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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	Active
Number of LABs/CLBs	-
Number of Logic Elements/Cells	-
Total RAM Bits	276480
Number of I/O	119
Number of Gates	1500000
Voltage - Supply	1.425V ~ 1.575V
Mounting Type	Surface Mount
Operating Temperature	0°C ~ 85°C (TJ)
Package / Case	256-LBGA
Supplier Device Package	256-FPBGA (17x17)
Purchase URL	https://www.e-xfl.com/product-detail/microchip-technology/m1afs1500-1fgg256

Embedded Memories

Flash Memory Blocks

The flash memory available in each Fusion device is composed of one to four flash blocks, each 2 Mbits in density. Each block operates independently with a dedicated flash controller and interface. Fusion flash memory blocks combine fast access times (60 ns random access and 10 ns access in Read-Ahead mode) with a configurable 8-, 16-, or 32-bit datapath, enabling high-speed flash operation without wait states. The memory block is organized in pages and sectors. Each page has 128 bytes, with 33 pages comprising one sector and 64 sectors per block. The flash block can support multiple partitions. The only constraint on size is that partition boundaries must coincide with page boundaries. The flexibility and granularity enable many use models and allow added granularity in programming updates.

Fusion devices support two methods of external access to the flash memory blocks. The first method is a serial interface that features a built-in JTAG-compliant port, which allows in-system programmability during user or monitor/test modes. This serial interface supports programming of an AES-encrypted stream. Data protected with security measures can be passed through the JTAG interface, decrypted, and then programmed in the flash block. The second method is a soft parallel interface.

FPGA logic or an on-chip soft microprocessor can access flash memory through the parallel interface. Since the flash parallel interface is implemented in the FPGA fabric, it can potentially be customized to meet special user requirements. For more information, refer to the CoreCFI Handbook. The flash memory parallel interface provides configurable byte-wide (×8), word-wide (×16), or dual-word-wide (×32) data-port options. Through the programmable flash parallel interface, the on-chip and off-chip memories can be cascaded for wider or deeper configurations.

The flash memory has built-in security. The user can configure either the entire flash block or the small blocks to protect against unintentional or intrusive attempts to change or destroy the storage contents. Each on-chip flash memory block has a dedicated controller, enabling each block to operate independently.

The flash block logic consists of the following sub-blocks:

- Flash block – Contains all stored data. The flash block contains 64 sectors and each sector contains 33 pages of data.
- Page Buffer – Contains the contents of the current page being modified. A page contains 8 blocks of data.
- Block Buffer – Contains the contents of the last block accessed. A block contains 128 data bits.
- ECC Logic – The flash memory stores error correction information with each block to perform single-bit error correction and double-bit error detection on all data blocks.

User Nonvolatile FlashROM

In addition to the flash blocks, Fusion devices have 1 Kbit of user-accessible, nonvolatile FlashROM on-chip. The FlashROM is organized as 8×128-bit pages. The FlashROM can be used in diverse system applications:

- Internet protocol addressing (wireless or fixed)
- System calibration settings
- Device serialization and/or inventory control
- Subscription-based business models (for example, set-top boxes)
- Secure key storage for communications algorithms protected by security
- Asset management/tracking
- Date stamping
- Version management

The FlashROM is written using the standard IEEE 1532 JTAG programming interface. Pages can be individually programmed (erased and written). On-chip AES decryption can be used selectively over public networks to load data such as security keys stored in the FlashROM for a user design.

The FlashROM can be programmed (erased and written) via the JTAG programming interface, and its contents can be read back either through the JTAG programming interface or via direct FPGA core addressing.

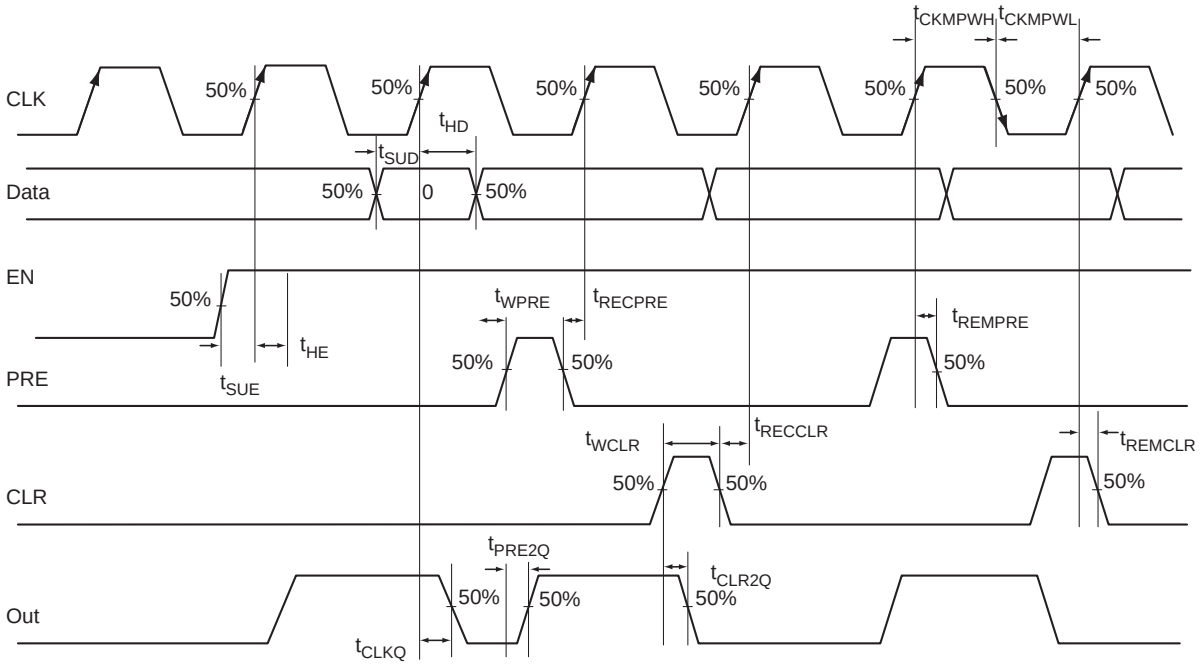

Figure 2-6 • Sequential Timing Model and Waveforms

Sequential Timing Characteristics

Table 2-2 • Register Delays
Commercial Temperature Range Conditions: T_J = 70°C, Worst-Case VCC = 1.425 V

Parameter	Description	–2	–1	Std.	Units
t_{CLKQ}	Clock-to-Q of the Core Register	0.55	0.63	0.74	ns
t_{SUD}	Data Setup Time for the Core Register	0.43	0.49	0.57	ns
t_{HD}	Data Hold Time for the Core Register	0.00	0.00	0.00	ns
t_{SUE}	Enable Setup Time for the Core Register	0.45	0.52	0.61	ns
t_{HE}	Enable Hold Time for the Core Register	0.00	0.00	0.00	ns
t_{CLR2Q}	Asynchronous Clear-to-Q of the Core Register	0.40	0.45	0.53	ns
t_{PRE2Q}	Asynchronous Preset-to-Q of the Core Register	0.40	0.45	0.53	ns
t_{REMCLR}	Asynchronous Clear Removal Time for the Core Register	0.00	0.00	0.00	ns
t_{RECCLR}	Asynchronous Clear Recovery Time for the Core Register	0.22	0.25	0.30	ns
t_{REMPRE}	Asynchronous Preset Removal Time for the Core Register	0.00	0.00	0.00	ns
t_{RECPRE}	Asynchronous Preset Recovery Time for the Core Register	0.22	0.25	0.30	ns
t_{WCLR}	Asynchronous Clear Minimum Pulse Width for the Core Register	0.22	0.25	0.30	ns
t_{WPRE}	Asynchronous Preset Minimum Pulse Width for the Core Register	0.22	0.25	0.30	ns
t_{CKMPWH}	Clock Minimum Pulse Width High for the Core Register	0.32	0.37	0.43	ns
t_{CKMPWL}	Clock Minimum Pulse Width Low for the Core Register	0.36	0.41	0.48	ns

Note: For the derating values at specific junction temperature and voltage supply levels, refer to Table 3-7 on page 3-9.

Clock Aggregation

Clock aggregation allows for multi-spine clock domains. A MUX tree provides the necessary flexibility to allow long lines or I/Os to access domains of one, two, or four global spines. Signal access to the clock aggregation system is achieved through long-line resources in the central rib, and also through local resources in the north and south ribs, allowing I/Os to feed directly into the clock system. As Figure 2-14 indicates, this access system is contiguous.

There is no break in the middle of the chip for north and south I/O VersaNet access. This is different from the quadrant clocks, located in these ribs, which only reach the middle of the rib. Refer to the Using Global Resources in Actel Fusion Devices application note.

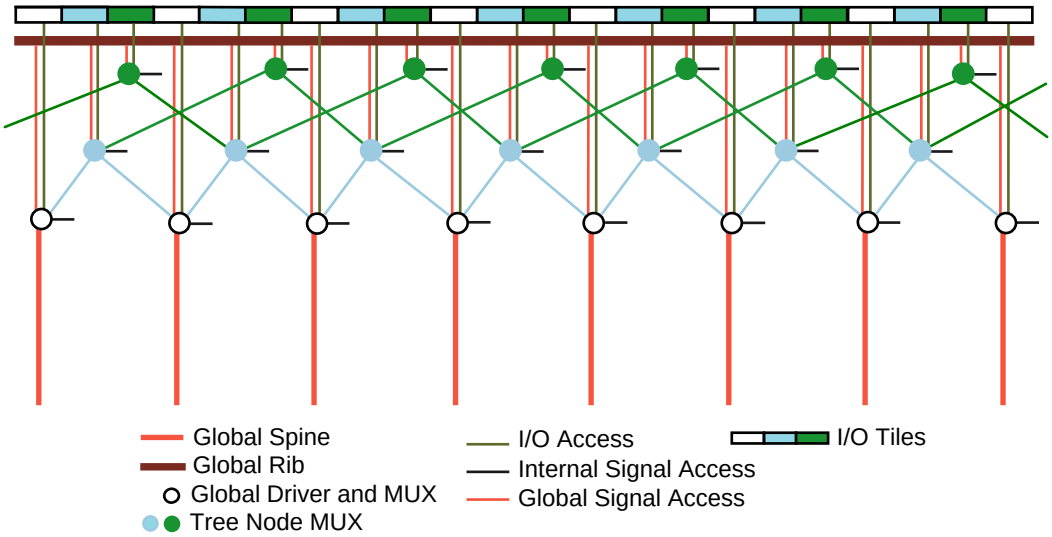

Figure 2-14 • Clock Aggregation Tree Architecture

RC Oscillator

The RC oscillator is an on-chip free-running clock source generating a 100 MHz clock. It can be used as a source clock for both on-chip and off-chip resources. When used in conjunction with the Fusion PLL and CCC circuits, the RC oscillator clock source can be used to generate clocks of varying frequency and phase.

The Fusion RC oscillator is very accurate at ±1% over commercial temperature ranges and and ±3% over industrial temperature ranges. It is an automated clock, requiring no setup or configuration by the user. It requires only that the power and GNDOSC pins be connected; no external components are required. The RC oscillator can be used to drive either a PLL or another internal signal.

RC Oscillator Characteristics

Table 2-9 • Electrical Characteristics of RC Oscillator

Parameter	Description	Conditions	Min.	Typ.	Max.	Units
F_{RC}	Operating Frequency			100		MHz
	Accuracy	Temperature: 0°C to 85°C Voltage: 3.3 V ± 5%		1		%
		Temperature: –40°C to 125°C Voltage: 3.3 V ± 5%		3		%
	Output Jitter	Period Jitter (at 5 k cycles)		100		ps
		Cycle–Cycle Jitter (at 5 k cycles)		100		ps
		Period Jitter (at 5 k cycles) with 1 KHz / 300 mV peak-to-peak noise on power supply		150		ps
		Cycle–Cycle Jitter (at 5 k cycles) with 1 KHz / 300 mV peak-to-peak noise on power supply		150		ps
	Output Duty Cycle			50		%
I_{DYNRC}	Operating Current			1		mA

The following error indications are possible for Read operations:

1. STATUS = '01' when a single-bit data error was detected and corrected within the block addressed.
2. STATUS = '10' when a double-bit error was detected in the block addressed (note that the error is uncorrected).

In addition to data reads, users can read the status of any page in the FB by asserting PAGESTATUS along with REN. The format of the data returned by a page status read is shown in Table 2-23, and the definition of the page status bits is shown in Table 2-24.

Table 2-23 • Page Status Read Data Format

31	8	7	4	3	2	1	0
Write Count		Reserved		Over Threshold	Read Protected	Write Protected	Overwrite Protected

Table 2-24 • Page Status Bit Definition

Page Status Bit(s)	Definition
31–8	The number of times the page addressed has been programmed/erased
7–4	Reserved; read as 0
3	Over Threshold indicator (see the"Program Operation" section on page 2-46)
2	Read Protected; read protect bit for page, which is set via the JTAG interface and only affects JTAG operations. This bit can be overridden by using the correct user key value.
1	Write Protected; write protect bit for page, which is set via the JTAG interface and only affects JTAG operations. This bit can be overridden by using the correct user key value.
0	Overwrite Protected; designates that the user has set the OVERWRITEPROTECT bit on the interface while doing a Program operation. The page cannot be written without first performing an Unprotect Page operation.

FIFO4K18 Description

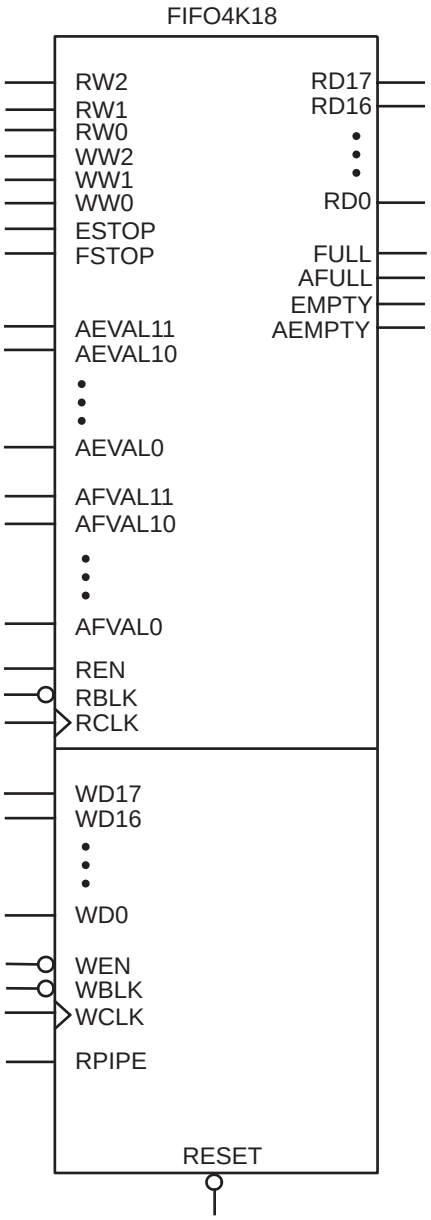

Figure 2-56 • FIFO4KX18

The following signals are used to configure the FIFO4K18 memory element.

WW and RW

These signals enable the FIFO to be configured in one of the five allowable aspect ratios (Table 2-33).

Table 2-33 • Aspect Ratio Sett ings for WW[2:0]

WW2, WW1, WW0	RW2, RW1, RW0	D×W
000	000	4k×1
001	001	2k×2
010	010	1k×4
011	011	512×9
100	100	256×18
101, 110, 111	101, 110, 111	Reserved

WBLK and RBLK

These signals are active low and will enable the respective ports when Low. When the RBLK signal is High, the corresponding port's outputs hold the previous value.

WEN and REN

Read and write enables. WEN is active low and REN is active high by default. These signals can be configured as active high or low.

WCLK and RCLK

These are the clock signals for the synchronous read and write operations. These can be driven independently or with the same driver.

RPIPE

This signal is used to specify pipelined read on the output. A Low on RPIPE indicates a nonpipelined read, and the data appears on the output in the same clock cycle. A High indicates a pipelined read, and data appears on the output in the next clock cycle.

RESET

This active low signal resets the output to zero when asserted. It resets the FIFO counters. It also sets all the RD pins Low, the FULL and AFULL pins Low, and the EMPTY and AEMPTY pins High (Table 2-34).

Table 2-34 • Input Data Signal Usage for Different Aspect Ratios

D×W	WD/RD Unused
4k×1	WD[17:1], RD[17:1]
2k×2	WD[17:2], RD[17:2]
1k×4	WD[17:4], RD[17:4]
512×9	WD[17:9], RD[17:9]
256×18	–

WD

This is the input data bus and is 18 bits wide. Not all 18 bits are valid in all configurations. When a data width less than 18 is specified, unused higher-order signals must be grounded (Table 2-34).

RD

This is the output data bus and is 18 bits wide. Not all 18 bits are valid in all configurations. Like the WD bus, high-order bits become unusable if the data width is less than 18. The output data on unused pins is undefined (Table 2-34).