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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	516096
Number of I/O	147
Number of Gates	3000000
Voltage - Supply	1.14V ~ 1.575V
Mounting Type	Surface Mount
Operating Temperature	0°C ~ 85°C (TJ)
Package / Case	208-BFQFP
Supplier Device Package	208-PQFP (28x28)
Purchase URL	https://www.e-xfl.com/product-detail/microchip-technology/m1a3pe3000l-1pqg208

Introduction

Contents

This user's guide contains information to help designers understand and use Microsemi's ProASIC®3L devices. Each chapter addresses a specific topic. Most of these chapters apply to other Microsemi device families as well. When a feature or description applies only to a specific device family, this is made clear in the text.

Revision History

The revision history for each chapter is listed at the end of the chapter. Most of these chapters were formerly included in device handbooks. Some were originally application notes or information included in device datasheets.

A "Summary of Changes" table at the end of this user's guide lists the chapters that were changed in each revision of the document, with links to the "List of Changes" sections for those chapters.

Related Information

Refer to the *ProASIC3L Flash Family FPGAs* datasheet for detailed specifications, timing, and package and pin information.

The website page for ProASIC3L devices is /www.microsemi.com/soc/products/pa3l/default.aspx.

Flash*Freeze Mode

IGLOO, IGLOO nano, IGLOO PLUS, ProASIC3L, and RT ProASIC3 FPGAs offer an ultra-low static power mode to reduce power consumption while preserving the state of the registers, SRAM contents, and I/O states (IGLOO nano and IGLOO PLUS only) without switching off any power supplies, inputs, or input clocks.

Flash*Freeze technology enables the user to switch to Flash*Freeze mode within 1 µs, thus simplifying low power design implementation. The Flash*Freeze (FF) pin (active Low) is a dedicated pin used to enter or exit Flash*Freeze mode directly; or the pin can be routed internally to the FPGA core and state management IP to allow the user's application to decide if and when it is safe to transition to this mode. If the FF pin is not used, it can be used as a regular I/O.

The FF pin has a built-in glitch filter and optional Schmitt trigger (not available for all devices) to prevent entering or exiting Flash*Freeze mode accidentally.

There are two ways to use Flash*Freeze mode. In Flash*Freeze type 1, entering and exiting the mode is exclusively controlled by the assertion and deassertion of the FF pin. This enables an external processor or human interface device to directly control Flash*Freeze mode; however, valid data must be preserved using standard procedures (refer to the "Flash*Freeze Mode Device Behavior" section on page 30). In Flash*Freeze mode type 2, entering and exiting the mode is controlled by both the FF pin AND user-defined logic. Flash*Freeze management IP may be used in type 2 mode for clock and data management while entering and exiting Flash*Freeze mode.

Flash*Freeze Type 1: Control by Dedicated Flash*Freeze Pin

Flash*Freeze type 1 is intended for systems where either the device will be reset upon exiting Flash*Freeze mode, or data and clock are managed externally. The device enters Flash*Freeze mode 1 µs after the dedicated FF pin is asserted (active Low), and returns to normal operation when the FF pin is deasserted (High) (Figure 2-1 on page 25). In this mode, FF pin assertion or deassertion is the only condition that determines entering or exiting Flash*Freeze mode.

In Libero® System-on-Chip (SoC) software v8.2 and before, this mode is implemented by enabling Flash*Freeze mode (default setting) in the Compile options of the Microsemi Designer software. To simplify usage of Flash*Freeze mode, beginning with Libero software v8.3, an INBUF_FF I/O macro was introduced. An INBUF_FF I/O buffer must be used to identify the Flash*Freeze input. Microsemi recommends switching to the new implementation.

In Libero software v8.3 and later, the user must manually instantiate the INBUF_FF macro in the top level of the design to implement Flash*Freeze Type 1, as shown in Figure 2-1 on page 25.

- There will be added skew and clock insertion delay due to the clock gating circuit. The user should analyze external setup/hold times carefully. The user should also ensure the additional skew across the clock gating filter circuit is accounted for in any paths where the launch register is driven from the filter input clock and captured by a register driven by the gated clock filter output clock.

Power Analysis

SmartPower identifies static and dynamic power consumption problems quickly within a design. It provides a hierarchical view, allowing users to drill down and estimate the power consumption of individual components or events. SmartPower analyzes power consumption for nets, gates, I/Os, memories, clocks, cores, clock domains, power supply rails, peak power during a clock cycle, and switching transitions.

SmartPower generates detailed hierarchical reports of the dynamic power consumption of a design for easy inspection. These reports include design-level power summary, average switching activity, and ambient and junction temperature readings. Enter the target clock and data frequencies for a design, and let SmartPower perform a detailed and accurate power analysis. SmartPower supports importing files in the VCD (Value-Change Dump) format as specified in the IEEE 1364 standard. It also supports the Synopsys® Switching Activity Interchange Format (SAIF) standard. Support for these formats lets designers generate switching activity information in a variety of simulators and then import this information directly into SmartPower.

For portable or battery-operated applications, a power profile feature enables you to measure power and battery life, based on a sequence of operational modes of the design. In most portable and battery-operated applications, the system is seldom fully "on" 100 percent of the time. "On" is a combination of fully active, standby, sleep, or other functional modes. SmartPower allows users to create a power profile for a design by specifying operational modes and the percent of time the device will run in each of the modes. Power is calculated for each of the modes, and total power is calculated based on the weighted average of all modes.

SmartPower also provides an estimated battery life based on the power profile. The current capacity for a given battery is entered and used to estimate the life of the battery. The result is an accurate and realistic indication of battery life.

More information on SmartPower can be found on the Microsemi SoC Products Group website: http://www.microsemi.com/soc/products/software/libero/smartpower.aspx.

Additional Power Conservation Techniques

IGLOO, IGLOO nano, IGLOO PLUS, ProASIC3L, and RT ProASIC3 FPGAs provide many ways to inherently conserve power; however, there are also several design techniques that can be used to reduce power on the board.

- Microsemi recommends that the designer use the minimum number of I/O banks possible and tie any unused power supplies (such as V_{CCPLL}, V_{CCI}, VMV, and V_{PUMP}) to ground.
- Leave unused I/O ports floating. Unused I/Os are configured by the software as follows:
  – Output buffer is disabled (with tristate value of high impedance)
  – Input buffer is disabled (with tristate value of high impedance)
- Use the lowest available voltage I/O standard, the lowest drive strength, and the slowest slew rate to reduce I/O switching contribution to power consumption.
- Advanced and pro I/O banks may consume slightly higher static current than standard and standard plus banks—avoid using advanced and pro banks whenever practical.
  – The small static power benefit obtained by avoiding advanced or pro I/O banks is usually negligible compared to the benefit of using a low power I/O standard.
- Deselect RAM blocks that are not being used.
- Only enable read and write ports on RAM blocks when they are needed.
- Gating clocks LOW offers improved static power of RAM blocks.
- Drive the FF port of RAM blocks with the Flash_Freeze_Enabled signal from the Flash*Freeze management IP.
- Drive inputs to the full voltage level so that all transistors are turned on or off completely.

***Table 3-3* • Quadrant Global Pin Name (continued)**

Differential I/O Pairs	GAAO/IOuxwByVz GAA1/IOuxwByVz	The output of the different pair will drive the global.
	GABO/IOuxwByVz GAB1/IOuxwByVz	The output of the different pair will drive the global.
	GACO/IOuxwByVz GAC1/IOuxwByVz	The output of the different pair will drive the global.
	GBAO/IOuxwByVz GBA1/IOuxwByVz	The output of the different pair will drive the global.
	GBBO/IOuxwByVz GBB1/IOuxwByVz	The output of the different pair will drive the global.
	GBCO/IOuxwByVz GBC1/IOuxwByVz	The output of the different pair will drive the global.
	GDAO/IOuxwByVz GDA1/IOuxwByVz	The output of the different pair will drive the global.
	GDBO/IOuxwByVz GDB1/IOuxwByVz	The output of the different pair will drive the global.
	GDCO/IOuxwByVz GDC1/IOuxwByVz	The output of the different pair will drive the global.
	GEAO/IOuxwByVz GEA1/IOuxwByVz	The output of the different pair will drive the global.
	GEBO/IOuxwByVz GEB1/IOuxwByVz	The output of the different pair will drive the global.
	GECO/IOuxwByVz GEC1/IOuxwByVz	The output of the different pair will drive the global.

Note: Only one of the I/Os can be directly connected to a quadrant at a time.

Unused Global I/O Configuration

The unused clock inputs behave similarly to the unused Pro I/Os. The Microsemi Designer software automatically configures the unused global pins as inputs with pull-up resistors if they are not used as regular I/O.

I/O Banks and Global I/O Standards

In low power flash devices, any I/O or internal logic can be used to drive the global network. However, only the global macro placed at the global pins will use the hardwired connection between the I/O and global network. Global signal (signal driving a global macro) assignment to I/O banks is no different from regular I/O assignment to I/O banks with the exception that you are limited to the pin placement location available. Only global signals compatible with both the VCCI and VREF standards can be assigned to the same bank.

Using Spines of Occupied Global Networks

When a signal is assigned to a global network, the flash switches are programmed to set the MUX select lines (explained in the "Clock Aggregation Architecture" section on page 61) to drive the spines of that network with the global net. However, if the global net is restricted from reaching into the scope of a spine, the MUX drivers of that spine are available for other high-fanout or critical signals (Figure 3-20).

For example, if you want to limit the CLK1_c signal to the left half of the chip and want to use the right side of the same global network for CLK2_c, you can add the following PDC commands:

```
define_region -name region1 -type inclusive 0 0 34 29
assign_net_macros region1 CLK1_c
assign_local_clock –net CLK2_c –type chip B2
```

Figure 3-20 **• Design Example Using Spines of Occupied Global Networks**

Conclusion

IGLOO, Fusion, and ProASIC3 devices contain 18 global networks: 6 chip global networks and 12 quadrant global networks. These global networks can be segmented into local low-skew networks called spines. The spines provide low-skew networks for the high-fanout signals of a design. These allow you up to 252 different internal/external clocks in an A3PE3000 device. This document describes the architecture for the global network, plus guidelines and methodologies in assigning signals to globals and spines.

Related Documents

User’s Guides

IGLOO, ProASIC3, SmartFusion, and Fusion Macro Library Guide

http://www.microsemi.com/soc/documents/pa3_libguide_ug.pdf

Global Buffers with No Programmable Delays

Access to the global / quadrant global networks can be configured directly from the global I/O buffer, bypassing the CCC functional block (as indicated by the dotted lines in Figure 4-1 on page 77). Internal signals driven by the FPGA core can use the global / quadrant global networks by connecting via the routed clock input of the multiplexer tree.

There are many specific CLKBUF macros supporting the wide variety of single-ended I/O inputs (CLKBUF) and differential I/O standards (CLKBUF_LVDS/LVPECL) in the low power flash families. They are used when connecting global I/Os directly to the global/quadrant networks.

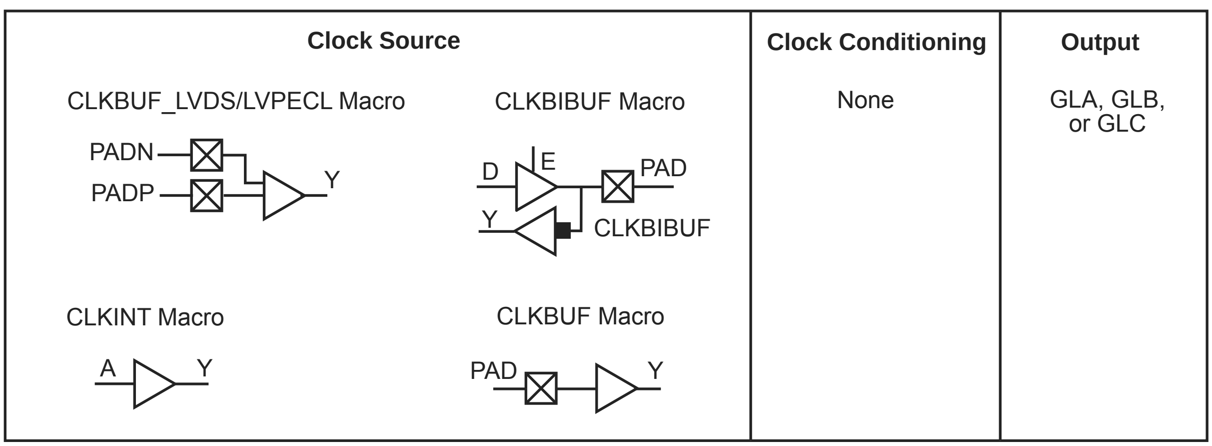
Note: IGLOO nano and ProASIC nano devices do not support differential inputs.

When an internal signal needs to be connected to the global/quadrant network, the CLKINT macro is used to connect the signal to the routed clock input of the network's MUX tree.

To utilize direct connection from global I/Os or from internal signals to the global/quadrant networks, CLKBUF, CLKBUF_LVPECL/LVDS, and CLKINT macros are used (Figure 4-2).

- The CLKBUF and CLKBUF_LVPECL/LVDS[1] macros are composite macros that include an I/O macro driving a global buffer, which uses a hardwired connection.
- The CLKBUF, CLKBUF_LVPECL/LVDS[1] and CLKINT macros are pass-through clock sources and do not use the PLL or provide any programmable delay functionality.
- The CLKINT macro provides a global buffer function driven internally by the FPGA core.

The available CLKBUF macros are described in the *IGLOO, ProASIC3, SmartFusion, and Fusion Macro Library Guide.*



Note: IGLOO nano and ProASIC nano devices do not support differential inputs.

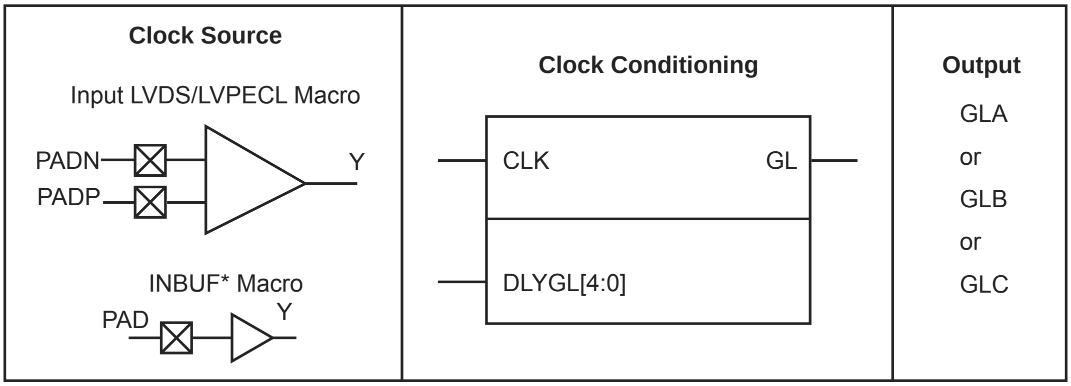
***Figure 4-2* • CCC Options: Global Buffers with No Programmable Delay**

Global Buffer with Programmable Delay

Clocks requiring clock adjustments can utilize the programmable delay cores before connecting to the global / quadrant global networks. A maximum of 18 CCC global buffers can be instantiated in a device—three per CCC and up to six CCCs per device.

Each CCC functional block contains a programmable delay element for each of the global networks (up to three), and users can utilize these features by using the corresponding macro (Figure 4-3 on page 81).

1. *B-LVDS and M-LVDS are supported with the LVDS macro.*



Notes:

1. *For INBUF* driving a PLL macro or CLKDLY macro, the I/O will be hard-routed to the CCC; i.e., will be placed by software to a dedicated Global I/O.*
2. *IGLOO nano and ProASIC3 nano devices do not support differential inputs.*

Figure 4-3 **• CCC Options: Global Buffers with Programmable Delay**

The CLKDLY macro is a pass-through clock source that does not use the PLL, but provides the ability to delay the clock input using a programmable delay. The CLKDLY macro takes the selected clock input and adds a user-defined delay element. This macro generates an output clock phase shift from the input clock.

The CLKDLY macro can be driven by an INBUF* macro to create a composite macro, where the I/O macro drives the global buffer (with programmable delay) using a hardwired connection. In this case, the software will automatically place the dedicated global I/O in the appropriate locations. Many specific INBUF macros support the wide variety of single-ended and differential I/O standards supported by the low power flash family. The available INBUF macros are described in the *IGLOO, ProASIC3, SmartFusion, and Fusion Macro Library Guide.*

The CLKDLY macro can be driven directly from the FPGA core. The CLKDLY macro can also be driven from an I/O that is routed through the FPGA regular routing fabric. In this case, users must instantiate a special macro, PLLINT, to differentiate the clock input driven by the hardwired I/O connection.

The visual CLKDLY configuration in the SmartGen area of the Microsemi Libero System-on-Chip (SoC) and Designer tools allows the user to select the desired amount of delay and configures the delay elements appropriately. SmartGen also allows the user to select the input clock source. SmartGen will automatically instantiate the special macro, PLLINT, when needed.

CLKDLY Macro Signal Descriptions

The CLKDLY macro supports one input and one output. Each signal is described in Table 4-2.

Table 4-2 **• Input and Output Description of the CLKDLY Macro**

Signal	Name	I/O	Description
CLK	Reference Clock	Input	Reference clock input
GL	Global Output	Output	Primary output clock to respective global/quadrant clock networks

```
Primary Clock Output Delay from CLKA -3.020

Secondary1 Clock frequency 40.000
Secondary1 Clock Phase Shift 0.000
Secondary1 Clock Global Output Delay from CLKA 2.515
```

Next, perform simulation in Model*Sim* to verify the correct delays. Figure 4-30 shows the simulation results. The delay values match those reported in the SmartGen PLL Wizard.

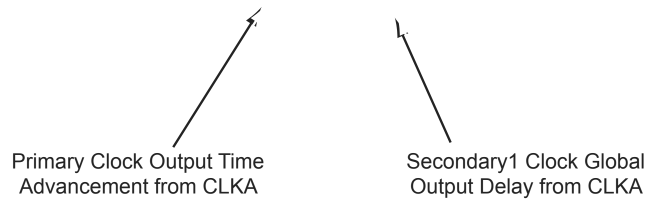


***Figure 4-30* • Model*Sim* Simulation Results**

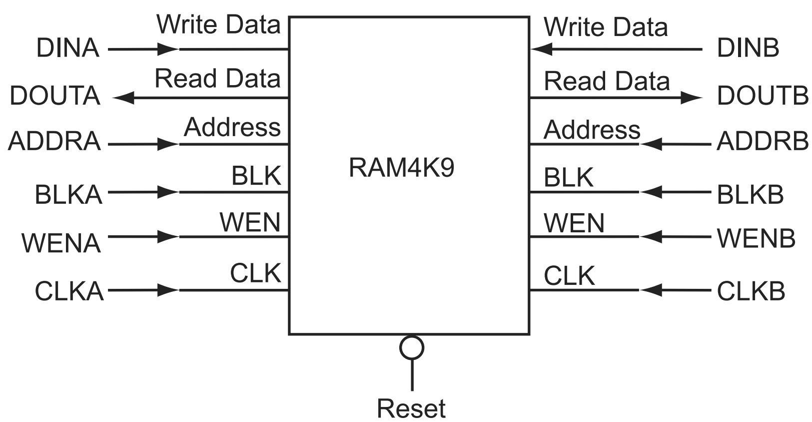
The timing can also be analyzed using SmartTime in Designer. The user should import the synthesized netlist to Designer, perform Compile and Layout, and then invoke SmartTime. Go to **Tools** > **Options** and change the maximum delay operating conditions to **Typical Case**. Then expand the Clock-to-Out paths of GLA and GLB and the individual components of the path delays are shown. The path of GLA is shown in Figure 4-31 on page 123 displaying the same delay value.

SRAM Features

RAM4K9 Macro

RAM4K9 is the dual-port configuration of the RAM block (Figure 6-4). The RAM4K9 nomenclature refers to both the deepest possible configuration and the widest possible configuration the dual-port RAM block can assume, and does not denote a possible memory aspect ratio. The RAM block can be configured to the following aspect ratios: 4,096×1, 2,048×2, 1,024×4, and 512×9. RAM4K9 is fully synchronous and has the following features:

- Two ports that allow fully independent reads and writes at different frequencies
- Selectable pipelined or nonpipelined read
- Active-low block enables for each port
- Toggle control between read and write mode for each port
- Active-low asynchronous reset
- Pass-through write data or hold existing data on output. In pass-through mode, the data written to the write port will immediately appear on the read port.
- Designer software will automatically facilitate falling-edge clocks by bubble-pushing the inversion to previous stages.



Note: For timing diagrams of the RAM signals, refer to the appropriate family datasheet.

Figure 6-4 **• RAM4K9 Simplified Configuration**

Signal Descriptions for RAM4K9

Note: Automotive ProASIC3 devices support single-port SRAM capabilities, or dual-port SRAM only under specific conditions. Dual-port mode is supported if the clocks to the two SRAM ports are the same and 180° out of phase (i.e., the port A clock is the inverse of the port B clock). Since Libero SoC macro libraries support a dual-port macro only, certain modifications must be made. These are detailed below.

The following signals are used to configure the RAM4K9 memory element:

WIDTHA and WIDTHB

These signals enable the RAM to be configured in one of four allowable aspect ratios (Table 6-2 on page 154).

Note: When using the SRAM in single-port mode for Automotive ProASIC3 devices, WIDTHB should be tied to ground.

compatible, which means devices can operate at conventional PCI frequencies (33 MHz and 66 MHz). PCI-X is more fault-tolerant than PCI. It also does not have programmable drive strength.

Voltage-Referenced Standards

I/Os using these standards are referenced to an external reference voltage (V_{REF}) and are supported on E devices only.

HSTL Class I and II (High-Speed Transceiver Logic)

These are general-purpose, high-speed 1.5 V bus standards (EIA/JESD 8-6) for signaling between integrated circuits. The signaling range is 0 V to 1.5 V, and signals can be either single-ended or differential. HSTL requires a differential amplifier input buffer and a push-pull output buffer. The reference voltage (VREF) is 0.75 V. These standards are used in the memory bus interface with data switching capability of up to 400 MHz. The other advantages of these standards are low power and fewer EMI concerns.

HSTL has four classes, of which low power flash devices support Class I and II. These classes are defined by standard EIA/JESD 8-6 from the Electronic Industries Alliance (EIA):

- Class I – Unterminated or symmetrically parallel-terminated
- Class II – Series-terminated
- Class III – Asymmetrically parallel-terminated
- Class IV – Asymmetrically double-parallel-terminated

SSTL2 Class I and II (Stub Series Terminated Logic 2.5 V)

These are general-purpose 2.5 V memory bus standards (JESD 8-9) for driving transmission lines, designed specifically for driving the DDR SDRAM modules used in computer memory. SSTL2 requires a differential amplifier input buffer and a push-pull output buffer. The reference voltage (VREF) is 1.25 V.

SSTL3 Class I and II (Stub Series Terminated Logic 3.3 V)

These are general-purpose 3.3 V memory bus standards (JESD 8-8) for driving transmission lines. SSTL3 requires a differential amplifier input buffer and a push-pull output buffer. The reference voltage (VREF) is 1.5 V.

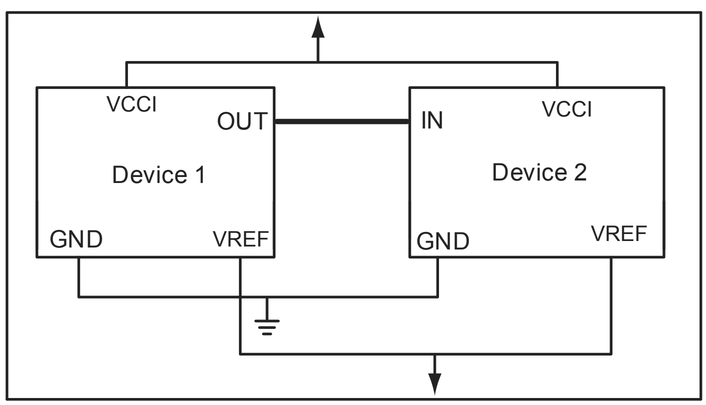


Figure 7-6 **• SSTL and HSTL Topology**

GTL 2.5 V (Gunning Transceiver Logic 2.5 V)

This is a low power standard (JESD 8.3) for electrical signals used in CMOS circuits that allows for low electromagnetic interference at high transfer speeds. It has a voltage swing between 0.4 V and 1.2 V and typically operates at speeds of between 20 and 40 MHz. VCCI must be connected to 2.5 V. The reference voltage (VREF) is 0.8 V.

GTL 3.3 V (Gunning Transceiver Logic 3.3 V)

This is the same as GTL 2.5 V above, except VCCI must be connected to 3.3 V.

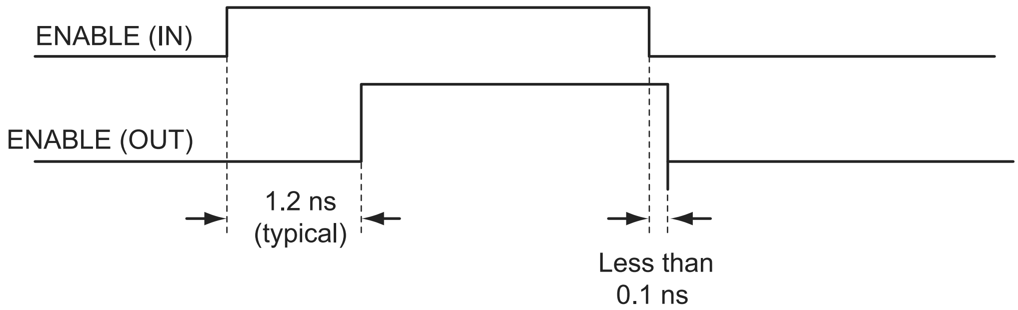


Figure 7-15 • **Timing Diagram (option 2: enables skew circuit)**

At the system level, the skew circuit can be used in applications where transmission activities on bidirectional data lines need to be coordinated. This circuit, when selected, provides a timing margin that can prevent bus contention and subsequent data loss and/or transmitter over-stress due to transmitter-to-transmitter current shorts. Figure 7-16 presents an example of the skew circuit implementation in a bidirectional communication system. Figure 7-17 on page 201 shows how bus contention is created, and Figure 7-18 on page 201 shows how it can be avoided with the skew circuit.

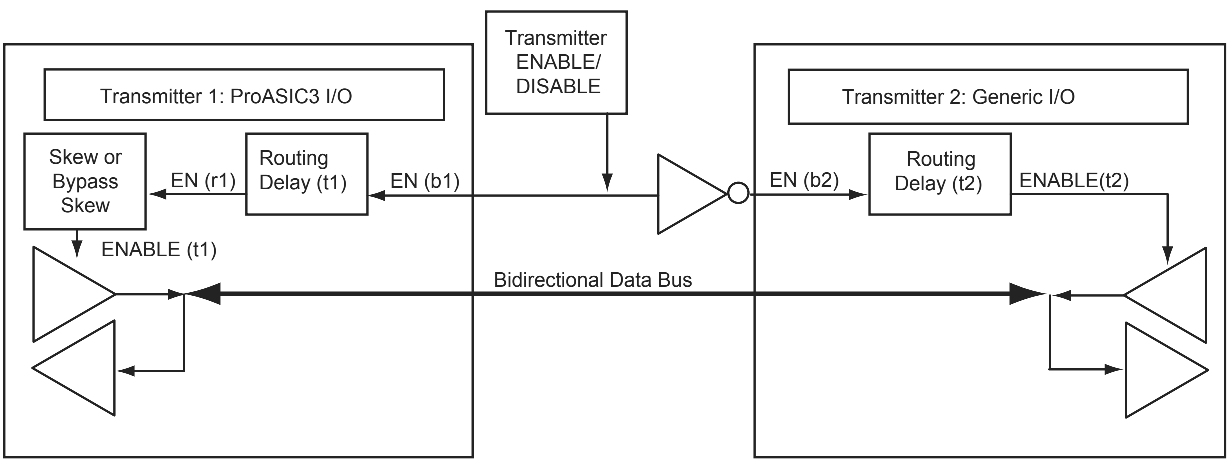


Figure 7-16 • **Example of Implementation of Skew Circuits in Bidirectional Transmission Systems Using IGLOO or ProASIC3 Devices**

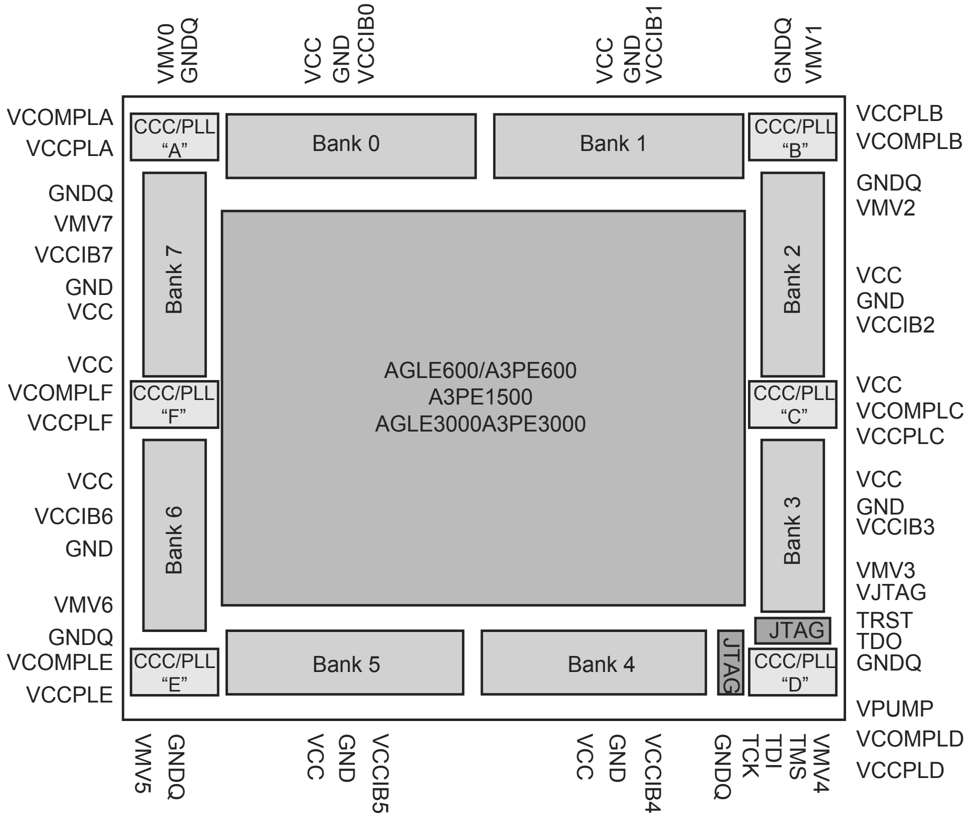


Figure 8-20 **• User I/O Naming Conventions of IGLOOe and ProASIC3E Devices – Top View**

Board-Level Considerations

Low power flash devices have robust I/O features that can help in reducing board-level components. The devices offer single-chip solutions, which makes the board layout simpler and more immune to signal integrity issues. Although, in many cases, these devices resolve board-level issues, special attention should always be given to overall signal integrity. This section covers important board-level considerations to facilitate optimum device performance.

Termination

Proper termination of all signals is essential for good signal quality. Nonterminated signals, especially clock signals, can cause malfunctioning of the device.

For general termination guidelines, refer to the *Board-Level Considerations* application note for Microsemi FPGAs. Also refer to the "Pin Descriptions" chapter of the appropriate datasheet for termination requirements for specific pins.

Low power flash I/Os are equipped with on-chip pull-up/-down resistors. The user can enable these resistors by instantiating them either in the top level of the design (refer to the *IGLOO, Fusion, and ProASIC3 Macro Library Guide* for the available I/O macros with pull-up/-down) or in the I/O Attribute Editor in Designer if generic input or output buffers are instantiated in the top level. Unused I/O pins are configured as inputs with pull-up resistors.

As mentioned earlier, low power flash devices have multiple programmable drive strengths, and the user can eliminate unwanted overshoot and undershoot by adjusting the drive strengths.

Date	Changes	Page
v1.3 (October 2008)	The "Low Power Flash Device I/O Support" section was revised to include new families and make the information more concise.	214
v1.2 (June 2008)	The following changes were made to the family descriptions in Table 8-1 · Flash-Based FPGAs: • ProASIC3L was updated to include 1.5 V. • The number of PLLs for ProASIC3E was changed from five to six.	214
v1.1 (March 2008)	This document was previously part of *I/O Structures in IGLOO and ProASIC3 Devices*. To provide information specific to IGLOOe, ProASIC3E, and ProASIC3EL, the content was separated and made into a new document. For information on other low power flash family I/O structures, refer to the following documents: *I/O Structures in IGLOO and ProASIC3 Devices* contains information specific to IGLOO, ProASIC3, and ProASIC3L I/O features. *I/O Structures in IGLOO PLUS Devices* contains information specific to IGLOO PLUS I/O features.	N/A

3. Double-click I/O to open the Create Core window, which is shown in Figure 9-3).

***Figure 9-3* • I/O Create Core Window**

As seen in Figure 9-3, there are five tabs to configure the I/O macro: Input Buffers, Output Buffers, Bidirectional Buffers, Tristate Buffers, and DDR.

Input Buffers

There are two variations: Regular and Special.

If the **Regular** variation is selected, only the Width (1 to 128) needs to be entered. The default value for Width is 1.

The **Special** variation has Width, Technology, Voltage Level, and Resistor Pull-Up/-Down options (see Figure 9-3). All the I/O standards and supply voltages (V_{CCI}) supported for the device family are available for selection.

4. Right-click and then choose **Highlight VREF range**. All the pins covered by that VREF pin will be highlighted (Figure 9-14).

Figure 9-14 **• VREF Range**

Using PinEditor or ChipPlanner, VREF pins can also be assigned (Figure 9-15).

Figure 9-15 **• Assigning VREF from PinEditor**

To unassign a VREF pin:

1. Select the pin to unassign.
2. Right-click and choose **Use Pin for VREF.** The check mark next to the command disappears. The VREF pin is now a regular pin.

Resetting the pin may result in unassigning I/O cores, even if they are locked. In this case, a warning message appears so you can cancel the operation.

After you assign the VREF pins, right-click a VREF pin and choose **Highlight VREF Range** to see how many I/Os are covered by that pin. To unhighlight the range, choose **Unhighlight All** from the **Edit** menu.

Instantiating DDR Registers

Using SmartGen is the simplest way to generate the appropriate RTL files for use in the design. Figure 10-4 shows an example of using SmartGen to generate a DDR SSTL2 Class I input register. SmartGen provides the capability to generate all of the DDR I/O cells as described. The user, through the graphical user interface, can select from among the many supported I/O standards. The output formats supported are Verilog, VHDL, and EDIF.

Figure 10-5 on page 277 through Figure 10-8 on page 280 show the I/O cell configured for DDR using SSTL2 Class I technology. For each I/O standard, the I/O pad is buffered by a special primitive that indicates the I/O standard type.

Figure 10-4 **• Example of Using SmartGen to Generate a DDR SSTL2 Class I Input Register**

12 – Security in Low Power Flash Devices

Security in Programmable Logic

The need for security on FPGA programmable logic devices (PLDs) has never been greater than today. If the contents of the FPGA can be read by an external source, the intellectual property (IP) of the system is vulnerable to unauthorized copying. Fusion, IGLOO, and ProASIC3 devices contain state-of-the-art circuitry to make the flash-based devices secure during and after programming. Low power flash devices have a built-in 128-bit Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) decryption core (except for 30 k gate devices and smaller). The decryption core facilitates secure in-system programming (ISP) of the FPGA core array fabric, the FlashROM, and the Flash Memory Blocks (FBs) in Fusion devices. The FlashROM, Flash Blocks, and FPGA core fabric can be programmed independently of each other, allowing the FlashROM or Flash Blocks to be updated without the need for change to the FPGA core fabric.

Microsemi has incorporated the AES decryption core into the low power flash devices and has also included the Microsemi flash-based lock technology, FlashLock.® Together, they provide leading-edge security in a programmable logic device. Configuration data loaded into a device can be decrypted prior to being written to the FPGA core using the AES 128-bit block cipher standard. The AES encryption key is stored in on-chip, nonvolatile flash memory.

This document outlines the security features offered in low power flash devices, some applications and uses, as well as the different software settings for each application.

***Figure 12-1* • Overview on Security**

IEEE 1532 (JTAG) Interface

The supported industry-standard IEEE 1532 programming interface builds on the IEEE 1149.1 (JTAG) standard. IEEE 1532 defines the standardized process and methodology for ISP. Both silicon and software issues are addressed in IEEE 1532 to create a simplified ISP environment. Any IEEE 1532 compliant programmer can be used to program low power flash devices. Device serialization is not supported when using the IEEE1532 standard. Refer to the standard for detailed information about IEEE 1532.

Security

Unlike SRAM-based FPGAs that require loading at power-up from an external source such as a microcontroller or boot PROM, Microsemi nonvolatile devices are live at power-up, and there is no bitstream required to load the device when power is applied. The unique flash-based architecture prevents reverse engineering of the programmed code on the device, because the programmed data is stored in nonvolatile memory cells. Each nonvolatile memory cell is made up of small capacitors and any physical deconstruction of the device will disrupt stored electrical charges.

Each low power flash device has a built-in 128-bit Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) decryption core, except for the 30 k gate devices and smaller. Any FPGA core or FlashROM content loaded into the device can optionally be sent as encrypted bitstream and decrypted as it is loaded. This is particularly suitable for applications where device updates must be transmitted over an unsecured network such as the Internet. The embedded AES decryption core can prevent sensitive data from being intercepted (Figure 13-1 on page 331). A single 128-bit AES Key (32 hex characters) is used to encrypt FPGA core programming data and/or FlashROM programming data in the Microsemi tools. The low power flash devices also decrypt with a single 128-bit AES Key. In addition, low power flash devices support a Message Authentication Code (MAC) for authentication of the encrypted bitstream on-chip. This allows the encrypted bitstream to be authenticated and prevents erroneous data from being programmed into the device. The FPGA core, FlashROM, and Flash Memory Blocks (FBs), in Fusion only, can be updated independently using a programming file that is AES-encrypted (cipher text) or uses plain text.

16 – Boundary Scan in Low Power Flash Devices

Boundary Scan

Low power flash devices are compatible with IEEE Standard 1149.1, which defines a hardware architecture and the set of mechanisms for boundary scan testing. JTAG operations are used during boundary scan testing.

The basic boundary scan logic circuit is composed of the TAP controller, test data registers, and instruction register (Figure 16-2 on page 360).

Low power flash devices support three types of test data registers: bypass, device identification, and boundary scan. The bypass register is selected when no other register needs to be accessed in a device. This speeds up test data transfer to other devices in a test data path. The 32-bit device identification register is a shift register with four fields (LSB, ID number, part number, and version). The boundary scan register observes and controls the state of each I/O pin. Each I/O cell has three boundary scan register cells, each with serial-in, serial-out, parallel-in, and parallel-out pins.

TAP Controller State Machine

The TAP controller is a 4-bit state machine (16 states) that operates as shown in Figure 16-1.

The 1s and 0s represent the values that must be present on TMS at a rising edge of TCK for the given state transition to occur. IR and DR indicate that the instruction register or the data register is operating in that state.

The TAP controller receives two control inputs (TMS and TCK) and generates control and clock signals for the rest of the test logic architecture. On power-up, the TAP controller enters the Test-Logic-Reset state. To guarantee a reset of the controller from any of the possible states, TMS must remain HIGH for five TCK cycles. The TRST pin can also be used to asynchronously place the TAP controller in the Test-Logic-Reset state.

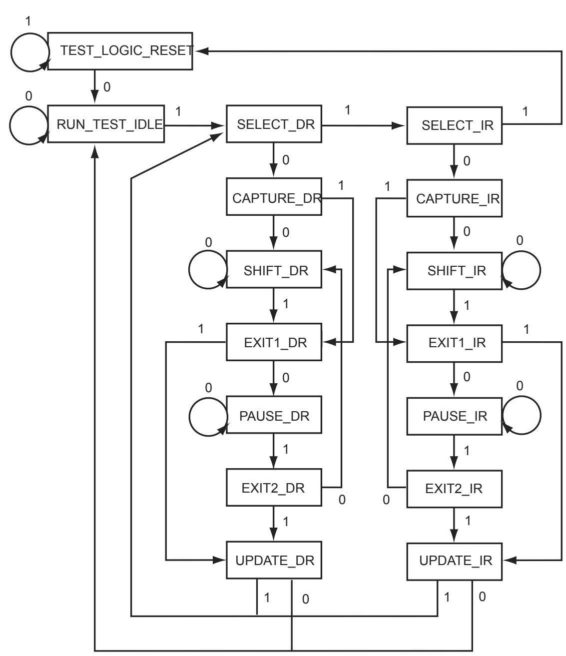


Figure 16-1 • **TAP Controller State Machine**

Typical UJTAG Applications

Bidirectional access to the JTAG port from VersaTiles—without putting the device into test mode—creates flexibility to implement many different applications. This section describes a few of these. All are based on importing/exporting data through the UJTAG tiles.

Clock Conditioning Circuitry—Dynamic Reconfiguration

In low power flash devices, CCCs, which include PLLs, can be configured dynamically through either an 81-bit embedded shift register or static flash programming switches. These 81 bits control all the characteristics of the CCC: routing MUX architectures, delay values, divider values, etc. Table 17-3 lists the 81 configuration bits in the CCC.

***Table 17-3* • Configuration Bits of Fusion, IGLOO, and ProASIC3 CCC Blocks**

Bit Number(s)	Control Function
80	RESET ENABLE
79	DYNCSEL
78	DYNBSEL
77	DYNASEL
<76:74>	VCOSEL [2:0]
73	STATCSEL
72	STATBSEL
71	STATASEL
<70:66>	DLYC [4:0]
<65:61>	DLYB {4:0]
<60:56>	DLYGLC [4:0]
<55:51>	DLYGLB [4:0]
<50:46>	DLYGLA [4:0]
45	XDLYSEL
<44:40>	FBDLY [4:0]
<39:38>	FBSEL
<37:35>	OCMUX [2:0]
<34:32>	OBMUX [2:0]
<31:29>	OAMUX [2:0]
<28:24>	OCDIV [4:0]
<23:19>	OBDIV [4:0]
<18:14>	OADIV [4:0]
<13:7>	FBDIV [6:0]
<6:0>	FINDIV [6:0]

The embedded 81-bit shift register (for the dynamic configuration of the CCC) is accessible to the VersaTiles, which, in turn, have access to the UJTAG tiles. Therefore, the CCC configuration shift register can receive and load the new configuration data stream from JTAG.

Dynamic reconfiguration eliminates the need to reprogram the device when reconfiguration of the CCC functional blocks is needed. The CCC configuration can be modified while the device continues to operate. Employing the UJTAG core requires the user to design a module to provide the configuration data and control the CCC configuration shift register. In essence, this is a user-designed TAP Controller requiring chip resources.

Similar reconfiguration capability exists in the ProASIC^{PLUS}® family. The only difference is the number of shift register bits controlling the CCC (27 in ProASIC^{PLUS} and 81 in IGLOO, ProASIC3, and Fusion).