input signals I1 and I2. Note that while the bits describing configuration (interconnect, function generators, and RAM content) are *not* inverted, the CLB and IOB output signals *are* inverted.

When the Read Capture option is not selected, the values of the capture bits reflect the configuration data originally written to those memory locations.

If the RAM capability of the CLBs is used, RAM data are available in readback, since they directly overwrite the F and G function-table configuration of the CLB.

RDBK.TRIG is located in the lower-left corner of the device, as shown in [Figure 50](#).

### Read Abort

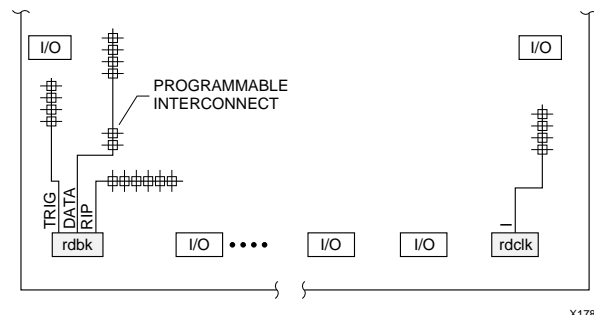
When the Read Abort option is selected, a High-to-Low transition on RDBK.TRIG terminates the readback operation and prepares the logic to accept another trigger.

After an aborted readback, additional clocks (up to one readback clock per configuration frame) may be required to re-initialize the control logic. The status of readback is indicated by the output control net RDBK.RIP. RDBK.RIP is High whenever a readback is in progress.

### Clock Select

CCLK is the default clock. However, the user can insert another clock on RDBK.CLK. Readback control and data are clocked on rising edges of RDBK.CLK. If readback must be inhibited for security reasons, the readback control nets are simply not connected.

RDBK.CLK is located in the lower right chip corner, as shown in [Figure 50](#).



**Figure 50: READBACK Symbol in Graphical Editor**

## Violating the Maximum High and Low Time Specification for the Readback Clock

The readback clock has a maximum High and Low time specification. In some cases, this specification cannot be met. For example, if a processor is controlling readback, an interrupt may force it to stop in the middle of a readback. This necessitates stopping the clock, and thus violating the specification.

The specification is mandatory only on clocking data at the end of a frame prior to the next start bit. The transfer mechanism will load the data to a shift register during the last six clock cycles of the frame, prior to the start bit of the following frame. This loading process is dynamic, and is the source of the maximum High and Low time requirements.

Therefore, the specification only applies to the six clock cycles prior to and including any start bit, including the clocks before the first start bit in the readback data stream. At other times, the frame data is already in the register and the register is not dynamic. Thus, it can be shifted out just like a regular shift register.

The user must precisely calculate the location of the readback data relative to the frame. The system must keep track of the position within a data frame, and disable interrupts before frame boundaries. Frame lengths and data formats are listed in [Table 19](#), [Table 20](#) and [Table 21](#).

## Readback with the XChecker Cable

The XChecker Universal Download/Readback Cable and Logic Probe uses the readback feature for bitstream verification. It can also display selected internal signals on the PC or workstation screen, functioning as a low-cost in-circuit emulator.

## Master Serial Mode

In Master Serial mode, the CCLK output of the lead FPGA drives a Xilinx Serial PROM that feeds the FPGA DIN input. Each rising edge of the CCLK output increments the Serial PROM internal address counter. The next data bit is put on the SPROM data output, connected to the FPGA DIN pin. The lead FPGA accepts this data on the subsequent rising CCLK edge.

The lead FPGA then presents the preamble data—and all data that overflows the lead device—on its DOUT pin. There is an internal pipeline delay of 1.5 CCLK periods, which means that DOUT changes on the falling CCLK edge, and the next FPGA in the daisy chain accepts data on the subsequent rising CCLK edge.

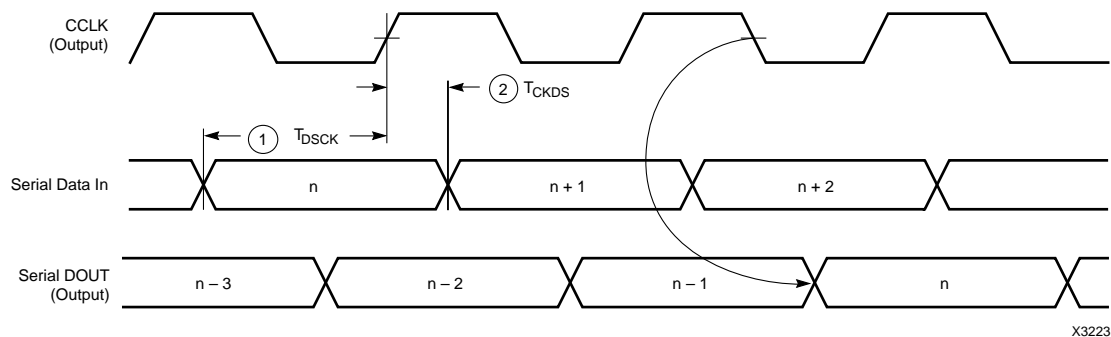
In the bitstream generation software, the user can specify Fast ConfigRate, which, starting several bits into the first frame, increases the CCLK frequency by a factor of eight.

For actual timing values please refer to “**Configuration Switching Characteristics**” on page 68. Be sure that the serial PROM and slaves are fast enough to support this data rate. XC2000, XC3000/A, and XC3100A devices do not support the Fast ConfigRate option.

The SPROM CE input can be driven from either  $\overline{\text{LDC}}$  or DONE. Using  $\overline{\text{LDC}}$  avoids potential contention on the DIN pin, if this pin is configured as user-I/O, but  $\overline{\text{LDC}}$  is then restricted to be a permanently High user output after configuration. Using DONE can also avoid contention on DIN, provided the early DONE option is invoked.

Figure 51 on page 60 shows a full master/slave system. The leftmost device is in Master Serial mode.

Master Serial mode is selected by a <000> on the mode pins (M2, M1, M0).



	Description	Symbol	Min	Max	Units
CCLK	DIN setup	1 $T_{\text{DSCK}}$	20		ns
	DIN hold	2 $T_{\text{CKDS}}$	0		ns

Notes: 1. At power-up, Vcc must rise from 2.0 V to Vcc min in less than 25 ms, otherwise delay configuration by pulling PROGRAM Low until Vcc is valid.  
2. Master Serial mode timing is based on testing in slave mode.

**Figure 53: Master Serial Mode Programming Switching Characteristics**

## Asynchronous Peripheral Mode

### Write to FPGA

Asynchronous Peripheral mode uses the trailing edge of the logic AND condition of  $\overline{WS}$  and  $\overline{CS0}$  being Low and  $\overline{RS}$  and  $\overline{CS1}$  being High to accept byte-wide data from a microprocessor bus. In the lead FPGA, this data is loaded into a double-buffered UART-like parallel-to-serial converter and is serially shifted into the internal logic.

The lead FPGA presents the preamble data (and all data that overflows the lead device) on its DOUT pin. The RDY/BUSY output from the lead FPGA acts as a handshake signal to the microprocessor. RDY/BUSY goes Low when a byte has been received, and goes High again when the byte-wide input buffer has transferred its information into the shift register, and the buffer is ready to receive new data. A new write may be started immediately, as soon as the RDY/BUSY output has gone Low, acknowledging receipt of the previous data. Write may not be terminated until RDY/BUSY is High again for one CCLK period. Note that RDY/BUSY is pulled High with a high-impedance pull-up prior to  $\overline{INIT}$  going High.

The length of the  $\overline{BUSY}$  signal depends on the activity in the UART. If the shift register was empty when the new byte was received, the  $\overline{BUSY}$  signal lasts for only two CCLK periods. If the shift register was still full when the new byte was received, the  $\overline{BUSY}$  signal can be as long as nine CCLK periods.

Note that after the last byte has been entered, only seven of its bits are shifted out. CCLK remains High with DOUT equal to bit 6 (the next-to-last bit) of the last byte entered.

The RDY/ $\overline{BUSY}$  handshake can be ignored if the delay from any one Write to the end of the next Write is guaranteed to be longer than 10 CCLK periods.

### Status Read

The logic AND condition of the  $\overline{CS0}$ ,  $\overline{CS1}$  and  $\overline{RS}$  inputs puts the device status on the Data bus.

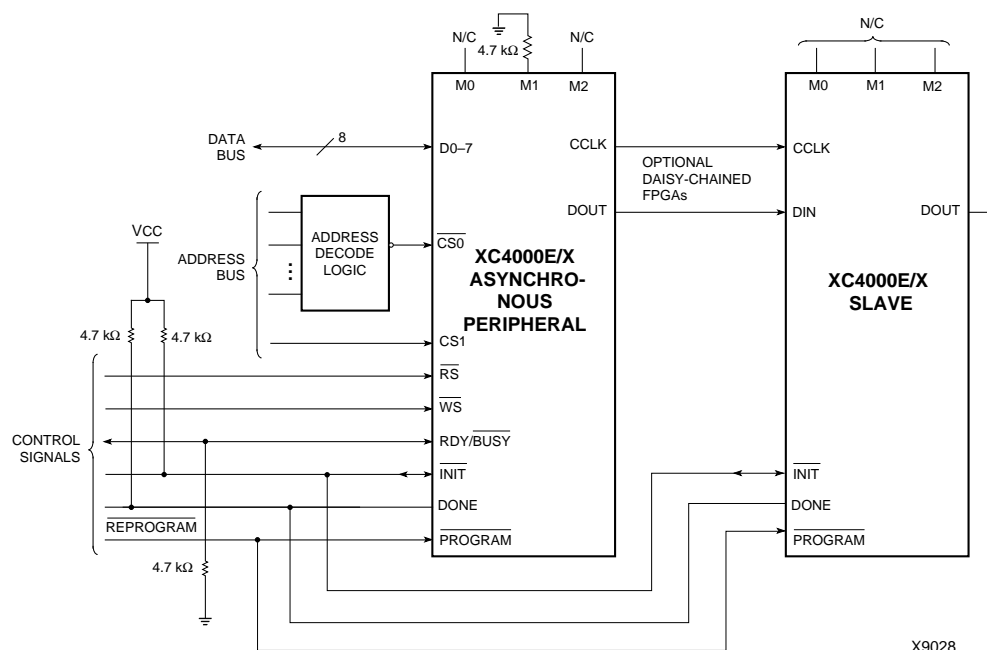
- D7 High indicates Ready
- D7 Low indicates Busy
- D0 through D6 go unconditionally High

It is mandatory that the whole start-up sequence be started and completed by one byte-wide input. Otherwise, the pins used as Write Strobe or Chip Enable might become active outputs and interfere with the final byte transfer. If this transfer does not occur, the start-up sequence is not completed all the way to the finish (point F in [Figure 47 on page 53](#)).

In this case, at worst, the internal reset is not released. At best, Readback and Boundary Scan are inhibited. The length-count value, as generated by the XACTstep software, ensures that these problems never occur.

Although RDY/ $\overline{BUSY}$  is brought out as a separate signal, microprocessors can more easily read this information on one of the data lines. For this purpose, D7 represents the RDY/ $\overline{BUSY}$  status when  $\overline{RS}$  is Low,  $\overline{WS}$  is High, and the two chip select lines are both active.

Asynchronous Peripheral mode is selected by a <101> on the mode pins (M2, M1, M0).



**Figure 58: Asynchronous Peripheral Mode Circuit Diagram**