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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	360
Number of Logic Elements/Cells	2880
Total RAM Bits	40960
Number of I/O	102
Number of Gates	199000
Voltage - Supply	2.375V ~ 2.625V
Mounting Type	Surface Mount
Operating Temperature	0°C ~ 70°C (TA)
Package / Case	144-LQFP
Supplier Device Package	144-TQFP (20x20)
Purchase URL	https://www.e-xfl.com/product-detail/intel/ep1k50tc144-1

The logic array consists of logic array blocks (LABs). Each LAB contains eight LEs and a local interconnect. An LE consists of a 4-input LUT, a programmable flipflop, and dedicated signal paths for carry and cascade functions. The eight LEs can be used to create medium-sized blocks of logic—such as 8-bit counters, address decoders, or state machines—or combined across LABs to create larger logic blocks. Each LAB represents about 96 usable logic gates.

Signal interconnections within ACEX 1K devices (as well as to and from device pins) are provided by the FastTrack Interconnect routing structure, which is a series of fast, continuous row and column channels that run the entire length and width of the device.

Each I / O pin is fed by an I / O element (IOE) located at the end of each row and column of the FastTrack Interconnect routing structure. Each IOE contains a bidirectional I / O buffer and a flipflop that can be used as either an output or input register to feed input, output, or bidirectional signals. When used with a dedicated clock pin, these registers provide exceptional performance. As inputs, they provide setup times as low as 1.1 ns and hold times of 0 ns. As outputs, these registers provide clock-to-output times as low as 2.5 ns. IOEs provide a variety of features, such as JTAG BST support, slew-rate control, tri-state buffers, and open-drain outputs.

Figure 1 shows a block diagram of the ACEX 1K device architecture. Each group of LEs is combined into an LAB; groups of LABs are arranged into rows and columns. Each row also contains a single EAB. The LABs and EABs are interconnected by the FastTrack Interconnect routing structure. IOEs are located at the end of each row and column of the FastTrack Interconnect routing structure.

Figure 3. ACEX 1K EAB in Dual-Port RAM Mode

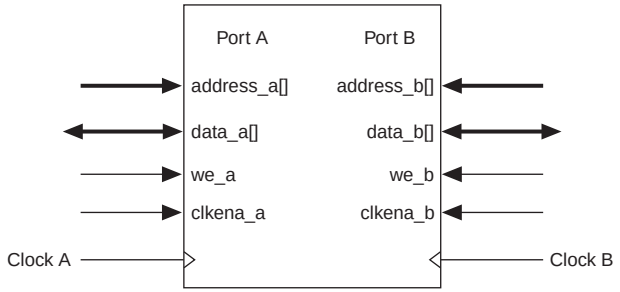
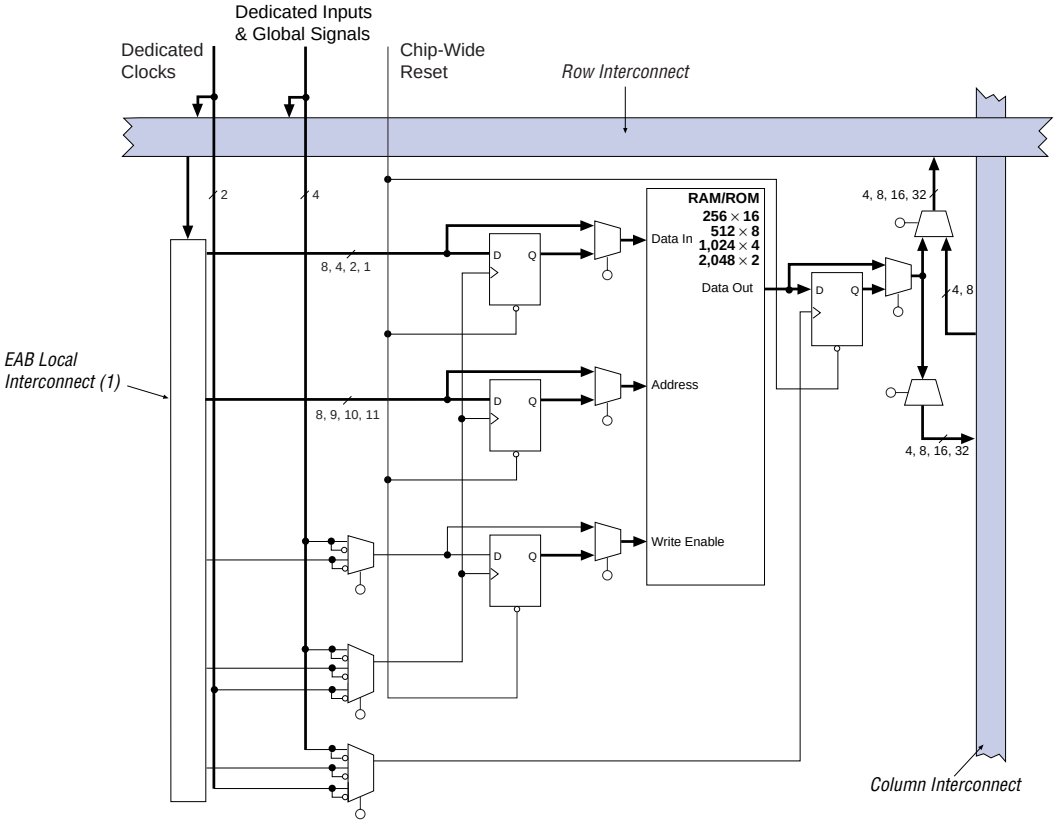


Figure 4. ACEX 1K Device in Single-Port RAM Mode



Note:

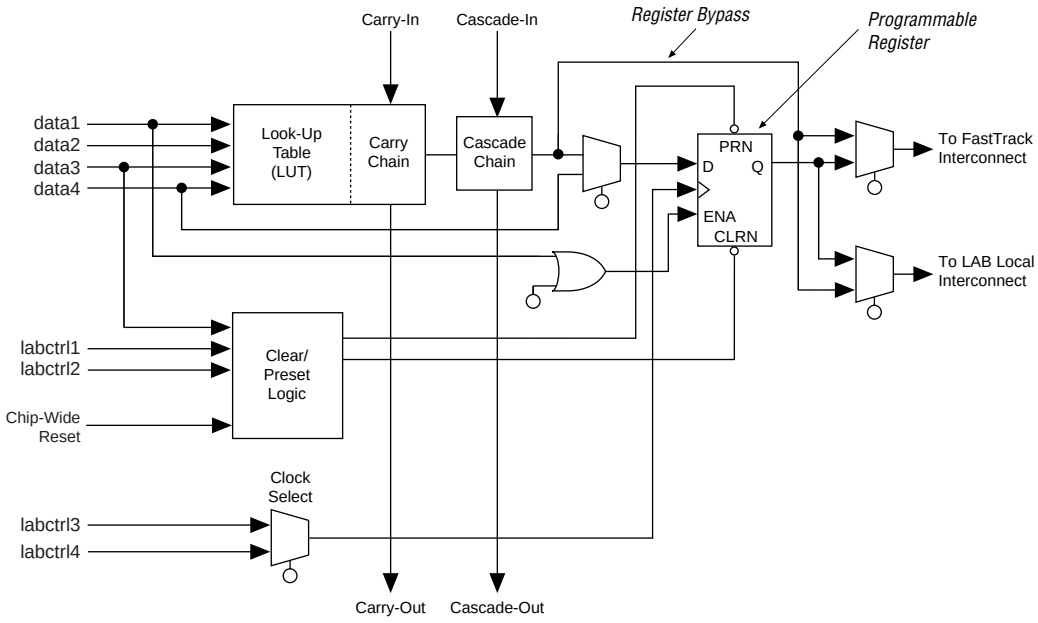
(1) EP1K10, EP1K30, and EP1K50 devices have 88 EAB local interconnect channels; EP1K100 devices have 104 EAB local interconnect channels.

Each LAB provides four control signals with programmable inversion that can be used in all eight LEs. Two of these signals can be used as clocks, the other two can be used for clear / preset control. The LAB clocks can be driven by the dedicated clock input pins, global signals, I / O signals, or internal signals via the LAB local interconnect. The LAB preset and clear control signals can be driven by the global signals, I / O signals, or internal signals via the LAB local interconnect. The global control signals are typically used for global clock, clear, or preset signals because they provide asynchronous control with very low skew across the device. If logic is required on a control signal, it can be generated in one or more LEs in any LAB and driven into the local interconnect of the target LAB. In addition, the global control signals can be generated from LE outputs.

Logic Element

The LE, the smallest unit of logic in the ACEX 1K architecture, has a compact size that provides efficient logic utilization. Each LE contains a 4-input LUT, which is a function generator that can quickly compute any function of four variables. In addition, each LE contains a programmable flipflop with a synchronous clock enable, a carry chain, and a cascade chain. Each LE drives both the local and the FastTrack Interconnect routing structure. Figure 8 shows the ACEX 1K LE.

Figure 8. ACEX 1K Logic Element



The programmable flipflop in the LE can be configured for D, T, JK, or SR operation. The clock, clear, and preset control signals on the flipflop can be driven by global signals, general-purpose I/O pins, or any internal logic. For combinatorial functions, the flipflop is bypassed and the LUT's output drives the LE's output.

The LE has two outputs that drive the interconnect: one drives the local interconnect, and the other drives either the row or column FastTrack Interconnect routing structure. The two outputs can be controlled independently. For example, the LUT can drive one output while the register drives the other output. This feature, called register packing, can improve LE utilization because the register and the LUT can be used for unrelated functions.

The ACEX 1K architecture provides two types of dedicated high-speed data paths that connect adjacent LEs without using local interconnect paths: carry chains and cascade chains. The carry chain supports high-speed counters and adders, and the cascade chain implements wide-input functions with minimum delay. Carry and cascade chains connect all LEs in a LAB and all LABs in the same row. Intensive use of carry and cascade chains can reduce routing flexibility. Therefore, the use of these chains should be limited to speed-critical portions of a design.

On all ACEX 1K devices, the input path from the I/O pad to the FastTrack Interconnect has a programmable delay element that can be used to guarantee a zero hold time. Depending on the placement of the IOE relative to what it is driving, the designer may choose to turn on the programmable delay to ensure a zero hold time or turn it off to minimize setup time. This feature is used to reduce setup time for complex pin-to-register paths (e.g., PCI designs).

Each IOE selects the clock, clear, clock enable, and output enable controls from a network of I/O control signals called the peripheral control bus. The peripheral control bus uses high-speed drivers to minimize signal skew across devices and provides up to 12 peripheral control signals that can be allocated as follows:

- Up to eight output enable signals
- Up to six clock enable signals
- Up to two clock signals
- Up to two clear signals

If more than six clock-enable or eight output-enable signals are required, each IOE on the device can be controlled by clock enable and output enable signals driven by specific LEs. In addition to the two clock signals available on the peripheral control bus, each IOE can use one of two dedicated clock pins. Each peripheral control signal can be driven by any of the dedicated input pins or the first LE of each LAB in a particular row. In addition, a LE in a different row can drive a column interconnect, which causes a row interconnect to drive the peripheral control signal. The chip-wide reset signal resets all IOE registers, overriding any other control signals.

When a dedicated clock pin drives IOE registers, it can be inverted for all IOEs in the device. All IOEs must use the same sense of the clock. For example, if any IOE uses the inverted clock, all IOEs must use the inverted clock, and no IOE can use the non-inverted clock. However, LEs can still use the true or complement of the clock on an LAB-by-LAB basis.

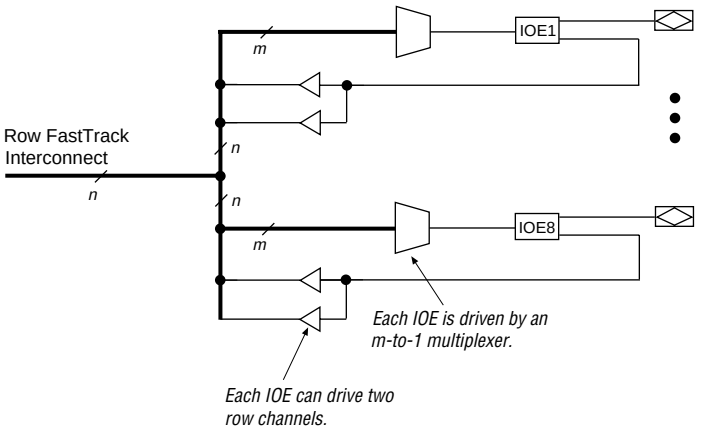
The incoming signal may be inverted at the dedicated clock pin and will drive all IOEs. For the true and complement of a clock to be used to drive IOEs, drive it into both global clock pins. One global clock pin will supply the true, and the other will supply the complement.

When the true and complement of a dedicated input drives IOE clocks, two signals on the peripheral control bus are consumed, one for each sense of the clock.

Row-to-IOE Connections

When an IOE is used as an input signal, it can drive two separate row channels. The signal is accessible by all LEs within that row. When an IOE is used as an output, the signal is driven by a multiplexer that selects a signal from the row channels. Up to eight IOEs connect to each side of each row channel (see Figure 16).

Figure 16. ACEX 1K Row-to-IOE Connections *Note (1)*



Note:
(1) The values for *m* and *n* are shown in Table 8.

Table 8 lists the ACEX 1K row-to-IOE interconnect resources.

Table 8. ACEX 1K Row-to-IOE Interconnect Resources

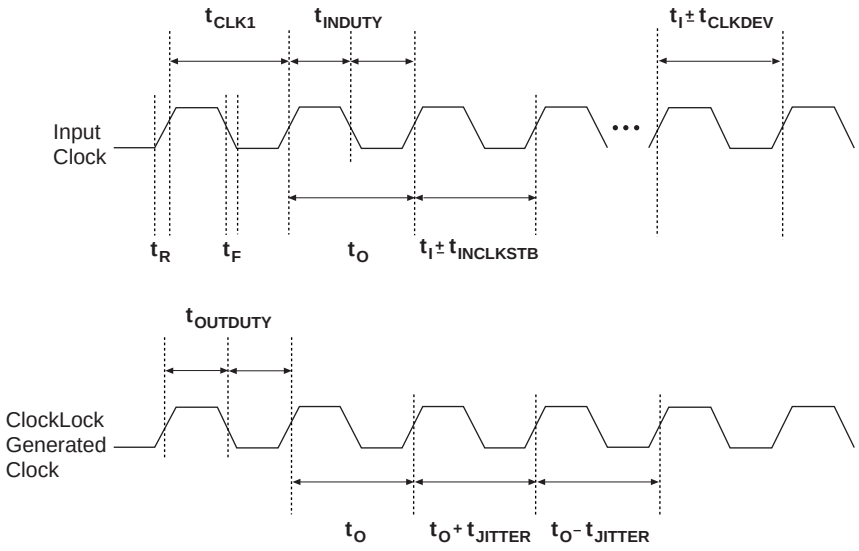
Device	Channels per Row *(n)*	Row Channels per Pin *(m)*
EP1K10	144	18
EP1K30	216	27
EP1K50	216	27
EP1K100	312	39

For designs that require both a multiplied and non-multiplied clock, the clock trace on the board can be connected to the GCLK1 pin. In the Altera software, the GCLK1 pin can feed both the ClockLock and ClockBoost circuitry in the ACEX 1K device. However, when both circuits are used, the other clock pin cannot be used.

ClockLock & ClockBoost Timing Parameters

For the ClockLock and ClockBoost circuitry to function properly, the incoming clock must meet certain requirements. If these specifications are not met, the circuitry may not lock onto the incoming clock, which generates an erroneous clock within the device. The clock generated by the ClockLock and ClockBoost circuitry must also meet certain specifications. If the incoming clock meets these requirements during configuration, the ClockLock and ClockBoost circuitry will lock onto the clock during configuration. The circuit will be ready for use immediately after configuration. Figure 19 shows the incoming and generated clock specifications.

Figure 19. Specifications for the Incoming & Generated Clocks *Note (1)*



Note:

(1) The t_I parameter refers to the nominal input clock period; the t_O parameter refers to the nominal output clock period.

Tables 11 and 12 summarize the ClockLock and ClockBoost parameters for -1 and -2 speed-grade devices, respectively.

Table 11. ClockLock & ClockBoost Parameters for -1 Speed-Grade Devices

Symbol	Parameter	Condition	Min	Typ	Max	Unit
t_R	Input rise time				5	ns
t_F	Input fall time				5	ns
t_{INDUTY}	Input duty cycle		40		60	%
f_{CLK1}	Input clock frequency (ClockBoost clock multiplication factor equals 1)		25		180	MHz
f_{CLK2}	Input clock frequency (ClockBoost clock multiplication factor equals 2)		16		90	MHz
f_{CLKDEV}	Input deviation from user specification in the Altera software *(1)*				25,000 *(2)*	PPM
$t_{INCLKSTB}$	Input clock stability (measured between adjacent clocks)				100	ps
t_{LOCK}	Time required for ClockLock or ClockBoost to acquire lock *(3)*				10	µs
t_{JITTER}	Jitter on ClockLock or ClockBoost-generated clock *(4)*	$t_{INCLKSTB}$ <100			250 *(4)*	ps
		$t_{INCLKSTB}$ < 50			200 *(4)*	ps
$t_{OUTDUTY}$	Duty cycle for ClockLock or ClockBoost-generated clock		40	50	60	%

IEEE Std. 1149.1 (JTAG) Boundary-Scan Support

All ACEX 1K devices provide JTAG BST circuitry that complies with the IEEE Std. 1149.1-1990 specification. ACEX 1K devices can also be configured using the JTAG pins through the ByteBlasterMV or BitBlaster download cable, or via hardware that uses the Jam™ Standard Test and Programming Language (STAPL), JEDEC standard JESD-71. JTAG boundary-scan testing can be performed before or after configuration, but not during configuration. ACEX 1K devices support the JTAG instructions shown in Table 14.

Table 14. ACEX 1K JTAG Instructions

JTAG Instruction	Description
SAMPLE/PRELOAD	Allows a snapshot of signals at the device pins to be captured and examined during normal device operation and permits an initial data pattern to be output at the device pins.
EXTEST	Allows the external circuitry and board-level interconnections to be tested by forcing a test pattern at the output pins and capturing test results at the input pins.
BYPASS	Places the 1-bit bypass register between the TDI and TDO pins, allowing the BST data to pass synchronously through a selected device to adjacent devices during normal operation.
USERCODE	Selects the user electronic signature (USERCODE) register and places it between the TDI and TDO pins, allowing the USERCODE to be serially shifted out of TDO.
IDCODE	Selects the IDCODE register and places it between TDI and TDO, allowing the IDCODE to be serially shifted out of TDO.
ICR Instructions	These instructions are used when configuring an ACEX 1K device via JTAG ports using a MasterBlaster, ByteBlasterMV, or BitBlaster download cable, or a Jam File (**.jam**) or Jam Byte-Code File (**.jbc**) via an embedded processor.

The instruction register length of ACEX 1K devices is 10 bits. The USERCODE register length in ACEX 1K devices is 32 bits; 7 bits are determined by the user, and 25 bits are pre-determined. Tables 15 and 16 show the boundary-scan register length and device IDCODE information for ACEX 1K devices.

Table 15. ACEX 1K Boundary-Scan Register Length

Device	Boundary-Scan Register Length
EP1K10	438
EP1K30	690
EP1K50	798
EP1K100	1,050

Table 16. 32-Bit IDCODE for ACEX 1K Devices *Note (1)*				
Device	**IDCODE (32 Bits)**			
	Version (4 Bits)	**Part Number (16 Bits)**	**Manufacturer's Identity (11 Bits)**	**1 (1 Bit)** *(2)*
EP1K10	0001	0001 0000 0001 0000	00001101110	1
EP1K30	0001	0001 0000 0011 0000	00001101110	1
EP1K50	0001	0001 0000 0101 0000	00001101110	1
EP1K100	0010	0000 0001 0000 0000	00001101110	1

Notes to tables:
(1) The most significant bit (MSB) is on the left.
(2) The least significant bit (LSB) for all JTAG IDCODEs is 1.

ACEX 1K devices include weak pull-up resistors on the JTAG pins.

For more information, see the following documents:

- *Application Note 39 (IEEE Std. 1149.1 (JTAG) Boundary-Scan Testing in Altera Devices)*
- *ByteBlasterMV Parallel Port Download Cable Data Sheet*
- *BitBlaster Serial Download Cable Data Sheet*
- *Jam Programming & Test Language Specification*

Figure 20 shows the timing requirements for the JTAG signals.

Figure 20. ACEX 1K JTAG Waveforms

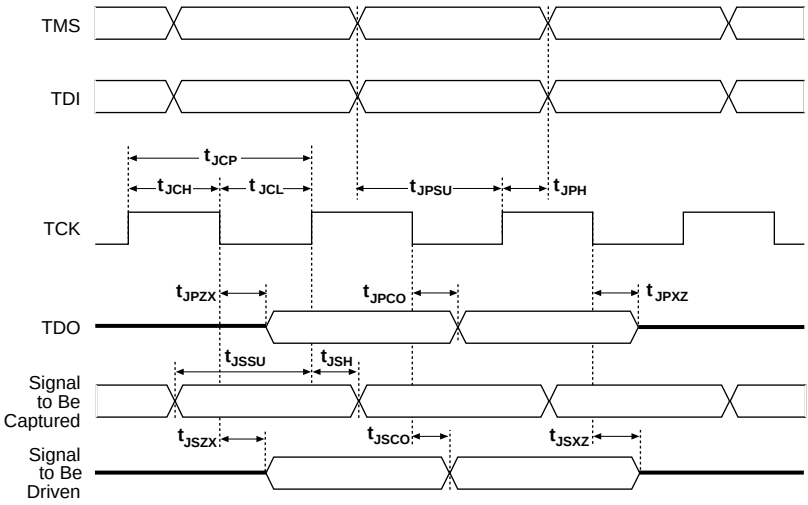


Table 17 shows the timing parameters and values for ACEX 1K devices.

Table 17. ACEX 1K JTAG Timing Parameters & Values

Symbol	Parameter	Min	Max	Unit
t_{JCP}	TCK clock period	100		ns
t_{JCH}	TCK clock high time	50		ns
t_{JCL}	TCK clock low time	50		ns
t_{JPSU}	JTAG port setup time	20		ns
t_{JPH}	JTAG port hold time	45		ns
t_{JPCO}	JTAG port clock to output		25	ns
t_{JPZX}	JTAG port high impedance to valid output		25	ns
t_{JPXZ}	JTAG port valid output to high impedance		25	ns
t_{JSSU}	Capture register setup time	20		ns
t_{JSH}	Capture register hold time	45		ns
t_{JSCO}	Update register clock to output		35	ns
t_{JSZX}	Update register high impedance to valid output		35	ns
t_{JSXZ}	Update register valid output to high impedance		35	ns

Figure 22 shows the required relationship between V_{CCIO} and V_{CCINT} to satisfy 3.3-V PCI compliance.

Figure 22. Relationship between V_{CCIO} & V_{CCINT} for 3.3-V PCI Compliance

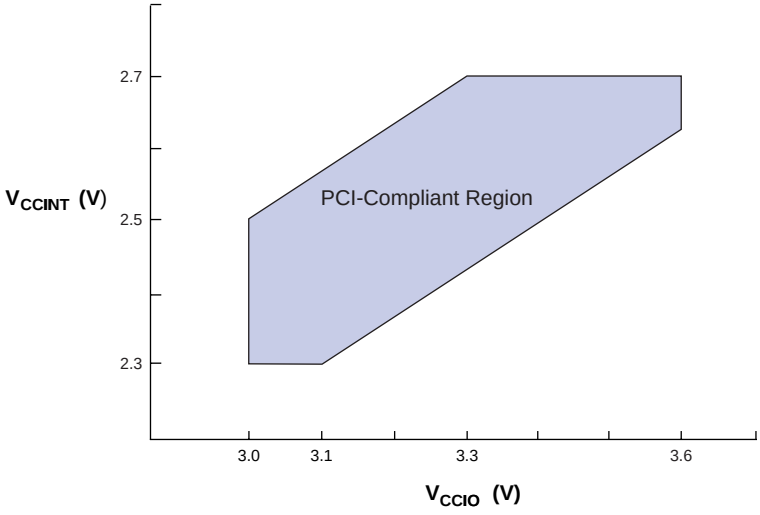


Figure 23 shows the typical output drive characteristics of ACEX 1K devices with 3.3-V and 2.5-V V_{CCIO}. The output driver is compliant to the 3.3-V ***PCI Local Bus Specification***, ***Revision 2.2*** (when VCCIO pins are connected to 3.3 V). ACEX 1K devices with a -1 speed grade also comply with the drive strength requirements of the ***PCI Local Bus Specification***, ***Revision 2.2*** (when VCCINT pins are powered with a minimum supply of 2.375 V, and VCCIO pins are connected to 3.3 V). Therefore, these devices can be used in open 5.0-V PCI systems.

Figure 26. ACEX 1K Device IOE Timing Model

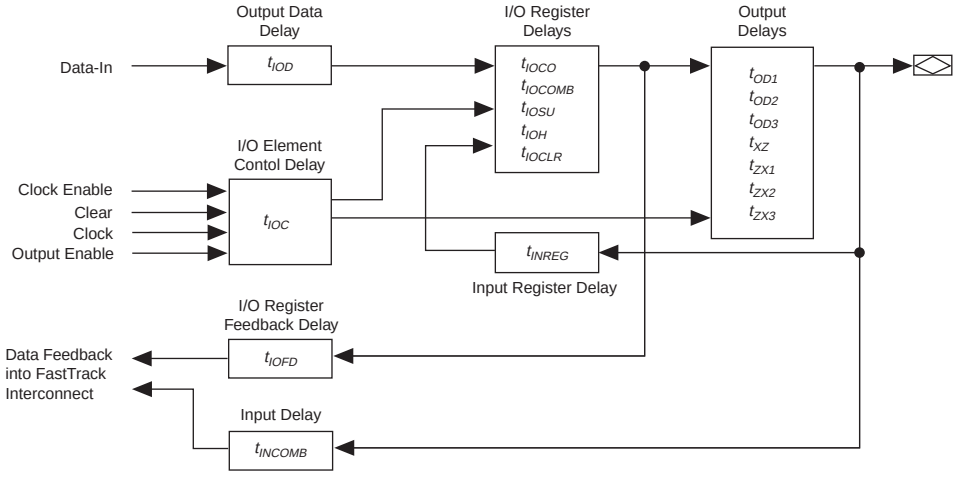


Figure 27. ACEX 1K Device EAB Timing Model

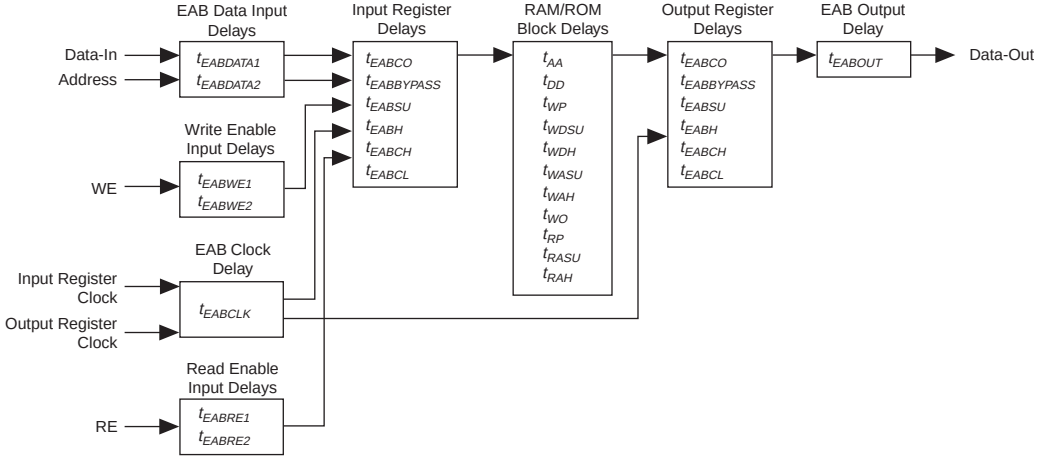


Table 25. EAB Timing Macroparameters *Notes (1), (6)*		
Symbol	**Parameter**	**Conditions**
t_{EABAA}	EAB address access delay	
$t_{EABRCCOMB}$	EAB asynchronous read cycle time	
$t_{EABRCREG}$	EAB synchronous read cycle time	
t_{EABWP}	EAB write pulse width	
$t_{EABWCCOMB}$	EAB asynchronous write cycle time	
$t_{EABWCREG}$	EAB synchronous write cycle time	
t_{EABDD}	EAB data-in to data-out valid delay	
$t_{EABDATACO}$	EAB clock-to-output delay when using output registers	
$t_{EABDATASU}$	EAB data/address setup time before clock when using input register	
$t_{EABDATAH}$	EAB data/address hold time after clock when using input register	
$t_{EABWESU}$	EAB WE setup time before clock when using input register	
t_{EABWEH}	EAB WE hold time after clock when using input register	
$t_{EABWDSU}$	EAB data setup time before falling edge of write pulse when not using input registers	
t_{EABWDH}	EAB data hold time after falling edge of write pulse when not using input registers	
$t_{EABWASU}$	EAB address setup time before rising edge of write pulse when not using input registers	
t_{EABWAH}	EAB address hold time after falling edge of write pulse when not using input registers	
t_{EABWO}	EAB write enable to data output valid delay	

Tables 30 through 36 show EP1K10 device internal and external timing parameters.

Table 30. EP1K10 Device LE Timing Microparameters *Note (1)*

Symbol	Speed Grade						Unit
	-1		-2		-3		
	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	
t_{LUT}		0.7		0.8		1.1	ns
t_{CLUT}		0.5		0.6		0.8	ns
t_{RLUT}		0.6		0.7		1.0	ns
t_{PACKED}		0.4		0.4		0.5	ns
t_{EN}		0.9		1.0		1.3	ns
t_{CICO}		0.1		0.1		0.2	ns
t_{CGEN}		0.4		0.5		0.7	ns
t_{CGENR}		0.1		0.1		0.2	ns
t_{CASC}		0.7		0.9		1.1	ns
t_{C}		1.1		1.3		1.7	ns
t_{CO}		0.5		0.7		0.9	ns
t_{COMB}		0.4		0.5		0.7	ns
t_{SU}	0.7		0.8		1.0		ns
t_{H}	0.9		1.0		1.1		ns
t_{PRE}		0.8		1.0		1.4	ns
t_{CLR}		0.9		1.0		1.4	ns
t_{CH}	2.0		2.5		2.5		ns
t_{CL}	2.0		2.5		2.5		ns

Table 31. EP1K10 Device IOE Timing Microparameters *Note (1)*							
Symbol	**Speed Grade**						**Unit**
	-1		**-2**		**-3**		
	Min	**Max**	**Min**	**Max**	**Min**	**Max**	
t_{IOD}		2.6		3.1		4.0	ns
t_{IOC}		0.3		0.4		0.5	ns
t_{IOCO}		0.9		1.0		1.4	ns
t_{IOCOMB}		0.0		0.0		0.0	ns
t_{IOSU}	1.3		1.5		2.0		ns
t_{IOH}	0.9		1.0		1.4		ns
t_{IOCLR}		1.1		1.3		1.7	ns
t_{OD1}		3.1		3.7		4.1	ns
t_{OD2}		2.6		3.3		3.9	ns
t_{OD3}		5.8		6.9		8.3	ns
t_{XZ}		3.8		4.5		5.9	ns
t_{ZX1}		3.8		4.5		5.9	ns
t_{ZX2}		3.3		4.1		5.7	ns
t_{ZX3}		6.5		7.7		10.1	ns
t_{INREG}		3.7		4.3		5.7	ns
t_{IOFD}		0.9		1.0		1.4	ns
t_{INCOMB}		1.9		2.3		3.0	ns

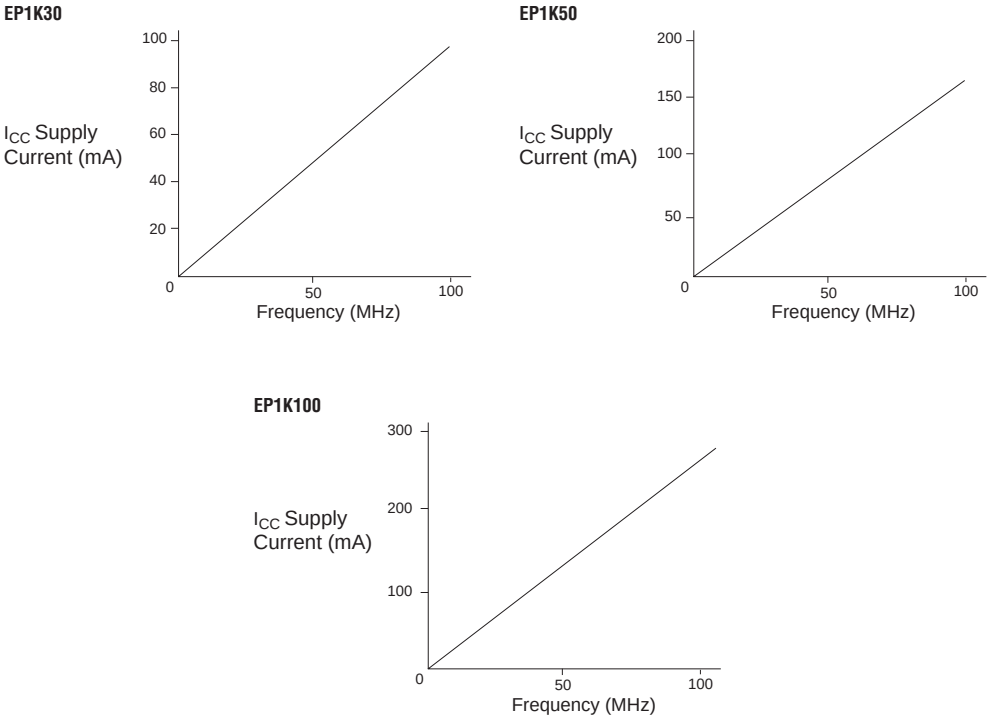
Table 33. EP1K10 Device EAB Internal Timing Macroparameters *Note (1)*							
Symbol	**Speed Grade**						**Unit**
	-1		**-2**		**-3**		
	Min	**Max**	**Min**	**Max**	**Min**	**Max**	
t_{EABAA}		6.7		7.3		7.3	ns
$t_{EABRCCOMB}$	6.7		7.3		7.3		ns
$t_{EABRCREG}$	4.7		4.9		4.9		ns
t_{EABWP}	2.7		2.8		2.8		ns
$t_{EABWCCOMB}$	6.4		6.7		6.7		ns
$t_{EABWCREG}$	7.4		7.6		7.6		ns
t_{EABDD}		6.0		6.5		6.5	ns
$t_{EABDATACO}$		0.8		0.9		0.9	ns
$t_{EABDATASU}$	1.6		1.7		1.7		ns
$t_{EABDATAH}$	0.0		0.0		0.0		ns
$t_{EABWESU}$	1.4		1.4		1.4		ns
t_{EABWEH}	0.1		0.0		0.0		ns
$t_{EABWDSU}$	1.6		1.7		1.7		ns
t_{EABWDH}	0.0		0.0		0.0		ns
$t_{EABWASU}$	3.1		3.4		3.4		ns
t_{EABWAH}	0.6		0.5		0.5		ns
t_{EABWO}		5.4		5.8		5.8	ns

Table 40. EP1K30 Device EAB Internal Timing Macroparameters *Note (1)*

Symbol	Speed Grade						Unit
	-1		-2		-3		
	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	
t_{EABAA}		6.4		7.6		8.8	ns
$t_{EABRCOMB}$	6.4		7.6		8.8		ns
$t_{EABRCREG}$	4.4		5.1		6.0		ns
t_{EABWP}	2.5		2.9		3.3		ns
$t_{EABWCOMB}$	6.0		7.0		8.0		ns
$t_{EABWCREG}$	6.8		7.8		9.0		ns
t_{EABDD}		5.7		6.7		7.7	ns
$t_{EABDATACO}$		0.8		0.9		1.1	ns
$t_{EABDATASU}$	1.5		1.7		2.0		ns
$t_{EABDATAH}$	0.0		0.0		0.0		ns
$t_{EABWESU}$	1.3		1.4		1.7		ns
t_{EABWEH}	0.0		0.0		0.0		ns
$t_{EABWDSU}$	1.5		1.7		2.0		ns
t_{EABWDH}	0.0		0.0		0.0		ns
$t_{EABWASU}$	3.0		3.6		4.3		ns
t_{EABWAH}	0.5		0.5		0.4		ns
t_{EABWO}		5.1		6.0		6.8	ns

Table 54. EP1K100 Device EAB Internal Timing Macroparameters *Note (1)*							
Symbol	**Speed Grade**						**Unit**
	-1		**-2**		**-3**		
	Min	**Max**	**Min**	**Max**	**Min**	**Max**	
t_{EABAA}		5.9		7.6		9.9	ns
$t_{EABRCOMB}$	5.9		7.6		9.9		ns
$t_{EABRCREG}$	5.1		6.5		8.5		ns
t_{EABWP}	2.7		3.5		4.7		ns
$t_{EABWCOMB}$	5.9		7.7		10.3		ns
$t_{EABWCREG}$	5.4		7.0		9.4		ns
t_{EABDD}		3.4		4.5		5.9	ns
$t_{EABDATACO}$		0.5		0.7		0.8	ns
$t_{EABDATASU}$	0.8		1.0		1.4		ns
$t_{EABDATAH}$	0.1		0.1		0.2		ns
$t_{EABWESU}$	1.1		1.4		1.9		ns
t_{EABWEH}	0.0		0.0		0.0		ns
$t_{EABWDSU}$	1.0		1.3		1.7		ns
t_{EABWDH}	0.2		0.2		0.3		ns
$t_{EABWASU}$	4.1		5.2		6.8		ns
t_{EABWAH}	0.0		0.0		0.0		ns
t_{EABWO}		3.4		4.5		5.9	ns

Figure 31. ACEX 1K $I_{CCACTIVE}$ vs. Operating Frequency



Configuration & Operation

The ACEX 1K architecture supports several configuration schemes. This section summarizes the device operating modes and available device configuration schemes.

Operating Modes

The ACEX 1K architecture uses SRAM configuration elements that require configuration data to be loaded every time the circuit powers up. The process of physically loading the SRAM data into the device is called *configuration*. Before configuration, as V_{CC} rises, the device initiates a Power-On Reset (POR). This POR event clears the device and prepares it for configuration. The ACEX 1K POR time does not exceed 50 µs.

When configuring with a configuration device, refer to the relevant configuration device data sheet for POR timing information.