AN795: Implementing Guidelines for 10G Ethernet Subsystem Using Low Latency 10G MAC IP Core in Arria 10 Devices

AN-795
2017.02.01
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The implementing guidelines show you how to use Intel's Low Latency 10G Media Access Controller (MAC) and PHY IP cores.

Figure 1. Arria 10 Low Latency Ethernet 10G MAC System

Table 1. Arria 10 Low Latency Ethernet 10G MAC Designs

This table lists all the Arria 10 designs for Low Latency Ethernet 10G MAC IP core.

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<td>1G/2.5G/5G/10G Multi-rate Ethernet PHY</td>
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Note: You can access all the listed designs through the Low Latency Ethernet 10G MAC parameter editor in the Quartus® Prime software, except for the XAUI Ethernet reference design. You can get the XAUI Ethernet reference design from the Intel Design Store.

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Intel offers separate MAC and PHY IP cores for the 10M to 1G Multi-rate Ethernet subsystems to ensure flexible implementation. You can instantiate the Low Latency Ethernet 10G MAC IP core with 1G/2.5G/5G/10G Multi-rate Ethernet PHY, Arria® 10 1G/10GbE and 10GBASE-KR PHY, or XAUI PHY and Arria 10 Transceiver Native PHY to cater different design requirements.

Related Links

- Low Latency Ethernet 10G MAC User Guide
  Provides detailed information about instantiating and parameterizing the MAC IP core.
- Low Latency Ethernet 10G MAC Design Example User Guide
  Provides detailed information about instantiating and parameterizing the MAC design examples.
- Arria 10 Transceiver PHY User Guide
  Provides detailed information about instantiating and parameterizing the PHY IP core.
- Low Latency Ethernet 10G MAC Debug Checklist
- AN 699: Using the Altera Ethernet Design Toolkit
  This toolkit helps you to configure and run Ethernet reference designs as well as debug any Ethernet related issues.
- Fault Tree Analysis for Low Latency 10G MAC Data Corruption Issue
- Arria 10 Low Latency Ethernet 10G MAC and XAUI PHY Reference Design
  Provides the files for the reference design.

1.1 Low Latency Ethernet 10G MAC and Arria 10 Transceiver Native PHY IP Cores

You can configure the Arria 10 Transceiver Native PHY IP core to implement the 10GBASE-R PHY with the Ethernet specific physical layer running at 10.3125 Gbps data rate as defined in Clause 49 of the IEEE 802.3-2008 specification.

This configuration provides an XGMII to Low Latency Ethernet 10G MAC IP core and implements a single-channel 10.3 Gbps PHY providing a direct connection to an SFP+ optical module using SFI electrical specification.

Intel offers two 10GBASE-R Ethernet subsystem design examples and you can generate these designs dynamically using the Low Latency Ethernet 10G MAC parameter editor. The designs support functional simulation and hardware testing on designated Intel development kits.
Figure 2. Clocking and Reset Scheme for Low Latency Ethernet 10G MAC and Arria 10 Transceiver Native PHY in 10GBASE-R Design Example
1.2 Low Latency Ethernet 10G MAC and XAUI PHY IP Cores

The XAUI PHY IP core provides an XGMII to Low Latency Ethernet 10G MAC IP core and implements four lanes each at 3.125 Gbps at the PMD interface.

The XAUI PHY is a specific physical layer implementation of the 10 Gigabit Ethernet link defined in the IEEE 802.3ae-2008 specification.

You can obtain the reference design for the 10GbE subsystem implemented using Low Latency Ethernet 10G MAC and XAUI PHY IP cores from the Intel Design Store. The design supports functional simulation and hardware testing on designated Intel development kit.
Figure 4. Clocking and Reset Scheme for Low Latency Ethernet 10G MAC and XAUI PHY Reference Design

Related Links
- Arria 10 Low Latency Ethernet 10G MAC and XAUI PHY Reference Design
  Provides the files for the reference design.
- AN 794: Arria 10 Low Latency Ethernet 10G MAC and XAUI PHY Reference Design

1.3 Low Latency Ethernet 10G MAC and Arria 10 1G/10GbE and 10GBASE-KR PHY IP Cores

The Arria 10 1G/10GbE and 10GBASE-KR PHY IP cores provide MII, GMII and XGMII to Low Latency Ethernet 10G MAC IP core.

The Arria 10 1G/10GbE and 10GBASE-KR PHY IP cores implement a single-channel 10Mbps/100Mbps/1Gbps/10Gbps serial PHY. The designs provide a direct connection to 1G/10GbE dual speed SFP+ pluggable modules, 10M–10GbE 10GBASE-T and 10M/100M/1G/10GbE 1000BASE-T copper external PHY devices, or chip-to-chip interfaces. These IP cores support reconfigurable 10Mbps/100Mbps/1Gbps/10Gbps data rates.
Intel offers dual-speed 1G/10GbE and multi-speed 10Mb/100Mb/1Gb/10GbE design examples and you can generate these designs dynamically using the Low Latency Ethernet 10G MAC parameter editor. The designs support functional simulation and hardware testing on designated Intel development kit.

The multi-speed Ethernet subsystem implementation using Arria 10 1G/10GbE or 10GBASE-KR PHY IP design requires manual SDC constraints for the internal PHY IP clocks and clock domain crossing handling. Refer to the `altera_eth_top.sdc` file in the design example to know more about the required `create_generated_clock`, `set_clock_groups` and `set_false_path` SDC constraints.

**Figure 5.** Clocking and Reset Scheme for Low Latency Ethernet 10G MAC and Arria 10 1G/10GbE and 10GBASE-KR Design Example (1G/10GbE Mode)
1.4 Low Latency Ethernet 10G MAC and 1G/2.5G/5G/10G Multi-Rate Ethernet PHY IP Cores

The Arria 10 1G/2.5G/5G/10G Multi-Rate Ethernet PHY IP core provides GMII and XGMII to the Low Latency Ethernet 10G MAC IP core.
The Arria 10 1G/2.5G/5G/10G Multi-Rate Ethernet PHY IP core implements a single-channel 1G/2.5G/5G/10Gbps serial PHY. The design provides a direct connection to 1G/2.5GbE dual speed SFP+ pluggable modules, MGBASE-T and NBASE-T copper external PHY devices, or chip-to-chip interfaces. These IP cores support reconfigurable 1G/2.5G/5G/10Gbps data rates.

Intel offers dual-speed 1G/2.5GbE, multi-speed 1G/2.5G/10GbE MGBASE-T, and multi-speed 1G/2.5G/5G/10GbE MGBASE-T design examples and you can generate these designs dynamically using the Low Latency Ethernet 10G MAC parameter editor. The designs support functional simulation and hardware testing on designated Intel development kit.

Figure 7. Clocking and Reset Scheme for Low Latency Ethernet 10G MAC and 1G/2.5G/5G/10G Multi-Rate Ethernet PHY Design Example (1G/2.5G Mode)
For multi-speed 1G/2.5GbE and 1G/2.5G/10GbE MBASE-T Ethernet subsystem implementations using 1G/2.5G/5G/10G Multi-rate Ethernet PHY IP, Intel recommends you copy the transceiver reconfiguration module (alt_mge_rcfg_a10.sv) provided with the design example. This module reconfigures the transceiver channel speed from 1G to 2.5G, or to 10G, and vice versa.

The multi-speed 1G/2.5GbE and 1G/2.5G/10GbE MBASE-T Ethernet subsystem implementation also requires manual SDC constraints for the internal PHY IP clocks and clock domain crossing handling. Refer to the altera_eth_top.sdc file in the design example to know more about the required create_generated_clock, set_clock_groups and set_false_path SDC constraints.

Figure 8. Clocking and Reset Scheme for Low Latency Ethernet 10G MAC and 1G/2.5G/5G/10G Multi-Rate Ethernet PHY Design Example (1G/2.5G/10GbE MBASE-T Mode)
Related Links

Low Latency Ethernet 10G MAC Design Example User Guide
Provides detailed information about instantiating and parameterizing the MAC design examples.

1.5 Revision History

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Version</th>
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<tr>
<td>February 2017</td>
<td>2017.02.01</td>
<td>Initial release.</td>
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