

# **LogiCORE IP Fast Fourier Transform v8.0**

DS808 July 25, 2012 **Product Specification**

## **Introduction**

The Xilinx LogiCORE™ IP Fast Fourier Transform (FFT) implements the Cooley-Tukey FFT algorithm, a computationally efficient method for calculating the Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT).

## **Features**

- Drop-in module for Virtex®-7 and Kintex™-7, Virtex®-6 and Spartan®-6 FPGAs
- AXI4-Stream compliant interfaces.
- Forward and inverse complex FFT, run-time configurable
- Transform sizes  $N = 2^m$ ,  $m = 3 16$
- Data sample precision  $b_x = 8 34$
- Phase factor precision  $b_w = 8 34$
- Arithmetic types:
	- Unscaled (full-precision) fixed-point
	- Scaled fixed-point
	- Block floating-point
- Fixed-point or floating-point interface
- Rounding or truncation after the butterfly
- Block RAM or Distributed RAM for data and phase-factor storage
- Optional run-time configurable transform point size
- Run-time configurable scaling schedule for scaled fixed-point cores
- Bit/digit reversed or natural output order
- Optional cyclic prefix insertion for digital communications systems
- Four architectures offer a trade-off between core size and transform time
- Bit-accurate C model and MEX function for system modeling available for download
- For use with Xilinx CORE Generator™ software and Xilinx System Generator for DSP 13.1



1. For the complete list of supported devices, see the [release notes](www.xilinx.com/support/documentation/ip_documentation/xtp025.pdf) for this core.

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# **Functional Description**

## **Overview**

The FFT core computes an *N*-point forward DFT or inverse DFT (IDFT) where *N* can be 2*m*, *m* = 3–16.

For fixed-point inputs, the input data is a vector of *N* complex values represented as dual *bx*-bit two's-complement numbers, that is,  $b_x$  bits for each of the real and imaginary components of the data sample, where  $b_x$  is in the range 8 to 34 bits inclusive. Similarly, the phase factors  $b_w$  can be 8 to 34 bits wide.

For single-precision floating-point inputs, the input data is a vector of *N* complex values represented as dual 32-bit floating-point numbers with the phase factors represented as 24- or 25-bit fixed-point numbers.

All memory is on-chip using either block RAM or distributed RAM. The *N* element output vector is represented using  $b<sub>v</sub>$  bits for each of the real and imaginary components of the output data. Input data is presented in natural order and the output data can be in either natural or bit/digit reversed order. The complex nature of data input and output is intrinsic to the FFT algorithm, not the implementation.

Three arithmetic options are available for computing the FFT:

- Full-precision unscaled arithmetic
- Scaled fixed-point, where you provide the scaling schedule
- Block floating-point (run-time adjusted scaling)

The point size *N*, the choice of forward or inverse transform, the scaling schedule and the cyclic prefix length are run-time configurable. Transform type (forward or inverse), scaling schedule and cyclic prefix length can be changed on a frame-by-frame basis. Changing the point size resets the core.

Four architecture options are available: Pipelined Streaming I/O, Radix-4 Burst I/O, Radix-2 Burst I/O, and Radix-2 Lite Burst I/O. For detailed information about each architecture, see [Architecture Options, page 14](#page-13-0).

## **Theory of Operation**

The FFT is a computationally efficient algorithm for computing a Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT) of sample sizes that are a positive integer power of 2. The DFT  $X(k)$ ,  $k = 0,..., N-1$  of a sequence  $x(n)$ ,  $n = 0,..., N-1$  is defined as

$$
X(k) = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x(n) e^{-jnk2\pi/N} \quad k = 0, ..., N-1
$$
 **Equation 1**

<span id="page-1-0"></span>where *N* is the transform size and  $j = \sqrt{-1}$  . The inverse DFT (IDFT) is given by

$$
x(n) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} X(k) e^{jnk2\pi/N} \quad n = 0, ..., N-1
$$
 *Equation 2*

## **Algorithm**

The FFT core uses the Radix-4 and Radix-2 decompositions for computing the DFT. For Burst I/O architectures, the decimation-in-time (DIT) method is used, while the decimation-in-frequency (DIF) method is used for the Pipelined Streaming I/O architecture. When using Radix-4 decomposition, the *N*-point FFT consists of log<sub>4</sub> *(N)* stages, with each stage containing *N/4* Radix-4 butterflies. Point sizes that are not a power of 4 need an extra Radix-2 stage for combining data. An *N*-point FFT using Radix-2 decomposition has log*2* (*N)* stages, with each stage containing *N/2* Radix-2 butterflies.

The inverse FFT (IFFT) is computed by conjugating the phase factors of the corresponding forward FFT.

## **Finite Word Length Considerations**

The Burst I/O architectures process an array of data by successive passes over the input data array. On each pass, the algorithm performs Radix-4 or Radix-2 butterflies, where each butterfly picks up four or two complex numbers, respectively, and returns four or two complex numbers to the same memory. The numbers returned to memory by the core are potentially larger than the numbers picked up from memory. A strategy must be employed to accommodate this dynamic range expansion. A full explanation of scaling strategies and their implications is beyond the scope of this document; for more information about this topic; see [\[Ref 1\]](#page-74-0) and [\[Ref 2\].](#page-74-1)

For a Radix-4 DIT FFT, the values computed in a butterfly stage can experience growth by a factor of up to  $1 + 3\sqrt{2} \approx 5.242$  . This implies a bit growth of up to 3 bits.

For Radix-2, the growth is by a factor of up to  $1+\sqrt{2}\approx 2.414$  . This implies a bit growth of up to 2 bits. This bit growth can be handled in three ways:

- Performing the calculations with no scaling and carrying all significant integer bits to the end of the computation
- Scaling at each stage using a fixed-scaling schedule
- Scaling automatically using block floating-point

All significant integer bits are retained when using full-precision unscaled arithmetic. The width of the data path increases to accommodate the bit growth through the butterfly. The growth of the fractional bits created from the multiplication are truncated (or rounded) after the multiplication. The width of the output is (input width +  $log_2$ (transform length) + 1). This accommodates the worst case scenario for bit growth.

Consider an unscaled Radix-2 DIT FFT: the data path in each stage must grow by 1 bit as the adder and subtractor in the butterfly may add/subtract two full-scale values and produce a sample which has grown in width by 1 bit. This yields the log<sub>2</sub>(transform length) part of the increase in the output width relative to the input width. The complex multiplier preserves the magnitude of an input (as it applies a rotation on the complex plane), but can theoretically produce bit-growth when the magnitude of the input is greater than 1 (for example, 1+j has a magnitude of 1.414). This means that the complex multiplier bit growth must only be considered once in the entire FFT process, yielding the additional +1 increase in the output width relative to the input width. For example, a 1024-point transform with an input of 16 bits consisting of 1 integer bit and 15 fractional bits has an output of 27 bits with 12 integer bits and 15 fractional bits. Note that the core does not have a specific location for the binary point. The output simply maintains the same binary point location as the input. For the preceding example, a 16 bit input with 3 integer bits and 13 fractional bits would have an unscaled output of 27 bits with 14 integer bits and 13 fractional bits.

When using scaling, a scaling schedule is used to divide by a factor of 1, 2, 4, or 8 in each stage. If scaling is insufficient, a butterfly output may grow beyond the dynamic range and cause an overflow. As a result of the scaling applied in the FFT implementation, the transform computed is a scaled transform. The scale factor *s* is defined as

$$
s = 2^{\sum_{i=0}^{\log N-1} b_i}
$$
 Equation 3

where  $b_i$  is the scaling (specified in bits) applied in stage *i*.

The scaling results in the final output sequence being modified by the factor *1/s*. For the forward FFT, the output sequence *X' (k), k = 0,...,N - 1* computed by the core is defined as

$$
X^{'}(k) = \frac{1}{s} X(k) = \frac{1}{s} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x(n) e^{-jnk2\pi/N} \quad k = 0, ..., N-1
$$
 *Equation 4*

For the inverse FFT, the output sequence is

$$
x(n) = \frac{1}{s} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} X(k) e^{jnk2\pi/N} \quad n = 0, ..., N-1
$$
 *Equation 5*

If a Radix-4 algorithm scales by a factor of 4 in each stage, the factor of *1/s* is equal to the factor of *1/N* in the inverse FFT equation [\(Equation 2](#page-1-0)). For Radix-2, scaling by a factor of 2 in each stage provides the factor of *1/N*.

With block floating-point, each stage applies sufficient scaling to keep numbers in range, and the scaling is tracked by a block exponent.

As with unscaled arithmetic, for scaled and block floating-point arithmetic, the core does not have a specific location for the binary point. The location of the binary point in the output data is inherited from the input data and then shifted by the scaling applied.

## **Floating Point Considerations**

The FFT core optionally accepts data in IEEE-754 single-precision format with 32-bit words consisting of a 1-bit sign, 8-bit exponent, and 23-bit fraction. The construction of the word matches that of the Xilinx Floating-Point Operator core.

Implementing full floating-point on an FPGA can be expensive in terms of the resources required. The floatingpoint option in the Xilinx FFT core utilizes a higher precision fixed-point FFT internally to achieve similar noise performance to a full floating-point FFT, with significantly fewer resources. [Figure 1](#page-4-0) illustrates the two levels of noise performance possible by selecting either 24 bits or 25 bits for the phase factor width. By increasing the phase factor width to 25 bits, more resources may be required, depending on the target FPGA device.

<span id="page-4-0"></span>

*Figure 1:* **Comparison of Two Levels of Noise Performance**

[Figure 1](#page-4-0) shows the ratio of the RMS difference between various models and the double-precision MATLAB® FFT to the data set peak amplitude. The models shown are the single-precision MATLAB FFT function (calculated by casting the input data to single-precision floating-point type), the Xilinx FFT core using a 24-bit phase factor width, and the Xilinx FFT core using a 25-bit phase factor width. To calculate the error signal, a randomized impulse (in magnitude and time) was used as the input signal, with the RMS error averaged over five simulation runs.

All optimization options (memory types and XtremeDSP™ slice optimization) remain available when floatingpoint input data is selected, allowing you to trade off resources with transform time.

Transform time for Burst I/O architectures is increased by approximately N, the number of points in the transform, due to the input normalization requirements. For the Pipelined Streaming I/O architecture, the initial latency to fill the pipeline is increased, but data still streams through the core with no gaps.

### **Denormalized Numbers**

The floating-point interface to the FFT core does not support denormalized numbers. To match the behavior of the Xilinx Floating-Point Operator core, the core treats denormalized operands as zero, with a sign taken from the denormalized number.

### **NaNs and ± Infinity**

If the core detects a NaN or  $\pm$  Infinity value on the input, all output samples associated with the current input frame are set to NaN. The sign bit is set to zero and all exponent and fraction bits are set to 1.

## **Real-Valued Input Data**

The FFT core accepts complex data samples, but can perform a transform on real-valued data by setting all imaginary input samples to zero.

Due to the finite wordlength effects described previously, noise is introduced during the transform, resulting in the output data not being perfectly symmetric. The DIT and DIF FFT algorithms have different noise effects due to the different calculation order.

For a thorough treatment of this topic, see [\[Ref 3\]](#page-74-2) and [\[Ref 4\]](#page-74-3).

The asymmetry between the two halves of the result is more noticeable at larger point sizes. In addition, the noise is more prominent in the lower frequency bins. Therefore, Xilinx recommends that the upper half  $(N/2+1)$  to N points) of the output data is used when performing a real-valued FFT.

## **Rounding Implementation**

An option is available, in all architectures, to apply convergent rounding to the data after the butterfly stage. However, selecting this option does not apply convergent rounding to all points in the data path where wordlength reduction occurs.

In particular, the outputs of all complex multipliers in the FFT data path are truncated to reduce data path width (while still maintaining adequate precision) and a simple rounding constant added to the fractional bits. This constant implements non-symmetric, round-towards-minus-infinity rounding, and can introduce a small bias to the FFT results over a large number of samples.

## **Dynamic Range Characteristics**

The dynamic range characteristics are shown by performing *slot noise* tests. First, a frame of complex Gaussian noise data samples is created. An FFT is taken to acquire the spectrum of the data. To create the slot, a range of frequencies in the spectra is set to zero. To create the input slot noise data frame, the inverse FFT is taken, then the data is quantized to use the full input dynamic range. Because of the quantization, if a perfect FFT is done on the frame, the noise floor on the bottom of the slot is non-zero. The Input Data figures, which basically represent the dynamic range of the input format, display this.

This slot noise input data frame is fed to the FFT core to see how shallow the slot becomes due to the finite precision arithmetic. The depth of the slot shows the dynamic range of the FFT.

[Figure 2](#page-6-0) through [Figure 11](#page-9-0) show the effect of input data width on the dynamic range. All FFTs have the same bit width for both data and phase factors. Block floating-point arithmetic is used with rounding after the butterfly. The figures show the input data slot and the output data slot for bit widths of 24, 20, 16, 12, and 8.

<span id="page-6-0"></span>









*Figure 4:* **Input Data: 20 Bits**











*Figure 7:* **FFT Core Results: 16 Bits**











*Figure 10:* **Input Data: 8 Bits**

<span id="page-9-0"></span>

*Figure 11:* **FFT Core Results: 8 Bits**

There are several options available that also affect the dynamic range. Consider the arithmetic type used.

<span id="page-9-1"></span>[Figure 12](#page-9-1), [Figure 13,](#page-10-0) and [Figure 14](#page-10-1) display the results of using unscaled, scaled (scaling of 1/1024), and block floating-point. All three FFTs are 1024 point, Radix-4 Burst I/O transforms with 16-bit input, 16-bit phase factors, and convergent rounding.



*Figure 12:* **Full-Precision Unscaled Arithmetic**

<span id="page-10-0"></span>

*Figure 13:* **Scaled (scaling of 1/N) Arithmetic**

<span id="page-10-1"></span>

*Figure 14:* **Block Floating-Point Arithmetic**

<span id="page-10-2"></span>After the butterfly computation, the LSBs of the data path can be truncated or rounded. The effects of these options are shown in [Figure 15](#page-10-2) and [Figure 16](#page-11-0). Both transforms are 1024 points with 16-bit data and phase factors using block floating-point arithmetic.



*Figure 15:* **Convergent Rounding**

<span id="page-11-0"></span>

*Figure 16:* **Truncation**

<span id="page-11-1"></span>For illustration purposes, the effect of point size on dynamic range is displayed [Figure 17](#page-11-1) through [Figure 19.](#page-12-0) The FFTs in these figures use 16-bit input and phase factors along with convergent rounding and block floating-point arithmetic.



*Figure 17:* **64-point Transform**



*Figure 18:* **2048-point Transform**

<span id="page-12-0"></span>

*Figure 19:* **8192-point Transform**

<span id="page-12-1"></span>All of the preceding dynamic range plots show the results for the Radix-4 Burst I/O architecture. [Figure 20](#page-12-1) and [Figure 21](#page-12-2) show two plots for the Radix-2 Burst I/O architecture. Both use 16-bit input and phase factors along with convergent rounding and block floating-point.



*Figure 20:* **64-point Radix-2 Transform**

<span id="page-12-2"></span>

*Figure 21:* **1024-point Radix-2 Transform**

## <span id="page-13-0"></span>**Architecture Options**

The FFT core provides four architecture options to offer a trade-off between core size and transform time.

- **[Pipelined Streaming I/O](#page-14-0)** Allows continuous data processing.
- **[Radix-4 Burst I/O](#page-14-1)** Loads and processes data separately, using an iterative approach. It is smaller in size than the pipelined solution, but has a longer transform time.
- **[Radix-2 Burst I/O](#page-15-0)** Uses the same iterative approach as Radix-4, but the butterfly is smaller. This means it is smaller in size than the Radix-4 solution, but the transform time is longer.
- **[Radix-2 Lite Burst I/O](#page-16-0)** Based on the Radix-2 architecture, this variant uses a time-multiplexed approach to the butterfly for an even smaller core, at the cost of longer transform time.

[Figure 22](#page-13-1) illustrates the trade-off of throughput versus resource use for the four architectures. As a rule of thumb, each architecture offers a factor of 2 difference in resource from the next architecture. The example is for an even power of 2 point size. This does not require the Radix-4 architecture to have an additional Radix-2 stage.

<span id="page-13-1"></span>All four architectures may be configured to use a fixed-point interface with one of three fixed-point arithmetic methods (unscaled, scaled or block floating-point) or may instead use a floating-point interface.



*Figure 22:* **Resource versus Throughput for Architecture Options**

### **Bit and Digit Reversal**

Each architecture offers the option of natural or reversed ordering of output data, with data being input in natural order. The FFT algorithm reorders the samples during processing such that data input in natural order is output in reversed order. The core can optionally output the data in natural order. However, this imposes a cost on each architecture. For the Burst I/O architectures, this imposes a time penalty, because unloading the data cannot take place at the same time as loading input data for the next frame, so separate unload and load phases are required. In the pipelined architecture, it requires additional RAM storage to perform the reordering.

In the Radix-2 Burst I/O, Radix-2 Lite Burst I/O, and Pipelined Streaming I/O architectures, the Bit Reverse order is simple to calculate by taking the index of the data point, written in binary, and reversing the order of the digits. Hence, 0000, 0001, 0010, 0011, 0100,...(0, 1, 2, 3, 4,...) becomes 0000, 1000, 0100, 1100, 0010,...(0, 8, 4, 12, 2,...).

In the case of the Radix-4 Burst I/O architecture, the reversal applies to *digits* and, therefore, is called Digit Reversal. A digit in Radix-4 is two bits. Hence, 0000, 0001, 0010, 0011, 0100,...(0, 1, 2, 3, 4,...) becomes 0000, 0100, 1000, 1100, 0001,...(0, 4, 8, 12, 1,...), as the pairs of digits are reversed. Where the transform size requires an odd number of index bits, the odd digit in the least significant place is moved to the most significant place, so 00000, 00001, 00010, 00011, 00100,... (0, 1, 2, 3, 4,...) becomes 00000, 10000, 00100, 10100, 01000,...(0, 16, 4, 20, 8,...)

**Note:** The core can optionally output a data point index along with the data. See [XK Index](#page-19-0) for more information.

#### <span id="page-14-0"></span>**Pipelined Streaming I/O**

The Pipelined Streaming I/O solution pipelines several Radix-2 butterfly processing engines to offer continuous data processing. Each processing engine has its own memory banks to store the input and intermediate data [\(Figure 23](#page-14-2)). The core has the ability to simultaneously perform transform calculations on the current frame of data, load input data for the next frame of data, and unload the results of the previous frame of data. You can continuously stream in data<sup>(1)</sup> and, after the calculation latency, can continuously unload the results. If preferred, this design can also calculate one frame by itself or frames with gaps in between.

In the scaled fixed-point mode, the data is scaled after every pair of Radix-2 stages. The block floating-point mode may use significantly more resources than the scaled mode, as it must maintain extra bits of precision to allow dynamic scaling without impacting performance. Therefore, if the input data is well understood and is unlikely to exhibit large amplitude fluctuation, using scaled arithmetic (with a suitable scaling schedule to avoid overflow in the known worst case) is sufficient, and resources may be saved.

The input data is presented in natural order. The unloaded output data can either be in bit reversed order or in natural order. When natural order output data is selected, additional memory resource is utilized.

<span id="page-14-2"></span>This architecture covers point sizes from 8 to 65536. You have the flexibility to select the number of stages to use block RAM for data and phase factor storage. The remaining stages use distributed memory.



*Figure 23:* **Pipelined Streaming I/O**

#### <span id="page-14-1"></span>**Radix-4 Burst I/O**

With the Radix-4 Burst I/O solution, the FFT core uses one Radix-4 butterfly processing engine [\(Figure 24](#page-15-1)). It loads and/or unloads data separately from calculating the transform. Data I/O and processing are not simultaneous. When the FFT is started, the data is loaded. After a full frame has been loaded, the core computes the transform.

<sup>1.</sup> Note that continually streaming data does not imply that AXI4-Stream waitstates from the FFT can be ignored. There are situations where the FFT core may have to insert waitstates to pause the incoming sample data.

When the computation has finished, the data can be unloaded, but cannot be loaded or unloaded during the calculation process. The data loading and unloading processes can be overlapped if the data is unloaded in digit reversed order.

<span id="page-15-1"></span>This architecture has lower resource usage than the Pipelined Streaming I/O architecture, but a longer transform time, and supports point sizes from 64 to 65536. Data and phase factors can be stored in block RAM or in distributed RAM (the latter for point sizes less than or equal to 1024).



*Figure 24:* **Radix-4 Burst I/O**

### <span id="page-15-0"></span>**Radix-2 Burst I/O**

The Radix-2 Burst I/O architecture uses one Radix-2 butterfly processing engine ([Figure 25\)](#page-16-1). After a frame of data is loaded, the input data stream must halt until the transform calculation is completed. Then, the data can be unloaded. As with the Radix-4 Burst I/O architecture, data can be simultaneously loaded and unloaded when the output samples are in bit reversed order. This solution supports point sizes from 8 to 65536. Both the data memories and phase factor memories can be in either block RAM or distributed RAM (the latter for point sizes less than or equal to 1024).

<span id="page-16-1"></span>

*Figure 25:* **Radix-2 Burst I/O**

### <span id="page-16-0"></span>**Radix-2 Lite Burst I/O**

This architecture differs from the Radix-2 Burst I/O in that the butterfly processing engine uses one shared adder/subtractor, hence reducing resources at the expense of an additional delay per butterfly calculation. Again, as with the Radix-4 and Radix-2 Burst I/O architectures, data can be simultaneously loaded and unloaded only if the output samples are in bit reversed order. This solution supports point sizes from 8 to 65536. See [Figure 26](#page-16-2).

<span id="page-16-2"></span>

## <span id="page-16-3"></span>**Run-Time Transfer Configuration**

All run-time configuration options discussed in this section are programed using the Configuration channel. Please see section [Configuration Channel](#page-47-0) for more information.

## **Transform Size**

The transform point size can be set through the NFFT field in the Configuration Channel if the run-time configurable transform length option is selected. Valid settings and the corresponding transform sizes are provided in [Table 1.](#page-17-0) If the NFFT value entered is too large, the core sets itself to the largest available point size (selected in the GUI). If the value is too small, the core sets itself to the smallest available point size: 64 for the Radix-4 Burst I/O architecture and 8 for the other architectures.



#### <span id="page-17-0"></span>*Table 1:* **Valid NFFT Settings**

#### **Forward/Inverse and Scaling Schedule**

The transform type (forward or inverse) and the scaling schedule can be set frame-by-frame without interrupting frame processing. Both the transform type and the scaling schedule can be set independently for each FFT channel in a multichannel core. Each FFT data channel has an assigned FWD\_INV field and SCALE\_SCH field in the Configuration channel.

Setting the FWD\_INV field to 0 produces an inverse FFT, and setting the FWD\_INV field to 1 creates the forward transform.

#### *Burst I/O Architectures*

The scaling performed during successive stages can be set via the appropriate SCALE\_SCH field in the Configuration channel. For the Radix-4, Burst I/O and Radix-2 architectures, the value of the SCALE\_SCH field is used as pairs of bits [... N4, N3, N2, N1, N0], each pair representing the scaling value for the corresponding stage. Stages are computed starting with stage 0 as the two LSBs. There are  $log_4(point size)$  stages for Radix-4 and  $log_2(p$ oint size) stages for Radix-2. In each stage, the data can be shifted by 0, 1, 2, or 3 bits, which corresponds to SCALE\_SCH values of 00, 01, 10, and 11. For example, for Radix-4, when *N* = 1024, [01 10 00 11 10] translates to a right shift by 2 for stage 0, shift by 3 for stage 1, no shift for stage 3, a shift of 2 in stage 3, and a shift of 1 for stage 4 (there are  $log_4(1024) = 5$  Radix-4 stages). This scaling schedule scales by a total of 8 bits which gives a scaling factor of  $1/256$ . The conservative schedule  $SCALE\_SCH = [10 10 10 10 11]$  completely avoids overflows in the Radix-4, Burst I/O architecture. For the Radix-2, Burst I/O and Radix-2 Lite, Burst I/O architectures, the conservative scaling schedule of  $[01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 01 10]$  prevents overflow for  $N = 1024$  (there are  $\log_2(1024) = 10$  Radix-2 stages).

### *Pipelined Streaming I/O Architecture*

For the Pipelined Streaming I/O architecture, consider every pair of adjacent Radix-2 stages as a group. That is, group 0 contains stage 0 and 1, group 1 contains stage 2 and 3, and so forth. The value of the SCALE\_SCH field is also used as pairs of bits [... N4, N3, N2, N1, N0]. Each pair represents the scaling value for the corresponding group of two stages. Groups are computed starting with group 0 as the two LSBs. In each group, the data can be shifted by 0, 1, 2, or 3 bits which corresponds to SCALE\_SCH values of 00, 01, 10, and 11. For example, when *N* = 1024, [10 10 00 01 11] translates to a right shift by 3 for group 0 (stages 0 and 1), shift by 1 for group 1 (stages 2 and 3), no shift for group 3 (stages 4 and 5), a shift of 2 in group 3 (stages 6 and 7), and a shift of 2 for group 4 (stages 8 and 9). The conservative schedule SCALE\_SCH = [10 10 10 10 11] completely avoids overflows in the Pipelined Streaming I/O architecture. When the point size is not a power of 4, the last group only contains one stage, and the maximum bit growth for the last group is one bit. Therefore, the two MSBs of the scaling schedule can only be 00 or 01. A conservative scaling schedule for  $N = 512$  is SCALE\_SCH = [01 10 10 10 11].

The initial value and reset value of the FWD\_INV field is forward = 1. The scaling schedule is set to *1/N*. That translates to [10 10 10 10... 10] for the Radix-4, Burst I/O and Pipelined Streaming I/O architectures, and [01 01... 01] for the Radix-2 architectures. The core uses the (2\*number of stages) LSBs for the scaling schedule. So, when the point size decreases, the leftover MSBs are ignored. However, all bits are programmed into the core and are used in later transforms if the point size increases.

### **Cyclic Prefix Insertion**

Cyclic prefix insertion takes a section of the output of the FFT and prefixes it to the beginning of the transform. The resultant output data consists of the cyclic prefix (a copy of the end of the output data) followed by the complete output data, all in natural order. Cyclic prefix insertion is only available when output ordering is Natural Order.

When cyclic prefix insertion is used, the length of the cyclic prefix can be set frame-by-frame without interrupting frame processing. The cyclic prefix length can be any number of samples from zero to one less than the point size. The cyclic prefix length is set by the CP\_LEN field in the Configuration channel. For example, when *N* = 1024, the cyclic prefix length can be from 0 to 1023 samples, and a CP\_LEN value of 0010010110 produces a cyclic prefix consisting of the last 150 samples of the output data.

The initial value and reset value of  $CP$ \_LEN is 0 (no cyclic prefix). The core uses the log<sub>2</sub>(point size) MSBs of  $CP$ \_LEN for the cyclic prefix length. So, when the point size decreases, the leftover LSBs are ignored. This effectively scales the cyclic prefix length with the point size, keeping them in approximately constant proportion. However, all bits of CP\_LEN are programmed into the core and are used in later transforms if the point size increases.

## **Transfer Status**

### **Overflow**

### *Fixed-Point Data*

The Overflow (OVFLO) field in the Data Output and Status channels is only available when the Scaled arithmetic is used. OVFLO is driven high during unloading if any point in the data frame overflowed. For a multichannel core, there is a separate OVFLO field for each channel.

When an overflow occurs in the core, the data is wrapped rather than saturated, resulting in the transformed data becoming unusable for most applications.

### *Floating-Point Data*

The Overflow field is used to indicate an exponent overflow when the FFT is processing floating-point data. The output sample which overflowed is set to +/- Infinity, depending on the sign of the internal result. The Overflow field is not asserted when a NaN value is present on the output. NaN values can only occur at the FFT output when the input data frame contains NaN or  $+/-$  Infinity samples.

### **Block Exponent**

The Block Exponent (BLK\_EXP) field in the Data Output and the Status channels (used only with the block floatingpoint option) contains the block exponent. For a multichannel core, there is a separate BLK\_EXP field for each channel. The value present in the field represents the total number of bits the data was scaled during the transform. For example, if BLK\_EXP has a value of 00101 = 5, this means the associated output data (XK\_RE, XK\_IM) was scaled by 5 bits (shifted right by 5 bits), or in other words, was divided by 32, to fully utilize the available dynamic range of the output data path without overflowing.

### <span id="page-19-0"></span>**XK Index**

The XK\_INDEX field (if present in the Data Output channel) gives the sample number of the XK\_RE/XK\_IM data being presented at the same time. In the case of natural order outputs,  $XK$ \_INDEX increments from 0 to (point size) -1. When bit reversed outputs are used, XK\_INDEX covers the same range of numbers, but in a bit (or digit) reversed manner.

For example, when you have an 8 point FFT,  $XX$ \_INDEX takes on the following values:





If cyclic prefix insertion is used, the cyclic prefix is unloaded first and XK\_INDEX counts from (point\_size) - (cyclic prefix length) up to (point size) -1. After the cyclic prefix has been unloaded, or if the cyclic prefix length is zero, the whole frame of output data is unloaded. XK\_INDEX counts from 0 up to (point size) -1 as before. Cyclic Prefix Insertion is only possible with natural order outputs.

## <span id="page-19-1"></span>**Controlling the FFT**

Symbol data to be processed is loaded into the FFT core using the Data Input channel. Processed symbol data is unloaded using the Data Output channel. Both of these use the AXI4-Stream protocol. [Figure 27](#page-20-0) shows the basics of this protocol.

TVALID is driven by the Master component to show that it has data to transfer, and TREADY is driven by the Slave component to show that it is ready to accept data. When both TVALID and TREADY are high, a transfer takes place. Points A in the diagram show clock cycles where no data is transferred because neither the Master or the Slave is ready. Point B shows two clock cycles where data isn't transferred because the Master doesn't have any data to transfer. This is known as a Master Waitstate. Point C shows a clock cycle where no data is transferred because the Slave isn't ready to accept data. This is known as a Slave Waitstate. Master and Slave waitstates can extend for any number of clock cycles.

<span id="page-20-0"></span>

*Figure 27:* AXI Transfers and Terminology

Once the master asserts TVALID high, it must remain asserted (and the associated data remain stable) until the slave asserts TREADY high.

To load a frame into the FFT, the upstream master supplying the XN\_RE and XN\_IM data simply has to send it when it is ready. If the FFT core can accept it (which is when s\_axis\_data\_tready = 1) then it is buffered by the FFT core until it can be processed. If the FFT core cannot accept it (which is when  $s_axis_data_tready = 0$ ), a slave waitstate exists in the AXI channel and the master is stalled. [Figure 27](#page-20-0) shows the loading of the sample data for an 8 point FFT. The upstream master drives TVALID and the FFT drives TREADY. In this case, both the master and the FFT insert waitstates.

Unloading a frame works in a similar manner, except that the FFT core is the master in this case. When it has  $XK$ <sub>RE</sub> and XK\_IM data to unload, it asserts its TVALID signal (m\_axis\_data\_tvalid = 1). The downstream slave that consumes the processed sample data can then accept the data  $(m\_axis\_data\_tready = 1)$  or not  $(m_axis\_data\_tready = 0)$ . [Figure 27](#page-20-0) also shows the unloading of the sample data for an 8 point FFT (with no cyclic prefix). The FFT drives TVALID and the downstream slave drives TREADY. In this case, both the FFT and the slave insert waitstates.

The previous description only applies when the core is configured to use Non-Realtime mode. The situation is different in Realtime mode, which is used to create a smaller and faster design at the expense of flexibility in loading and unloading data. When the core is configured to use Realtime mode, the following occurs:

- 1. The TREADY signal on the Data Output channel (m\_axis\_data\_tready) is removed
- 2. The TREADY signal on the Status channel (m\_axis\_status\_tready) is removed
- 3. The TVALID signal on the Data Input channel is ignored once the loading of a frame has begun

The first two points mean that neither the downstream slave that consumes processed data, or the downstream slave that consumes status information, can insert waitstates using TREADY (m\_axis\_data\_tready and m\_axis\_status\_tready respectively) as the pins are not present on the core. Both slaves must be able to respond immediately on every clock cycle where the FFT is producing data (m\_axis\_data\_tvalid asserted high or m\_axis\_status\_tvalid asserted high). If the slave cannot respond immediately, then data will be lost.

The third point is slightly more complex as TVALID (s\_axis\_data\_tvalid) cannot be removed. The upstream master still controls the start of a frame with TVALID. The FFT does not try to load a frame until the upstream master has asserted TVALID to provide the first symbol and there is no requirement for the master to supply the first sample of a frame at any particular time. However, once this has occurred, TVALID is then ignored by the FFT and it assumes that the master provides symbol data immediately on every clock cycle where TREADY is high. If the master does not provide data when requested, the data from the last provided symbol is reused and the event\_data\_in\_channel\_halt is asserted to show that the timing requirements have been violated. Please note that the FFT can still insert waitstates when in Realtime mode. It is only the response to externally induced waitstates that changes.

[Figure 28](#page-21-0) shows the upstream master inserting waitstates while loading an 8 point frame in Realtime mode. At point A, the master has sent one sample to the Data Input Channel. The FFT then inserts a waitstate while it waits for the FFT processing core to start the transform. This is shown as one cycle here, but it could be longer in certain cases. At point B, the master inserts two waitstates using TVALID. However, the FFT ignores them and uses the previous data  $(D_3)$  for the missing data. It is likely that the processed frame will be corrupted.

At point C, the master starts supplying the last samples of the frame  $(D_7)$  and later  $D_8$ ) but the FFT has already started processing the frame and inserts a waitstate. The Master and the FFT are now out of synchronisation. When the FFT finishes processing the frame and is ready for a new frame, it sees  $D_7$  as the first symbol of the new frame and starts to consume another 8 samples.

<span id="page-21-0"></span>

*Figure 28:* Incorrect transfer in Realtime mode

It is important that Realtime mode is only selected when the appropriate external masters and slaves can meet the timing requirements on supplying and consuming data.

## **Transfer Timing**

The FFT starts to process a frame as soon as a) the upstream master asks it to by supplying data to process, and b) when it is able to. The chosen architecture and cyclic prefix insertion are the major configuration options that affect when the FFT is able to process a new frame.

The following timing diagrams are generalisations of actual behaviour used to show the broad phases the FFT moves through when processing frames, and how these phases can (or cannot) overlap. The lengths of the various phases are not to scale, and the processing time may be much longer than the time required to input or output a frame.

In particular, the behaviour of TREADY on the input data channel is not fully accurate as the Data Input channel buffers the data (16 symbols in Non-Realtime mode and 1 symbol in Realtime mode). However, this data waits in the buffer until the FFT processing core is ready for it. The Data Input channel's TREADY in these diagrams is used as an indication of when the FFT processing core wants data rather than when the AXI channel (with its buffer) wants data.

## **Pipelined Streaming I/O with no Cyclic Prefix Insertion**

When Pipelined Streaming I/O is selected and no cyclic prefix is used, the FFT can overlap the loading of a frame with the processing and unloading of earlier frames. If the upstream master supplies the first symbol for a new frame immediately after the last symbol for the previous frame, the FFT starts loading it immediately.



g pg ( yp )

<span id="page-22-0"></span>[Figure 29](#page-22-0) shows the general timing for back-to-back frames in the Pipelined Streaming architecture.

*Figure 29:* Transfer timing for entire frames in Pipelined Streaming I/O with no Cyclic Prefix Insertion

Note that there is a latency between a frame being loaded and the processed data for that frame being available. This latency depends on the options chosen in the GUI to parameterise the core. However, once that latency has passed, processed frames appear back-to-back.

### **Pipelined Streaming I/O with Cyclic Prefix Insertion**

If cyclic prefix insertion is used, more samples are unloaded from the core than are loaded. Therefore, the core cannot continuously stream frames, but must insert a gap of cyclic prefix length clock cycles in between each frame of input data to accommodate the additional clock cycles required to unload the cyclic prefix (see [Figure 30](#page-22-1)). This is indicated by the TREADY signal on the Data Input channel. This goes low to allow the FFT time to unload the cyclic prefix

<span id="page-22-1"></span>

*Figure 30:* Transfer timing for entire frames in Pipelined Streaming I/O with Cyclic Prefix Insertion

### **Burst I/O Architectures**

The Burst I/O architectures do not allow frame overlapping to the same degree as the Pipelined Streaming I/O architecture. When natural ordered outputs are used, a frame has to be processed and unloaded before the FFT can start to load the following frame<sup>(1)</sup>. When bit reversed outputs are used, the FFT only unloads data when a new frame is loaded. This means that the loading of frame N+1 overlaps with (and actually causes) the unloading of frame N. However, if the upstream master does not supply data to the FFT when it is ready to start unloading a frame, the FFT will flush the frame out manually. If this occurs, the loading and unloading phases do not overlap.

[Figure 31](#page-25-0) shows the general transform timing for a Burst I/O architecture with natural ordered outputs. This requires distinct load, process and unload phases. The upstream master is constantly attempting to stream data as is the downstream slave. These examples do not show the effect of a cyclic prefix, which is to extend the unloading phase.

The Upstream Master loads all of the data for Frame A into the Data Input Channel of the FFT. As the FFT is loading this data to process it, the buffer in the channel never fills. However, the master immediately starts sending data for Frame B. At point A in the waveform, the buffer in the Data Input channel fills, because the FFT is processing frame A and no longer draining the buffer. This can be seen externally as s\_axis\_data\_tready going low. The Data Input Channel will remain in a slave waitstate situation, where the FFT cannot accept data from the upstream Master, until point B. At this point the FFT has unloaded frame A and started loading Frame B into the processing core. This drains the buffer in the Data Input Channel, which unblocks the Upstream Master and allows it to send the remaining data for Frame B. The situation then repeats itself with Frame C.

The important points here are:

- 1. Activity on the AXI interface to the Data Input channel does not necessarily correlate to the activity inside the FFT. For example, just before point A, the channel loads sample data for frame B yet the FFT is internally processing Frame A.
- 2. The Upstream Master cannot always stream frame data without reference to s\_axis\_data\_tready.
- 3. The FFT unloads a frame before loading the subsequent frame.

[Figure 32](#page-26-0) is similar to [Figure 31](#page-25-0), except that the FFT is configured to have bit reversed outputs. As the upstream master is always supplying data, the loading and unloading of frames can overlap.

[Figure 33](#page-27-0) is similar to [Figure 32](#page-26-0), except that the upstream master does not supply data for Frame B until the FFT has started flushing out Frame A. As the FFT has already started flushing Frame A, it will complete this before loading Frame B. The loading and unloading of frames do not overlap.

In this example, s\_axis\_data\_tready remains high at Point A. Loading Frame A into the FFT drained the buffer in the Data Input Channel, and as the Upstream Master didn't send any new data, the buffer is empty. The FFT is ready to accept new frame data at point A although it isn't able to do anything with it at this point. At point B the Upstream Master starts to send data from Frame B. This fills the buffer in the Data Input Channel, but as the FFT is committed to flushing Frame A, the buffer fills and the FFT stalls the Upstream Master with waitstates. At point C, the FFT has started loading Frame B to process it, so the buffer drains and more data can be accepted to finish off Frame B.

The key difference between the situation in [Figure 32](#page-26-0) and [Figure 33](#page-27-0) is that the master in [Figure 32](#page-26-0) has provided new frame data during the processing phase of the previous frame. As a result, the FFT knows there is a new frame

<sup>1.</sup> This refers to the FFT processing core. As the Data In channel has a 16 element deep buffer on its input, it can start to pre-buffer a frame while a frame is still being processed. In the case of 8 and 16 point FFTs, it can pre-buffer entire frames. However, this buffered data waits in the buffer until the FFT engine has finished dealing with the current frame.

coming so when processing finishes, it starts to load the new frame as this will flush the old frame out. In [Figure 33,](#page-27-0) the master did not provide data (and therefore did not tell the FFT that there would be a new frame) during the processing phase, so when the FFT finishes processing the frame, it moves to a flushing phase where it is no longer possible to load a new frame. Even if the master provides a sample for the new frame a cycle after unloading has begin, that sample will not be loaded until the FFT is finished unloading the old frame.

<span id="page-25-0"></span>

<span id="page-26-0"></span>

<span id="page-27-0"></span>



## **Configuring the FFT**

FFT transforms are configured using the Configuration channel. Details about the configuration information carried in this channel, and how it is packed, is discussed in more detail in section [Configuration Channel, page 48.](#page-47-0) When the FFT is ready to load a new frame for processing, it checks to see if a new configuration has been supplied on the Configuration channel. If it has, the FFT processing core is configured using that information before the frame is loaded. If no new configuration information has been supplied then the FFT processes the frame using the last configuration it had. If no configuration has ever been supplied, then the core defaults described in [aresetn](#page-43-0) [\(Synchronous Clear\), page 44](#page-43-0) are used.

The process of applying configuration data to a particular frame depends on the current status of the FFT:

- 1. To apply a configuration to the very first frame after power on or after an idle period
- 2. To apply the configuration to the next frame in a sequence of frames

### **Applying a New Configuration While Idle**

If the FFT core is idle (that is, it isn't loading, processing or unloading any frames), it waits for either frame data or configuration data to decide what action to take next. If new frame data is seen by the FFT control module without new configuration information being seen, then the FFT starts to process a frame using the existing configuration. If configuration information is seen before frame data, or on the same clock edge as frame data, then the configuration is applied to that frame.

To ensure that the configuration data is applied before the frame is processed, the configuration information should be written to the Configuration channel with the following timing:

- Realtime Mode: the write of configuration data to the Configuration channel must complete at least 1 clock cycle before the write of the first data to the Data Input channel. Failure to do so results in the frame being processed with the previous configuration options in use.
- Non-Realtime Mode: the write of configuration data to the Configuration channel can happen before or with the write of the first data to the Data Input channel.

Perhaps the easiest way to satisfy this in a system context is to configure the FFT before enabling the upstream data master.

### **Applying a New Configuration While Streaming Frames**

Once the upstream master is active and sending frame data to the FFT core, it becomes difficult to use the previous technique to synchronise configuration with particular frames as data for a new frame may have already been loaded into the Data Input channel. The recommended way of synchronising configuration to frames is to use the event\_frame\_started signal.

This signal is asserted high when the FFT starts to load data for a frame into the FFT processing core. This is a known safe point to send configuration information for the next frame. Configuration data sent after this may or may not be applied to the subsequent frame, depending on the frame size and the latency between event\_frame\_started asserting and the configuration write occurring.

### **How Changing the Configuration can Change Transfer Timing**

There are two situations where changing the configuration can temporarily reduce the throughput of the FFT core:

- 1. A Pipelined Streaming FFT is processing frames and the transform size (NFFT) is changed.
- 2. A Burst I/O FFT with bit reversed outputs is processing a frame, and the master supplies frame data in time to avoid the FFT automatically flushing the frame, and the transform size (NFFT) is changed.

Both the Pipelined Streaming architecture and the Burst I/O architectures (when bit reversed outputs are used) implement pipelining to achieve better throughput. In the case of the Pipelined Streaming architecture, it pipelines the loading, processing and unloading of entire frames (see [Figure 29\)](#page-22-0). In Burst I/O architectures when bit reversed outputs are used, the FFT implements a partial pipeline to overlap the loading on one frame with the unloading of another (see [Figure 32](#page-26-0)).

However, a change to the transform size can only be applied when the pipeline is empty. Changing the transform size when the pipeline is not empty would result in data loss, so the FFT prevents this. When new configuration information is sent to the Configuration channel, and that information contains a change in transform size, the FFT will not load any more frames until all frames already in the pipeline are processed and unloaded.

This is all handled automatically by the FFT core, allowing the user to send the configuration information at any time they desire. However, throughput will drop until the pipeline is fully flushed. This behaviour only occurs if the transform size is to change. All other configuration options can be applied without waiting for the FFT's pipeline to empty.

## **Pinout**

<span id="page-30-0"></span>

*Figure 34:* **Core Schematic Symbol**

This section describes the core ports as shown in [Figure 34](#page-30-0) and described in [Table 3.](#page-30-1)



<span id="page-30-1"></span>

*Table 3:* **Core Signal Pinout** *(Cont'd)*

| <b>Name</b>                | <b>Direction</b> | Optional | <b>Description</b>   |
|----------------------------|------------------|----------|--|
| s axis data tdata          | Input            | No       | TDATA for the Data Input channel.<br>Carries the unprocessed sample data: XN_RE and XN_IM.<br>See section Data Input Channel.  |
| s axis data tlast          | Input            | No       | TLAST for the Data Input channel.<br>Asserted by the external master on the last sample of the frame.<br>This is not used by the FFT except to generate the events<br>event_tlast_unexpected and<br>event_tlast_missing events |
| m axis data tvalid         | Output           | No       | TVALID for the Data Output channel.<br>Asserted by the FFT to signal that it is able to provide sample<br>data.  |
| m_axis_data_tready         | Input            | No       | TREADY for the Data Output channel.<br>Asserted by the external slave to signal that it is ready to accept<br>data. Only present in "Non-Realtime" mode.   |
| m_axis_data_tdata          | Output           | No       | TDATA for the Data Output channel.<br>Carries the processed sample data XK_RE and XK_IM.<br>See section Data Output Channel.   |
| m axis data tuser          | Output           | No       | TUSER for the Data Output channel.<br>Carries additional per-sample information, such as XK_INDEX,<br>OVFLO and BLK EXP.<br>See section Data Output Channel.   |
| m axis data tlast          | Output           | No       | TLAST for the Data Output channel.<br>Asserted by the FFT on the last sample of the frame.   |
| m_axis_status_tvalid       | Output           | No       | <b>TVALID</b> for the Status channel.<br>Asserted by the FFT to signal that it is able to provide status data.   |
| m_axis_status_tready       | Input            | No       | TREADY for the Status channel.<br>Asserted by the external slave to signal that it is ready to accept<br>data. Only present in "Non-Realtime" mode   |
| m_axis_status_tdata        | Output           | No       | <b>TDATA</b> for the Status channel.<br>Carries the status data: BLK_EXP or OVFLO.<br>See section Status Channel.  |
| event_frame_started        | Output           | No       | Asserted when the FFT starts to process a new frame.<br>See section event_frame_started.   |
| event_tlast_unexpected     | Output           | No.      | Asserted when the FFT sees s_axis_data_tlast high on a<br>data sample that isn't the last one in a frame.<br>See section event tlast unexpected.   |
| event_tlast_missing        | Output           | No       | Asserted when s_axis_data_tlast is low on the last data<br>sample of a frame.<br>See section event_tlast_missing.  |
| event fft overflow         | Output           | No       | Asserted when an overflow is seen in the data samples being<br>unloaded from the Data Output channel. Only present when<br>overflow is a valid option.<br>See section event_fft_overflow.                                      |
| event_data_in_channel_halt | Output           | No       | Asserted when the FFT requests data from the Data Input<br>channel and none is available.<br>See section event_data_in_channel_halt.   |

#### *Table 3:* **Core Signal Pinout** *(Cont'd)*



Note that all AXI4-Stream port names are lower case, but for ease of visualization, upper case is used in this document when referring to port name suffixes, such as TDATA or TLAST.

# **CORE Generator Graphical User Interface**

The FFT core graphical user interface (GUI) provides several screens with fields to set the parameter values for the particular instantiation required. A description of each CORE Generator GUI field follows:

## **Page 1**

- **Component Name**: The name of the core component to be instantiated. The name must begin with a letter and be composed of the following characters: a to z, A to Z, 0 to 9, and "\_".
- **Channels**: Select the number of channels from 1 to 12. Multichannel operation is available for the three Burst I/O architectures.
- **Transform Length**: Select the desired point size. All powers of two from 8 to 65536 are available.
- **Implementation Options**: Select an implementation option, as described in [Architecture Options, page 14.](#page-13-0)
	- The Pipelined Streaming I/O, Radix-2 Burst I/O, and Radix-2 Lite Burst I/O architectures support point sizes 8 to 65536.
	- The Radix-4 Burst I/O architecture supports point sizes 64 to 65536.
	- Check Automatically Select to choose the smallest implementation that meets the specified Target Data Throughput, provided the specified Target Clock Frequency is achieved when the FFT core is implemented on an FPGA device.
	- Target Clock Frequency and Target Data Throughput are only used to automatically select an implementation and to calculate latency. The core is not guaranteed to run at the specified target clock frequency or target data throughput.
- **Transform Length Options**: Select the transform length to be run-time configurable or not. The core uses fewer logic resources and has a faster maximum clock speed when the transform length is not run-time configurable.

## **Page 2**

- **Data Format**: Select whether the input and output data samples are in Fixed Point format, or in IEEE-754 single precision (32-bit) Floating-Point format. Floating-Point format is not available when the core is in a multichannel configuration.
- **Precision Options**: Input data and phase factors can be independently configured to widths from 8 to 34 bits, inclusive. When the Data Format is Floating-Point, the input data width is fixed at 32 bits and the phase factor width can be set to 24 or 25 bits depending on the noise performance required and available resources.
- **Scaling Options**: Three options are available, for all architectures:
	- Unscaled
		- **-** All integer bit growth is carried to the output. This can use more FPGA resources.
- Scaled
	- **-** A user-defined scaling schedule determines how data is scaled between FFT stages.
- Block Floating-Point
	- **-** The core determines how much scaling is necessary to make best use of available dynamic range, and reports the scaling factor as a block exponent.
- **Control Signals**: Clock Enable (aclken) and Synchronous Clear (aresetn) are optional pins. Synchronous Clear overrides Clock Enable if both are selected. If an option is not selected, some logic resources may be saved and a higher clock frequency may be attainable.
- **Optional Output Fields**: XK\_INDEX is an optional field in the [Data Output Channel.](#page-51-0) OVFLO is an optional field in both the Data Output channel and [Status Channel](#page-55-0).
- **Throttle Schemes**: Select trade off between performance and data timing requirements. Realtime mode typically gives a smaller and faster design, but has strict constraints on when data must be provided and consumed. Non-Realtime mode has no such constraints, but the design may be larger and slower. See [Controlling the FFT](#page-19-1) for more details.
- **Rounding Modes**: At the output of the butterfly, the LSBs in the data path need to be trimmed. These bits can be truncated or rounded using convergent rounding, which is an unbiased rounding scheme. When the fractional part of a number is equal to exactly one-half, convergent rounding rounds up if the number is odd, and rounds down if the number is even. Convergent rounding can be used to avoid the DC bias that would otherwise be introduced by truncation after the butterfly stages. Selecting this option increases slice usage and yields a small increase in transform time due to additional latency.
- **Output Ordering**: Output data selections are either Bit/Digit Reversed Order or Natural Order. The Radix-2 based architectures (Pipelined Streaming I/O, Radix-2 Burst I/O and Radix-2 Lite Burst I/O) offer bit-reversed ordering, and the Radix-4 based architecture (Radix-4 Burst I/O) offers digit-reversed ordering. For the Pipelined Streaming I/O architecture, selecting natural order output ordering results in an increase in memory used by the core. For Burst I/O architectures, selecting natural order output increases the overall transform time because a separate unloading phase is required.
	- Cyclic Prefix Insertion can be selected if the output ordering is Natural Order. Cyclic Prefix Insertion is available for all architectures, and is typically used in OFDM wireless communications systems.

## **Page 3**

- **Memory Options**:
	- **Data And Phase Factors (Burst I/O architectures)**: For Burst I/O architectures, either block RAM or distributed RAM can be used for data and phase factor storage. Data and phase factor storage can be in distributed RAM for all point sizes up to and including 1024 points.
	- **Data And Phase Factors (Pipelined Streaming I/O)**: In the Pipelined Streaming I/O solution, the data can be stored partially in block RAM and partially in distributed RAM. Each pipeline stage, counting from the input side, uses smaller data and phase factor memories than preceding stages. You can select the number of pipeline stages that use block RAM for data and phase factor storage. Later stages use distributed RAM. The default displayed on the GUI offers a good balance between both. If output ordering is Natural Order, the memory used for the reorder buffer can be either block RAM or distributed RAM. The reorder buffer can use distributed RAM for point sizes less than or equal to 1024.
		- **-** When block floating-point is selected for the Pipelined Streaming I/O architecture, a RAM buffer is required for natural order *and* bit reversed order output data. In this case, the reorder buffer options remain available and distributed RAM may be selected for all point sizes below 2048.
	- **Hybrid Memories**: Where data, phase factor, or reorder buffer memories are stored in block RAM, if the size of the memory is greater than one block RAM, the memory can be constructed from a hybrid of block RAMs and distributed RAM, where the majority of the data is stored in block RAMs and a few bits that are left over are stored in distributed RAM. This Hybrid Memory is an alternative to constructing the memory entirely from multiple block RAMs. It provides a reduction in the block RAM count, at the cost of an

increase in the number of slices used. Hybrid Memories are only available when block RAM is used for one or more memories and the number of slices required for a Hybrid Memory implementation is below an internal threshold of 256 LUTs per memory. If these conditions are met, Hybrid Memories are made available and can be selected.

- **Optimize Options**:
	- **Complex Multipliers**: Three options are available for customization of the complex multiplier implementation:
		- **Use CLB logic**: All complex multipliers are constructed using slice logic. This is appropriate for target applications that have low performance requirements, or target devices that have few XtremeDSP slices.
		- **Use 3-multiplier structure (resource optimization)**: All complex multipliers use a three real multiply, five add/subtract structure, where the multipliers use XtremeDSP slices. This reduces the XtremeDSP slice count, but uses some slice logic. This structure can make use of the XtremeDSP slice pre-adder to reduce or remove the need for extra slice logic, and improve performance.
		- **Use 4-multiplier structure (performance optimization)**: All complex multipliers use a four real multiply, two add/subtract structure, utilizing XtremeDSP slices. This structure yields the highest clock performance at the expense of more dedicated multipliers. In devices with XtremeDSP slices, the add/subtract operations are implemented within the XtremeDSP slices.

**Note:** The core may override the complex multiplier implementation internally to ensure the fewest number of XtremeDSP slices are used, without impacting performance. For this reason, some core configurations may show no difference in XtremeDSP slice usage when toggling between the 3-multiplier and 4-multiplier options. If "Use CLB logic" is selected, however, slice logic is always utilized.

- **Butterfly Arithmetic**: Two options are available for customization of the butterfly implementation:
	- Use CLB logic: All butterfly stages are constructed using slice logic.
	- **Use XtremeDSP Slices:** For devices with XtremeDSP slices, this option forces all butterfly stages to be implemented using the adder/subtracters in XtremeDSP slices.

## **Information Tabs**

- Implementation Details:
	- **Implementation**: This field displays the currently selected architecture. This is useful to see the result of automatic architecture selection.
	- **Transform Size**: When the transform length is run-time configurable, the core has the ability to reprogram the point size while the core is running; that is, the core can support the selected point size and any smaller point size. This field displays the supported point sizes based on the Transform Length, Transform Length Options, and the Implementation Options selected.
	- **Output Data Width**: The output data width equals the input data width for scaled arithmetic and block floating-point arithmetic. With unscaled arithmetic, the output data width equals (input data width +  $log_2(point size) + 1$ ).
	- **Resource Estimates**: Based on the options selected, this field displays the XtremeDSP slice count and 18K block RAM numbers (9K block RAM numbers for Spartan-6 devices). The resource numbers are just an estimate. For exact resource usage, and slice/LUT-FlipFlop pair information, a MAP report should be consulted.
	- **AXI4-Stream Port Structure:** This section shows how the FFT's fields are mapped to the AXI channels. This information can be copied to the Clipboard and pasted as plain text into other applications.
- **Latency:**
	- This tab shows the latency of the FFT core in clock cycles and microseconds (μs) for each point size supported. The latency is from the Upstream Master supplying the first sample of a frame to the last sample of output data coming out of the core, assuming that the FFT core was idle and neither the

Upstream Master or the Downstream Slave inserted wait states. This is not the minimum number of cycles between starting consecutive frames, as frames may overlap in some cases. The latency in microseconds is based on the target clock frequency. The latency figures can be copied to the Clipboard and pasted as plain text into other applications.

- **C Model**:
	- This tab provides a link to the Xilinx LogiCORE IP FFT web page where the core C model can be downloaded. For details of the C model, see [Bit Accurate C Model, page 38.](#page-37-0)

# **Using the FFT IP Core**

## **Simulation Models**

When the core is generated using the CORE Generator software, a UniSim-based simulation model is created. The FFT core does not have a VHDL or Verilog functional behavioral model. For this reason, the core overrides the CORE Generator Project Options and always delivers a Structural model type.

Xilinx recommends that the designer run simulations using a resolution of 1 ps. Some Xilinx library components require a 1 ps resolution to work properly in either functional or timing simulation. The FFT core UniSim-based structural model may produce incorrect results if simulated with a resolution other than 1 ps. See the "Register Transfer Level (RTL) Simulation Using Xilinx Libraries" section in Chapter 6 of the *Synthesis and Simulation Design Guide* for more information. This document is part of the ISE® Design Suite Manual set available at [www.xilinx.com/support/software\\_manuals.htm](www.xilinx.com/support/software_manuals.htm).
## **XCO Parameters**

[Table 4](#page-36-0) defines valid entries for the XCO parameters. Parameters are not case sensitive. Default values are displayed in bold. Xilinx strongly recommends that XCO parameters are not manually edited in the XCO file; instead, use the CORE Generator GUI to configure the core and perform range and parameter value checking.

<span id="page-36-0"></span>*Table 4:* **XCO Parameters**

| <b>XCO Parameter</b>                   | <b>Valid Values</b>   |
|--|---|
| component_name                         | Name must begin with a letter and be composed of the following<br>characters: a to z, A to Z, 0 to 9, and " $\ldots$ ". |
| channels                               | 1 - 12 (default value is $1$ )  |
| transform_length                       | 8, 16, 32, 64, 128, 256, 512, 1024, 2048, 4096, 8192, 16384, 32768,<br>65536  |
| implementation_options                 | automatically_select<br>pipelined_streaming_io<br>radix_4_burst_io<br>radix_2_burst_io<br>radix_2_lite_burst_io         |
| target_clock_frequency                 | 0 - 550 (default is 250)  |
| target_data_throughput                 | 0 - 550 (default is 50)   |
| run_time_configurable_transform_length | false<br>true   |
| data_format                            | fixed_point<br>floating_point   |
| input_width                            | 8 - 34 (default value is 16)  |
| phase_factor_width                     | 8 - 34 (default value is 16)  |
| scaling_options                        | scaled<br>unscaled<br>block_floating_point  |
| rounding_modes                         | truncation<br>convergent_rounding   |
| aclken                                 | false<br>true   |
| aresetn                                | false<br>true   |
| ovflo                                  | false<br>true   |
| xk_index                               | false<br>true   |
| throttle_scheme                        | nonrealtime<br>realtime   |
| output_ordering                        | bit_reversed_order<br>natural_order   |
| cyclic_prefix_insertion                | false<br>true   |

#### *Table 4:* **XCO Parameters** *(Cont'd)*



## **Bit Accurate C Model**

The FFT core has a bit-accurate C model designed for system modeling and selecting parameters before generating an FFT core. The model is bit-accurate but not cycle-accurate, so it produces exactly the same output data as the core on a frame-by-frame basis. However, it does not model the core latency or its interface signals.

The C model is generally required before generating an FFT core, so it is not delivered as an output of CORE Generator software. Instead it is available for download on the Xilinx LogiCORE IP FFT web page at [www.xilinx.com/products/ipcenter/FFT.htm.](www.xilinx.com/xlnx/xebiz/designResources/ip_product_details.jsp?key=FFT) The C model is available as a dynamically-linked library for 32-bit and 64-bit Windows platforms, and 32-bit and 64-bit Linux platforms. The C model may also be compiled into a MATLAB software MEX function. Download a zip file and unzip it to install the C model. A README.txt file describes the contents of the installed directory structure, and any further platform-specific installation instructions.

## **C Model Interface**

The C model is used through three functions, declared in the header file  $xfft_v8_0_bbitacc_ccmodel.h:$ 

```
struct xilinx_ip_xfft_v8_0_state*
xilinx_ip_xfft_v8_0_create_state(struct xilinx_ip_xfft_v8_0_generics generics);
int xilinx_ip_xfft_v8_0_bitacc_simulate
(
 struct xilinx_ip_xfft_v8_0_state* state,
 struct xilinx_ip_xfft_v8_0_inputs inputs,
 struct xilinx_ip_xfft_v8_0_outputs* outputs
  );
void xilinx_ip_xfft_v8_0_destroy_state(struct xilinx_ip_xfft_v8_0_state* state);
```
The first function, xilinx\_ip\_xfft\_v8\_0\_create\_state, creates a new state structure for the FFT C model, allocating memory to store the state as required, and returns a pointer to that state structure. The state structure contains all information required to define the FFT being modeled. The function is called with a structure containing the core generics: these are all of the parameters that define the bit-accurate numerical performance of the core, represented as integers, and are derived from the XCO parameters that are the result of selections in the CORE Generator GUI. The generics required for the C model and their mappings from XCO parameters are shown in [Table 5](#page-38-0).



#### <span id="page-38-0"></span>*Table 5:* **C Model Generics**

After a state structure has been created, it can be used as many times as required to simulate the FFT core. A simulation is run using the second function, xilinx\_ip\_xfft\_v8\_0\_bitacc\_simulate. Call this function with the pointer to the existing state structure, and structures to hold the inputs and outputs of the C model. These input and output structures are fully defined and described in the C model header file. Note that memory for all input and output data arrays must be allocated by the calling program before simulating the C model.

Finally, the state structure must be destroyed to free up any memory used to store the state, using the third function, xilinx\_ip\_xfft\_v8\_0\_destroy\_state, called with the pointer to the existing state structure.

If the generics of the core need to be changed, destroy the existing state structure and create a new state structure using the new generics. There is no way to change the generics of an existing state structure.

An example C++ file, run\_bitacc\_cmodel.c, is included in the C model zip file. This shows all of the stages required to run the C model.

Due to differences between the FFT core and the C model in the order of operations within the processing phase, when using the Pipelined Streaming I/O architecture, if fixed-point data is being processed, the scaling option is Scaled and overflow occurs, the  $xk_re$  and  $xk_im$  data outputs of the C model may not match the  $XK_re$  and XK\_IM data outputs of the core. The overflow output of the C model and the OVFLO output of the core (if present) do match in all cases. The overflow output of the C model is always set correctly when the scaling option is Scaled (when the C model generics  $C_{HAS_{S}CALING} = 1$  and  $C_{HAS_{S}BFP} = 0$ ).

Therefore, Xilinx recommends that the overflow output of the C model is always checked when the scaling option is Scaled and the architecture is Pipelined Streaming I/O, and if overflow has occurred (overflow output = 1), the xk\_re and xk\_im outputs of the C model are ignored. This is the only case where the C model is not entirely bitaccurate to the core.

# **Using the C Model to Select a Scaling Schedule**

When the scaling option for the FFT core is Scaled, you have great flexibility to set the scaling schedule that determines by how much to scale data values at each stage of the FFT processing phase. See [Forward/Inverse and](#page-17-0) [Scaling Schedule, page 18](#page-17-0). It can be difficult to choose the best scaling schedule that avoids overflow in a sufficiently large proportion of frames for a particular type of input data. The C model is a tool that can help with the selection of a scaling schedule. A process for this is as follows:

- 1. Create a set of frames of typical FFT input data for the intended application.
- 2. Create a state structure using the required generics. Set the scaling option to Scaled by setting the C model generics  $C_HAS_SCALING = 1$  and  $C_HAS_BFP = 0$ .
- 3. Set the scaling schedule in the structure of inputs to some initial scaling schedule, such as the reset value of 1 in each stage for Radix-2 Burst I/O and Radix-2 Lite Burst I/O architectures, or 2 in each stage for Radix-4 Burst I/O, and Pipelined Streaming I/O architectures.
- 4. Simulate the C model with each frame of typical input data in turn. Count the number of frames in which overflow occurred (overflow output was 1).
- 5. If the percentage of frames in which overflow occurred is lower than the acceptable overflow rate, reduce the scaling value in one or more stages in the scaling schedule. If the percentage of frames in which overflow occurred is higher than the acceptable overflow rate, increase the scaling value in one or more stages in the scaling schedule.
- 6. Repeat stages 4 and 5 until the percentage of frames in which overflow occurred matches the acceptable overflow rate.

This process produces a scaling schedule that is tailored to the typical FFT input data for the intended application.

# **Demonstration Testbench**

When the core is generated using CORE Generator, a demonstration testbench is created. This is a simple VHDL testbench that exercises the core.

The demonstration testbench source code is one VHDL file: demo\_tb/tb\_<component\_name>.vhd in the CORE Generator output directory. The source code is comprehensively commented.

## **Using the Demonstration Testbench**

The demonstration testbench instantiates the generated FFT core. If the CORE Generator project options were set to generate a structural model, a VHDL or Verilog netlist named <component\_name>.vhd or <component\_name>.v was generated. If this file is not present, generate it using the netgen program, for example in Unix:

netgen -sim -ofmt vhdl <component\_name>.ngc <component\_name>.vhd

Compile the netlist and the demonstration testbench into the work library (see your simulator documentation for more information on how to do this). Then simulate the demonstration testbench. View the testbench's signals in your simulator's waveform viewer to see the operations of the testbench.

## **The Demonstration Testbench in Detail**

The demonstration testbench performs the following tasks:

- Instantiates the core
- Generates an input data frame consisting of one or the sum of two complex sinusoids
- Generates a clock signal
- Drives the core's input signals to demonstrate core features (see below for details)
- Checks that the core's output signals obey AXI protocol rules (data values are not checked in order to keep the testbench simple)
- Provides signals showing the separate fields of AXI TDATA and TUSER signals

The demonstration testbench drives the core's input signals to demonstrate the features and modes of operation of the core. This includes performing an FFT on a pre-generated input data frame. The input data frame consists of a complex sinusoid with a frequency of 2.6 times the frame size. The FFT of this input frame is a peak centred between output samples 2 and 3. For FFTs with a maximum point size of 64 or greater, the input data is modified by adding a second complex sinusoid with a frequency of 23.2 times the frame size and a quarter of the magnitude of the first sinusoid. This modifies the FFT by adding a smaller peak centred between output samples 23 and 24. The testbench captures this output frame and uses it as the input frame for an inverse transform. The output of this inverse transform is therefore the same as the original input frame (modified by the scaling and finite precision effects of the FFT core).

The operations performed by the demonstration testbench are appropriate for the configuration of the generated core, and are a subset of the following operations:

- Frame 1: drive a frame of pre-generated input data
- Frame 2: configure an inverse transform; drive the output of frame 1 as a frame of input data
- Configure frame 3: a forward transform while the previous transform is running
- Frame 3: drive the output of frame 2 as a frame of input data; de-assert AXI TVALID (and TREADY if present) signals occasionally to demonstrate AXI handshaking
- If ARESET n present: start another frame but reset the core before it completes
- Frames 4-7: run these back-to-back, as quickly as possible:
	- Queue up configurations for a forward transform (frame 4) followed by a reverse transform (frame 5), both with a smaller point size (if point size is configurable) and a short cyclic prefix (if available)
	- Frame 4: drive a frame of pre-generated input data
	- Frame 5: drive the output of frame 1 as a frame of input data; simultaneously configure frame 6: a forward transform with maximum point size, a longer cyclic prefix (if available) and a zero scaling schedule (if fixed scaling is used)
	- Frame 6: drive a frame of pre-generated input data; simultaneously configure frame 7: an inverse transform with maximum point size, no cyclic prefix and default scaling schedule (if fixed scaling is used)
	- Frame 7: drive the output of frame 1 as a frame of input data
- Wait until all frames are complete

## **Customizing the Demonstration Testbench**

It is possible to modify the demonstration testbench to drive the core's inputs with different data or to perform different operations.

Input data is pre-generated in the create\_ip\_table function and stored in the IP\_DATA constant. New input data frames can be added by defining new functions and constants. Make sure that each input data frame is of the T\_IP\_TABLE array type.

All operations performed by the demonstration testbench to drive the core's inputs are done in the data\_stimuli process. This process also contains procedures to simplify driving a frame of input data. Configuration is requested in this process by setting  $cfg_*$  signals to the desired configuration and setting the do\_config shared variable to either IMMEDIATE or AFTER\_START. The configuration signals are actually driven by the config\_stimuli process.

The data\_stimuli process is comprehensively commented, to explain clearly what is being done. New configuration and data operations can be added by copying and modifying sections of this process.

The clock frequency of the core can be modified by changing the CLOCK\_PERIOD constant.

# **System Generator For DSP Graphical User Interface**

This section describes each tab of the System Generator GUI and details the parameters that differ from the CORE Generator GUI. See [CORE Generator Graphical User Interface, page 33](#page-32-0) for more detailed information about all other parameters.

## **Tab 1: Basic**

The Basic tab is used to specify the transform configuration and architecture in a similar way to page 1 of the CORE Generator GUI.

Implementation Options: Select an implementation option as described in [Architecture Options, page 14.](#page-13-0)

- The Pipelined Streaming I/O, Radix-2 Burst I/O, and Radix-2 Lite Burst I/O architectures support point sizes 8 to 65536.
- The Radix-4 Burst I/O architecture supports point sizes 64 to 65536.

System Generator supports only single-channel implementation of the FFT and, hence, Channels is not available as a GUI option.

## **Tab 2: Advanced**

The Advanced tab is used to specify phase factor precision, scaling, rounding, optional output fields, throttle scheme, and optional port options in a similar way to page 2 of the CORE Generator GUI.

System Generator can optionally shorten the AXI4-Stream signal names on the symbol by removing the m\_axis\_ or s\_axis\_ prefixes.

System Generator automatically sets the Input Data Width parameter based on the signal properties of the XN\_RE and XN\_IM ports. System Generator supports only fixed-point data types and, hence, Data Format is not available as an option on the GUI.

## **Tab 3: Implementation**

The Implementation tab is used to specify memory and optimization options in a similar way to page 3 of the CORE Generator GUI.

- **Number of stages using block RAM**: Specifies the number of stages for the Pipelined Streaming I/O architecture that uses block RAM for data and phase factor storage. As dynamic list boxes are not offered with the System Generator GUI, this option displays the full range (0 to 11) selection, but allows you to select only valid values as visible in the CORE Generator GUI.
- **FPGA Area Estimation**: See the System Generator documentation for detailed information about this option.

# **Control Signals**

# **aclken (Clock Enable)**

If the Clock Enable (aclken) pin is present on the core, driving the pin low pauses the core in its current state. All logic within the core is paused. Driving the aclken pin high allows the core to continue processing.

Note that aclken can reduce the maximum frequency that the core can run at.

## **aresetn (Synchronous Clear)**

If the aresetn pin is present on the core, driving the pin low results in all output pins, internal counters, and state variables being reset to their initial values. All pending load processes, transform calculations, and unload processes stop and are re-initialized. NFFT is set to the largest FFT point size permitted (the Transform Length value set in the GUI). The scaling schedule is set to 1/N. For the Radix-4 Burst I/O and Pipelined Streaming I/O architectures with a non-power-of-four point size, the last stage has a scaling of 1, and the rest have a scaling of 2. See [Table 6](#page-43-0).

<span id="page-43-0"></span>*Table 6:* **Synchronous Clear Reset Values**

| <b>Signal</b>    | <b>Initial / Reset Value</b>  |
|------------------|---|
| <b>NFFT</b>      | maximum point size = $N$  |
| <b>FWD INV</b>   | Forward = $1$   |
| <b>SCALE SCH</b> | 1/N<br>[10 10 10] for Radix-4 Burst I/O or Pipelined Streaming I/O<br>architectures when N is a power of 4. |
|                  | [01 10 10] for Radix-4 Burst I/O or Pipelined Streaming I/O<br>architectures when N is not a power of 4.    |
|                  | [01 01 01] for Radix-2 Burst I/O or Radix-2 Lite Burst I/O<br>architectures                                 |

The aresetn pin takes priority over aclken. If aresetn is asserted, reset occurs regardless of the value of aclken. A minimum aresetn active pulse of two cycles is required, since the signal is internally registered for performance. A pulse of one cycle resets the core, but the response to the pulse is not in the cycle immediately following.

# **Event Signals**

The FFT core provides some real-time non-AXI signals to report information about the core's status. These event signals are updated on a clock cycle by clock cycle basis, and are intended for use by reactive components such as interrupt controllers. These signals are not optionally configurable from the GUI, but are removed by synthesis tools if left unconnected.

## **event\_frame\_started**

This event signal is asserted for a single clock cycle when the FFT starts to process a new frame. This signal is provided to allow users to count frames and to synchronise the configuration of the core to a particular frame if required.

## **event\_tlast\_missing**

This event signal is asserted for a single clock cycle when  $s$ \_axis\_data\_tlast is low on a frame's last incoming data sample. This is intended to show a configuration mismatch between the FFT and the upstream data source with regard to the frame size, and indicates that the upstream data source is configured to a larger point size than the FFT is.

This is only calculated when the FFT starts processing a frame, so the event can lag the missing s\_axis\_data\_tlast by a large number of clock cycles.

## **event\_tlast\_unexpected**

This event signal is asserted for a single clock cycle when the FFT sees s\_axis\_data\_tlast high on any incoming data sample that isn't the last one in a frame.

This is intended to show a configuration mismatch between the FFT and the upstream data source with regard to the frame size, and indicates that the upstream data source is configured to a smaller point size than the FFT is.

This is only calculated when the FFT starts processing a frame, so the event can lag the unexpected high on s\_axis\_data\_tlast by a large number of clock cycles.

If there are multiple unexpected highs on s\_axis\_data\_tlast for a frame, then this is asserted for each of them.

## **event\_fft\_overflow**

This event signal is asserted on every clock cycle when an overflow is seen in the data samples being transferred on m\_axis\_data\_tdata.

It is only possible to get FFT overflows when scaled arithmetic or single-precision floating-point I/O is used. In all other configurations the pin is removed from the core.

## **event\_data\_in\_channel\_halt**

This event is asserted on every cycle where the FFT needs data from the Data Input channel and no data is available.

- In Realtime Mode the FFT continues processing the frame even though it is unrecoverably corrupted.
- In Non-Realtime Mode, FFT processing halts and only continues when data is written to the Data Input channel. The frame is not corrupted.

In both modes the event remains asserted until data is available in the Data Input Channel.

## **event\_data\_out\_channel\_halt**

This event is asserted on every cycle where the FFT needs to write data to the Data Output channel but cannot because the buffers in the channel are full. When this occurs, the FFT core is halted and all activity stops until space is available in the channel's buffers. The frame is not corrupted.

The event pin is only available in Non-Realtime mode.

## **event\_status\_channel\_halt**

This event is asserted on every cycle where the FFT needs to write data to the Status channel but cannot because the buffers on the channel are full. When this occurs, the FFT core is halted, and all activity stops until space is available in the channel's buffers. The frame is not corrupted

The event pin is only available in Non-Realtime mode.

# **AXI4-Stream Considerations**

The conversion to AXI4-Stream interfaces brings standardization and enhances interoperability of Xilinx IP LogiCORE solutions. Other than general control signals such as  $ac1k$ ,  $ac1ken$  and  $a$ resetn, and event signals, all inputs and outputs to the FFT are conveyed via AXI4-Stream channels. A channel always consists of TVALID and TDATA plus additional ports (such as TREADY, TUSER and TLAST) when required and optional fields. Together, TVALID and TREADY perform a handshake to transfer a message, where the payload is TDATA, TUSER and TLAST. The FFT operates on the operands contained in the TDATA fields and outputs the result in the TDATA field of the output channel.

For further details on AXI4-Stream Interfaces see the [Xilinx AXI Design Reference Guide \(UG761\)](www.xilinx.com/support/documentation/ip_documentation/ug761_axi_reference_guide.pdf) and the [AMBA 4](infocenter.arm.com/help/index.jsp?topic=/com.arm.doc.ihi0051a/index.html) [AXI4-Stream Protocol Version: 1.0 Specification.](infocenter.arm.com/help/index.jsp?topic=/com.arm.doc.ihi0051a/index.html)

## **Basic Handshake**

<span id="page-46-0"></span>[Figure 35](#page-46-0) shows the transfer of data in an AXI4-Stream channel. TVALID is driven by the source (master) side of the channel and TREADY is driven by the receiver (slave). TVALID indicates that the value in the payload fields (TDATA, TUSER and TLAST) is valid. TREADY indicates that the slave is ready to receive data. When both TVALID and TREADY are true in a cycle, a transfer occurs. The master and slave will set TVALID and TREADY respectively for the next transfer appropriately.



*Figure 35:* **Data Transfer in an AXI-Stream Channel**

## **AXI Channel Rules**

Note that all of the AXI channels follow the same rules:

- All TDATA and TUSER fields are packed in little endian format. That is, bit 0 of a sub-field is aligned to the same side as bit 0 of TDATA or TUSER
- Fields are not included in TDATA or TUSER unless the core is configured in such a way that it needs the fields to be present. For example, if the FFT is configured to have a fixed point size, no bits are allocated to the NFFT field that specifies the point size
- All TDATA and TUSER vectors are multiples of 8 bits. Once all fields in a TDATA or TUSER vector have been concatenated, the overall vector is padded to bring it up to an 8 bit boundary.

# <span id="page-47-0"></span>**Configuration Channel**

## **Pinout**

#### *Table 7:* **Configuration Channel Pinout**



#### **TDATA Fields**

The Configuration channel (s\_axis\_config) is an AXI channel that carries the following fields in its TDATA vector:



#### *Table 8:* **Configuration Channel TDATA Fields**

All fields with padding should be extended to the next 8 bit boundary if they don't already finish on an 8 bit boundary. The FFT core ignores the value of the padding bits, so they can be driven to any value. Connecting them to constant values may help reduce device resource usage.

#### **TDATA Format**

The configuration fields are packed into the s\_axis\_config\_tdata vector in the following order (starting from the LSB):

- 1. (optional) NFFT plus padding
- 2. (optional) CP\_LEN plus padding
- 3. FWD/INV
- 4. (optional) SCALE\_SCH





Optional fields are shown as dotted.

#### **TDATA Example**

A core has a configurable transform size with a maximum size of 128 points, cyclic prefix insertion and 3 FFT channels. The core needs to be configured to do an 8 point transform, with an inverse transform performed on channels 0 and 1, and a forward transform performed on channel 2. A 4 point cyclic prefix is required. The fields take on the following values:





This gives a vector length of 19 bits. As all AXI channels must be aligned to byte boundaries, 5 padding bits are required, giving an s\_axis\_config\_tdata length of 24 bits.



*Figure 37:* **Configuration Channel TDATA Example**

## <span id="page-49-0"></span>**Data Input Channel**

The Data Input channel contains the real and imaginary sample data to be transformed.

#### **Pinout**

#### *Table 10:* **Data Input Channel Pinout**



#### **TDATA Fields**

The Data Input channel (s\_axis\_data) is an AXI channel that carries the following fields in its TDATA vector: *Table 11:* **Data Input Channel TDATA Fields**



All fields with padding should be extended to the next 8-bit boundary if they do not already finish on an 8-bit boundary. The FFT core ignores the value of the padding bits, so they can be driven to any value. Connecting them to constant values may help reduce device resource usage.

These fields are then repeated for each FFT channel that the design is configured to have.

#### **TDATA Format**

The data fields are packed into the s\_axis\_data\_tdata vector in the following order (starting from the LSB):

- 1. XN\_RE plus padding for channel 0
- 2. XN\_IM plus padding for channel 0
- 3. (optional) XN\_RE plus padding for channel 1
- 4. (optional) XN\_IM plus padding for channel 1
- 5. (optional) XN\_RE plus padding for channel 2
- 6. (optional) XN\_IM plus padding for channel 2
- 7. etc, up to channel 11



#### *Figure 38:* **Data Input Channel TDATA (s\_axis\_data\_tdata) Format**

Optional fields are shown as dotted.

#### **TDATA Example**

The core has been configured to have two FFT data channels with 12 bit data. Channel 0 has the following sample value:

- $Re = 001011011001$
- $IM = 0011 1110 0110$

Channel 1 has the following sample value:

- $Re = 0111 0000 0000$
- $IM = 0000 0000 0000$

The fields take on the following values:

#### *Table 12:* **Data Input Channel TDATA Example**



This gives a vector length of 64 bits.



Channel 1 **Channel 1** Channel 0 DS808\_05\_080410

#### *Figure 39:* **Data Input Channel TDATA Example**

# <span id="page-51-0"></span>**Data Output Channel**

The Data Output channel contains the real and imaginary results of the transform, which are carried on TDATA. In addition, TUSER carries per-sample status information relating to the sample data on TDATA. This status information is intended for use by downstream slaves that directly process data samples. It cannot get out of synchronisation with the data as it is transferred in the same channel. The following information is classed as persample status:

- 1. XK\_INDEX
- 2. Block Exponent (BLK\_EXP) for each FFT channel
- 3. Overflow (OVFLO) for each FFT channel

#### **Pinout.**



#### *Table 13:* **Data Output Channel Pinout**

## **TDATA Fields**

The Data Output channel (m\_axis\_data) is an AXI channel that carries the following fields in its TDATA vector:

#### *Table 14:* **Data Output Channel TDATA Fields**



All fields are sign extended to the next 8 bit boundary if they don't already finish on an 8 bit boundary.

These fields are then repeated for each FFT channel that the design is configured to have.

#### **TDATA Format**

The data fields are packed into the s\_axis\_data\_tdata vector in the following order (starting from the LSB):

- 1. XK\_RE plus padding for channel 0
- 2. XK\_IM plus padding for channel 0
- 3. (optional) XK\_RE plus padding for channel 1
- 4. (optional) XK\_IM plus padding for channel 1
- 5. (optional) XK\_RE plus padding for channel 2
- 6. (optional) XK\_IM plus padding for channel 2
- 7. etc, up to channel 11



#### *Figure 40:* **Data Output Channel TDATA (m\_axis\_data\_tdata) Format**

Optional fields are shown as dotted.

#### **TDATA Example**

The core has been configured to have two FFT data channels with 12 bit output data. The FFT produces the following sample result for channel 0:

- Re = 0010 1101 1001
- $IM = 1011 1110 0110$

The FFT produces the following sample result for channel 1:

- $Re = 0111 0000 0000$
- $IM = 1000 0000 0000$

The fields take on the following values:

#### *Table 15:* **Data Output Channel TDATA Example**



This gives a vector length of 64 bits.



Channel 1 **Channel 1** Channel 0 DS808\_07\_080410



## **TUSER Fields**

The Data Output channel carries the following fields in its TUSER vector:

*Table 16:* **Data Output Channel TUSER Fields**

| <b>Field Name</b> | Width                                       | Padded                 | <b>Description</b>  |
|-------------------|---|------------------------|---|
| XK_INDEX          | log <sub>2</sub><br>(maximum<br>point size) | Yes - zero<br>extended | Index of output data. This field is optional, and only included when XK_INDEX is<br>enabled in the GUI.   |
| <b>BLK EXP</b>    | $b_{xk}$                                    | Yes - zero<br>extended | Block exponent: The amount of scaling applied. A separate BLK EXP field is<br>included for each FFT channel that the core has.<br>Available only when block floating-point is used.<br>For more information on BLK_EXP, see Block Exponent  |
| <b>OVELO</b>      |   | No.                    | Arithmetic overflow indicator (active high): OVFLO is high during result unloading<br>if any value in the data frame overflowed. The OVFLO signal is reset at the<br>beginning of a new frame of data.<br>A separate OVFLO field is included for each FFT channel that the core has.<br>This port is optional and only available with scaled arithmetic or single precision<br>floating-point I/O.<br>For more information on OVFLO, see Overflow |

All fields with padding should be 0 extended to the next 8 bit boundary if they don't already finish on an 8 bit boundary.

#### **TUSER Format**

The data fields are packed into the m\_axis\_data\_tuser vector in the following order (starting from the LSB):

- 1. (optional) XK\_INDEX plus padding
- 2. (optional) BLK\_EXP plus padding for channel 0
- 3. (optional) BLK\_EXP plus padding for channel 1
- 4. etc
- 5. (optional) OVFLO for channel 0
- 6. (optional) OVFLO for channel 1
- 7. etc
- 8. Padding to make TUSER 8 bit aligned. Only needed when OVFLO is present

Note that the FFT cannot be configured to have both BLK\_EXP and OVFLO.



*Figure 42:* **Data Output Channel TUSER (m\_axis\_data\_tuser) Format**

Optional fields are shown as dotted. As all fields are optional, it's possible to configure the core such that TUSER would have no fields. In this case it is automatically removed from the core's interface.

#### **TUSER Examples**

#### *Example 1*

The core has been configured to have two FFT data channels, a 128 point transform size, overflow, and XK\_INDEX. The third sample ( $XX$ \_INDEX = 3) has an overflow on channel 0 but not on channel 1.  $XX$ \_INDEX is 7 bits long.

The fields take on the following values:

*Table 17:* **Data Output Channel TUSER Example 1**

| <b>Field Name</b> | Padding | Value    |
|-------------------|---------|----------|
| XK INDEX          |         | 000 0011 |
| OVFLO (channel 0) | None    |          |
| OVFLO (channel 1) | None    |          |

This gives a vector length of 10 bits. As all AXI channels must be aligned to byte boundaries, 6 padding bits are required, giving an m\_axis\_data\_tuser length of 16 bits.



#### *Example 2*

The core has been configured to have two FFT data channels, block exponent, but no XK\_INDEX. The output sample for channel 0 has a block exponent of 4, and the output sample for channel 1 has a block exponent of 31.

The fields take on the following values:

*Table 18:* **Data Output Channel TUSER Example 2**

| <b>Field Name</b>   | <b>Padding</b> | Value |  |  |  |
|---------------------|----------------|-------|--|--|--|
| BLK_EXP (channel 0) | 000            | 00100 |  |  |  |
| BLK_EXP (channel 1) | 000            | 1111  |  |  |  |

This gives a vector length of 16 bits, so no more padding is required.



## <span id="page-55-0"></span>**Status Channel**

The Status channel contains per-frame status information. That is, information that relates to an entire frame's worth of data. This is intended for downstream slaves that don't operate on the data directly but might need to know the information to control another part of the system. The exact position in the frame where the status is sent depends on the nature of the status information. The following information is classed as per-frame status:

- 1. BLK\_EXP for each channel
- 2. OVFLO for each channel

Note that the FFT cannot be configured to have both BLK\_EXP and OVFLO.

BLK\_EXP status information is sent at the start of the frame and OVFLO status information is sent at the end of the frame.

#### **Pinout**

#### *Table 19:* **Status Channel Pinout**



#### **TDATA Fields**

The Status Channel carries the following fields in its TDATA vector:

| <b>Field Name</b> | Width | Padded                 | <b>Description</b>   |
|-------------------|-------|------------------------|--|
| BLK_EXP           | 5     | Yes - zero<br>extended | Block exponent: The amount of scaling applied. A separate BLK_EXP field is included<br>for each FFT channel that the core has.<br>Available only when block floating-point is used.<br>For more information on BLK EXP, see Block Exponent.  |
| <b>OVFLO</b>      |       | No                     | Arithmetic overflow indicator (active high): OVFLO is high during result unloading if any<br>value in the data frame overflowed. The OVFLO signal is reset at the beginning of a<br>new frame of data.<br>A separate OVFLO field is included for each FFT channel that the core has.<br>This port is optional and only available with scaled arithmetic or single precision<br>floating-point I/O.<br>For more information on OVFLO, see Overflow. |

*Table 20:* **Status Channel TDATA Fields**

All fields with padding should be 0 extended to the next 8 bit boundary if they don't already finish on an 8 bit boundary.

#### **TDATA Format**

The data fields are packed into the m\_axis\_status\_tdata vector in the following order (starting from the LSB):

- 1. (optional) BLK\_EXP plus padding for channel 0
- 2. (optional) BLK\_EXP plus padding for channel 1
- 3. etc
- 4. (optional) OVFLO for channel 0
- 5. (optional) OVFLO for channel 1
- 6. etc
- 7. Padding to make TDATA 8 bit aligned. Only needed when OVFLO is present

Note that the FFT cannot be configured to have both BLK\_EXP and OVFLO.



*Figure 45:* **Status channel TDATA (m\_axis\_status\_tdata) Format**

Optional fields are shown as dotted. As all fields are optional, it's possible to configure the core such that TDATA would have no fields. In this case the entire Status channel is automatically removed from the core's interface.

#### **TDATA Example**

Example 1: The core has been configured to have four FFT data channels and overflow. The current frame contains an overflow in channels 2 and 3.

#### *Table 21:* **Status Channel TDATA Example 1**



This gives a vector length of 4 bits. As all AXI channels must be aligned to byte boundaries, 4 padding bits are required, giving an m\_axis\_status\_tdata length of 8 bits.



*Figure 46:* **Status Channel TDATA Example 1**

Example 2: The core has been configured to have one FFT data channel and overflow. The current frame contains no overflow.

*Table 22:* **Status Channel TDATA Example 2**

| <b>Field Name</b> | Padding | Value |  |  |  |
|-------------------|---------|-------|--|--|--|
| OVI<br>annel 0)   | None    |       |  |  |  |

This gives a vector length of 1 bit. As all AXI channels must be aligned to byte boundaries, 7 padding bits are required, giving an m\_axis\_status\_tdata length of 8 bits.



*Figure 47:* **Status Channel TDATA Example 2**

# **Migrating to FFT v8.0 from earlier versions**

# **XCO Parameters Changes**

The CORE Generator core update functionality may be used to update an existing XCO file from v7.1 to v8.0, but it should be noted that the update mechanism alone does not create a core compatible with v7.1. See [Instructions for](#page-61-0) [minimum change migration.](#page-61-0) FFT v8.0 has additional parameters for AXI4-Stream support. The following table shows the changes to XCO parameters from version 7.1 to version 8.0.

*Table 23:* **XCO Parameter Changes from v7.1 to v8.0**

| Version 7.1   | Version 8.0  | <b>Notes</b>       |
|---|--|--------------------|
| component name  | component name   | Unchanged          |
| channels  | channels   | Unchanged          |
| transform_length  | transform_length   | Unchanged          |
| implementation_options  | implementation_options   | Unchanged          |
| target_clock_frequency  | target_clock_frequency   | Unchanged          |
| target_data_throughput  | target_data_throughput   | Unchanged          |
| run_time_configurable_transform_length                          | run_time_configurable_transform_length                         | Unchanged          |
| data_format   | data_format  | Unchanged          |
| input_width   | input_width  | Unchanged          |
| phase_factor_width  | phase_factor_width   | Unchanged          |
| scaling_options_scaled  | scaling_options_scaled   | Unchanged          |
| rounding_modes  | rounding_modes   | Unchanged          |
| ce  | aclken   | Renamed            |
| sclr  | aresetn  | Renamed            |
| ovflo   | ovflo  | Unchanged          |
|   | xk_index   | New to version 8.0 |
|   | throttle_scheme  | New to version 8.0 |
| output_ordering   | output_ordering  | Unchanged          |
| cyclic_prefix_ordering  | cyclic_prefix_ordering   | Unchanged          |
| memory options data   | memory_options_data  | Unchanged          |
| memory_options_phase_factors                                    | memory_options_phase_factors                                   | Unchanged          |
| memory_options_reorder  | memory_options_reorder   | Unchanged          |
| number_of_stages_using_block_ram_for_data_<br>and_phase_factors | number_of_stages_using_block_ram_for_data<br>and_phase_factors | Unchanged          |
| memory_options_hybrid   | memory_options_hybrid  | Unchanged          |
| input_data_offset   |  | Obsolete           |
| complex_mult_type   | complex_mult_type  | Unchanged          |
| butterfly_type  | butterfly_type   | Unchanged          |

# **Port Changes**

The following table details the changes to port naming, additional or deprecated ports and polarity changes from v7.1 to v8.0.

#### *Table 24:* **Port Changes from v7.1 to v8.0**



#### *Table 24:* **Port Changes from v7.1 to v8.0** *(Cont'd)*



## **Latency Changes**

The latency of FFT v8.0 is greater than that of v7.1. The update process cannot account for this and guarantee equivalent performance. Importantly, the latency of the core is variable, so that only the minimum possible latency can be determined.

When in Non-Realtime mode the latency is 7 cycles longer than for the equivalent configuration of v7.1.

When in Realtime mode, the latency of the core for equivalent performance is 3 cycles longer than for the equivalent configuration of v7.1.

See section [Information Tabs](#page-34-0) for the definition of latency.

## <span id="page-61-0"></span>**Instructions for minimum change migration**

To configure the FFT v8.0 to most closely mimic the behaviour of v7.1 the translation is as follows:

XCO Parameters - Set throttle\_scheme to realtime. If you previously had sclr set to true then remember that the reset pulse is now active low and must be a minimum of two clock cycles long.

Ports - Rename and map signals as detailed in Port Changes. Tie s\_axis\_data\_tvalid to 1. This tells the core that you are always able to supply data when requested. Note, however, that the FFT cannot always consume data on consecutive clock cycles, so s\_axis\_data\_tready has to be used to control the flow of data into the FFT.

# **Performance and Resource Usage**

The following tables list the resource usage and transform time for a selected set of parameters. This core does not use placement constraints, allowing Place and Route full flexibility. The slice count, block RAM count, and XtremeDSP slice count are listed. The maximum clock frequency is listed with the transform latency. The latency is from the Upstream Master supplying the first sample of a frame to the last sample of output data coming out of the core, assuming that the FFT core was idle and neither the Upstream Master or the Downstream Slave inserted wait states. The following device architectures are represented:

- [Virtex-6 Family](#page-62-0)
- [Spartan-6 Family](#page-68-0)

The maximum clock frequency for each test was determined iteratively. For the determination of maximum frequency, the core was generated with double registers on each input and output. The registers directly connected to the core run on the core clock, whereas the outer registers run off a separate clock. This ensures that all paths in the core are included in the timing constraint without artificially distorting the design to fit the chip. The slowest speed grade is used for each family. The parameters used for map and par are as follows:

map -pr b -ol high par -ol high

The maximum achievable clock frequency and the resource counts may also be affected by other tools options, additional logic in the FPGA device, using a different version of Xilinx tools, and other factors.

Improved performance or resource usage may be achieved by applying an area group, or using map arguments such as "-lc area." Consult the ISE Design Suite 13.1 documentation for more details on available options.

## <span id="page-62-0"></span>**Virtex-6 Family**

[Table 25](#page-62-1) and [Table 26](#page-65-0) show performance and resource usage numbers for Virtex-6 FPGAs for both realtime and non-realtime modes. A range of FFT cores is shown for several typical applications: Baseband 3GPP LTE, Baseband OFDM, CT scanners, Ultrasound, Test and measurement, and Radar. The parameters for each core are shown in the tables. None of the optional pins (ACLKEN, ARESETN, OVFLO) are used and hybrid RAM is not used. The performance and resource usage numbers were produced using ISE 13.1 software, with speed file versions:

- XC6VLX75T : "PRELIMINARY 1.08 2010-07-20"
- XC6VLX130T : "PRODUCTION 1.08 2010-07-20"
- XC6VLX550T : "PRELIMINARY 1.08 2010-07-20"

#### <span id="page-62-1"></span>*Table 25:* **Virtex-6 FPGA Family Performance and Resource Usage in Realtime Mode**





## *Table 25:* **Virtex-6 FPGA Family Performance and Resource Usage in Realtime Mode** *(Cont'd)*



#### *Table 25:* **Virtex-6 FPGA Family Performance and Resource Usage in Realtime Mode** *(Cont'd)*

#### **Notes:**

<span id="page-64-0"></span>1. Implementations: Str = Pipelined Streaming I/O; R4 = Radix-4, Burst I/O; R2 = Radix-2, Burst I/O; R2L = Radix-2 Lite, Burst I/O.

<span id="page-64-1"></span>2. Scaling types:  $S =$  scaled;  $U =$  unscaled;  $B =$  block floating-point;  $F =$  single precision floating-point.

<span id="page-64-2"></span>3. Rounding modes: C = convergent rounding; T = truncation.

<span id="page-64-3"></span>4. Output ordering: N = Natural Order; R = Bit/Digit Reversed Order.

<span id="page-64-4"></span>5. Memory types: B = block RAM, D = distributed RAM. Applies to data and phase factor storage in Burst I/O architectures, and to the output reorder buffer in the Pipelined Streaming I/O architecture.

<span id="page-64-5"></span>6. Optimize for Speed using XtremeDSP slices in both Complex Multipliers (4-multiplier structure) and Butterfly Arithmetic.

<span id="page-64-7"></span>

<span id="page-64-6"></span>7. The -1 speedgrade was used in all cases.<br>8. Virtex-6 FPGAs have 18K block RAMs that Virtex-6 FPGAs have 18K block RAMs that may be packed in pairs to form 36K block RAMs. map reports the number of 36K block RAMs + 18K block RAMs, which may not match the number of 18K block RAMs given here.

<span id="page-64-8"></span>9. Area and maximum clock frequencies are provided as a guide. They may vary with the amount of other logic in the FPGA device, tools options, and other releases of Xilinx implementation tools. Clock frequency does not take jitter into account and should be de-rated by an amount appropriate to the clock source jitter specification.

<span id="page-64-9"></span>10. Latency in clock cycles for the largest transform size.

<span id="page-64-10"></span>11. Latency in microseconds for the largest transform size, when running at the maximum achievable clock frequency.

<span id="page-64-11"></span>Ultrasound.



## <span id="page-65-0"></span>*Table 26:* **Virtex-6 FPGA Family Performance and Resource Usage in Non-Realtime Mode**



*Table 26:* **Virtex-6 FPGA Family Performance and Resource Usage in Non-Realtime Mode** *(Cont'd)*



#### *Table 26:* **Virtex-6 FPGA Family Performance and Resource Usage in Non-Realtime Mode** *(Cont'd)*

#### **Notes:**

<span id="page-67-0"></span>1. Implementations: Str = Pipelined Streaming I/O; R4 = Radix-4, Burst I/O; R2 = Radix-2, Burst I/O; R2L = Radix-2 Lite, Burst I/O.

<span id="page-67-1"></span>2. Scaling types:  $S =$  scaled;  $U =$  unscaled;  $B =$  block floating-point;  $F =$  single precision floating-point.

<span id="page-67-2"></span>3. Rounding modes: C = convergent rounding; T = truncation.

<span id="page-67-3"></span>4. Output ordering: N = Natural Order; R = Bit/Digit Reversed Order.

<span id="page-67-4"></span>5. Memory types: B = block RAM, D = distributed RAM. Applies to data and phase factor storage in Burst I/O architectures, and to the output reorder buffer in the Pipelined Streaming I/O architecture.

<span id="page-67-5"></span>6. Optimize for Speed using XtremeDSP slices in both Complex Multipliers (4-multiplier structure) and Butterfly Arithmetic.

<span id="page-67-7"></span>

<span id="page-67-6"></span>7. The -1 speedgrade was used in all cases.<br>8. Virtex-6 FPGAs have 18K block RAMs that Virtex-6 FPGAs have 18K block RAMs that may be packed in pairs to form 36K block RAMs. map reports the number of 36K block RAMs + 18K block RAMs, which may not match the number of 18K block RAMs given here.

9. Area and maximum clock frequencies are provided as a guide. They may vary with the amount of other logic in the FPGA device, tools options, and other releases of Xilinx implementation tools. Clock frequency does not take jitter into account and should be de-rated by an amount appropriate to the clock source jitter specification.

<span id="page-67-8"></span>10. Latency in clock cycles for the largest transform size.

<span id="page-67-9"></span>11. Latency in microseconds for the largest transform size, when running at the maximum achievable clock frequency.

<span id="page-67-10"></span>Ultrasound.

## <span id="page-68-0"></span>**Spartan-6 Family**

[Table 27](#page-68-1) and [Table 28](#page-71-0) show performance and resource usage numbers for Spartan-6 FPGAs for both realtime and non-realtime modes. A range of FFT cores is shown for several typical applications: Baseband 3GPP LTE, Baseband OFDM, CT scanners, Ultrasound, Test and measurement, and Radar. The parameters for each core are shown in both tables. Some rows of the table are grayed-out to indicate that these cores would not fit on the device due to FPGA resource requirements (typically insufficient I/O pins to route all core signals outside the device). None of the optional pins (ACLKN, ARESETN, OVFLO) are used and hybrid RAM is not used. The performance and resource usage numbers were produced using ISE 13.1 software, with speed file version "PRELIMINARY 1.11 2010- 07-20".

| Application     | Channels       | Point Size | Implementation <sup>(1)</sup> | Configurable Point Size | Input Data Width | Phase Factor Width | Scaling Type <sup>(2)</sup> | Rounding Mode <sup>(3)</sup> | Output Ordering <sup>(4)</sup> | Cyclic Prefix Insertion | Memory Type <sup>(5)</sup> | <b>Block RAM</b><br><b>Stages Using</b> | Speed <sup>(6)</sup><br>Optimize for | Xilinx Part <sup>(7)</sup> | LUT/FF Paris | LUTs | FFs  | 9k Block RAMs <sup>(8)</sup> | slices<br><b>XtremeDSP</b> | Max clock frequency <sup>(9)</sup> | Latency (clock cycles) <sup>(10)</sup> | Latency(us) <sup>(11)</sup> |
|-----------------|----------------|------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|------|------|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
|                 | $\mathbf{1}$   | 1k         | R <sub>2L</sub>               | Υ                       | 16               | 16                 | S                           | $\mathbf C$                  | ${\sf N}$                      | Υ                       | В                          |   | N                                    | XC6SLX150T                 | 1154         | 753  | 1187 | 6                            | $\overline{c}$             | 246                                | 12456                                  | 50.63                       |
|                 | $\mathbf{1}$   | 1k         | R <sub>2</sub> L              | Υ                       | 16               | 16                 | S                           | C                            | N                              | Υ                       | в                          |   | Υ                                    | XC6SLX150T                 | 1149         | 728  | 1189 | 6                            | 3                          | 225                                | 12476                                  | 55.45                       |
|                 | $\mathbf{1}$   | 2k         | R <sub>2</sub> L              | Υ                       | 16               | 16                 | S                           | C                            | N                              | Y                       | В                          |   | N                                    | XC6SLX150T                 | 1168         | 894  | 1245 | 9                            | $\overline{c}$             | 232                                | 26807                                  | 115.55                      |
|                 | $\mathbf{1}$   | 2k         | R <sub>2</sub> L              | Υ                       | 16               | 16                 | S                           | C                            | N                              | Υ                       | в                          |   | Υ                                    | XC6SLX150T                 | 1141         | 891  | 1247 | 9                            | 3                          | 232                                | 26829                                  | 115.64                      |
|                 | 4              | 1k         | R <sub>2</sub> L              | Υ                       | 16               | 16                 | S                           | C                            | N                              | Υ                       | в                          |   | Ν                                    | XC6SLX150T                 | 2554         | 1586 | 3020 | 18                           | 8                          | 213                                | 12456                                  | 58.48                       |
| ш               | 8              | 1k         | R <sub>2</sub> L              | Υ                       | 16               | 16                 | S                           | $\mathsf C$                  | N                              | Υ                       | B                          |   | $\mathsf{N}$                         |                            |              |      |      |                              |                            |                                    |  |                             |
| 5               | 4              | 2k         | R <sub>2L</sub>               | Υ                       | 16               | 16                 | S                           | C                            | N                              | Y                       | B                          |   | N                                    | XC6SLX150T                 | 2605         | 1742 | 3096 | 33                           | 8                          | 215                                | 26807                                  | 124.68                      |
| 3GPP            | 8              | 2k         | R <sub>2</sub> L              | Υ                       | 16               | 16                 | $\mathbb S$                 | C                            | ${\sf N}$                      | Υ                       | B                          |   | N                                    |                            |              |      |      |                              |                            |                                    |  |                             |
|                 | $\mathbf{1}$   | 1k         | R <sub>2</sub>                | Υ                       | 16               | 16                 | S                           | C                            | N                              | Υ                       | B                          |   | Ν                                    | XC6SLX150T                 | 1292         | 989  | 1361 | 6                            | 3                          | 237                                | 7367                                   | 31.08                       |
|                 | $\mathbf{1}$   | 1k         | R <sub>2</sub>                | Υ                       | 16               | 16                 | S                           | C                            | N                              | Υ                       | в                          |   | Υ                                    | XC6SLX150T                 | 1197         | 842  | 1247 | 6                            | 6                          | 237                                | 7357                                   | 31.04                       |
| <b>Baseband</b> | $\mathbf{1}$   | 2k         | R <sub>2</sub>                | Υ                       | 16               | 16                 | S                           | C                            | N                              | Υ                       | В                          |   | N                                    | XC6SLX150T                 | 1374         | 1072 | 1428 | 9                            | 3                          | 228                                | 15578                                  | 68.32                       |
|                 | $\mathbf{1}$   | 2k         | R <sub>2</sub>                | Υ                       | 16               | 16                 | S                           | C                            | N                              | Υ                       | В                          |   | Υ                                    | XC6SLX150T                 | 1221         | 935  | 1316 | 9                            | 6                          | 226                                | 15567                                  | 68.88                       |
|                 | $\overline{c}$ | 1k         | R <sub>2</sub>                | Υ                       | 16               | 16                 | S                           | C                            | N                              | Υ                       | B                          |   | Ν                                    | XC6SLX150T                 | 2006         | 1529 | 2220 | 10                           | 6                          | 226                                | 7367                                   | 32.60                       |
|                 | 4              | 1k         | R <sub>2</sub>                | Υ                       | 16               | 16                 | S                           | C                            | N                              | Υ                       | в                          |   | N                                    | XC6SLX150T                 | 3205         | 2654 | 3938 | 18                           | 12                         | 212                                | 7367                                   | 34.75                       |
|                 | 8              | 1k         | R <sub>2</sub>                | Υ                       | 16               | 16                 | S                           | C                            | N                              | Υ                       | В                          |   | N                                    |                            |              |      |      |                              |                            |                                    |  |                             |
|                 | 2              | 2k         | R <sub>2</sub>                | Υ                       | 16               | 16                 | S                           | C                            | N                              | Y                       | в                          |   | N                                    | XC6SLX150T                 | 2149         | 1622 | 2327 | 17                           | 6                          | 219                                | 15578                                  | 71.13                       |
|                 | 4              | 2k         | R <sub>2</sub>                | Υ                       | 16               | 16                 | S                           | C                            | Ν                              | Υ                       | в                          |   | Ν                                    | XC6SLX150T                 | 3588         | 2785 | 4125 | 33                           | 12                         | 221                                | 15578                                  | 70.49                       |
|                 | 8              | 2k         | R <sub>2</sub>                | Υ                       | 16               | 16                 | S                           | $\mathsf C$                  | N                              | Υ                       | B                          |   | N                                    |                            |              |      |      |                              |                            |                                    |  |                             |
|                 | $\mathbf{1}$   | 256        | R <sub>2</sub>                | Υ                       | 12               | 12                 | S                           | $\mathsf T$                  | N                              | Υ                       | D                          |   | Ν                                    | XC6SLX150T                 | 1054         | 868  | 946  | $\mathbf 0$                  | 3                          | 236                                | 1655                                   | 7.01                        |
| <b>OFDM</b>     | 1              | 256        | R <sub>2</sub>                | Υ                       | 12               | 12                 | S                           | $\mathsf T$                  | N                              | Υ                       | B                          |   | Ν                                    | XC6SLX150T                 | 872          | 665  | 932  | 3                            | 3                          | 228                                | 1673                                   | 7.34                        |
|                 | 1              | 256        | R <sub>2</sub>                | Υ                       | 12               | 12                 | B                           | T                            | N                              | Y                       | B                          |   | N                                    | XC6SLX150T                 | 924          | 700  | 934  | 3                            | 3                          | 218                                | 1673                                   | 7.67                        |

<span id="page-68-1"></span>*Table 27:* **Spartan-6 Family Performance and Resource Usage in Realtime Mode**



## *Table 27:* **Spartan-6 Family Performance and Resource Usage in Realtime Mode** *(Cont'd)*

#### *Table 27:* **Spartan-6 Family Performance and Resource Usage in Realtime Mode** *(Cont'd)*



#### **Notes:**

<span id="page-70-0"></span>1. Implementations: Str = Pipelined Streaming I/O; R4 = Radix-4, Burst I/O; R2 = Radix-2, Burst I/O; R2L = Radix-2 Lite, Burst I/O.<br>2. Scaling types: S = scaled; U = unscaled; B = block floating-point; F = single precision

<span id="page-70-1"></span>2. Scaling types: S = scaled; U = unscaled; B = block floating-point; F = single precision floating-point.<br>3. Rounding modes: C = convergent rounding; T = truncation.

<span id="page-70-2"></span>Rounding modes:  $C =$  convergent rounding;  $T =$  truncation.

<span id="page-70-3"></span>4. Output ordering:  $N =$  Natural Order;  $R =$  Bit/Digit Reversed Order.<br>5. Memory types:  $B =$  block RAM,  $D =$  distributed RAM. Applies to da

<span id="page-70-4"></span>Memory types: B = block RAM, D = distributed RAM. Applies to data and phase factor storage in Burst I/O architectures, and to the output reorder buffer in the Pipelined Streaming I/O architecture.

<span id="page-70-5"></span>6. Optimize for Speed using XtremeDSP slices in both Complex Multipliers (4-multiplier structure) and Butterfly Arithmetic.<br>7. The -2 speedgrade was used in all cases.

<span id="page-70-6"></span>The -2 speedgrade was used in all cases.

<span id="page-70-7"></span>8. Spartan-6 FPGAs have 9K block RAMs that may be packed in pairs to form 18K block RAMs. map reports the number of 18K block RAMs + 9K block RAMs, which may not match the number of 9K block RAMs given here.

<span id="page-70-8"></span>9. Area and maximum clock frequencies are provided as a guide. They may vary with the amount of other logic in the FPGA device, tools options, and other<br>releases of Xilinx implementation tools. Clock frequency does not tak jitter specification.

<span id="page-70-9"></span>10. Latency in clock cycles for the largest transform size.

<span id="page-70-10"></span>11. Latency in microseconds for the largest transform size, when running at the maximum achievable clock frequency.<br>12. Ultrasound.

<span id="page-70-11"></span>Ultrasound.

 $\overline{\mathsf{T}}$ 

 $\overline{a}$ 

 $\overline{\mathsf{r}}$ 



# <span id="page-71-0"></span>*Table 28:* **Spartan-6 Family Performance and Resource Usage in Non-Realtime Mode**


#### *Table 28:* **Spartan-6 Family Performance and Resource Usage in Non-Realtime Mode** *(Cont'd)*



#### *Table 28:* **Spartan-6 Family Performance and Resource Usage in Non-Realtime Mode** *(Cont'd)*

#### **Notes:**

1. Implementations: Str = Pipelined Streaming I/O; R4 = Radix-4, Burst I/O; R2 = Radix-2, Burst I/O; R2L = Radix-2 Lite, Burst I/O.

Scaling types:  $S =$  scaled;  $U =$  unscaled;  $B =$  block floating-point;  $F =$  single precision floating-point.

3. Rounding modes:  $C =$  convergent rounding;  $T =$  truncation.

4. Output ordering: N = Natural Order; R = Bit/Digit Reversed Order.

5. Memory types: B = block RAM, D = distributed RAM. Applies to data and phase factor storage in Burst I/O architectures, and to the output reorder buffer in the Pipelined Streaming I/O architecture.

6. Optimize for Speed using XtremeDSP slices in both Complex Multipliers (4-multiplier structure) and Butterfly Arithmetic.

7. The -2 speedgrade was used in all cases.

8. Spartan-6 FPGAs have 9K block RAMs that may be packed in pairs to form 18K block RAMs. map reports the number of 18K block RAMs + 9K block RAMs, which may not match the number of 9K block RAMs given here.

9. Area and maximum clock frequencies are provided as a guide. They may vary with the amount of other logic in the FPGA device, tools options, and other releases of Xilinx implementation tools. Clock frequency does not take jitter into account and should be de-rated by an amount appropriate to the clock source jitter specification.

10. Latency in clock cycles for the largest transform size.

11. Latency in microseconds for the largest transform size, when running at the maximum achievable clock frequency.

<span id="page-73-0"></span>12. Ultrasound.

### **Support**

Xilinx provides technical support for this LogiCORE IP product when used as described in the product documentation. Xilinx cannot guarantee timing, functionality, or support of product if implemented in devices that are not defined in the documentation, if customized beyond that allowed in the product documentation, or if changes are made to any section of the design labeled *DO NOT MODIFY*.

Refer to the IP Release Notes Guide ([XTP025](www.xilinx.com/support/documentation/ip_documentation/xtp025.pdf)) for further information on this core. There is a link to all the DSP IP and then to each core. For each core, there is a master Answer Record that contains the Release Notes and Known Issues list for each core. The following information is listed for each version of the core:

- New Features
- **Bug Fixes**
- **Known Issues**

# **Ordering Information**

This LogiCORE IP module is included at no additional cost with the Xilinx ISE Design Suite software and is provided under the terms of the [Xilinx End User License Agreement](www.xilinx.com/ise/license/license_agreement.htm). Use the CORE Generator software included with the ISE Design Suite to generate the core. For more information, please visit the [core page](www.xilinx.com/products/ipcenter/FFT.htm).

Please contact your local Xilinx [sales representative](http://www.xilinx.com/company/contact/index.htm) for pricing and availability of additional Xilinx LogiCORE modules and software. Information about additional Xilinx LogiCORE modules is available on the Xilinx [IP Center.](http://www.xilinx.com/ipcenter)

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## **Revision History**



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