



Intel® FPGA SDK for OpenCL™

Intel® Arria® 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Porting Guide

Updated for Intel® Quartus® Prime Design Suite: **17.1**



Subscribe



Send Feedback

UG-OCL010 | 2017.11.06

Latest document on the web: [PDF](#) | [HTML](#)

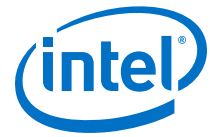


Contents

1 Intel® FPGA SDK for OpenCL™ Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Porting Guide.....	4
1.1 Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform: Prerequisites.....	4
1.2 Features of the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform.....	5
1.2.1 Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Board Variants.....	6
1.3 Contents of the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform.....	6
1.4 Changes in Intel Arria 10 Development Kit Reference Platform from 17.0 to 17.1	9
2 Developing Your Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform	11
2.1 Initializing Your Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform.....	11
2.2 Modifying the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Design.....	12
2.3 Integrating Your Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform with the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL.....	13
2.4 Setting up the Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform Software Development Environment.....	14
2.5 Establishing Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform Host Communication.....	15
2.6 Branding Your Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform.....	15
2.7 Changing the Device Part Number.....	16
2.8 Connecting the Memory in the Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform.....	17
2.9 Modifying the Kernel PLL Reference Clock.....	18
2.10 Integrating an OpenCL Kernel in Your Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform.....	18
2.11 Guaranteeing Timing Closure in the Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform.....	19
2.11.1 Generating the base.qar Post-Fit Netlist for Your Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform.....	20
2.12 Troubleshooting Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Porting Issues	20
3 Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Design Architecture.....	22
3.1 Host-to-Intel Arria 10 FPGA Communication over PCIe	22
3.1.1 Instantiation of Intel Arria 10 PCIe Hard IP with Direct Memory Access.....	22
3.1.2 Device Identification Registers for Intel Arria 10 PCIe Hard IP.....	24
3.1.3 Instantiation of the version_id Component.....	26
3.1.4 Definitions of Intel Arria 10 FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Hardware Constraints in Software Headers Files.....	26
3.1.5 PCIe Kernel Driver for the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform.....	27
3.1.6 Direct Memory Access.....	28
3.1.7 Message Signaled Interrupt.....	30
3.1.8 Partial Reconfiguration.....	31
3.1.9 Cable Autodetect.....	32
3.1.10 Host Channel.....	33
3.2 DDR4 as Global Memory for OpenCL Applications.....	34
3.2.1 DDR4 IP Instantiation.....	35
3.2.2 DDR4 Connection to PCIe Host.....	35
3.2.3 DDR4 Connection to the OpenCL Kernel.....	36
3.3 Host Connection to OpenCL Kernels.....	36
3.4 Intel Arria 10 FPGA System Design.....	36
3.4.1 Clocks.....	36
3.4.2 Resets.....	37
3.4.3 Floorplan.....	38



3.4.4 Global Routing.....	41
3.4.5 Pipelining.....	42
3.4.6 DDR4 Calibration.....	42
3.4.7 Kernel Reprogramming via Partial Reconfiguration.....	42
3.5 Dynamic PLL Reconfiguration.....	43
3.6 Guaranteed Timing Closure of the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Design.....	43
3.6.1 Supply the Kernel Clock.....	43
3.6.2 Guarantee Kernel Clock Timing.....	44
3.6.3 Provide a Timing-Closed Post-Fit Netlist.....	45
3.7 Intel Quartus Prime Compilation Flow and Scripts.....	46
3.7.1 Enabling the Intel Quartus Prime Forward-Compatibility Flow.....	47
3.7.2 Intel Quartus Prime Compilation Flow for Board Developers	48
3.7.3 Intel Quartus Prime Compilation Flow for Custom Platform Users.....	49
3.7.4 Platform Designer System Generation.....	50
3.7.5 QDB File Generation.....	50
3.7.6 Hash Checking.....	50
3.8 Addition of Timing Constraints.....	51
3.9 Connection of the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform to the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL.....	51
3.9.1 Describe the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform to the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL.....	51
3.9.2 Describe the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Hardware to the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL.....	52
3.10 Intel Arria 10 FPGA Programming Flow.....	53
3.10.1 Define the Contents of the fpga.bin File for the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform.....	54
3.11 Host-to-Device MMD Software Implementation.....	54
3.12 Implementation of Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Utilities.....	55
3.12.1 aocl install.....	55
3.12.2 aocl uninstall.....	56
3.12.3 aocl program.....	56
3.12.4 aocl flash.....	56
3.12.5 aocl diagnose.....	57
3.12.6 aocl list-devices.....	58
3.13 Intel Arria 10 FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Scripts.....	58
3.14 Considerations in Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Implementation.....	59
4 Document Revision History.....	60



1 Intel® FPGA SDK for OpenCL™ Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Porting Guide

The *Intel® Arria® 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Porting Guide* describes the procedures and design considerations for modifying the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform (a10_ref) into your own Custom Platform for use with the Intel FPGA Software Development Kit (SDK) for OpenCL™ (1) (2).

1.1 Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform: Prerequisites

The *Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Porting Guide* assumes that you are an experienced FPGA designer who is familiar with Intel's FPGA design tools and concepts.

Prerequisites for the altera_a10pciedk Reference Platform:

- An Intel Arria 10-based accelerator card with working PCI Express* (PCIe*) and memory interfaces

Test these interfaces together in the same design using the same version of the Intel Quartus® Prime Pro Edition software that you will use to develop your Custom Platform.

Attention: The native Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit does not automatically work with the SDK. Before using the Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit with the SDK, you must first contact your field applications engineer or regional support center representative who will configure the development kit for you.

Alternatively, contact [support](#) for assistance.

- Intel Quartus Prime Pro Edition software
- Designing with Logic Lock regions

General prerequisites:

- FPGA architecture, including clocking, global routing, and I/Os
- High-speed design
- Timing analysis
- Platform Designer design and Avalon® interfaces

(1) OpenCL and the OpenCL logo are trademarks of Apple Inc. used by permission of the Khronos Group™.

(2) The Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL is based on a published Khronos Specification, and has passed the Khronos Conformance Testing Process. Current conformance status can be found at www.khronos.org/conformance.



- Tcl scripting
- PCIe
- DDR4 external memory

This document also assumes that you are familiar with the following Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL-specific tools and documentation:

- Custom Platform Toolkit and the *Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Custom Platform Toolkit User Guide*
- Stratix® V Network Reference Platform (s5_net) and the *Stratix V Network Reference Platform Porting Guide*

The memory-mapped device (MMD) and driver software stack in the a10_ref Reference Platform is derived from the s5_net Reference Platform design.

Related Links

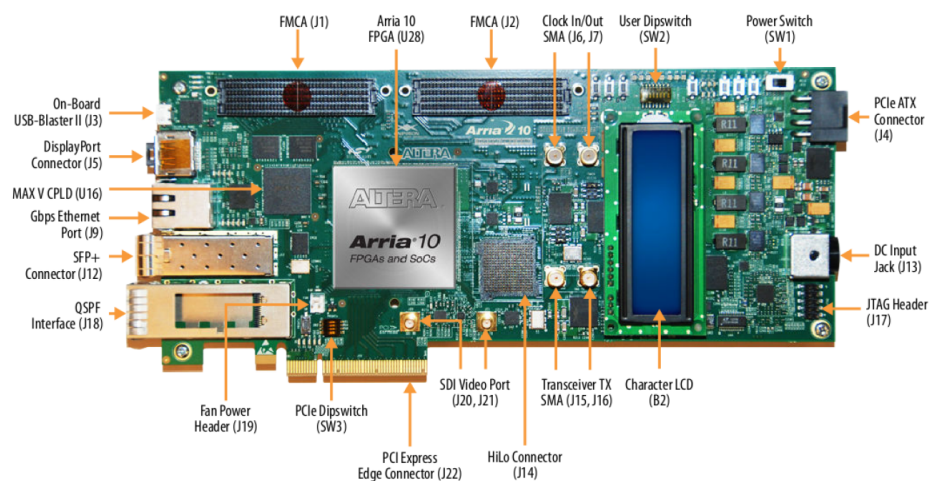
- [Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Custom Platform Toolkit User Guide](#)
- [Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Intel Arria 10 SoC Development Kit Reference Platform Porting Guide](#)
- [Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Cyclone V SoC Development Kit Reference Platform Porting Guide](#)
- [Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Stratix V Network Reference Platform Porting Guide](#)

1.2 Features of the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform

Prior to designing an Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Custom Platform, decide on design considerations that allow you to fully utilize the available hardware on your computing card.

The Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform targets a subset of the hardware features available in the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit.

Figure 1. Hardware Features of the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit





Features of the a10_ref Reference Platform:

- OpenCL Host
The a10_ref Reference Platform uses a PCIe-based host that connects to the Intel Arria 10 PCIe Gen3 x8 hard IP core.
- OpenCL Global Memory
The hardware provides one 2-gigabyte (GB) DDR4 SDRAM daughtercard that is mounted on the HiLo connector (J14 in [Figure 1](#) on page 5).
- FPGA Programming via one of the following methods:
 - Partial Reconfiguration (PR) over PCIe.
 - External cable and the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit's on-board Intel FPGA Download Cable II interface.
 - External Intel FPGA Download Cable II interface connected to a 10-pin JTAG header.
- Guaranteed Timing
The a10_ref Reference Platform relies on the Intel Quartus Prime Pro Edition compilation flow to provide guaranteed timing closure. The timing-clean a10_ref Reference Platform is preserved in the form of a precompiled post-fit netlist (that is, the `base.qdb` Intel Quartus Prime Database Export File). The Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Offline Compiler imports this preserved post-fit netlist into each OpenCL kernel compilation.
- OpenCL Host Pipe
Using direct memory access (DMA) in Intel Arria 10 PCIe Gen3 x8 hard IP core a10gx_hostch board variant has a direct host to kernel and kernel to host pipe.

1.2.1 Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Board Variants

The Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform has two board variants (that is, a10gx and a10gx_hostch) that targets the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit containing the production silicon for Intel Arria 10 FPGA (-1 speed grade) and DDR4-2400 SDRAM.

To compile your OpenCL kernel for a specific board variant, include the `-board=<board_name>` option in your `aoc` command (for example, `aoc -board=a10gx myKernel.cl`).

Related Links

[Compiling a Kernel for a Specific FPGA Board \(-board=<board_name>\)](#)

1.3 Contents of the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform

Familiarize yourself with the directories and files within the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform because they are referenced throughout this document.



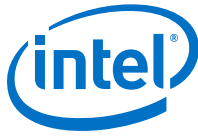
Table 1. Highlights of the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Directory

Windows File or Folder	Linux File or Directory	Description
board_env.xml	board_env.xml	eXtensible Markup Language (XML) file that describes the Reference Platform to the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL.
hardware	hardware	Contains the Intel Quartus Prime project templates for the a10gx board variant. See Table 2 on page 7 for a list of files in this directory.
windows64	linux64	Contains the MMD library, kernel mode driver, and executable files of the SDK utilities (that is, install, uninstall, flash, program, diagnose) for your 64-bit operating system.
source	source	For Windows, the source folder contains source codes for the MMD library and SDK utilities. The MMD library and the SDK utilities are in the windows64 folder. For Linux, the source directory contains source codes for the MMD library and SDK utilities. The MMD library and the SDK utilities are in the linux64 directory.

Table 2. Contents of the a10gx Directory

The following table lists the files in the *INTELFPGAOCSDKROOT/board/a10_ref/hardware/a10gx* directory, where *INTELFPGAOCSDKROOT* points to the location of the SDK installation.

File	Description
mem.qsys	Platform Designer system that, together with the .ip files in the ip/mem subdirectory, implements the mem component.
ddr4.qsys	Platform Designer system that, together with the .ip files in the ip/ddr4 subdirectory, implements the ddr4 component.
base.qsf	Intel Quartus Prime Settings File for the base project revision. This file includes, by reference, all the settings in the flat.qsf file. Use this revision when porting the a10_ref Reference Platform to your own Custom Platform. The Intel Quartus Prime Pro Edition software compiles this base project revision from source code.
base.qar	Intel Quartus Prime Archive File that contains base.qdb, pr_base.id, and base.sdc. This file is generated by the scripts/post_flow_pr.tcl file during base revision compile, and is used during import revision compilation. base.qdb Intel Quartus Prime Database Export File the contains the precompiled netlist of the static regions of the design. pr_base.id Text file containing a unique number for a given base compilation that the runtime uses to determine whether it is safe to use PR programming. base.sdc Synopsys Design Constraints File that the Intel Quartus Prime software autogenerates during a base compilation. The base.sdc file is used in the top revision compilation to import all the timing constraints from the static region.
board.qsys	Platform Designer system that implements the board interfaces (that is, the static region) of the OpenCL hardware system.
board_spec.xml	XML file that provides the definition of the board hardware interfaces to the SDK.
continued...	



File	Description
device.tcl	Tcl file that is included in all revisions and contains all device-specific information (for example, device family, ordering part number (OPN), voltage settings, etc.)
flat.qsf	Intel Quartus Prime Settings File for the flat project revision. This file includes all the common settings, such as pin location assignments, that are used in the other revisions of the project (that is, base, top, and top_synth). The base.qsf, top.qsf, and top_synth.qsf files include, by reference, all the settings in the flat.qsf file. The Intel Quartus Prime software compiles the flat revision with minimal location constraints. The flat revision compilation does not generate a base.qar file that you can use for future import compilations and does not implement the guaranteed timing flow.
import_compile.tcl	Tcl script for the SDK-user compilation flow (that is, import revision compilation).
max5_150.pof	Programming file for the MAX® V device on the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit that sets the memory reference clock to 150 MHz by default at power-up. You must program the max5_150.pof file onto your a10gx board.
openc1_bsp_ip.qsf	Intel Quartus Prime Settings File that collects all the required .ip files in a unique location. During flat and base revision compilations, the board.qsys, mem.qsys and ddr4.qsys Platform Designer files are added to the openc1_bsp_ip.qsf file.
quartus.ini	Contains any special Intel Quartus Prime software options that you need to compile OpenCL kernels for the a10_ref Reference Platform.
top.qpf	Intel Quartus Prime Project File for the OpenCL hardware system.
top.qsf	Intel Quartus Prime Settings File for the SDK-user compilation flow.
top.sdc	Synopsys Design Constraints File that contains board-specific timing constraints.
top.v	Top-level Verilog Design File for the OpenCL hardware system.
top_post.sdc	Platform Designer and Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL IP-specific timing constraints.
top_synth.qsf	Intel Quartus Prime Settings File for the Intel Quartus Prime revision in which the OpenCL kernel system is synthesized.
ip/mem/<file_name>	Directory containing the .ip files that the Intel Quartus Prime Pro Edition software needs to parameterize the mem component. You must provide both the mem.qsys file and the corresponding .ip files in this directory to the Intel Quartus Prime Pro Edition software.
ip/ddr4/<file_name>	Directory containing the .ip files that the Intel Quartus Prime Pro Edition software needs to parameterize the ddr4 component. You must provide both the ddr4.qsys file and the corresponding .ip files in this directory to the Intel Quartus Prime Pro Edition software.
ip/board/<file_name>	Directory containing the .ip files that the Intel Quartus Prime Pro Edition software needs to parameterize the board instance. You must provide both the board.qsys file and the corresponding .ip files in this directory to the Intel Quartus Prime Pro Edition software.
ip/freeze_wrapper.v	Verilog Design File that implements the freeze logic placed at outputs of the Partial Reconfiguration region.
ip/irq_controller/<file_name>	IP that receives interrupts from the OpenCL kernel system and sends message signaled interrupts (MSI) to the host.
continued...	



File	Description
	Refer to the <i>Message Signaled Interrupts</i> section for more information.
ip/host_channel	IP that implements the DMA descriptor controller as well as AVMM-to-AVST and AVST-to-AVMM between DMA and kernel. Attention: This IP is available only in the a10gx_hostch board variant.
scripts/base_write_sdc.tcl	Tcl script that the base revision compilation uses to generate the base.sdc file containing all the constraints collected in the base revision compilation. The Intel Quartus Prime Pro Edition software uses the base.sdc file when compiling the import (top) revision.
scripts/create_fpga_bin_pr.tcl	Tcl script that generates the fpga.bin file. The fpga.bin file contains all the necessary files for configuring the FPGA. For more information on the fpga.bin file, refer to the <i>Define the Contents of the fpga.bin File for the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform</i> section.
scripts/post_flow_pr.tcl	Tcl script that implements the guaranteed timing closure flow, as described in the <i>Guaranteed Timing Closure of the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Design</i> section.
scripts/pre_flow_pr.tcl	Tcl script that executes before the invocation of the Intel Quartus Prime software compilation. Running the script generates the Platform Designer HDL for board.qsys and kernel_system.qsys. It also creates a unique ID for the PR base revision (that is, static region). This unique ID is stored in the pr_base.id file.
scripts/regenerate_cache.tcl	Tcl script that regenerates the BAK cache file in your temporary directory.
scripts/qar_ip_files.tcl	Tcl script that packages up base.qdb, pr_base.id and base.sdc during base revision compile.
scripts/create_acds_ver_hex.tcl	Tcl script called by the pre_flow_pr.tcl script to create contents of the ACDS version ROM.

Related Links

- [Guaranteed Timing Closure of the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Design](#) on page 43
- [Message Signaled Interrupt](#) on page 30
- [Define the Contents of the fpga.bin File for the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform](#) on page 54
- [Hash Checking](#) on page 50

1.4 Changes in Intel Arria 10 Development Kit Reference Platform from 17.0 to 17.1

Following is a list of what has changed for a10_ref Reference Platform from 17.0 to 17.1 release:

Table 3. Changes in a10_ref Reference Platform from 17.0 to 17.1

File	Change
acl_ddr4_a10_core.qsys	Renamed as ddr4.qsys to reduce long path issues in Windows.
All .ip files in the ip/acl_ddr4_a10_core/directory	Renamed as ip/ddr4/ to reduce long path issues in Windows.
acl_ddr4_a10.qsys	Renamed as mem.qsys to reduce long path issues in Windows.
continued...	



File	Change
All .ip files in the ip/acl_ddr4_a10/directory	Renamed as ip/mem/ to reduce long path issues in Windows.
board.qsys	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Added ACDS version ROM.Updated board interface version ID.
base.qsf	Changed the hierarchy for Logic Lock regions due to the renaming of .qsys files.
flat.qsf	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Added path to ACDS version ROM memory initialization file (MIF).Changed the hierarchy for global signal due to the renaming of .qsys files.Removed GENERATE_RBF_FILE ON assignment.
top.qsf	Added GENERATE_PR_RBF_FILE ON and QDB_FILE_PARTITION assignments.
top_post.sdc	Changed the hierarchy of asynchronous clock groups and false path due to the renaming of .qsys files.
import_compiles.tcl	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Rebranded ALTERA to INTEL.Updated the file for incremental and fast compile features.
board_spec.xml	Updated version from 17.0 to 17.1
quartus.ini	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Removed bak_eco_a10_pcie_1602_1611=on INIAdded qhd_skip_pr_revision_type_check=on INI
base.qar	Updated the file with ACDS 17.1 static region.
scripts/pre_flow_pr.tcl	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Rebranded ALTERA to INTEL.Added a call to create_acds_ver_hex.tcl for ACDS version ROM.Updated pr_base.id file also in flat revision compiles so that the unique flat compiles can be identified.
scripts/post_flow_pr.tcl	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Rebranded ALTERA to INTEL.Updated the file to enable fast compiles and update ACDS version ROMRemoved manual call to quartus_cpf for creating partial reconfiguration programming file since it is now done automatically in the flow.
scripts/create_fpga_bin_pr.tcl	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Rebranded ALTERA to INTEL.Added the Quartus version as part of fpga.bin.
scripts/qar_ip_files.tcl	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Rebranded ALTERA to INTEL.Changes required for renaming .qsys files.Changes required for moving other tcl scripts into Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL.
scripts/regenerate_cache.tcl	Changes needed for moving bak_flow.tcl into Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL
scripts/bak_flow.tcl	Moved the script into Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL.
scripts/helpers.tcl	Moved the script into Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL.
scripts/create_acds_ver_hex.tcl	Added the script to create the contents of the ACDS version ROM.
ip/host_channel	Added the IP for a10gx_hostch board variant.



2 Developing Your Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform

Use the tools available in Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform (a10_ref) and the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Custom Platform Toolkit together to create your own Custom Platform.

Developing your Custom Platform requires in-depth knowledge of the contents in the following documents and tools:

- *Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Custom Platform User Guide*
- Contents of the SDK Custom Platform Toolkit
- *Stratix V Network Reference Platform Porting Guide*
- Documentation for all the Intel FPGA IP in your Custom Platform
- *Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Getting Started Guide*
- *Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Programming Guide*

In addition, you must independently verify all IP on your computing card (for example, PCIe controllers and DDR4 external memory).

Related Links

- [Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Custom Platform Toolkit User Guide](#)
- [Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Intel Arria 10 SoC Development Kit Reference Platform Porting Guide](#)
- [Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Intel Cyclone V SoC Development Kit Reference Platform Porting Guide](#)
- [Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Intel Stratix V Network Reference Platform Porting Guide](#)
- [Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Getting Started Guide](#)
- [Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Programming Guide](#)

2.1 Initializing Your Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform

To initialize your Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Custom Platform, copy the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform to another directory and rename it.



1. Copy the `INTELFPGAOCSDKROOT/board/a10_ref` directory, where `INTELFPGAOCSDKROOT` is the location of the SDK installation.
2. Paste the `a10_ref` directory into a directory that you own (that is, not a system directory) and then rename it (`<your_custom_platform>`).
3. Choose the `a10gx` board variant in the `<your_custom_platform>/hardware` directory to match the production silicon for the Intel Arria 10 FPGA as the basis of your design.
4. Rename `a10gx` board variant to match the name of your FPGA board (`<your_custom_platform>/hardware/<board_name>`).
5. Modify the `<your_custom_platform>/board_env.xml` file so that the name and default fields match the changes you made in step 2 on page 12 and step 4 on page 12, respectively.
6. Modify the `my_board` name in the inside `<your_custom_platform>/hardware/<board_name>/board_spec.xml` file to match the change you made in step 2 on page 12.

```
> aoc -list-boards
Board list:
my_board
```

7. In the SDK, invoke the command `aoc -list-boards` to confirm that the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Offline Compiler displays the board name in your Custom Platform.

Related Links

- [Setting the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL User Environment Variables for Windows](#)
- [Setting the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL User Environment Variables for Linux](#)
- [Describe the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform to the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL on page 51](#)

2.2 Modifying the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Design

Modify the Intel Quartus Prime design for the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform to fit your design needs.

You can add a component in Platform Designer and connect it to the existing system, or add a Verilog file to the available system. After adding the custom components, connect those components in Platform Designer.

1. Instantiate your PCIe controller, as described in *Host-to-Intel Arria 10 Communication over PCIe* section.
2. Instantiate any memory controllers and I/O channels. You can add the board interface hardware either as Platform Designer components in the `board.qsys` Platform Designer system or as HDL in the `top.v` file.



The `board.qsys` file and the `top.v` file are in the `<your_custom_platform>/hardware/<board_name>` directory.

3. Modify the `device.tcl` file to match all the correct settings for the device on your board.
4. Modify the `<your_custom_platform>/hardware/<board_name>/flat.qsf` file to use only the pin-outs and settings for your system. The `base.qsf`, `top.qsf`, and `top_synth.qsf` files will include all the settings from the `flat.qsf` file.

The `top.qsf` file and `top_synth.qsf` file are in the `<your_custom_platform>/hardware/<board_name>` directory.

Related Links

[Host-to-Intel Arria 10 FPGA Communication over PCIe](#) on page 22

2.3 Integrating Your Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform with the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL

After you modify your Intel Quartus Prime design files, integrate your Custom Platform with the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL.

1. Update the `<your_custom_platform>/hardware/<board_name>/board_spec.xml` file. Ensure that there is at least one global memory interface, and all the global memory interfaces correspond to the exported interfaces from the `board.qsys` Platform Designer System File.
2. Set the environment variable `ACL_DEFAULT_FLOW` to `flat`.
Setting this environment variable instructs the SDK to compile the flat revision corresponding to `<your_custom_platform>/hardware/<board_name>/flat.qsf` file without the partitions or Logic Locks.

Tip: Intel recommends to get a timing clean flat revision compiled before proceeding to the base revision compiles. You can also invoke the following command with the `-bsp-flow=<revision_type>` attribute to run different revisions of your project (for example, flat or base compiles).

```
aoc -bsp-flow=flat boardtest.cl -o=bin/boardtest.aocx
```

3. Set the environment variable `ACL_DEFAULT_FLOW` to `base`.
Setting this environment variable instructs the SDK to compile the base revision corresponding to the `<your_custom_platform>/hardware/<board_name>/base.qsf` file.
4. Perform the steps outlined in the `INTELFPGAOCSDKROOT/board/custom_platform_toolkit/tests/README.txt` file to compile the `INTELFPGAOCSDKROOT/board/custom_platform_toolkit/tests/boardtest/boardtest.cl` OpenCL kernel source file.



The environment variable *INTELFPGAOCSDKROOT* points to the location of the SDK installation.

5. If compilation fails because of timing failures, fix the errors, or compile *INTELFPGAOCSDKROOT/board/custom_platform_toolkit/tests/boardtest.cl* with different seeds. To compile the kernel with a different seed, include the *-seed=<N>* option in the *aoc* command (for example, *aoc -seed=2 boardtest.cl*).

You might be able to fix minor timing issues by simply compiling your kernel with a different seed.

Related Links

[Describe the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Hardware to the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL on page 52](#)

2.4 Setting up the Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform Software Development Environment

Prior to building the software layer for your Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Custom Platform, set up the software development environment.

- To compile the MMD layer for Windows, perform the following tasks:
 - a. Install the GNU *make* utility on your development machine.
 - b. Install a version of Microsoft Visual Studio that has the ability to compile 64-bit software (for example, Microsoft Visual Studio version 2010 Professional).
 - c. Set the development environment so that SDK users can invoke commands and utilities at the command prompt.
 - d. Modify the *<your_custom_platform_name>/source/Makefile.common* file so that *TOP_DEST_DIR* points to the top-level directory of your Custom Platform.
 - e. In the *Makefile.common* file or the development environment, set the *JUNGO_LICENSE* variable to your Jungo WinDriver license.
 - f. To check that you have set up the software development environment properly, invoke the *gmake* or *gmake clean* command.
- To compile the MMD layer for Linux, perform the following tasks:
 - a. Ensure that you use a Linux distribution that Intel supports (for example, GNU Compiler Collection (GCC) version 4.47).
 - b. Modify the *<your_custom_platform>/source/Makefile.common* file so that *TOP_DEST_DIR* points to the top-level directory of your Custom Platform.
- To check that you have set up the software environment properly, invoke the *make* or *make clean* command.

Related Links

[Jungo Connectivity Ltd. website](#)



2.5 Establishing Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform Host Communication

After modifying and rebranding the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform to your own Custom Platform, use the tools and utilities in your Custom Platform to establish communication between your FPGA accelerator board and your host application.

1. Program your FPGA device with the `<your_custom_platform>/hardware/<board_name>/base.sof` file and then reboot your system.

You should have created the `base.sof` file when integrating your Custom Platform with the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL. Refer to the *Integrating Your Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform with the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL* section for more information.

2. Confirm that your operating system recognizes a PCIe device with your vendor and device IDs.
 - For Windows, open the **Device Manager** and verify that the correct device and IDs appear in the listed information.
 - For Linux, invoke the `lspci` command and verify that the correct device and IDs appear in the listed information.
3. Run the `aocl install <path_to_customplatform>` utility command to install the kernel driver on your machine.
4. For Windows, set the `PATH` environment variable. For Linux, set the `LD_LIBRARY_PATH` environment variable.

For more information about the settings for `PATH` and `LD_LIBRARY_PATH`, refer to *Setting the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL User Environment Variables* in the *Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Getting Started Guide*.
5. Modify the `version_id_test` function in your `<your_custom_platform>/source/host/mmd/acl_pcie_device.cpp` MMD source code file to exit after reading from the `version ID` register.
6. Run the `aocl diagnose` utility command and confirm that the `version ID` register reads back the ID successfully. You may set the environment variables `ACL_HAL_DEBUG` and `ACL_PCIE_DEBUG` to a value of 1 to visualize the result of the diagnostic test on your terminal.

Related Links

- [Integrating Your Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform with the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL](#) on page 13
- [Setting the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Environment Variables for Linux](#)
- [Setting the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL User Environment Variables for Windows](#)

2.6 Branding Your Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform

Modify the library, driver and source files in the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform to reference your Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Custom Platform.



1. In the software development environment available with the a10_ref Reference Platform, replace all references of "a10_ref" with the name of your Custom Platform.
2. Modify the PACKAGE_NAME and MMD_LIB_NAME fields in the `<your_custom_platform>/source/Makefile.common` file.
3. Modify the name, linklib, and mmlibs elements in `<your_custom_platform>/board_env.xml` file to your custom MMD library name.
4. In your Custom Platform, modify the following lines of code in the `hw_pcie_constants.h` file to include information of your Custom Platform:

```
#define ACL_BOARD_PKG_NAME "a10_ref"  
#define ACL_VENDOR_NAME "Intel Corporation"  
#define ACL_BOARD_NAME "Arria 10 Reference Platform"
```

For Windows, the `hw_pcie_constants.h` file is in the `<your_custom_platform>\source_windows64\include` folder. For Linux, the `hw_pcie_constants.h` file is in the `<your_custom_platform>/linux64/driver` directory.

Note: The `ACL_BOARD_PKG_NAME` variable setting must match the name attribute of the `board_env` element that you specified in the `board_env.xml` file.

5. Define the Device ID, Subsystem Vendor ID, Subsystem Device ID, and Revision ID, as defined in the *Device Identification Registers for Intel Arria 10 PCIe Hard IP* section.

Note: The PCIe IDs in the `hw_pcie_constants.h` file must match the parameters in the PCIe controller hardware.

6. Update your Custom Platform's board.qsys Platform Designer system and the `hw_pcie_constants.h` file with the IDs defined in 5 on page 16.
7. For Windows, update DeviceList fields in the `<your_custom_platform>\windows64\driver\acl_boards_a10_ref.inf` file to match your PCIe ID values and then rename the file to `acl_board_<your_custom_platform>.inf`.

Note: The `<your_custom_platform>` string in `acl_board_<your_custom_platform>.inf` must match the string you specify for the name field in the `board_env.xml` file.

8. Run `make` in the `<your_custom_platform>/source` directory to generate the driver.

Related Links

[Device Identification Registers for Intel Arria 10 PCIe Hard IP](#) on page 24

2.7 Changing the Device Part Number

When porting the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform to your own board, change the device part number, where applicable, to the part number of the device on your board.



Update the device part number in the following files within the `<your_custom_platform>/hardware/<board_name>` directory:

- In the `device.tcl` file, change the device part number in the `set global assignment -name DEVICE 10AX115S2F45I1SG` QSF assignment. The updated device number will appear in the `base.qsf`, `top.qsf`, and `top_synth.qsf` files.
- In the `board.qsys`, `mem.qsys`, and `ddr4.qsys` files, change all occurrences of `10AX115S2F45I1SG`.

2.8 Connecting the Memory in the Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform

Calibrate the external memory IP and controllers in your Custom Platform, and connect them to the host.

1. In your Custom Platform, instantiate your external memory IP based on the information in the *DDR4 as Global Memory for OpenCL Applications* section. Update the information pertaining to the `global_mem` element in the `<your_custom_platform>/hardware/<board_name>/board_spec.xml` file.
2. Remove the `boardtest` hardware configuration file that you created during the integration of your Custom Platform with the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL.
3. Recompile the `INTELFPGAOCCLSDKROOT/board/custom_platform_toolkit/tests/boardtest/boardtest.cl` kernel source file.

The environment variable `INTELFPGAOCCLSDKROOT` points to the location of the SDK installation.

4. Reprogram the FPGA with the new `boardtest` hardware configuration file and then reboot your machine.
5. Modify the `wait_for_uniphy` function in the `acl_pcie_device.cpp` MMD source code file to exit after checking the UniPHY status register. Rebuild the MMD software.

For Windows, the `acl_pcie_device.cpp` file is in the `<your_custom_platform>\source\host\mmd` folder. For Linux, the `acl_pcie_device.cpp` file is in the `<your_custom_platform>/source/host/mmd` directory.

6. Run the `aocl diagnose` SDK utility and confirm that the host reads back both the version ID and the value 0 from the `uniphy_status` component. The utility should return the message `Uniphy are calibrated`.
7. Consider analyzing your design in the Signal Tap logic analyzer to confirm the successful calibration of all memory controllers.

Note: For more information on Signal Tap logic analyzer, download the Signal Tap II Logic Analyzer tutorial from the [University Program Tutorial](#) page.

Related Links

- [DDR4 as Global Memory for OpenCL Applications](#) on page 34
- [Integrating Your Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform with the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL](#) on page 13
- [Signal Tap II with Verilog Designs](#)

2.9 Modifying the Kernel PLL Reference Clock

The Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Reference Platform uses an external 125 MHz clock as a reference for the I/O PLL. The I/O PLL relies on this reference clock to generate the internal `kernel_clk` clock, and the `kernel_clk2x` clock that runs at twice the frequency of `kernel_clk`. When porting the `a10_ref` Reference Platform to your own board using a different reference clock, update the `board.qsys` and `top.sdc` files with the new reference clock speed.

1. In the `<your_custom_platform>/hardware/<board_name>/board.qsys` file, update the `REF_CLK_RATE` parameter value on the `kernel_clk_gen` IP module.
2. In the `<your_custom_platform>/hardware/<board_name>/top.sdc` file, update the `create_clock` assignment for `kernel_pll_refclk`.
3. [Optional] In the `<your_custom_platform>/hardware/<board_name>/top.v` file, update the comment for the `kernel_pll_refclk` input port.

After you update the `board.qsys` and the `top.sdc` files, the `post_flow_pr.tcl` script will automatically determine the I/O PLL reference frequency and compute the correct PLL settings.

2.10 Integrating an OpenCL Kernel in Your Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform

After you establish host communication and connect the external memory, test the FPGA programming process from kernel creation to program execution.

1. Perform the steps outlined in `INTELFPGAOCCLSDKROOT/board/custom_platform_toolkit/tests/README.txt` file to build the hardware configuration file from the `INTELFPGAOCCLSDKROOT/board/custom_platform_toolkit/tests/boardtest/boardtest.cl` kernel source file.

The environment variable `INTELFPGAOCCLSDKROOT` points to the location of the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL installation.

2. Program your FPGA device with the hardware configuration file you created in 1 on page 18 and then reboot your machine.
3. Remove the early-exit modification in the `version_id_test` function in the `acl_pcie_device.cpp` file that you implemented when you established communication between the board and the host interface.

For Windows, the `acl_pcie_device.cpp` file is in the `<your_custom_platform>\source\host\mmd` folder. For Linux, the `acl_pcie_device.cpp` file is in the `<your_custom_platform>/source/host/mmd` directory.

4. Invoke the `aocl diagnose <device_name>` command, where `<device_name>` is the string you define in your Custom Platform to identify each board.



By default, `<device_name>` is the acl number (for example, acl0 to acl31) that corresponds to your FPGA device. In this case, invoke the `aocl diagnose acl0` command.

5. Build the `boardtest` host application using the `.sln` file (Windows) or `Makefile` (Linux) in the SDK's Custom Platform Toolkit.

For Windows, the `.sln` file for Windows is in the `INTELFPGAOCCLSDKROOT\board\custom_platform_toolkit\tests\boardtest\host` folder. For Linux, the `Makefile` is in the `INTELFPGAOCCLSDKROOT/board/custom_platform_toolkit/tests/boardtest` directory.

6. Set the environment variable `CL_CONTEXT_COMPILER_MODE_INTELFPGA` to a value of 3 and run the `boardtest` host application.

For more information on `CL_CONTEXT_COMPILER_MODE_INTELFPGA`, refer to *Troubleshooting Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Porting Issues*.

Related Links

- [Establishing Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform Host Communication](#) on page 15
- [Troubleshooting Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Porting Issues](#) on page 20

2.11 Guaranteeing Timing Closure in the Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform

When modifying the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform into your own Custom Platform, ensure that guaranteed timing closure holds true for your Custom Platform.

1. Establish the floorplan of your design.

Important: Consider all design criteria outlined in the *FPGA System Design* section of the *Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Custom Platform Toolkit User Guide*.

2. Compile several seeds of the `INTELFPGAOCCLSDKROOT/board/custom_platform_toolkit/tests/boardtest/boardtest.cl` file until you generate a design that closes timing cleanly.

To specify the seed number, include the `-seed=<N>` option in your `aoc` command.

3. Copy the `base.qar` file from the `INTELFPGAOCCLSDKROOT/board/a10_ref/hardware/a10gx` directory into your Custom Platform.
4. Use the `flat.qsf` file in the `a10_ref` Reference Platform as references to determine the type of information you must include in the `flat.qsf` file for your Custom Platform.

The `base.qsf`, `top.qsf`, and `top_synth.qsf` files automatically inherit all the settings in the `flat.qsf` file. However, if you need to modify Logic Lock Plus region or PR assignments, only make these changes in the `base.qsf` file.

5. Confirm that you can use the `.aocx` file to reprogram the FPGA by invoking the `aocl program acl0 boardtest.aocx` command.

6. Remove the `ACL_DEFAULT_FLOW` environment variable that you added when integrating your Custom Platform with the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL.
7. Ensure that the environment variable `CL_CONTEXT_COMPILER_MODE_INTELFPGA` is not set.
8. Run the `boardtest_host` executable.

Related Links

- [Intel Arria 10 FPGA System Design](#) on page 36
- [FPGA System Design](#)
- [Integrating Your Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform with the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL](#) on page 13

2.11.1 Generating the base.qar Post-Fit Netlist for Your Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform

To implement the compilation flow, you must generate a `base.qar` Intel Quartus Prime Archive File for your Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform.

The steps below represent a general procedure for regenerating the `base.qar` file:

1. Port the system design and the `flat.qsf` file to your computing card.
2. Compile the `INTELFPGAOCSDKROOT/board/custom_platform_toolkit/tests/boardtest/boardtest.cl` kernel source file using the base revision. Fix any timing failures and recompile the kernel until timing is clean. You can add the `-bsp-flow=base` argument to the `aoc` command to generate a `base.qar` file during the kernel compilation.

`INTELFPGAOCSDKROOT` points to the location of the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL installation.

3. Copy the generated `base.qar` file into your Custom Platform.
4. Using the default compilation flow, test the `base.qar` file across several OpenCL design examples and confirm that the following criteria are satisfied:
 - All compilations close timing.
 - The OpenCL design examples achieve satisfactory F_{max} .
 - The OpenCL design examples function on the accelerator board.

Related Links

- [Integrating Your Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform with the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL](#) on page 13
- [Provide a Timing-Closed Post-Fit Netlist](#) on page 45

2.12 Troubleshooting Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Porting Issues

Set Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL-specific environment variables to help diagnose Custom Platform design problems.

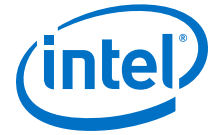
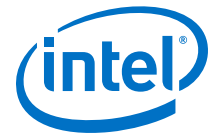


Table 4. Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL-Specific Environment Variables for Identifying Custom Platform Design Problems

Environment Variable	Description
<i>ACL_HAL_DEBUG</i>	Set this variable to a value of 1 to 5 to enable increasing debug output from the Hardware Abstraction Layer (HAL), which interfaces directly with the MMD layer.
<i>ACL_PCIE_DEBUG</i>	Set this variable to a value of 1 to 10000 to enable increasing debug output from the MMD. This variable setting is useful for confirming that the <code>version ID</code> register was read correctly and the UniPHY IP cores are calibrated.
<i>ACL_PCIE_JTAG_CABLE</i>	Set this variable to override the default <code>quartus_pgm</code> argument that specifies the cable number. The default is cable 1. If there are multiple Intel FPGA Download Cable, you can specify a particular one here.
<i>ACL_PCIE_JTAG_DEVICE_INDEX</i>	Set this variable to override the default <code>quartus_pgm</code> argument that specifies the FPGA device index. By default, this variable has a value of 1. If the FPGA is not the first device in the JTAG chain, you can customize the value.
<i>ACL_PCIE_USE_JTAG_PROGRAMMING</i>	Set this variable to force the MMD to reprogram the FPGA using the JTAG cable instead of Partial Reconfiguration.
<i>ACL_PCIE_DMA_USE_MSI</i>	Set this variable if you want to use MSI for DMA transfers on Windows.
<i>CL_CONTEXT_COMPILER_MODE_INTELFPGA</i>	Unset this variable or set it to a value of 3. The OpenCL host runtime reprograms the FPGA as needed, which it does at least once during initialization. To prevent the host application from programming the FPGA, set this variable to a value of 3.



3 Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Design Architecture

Intel created the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform (a10_ref) based on various design considerations. Familiarize yourself with these design considerations. Having a thorough understanding of the design decision-making process might help in the design of your own Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Custom Platform.

[Host-to-Intel Arria 10 FPGA Communication over PCIe](#) on page 22

[DDR4 as Global Memory for OpenCL Applications](#) on page 34

[Host Connection to OpenCL Kernels](#) on page 36

[Intel Arria 10 FPGA System Design](#) on page 36

[Dynamic PLL Reconfiguration](#) on page 43

[Guaranteed Timing Closure of the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Design](#) on page 43

[Intel Quartus Prime Compilation Flow and Scripts](#) on page 46

[Addition of Timing Constraints](#) on page 51

[Connection of the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform to the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL](#) on page 51

[Intel Arria 10 FPGA Programming Flow](#) on page 53

[Host-to-Device MMD Software Implementation](#) on page 54

[Implementation of Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Utilities](#) on page 55

[Intel Arria 10 FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Scripts](#) on page 58

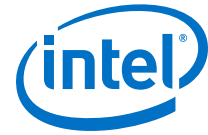
[Considerations in Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Implementation](#) on page 59

3.1 Host-to-Intel Arria 10 FPGA Communication over PCIe

The Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform instantiates the Intel Arria 10 PCIe hard IP to implement a host-to-device connection over PCIe.

3.1.1 Instantiation of Intel Arria 10 PCIe Hard IP with Direct Memory Access

The Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform instantiates the Intel Arria 10 PCIe hard IP with direct memory access (DMA) to implement a host-to-device connection over PCIe.



Dependencies

- Intel Arria 10 PCIe hard IP core
- Parameter Settings* section of the *Intel Arria 10 Avalon-MM DMA Interface for PCIe Solutions User Guide*

Table 5. Highlights of Intel Arria 10 PCIe Hard IP Parameter Settings

Set the parameters for the Intel Arria 10 PCIe hard IP in the parameter editor within the Intel Quartus Prime Pro Edition software.

Parameter(s)	Setting
System Settings	
Application interface type	Avalon-MM with DMA This Avalon Memory-Mapped (Avalon-MM) interface instantiates the embedded DMA of the PCIe hard IP core.
Hard IP mode	Gen3x8, Interface: 256-bit, 250 MHz Number of Lanes: x8 Lane Rate: Gen3 (8.0 Gbps) <i>Note:</i> This setting is the fastest configuration that the Avalon-MM DMA slave interface currently supports.
Rx Buffer credit allocation	Low <i>Note:</i> This setting is derived experimentally.
Intel Arria 10 Avalon-MM Settings	
Export MSI/MSI-X conduit interfaces	Enabled Export the MSI interface in order to connect the interrupt sent from the kernel interface to the MSI.
Instantiate Internal Descriptor Controller	Enabled Instantiates the descriptor controller in the Avalon-MM DMA bridge. Use the 128-entry descriptor controller that the PCIe hard IP core provides. Disabled for a10gx_hostch board variant The descriptor controller is implemented in the <code>ip/host_channel</code> subdirectory.
Address width of accessible PCIe memory space	64 bits This value is machine dependent. To avoid truncation of the MSI memory address, 64-bit machines should allot 64 bits to access the PCIe address space.
Base Address Register (BAR) Settings	
Base Address Registers (BARs)	This design uses two BARs. For BAR 0, set Type to 64-bit prefetchable memory . The Size parameter setting is disabled because the Instantiate Internal Descriptor Controller parameter is enabled in the Avalon-MM system settings. BAR 0 is only used to access the DMA Descriptor Controller, as described in the <i>Intel Arria 10 Avalon-MM DMA for PCI Express</i> section of the <i>Intel Arria 10 Avalon-MM DMA Interface for PCIe Solutions User Guide</i> . For Bar 4, set Type to 64-bit prefetchable memory , and set Size to 256 KBytes - 18 bits . BAR 4 is used to connect PCIe to the OpenCL kernel systems and other board modules.

Related Links

- [Parameter Settings for Intel Arria 10 Avalon-MM DMA Interface for PCIe Solutions](#)



- Intel Arria 10 Avalon-MM DMA for PCI Express

3.1.2 Device Identification Registers for Intel Arria 10 PCIe Hard IP

To build PCIe hardware, you must set PCIe IDs related to the device hardware.

Table 6. Device Hardware-Related PCIe ID Registers

ID Register Name	ID Provider	Description	Parameter Name in PCIe IP Core
Vendor ID	PCI-SIG®	Identifies the FPGA manufacturer. Always set this register to 0x1172 , which is Intel vendor ID.	vendor_id_hw_tcl
Device ID	Intel	Describes the PCIe configuration on the FPGA according to Intel's internal guideline. Set the device ID to the device code of the FPGA on your accelerator board. For the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform, set the Device ID register to 0x2494 , which signifies Gen 3 speed, 8 lanes, Intel Arria 10 device family, and Avalon-MM interface, respectively. Refer to Table 7 on page 25 for more information.	device_id_hw_tcl
Revision ID		When setting this ID, ensure that it matches the following revision IDs: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• For Windows, the revision ID specified for the DeviceList field in the <code><your_custom_platform>\windows64\driver\acl_boards_<your_custom_platform>.inf</code> file.• For Linux, the revision ID specified for the ACL_PCI_REVISION variable in the <code><your_custom_platform>/linux64/driver/hw_pcie_constants.h</code> file.	—
Class Code	Intel	The Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL utility checks the base class value to verify whether the board is an OpenCL device. Do not modify the class code settings. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Base class: 0x12 for processing accelerator• Sub class: 0x00• Programming interface: 0x01	—
Subsystem Vendor ID	Board vendor	Identifies the manufacturer of the accelerator board. Set this register to the vendor ID of manufacturer of your accelerator board. For the a10_ref Reference Platform, the subsystem vendor ID is 0x1172 . If you are a board vendor, set this register to your vendor ID.	subsystem_vendor_id_hw_tcl
Subsystem Device ID	Board vendor	Identifies the accelerator board. The SDK uses this ID to identify the board because the software might perform differently on different boards. If you create a Custom Platform that supports multiple boards, use this ID to distinguish between the boards. Alternatively, if you have multiple Custom Platforms, each supporting a single board, you can use this ID to distinguish between the Custom Platforms.	subsystem_device_id_hw_tcl
continued...			



ID Register Name	ID Provider	Description	Parameter Name in PCIe IP Core
		<i>Important:</i> Make this ID unique to your Custom Platform. For example, for the a10_ref Reference Platform, the ID is 0xA151 .	

You can find these PCIe ID definitions in the PCIe controller instantiated in the `INTELFPGAOCCLSDKROOTboard/a10_ref/hardware/a10gx/board.qsys` Platform Designer System File. These IDs are necessary in the driver and the SDK's programming flow. The kernel driver uses the **Vendor ID**, **Subsystem Vendor ID** and the **Subsystem Device ID** to identify the boards it supports. The SDK's programming flow checks the **Device ID** to ensure that it programs a device with a .aocx Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Offline Compiler executable file targeting that specific device.

Table 7. Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL's Numbering Convention for PCIe Hard IP Device ID

Location in ID	Definition
15:14	RESERVED
13:12	Speed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 0 — Gen 1 1 — Gen 2 2 — Gen 3 3 — Gen 4
11	RESERVED
10:8	Number of lanes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 0 — 1 lane 1 — 2 lanes 3 — 4 lanes 4 — 8 lanes 5 — 16 lanes 6 — 32 lanes
7:4	Device family <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 0 — Altera Stratix IV GX 1 — Altera Arria II GX 2 — Stratix II GX 3 — Arria GX 4 — Cyclone IV GX 5 — External 6 — Stratix V 7 — Arria V 8 — Cyclone V 9 — Arria 10
3	1 — Soft IP (SIP) This ID indicates that the PCIe protocol stack is implemented in soft logic. If unspecified, the IP is considered a hard IP.
2:0	Platform Designer PCIe interface type
<i>continued...</i>	



Location in ID	Definition
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">0 — 64 bits1 — 128 bits2 — 256 bits3 — Desc/Data (that is, Avalon-Streaming (Avalon-ST) interface)4 — Avalon-MM interface

3.1.3 Instantiation of the version_id Component

Intel specifies an additional version ID and uses it to verify the address map of the system. The host verifies the version ID of the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform when instantiating the version_id component that connects to the PCIe Avalon master.

The version ID for the a10_ref Reference Platform is A0C7C1E6 in 17.1 release.

Before communicating with any part of the FPGA system, the host first reads from this version_id register to confirm the following:

- The PCIe can access the FPGA fabric successfully.
- The address map matches the map in the MMD software.

Update the VERSION_ID parameter in the version_id component to a new value with every slave addition or removal from the PCIe BAR 4 bus, or whenever the address map changes.

3.1.4 Definitions of Intel Arria 10 FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Hardware Constraints in Software Headers Files

After you build the PCIe component in your hardware design, you need a software layer to communicate with the board via PCIe. To enable communication between the board and the host interface, define the hardware constants for the software in header files.

The two header files that describe the hardware design to the software are in the following locations:

- For Windows systems, the header files are in the *INTELFPGAOCSDKROOT\board\al0_ref\source\include* folder, where *INTELFPGAOCSDKROOT* is the path to the SDK installation.
- For Linux systems, the header files are in the *INTELFPGAOCSDKROOT/board/al0_ref/linux64/driver* directory.

Table 8. Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Header Files

Header File Name	Description
hw_pcie_constants.h	Header file that defines most of the hardware constants for the board design. This file includes constants such as the IDs described in <i>PCIe Device Identification Registers</i> , BAR number, and offset for different components in your design. In addition, this header file also defines the name strings of ACL_BOARD_PKG_NAME, ACL_VENDOR_NAME, and ACL_BOARD_NAME.
continued...	



Header File Name	Description
	Update the information in this file whenever you change the board design.
hw_pcie_dma.h	<p>Header file that defines DMA-related hardware constants.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ACL_PCIE_DMA_ONCHIP_RD_FIFO_BASE refers to the Platform Designer address of rd_dts_slave on the PCIe IP's dma_rd_master. ACL_PCIE_DMA_ONCHIP_WR_FIFO_BASE refers to the Platform Designer address of wr_dts_slave on the PCIe IP's dma_rd_master. <p>Update these addresses whenever you change the board design. Refer to the <i>Direct Memory Access</i> section for more information.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ACL_PCIE_DMA_TABLE_SIZE refers to the DMA descriptor FIFO depth connected to the DMA. When using the internal descriptor controller, refer to the <i>DMA Descriptor Controller Registers</i> section in the <i>Intel Arria 10 Avalon-MM DMA Interface for PCIe Solutions User Guide</i> for the required size. ACL_PCIE_DMA_PAGES_LOCKED specifies the maximum pages you can lock. You may modify this constant to improve performance. ACL_PCIE_DMA_NON_ALIGNED_TRANS_LOG specifies the starting and ending power-of-two values that non-aligned DMA transfers should have. You may modify this constant to improve performance.
hw_host_channel.h	Header file that defines the host channel IP control register address and names of the channels.

Related Links

- [Direct Memory Access](#) on page 28
- [Device Identification Registers for Intel Arria 10 PCIe Hard IP](#) on page 24
- [DMA Descriptor Controller Registers](#)

3.1.5 PCIe Kernel Driver for the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform

A PCIe kernel driver is necessary for the OpenCL runtime library to access your board design via a PCIe bus.

Use the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL `install` utility to install the kernel driver.

The a10_ref Reference Platform

- For Windows systems, the driver is in the `<path_to_al0pciedk>\windows64\driver` folder.
The kernel driver, the WinDriver application programming interface (API), is a third-party driver from Jungo Connectivity Ltd. For more information about the WinDriver, refer to the Jungo Connectivity Ltd. website or contact a Jungo Connectivity representative.
- For Linux, an open-source MMD-compatible kernel driver is in the `<path_to_al0pciedk>/linux64/driver` directory. The table below highlights some of the files that are available in this directory.

Table 9. Highlights of the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform's Linux PCIe Kernel Driver Directory

File	Description
pcie_linux_driver_exports.h	Header file that defines the special commands that the kernel driver supports.
continued...	



File	Description
	The installed kernel driver works as a character device. The basic operations to the driver are <code>open()</code> , <code>close()</code> , <code>read()</code> , and <code>write()</code> . To execute a complicated command, create a variable as an <code>acl_cmd</code> struct type, specify the command with the proper parameters, and then send the command through a <code>read()</code> or <code>write()</code> operation. This header file defines the interface of the kernel driver, which the MMD layer uses to communicate with the device.
<code>aclpci.c</code>	File that implements the Linux kernel driver's basic structures and functions, such as the <code>init</code> , <code>remove</code> , and <code>probe</code> functions, as well as hardware design-specific functions that handle interrupts. For more information on the interrupt handler, refer to the <i>Message Signaled Interrupts</i> section.
<code>aclpci fileio.c</code>	File that implements the kernel driver's file I/O operations. The kernel driver that is available with the <code>a10_ref</code> Reference Platform supports four file I/O operations: <code>open()</code> , <code>close()</code> , <code>read()</code> , and <code>write()</code> . Implementing these file I/O operations allows the OpenCL user program to access the kernel driver through the file I/O system calls (that is, <code>open</code> , <code>read</code> , <code>write</code> , or <code>close</code>).
<code>aclpci cmd.c</code>	File that implements the specific commands defined in the <code>pcie_linux_driver_exports.h</code> file. These special commands include <code>SAVE_PCI_CONTROL_REGS</code> , <code>LOAD_PCI_CONTROL_REGS</code> , <code>DO_PR</code> , <code>GET_PCI_SLOT_INFO</code> , etc.
<code>aclpci dma.c</code>	File that implements DMA and host channel-related routines in the kernel driver. Refer to the <i>Direct Memory Access</i> section for more information.
<code>aclpci pr.c</code>	File that implements PR-related routines in the kernel driver. Refer to the <i>Partial Reconfiguration</i> section for more information.
<code>aclpci queue.c</code>	File that implements a queue structure for use in the kernel driver to simplify programming.

Related Links

- [Partial Reconfiguration](#) on page 31
- [aocl install](#) on page 55
- [Message Signaled Interrupt](#) on page 30
- [Direct Memory Access](#) on page 28
- [Jungo Connectivity Ltd. website](#)

3.1.6 Direct Memory Access

The Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform relies on the PCIe hard IP core's soft DMA engine to transfer data. The Intel Arria 10 PCIe hard IP core's DMA interface is instantiated as a soft IP inside the PCIe hardware when the **Avalon-MM with DMA** application interface type is selected in the IP parameter editor.

Note: The DMA interface is capable of full duplex data transfers. However, the driver handles one read or write transfer at a time.



Hardware Considerations

The instantiation process exports the DMA controller slave ports (that is, `rd_dts_slave` and `wr_dts_slave`) and master ports (that is, `rd_dcm_master` and `wr_dcm_master`) into the PCIe module. Two additional master ports, `dma_rd_master` and `dma_wr_master`, are exported for DMA read and write operations, respectively. For the DMA interface to function properly, all these ports must be connected correctly in the `board.qsys` Platform Designer system, where the PCIe hard IP is instantiated.

At the start of DMA transfer, the DMA Descriptor Controller reads from the DMA descriptor table in user memory, and stores the status and the descriptor table into a FIFO address. There are two FIFO addresses: Read Descriptor FIFO address and Write Descriptor FIFO address. After storing the descriptor table into a FIFO address, DMA transfer into the FIFO address can occur. The `dma_rd_master` port, which moves data from user memory to the device, must connect to the `rd_dts_slave` and `wr_dts_slave` ports. Because the `dma_rd_master` port connects to DDR4 memory also, the locations of the `rd_dts_slave` and `wr_dts_slave` ports in the address space must be defined in the `hw_pcie_dma.h` file.

The `rd_dcm_master` and `wr_dcm_master` ports must connect to the `txs` port. At the end of the DMA transfer, the DMA controller writes the MSI data and the `done` status into the user memory via the `txs` slave. The `txs` slave is part of the PCIe hard IP in `board.qsys`.

All modules that use DMA must connect to the `dma_rd_master` and `dma_wr_master` ports. For DDR4 memory connection, Intel recommends implementing an additional pipeline to connect the two 256-bit PCIe DMA ports to the 512-bit memory slave. For more information, refer to the *DDR4 Connection to PCIe Host* section.

Software Considerations

The MMD layer uses DMA to transfer data if it receives a data transfer request that satisfies both of the following conditions:

- A transfer size that is greater than 1024 bytes.
- The starting addresses for both the host buffer and the device offset are aligned to 64 bytes.

Related Links

- [Definitions of Intel Arria 10 FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Hardware Constraints in Software Headers Files](#) on page 26
- [Intel Arria 10 DMA Avalon-MM DMA Interface to the Application Layer](#)
- [DMA Descriptor Controller Registers](#)
- [Implementing a DMA Transfer](#) on page 30
- [DDR4 Connection to PCIe Host](#) on page 35



3.1.6.1 Implementing a DMA Transfer

Implement a DMA transfer in the MMD on Windows (`INTELFPGAOCSDKROOT\board\al0_ref\source\host\mmd\acl_pcie_dma_windows.cpp`) or in the kernel driver on Linux (`INTELFPGAOCSDKROOT/board/al0_ref/linux64/driver/aclpci_dma`).

Note: For Windows, the Jungo WinDriver imposes a 5000 to 10000 limit on the number of interrupts received per second in user mode. This limit translates to a 2.5 gigabytes per second (GBps) to 5 GBps DMA bandwidth when a full 128-entry table of 4 KB page is transferred per interrupt.

On Windows, polling is the default method for maximizing PCIe DMA bandwidth at the expense of CPU run time. To use interrupts instead of polling, assign a non-NULL value to the `ACL_PCIE_DMA_USE_MSI` environment variable.

The steps below describe the general procedure for implementing a DMA transfer:

1. Verify that the previous DMA transfer sent all the requested bytes of data.
2. Map the virtual memories that are requested for DMA transfer to physical addresses.

Note: The amount of virtual memory that can be mapped at a time is system dependent. Large DMA transfers will require multiple mapping or unmapping operations. For a higher bandwidth, map the virtual memory ahead in a separate thread that is in parallel to the transfer.

3. Set up the DMA descriptor table on local memory.
4. Write the location of the DMA descriptor table, which is in user memory, to the DMA control registers (that is, RC Read Status and Descriptor Base and RC Write Status and Descriptor Base).
5. Write the Platform Designer address of descriptor FIFOs to the DMA control registers (that is EP Read Descriptor FIFO Base and EP Write Status and Descriptor FIFO Base).
6. Write the start signal to the RD_DMA_LAST_PTR and WR_DMA_LAST_PTR DMA control registers.
7. After the current DMA transfer finishes, repeat the procedure to implement the next DMA transfer.

Related Links

[Direct Memory Access](#) on page 28

3.1.7 Message Signaled Interrupt

The Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform uses one MSI line for both DMA and the kernel interface.

Two different modules generate the signal for the MSI line. The DMA controller in the PCIe hard IP core generates the DMA's MSI. The PCI Express interrupt request (IRQ) module (that is, the `INTELFPGAOCSDKROOT/board/al0_ref/hardware/al0gx/ip/irq_controller` directory) generates the kernel interface's MSI.

For more information on the PCI Express IRQ module, refer to *Handling PCIe Interrupts* webpage.



Hardware Considerations

In `INTELFPGAOCCLSDKROOT/board/a10_ref/hardware/a10gx/board.qsys`, the DMA MSI is connected internally; however, you must connect the kernel interface interrupt manually. For the kernel interface interrupt, the PCI Express IRQ module is instantiated as `pcie_irq_0` in `board.qsys`. The kernel interface interrupts connections are as follows:

- The `kernel_irq_to_host` port from the OpenCL Kernel Interface (`kernel_interface`) connects to the interrupt receiver, which allows the OpenCL kernels to signal the PCI Express IRQ module to send an MSI.
- The PCIe hard IP's `msi_intfc` port connects to the `MSI_Interface` port in the PCI Express IRQ module. The kernel interface interrupt receives the MSI address and the data necessary to generate the interrupt via `msi_intfc`.
- The `IRQ_Gen_Master` port on the PCI Express IRQ module, which is used to write the MSI, connects to the `txs` port on the PCIe hard IP.
- The `IRQ_Read_Slave` and `IRQ_Mask_Slave` ports connect to the `pipe_stage_host_ctrl` module on Bar 4. After receiving an MSI, the user driver can read the `IRQ_Read_Slave` port to check the status of the kernel interface interrupt, and read the `IRQ_Mask_Slave` port to mask the interrupt.

Software Considerations

The interrupt service routine in the Linux driver checks which module generates the interrupt. For the DMA's MSI, the driver reads the DMA descriptor table's status bit in local memory, as specified in the *Read DMA Example* section of the *Intel Arria 10 Avalon-MM DMA Interface for PCIe Solutions User Guide*. For kernel interface's MSI, the driver reads the interrupt line sent by the kernel interface.

The interrupt service routine involves the following tasks:

1. Check DMA status on the DMA descriptor table.
2. Read the kernel status from the `IRQ_READ_SLAVE` port on the PCI Express IRQ module.
3. If a kernel interrupt was triggered, mask the interrupt by writing to the `IRQ_MASK_SLAVE` port on the PCI Express IRQ module. Then, execute the kernel interrupt service routine.
4. If a DMA interrupt was triggered, reset the DMA descriptor table and execute the DMA interrupt service routine.
5. If applicable, unmask a masked kernel interrupt.

Related Links

- [Handling PCIe Interrupts](#)
- [Read DMA Example](#)

3.1.8 Partial Reconfiguration

The Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform uses partial reconfiguration (PR) as a default mechanism to reconfigure the OpenCL kernel-related partition of the design without altering the static board interface that is in a running state.



You can only use PR when the static board interface, generated during base compilations, matches the static region of the design that is used to compile the OpenCL kernel's PR region.

For Windows MMD implementation, the `INTELFPGAOCSDKROOT\board\al0_ref\source\host\mmd\acl_pcie_config.cpp` file contains the MMD code that communicates with the PR configuration controller within the static region of the design. The `program_core_with_PR_file` function within the `acl_pcie_config.cpp` file requires a handle to the PR bitstream and the length of the PR bitstream in order to perform the PR operation.

For Linux driver implementation, the `INTELFPGAOCSDKROOT/board/al0_ref/linux64/driver/aclpri_pr.c` file includes the main host driver routine that communicates with the PR configuration controller within the static region of the design. The `aclpri_pr` function within the `acl_pcie_pr.c` file requires the following information in order to perform the PR operation:

- A handle to the board
- A handle to the PR bitstream
- The length of the PR bitstream

After verifying that the device is opened, the bitstream is of adequate length, and the PCIe endpoint of the device is reachable, the `aclpri_pr` function writes 0x1 to the PR IP status register. Then, the `aclpri_pr` function writes the complete bitstream, 32 bits at a time, to the PR IP. After the bitstream transfer is complete, the `aclpri_pr` function performs a read operation to the PR IP status register to verify whether PR is successful. A return value of 0x14 indicates a successful PR operation; any other return value indicates an error.

To override the default reconfiguration mechanism, set the `ACL_PCIE_USE_JTAG_PROGRAMMING` environment variable, as shown below:

- For Windows, type `set ACL_PCIE_USE_JTAG_PROGRAMMING=1` at the command prompt.
- For Linux, type `export ACL_PCIE_USE_JTAG_PROGRAMMING=1` at the command prompt.

Setting `ACL_PCIE_USE_JTAG_PROGRAMMING` specifies that JTAG full-chip configuration is the default mechanism for reconfiguring the device.

Related Links

[Partial Reconfiguration IP Core](#)

3.1.9 Cable Autodetect

If partial reconfiguration (PR) cannot be used or fails to reconfigure the OpenCL kernel-related partition of the design, an attempt is made to do a full JTAG programming over the Intel FPGA Download Cable (formerly USB-Blaster).

The Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform automatically tries to detect the cable by default when programming the FPGA via the Intel FPGA Download Cable.



You can set the `ACL_PCIE_JTAG_CABLE` or `ACL_PCIE_JTAG_DEVICE_INDEX` environment variables to disable the auto-detect feature and use values that you define.

Cable autodetect is useful when you have multiple devices connected to a single host and PR cannot be used to program the FPGA.

The memory-mapped device (MMD) uses in-system sources and probes to identify the cable connected to the target board. You must instantiate the `cade_id` register block and connect it to Bar 4 with the correct address map. You must also instantiate `board_in_system_sources_probes_cade_id`, which is an in-system sources and probe component, and connect it to `cade_id` register.

The MMD must be updated to take in the relevant changes. Add the `scripts/find_jtag_cable.tcl` script to be added to your custom platform.

When the FPGA is being programmed via the Intel FPGA Download Cable, the MMD invokes `quartus_stp` to execute the `find_jtag_cable.tcl` script. The script identifies the cable and index number which is then used to program the FPGA through the `quartus_pgm` command.

3.1.10 Host Channel

The `a10gx_hostch` board variant of Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform uses host channel to provide direct streaming interface between OpenCL host and kernel by using DMA.

The streaming interface makes use of DMA.

3.1.10.1 Host Channel IP Instantiation

In Platform Designer, the host channel IP can be instantiated from Intel Arria 10 board support package components in the IP catalog. The name of the IP is `acl_hostchannel_top`.

Table 10. Host Channel Top Configuration Setting

IP Parameters	Description
<code>HOST_CHANNEL_DEPTH - 2048</code>	Depth of the internal buffer that DMA transfers data to and from. There are two buffers, and both of their depths are set by this parameter.
<code>HOST_CHANNEL_VALID_BUFFER_USE_LAB - 0</code>	Set to 1 to use LABs to instantiate the internal buffer, and 0 to use block RAMs.

3.1.10.2 Host Channel Top Connection to PCIe DMA

In addition to the ports connected in DMA section, by disabling `Instantiate internal descriptor controller` setting on Intel Arria 10 Hard IP for PCI Express, `ReadDCS`, `WrDCS`, `rd_ast_rx`, `wr_ast_rx`, `RdDmaRx` and `WrDmaRx` ports are exposed on the IP.

These ports must be connected to the DMA descriptor controller in the host channel IP.

Base address offset must match the address mentioned in the `board.qsys` file, since these addresses are used by the internal descriptor controller of a10gx board variant.

You need to make the following connections:

- On `acl_hostchannel_top` IP, `rd_dma` and `wr_dma` ports are used to receive and send data to DMA. These ports must be connected to the corresponding ports on PCIe IP with base address offset matching in the `hw_host_channel.h` header file.
- The `cra` port must be connected to the `host_ctrl`.
- The `msi_interface` port must be connected to Intel Arria 10 Hard IP for PCI Express, and the `msi_interface_out` must be connected to the `msi_interface` port of the `pcie_irq`.

3.1.10.3 Host Channel Top Connection to OpenCL Kernel

To stream data to kernel, Avalon-Streaming `stin` and `stout` ports are used. To clock cross into kernel clock, two Avalon-ST dual clock FIFO should be instantiated.

For one FIFO, the `in` port should be connected to the `stout` port of the host channel top, while the `out` port is exported. For the second FIFO, `out` port should be connected to the `stin` port of the host channel top, while the `in` port is exported.

In the `board_spec.xml`, the host channel ports are IO ports.

3.2 DDR4 as Global Memory for OpenCL Applications

The Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit has one bank of 2GB x72 DDR4-2400 SDRAM. The DDR4 SDRAM is a daughtercard that is mounted to the development kit's HiLo connector.

In the current version of the `a10_ref` Reference Platform, all Platform Designer components related to the DDR4 global memory are now part of the `INTELFPGAOCCLSDKROOT/board/a10_ref/hardware/a10gx/acl_ddr4_a10.qsys` Platform Designer subsystem within `board.qsys`. In addition, the location of the clock domain crossings has changed to increase the number of blocks operating in the slower PCIe domain. With this modified structure, you can add multiple memories with different clock domains to the system.

If you have a Custom Platform that is ported from a previous version of the `a10_ref` Reference Platform, you have the option to modify your Custom Platform as described above. This modification is not mandatory.

Dependencies

DDR4 external memory interfaces

For more information on the DDR4 external memory interface IP, refer to the *DDR2, DDR3, and DDR4 SDRAM Board Design Guidelines* section in *External Memory Interface Handbook Volume 2: Design Guidelines*.

To use the DDR4 SDRAM as global memory for Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL designs, you must instantiate the memory controller IP, connect the memory IP to the host, and connect the memory IP to the kernel.



Related Links

[DDR2, DDR3, and DDR4 SDRAM Board Design Guidelines](#)

3.2.1 DDR4 IP Instantiation

The Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform uses one DDR4 Controller IP to communicate with the physical memory.

Table 11. DDR4 SDRAM Controller IP Configuration Settings

IP Parameter	Configuration Setting
Timing Parameters	As per the computing card's data specifications.
Avalon Width Power of 2	Currently, OpenCL does not support non-power-of-2 bus widths. As a result, the a10_ref Reference Platform uses the option that forces the DDR4 controller to power of 2. Use the additional pins of this x72 core for error checking between the memory controller and the physical module.
Byte Enable Support	Enabled Byte enable support is necessary in the core because the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL requires byte-level granularity to all memories.
Performance	Enabling the reordering of DDR4 memory accesses and a deeper command queue look-ahead depth might provide increased bandwidth for some OpenCL kernels. For a target application, adjust these and other parameters as necessary. <i>Note:</i> Increasing the command queue look-ahead depth allows the DDR4 memory controller to reorder more memory accesses to increase efficiency, which improves overall memory throughput.
Debug	Disabled for production.

3.2.2 DDR4 Connection to PCIe Host

Connect all global memory systems in the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform to the host via the OpenCL Memory Bank Divider component.

The DDR4 IP core has one bank where its width and address configurations match those of the DDR4 SDRAM. Intel tunes the other parameters such as burst size, pending reads, and pipelining. These parameters are customizable for an end application or board design.

The Avalon master interfaces from the OpenCL Memory Bank Divider component connect to their respective memory controllers. The Avalon slave connects to the PCIe and DMA IP core. Implementations of appropriate clock crossing and pipelining are based on the design floorplan and the clock domains specific to the computing card. The *OpenCL Memory Bank Divider* section in the *Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Custom Platform Toolkit User Guide* specifies the connection details of the snoop and memorg ports.

Important: Instruct the host to verify the successful calibration of the memory controller.

The `INTELFPGAOCCLSDKROOT/board/a10_ref/hardware/a10gx/board.qsys` Platform Designer system uses a custom UniPHY Status to AVS IP component to aggregate different UniPHY status conduits into a single Avalon slave port named `s`. This slave port connects to the `pipe_stage_host_ctrl` component so that the PCIe host can access it.



Related Links

[OpenCL Memory Bank Divider](#)

3.2.3 DDR4 Connection to the OpenCL Kernel

The OpenCL kernel needs to connect directly to the memory controller in the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform via a FIFO-based clock crosser.

A clock crosser is necessary because the kernel interface for the compiler must be clocked in the kernel clock domain. In addition, the width, address width, and burst size characteristics of the kernel interface must match those specified in the OpenCL Memory Bank Divider connecting to the host. Appropriate pipelining also exists between the clock crosser and the memory controller.

3.3 Host Connection to OpenCL Kernels

The PCIe host needs to pass commands and arguments to the OpenCL kernels via the control register access (CRA) Avalon slave port that each OpenCL kernel generates. The OpenCL Kernel Interface component exports an Avalon master interface (`kernel_cra`) that connects to this slave port. The OpenCL Kernel Interface component also generates the kernel reset (`kernel_reset`) that resets all logic in the kernel clock domain.

The Intel Arria 10 FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform has one DDR4 memory bank. As a result, the Reference Platform instantiates the OpenCL Kernel Interface component and sets the **Number of global memory systems** parameter to 1.

3.4 Intel Arria 10 FPGA System Design

To integrate all components, close timing, and deliver a post-fit netlist that functions in the hardware, you must first address several additional FPGA design complexities.

Examples of design complexities:

- Designing a robust reset sequence
- Establishing a design floorplan
- Managing global routing
- Pipelining

Optimizations of these design complexities occur in tandem with one another in order to meet timing and board hardware optimization requirements.

3.4.1 Clocks

Several clock domains affect the Platform Designer hardware system of the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform.



These clock domains include:

- 250 MHz PCIe clock
- 300 MHz DDR4 clock
- 50 MHz general clock (`config_clk`)
- 125 MHz kernel reference clock
- Kernel clock that can have any clock frequency

With the exception of the kernel clock, the a10_ref Reference Platform is responsible for the timing closure of these clocks. However, because the board design must clock cross all interfaces in the kernel clock domain, the board design also has logic in the kernel clock domain. It is crucial that this logic is minimal and achieves an Fmax higher than typical kernel performance.

Related Links

[Guaranteed Timing Closure of the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Design](#) on page 43

3.4.2 Resets

The Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform design includes the implementation of reset drivers.

These reset drivers include:

- The `por_reset_counter` in the `INTELFPGAOCSDKROOT/board/a10_ref/hardware/a10gx/board.qsys` Platform Designer system implements the power-on-reset. The power-on-reset resets all the hardware on the device by issuing a reset for a number of cycles after the FPGA completes configuration.
- The PCIe bus issues a `perst` reset that resets all hardware on the device.
- The OpenCL Kernel Interface component issues the `kernel_reset` that resets all logic in the kernel clock domain.

The power-on-reset and the `perst` reset are combined into a single `global_reset`; therefore, there are only two reset sources in the system (that is, `global_reset` and `kernel_reset`). However, these resets are explicitly synchronized across the various clock domains, resulting in several reset interfaces.

Important Considerations Regarding Resets

- Synchronizing resets to different clock domains might cause several high fan-out resets.

Platform Designer automatically synchronizes resets to the clock domain of each connected component. In doing so, Platform Designer instantiates new reset controllers with derived names that might change when the design changes. This name change makes it difficult to make and maintain global clock assignments to some of the resets. As a result, for each clock domain, there are explicit reset controllers. For example, `global_reset` drives `reset_controller_pcie` and `reset_controller_ddr4`; however, they are synchronized to the PCIe and DDR4 clock domains, respectively.

- Resets and clocks must work together to propagate reset to all logic.

Resetting a circuit in a given clock domain involves asserting the reset over a number of clock cycles. However, your design may apply resets to the PLLs that generate the clocks for a given clock domain. This means a clock domain can hold in reset without receiving the clock edge that is necessary for synchronous resets. In addition, a clock holding in reset might prevent the propagation of a reset signal because it is synchronized to and from that clock domain. Avoid such situations by ensuring that your design satisfies the following criteria:

- Generate the `global_reset` signal off the free-running `config_clk`.
- The `ddr4_calibrate` IP resets the External Memory Interface controller separately.

- Apply resets to both reset interfaces of a clock-crossing bridge or FIFO component.

FIFO content corruption might occur if only part of a clock-crossing bridge or a dual-clock FIFO component is reset. These components typically provide a reset input for each clock domain; therefore, reset both interfaces or none at all. For example, in the `a10_ref` Reference Platform, `kernel_reset` resets all the kernel clock-crossing bridges between DDR on both the `m0_reset` and `s0_reset` interfaces.

3.4.3 Floorplan

Intel establishes the floorplan of the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform by iterating on the design and IP placements.

Dependencies

- Partial Reconfiguration
- Chip Planner
- Logic Lock Plus regions

Intel performed the following tasks iteratively to derive the floorplan of the `a10_ref` Reference Platform:

1. Compile a design without any region or floorplanning constraints.

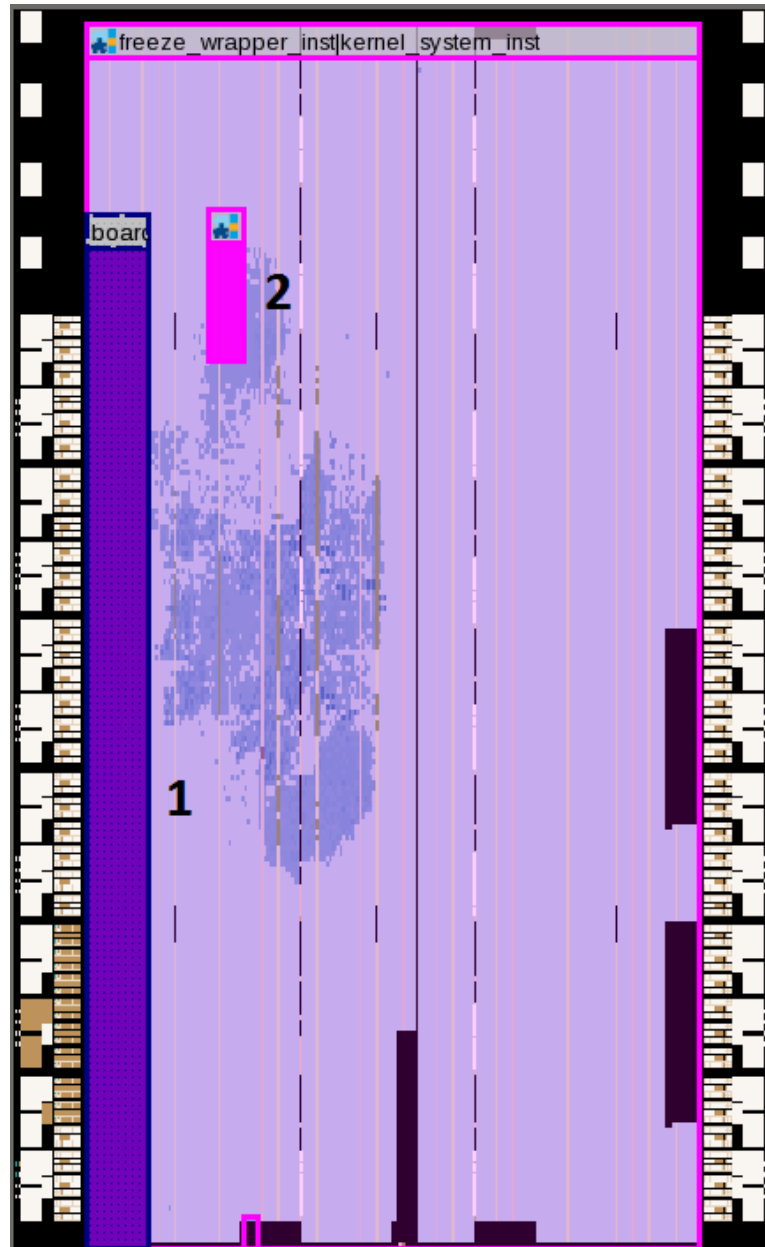


Intel recommends that you compile the design with several seeds.

2. Examine the placement of the IP cores (for example, PCIe, DDR4, Avalon interconnect pipeline stages and adapters) for candidate locations, as determined by the Intel Quartus Prime Pro Edition software's Fitter. In particular, Intel recommends examining the seeds that meet or almost meet the timing constraints.

For the a10_ref Reference Platform, the PCIe I/O is located in the lower left corner of the Intel Arria 10 FPGA. The DDR4 I/O is located on the top part of the left I/O column of the device. Because the placements of the PCIe and DDR4 IP components tend to be close to the locations of their respective I/Os, you can apply Logic Lock Plus regions to constrain the IP components to those candidate regions.

Figure 2. Floorplan of the Intel Arria 10 FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform



As shown in this Chip Planner view of the floorplan, the two Logic Lock Plus regions spread out between the PCIe I/O and the top region of the left I/O column (that is, the DDR4 I/O area).

- The largest Logic Lock Plus region (Region 1) covers the PCIe I/O and contains most of the static board interface logic.
- Region 2 contains an Avalon interconnect pipeline stage that bridges the PCIe I/O and DDR4 I/O regions. The Avalon interconnect pipeline stages also help improve the timing closure rate of the static board interface part of the design.



You must create a dedicated Logic Lock Plus region for the OpenCL kernel system. Furthermore, do not place kernel logic in the board's Logic Lock Plus regions (that is, static region). The static region and the OpenCL kernel system region (that is, PR region) do not overlap each other. As shown in [Figure 2](#) on page 40, the logic for the `boardtest.cl` OpenCL kernel, that is, the scatter area, can be placed anywhere except within the seven Logic Lock Plus regions.

Intel recommends the following strategies to maximize the available FPGA resources for the OpenCL kernel system to improve kernel routability:

- The OpenCL kernel system PR region should cover the entire device except the Logic Lock Plus regions of the board.
- The size of a Logic Lock Plus region should be just large enough to contain the board logic and to meet timing constraints of the board clocks. Oversized Logic Lock Plus regions consume FPGA resources unnecessarily.
- Avoid creating tightly-packed Logic Lock Plus regions that cause very high logic utilization and high routing congestion.

High routing congestion within the Logic Lock Plus regions might decrease the Fitter's ability to route OpenCL kernel signals through the regions.

In the case where the board clocks are not meeting timing and the critical path is between the Logic Lock Plus regions (that is, across region-to-region gap), insert back-to-back pipeline stages on paths that cross the gap. For example, if the critical path is between Region 1 and Region 2, lock down the first pipeline stage (an Avalon-MM Pipeline Bridge component) to Region 1, lock down the second pipeline stage to Region 2, and connect the two pipeline stages directly. This technique ensures that pipeline registers are on both sides of the region-to-region gap, thereby minimizing the delay of paths crossing the gap.

Refer to the *Pipelining* section for more information.

Related Links

- [Pipelining](#) on page 42
- [Creating Logic Lock Plus Regions](#)

3.4.4 Global Routing

FPGAs have dedicated clock trees that distribute high fan-out signals to various sections of the devices. In the FPGA system that the Intel Arria 10 FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform targets, global routing can distribute high fan-out signals regionally or globally.

- Regional distribution applies across any quadrant of the device.
- Global distribution applies across the entire device.

There is no restriction on the placement location of the OpenCL kernel on the device. As a result, the kernel clocks and kernel reset must distribute high fan-out signals globally.

Note: To support PR, global routing for the Kernel Reset signal that drives logic inside a PR region requires special handling. Refer to the *Partial Reconfiguration* section for more information.

Related Links

[Partial Reconfiguration](#) on page 31

3.4.5 Pipelining

You must manually insert pipelines throughout the FPGA system.

In Platform Designer, you can implement pipelines via an Avalon-MM Pipeline Bridge component by setting the following pipelining parameters within the Avalon-MM **Pipeline Bridge** dialog box:

- Select **Pipeline command signals**
- Select **Pipeline response signals**
- Select both **Pipeline command signals** and **Pipeline response signals**

Examples of Pipeline Implementation

- Signals that traverse long distances because of the floorplan's shape or the region-to-region gaps require additional pipelines.

The DMA at the bottom of the FPGA must connect to the DDR4 memory at the top of the FPGA. To achieve timing closure of the board interface logic at a DDR4 clock speed of 300 MHz, additional pipeline stages between the OpenCL Memory Bank Divider component and the DDR4 controller IP are necessary. In the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform's `board.qsys` Platform Designer system, the pipeline stages are named `pipe_stage_ddr4a_dimm_*`.

The middle pipeline stage, `pipe_stage_ddr4a_dimm`, combines both the direct kernel DDR4 accesses and the accesses through the OpenCL Memory Bank Divider. The multistage pipeline approach ensures that the kernel entry point to the pipeline is geared towards neither the OpenCL Memory Bank Divider, which is close to the PCIe IP core, nor the DDR4 IP core, which is at the very top of the FPGA.

3.4.6 DDR4 Calibration

The Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform includes special mechanisms to ensure the functional stability of the Intel Arria 10 silicon. For example, the DDR4 memory might not calibrate successfully after FPGA reconfiguration. The driver within the `a10_ref` Reference Platform can detect a failed calibration via the Uniphy Status to AVS IP, and retrigger calibration through the `ddr4_calibrate` IP block.

3.4.7 Kernel Reprogramming via Partial Reconfiguration

The Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform provides the ability to modify the OpenCL kernel and reprograms it onto the FPGA. The `a10_ref` Reference Platform places the OpenCL kernel in a PR region of the device. Doing so allows you to reprogram the kernel-specific portion of the FPGA across the PCIe bus without affecting the board interface region (that is, static region) of the device.

Dependencies

Intel Quartus Prime Pro Edition software's Partial Reconfiguration feature



To ensure that the device functions properly during and after PR reprogramming, following these rules:

- Place a freeze wrapper around the PR region. The freeze wrapper holds the critical control outputs from the PR region in a known, inactive state during the reprogramming of the logic inside the PR region.

The `INTELFPGAOCSDKROOT/board/a10_ref/hardware/a10gx/ip/freeze_wrapper.v` file implements the freeze wrapper, where `INTELFPGAOCSDKROOT` is the path to the SDK installation.

- Hold the `kernel_reset_n` signal, which is routed using Global Clock resources, in a logic 1 (deasserted) state during reprogramming of the PR region. When programming completes, assert the `kernel_reset_n` signal (that is, set it to the low state) before disabling the freeze wrapper. Asserting the `kernel_reset_n` signal resets all logic in the PR region to a known state. This assertion step is necessary because the state of all flipflops in the PR region is undefined after PR programming. The logic in the `freeze_wrapper.v` file implements the required behavior for the reset and freeze signals.

3.5 Dynamic PLL Reconfiguration

PLL that is used to generate the OpenCL kernel clocks resides in the static region of the design's floorplan. As a result, reprogramming of the kernel partition via PR does not modify the PLL settings. The Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL relies on the `post_flow_pr.tcl` Tcl script and the instantiation of the `acl_kernel_clk_a10` Platform Designer component to modify kernel PLL.

In both PR reprogramming and full-chip JTAG programming, the PLL is dynamically reconfigured by default after FPGA configuration completes. This default dynamic PLL reconfiguration step is unnecessary after full-chip programming because the correct PLL settings are already part of the `.sof` file programmed onto the FPGA over JTAG.

3.6 Guaranteed Timing Closure of the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Design

One of the key features of the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL is that it abstracts away hardware details, such as timing closure, for software developers. Both the SDK and the Custom Platform contribute to the implementation of the SDK's guaranteed timing closure feature.

The SDK provides the IP to generate the kernel clock, and a post-flow script that ensures this clock is configured with a safe operating frequency confirmed by timing analysis. The Custom Platform developer imports a post-fit netlist that has already achieved timing closure on all non-kernel clocks.

3.6.1 Supply the Kernel Clock

In the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform, the OpenCL Kernel Clock Generator component provides the kernel clock and its 2x variant.

The **REF_CLK_RATE** parameter specifies the frequency of the reference clock that connects to the kernel PLL (`p11_refclk`). For the `a10_ref` Reference Platform, the **REF_CLK_RATE** frequency is 125 MHz.

The **KERNEL_TARGET_CLOCK_RATE** parameter specifies the frequency that the Intel Quartus Prime Pro Edition software attempts to achieve during compilation. The board hardware contains some logic that the kernel clock clocks. At a minimum, the board hardware includes the clock crossing hardware. To prevent this logic from limiting the F_{max} achievable by a kernel, the **KERNEL_TARGET_CLOCK_RATE** must be higher than the frequency that a simple kernel can achieve on your device. For the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit that the a10_ref Reference Platform targets, the **KERNEL_TARGET_CLOCK_RATE** is 400 MHz.

Caution: When developing a Custom Platform, setting a high target F_{max} might cause difficulty in achieving timing closure.

When developing your Custom Platform and attempting to close timing, add an overriding SDC definition to relax the timing of the kernel. The following code example from the *INTELFPGAOCSDKROOT/board/a10_ref/hardware/a10gx/top_post.sdc* file applies a 5 ns (200 MHz) maximum delay constraint on the OpenCL kernel during base revision compilations:

```
if {![string equal $::TimeQuestInfo(nameofexecutable) "quartus_map"]}
{
    if { [get_current_revision] eq "base" }
    {
        post_message -type critical_warning "Compiling with slowed OpenCL Kernel
clock.
        This is to help achieve timing closure for board bringup."

        if {![string equal $::TimeQuestInfo(nameofexecutable) "quartus_sta"]}
        {
            set kernel_keepers [get_keepers system_inst\|kernel_system\|*]
            set_max_delay 5 -from $kernel_keepers -to $kernel_keepers
        }
    }
}
```

3.6.2 Guarantee Kernel Clock Timing

The Intel Quartus Prime database interface executable (*quartus_cdb*) runs a script after every Intel Quartus Prime Pro Edition software compilation as a post-flow script. In the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform, the OpenCL Kernel Clock Generator component works together with the post-flow script to guarantee kernel clock timing.

In the import revision compilation, the compilation script *import_compile.tcl* invokes the *INTELFPGAOCSDKROOT/board/a10_ref/hardware/a10gx/scripts/post_flow.tcl* Tcl script in the a10_ref Reference Platform after every Intel Quartus Prime Pro Edition software compilation using *quartus_cdb*.

The *post_flow.tcl* script also determines the kernel clock and configures it to a functional frequency.

Important: Execute this post flow script for every Intel Quartus Prime compilation.



3.6.3 Provide a Timing-Closed Post-Fit Netlist

Each Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL-compatible Reference and Custom Platform, such as the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform, provides a timing-closed post-fit netlist that imports placement and routing information for all nodes clocked by non-kernel clocks.

Dependencies

Intel Quartus Prime Pro Edition compiler

Intel Quartus Prime software provides several mechanisms for preserving the placement and routing of some previously compiled logic and importing this logic into a new compilation. For Intel Arria 10 devices, the previously compiled logic is imported into the compilation flow.

Figure 3. Custom Platform Development Flow and Hand-Off between Board Developer and End User

This figure illustrates the hand-off between the board vendor and the SDK end user. The board developer is responsible for porting the a10_ref Reference Platform to their own board, closing timing, and locking down the static part of the board.

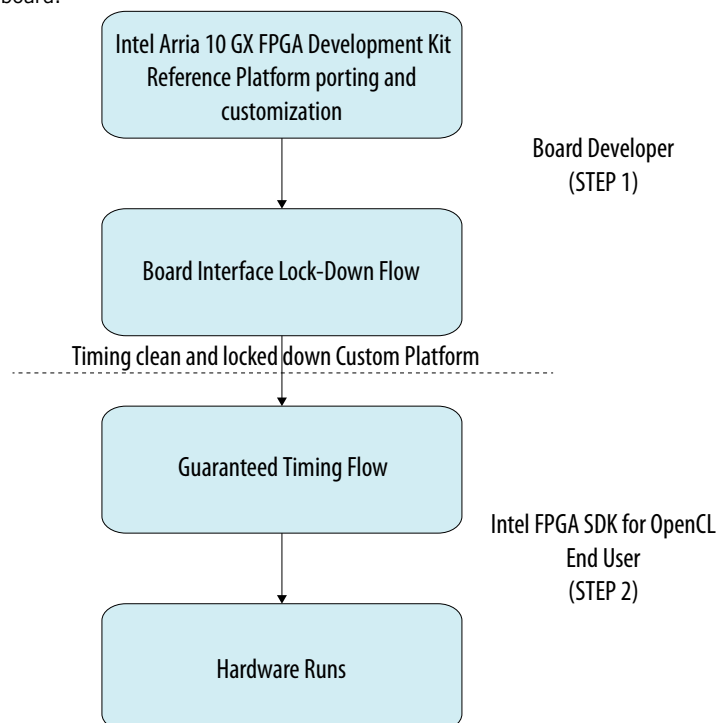
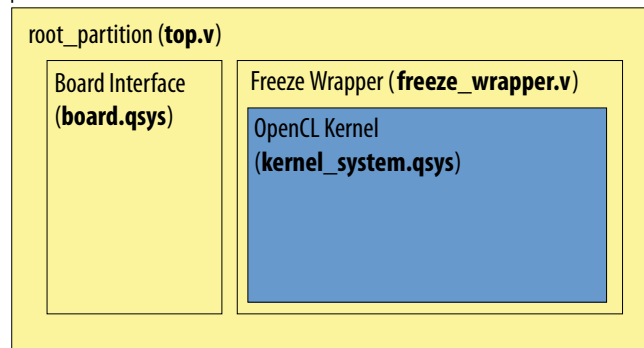


Figure 4. Structure of the Hierarchy for the OpenCL Hardware System on the Intel Arria 10 Device

This figure illustrates that the placement and routing for everything outside the `kernel_system` partition are preserved and are imported in the top revision compilations. The `kernel_system` partition itself is not preserved and is compiled from source.



The Intel Quartus Prime Pro Edition compilation flow can preserve the placement and routing of the board interface partition via the exported Intel Quartus Prime Archive File. The `base.qdb` file contains all the database files for the base compilation of `root_partition`. The `a10_ref` Reference Platform is configured with the project revisions and partitioning that are necessary to implement the compilation flow. By default, the SDK invokes the Intel Quartus Prime Pro Edition software on the top revision. This revision is configured to import and restore the `base.qdb` file, which has been precompiled and exported from a base revision compilation.

When developing your Custom Platform from the `a10_ref` Reference Platform, it is essential to maintain the `flat.qsf`, `base.qsf`, `top.qsf`, and `top_synth.qsf` Intel Quartus Prime Settings Files.

The `a10_ref` Reference Platform includes two additional partitions: the `Top` partition and the `kernel_system` partition. The `Top` partition contains all logic, and the `kernel_system` partition contains the logic in the PR region. The PR region is specified by the following assignments:

```
set_instance_assignment -name PARTIAL_RECONFIGURATION_PARTITION ON -to
freeze_wrapper_inst|kernel_system_inst
```

Related Links

[Generating the base.qar Post-Fit Netlist for Your Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform](#) on page 20

3.7 Intel Quartus Prime Compilation Flow and Scripts

The `import_compile.tcl` Tcl Script File in the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform controls the Intel Quartus Prime compilation flow.



Invoke the Intel Quartus Prime compilation flow by calling the following `quartus_sh` executables:

- The board developer runs the `quartus_sh --flow compile top -c base` command to execute the base revision compilation. This compilation closes timing, locks down the static region, and generates the `base.qdb` file.
- The user of the Intel Arria 10 FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform or a Custom Platform runs the `quartus_sh -t import_compile.tcl` command to execute the import revision compilation. This compilation generates programming files that are guaranteed to be timing closed and PR-compatible with each other.

3.7.1 Enabling the Intel Quartus Prime Forward-Compatibility Flow

The forward-compatibility flow allows you to use `base.qdb` files that are forward compatible with future versions of the Intel Quartus Prime Pro Edition software.

Enabling the forward-compatibility flow allows you to use board vendor-generated precompiled post-fit netlists, in the form of the `base.qdb` file, in a future Intel Quartus Prime Pro Edition software version. The forward-compatibility flow eliminates the need to match the Intel Quartus Prime Pro Edition software version used to develop the Custom Platform and the version used to run the Custom Platform.

Warning: Intel does not guarantee that the compilation of your board design in a future version of the Intel Quartus Prime Pro Edition software will be successful. It is possible that your `base.qdb` file implements a configuration that will become illegal in future Intel Quartus Prime Pro Edition software versions.

If you are migrating a previous version of the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform to the current version and you want to incorporate the forward-compatibility flow, perform the following tasks:

1. Add the following command in the `INTELFPGAOCSDKROOT/board/a10_ref/hardware/a10gx/scripts/post_flow_pr.tcl` script to generate a forward-compatible `base.qdb` file:

```
quartus_cdb top -c base --export_design --snapshot final --  
file base.qdb
```

For information on the function of the `post_flow_pr.tcl` script, refer to *Quartus Prime Compilation Flow for Board Developers*.

2. In the `INTELFPGAOCSDKROOT/board/a10_ref/hardware/a10gx/import_compile.tcl` script, add the `quartus_fit` and then the `quartus_asm` commands after importing the `base.qdb` file.

Running these commands verifies that the imported `base.qdb` file is usable in the Intel Quartus Prime Pro Edition software version that Custom Platform users work with.

For more information on the function of the `import_compile.tcl` script, refer to the *Intel Quartus Prime Compilation Flow for Custom Platform Users*.

Related Links

- [Intel Quartus Prime Compilation Flow for Board Developers](#) on page 48
- [Intel Quartus Prime Compilation Flow for Custom Platform Users](#) on page 49

3.7.2 Intel Quartus Prime Compilation Flow for Board Developers

The `quartus_sh --flow compile top -c base` command executes the Intel Quartus Prime compilation flow that generates a `base.sof` full-chip JTAG programming file within the `.aocx` file.

The script performs the necessary tasks to ensure that the import revision compilations using the timing-closed and locked-down static region are PR-compatible with each other.

Running the `quartus_sh --flow compile top -c base` command executes the following tasks:

- Runs `quartus_syn` to execute the Analysis and Synthesis stage of the Intel Quartus Prime compilation flow.
- Runs `quartus_fit` to execute the Place and Route stage of the Intel Quartus Prime compilation flow.
- Runs `quartus_sta` to execute the Static Timing Analysis stage of the Intel Quartus Prime compilation flow.
- Runs the `INTELFPGAOCCLSDKROOT/board/a10_ref/hardware/a10gx/scripts/post_flow_pr.tcl` file.

The `post_flow_pr.tcl` script determines the maximum frequency at which the OpenCL kernel can run and generates the corresponding PLL settings. The script then reruns static timing analysis. The script also exports the compilation database of the base revision compilation results as a forward-compatible Partition Database File (`.qdb`). Refer to the *QDB File Generation* section for more information.

- Runs `quartus_asm` to generate the `.sof` file with updated embedded PLL settings. Updating the `.sof` file allows it to run safely on the board with the maximum kernel frequency.
- Generates the `fpga.bin` file, which contains the full-chip programming file. The full-chip programming file (`base.sof`) is in the `.acl.sof` section of the `fpga.bin` file.

The `.aocx` file that the base revision compilation flow generates only contains the `.sof` full-chip programming file. It does not contain a programming file that can be used with PR because this `.aocx` file is only intended to be written to Flash memory as the default FPGA image. The Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL `program` utility automatically uses JTAG programming when it programs with a `.aocx` file from the base revision compilation. Only the import revision compilation flow, executed by the SDK user, generates a `.aocx` file that can be used with PR.

Related Links

- [Hash Checking](#) on page 50
- [Platform Designer System Generation](#) on page 50
- [QDB File Generation](#) on page 50



3.7.3 Intel Quartus Prime Compilation Flow for Custom Platform Users

The `import_compile.tcl` script executes the Intel Quartus Prime compilation flow that generates a `top.sof` full-chip JTAG programming file and a `top.rbf` PR bitstream file within the `.aocx` file.

The `import_compile.tcl` script executes the following tasks:

- Runs the `INTELFPGAOCCLSDKROOT/board/a10_ref/hardware/a10gx/scripts/pre_flow_pr.tcl` file. The `pre_flow_pr.tcl` script generates the `board.qsys` and the `kernel_system.qsys` Platform Designer System Files. Refer to the *Platform Designer System Generation* section for more information.
- Imports the base revision compilation results as a `.qdb` file. Refer to the *QDB File Generation* section for more information.
- Runs `quartus_fit` and `quartus_asm` to verify that the `.qdb` file is forward compatible.
- Runs `quartus_syn` to execute the Analysis and Synthesis stage of the Intel Quartus Prime compilation flow for the kernel partition only.
- Runs `quartus_fit` to execute the Place and Route stage of the Intel Quartus Prime compilation flow for the entire design.
- Runs `quartus_sta` to execute the Static Timing Analysis stage of the Intel Quartus Prime compilation flow.
- Runs the `INTELFPGAOCCLSDKROOT/board/a10_ref/hardware/a10gx/scripts/post_flow_pr.tcl` file. The `post_flow_pr.tcl` script determines the maximum frequency at which the OpenCL kernel can run and generates the corresponding PLL settings. The script then reruns the static timing analysis.
- Runs `quartus_asm` to generate the full-chip programming files for the base revision.
- Runs `quartus_asm` to generate the full-chip programming files for the import revision.
- Generates the `fpga.bin` file, which contains the following files and IDs:
 - The `top.sof` full-chip programming file.
 - The `top.rbf` PR programming file.
 - The `pr_base.id` unique ID for PR base revision.

Before `quartus_asm` generates the `.sof` file in an import revision compilation, the static region of the import revision compilation is compared to the static region of the base revision compilation to check for errors. To prevent a mismatch error in the I/O configuration shift register (IOCSR) bits, the PLL settings in the `base.sof` and `top.sof` files must be identical. When designing the Intel Arria 10 FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform, Intel ensured in the `import_compile.tcl` Tcl script that the PLL settings in both the `base.sof` file and the `top.sof` file are identical, resulting in an additional `quartus_asm` execution step to regenerate the `base.sof` file.

Related Links

- [Platform Designer System Generation](#) on page 50
- [QDB File Generation](#) on page 50



3.7.4 Platform Designer System Generation

The Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Offline Compiler generates the `board.qsys` and `kernel_system.qsys` Platform Designer systems in the `INTELFPGAOCCLSDKROOT/board/<custom_platform>/hardware/<board_name>` directory after successfully completing a first-stage compilation. The `INTELFPGAOCCLSDKROOT` environment variable points to the location of the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL installation directory.

The `board.qsys` Platform Designer system represents the bulk of the static region. The `kernel_system.qsys` Platform Designer system is the top-level of the PR region. The `pre_flow_pr.tcl` script generates both Platform Designer systems on the fly before the beginning of the Intel Quartus Prime compilation flow in both the base and import revision compilations.

3.7.5 QDB File Generation

The `base.qdb` Intel Quartus Prime Compilation Database File contains all the necessary compilation database information for importing a timing-closed and placed-and-routed netlist of the static region.

The `INTELFPGAOCCLSDKROOT/board/a10_ref/hardware/a10gx/scripts/post_flow_pr.tcl` script creates the `base.qdb` file. The `.tcl` file invokes the `export_design` command to export the entire base revision compilation database to the `base.qar` file that also contains the `base.sdc` and `pr_baseid` files. For your Custom Platform, you do not need to add the `base.sdc` and `pr_base.id` files to the board directory (that is, `INTELFPGAOCCLSDKROOT/board/<custom_platform>/hardware/<board_name>`) separately.

3.7.6 Hash Checking

Intel assigns a unique ID to each base revision compilation to ensure a safe way of only partially reconfiguring a PR region on top of a design that has a matching static region.

The unique ID is generated at the beginning of a base revision compilation using the MD5 message-digest algorithm. The MD5 algorithm generates a hash of a text file that contains the current working directory and a high-resolution timer value. The MD5 algorithm then truncates the hash to a 32-bit value. The `INTELFPGAOCCLSDKROOT/board/a10_ref/hardware/a10gx/scripts/pre_flow_pr.tcl` script stores this 32-bit value in the `pr_base_id` register IP within the `board.qsys` Platform Designer system by overwriting the default value of `0xdeadbeef`.

The unique ID for the base revision compilation is added to the `pr_base.id` file. The ID becomes part of the import revision compilation directory after the `pr_base.id` file is copied from the `INTELFPGAOCCLSDKROOT/board/a10_ref/hardware/a10gx` directory. During the `fpga.bin` generation step of the import revision compilation, the unique ID is added as the `.acl.hash` section of the `fpga.bin` file.

When the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL user invokes the `aocl` program utility to reconfigure the FPGA, the software first checks that the `pr_base_id` value in the currently programmed static region matches the hash value in the `fpga.bin` section



within the `.aocx` file. If the two 32-bit values match, it is safe to execute partial reconfiguration. If the 32-bit values do not match, the `aocl program` utility performs full-chip JTAG programming via Intel FPGA Download Cable.

3.8 Addition of Timing Constraints

A Custom Platform must apply the correct timing constraints to the Intel Quartus Prime project. In the Intel Arria 10 FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform, the `top.sdc` file contains all timing constraints applicable before IP instantiation in Platform Designer. The `top_post.sdc` file contains timing constraints applicable after Platform Designer.

The order of the application of time constraints is based on the order of appearance of the `top.sdc` and `top_post.sdc` in the `top.qsf` file.

One noteworthy constraint in the `a10_ref` Reference Platform is the multicycle constraint for the kernel reset in the `top_post.sdc` file. Using global routing saves routing resources and provides more balanced skew. However, the delay across the global route might cause recovery timing issues that limit kernel clock speed. Therefore, it is necessary to include a multicycle path on the global reset signal.

Related Links

- [Intel Quartus Prime Timing Analyzer Cookbook](#)
- [Timing Analysis Overview](#)
- [Passing Timing Analyzer SDC Timing Constraints to the Intel Quartus Prime Software](#)

3.9 Connection of the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform to the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL

A Custom Platform must include a `board_env.xml` file to describe its general contents to the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Offline Compiler. For each hardware design, your Custom Platform also requires a `board_spec.xml` file for each hardware design that describes the hardware.

The following sections describe the implementation of these files for the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform.

3.9.1 Describe the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform to the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL

The `INTELFPGAOCCLSDKROOT/board/a10_ref/board_env.xml` file describes the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform to the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL. Details of each field in the `board_env.xml` file are available in the *Creating the board_env.xml File* section of the *Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Custom Platform Toolkit User Guide*.

In the `a10_ref` Reference Platform, Intel uses the `bin` folder for Windows dynamic link libraries (DLLs), the `lib` directory for delivering libraries, and the `libexec` directory for delivering the SDK utility executables. This directory structure allows the `PATH` environment variable to point to the location of the DLLs (that is, `bin`) in isolation of the SDK utility executables.



Related Links

[Creating the board_env.xml File](#)

3.9.2 Describe the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Hardware to the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL

The Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform includes an *INTELFPGAOCCLSDKROOT/board/a10_ref/hardware/a10gx/board_spec.xml* file that describes the hardware to the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL.

Device

The device section contains the name of the device model file available in the *INTELFPGAOCCLSDKROOT/share/models/dm* directory of the SDK and in the *board_spec.xml* file. The *used_resources* element accounts for all logic outside of the kernel partition. The value of *used_resources* for *alms* equals the difference between the total number of adaptive logic modules (ALMs) used in final placement and the total number of ALMs available to the kernel partition. You can derive this value from the Partition Statistic section of the Fitter report after a compilation. Consider the following ALM categories within an example Fitter report:

```
+-----+
-+
; Fitter Partition
Statistics                                     ;
+-----+
+-----+
; Statistic          ; 1          ; freeze_wrapper_inst|
kernel_system_inst  ;
+-----+
+-----+
; ALMs needed [=A-B+C] ; 0 / 427200 (0%) ; 0 / 385220
(0%)                ;
```

The value of *used_resources* equals the total number of ALMs in 1 minus the total number of ALMs in *freeze_wrapper_inst|kernel_system_inst*. In the example above, $\text{used_resources} = 427200 - 385220 = 41980$ ALMs.

You can derive *used_resources* for *rams* and *dsps* in the same way using M20Ks and DSP blocks, respectively. The *used_resources* value for *ffs* is four times the *used_resources* value for *alms* because there are two primary and two secondary logic registers per ALM.

Global Memory

In the *board_spec.xml* file, there is one *global_mem* section for DDR memory. Assign the string *DDR* to the *name* attribute of the *global_mem* element. The **board** instance in Platform Designer provides all of these interfaces. Therefore, the string *board* is specified in the *name* attribute of all the *interface* elements within *global_mem*.



- DDR

Because DDR memory serves as the default memory for the board that the a10_ref Reference Platform targets, its address attribute begins at zero. Its config_addr is 0x018 to match the memory conduit used to connect to the corresponding OpenCL Memory Bank Divider for DDR.

Attention: The width and burst sizes must match the parameters in the OpenCL Memory Bank Divider for DDR (memory_bank_divider).

Interfaces

The interfaces section describes kernel clocks, reset, CRA, and snoop interfaces. The OpenCL Memory Bank Divider for the default memory (in this case, memory_bank_divider) exports the snoop interface described in the interfaces section. The width of the snoop interface should match the width of the corresponding streaming interface.

3.10 Intel Arria 10 FPGA Programming Flow

There are three ways to program the Intel Arria 10 FPGA for the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform: Flash, quartus_pgm, and partial reconfiguration (PR).

In the order from the longest to the shortest configuration time, the three FPGA programming methods are as follows:

- To replace both the FPGA periphery and the core while maintaining the programmed state after power cycling, use Flash programming.
- To replace both the FPGA periphery and the core, use the Intel Quartus Prime Programmer command-line executable (quartus_pgm) to program the device via cables such as the Intel FPGA Download Cable (formerly USB-Blaster).
- To replace only the kernel portion of the device, use PR.

The default FPGA programming flow is to use PR over PCIe. The Partial Reconfiguration Controller IP instantiates PR over PCIe using the following IP parameter settings:

Table 12. Parameter Settings for the Partial Reconfiguration Controller IP

Parameter	Setting
Settings	
Use as PR Internal Host	Enabled
Enable Avalon-MM slave interface	Enabled
Input data width	32 bits
Clock-to-Data ratio	1
Divide error detection frequency by	1
Advanced Settings	
Auto-instantiate PR block	Enabled
Auto-instantiate CRC block	Enabled



The 50 MHz `config_clk` clocks the Partial Reconfiguration Controller IP. The Avalon-MM interface connects to the host control bus on PCIe BAR4. Using PCIe Gen3x8 under these configuration settings, the duration of partial reconfiguration of the PR region is about 1.6 seconds.

You cannot use PR if there is a mismatch between the hash within the `.aocx` file and the hash in the static region of the current image on the FPGA. In this case, program the FPGA via Intel FPGA Download Cable by invoking `quartus_pgm` instead. If the `.aocx` file is not PR compatible with the current image on the FPGA, the Intel Quartus Prime Programmer displays the following message:

```
aocl program acl0 boardtest.aocx
aocl program: Running program from <path_to_a10_ref>/linux64/libexec
Reprogramming device with handle 1
MMD INFO : [acla10_ref0] PR base and import compile IDs do not match
MMD INFO : [acla10_ref0] PR base ID currently configured is 0x7d056bf2
MMD INFO : [acla10_ref0] PR import compile expects ID to be 0x30242eb9
mmd program_device: Board reprogram failed
```

Only use `quartus_pgm` via Intel FPGA Download Cable if you use a cable to connect the board and the host computer. Cabling is a point of potential failure, and it does not scale well to large deployments. If possible, reserve the `quartus_pgm` programming approach for development and testing purposes only.

If PR fails, an attempt is automatically made to detect the Intel FPGA Download Cable and do a full JTAG programming.

3.10.1 Define the Contents of the `fpga.bin` File for the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform

You may arbitrarily define the contents of the `fpga.bin` file in a Custom Platform because it passes from the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL to the Custom Platform as a black box. Intel defines the contents of the `fpga.bin` file in the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform as an Executable and Linkable Format (ELF) binary the organizes the various fields into sections.

Table 13. Contents of the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Reference Platform's `fpga.bin` File

Field	Description
<code>.acl.sof</code>	The full programming bitstream for the compiled design. This section appears in the <code>fpga.bin</code> files generated from both the base revision and the import revision compilations.
<code>.acl.core.rbf</code>	The PR programming bitstream for the kernel region. This section only appears in the <code>fpga.bin</code> file generated from import revision compilation.
<code>.acl.hash</code>	The unique ID for the base revision compilation. This section only appears in the <code>fpga.bin</code> file generated from import revision compilation.

3.11 Host-to-Device MMD Software Implementation

The Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform's MMD layer is a thin software layer that is essential for communication between the host and the board. A full implementation of the MMD library is necessary for every Custom Platform for the proper functioning of the OpenCL host applications and board utilities. Details of the



API functions, their arguments, and return values for MMD layer are specified in the `<your_custom_platform>/source/include/aocl_mmd.h` file, where `<your_custom_platform>` points to the top-level directory of your Custom Platform.

The source codes of an MMD library that demonstrates good performance are available in the `INTELFPGAOCCLSDKROOT/board/a10_ref/source/host/mmd` directory. Refer to the *Host-to-Device MMD Software Implementation* section in the *Stratix V Network Reference Platform Porting Guide* for more information.

For more information on the MMD API functions, refer to the *MMD API Descriptions* section of the *Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Custom Platform Toolkit User Guide*.

Related Links

- [Host-to-Device MMD Software Implementation](#)
- [MMD API Descriptions](#)

3.12 Implementation of Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Utilities

The Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform includes a set of Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL utilities for managing the FPGA board.

For more information on the implementation requirements of the AOCL utilities, refer to the *Providing Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Utilities Support* section of the *Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Custom Platform Toolkit User Guide*.

Related Links

[Providing Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Utilities Support](#)

3.12.1 aocl install

The `install <path_to_customplatform>` utility in the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform installs the kernel driver on the host computer. Users of the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL only need to install the driver once, after which the driver should be automatically loaded each time the machine reboots.

Attention: You must have write privileges to the SDK directory to install the kernel directory.

Windows

The `install.bat` script is located in the `<your_custom_platform>\windows64\libexec` directory, where `<your_custom_platform>` points to the top-level directory of your Custom Platform. This `install.bat` script triggers the `install` executable from Jungo Connectivity Ltd. to install the WinDriver on the host machine.

Linux

The `install` script is located in the `<your_custom_platform>/linux64/libexec` directory. This `install` script first compiles the kernel module in a temporary location and then performs the necessary setup to enable automatic driver loading after reboot.



3.12.2 aocl uninstall

The `uninstall <path_to_customplatform>` utility in the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform removes the current host computer drivers used for communicating with the board.

Windows

The `uninstall.bat` script is located in the `<your_custom_platform>\windows64\libexec` directory, where `<your_custom_platform>` points to the top-level directory of your Custom Platform. This `uninstall.bat` script triggers the `uninstall` executable from Jungo Connectivity Ltd. to uninstall the WinDriver on the host machine.

Linux

The `uninstall` script is located in the `<your_custom_platform>/linux64/libexec` directory. This `uninstall` script removes the driver module from the kernel.

3.12.3 aocl program

The `program` utility in the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform programs the board with the specified `.aocx` file. Calling the `aocl_mmd_reprogram()` MMD API function implements the `program` utility.

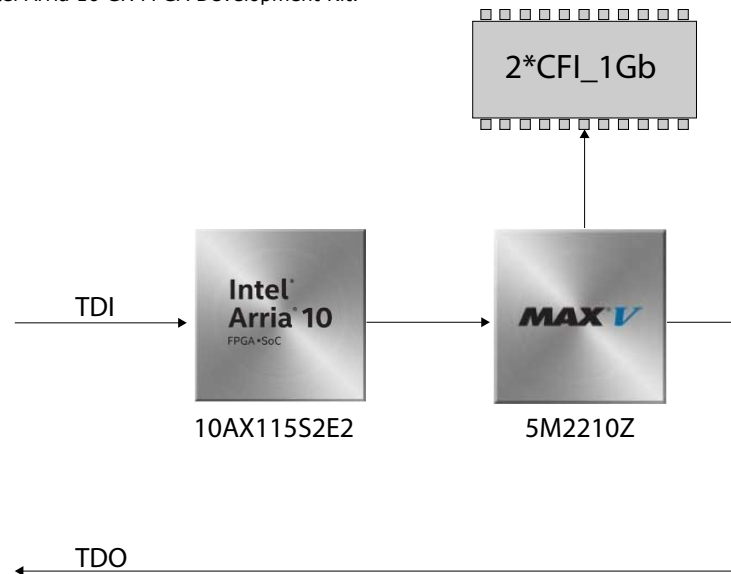
3.12.4 aocl flash

The `flash` utility in the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform configures the power-on image for the FPGA using the specified `.aocx` file. Calling into the MMD library implements the `flash` utility.



Figure 5. JTAG Chain with Intel Arria 10 FPGA, MAX V CPLD, and CFI Flash Memory

This figure illustrates the JTAG chain and the location of the common flash interface (CFI) relative to the MAX V CPLD on the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit.



3.12.5 aocl diagnose

The `diagnose` utility in the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform reports device information and identifies issues. The `diagnose` utility first verifies the installation of the kernel driver. Depending on whether an additional argument is specified in the command, the utility then performs different tasks.

Without an argument, the utility returns the overall information of all the devices installed in a host machine. If a specific device name is provided as an argument (that is, `aocl diagnose <device_name>`), the `diagnose` utility runs a memory transfer test and then reports the host-device transfer performance.

You can run the `diagnose` utility for multiple devices (that is, `aocl diagnose <device_name1> <device_name2> <device_name3>`). If you want to run the `diagnose` utility for all devices, use the `all` option (that is `aocl diagnose all`).

3.12.5.1 Possible Errors After Running the `diagnose` Utility

This section provides debugging steps to some of the errors you might encounter after implementing the `diagnose` utility.

Memory Module Not Plugged-in or a Loose Connection on the Board

If the memory module is not plugged in or if there is a loose connection on the board, you might see errors similar to the following example:

```
aocl diagnose: Running diagnose from
aocl diagnose: failed 32 times. First error below:
Vendor: Intel Corporation
MMD INFO: [acla10_ref0] uniphy(s) did not calibrate. Expected 0 but read 2
MMD INFO: If there are more failures than Uniphy controllers connected,
MMD INFO: ensure the uniphy_status core is correctly parameterized.
```



Solution

Confirm that you have connected the memory board, power cable, and USB cable correctly as shown in [Configuring and installing the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit board](#). If you have confirmed your connections and continue to get this error, the memory board might not be seated correctly in the HiLo connector.

Error While Loading Shared Libraries

When you execute `diagnose all` utility, you might see errors as shown in the following example:

```
$ aocl diagnose all
hld/board/a10_ref/linux64/libexec/diagnose: error while loading shared
libraries:
libaltera_a10_ref_mmd.so: cannot open shared object file: No such file or
directory
```

Solution

Ensure that you have set the `PATH` environment variable correctly.

```
export PATH=$PATH:$INTELFPGAOCCLSDKROOT/bin:$QUARTUS_DIR/bin
```

3.12.6 aocl list-devices

The `list-devices` utility lists all the devices installed in a host machine, grouped by board packages.

The `list-devices` utility is similar to the `diagnose` utility. It first verifies the installation of the kernel driver and then lists all the devices.

3.13 Intel Arria 10 FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Scripts

The Intel Arria 10 FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform includes a number of Tcl scripts in its `hardware/<board_name>/scripts` directory.

Table 14. Tcl Scripts within the INTELFPGAOCCLSDKROOT/board/a10_ref/hardware/a10gx/scripts Directory

Script	Description
<code>base_write_sdc.tcl</code>	The <code>post_flow_pr.tcl</code> script runs this script during the base revision compilation. The <code>base_write_sdc.tcl</code> script then exports all the SDC constraints to the <code>base.sdc</code> file, which is part of the board directory.
<code>create_fpga_bin_pr.tcl</code>	Creates the ELF binary file, <code>fpga.bin</code> , from the <code>.sof</code> file, the <code>.rbf</code> file, and the <code>pr_base.id</code> file.
<code>post_flow_pr.tcl</code>	This script runs after every Intel Quartus Prime Pro Edition software compilation. It facilitates the guaranteed timing flow by setting the kernel clock PLL, generating a small report in the <code>acl_quartus_report.txt</code> file, and rerunning STA with the modified kernel clock settings.
<code>pre_flow_pr.tcl</code>	This script generates the RTL of the top-level board.qsys Platform Designer system for the static region and the <code>kernel_system.qsys</code> Platform Designer system for the kernel PR region.
continued...	



Script	Description
qar_ip_files.tcl	Tcl script that packages up all IP files in the base revision compile to create base.qar.
create_acds_ver_hex.tcl	Tcl script that creates quartus_version.id and acds_version_rom.mif files. PR can be done only if the programmed AOCX was compiled from the same Quartus version as AOCX being programmed. quartus_version.id is stored in AOCX so that at runtime, BSP can determine Quartus version of AOCX being programmed. acds_version_rom.mif is used during compilation, to update the contents of on-chip memory in the SOF file.
regenerate_cache.tcl	Tcl script that regenerates the BAK cache file in your temporary directory.

3.14 Considerations in Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Implementation

The implementation of the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform includes some workarounds that address certain Intel Quartus Prime Pro Edition software known issues.

- The quartus_syn executable reads the SDC files. However, it does not support the Tcl command `get_current_revision`. Therefore, in the `top_post.sdc` file, a check is in place to determine whether quartus_syn has read the file before checking the current version.

In addition to these workarounds, take into account the following considerations:

- Intel Quartus Prime compilation is only ever performed after the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Offline Compiler embeds an OpenCL kernel inside the system.
- Perform Intel Quartus Prime compilation after you install the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL and set the `INTELFPGAOCCLSDKROOT` environment variable to point to the SDK installation.
- The name of the directory where the Intel Quartus Prime project resides must match the `name` field in the `board_spec.xml` file within the Custom Platform. The name must be case sensitive.
- The `PATH` or `LD_LIBRARY_PATH` environment variable must point to the MMD library in the Custom Platform.



4 Document Revision History

Table 15. Document Revision History of the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Porting Guide

Date	Version	Changes
November 2017	2017.11.03	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rebranded the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environment variable <i>ALTERAOCLSDKROOT</i> to <i>INTELFPGAOCSDKROOT</i>. Arria 10 to Intel Arria 10. USB download cable to Intel FPGA download cable. USB Blaster to Intel FPGA Download Cable. SignalTap II Logic Analyzer to Signal Tap logic analyzer. CL_CONTEXT_COMPILER_MODE_ALTERA to CL_CONTEXT_COMPILER_MODE_INTELFPGA Qsys Pro as Platform Designer Quartus Prime Pro Edition as Intel Quartus Prime Pro Edition Quartus Prime as Intel Quartus Prime LogicLock as Logic Lock In 6 on page 12, added an example code. In Connecting the Memory in the Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform on page 17, added cross references to University program page and Signal Tap II logic analyzer tutorial. In Partial Reconfiguration on page 31, added a related link to Partial Reconfiguration IP Core. In Floorplan on page 38, added a related link to Creating Logic Lock Plus Regions. In Features of the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform on page 5, added OpenCL Host Pipe feature. In Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Board Variants on page 6, added the a10gx_hostch variant. In Instantiation of Intel Arria 10 PCIe Hard IP with Direct Memory Access on page 22, updated Instantiate Internal Descriptor Controller Enabled parameter for the disabled setting for a10gx_hostch board variant. In Instantiation of the version_id Component on page 26, updated the version ID for the a10_ref Reference Platform. In Definitions of Intel Arria 10 FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Hardware Constraints in Software Headers Files on page 26, added hw_host_channel.h header file that defines the host channel IP control register address and names of the channels.

continued...

Intel Corporation. All rights reserved. Intel, the Intel logo, Altera, Arria, Cyclone, Enpirion, MAX, Nios, Quartus and Stratix words and logos are trademarks of Intel Corporation or its subsidiaries in the U.S. and/or other countries. Intel warrants performance of its FPGA and semiconductor products to current specifications in accordance with Intel's standard warranty, but reserves the right to make changes to any products and services at any time without notice. Intel assumes no responsibility or liability arising out of the application or use of any information, product, or service described herein except as expressly agreed to in writing by Intel. Intel customers are advised to obtain the latest version of device specifications before relying on any published information and before placing orders for products or services.

*Other names and brands may be claimed as the property of others.

**ISO
9001:2008
Registered**



Date	Version	Changes
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renamed the references of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ac1_ddr4_a10_core.qsys to ddr4.qsys ac1_ddr4_a10.qsys to mem.qsys ip/ac1_ddr4_a10/ to ip/mem/ ip/ac1_ddr4_a10_core/ to ip/ddr4/ In Intel Quartus Prime Compilation Flow for Custom Platform Users on page 49, removed the bullet point about running quartus_cpf to generate the PR programming files since it is done automatically in the flow now. In PCIe Kernel Driver for the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform on page 27, updated the description of ac1pci dma.c file to include host channel. In Contents of the Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform on page 6: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Added ip/host_channel and scripts/create_acds_ver_hex.tcl to the table. Removed scripts/bak_flow.tcl and scripts/helpers.tcl since both scripts are now moved to Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL. Corrected board.Qsys Pro, ac1_ddr4_a10.Qsys Pro and ac1_ddr4_a10_core.Qsys Pro as board.qsys, ac1_ddr4_a10.qsys and ac1_ddr4_a10_core.qsys. Implemented single dash and -option=<value> conventions in the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intel Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Board Variants on page 6 Integrating Your Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform with the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL on page 13 Guaranteeing Timing Closure in the Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform on page 19 Initializing Your Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform on page 11 Updated the topic aocl diagnose on page 57 to include options to diagnose multiple devices and all devices. Added the following new topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changes in Intel Arria 10 Development Kit Reference Platform from 17.0 to 17.1 on page 9 aocl list-devices on page 58 Possible Errors After Running the diagnose Utility on page 57 Host Channel on page 33 Host Channel IP Instantiation on page 33 Host Channel Top Connection to PCIe DMA on page 33 Host Channel Top Connection to OpenCL Kernel on page 34 Updated the topics aocl install on page 55 and aocl uninstall on page 56 to include the path to custom platform during installation and uninstallation. Added a Attention note in the aocl install on page 55 about the need for write privileges for the SDK directory. In Initializing Your Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform on page 11 and Establishing Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform Host Communication on page 15, removed reference to the environment variable AOCL_BOARD_PACKAGE_ROOT since it is deprecated and updated instances of aocl install updated as aocl install <path_to_customplatform>. In Integrating Your Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform with the Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL on page 13, added a new step 2 about setting the environment variable ACL_DEFAULT_FLOW to flat.

continued...



Date	Version	Changes
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">In Intel Arria 10 FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Scripts on page 58, added the following three tcl scripts:<ul style="list-style-type: none">— qar_ip_files.tcl— create_acds_ver_hex.tcl— regenerate_cache.tclIn Addition of Timing Constraints on page 51, added Related links to SDC and Time Quest topics in Quartus handbook and cookbook.In Generating the base.qar Post-Fit Netlist for Your Intel Arria 10 Custom Platform on page 20, updated step 2 about adding the -bsp-flow=base argument to the aoc command to generate a base.qar file.
May 2017	2017.05.08	Replaced references to ACL_QSH_COMPILE_CMD with ACL_DEFAULT_FLOW.
October 2016	2016.10.31	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Rebranded Altera SDK for OpenCL to Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL.Rebranded Altera Offline Compiler to Intel FPGA SDK for OpenCL Offline Compiler.Changed the short-form name of the Reference Platform from altera_a10pciedk to a10_ref, to match the directory name in the SDK.Added notice that you must contact your field applications engineer or regional support center representative to configure the Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit before using it with the SDK.Removed the a10gx_es2 and the a10gx_es3 board variants from the Reference Platform. The a10_ref Reference Platform only supports the a10gx board variant.In <i>Contents of the Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform</i>:<ul style="list-style-type: none">— For Windows, changed the source_windows64 directory to source.— Updated the list of files available in the a10gx subdirectory.— Removed information for the max5_133.pof file.Removed statement regarding PR being an early-access feature.Updated the location of the acl_ddr4_a10.qsys and acl_ddr4_a10_core.qsys files from the a10gx/ip directory to the top-level a10gx directory. The board.qsys, acl_ddr4_a10.qsys, and acl_ddr4_a10_core.qsys systems were migrated to Qsys Pro.In the ip subdirectory, added .ip files that contain parameters of instantiated external OpenCL IP. Refer to <i>Contents of the Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform</i> for more information.Added an opencl_bsp_ip.qsf file so that qsys_archive in Qsys Pro can insert .qsys and .ip files into this revision. All Verilog and Qsys source files from top.sdc and top_post.sdc are now in opencl_bsp_ip.qsf.In <i>Modifying the Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Design</i>, added a step to update the device.tcl file with the correct settings.

continued...



Date	Version	Changes
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In <i>Changing the Device Part Number</i>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noted that the QSF setting for the device part number is now in <code>device.tcl</code> instead of <code>flat.qsf</code>. The following device-specific assignments are now in <code>device.tcl</code>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FAMILY, MIN_CORE_JUNCTION_TEMP, MAX_CORE_JUNCTION_TEMP, DEVICE_FILTER_PACKAGE, DEVICE_FILTER_PIN_COUNT, ERROR_CHECK_FREQUENCY_DIVISOR, STRATIX_DEVICE_IO_STANDARD, RESERVE_ALL_UNUSED_PINS_WEAK_PULLUP, RESERVE_DATA0_AFTER_CONFIGURATION Noted that the device part number must be updated in <code>acl_ddr4_a10.qsys</code> and <code>acl_ddr4_a10_core.qsys</code>, in addition to <code>board.qsys</code>. In <i>Guaranteeing Timing Closure in the Arria 10 Custom Platform and Generating the base.qdb Post-Fit Netlist for Your Arria 10 Custom Platform</i>, noted that <code>base.sdc</code> must be copied along with <code>base.qdb</code> and <code>pr_base_id.txt</code> into the Custom Platform. In <i>Floorplan</i>, updated the floorplan of the <code>a10_ref</code> Reference Platform. In <i>Provide a Timing-Closed Post-Fit Netlist</i>, removed the QSF assignments that enabled the Spectra-Q engine compilation flow for base and top revision compilations. The <code>base.qsf</code> file no longer needs to be updated in order to enable the flow. In <i>Enabling the Quartus Prime Spectra-Q Forward Compatibility Flow</i>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modified the Quartus Prime software command to be added to the <code>post_flow_pr.tcl</code> script to generate the forward-compatible <code>base.qdb</code> file. Removed the step of modifying the <code>quartus.ini</code> file because it is no longer needed. In <i>Quartus Prime Compilation Flow for Board Developers</i>, modified the list of tasks that are performed when the <code>quartus_sh --flow compile top -c base</code> command was invoked because the process would no longer run the <code>pre_flow_pr.tcl</code> script. In the <code>top.qpf</code> file, reorganized the order of the revisions to <code>opencl_bsp_ip</code>, <code>flat</code>, <code>base</code>, <code>top_synth</code>, and then <code>top</code>. In addition, removed old references to Intel Quartus Prime software version 15.1
continued...		



Date	Version	Changes
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modified <code>top_post.sdc</code> file to reflect Qsys Pro RTL hierarchy changes To facilitate Partial Reconfiguration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Added <code>set_global_assignment -name REVISION_TYPE PR_BASE</code> to the <code>base.qsf</code> file Added <code>set_global_assignment -name REVISION_TYPE PR_BASE</code> to the <code>top_synth.qsf</code> file Added <code>set_global_assignment -name REVISION_TYPE PR_IMPL</code> to the <code>top.qsf</code> file In the <code>quartus.ini</code> file, removed the following lines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <code>qhd_enable_pr_bak_export=on</code> <code>pr_allow_lims_on_globals_user_guarantee_frozen_high=on</code> <code>apl_use_advanced_pcl=off</code> <code>qhd_force_bak_export=on</code> and <code>hd_force_bak_import=on</code> In the <code>flat.qsf</code> file: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removed the wildcarded <code>LREGION</code> assignments for <code>pipe_stage_dma*</code> and <code>pipe_stage_pcie_*</code> and the commented <code>GLOBAL_SIGNAL</code> assignments. Added the line <code>PR_ALLOW_GLOBAL_LIMS ON -to freeze_wrapper_inst kernel_system_clock_reset_reset_reset_n</code> Changed the <code>GLOBAL_SIGNAL</code> assignment to kernel clocks
July 2016	2016.07.29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintenance release. In <i>Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Board Variants</i> and <i>Initializing Your Arria 10 Custom Platform</i>, added reminder to match the board variant with the status of the Arria 10 device on your board.
May 2016	2016.05.09	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modified content to reflect the creation of the <code>base.qdb</code> file in lieu of the <code>base_qhd.qar</code> file. Modified content to reflect the implementation of the <code>flat.qsf</code> file, which contains all the common QSF assignments shared among the <code>base.qsf</code>, <code>top.qsf</code>, and <code>top_synth.qsf</code> files. Use the flat revision for compilation flows that cannot use PR and do not require guaranteed timing. Because the flat revision is included in both the base and top revisions, use the flat revision to expand your design (for example, to attach extra DDR memory banks on your board). Modified content to reflect the updated functionality of the <code>pre_flow_pr.tcl</code> and <code>post_flow_pr.tcl</code> scripts. Updated the command you run to execute the base revision compilation <pre>from quartus_sh -t base_compile.tcl to quartus_sh --flow compile top -c base.</pre> This update enables you to compile the design from the Quartus Prime Pro Edition software GUI. Removed the <code>ip/acl_kernel_clk_a10/acl_kernel_clk_a10.qsys</code> and <code>ip/acl_temperature_a10/<file_name></code> files from the Reference Platform because the <code>acl_kernel_clk_a10</code> and <code>acl_temperature_sensor_a10</code> IP are now part of the Altera SDK for OpenCL. <p>Use the IPs from AOCL instead of duplicating them in your Custom Platform. A check is in place to verify that these IPs are not duplicated in your Custom Platform.</p>
continued...		



Date	Version	Changes
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The guaranteed timing flow is now part of AOCL. To avoid duplication, removed the following files from the Reference Platform: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> adjust_plls.tcl, which creates the PLL configuration file and modifies the PLL atoms pr_checks.tcl, which checks for initialized MLABs Removed information on the following legacy files; they are no longer part of the Reference Platform: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> hardware/<board_name>/base_compile.tcl hardware/<board_name>/base_qhd.qar hardware/<board_name>/system.qsys scripts/call_script_as_function.tcl scripts/create_pr_base_id.tcl Added memory hierarchy in board.qsys: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The DDR4 subsystem is now in a separate IP located in the ip/acl_ddr4_a10 directory The DDR4 core and pipeline stages are not in separate Qsys systems In <i>Describe the Arria 10 GX FPGA Development Kit Reference Platform Hardware to the AOCL</i>, updated the example Fitter Partition Statistics report and the explanation on how to calculate used_resources for alms. Under <i>Quartus Prime Compilation Flow and Scripts</i>, added the section <i>Enabling the Quartus Prime Spectra-Q Forward-Compatibility Flow</i>. Modified the import_compile.tcl file and added INI settings to quartus.ini and base.qsf to enable the Forward Compatibility flow. Support for the Forward Compatibility flow is preliminary. Refer to the Altera SDK for OpenCL version 16.0 Release Notes for more details.
December 2015	2015.12.21	Initial release.