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APEX 20K

Programmable Logic Device Family

March 2004, ver. 5.1 Data Sheet

Features

- Industry's first programmable logic device (PLD) incorporating system-on-a-programmable-chip (SOPC) integration
  - MultiCore™ architecture integrating look-up table (LUT) logic, product-term logic, and embedded memory
  - LUT logic used for register-intensive functions
  - Embedded system block (ESB) used to implement memory functions, including first-in first-out (FIFO) buffers, dual-port RAM, and content-addressable memory (CAM)
  - ESB implementation of product-term logic used for combinatorial-intensive functions
- High density
  - 30,000 to 1.5 million typical gates (see Tables 1 and 2)
  - Up to 51,840 logic elements (LEs)
  - Up to 442,368 RAM bits that can be used without reducing available logic
  - Up to 3,456 product-term-based macrocells

Table 1. APEX 20K Device Features *Note (1)*

Feature	EP20K30E	EP20K60E	EP20K100	EP20K100E	EP20K160E	EP20K200	EP20K200E
Maximum system gates	113,000	162,000	263,000	263,000	404,000	526,000	526,000
Typical gates	30,000	60,000	100,000	100,000	160,000	200,000	200,000
LEs	1,200	2,560	4,160	4,160	6,400	8,320	8,320
ESBs	12	16	26	26	40	52	52
Maximum RAM bits	24,576	32,768	53,248	53,248	81,920	106,496	106,496
Maximum macrocells	192	256	416	416	640	832	832
Maximum user I/O pins	128	196	252	246	316	382	376

Table 2. Additional APEX 20K Device Features *Note (1)*

Feature	EP20K300E	EP20K400	EP20K400E	EP20K600E	EP20K1000E	EP20K1500E
Maximum system gates	728,000	1,052,000	1,052,000	1,537,000	1,772,000	2,392,000
Typical gates	300,000	400,000	400,000	600,000	1,000,000	1,500,000
LEs	11,520	16,640	16,640	24,320	38,400	51,840
ESBs	72	104	104	152	160	216
Maximum RAM bits	147,456	212,992	212,992	311,296	327,680	442,368
Maximum macrocells	1,152	1,664	1,664	2,432	2,560	3,456
Maximum user I/O pins	408	502	488	588	708	808

Note to Tables 1 and 2:
(1) The embedded IEEE Std. 1149.1 Joint Test Action Group (JTAG) boundary-scan circuitry contributes up to 57,000 additional gates.

Additional Features

- Designed for low-power operation
  - 1.8-V and 2.5-V supply voltage (see Table 3)
  - MultiVolt™ I/O interface support to interface with 1.8-V, 2.5-V, 3.3-V, and 5.0-V devices (see Table 3)
  - ESB offering programmable power-saving mode

Table 3. APEX 20K Supply Voltages

Feature	Device	
	EP20K100 EP20K200 EP20K400	EP20K30E EP20K60E EP20K100E EP20K160E EP20K200E EP20K300E EP20K400E EP20K600E EP20K1000E EP20K1500E
Internal supply voltage (V_{CCINT})	2.5 V	1.8 V
MultiVolt I/O interface voltage levels (V_{CCIO})	2.5 V, 3.3 V, 5.0 V	1.8 V, 2.5 V, 3.3 V, 5.0 V *(1)*

Note to Table 3:
(1) APEX 20KE devices can be 5.0-V tolerant by using an external resistor.

- Flexible clock management circuitry with up to four phase-locked loops (PLLs)
  - Built-in low-skew clock tree
  - Up to eight global clock signals
  - ClockLock® feature reducing clock delay and skew
  - ClockBoost® feature providing clock multiplication and division
  - ClockShift™ programmable clock phase and delay shifting
- Powerful I/O features
  - Compliant with peripheral component interconnect Special Interest Group (PCI SIG) ***PCI Local Bus Specification, Revision 2.2*** for 3.3-V operation at 33 or 66 MHz and 32 or 64 bits
  - Support for high-speed external memories, including DDR SDRAM and ZBT SRAM (ZBT is a trademark of Integrated Device Technology, Inc.)
  - Bidirectional I/O performance (t_{CO} + t_{SU}) up to 250 MHz
  - LVDS performance up to 840 Mbits per channel
  - Direct connection from I/O pins to local interconnect providing fast t_{CO} and t_{SU} times for complex logic
  - MultiVolt I/O interface support to interface with 1.8-V, 2.5-V, 3.3-V, and 5.0-V devices (see Table 3)
  - Programmable clamp to V_{CCIO}
  - Individual tri-state output enable control for each pin
  - Programmable output slew-rate control to reduce switching noise
  - Support for advanced I/O standards, including low-voltage differential signaling (LVDS), LVPECL, PCI-X, AGP, CTT, stub-series terminated logic (SSTL-3 and SSTL-2), Gunning transceiver logic plus (GTL+), and high-speed terminated logic (HSTL Class I)
  - Pull-up on I/O pins before and during configuration
- Advanced interconnect structure
  - Four-level hierarchical FastTrack® Interconnect structure providing fast, predictable interconnect delays
  - Dedicated carry chain that implements arithmetic functions such as fast adders, counters, and comparators (automatically used by software tools and megafunctions)
  - Dedicated cascade chain that implements high-speed, high-fan-in logic functions (automatically used by software tools and megafunctions)
  - Interleaved local interconnect allows one LE to drive 29 other LEs through the fast local interconnect
- Advanced packaging options
  - Available in a variety of packages with 144 to 1,020 pins (see Tables 4 through 7)
  - FineLine BGA® packages maximize board space efficiency
- Advanced software support
  - Software design support and automatic place-and-route provided by the Altera® Quartus® II development system for

Windows-based PCs, Sun SPARCstations, and HP 9000 Series 700/800 workstations
- Altera MegaCore® functions and Altera Megafunction Partners Program (AMPP℠) megafunctions
- NativeLink™ integration with popular synthesis, simulation, and timing analysis tools
- Quartus II SignalTap® embedded logic analyzer simplifies in-system design evaluation by giving access to internal nodes during device operation
- Supports popular revision-control software packages including PVCS, Revision Control System (RCS), and Source Code Control System (SCCS)

Table 4. APEX 20K QFP, BGA & PGA Package Options & I/O Count *Notes (1), (2)*

Device	144-Pin TQFP	208-Pin PQFP RQFP	240-Pin PQFP RQFP	356-Pin BGA	652-Pin BGA	655-Pin PGA
EP20K30E	92	125				
EP20K60E	92	148	151	196		
EP20K100	101	159	189	252		
EP20K100E	92	151	183	246		
EP20K160E	88	143	175	271		
EP20K200		144	174	277		
EP20K200E		136	168	271	376	
EP20K300E			152		408	
EP20K400					502	502
EP20K400E					488	
EP20K600E					488	
EP20K1000E					488	
EP20K1500E					488	

Table 5. APEX 20K FineLine BGA Package Options & I/O Count *Notes (1), (2)*

Device	144 Pin	324 Pin	484 Pin	672 Pin	1,020 Pin
EP20K30E	93	128			
EP20K60E	93	196			
EP20K100		252			
EP20K100E	93	246			
EP20K160E			316		
EP20K200			382		
EP20K200E			376	376	
EP20K300E				408	
EP20K400				502 *(3)*	
EP20K400E				488 *(3)*	
EP20K600E				508 *(3)*	588
EP20K1000E				508 *(3)*	708
EP20K1500E					808

Notes to Tables 4 and 5:

(1) I/O counts include dedicated input and clock pins.

(2) APEX 20K device package types include thin quad flat pack (TQFP), plastic quad flat pack (PQFP), power quad flat pack (RQFP), 1.27-mm pitch ball-grid array (BGA), 1.00-mm pitch FineLine BGA, and pin-grid array (PGA) packages.

(3) This device uses a thermally enhanced package, which is taller than the regular package. Consult the *Altera Device Package Information Data Sheet* for detailed package size information.

Table 6. APEX 20K QFP, BGA & PGA Package Sizes

Feature	144-Pin TQFP	208-Pin QFP	240-Pin QFP	356-Pin BGA	652-Pin BGA	655-Pin PGA
Pitch (mm)	0.50	0.50	0.50	1.27	1.27	–
Area (mm^2)	484	924	1,218	1,225	2,025	3,906
Length × Width (mm × mm)	22 × 22	30.4 × 30.4	34.9 × 34.9	35 × 35	45 × 45	62.5 × 62.5

Table 7. APEX 20K FineLine BGA Package Sizes

Feature	144 Pin	324 Pin	484 Pin	672 Pin	1,020 Pin
Pitch (mm)	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Area (mm^2)	169	361	529	729	1,089
Length × Width (mm × mm)	13 × 13	19 × 19	23 × 23	27 × 27	33 × 33

General Description

APEX™ 20K devices are the first PLDs designed with the MultiCore architecture, which combines the strengths of LUT-based and product-term-based devices with an enhanced memory structure. LUT-based logic provides optimized performance and efficiency for data-path, register-intensive, mathematical, or digital signal processing (DSP) designs. Product-term-based logic is optimized for complex combinatorial paths, such as complex state machines. LUT- and product-term-based logic combined with memory functions and a wide variety of MegaCore and AMPP functions make the APEX 20K device architecture uniquely suited for system-on-a-programmable-chip designs. Applications historically requiring a combination of LUT-, product-term-, and memory-based devices can now be integrated into one APEX 20K device.

APEX 20KE devices are a superset of APEX 20K devices and include additional features such as advanced I/O standard support, CAM, additional global clocks, and enhanced ClockLock clock circuitry. In addition, APEX 20KE devices extend the APEX 20K family to 1.5 million gates. APEX 20KE devices are denoted with an "E" suffix in the device name (e.g., the EP20K1000E device is an APEX 20KE device). Table 8 compares the features included in APEX 20K and APEX 20KE devices.

Table 8. Comparison of APEX 20K & APEX 20KE Features

Feature	APEX 20K Devices	APEX 20KE Devices
MultiCore system integration	Full support	Full support
SignalTap logic analysis	Full support	Full support
32/64-Bit, 33-MHz PCI	Full compliance in -1, -2 speed grades	Full compliance in -1, -2 speed grades
32/64-Bit, 66-MHz PCI	-	Full compliance in -1 speed grade
MultiVolt I/O	2.5-V or 3.3-V V_{CCIO} V_{CCIO} selected for device Certain devices are 5.0-V tolerant	1.8-V, 2.5-V, or 3.3-V V_{CCIO} V_{CCIO} selected block-by-block 5.0-V tolerant with use of external resistor
ClockLock support	Clock delay reduction 2× and 4× clock multiplication	Clock delay reduction $m/(n \times v)$ or $m/(n \times k)$ clock multiplication Drive ClockLock output off-chip External clock feedback ClockShift LVDS support Up to four PLLs ClockShift, clock phase adjustment
Dedicated clock and input pins	Six	Eight
I/O standard support	2.5-V, 3.3-V, 5.0-V I/O 3.3-V PCI Low-voltage complementary metal-oxide semiconductor (LVCMOS) Low-voltage transistor-to-transistor logic (LVTTL)	1.8-V, 2.5-V, 3.3-V, 5.0-V I/O 2.5-V I/O 3.3-V PCI and PCI-X 3.3-V Advanced Graphics Port (AGP) Center tap terminated (CTT) GTL+ LVCMOS LVTTL True-LVDS and LVPECL data pins (in EP20K300E and larger devices) LVDS and LVPECL signaling (in all BGA and FineLine BGA devices) LVDS and LVPECL data pins up to 156 Mbps (in -1 speed grade devices) HSTL Class I PCI-X SSTL-2 Class I and II SSTL-3 Class I and II
Memory support	Dual-port RAM FIFO RAM ROM	CAM Dual-port RAM FIFO RAM ROM

All APEX 20K devices are reconfigurable and are 100% tested prior to shipment. As a result, test vectors do not have to be generated for fault coverage purposes. Instead, the designer can focus on simulation and design verification. In addition, the designer does not need to manage inventories of different application-specific integrated circuit (ASIC) designs; APEX 20K devices can be configured on the board for the specific functionality required.

APEX 20K devices are configured at system power-up with data stored in an Altera serial configuration device or provided by a system controller. Altera offers in-system programmability (ISP)-capable EPC1, EPC2, and EPC16 configuration devices, which configure APEX 20K devices via a serial data stream. Moreover, APEX 20K devices contain an optimized interface that permits microprocessors to configure APEX 20K devices serially or in parallel, and synchronously or asynchronously. The interface also enables microprocessors to treat APEX 20K devices as memory and configure the device by writing to a virtual memory location, making reconfiguration easy.

After an APEX 20K device has been configured, it can be reconfigured in-circuit by resetting the device and loading new data. Real-time changes can be made during system operation, enabling innovative reconfigurable computing applications.

APEX 20K devices are supported by the Altera Quartus II development system, a single, integrated package that offers HDL and schematic design entry, compilation and logic synthesis, full simulation and worst-case timing analysis, SignalTap logic analysis, and device configuration. The Quartus II software runs on Windows-based PCs, Sun SPARCstations, and HP 9000 Series 700/800 workstations.

The Quartus II software provides NativeLink interfaces to other industry-standard PC- and UNIX workstation-based EDA tools. For example, designers can invoke the Quartus II software from within third-party design tools. Further, the Quartus II software contains built-in optimized synthesis libraries; synthesis tools can use these libraries to optimize designs for APEX 20K devices. For example, the Synopsys Design Compiler library, supplied with the Quartus II development system, includes DesignWare functions optimized for the APEX 20K architecture.

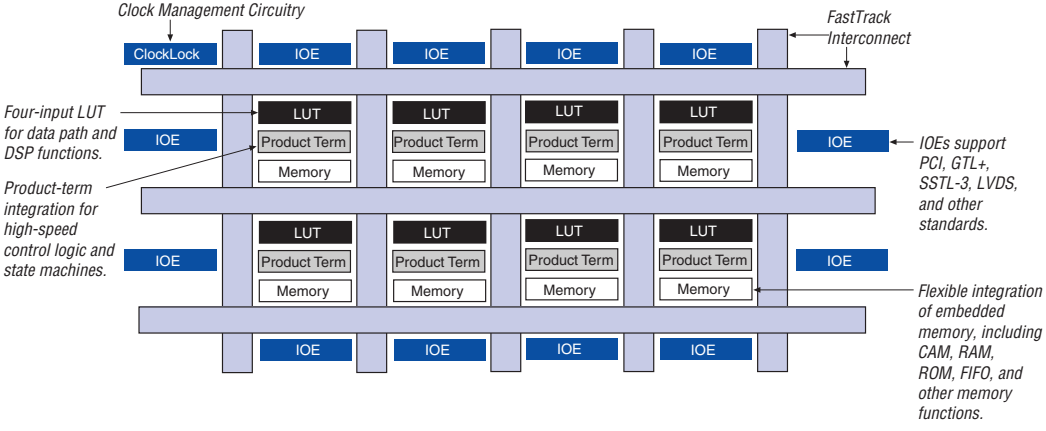
Functional Description

APEX 20K devices incorporate LUT-based logic, product-term-based logic, and memory into one device. Signal interconnections within APEX 20K devices (as well as to and from device pins) are provided by the FastTrack® Interconnect—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. Each IOE contains a bidirectional I/O buffer and a register that can be used as either an input or output register to feed input, output, or bidirectional signals. When used with a dedicated clock pin, these registers provide exceptional performance. IOEs provide a variety of features, such as 3.3-V, 64-bit, 66-MHz PCI compliance; JTAG BST support; slew-rate control; and tri-state buffers. APEX 20KE devices offer enhanced I/O support, including support for 1.8-V I/O, 2.5-V I/O, LVCMOS, LVTTL, LVPECL, 3.3-V PCI, PCI-X, LVDS, GTL+, SSTL-2, SSTL-3, HSTL, CTT, and 3.3-V AGP I/O standards.

The ESB can implement a variety of memory functions, including CAM, RAM, dual-port RAM, ROM, and FIFO functions. Embedding the memory directly into the die improves performance and reduces die area compared to distributed-RAM implementations. Moreover, the abundance of cascadable ESBs ensures that the APEX 20K device can implement multiple wide memory blocks for high-density designs. The ESB's high speed ensures it can implement small memory blocks without any speed penalty. The abundance of ESBs ensures that designers can create as many different-sized memory blocks as the system requires. Figure 1 shows an overview of the APEX 20K device.

Figure 1. APEX 20K Device Block Diagram

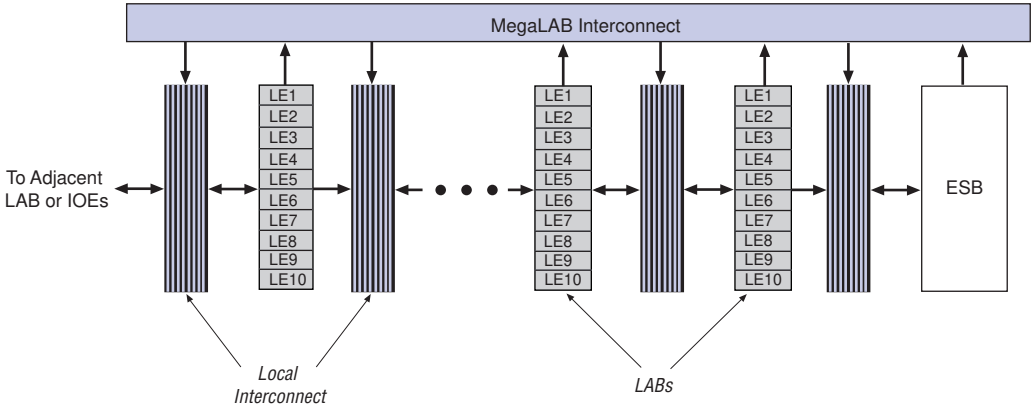


APEX 20K devices provide two dedicated clock pins and four dedicated input pins that drive register control inputs. These signals ensure efficient distribution of high-speed, low-skew control signals. These signals use dedicated routing channels to provide short delays and low skews. Four of the dedicated inputs drive four global signals. These four global signals can also be driven by internal logic, providing an ideal solution for a clock divider or internally generated asynchronous clear signals with high fan-out. The dedicated clock pins featured on the APEX 20K devices can also feed logic. The devices also feature ClockLock and ClockBoost clock management circuitry. APEX 20KE devices provide two additional dedicated clock pins, for a total of four dedicated clock pins.

MegaLAB Structure

APEX 20K devices are constructed from a series of MegaLAB™ structures. Each MegaLAB structure contains a group of logic array blocks (LABs), one ESB, and a MegaLAB interconnect, which routes signals within the MegaLAB structure. The EP20K30E device has 10 LABs, EP20K60E through EP20K600E devices have 16 LABs, and the EP20K1000E and EP20K1500E devices have 24 LABs. Signals are routed between MegaLAB structures and I/O pins via the FastTrack Interconnect. In addition, edge LABs can be driven by I/O pins through the local interconnect. Figure 2 shows the MegaLAB structure.

Figure 2. MegaLAB Structure

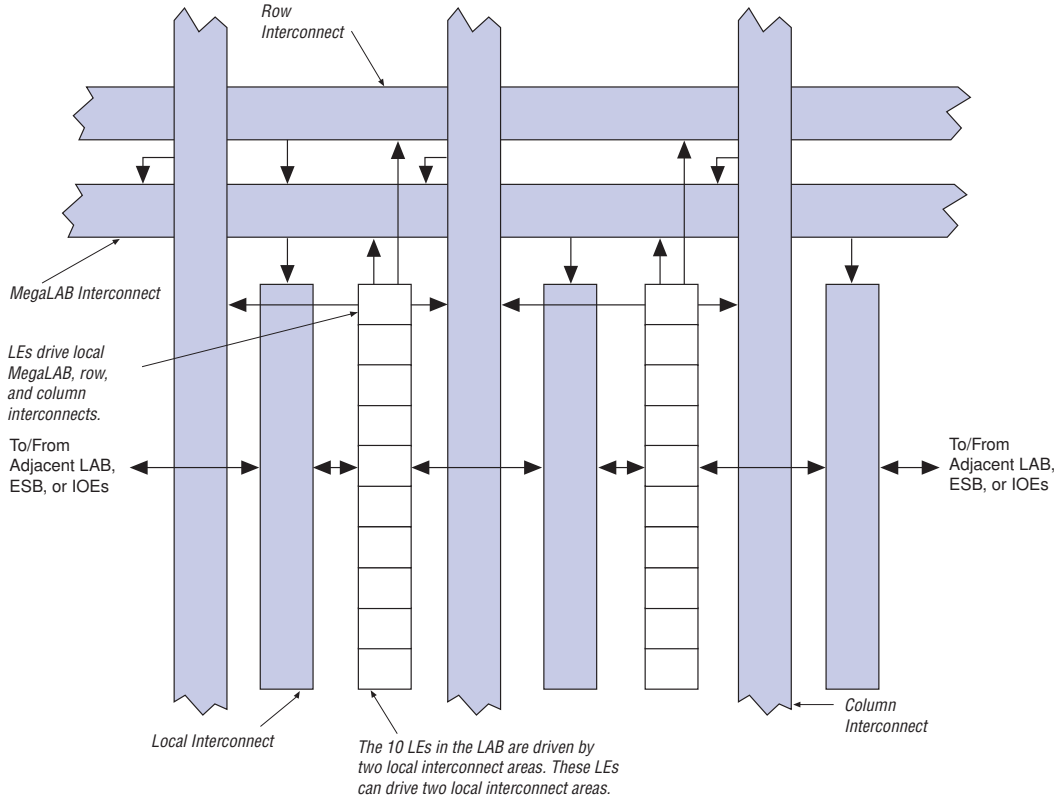


Logic Array Block

Each LAB consists of 10 LEs, the LEs' associated carry and cascade chains, LAB control signals, and the local interconnect. The local interconnect transfers signals between LEs in the same or adjacent LABs, IOEs, or ESBs. The Quartus II Compiler places associated logic within an LAB or adjacent LABs, allowing the use of a fast local interconnect for high performance. Figure 3 shows the APEX 20K LAB.

APEX 20K devices use an interleaved LAB structure. This structure allows each LE to drive two local interconnect areas. This feature minimizes use of the MegaLAB and FastTrack interconnect, providing higher performance and flexibility. Each LE can drive 29 other LEs through the fast local interconnect.

Figure 3. LAB Structure



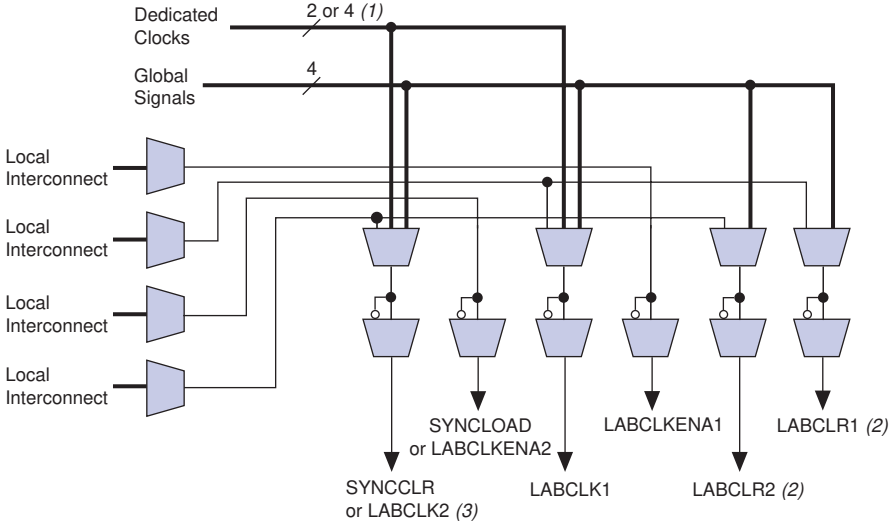
Each LAB contains dedicated logic for driving control signals to its LEs and ESBs. The control signals include clock, clock enable, asynchronous clear, asynchronous preset, asynchronous load, synchronous clear, and synchronous load signals. A maximum of six control signals can be used at a time. Although synchronous load and clear signals are generally used when implementing counters, they can also be used with other functions.

Each LAB can use two clocks and two clock enable signals. Each LAB's clock and clock enable signals are linked (e.g., any LE in a particular LAB using `CLK1` will also use `CLKENA1`). LEs with the same clock but different clock enable signals either use both clock signals in one LAB or are placed into separate LABs.

If both the rising and falling edges of a clock are used in a LAB, both LAB-wide clock signals are used.

The LAB-wide control signals can be generated from the LAB local interconnect, global signals, and dedicated clock pins. The inherent low skew of the FastTrack Interconnect enables it to be used for clock distribution. Figure 4 shows the LAB control signal generation circuit.

Figure 4. LAB Control Signal Generation



Notes to Figure 4:

(1) APEX 20KE devices have four dedicated clocks.

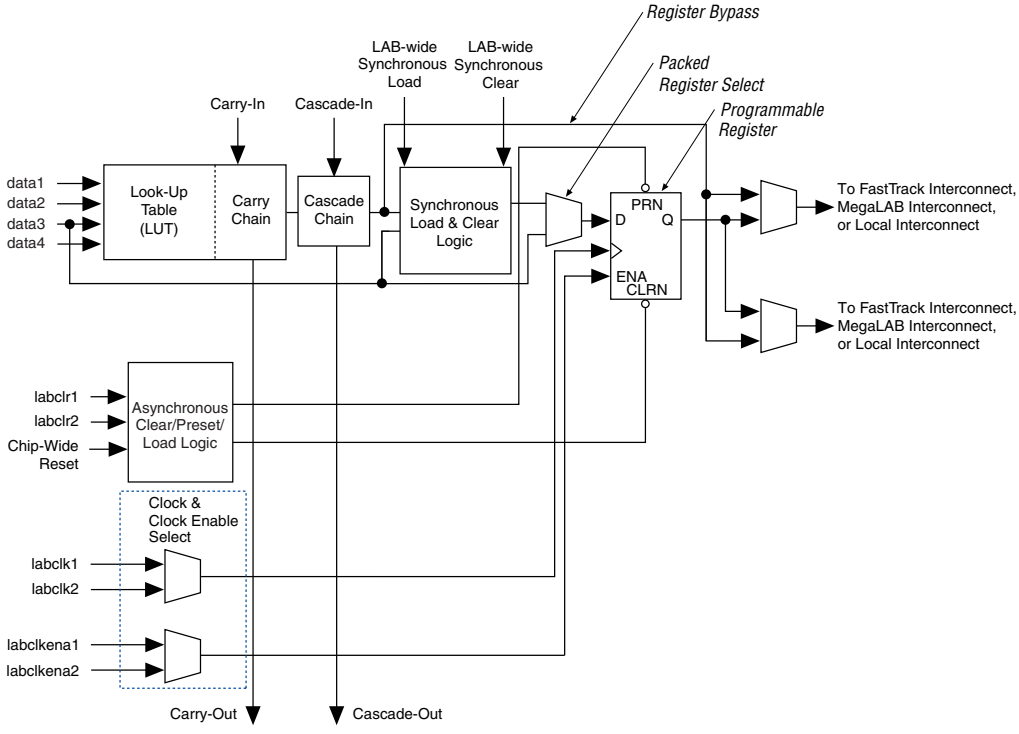
(2) The `LABCLR1` and `LABCLR2` signals also control asynchronous load and asynchronous preset for LEs within the LAB.

(3) The `SYNCCLR` signal can be generated by the local interconnect or global signals.

Logic Element

The LE, the smallest unit of logic in the APEX 20K architecture, is compact and provides efficient logic usage. Each LE contains a four-input LUT, which is a function generator that can quickly implement any function of four variables. In addition, each LE contains a programmable register and carry and cascade chains. Each LE drives the local interconnect, MegaLAB interconnect, and FastTrack Interconnect routing structures. See Figure 5.

Figure 5. APEX 20K Logic Element



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

Each LE has two outputs that drive the local, MegaLAB, or FastTrack Interconnect routing structure. Each output can be driven independently by the LUT's or register's output. For example, the LUT can drive one output while the register drives the other output. This feature, called register packing, improves device utilization because the register and the LUT can be used for unrelated functions. The LE can also drive out registered and unregistered versions of the LUT output.

The APEX 20K architecture provides two types of dedicated high-speed data paths that connect adjacent LEs without using local interconnect paths: carry chains and cascade chains. A carry chain supports high-speed arithmetic functions such as counters and adders, while a cascade chain implements wide-input functions such as equality comparators with minimum delay. Carry and cascade chains connect LEs 1 through 10 in an LAB and all LABs in the same MegaLAB structure.

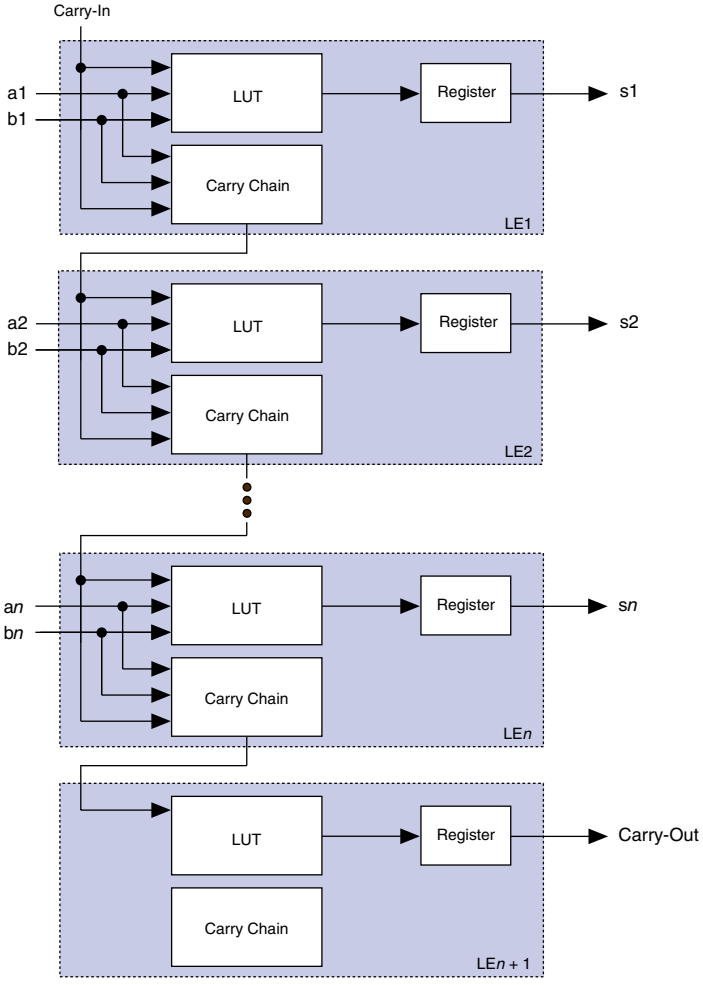
Carry Chain

The carry chain provides a very fast carry-forward function between LEs. The carry-in signal from a lower-order bit drives forward into the higher-order bit via the carry chain, and feeds into both the LUT and the next portion of the carry chain. This feature allows the APEX 20K architecture to implement high-speed counters, adders, and comparators of arbitrary width. Carry chain logic can be created automatically by the Quartus II software Compiler during design processing, or manually by the designer during design entry. Parameterized functions such as library of parameterized modules (LPM) and DesignWare functions automatically take advantage of carry chains for the appropriate functions.

The Quartus II software Compiler creates carry chains longer than ten LEs by linking LABs together automatically. For enhanced fitting, a long carry chain skips alternate LABs in a MegaLAB™ structure. A carry chain longer than one LAB skips either from an even-numbered LAB to the next even-numbered LAB, or from an odd-numbered LAB to the next odd-numbered LAB. For example, the last LE of the first LAB in the upper-left MegaLAB structure carries to the first LE of the third LAB in the MegaLAB structure.

Figure 6 shows how an *n*-bit full adder can be implemented in *n* + 1 LEs with the carry chain. One portion of the LUT generates the sum of two bits using the input signals and the carry-in signal; the sum is routed to the output of the LE. The register can be bypassed for simple adders or used for accumulator functions. Another portion of the LUT and the carry chain logic generates the carry-out signal, which is routed directly to the carry-in signal of the next-higher-order bit. The final carry-out signal is routed to an LE, where it is driven onto the local, MegaLAB, or FastTrack Interconnect routing structures.

Figure 6. APEX 20K Carry Chain

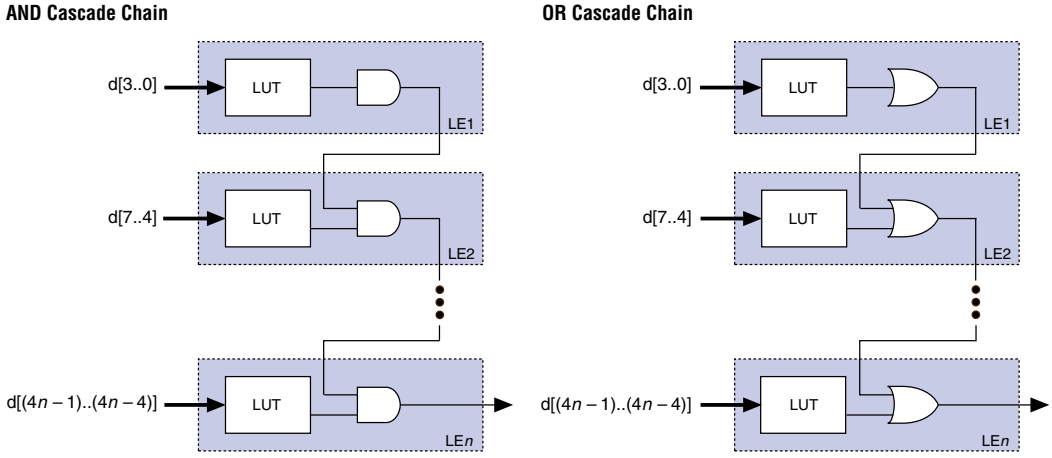


Cascade Chain

With the cascade chain, the APEX 20K architecture can implement functions with a very wide fan-in. Adjacent LUTs can compute portions of a function in parallel; the cascade chain serially connects the intermediate values. The cascade chain can use a logical AND or logical OR (via De Morgan's inversion) to connect the outputs of adjacent LEs. Each additional LE provides four more inputs to the effective width of a function, with a short cascade delay. Cascade chain logic can be created automatically by the Quartus II software Compiler during design processing, or manually by the designer during design entry.

Cascade chains longer than ten LEs are implemented automatically by linking LABs together. For enhanced fitting, a long cascade chain skips alternate LABs in a MegaLAB structure. A cascade chain longer than one LAB skips either from an even-numbered LAB to the next even-numbered LAB, or from an odd-numbered LAB to the next odd-numbered LAB. For example, the last LE of the first LAB in the upper-left MegaLAB structure carries to the first LE of the third LAB in the MegaLAB structure. Figure 7 shows how the cascade function can connect adjacent LEs to form functions with a wide fan-in.

Figure 7. APEX 20K Cascade Chain



LE Operating Modes

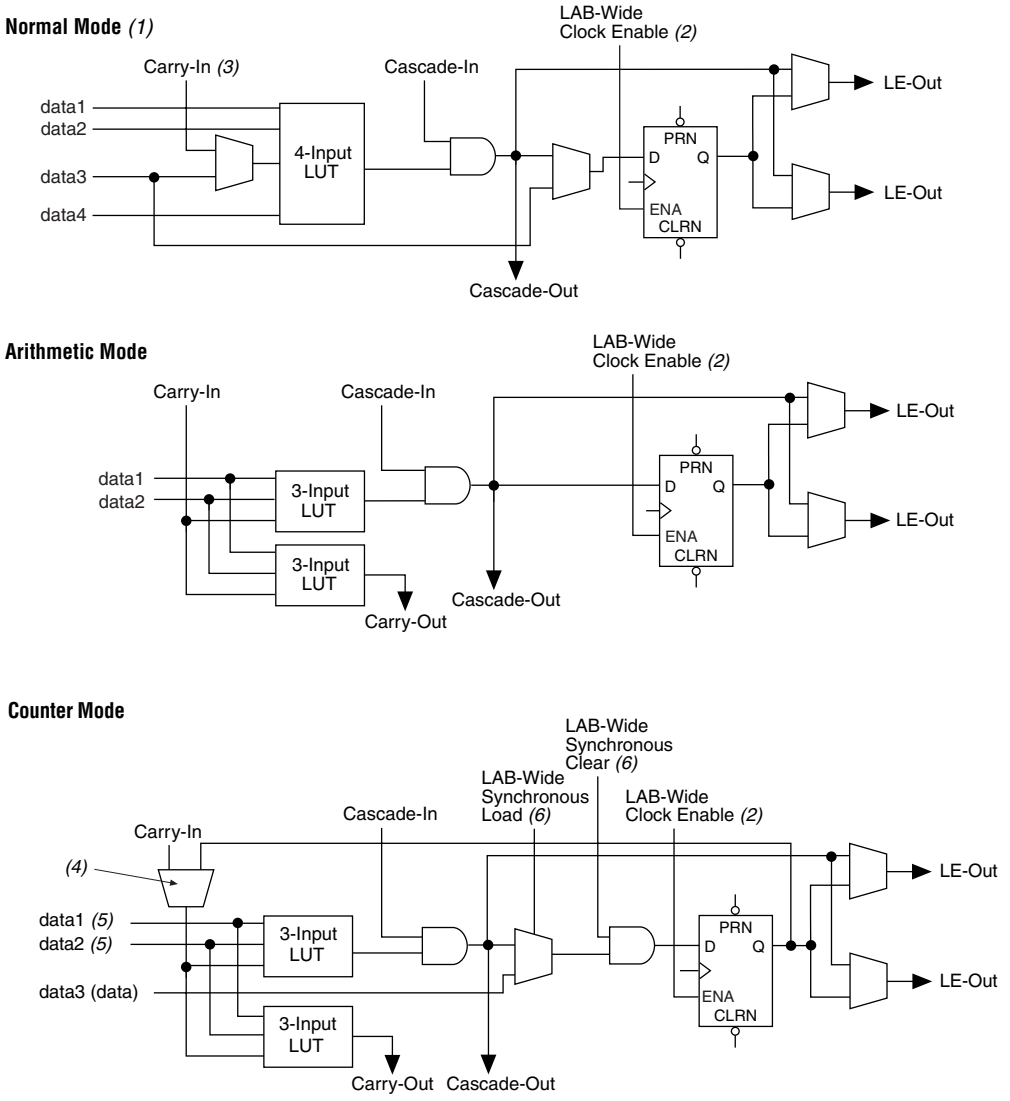
The APEX 20K LE can operate in one of the following three modes:

- Normal mode
- Arithmetic mode
- Counter mode

Each mode uses LE resources differently. In each mode, seven available inputs to the LE—the four data inputs from the LAB local interconnect, the feedback from the programmable register, and the carry-in and cascade-in from the previous LE—are directed to different destinations to implement the desired logic function. LAB-wide signals provide clock, asynchronous clear, asynchronous preset, asynchronous load, synchronous clear, synchronous load, and clock enable control for the register. These LAB-wide signals are available in all LE modes.

The Quartus II software, in conjunction with parameterized functions such as LPM and DesignWare functions, automatically chooses the appropriate mode for common functions such as counters, adders, and multipliers. If required, the designer can also create special-purpose functions that specify which LE operating mode to use for optimal performance. Figure 8 shows the LE operating modes.

Figure 8. APEX 20K LE Operating Modes



Notes to Figure 8:

(1) LEs in normal mode support register packing.
(2) There are two LAB-wide clock enables per LAB.
(3) When using the carry-in in normal mode, the packed register feature is unavailable.
(4) A register feedback multiplexer is available on LE1 of each LAB.
(5) The DATA1 and DATA2 input signals can supply counter enable, up or down control, or register feedback signals for LEs other than the second LE in an LAB.
(6) The LAB-wide synchronous clear and LAB wide synchronous load affect all registers in an LAB.

Normal Mode

The normal mode is suitable for general logic applications, combinatorial functions, or wide decoding functions that can take advantage of a cascade chain. In normal mode, four data inputs from the LAB local interconnect and the carry-in are inputs to a four-input LUT. The Quartus II software Compiler automatically selects the carry-in or the DATA3 signal as one of the inputs to the LUT. The LUT output can be combined with the cascade-in signal to form a cascade chain through the cascade-out signal. LEs in normal mode support packed registers.

Arithmetic Mode

The arithmetic mode is ideal for implementing adders, accumulators, and comparators. An LE in arithmetic mode uses two 3-input LUTs. One LUT computes a three-input function; the other generates a carry output. As shown in Figure 8, the first LUT uses the carry-in signal and two data inputs from the LAB local interconnect to generate a combinatorial or registered output. For example, when implementing an adder, this output is the sum of three signals: DATA1, DATA2, and carry-in. The second LUT uses the same three signals to generate a carry-out signal, thereby creating a carry chain. The arithmetic mode also supports simultaneous use of the cascade chain. LEs in arithmetic mode can drive out registered and unregistered versions of the LUT output.

The Quartus II software implements parameterized functions that use the arithmetic mode automatically where appropriate; the designer does not need to specify how the carry chain will be used.

Counter Mode

The counter mode offers clock enable, counter enable, synchronous up/down control, synchronous clear, and synchronous load options. The counter enable and synchronous up/down control signals are generated from the data inputs of the LAB local interconnect. The synchronous clear and synchronous load options are LAB-wide signals that affect all registers in the LAB. Consequently, if any of the LEs in an LAB use the counter mode, other LEs in that LAB must be used as part of the same counter or be used for a combinatorial function. The Quartus II software automatically places any registers that are not used by the counter into other LABs.

The counter mode uses two three-input LUTs: one generates the counter data, and the other generates the fast carry bit. A 2-to-1 multiplexer provides synchronous loading, and another AND gate provides synchronous clearing. If the cascade function is used by an LE in counter mode, the synchronous clear or load overrides any signal carried on the cascade chain. The synchronous clear overrides the synchronous load. LEs in arithmetic mode can drive out registered and unregistered versions of the LUT output.

Clear & Preset Logic Control

Logic for the register's clear and preset signals is controlled by LAB-wide signals. The LE directly supports an asynchronous clear function. The Quartus II software Compiler can use a NOT-gate push-back technique to emulate an asynchronous preset. Moreover, the Quartus II software Compiler can use a programmable NOT-gate push-back technique to emulate simultaneous preset and clear or asynchronous load. However, this technique uses three additional LEs per register. All emulation is performed automatically when the design is compiled. Registers that emulate simultaneous preset and load will enter an unknown state upon power-up or when the chip-wide reset is asserted.

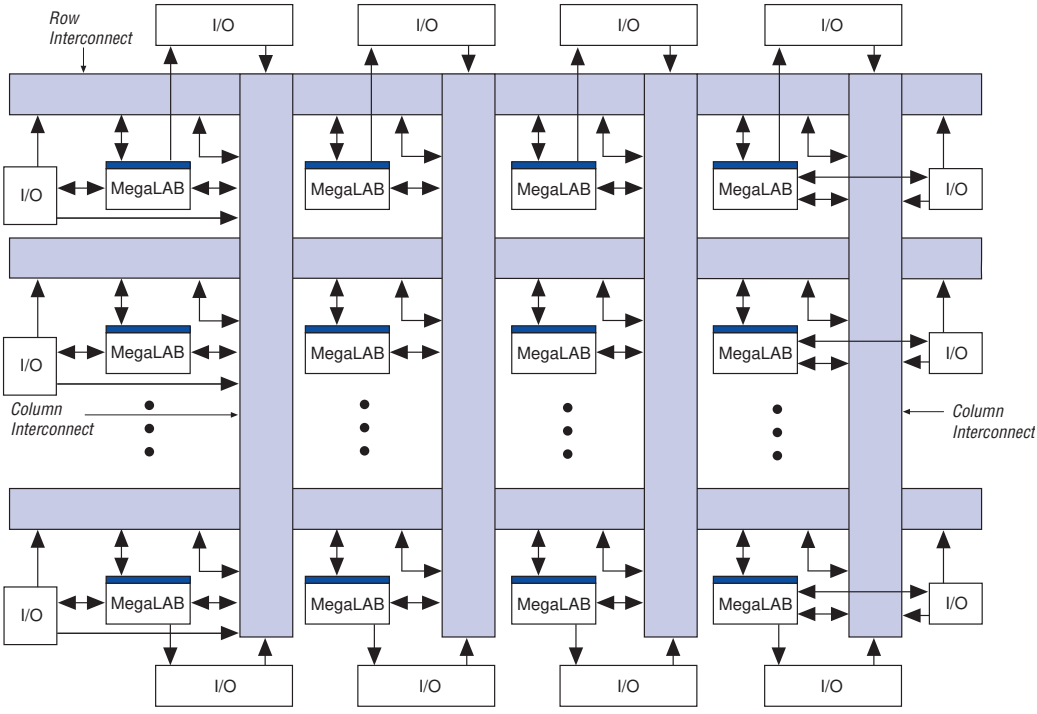
In addition to the two clear and preset modes, APEX 20K devices provide a chip-wide reset pin (DEV_CLRn) that resets all registers in the device. Use of this pin is controlled through an option in the Quartus II software that is set before compilation. The chip-wide reset overrides all other control signals. Registers using an asynchronous preset are preset when the chip-wide reset is asserted; this effect results from the inversion technique used to implement the asynchronous preset.

FastTrack Interconnect

In the APEX 20K architecture, connections between LEs, ESBs, and I/O pins are provided by the FastTrack Interconnect. The FastTrack Interconnect is a series of continuous horizontal and vertical routing channels that traverse the device. This global routing structure provides predictable performance, even in complex designs. In contrast, the segmented routing in FPGAs requires switch matrices to connect a variable number of routing paths, increasing the delays between logic resources and reducing performance.

The FastTrack Interconnect consists of row and column interconnect channels that span the entire device. The row interconnect routes signals throughout a row of MegaLAB structures; the column interconnect routes signals throughout a column of MegaLAB structures. When using the row and column interconnect, an LE, IOE, or ESB can drive any other LE, IOE, or ESB in a device. See Figure 9.

Figure 9. APEX 20K Interconnect Structure



A row line can be driven directly by LEs, IOEs, or ESBs in that row. Further, a column line can drive a row line, allowing an LE, IOE, or ESB to drive elements in a different row via the column and row interconnect. The row interconnect drives the MegaLAB interconnect to drive LEs, IOEs, or ESBs in a particular MegaLAB structure.

A column line can be directly driven by LEs, IOEs, or ESBs in that column. A column line on a device's left or right edge can also be driven by row IOEs. The column line is used to route signals from one row to another. A column line can drive a row line; it can also drive the MegaLAB interconnect directly, allowing faster connections between rows.

Figure 10 shows how the FastTrack Interconnect uses the local interconnect to drive LEs within MegaLAB structures.

Figure 10. FastTrack Connection to Local Interconnect

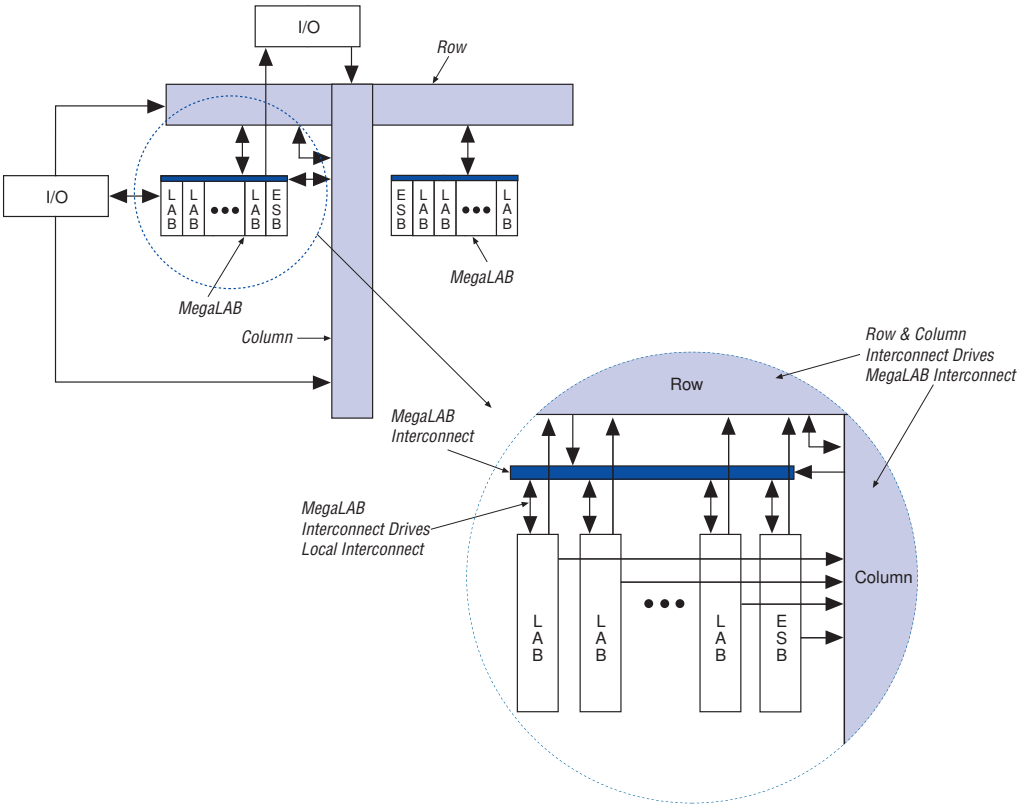
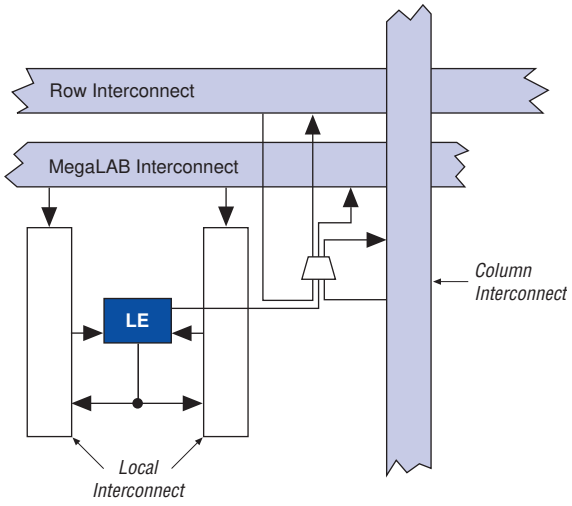


Figure 11 shows the intersection of a row and column interconnect, and how these forms of interconnects and LEs drive each other.

Figure 11. Driving the FastTrack Interconnect



APEX 20KE devices include an enhanced interconnect structure for faster routing of input signals with high fan-out. Column I/O pins can drive the FastRow™ interconnect, which routes signals directly into the local interconnect without having to drive through the MegaLAB interconnect. FastRow lines traverse two MegaLAB structures. Also, these pins can drive the local interconnect directly for fast setup times. On EP20K300E and larger devices, the FastRow interconnect drives the two MegaLABs in the top left corner, the two MegaLABs in the top right corner, the two MegaLABS in the bottom left corner, and the two MegaLABs in the bottom right corner. On EP20K200E and smaller devices, FastRow interconnect drives the two MegaLABs on the top and the two MegaLABs on the bottom of the device. On all devices, the FastRow interconnect drives all local interconnect in the appropriate MegaLABs except the local interconnect on the side of the MegaLAB opposite the ESB. Pins using the FastRow interconnect achieve a faster set-up time, as the signal does not need to use a MegaLAB interconnect line to reach the destination LE. Figure 12 shows the FastRow interconnect.

Figure 12. APEX 20KE FastRow Interconnect

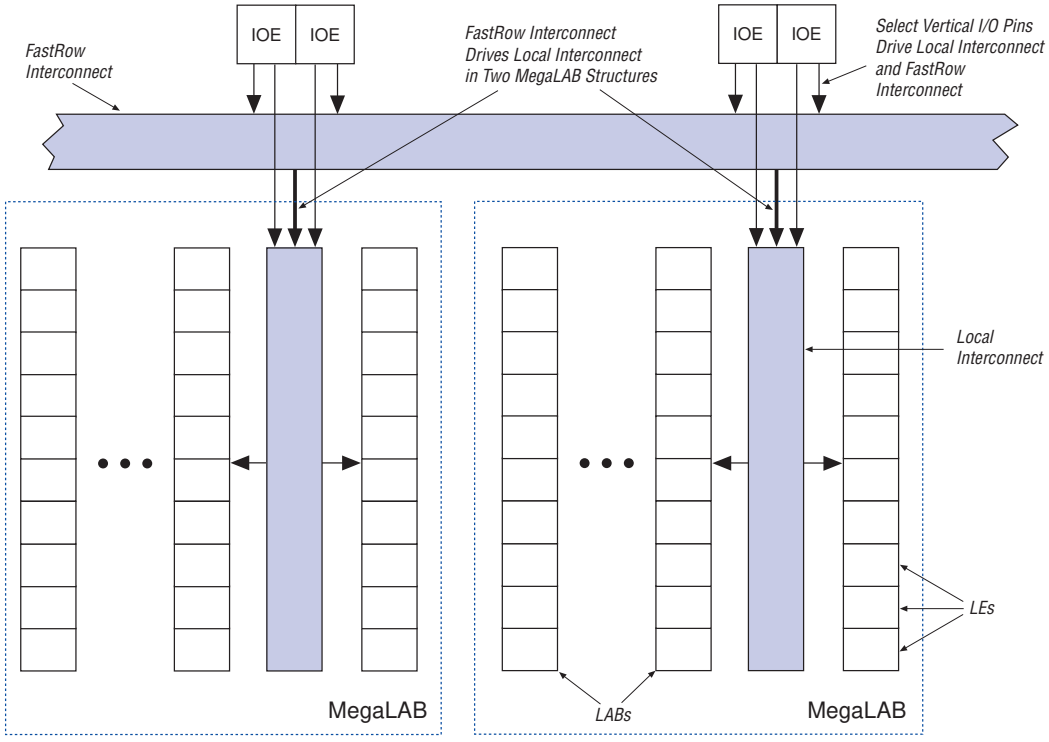


Table 9 summarizes how various elements of the APEX 20K architecture drive each other.

Table 9. APEX 20K Routing Scheme

Source	Destination								
	Row I/O Pin	Column I/O Pin	LE	ESB	Local Interconnect	MegaLAB Interconnect	Row FastTrack Interconnect	Column FastTrack Interconnect	FastRow Interconnect
Row I/O Pin					✓	✓	✓	✓	
Column I/O Pin								✓	✓ (1)
LE					✓	✓	✓	✓	
ESB					✓	✓	✓	✓	
Local Interconnect	✓	✓	✓	✓					
MegaLAB Interconnect					✓				
Row FastTrack Interconnect						✓		✓	
Column FastTrack Interconnect						✓	✓		
FastRow Interconnect					✓ (1)				

Note to Table 9:
(1) This connection is supported in APEX 20KE devices only.

Product-Term Logic

The product-term portion of the MultiCore architecture is implemented with the ESB. The ESB can be configured to act as a block of macrocells on an ESB-by-ESB basis. Each ESB is fed by 32 inputs from the adjacent local interconnect; therefore, it can be driven by the MegaLAB interconnect or the adjacent LAB. Also, nine ESB macrocells feed back into the ESB through the local interconnect for higher performance. Dedicated clock pins, global signals, and additional inputs from the local interconnect drive the ESB control signals.

In product-term mode, each ESB contains 16 macrocells. Each macrocell consists of two product terms and a programmable register. Figure 13 shows the ESB in product-term mode.