

OpenCPI
ALST4 Platform Worker

OpenCPI Release: v2.3.4

Zipper Deprecation Notice:

Beginning with OpenCPI Version 1.5, support for Lime Microsystems' Zipper card is now deprecated.

Summary - ALST4 Platform

Name	alst4
Worker Type	Platform
OpenCPI Release	v2.3.4
Last Update	4/2019
Component Library	ocpi.assets.platforms
Workers	alst4.hdl
Tested Platforms	

Functionality

The alst4 platform worker provides an interface between a PCIe-connected processor and the Stratix IV FPGA on the Stratix IV Development board. It makes connections over a PCIe bus for OpenCPI control and data planes. It also provides a 200 MHz clock source for the timebase port and a 125 MHz clock source for the control plane.

Worker Implementation Details

The alst4 platform worker instantiates the pci_alst4 component from the stratix4 primitive library. The pci_alst4 component instantiates several components from the pcie_4243_hip_s4gx_gen2_x4_128 library, each of which represent Altera MegaCore-wizard generated IP cores. Figure 1 diagrams the intra-worker functionality of the alst4 platform worker, including the functionality of the aforementioned primitive libraries. Note that this diagram is not meant to be an exhaustive diagram of components or their interconnected signals, but a high-level overview of the functionality which includes the worker signals and port connections and how they interact with the instantiated primitives.

The pci_alst4 component instantiates version 12.1 of the PCI Express Hard IP Implementation with Avalon-ST Interface. This implementation is compatible with the PCI Express Card Electromechanical v2.0 specification. The 4-lane Gen2 Implementation is used and a 128-bit Avalon-ST interface is included. Detailed information on the Hard IP Implementation Endpoint with Avalon-ST Interface can be found in the Altera IP Compiler for PCI Express User Guide¹.

PCIe clocking and reset

The Implementation's PCIe clock source is the ref_clk signal whose intended frequency is 100 MHz. The pcie_rstn signal is a reset for the PCIe function itself. The reconfig_clk and fixedclk_serdes signals allow for transceiver offset cancellation². The fixedclk_serdes signal must be a 125MHz clock which is not generated from the refclk signal³. The local_rstn is the system-wide asynchronous reset which resets all IP Compiler for PCI Express circuitry not affected by the pcie_rstn signal. The npor signal is an asynchronous active-low power-on reset. The core_clk_out signal produces a clock signal which is fixed at 125 MHz for the given configuration (4 lane, Gen2 Hard IP)⁴. The rc_pll.locked signal indicates that the SERDES receiver PLL is in locked mode with the reference clock.

PCIe transceiver and Avalon interface

Data transmission and reception occurs over the PCIe physical bus via the pci_exp_rx and pci_exp_tx signal buses. The Avalon-ST data in/out is connected to the data plane via various input/output signals to/from the Implementation.

¹Recommended to start at Figure 4-3 (generic block diagram) and Figure 5-2 (signal I/O diagram)

²See Chapter 13 in the IP Compiler for PCI Express User Guide

³See page 13-9 in the IP Compiler for PCI Express User Guide

⁴See Table 7-1 in the IP Compiler for PCI Express User Guide

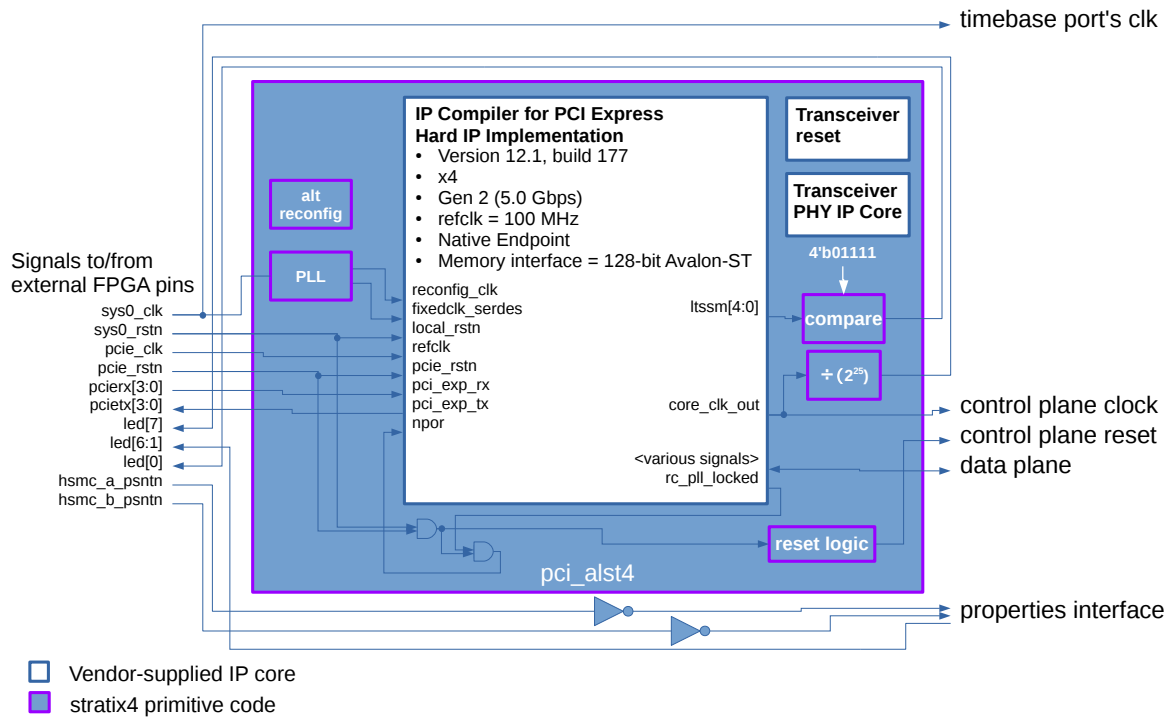


Figure 1: alst4 Functional Diagram

PCIe link status

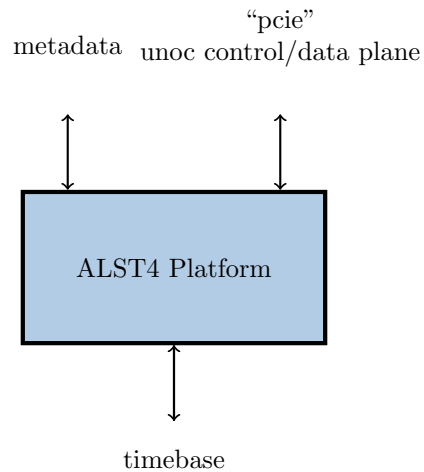
The **ltssm** signal bus indicates the Link Training and Status state machine (LTSSM) state, with 0'b01111 indicating L0.

Theory

Because there are no data processing algorithms implemented in this worker, no corresponding data processing theory is relevant herein.

Block Diagrams

Top level



State Machines

No state machines exist within the platform worker outside of those within the PCIe MegaCore function. It is not intended for users of MegaCore functions to understand their inner functionality.

Source Dependencies

- assets/hdl/platforms/alst4/alst4.vhd
- assets/hdl/primitives/stratix4/altpcie_reconfig_4sgx.v
- assets/hdl/primitives/stratix4/pci_alst4.v
- assets/hdl/primitives/stratix4/pcie_hip_s4gx_gen2_x4_128_rs_hip.v
- assets/hdl/primitives/stratix4/pcie_hip_s4gx_gen2_x4_128_wrapper.v
- assets/hdl/primitives/stratix4/pll1.v
- assets/hdl/primitives/pcie_4243_hip_s4gx_gen2_x4_128/altpcie_hip_pipen1b.v
- assets/hdl/primitives/pcie_4243_hip_s4gx_gen2_x4_128/altpcie_rs_serdes.v
- assets/hdl/primitives/pcie_4243_hip_s4gx_gen2_x4_128/pcie_hip_s4gx_gen2_x4_128_bb.v
- assets/hdl/primitives/pcie_4243_hip_s4gx_gen2_x4_128/pcie_hip_s4gx_gen2_x4_128_core.v
- assets/hdl/primitives/pcie_4243_hip_s4gx_gen2_x4_128/pcie_hip_s4gx_gen2_x4_128_serdes.v
- assets/hdl/primitives/pcie_4243_hip_s4gx_gen2_x4_128/pcie_hip_s4gx_gen2_x4_128.v
- assets/hdl/primitives/pcie_4243_hip_s4gx_gen2_x4_128/pciexp_dcram.v

Component Spec Properties

Name	Type	SequenceLength	ArrayDimensions	Accessibility	Valid Range	Default	Usage
platform	String	31	-	Parameter	Standard	-	Name of this platform
sdp_width	UChar	-	-	Parameter	Standard	1	Width of data plane in DWORDS (SDP is NOT implemented by the alst4)
UUID	ULong	-	16	Readable	Standard	-	UUID of this platform
oldtime	ULongLong	-	-	Padding	Standard	-	N/A
romAddr	UShort	-	-	Writable	Standard	-	
romData	ULong	-	-	Volatile	Standard	-	
nSwitches	ULong	-	-	Readable	Standard	-	Number of switches
nLEDs	ULong	-	-	Readable	Standard	-	Number of LEDs
memories_length	ULong	-	-	Readable	Standard	-	
memories	ULong	-	4	Readable	Standard	-	The memory regions that may be used by various other elements, which indicates aliasing etc. The values describing each region are: Bit 31:28 - External bus/BAR connected to this memory (0 is none) Bit 27:14 - Offset in bus/BAR of this memory (4KB units) Bit 13:0 - Size of this memory (4KB units)
dna	ULongLong	-	-	Readable	Standard	-	DNA (unique chip serial number) of this platform
switches	ULong	-	-	Volatile	Standard	-	Current value of any switches in the platform
LEDs	ULong	-	-	Writable, Readable	Standard	-	Setting of LEDs in the platform, with readback
nSlots	ULong	-	-	Parameter	Standard	0	Number of slots available for cards, which indicates the usable length of the slotCardIsPresent array property.
slotNames	String	32	-	Parameter	Standard	""	A string which is intended to include comma-separated names of the slots available for cards. The inter-comma position of each name corresponds to the same index of the slotCardIsPresent array property.
pci_device_id	Enum	-	-	Parameter	unknown, ml605, alst4, alst4x	unknown	PCI Device ID for PCI devices. This is essentially the "registry" of PCI device IDs. New platforms can use "unknown" before they are registered.
slotCardIsPresent	Bool	-	64	Volatile	Standard	-	An array of booleans, where each index contains an indication whether a card is physically present in the given index's slot. For a description of a given index's slot, see the corresponding comma-separated string contents in the slotName property. Note that only the first min(nSlots,64) of the 64 indices contain pertinent information.

Worker Properties

Property Type	Name	Data Type	SequenceLength	ArrayDimensions	Accessibility	Valid Range	Default	Usage
SpecProperty	platform	String	31	-	Parameter	Standard	alst4	Name of this platform
SpecProperty	nSlots	ULong	-	-	Parameter	Standard	2	Number of slots available for cards, which indicates the usable length of the slotCardIsPresent array property.
SpecProperty	slotNames	String	32	-	Parameter	Standard	hsmc_a,hsmc_b	A string which is intended to include comma-separated names of the slots available for cards. The inter-comma position of each name corresponds to the same index of the slotCardIsPresent array property.
SpecProperty	pci_device_id	Enum	-	-	Parameter	unknown, ml605, alst4, alst4x	alst4	PCI Device ID for PCI devices. This is essentially the “registry” of PCI device IDs. New platforms can use “unknown” before they are registered.
Property	pciId	UShort	-	-	Volatile	Standard	-	Contains PCIe configuration space register contents. See tl.cfg_ctl in IP Compiler for PCI Express User Guide.
Property	unocDropCount	UChar	-	-	Volatile	Standard	-	Invalid packets collected at uNOC terminator

Component Ports

No ports are implemented for the given component specification.

Worker Interfaces

Type	Name	Master	Count	Usage
metadata	-	true	-	Access to container metadata via the platform worker. All platform workers must provide this port.
timebase	-	true	-	Providing a timebase for the time service. All platform workers must provide this port.
unoc	pcie	true	-	This platform worker provides a control/data plane called “pcie”.

Platform Devices

The following table enumerates the device workers that are included in the base platform configuration. The parameter values specified restrict allowed implementations. Note that the worker signals listed are only those who are unconnected on the platform or whose platform signal name differ from the worker signal name. Note that device workers allowed by cards are not included in this list.

Name	Property Name	Property Value	Worker Signal	Platform Signal
time_server	frequency	200*10 ⁶		

Signals

Note that this signal table does not include signals that may be provided by slots.

Name	Type	Differential	Width	Description
sys0_clk	Input	false	1	200 MHz clock which is sent to the timebase port as well as supplied to the PCI Express Megacore function for transceiver offset cancellation ⁵ .
sys0_rstn	Input	false	1	System-wide reset which resets all IP Compiler for PCI Express circuitry not affected by pcie_rst_n. This is an asynchronous reset.
pcie_clk	Input	false	1	100 MHz reference clock for the PCI Express IP core.
pcie_rstn	Input	false	1	Directly resets all sticky IP Compiler for PCI Express configuration registers. Sticky registers are those registers that fail to reset in L2 low power mode or upon a fundamental rest. This is an asynchronous reset.
pcie_rx	Input	false	4	PCIe RX.
pcie_tx	Output	false	4	PCIe TX.
led	Output	false	16	led[15:0] drive the LEDs labeled '15' through '0', respectively. led[6:1] are driven by the 6:1 indices of the LEDS property. led[7] is driven by the PCIE-generated control plane clock divided by 2 ²⁵ and led[0] is driven by the PCIE link up indicator. A low voltage on these signals illuminates their respective LEDs.
hsmc_a_psntn	Input	false	1	Connected to the PSNTn signal of the HSMC Port A slot. (Device workers may not ingest the HSMC Port A PSNTn signal). This active-low signal provides FMC LPC mezzanine card presence indication to index 0 of the slotCardIsPresent property.
hsmc_b_psntn	Input	false	1	Connected to the PSNTn signal of the HSMC Port B slot. (Device workers may not ingest the HSMC Port B PSNTn signal). This active-low signal provides FMC LPC mezzanine card presence indication to index 0 of the slotCardIsPresent property.

⁵See Chapter 13 in the IP Compiler for PCI Express User Guide

Slots

The following table enumerates the available slots for this platform and the signals they include. Note that the signals listed are only those who are unconnected on the platform or whose platform signal name differ from the slot signal name.

Name	Type	Slot Signal	Platform Signal
HSMC_ALST4.A	hsmc_alst4	XCVR_TXp7	-
		XCVR_RXp7	-
		XCVR_TXn7	-
		XCVR_RXn7	-
		XCVR_TXp6	-
		XCVR_RXp6	-
		XCVR_TXn6	-
		XCVR_RXn6	-
		XCVR_TXp5	-
		XCVR_RXp5	-
		XCVR_TXn5	-
		XCVR_RXn5	-
		XCVR_TXp4	-
		XCVR_RXp4	-
		XCVR_TXn4	-
		XCVR_RXn4	-
		XCVR_TXp3	-
		XCVR_RXp3	-
		XCVR_TXn3	-
		XCVR_RXn3	-
		XCVR_TXp2	-
		XCVR_RXp2	-
		XCVR_TXn2	-
		XCVR_RXn2	-
		XCVR_TXp1	-
		XCVR_RXp1	-
		XCVR_TXn1	-
		XCVR_RXn1	-
		XCVR_TXp0	-
		XCVR_RXp0	-
		XCVR_TXn0	-
		XCVR_RXn0	-
		JTAG_TCK	-
		JTAG_TMS	-
		JTAG_TDO	-
		JTAG_TDI	-
		PSNTn	-
HSMC_ALST4.B	hsmc_alst4	XCVR_TXp7	-
		XCVR_RXp7	-
		XCVR_TXn7	-
		XCVR_RXn7	-
		XCVR_TXp6	-
		XCVR_RXp6	-
		XCVR_TXn6	-
		XCVR_RXn6	-
		XCVR_TXp5	-
		XCVR_RXp5	-
		XCVR_TXn5	-
		XCVR_RXn5	-
		XCVR_TXp4	-

	XCVR_RXp4	-
	XCVR_TXn4	-
	XCVR_RXn4	-
	XCVR_TXp3	-
	XCVR_RXp3	-
	XCVR_TXn3	-
	XCVR_RXn3	-
	XCVR_TXp2	-
	XCVR_RXp2	-
	XCVR_TXn2	-
	XCVR_RXn2	-
	XCVR_TXp1	-
	XCVR_RXp1	-
	XCVR_TXn1	-
	XCVR_RXn1	-
	XCVR_TXp0	-
	XCVR_RXp0	-
	XCVR_TXn0	-
	XCVR_RXn0	-
	JTAG_TCK	-
	JTAG_TMS	-
	JTAG_TDO	-
	JTAG_TDI	-
	PSNTn	-

Platform Configurations

Below is a sample set of supported platform configurations which highlight the device workers included in the platform configuration versus card/slots. For a complete list of supported platform configurations, refer to the alst4 directory.

Name	Platform Configuration Workers	Card	Slot
base	alst4	-	-
	time_server	-	-
alst4_zipper_hsmc_alst4_port_a_rx_tx	alst4	-	-
	time_server	-	-
	lime_adc	lime_zipper_fmc_lpc	hsmc_alst4_a
	lime_dac	lime_zipper_fmc_lpc	hsmc_alst4_a
	si5351	lime_zipper_fmc_lpc	hsmc_alst4_a
	lime_rx	lime_zipper_fmc_lpc	hsmc_alst4_a
	lime_tx	lime_zipper_fmc_lpc	hsmc_alst4_a
alst4_zipper_hsmc_alst4_port_a_rx	alst4	-	-
	time_server	-	-
	lime_adc	lime_zipper_hsmc_alst4	hsmc_alst4_a
	si5351	lime_zipper_hsmc_alst4	hsmc_alst4_a
alst4_zipper_hsmc_alst4_port_a_tx	lime_rx	lime_zipper_hsmc_alst4	hsmc_alst4_a
	lime_tx	lime_zipper_hsmc_alst4	hsmc_alst4_a
	lime_tx	lime_zipper_hsmc_alst4	hsmc_alst4_a
	lime_tx	lime_zipper_hsmc_alst4	hsmc_alst4_a
alst4_zipper_hsmc_alst4_port_b_rx_tx	alst4	-	-
	time_server	-	-
	lime_adc	lime_zipper_hsmc_alst4	hsmc_alst4_b
	lime_dac	lime_zipper_hsmc_alst4	hsmc_alst4_b
	si5351	lime_zipper_hsmc_alst4	hsmc_alst4_b
	lime_rx	lime_zipper_hsmc_alst4	hsmc_alst4_b
	lime_tx	lime_zipper_hsmc_alst4	hsmc_alst4_b
alst4_zipper_hsmc_alst4_port_b_rx	alst4	-	-
	time_server	-	-
	lime_adc	lime_zipper_hsmc_alst4	hsmc_alst4_b
	si5351	lime_zipper_hsmc_alst4	hsmc_alst4_b
alst4_zipper_hsmc_alst4_port_b_tx	lime_rx	lime_zipper_hsmc_alst4	hsmc_alst4_b
	lime_tx	lime_zipper_hsmc_alst4	hsmc_alst4_b
	lime_tx	lime_zipper_hsmc_alst4	hsmc_alst4_b
	lime_tx	lime_zipper_hsmc_alst4	hsmc_alst4_b

Control Timing and Signals

There are 3 clock domains present in the alst4 platform worker: 100 MHz, 125 MHz, and 200 MHz. The worker ingests an external-to-the FPGA 100 MHz clock. This clock serves as the clock source for the MegaCore function within the worker. The MegaCore function produces a clock via its `core.clk_out` pin which is 125 MHz for the x4 Gen2 Avalon-128 implementation⁶. This 125 MHz clock is subsequently supplied to the control plane as its clock. The worker also feeds a buffered version of the external-to-the-FPGA 200 MHz clock to the timebase port. The timebase port's PPS inputs and outputs are left unconnected.

⁶See Table 7-1 in the IP Compiler for PCI Express User Guide

Performance and Resource Utilization

Test and Verification

To be detailed in a future release.

References

- 1) IP Compiler for PCI Express User Guide,
https://www.altera.com/content/dam/altera-www/global/en_US/pdfs/literature/ug/ug_pci_express.pdf