## SmartFusion2 and IGLOO2 SmartTime, I/O Editor and ChipPlanner

### **User's Guide**

NOTE: PDF files are intended to be viewed on the printed page; links and cross-references in this PDF file may point to external files and generate an error when clicked. View the online help included with software to enable all linked content.



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# Timing Constraints - SmartFusion2 and IGLOO2

Timing Constraints opens SmartTime for Libero SoC.

With SmartTime, you can perform complete timing analysis of your design to ensure that you meet all timing constraints and that your design operates at the desired speed with the right amount of margin across all operating conditions.

#### **Timing Constraints**

SmartTime supports a range of timing constraints to provide useful analysis and efficient timing-driven layout. SmartTime also includes a constraint checker that validates timing constraints.

#### **Timing Constraints and Place and Route**

Timing constraints impact analysis and place and route the same way. As a result, adding and editing your timing constraints in SmartTime is the best way to achieve optimum performance.

See Also

SmartTime Constraint Scenario - SmartFusion2 and IGLOO2 Constraints Editor Components

### SmartTime Constraint Scenario - SmartFusion2 and IGLOO2

A constraint scenario is an independent set of constraints. By default a scenario is created as *Primary Scenario* to hold all timing constraints defined by the user. This scenario is used during both analysis and TDPR. You can create multiple scenarios. The scenario used for analysis and the scenario used for TDPR can be selected from a list. Only one scenario can be used for analysis at a time. If multiple scenarios are created they are displayed in separate Constraint Editor windows.

The scenarios window lists all timing constraints scenarios available for the current design.

To view the scenarios window, from the Constraints Editor Tools menu, choose Scenario > Scenarios.

Scenarios	×
Reprimary Scenario	
Scenario_1	
<	>

Figure 1 · Scenarios

The icons next to the scenario name indicate whether this is an analysis scenario  $\overset{\frown}{\overset{\frown}{\overset{\bullet}{\overset{\bullet}}}}$ , a TDPR (Timing-

driven Place and Route) scenario 💷, or both 👘.

To copy a constraint from one scenario to the other, right-click the constraint in the Constraints Editor and choose **Copy Constraints to Scenario >** <scenario\_name>.

To move a constraint from one scenario to another, right-click the constraint in the Constraints Editor and choose **Move Constraints to Scenario >** <scenario name>.

From the Scenarios window you can select a scenario and from the right-click menu, select:

- Use for Analysis: to use the selected scenario for Timing Analyzer.
- Use for TDPR: to use the selected scenario for Timing-driven Layout.



- Clone: to create a new scenario with a set of constraints based on an existing scenario
- Delete scenario: to delete the selected scenario
- Rename scenario: to rename the selected scenario
- New Scenarios: Creates a new scenario in the Scenarios window.

### **Constraints Editor Components**

SmartTime Constraints enables you to create, view, and edit timing constraints of the selected scenario for use with SmartTime timing analysis and timing-driven optimization tools. This editor includes powerful visual dialogs that guide you toward capturing your timing requirements and timing exceptions quickly and correctly. In addition, it is closely connected to the SmartTime Timing Analysis, which enables you to analyze the impact of constraint changes.

Constraints Editor										<u> </u>
Constraints		Syntax	Clock Name		Clock Source	Period (ns)	Frequency (MHz)	Dutycycle (%)	First Edge	
Error Requirements		Click here	e to add a constraint	1	r					
Generated Clock	1	٣	U_CLK_DIV2/CLK32M:Q	U,	_CLK_DIV2/CLK32M:Q	20.000	50.000	50.000	rising	0.0
Input Delay	2	17	CLK8M	CI	LK8M	120.00	8.333	50.000	rising	0.0
Output Delay	3	1	PLL_CLK_IN	PI	LL_CLK_IN	15.000	66.667	50.000	rising	0.0
Min Delay     Min Delay     Multicycle     False Path     Advanced					Constraints	List				

-------

Constraints Browser

Figure 2 · SmartTime Constraints Editor View

#### **Constraint Hierarchy Browser**

The SmartTime Constraints Editor window is divided into a Constraint Browser and a Constraint List. The Constraint Browser categorizes constraints based on requirements and exceptions, while the Constraint List provides details about each constraint and enables you to add, edit and delete constraints.

You can perform the following tasks in the SmartTime Constraints View:

- Select a constraint type from the Constraint Browser and create or edit the constraint.
- Add a new constraint and check the syntax.
- Click or double-click a constraint in the Constraint List to edit and check the syntax of the selected constraint.
- Select a row and right-click to edit, delete, or copy the selected constraint to a spreadsheet.
- Select the entire spreadsheet and copy it to another spreadsheet.

#### See Also

Editable Constraints Grid SmartTime Constraint Scenario - SmartFusion2

### **Editable Constraints Grid**

The Constraints Editor enables you to add, edit and delete.



MainWindow - [Contraints Edito]	r for scenario Pr	imaryl						
🕒 File Edit View Constraints Too								_ 8 X
	Str. Ser 1500		🐘 🐹 1	ž. 🕾 📅	<u>B</u>			
Contraints Editor for scenario Primary								
Contraints								
Constraints Clock	Syntax	Clock Name	Clock Source	Period (ns)	Frequency (MHz)	Dutycycle (%)	First Edge	Offset (ns)
Generated Clock     Input Delay     Output Delay	Click here to ad	ld a constraint						t
Exceptions     Max Delay								
Min Delay Multicycle False Path								
Advanced Clock Source Latency Disable Timing								
Clock Uncertainity								
	<							>
						Terr	p: COM Volt: C	OM Speed: STD

Figure 3 · Constraints Editor

#### To add a new constraint:

- 1. Select a constraint type from the constraint browser.
- 2. Enter the constraint values in the first row and click the green check mark to apply your changes. To cancel the changes press the red cancel mark.
- 3. The new constraint is added to the Constraint List. The green syntax flag indicates that the constraint was successfully checked.

#### To edit a constraint:

- 1. Select a constraint type from the constraint browser.
- 2. Select the constraint, edit the values and click the green check mark to apply your changes. To cancel the changes press the red cancel mark. The green syntax flag indicates that the constraint was successfully checked.

#### To delete a constraint:

- 1. Select a constraint type from the constraint browser.
- 2. Right-click the constraint you want to delete and choose Delete Constraint.

### **Constraint Wizard**

The SmartTime Constraint Wizard enables you to quickly and easily create clock and timing I/O constraints for your design.

To open the Constraint Wizard (shown below) from the Constraints Editor **Tools** menu, choose **Constraint Wizard**. This window can be resized.



#### **Constraint Wizard**

Constraint Wizard	
	ion to SmartTime Constraint Wizard will assist you in creating constraints for clocks and I/Os in your design. The constraints for clocks and I/Os in your design. The constraints Editor. You can use the Wizard sequentially by clicking Next at each screen. Alternatively, you can access each individual step in the Wizard by clicking a step in the Constraint Wizard flow, available on the left column of this window. All steps in this Wizard are optional. Click Finish at any time to skip the remaining steps.
Help	< Back Next > Cancel

Figure 4 · Constraint Wizard

This window provides information about the Constraint Wizard and how to use it. Check the **Don't show this introduction again** box to skip this window next time you use this wizard.

Press Next to continue to the next step in the wizard.

Note: All steps in this Wizard are optional; click Finish to exit the wizard.



### **Overall Clock Constraint**

Figure 5 · Constraint Wizard – Overall Clock Requirements

In this window you can set a default required period or frequency for all explicit clocks in your design. Clocks that already have a constraint will not be affected.

To set a constraint for all explicit clocks, enter the **Period** or the **Frequency**, and click **Next** to go to the next step or **Finish** to exit the wizard.



#### **Overall I/O Constraint**

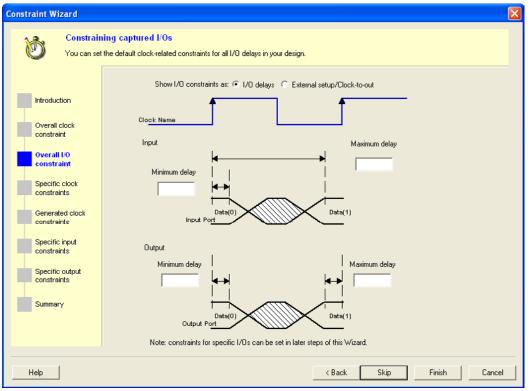


Figure 6 · Constraint Wizard – Overall I/O Constraint

In this window you can set a default constraint for all I/O's in the design. Constraints will be applied with respect to clocks related to the I/O's. This constraint will not override existing I/O constraints.

**Show I/O constraints** enables you to display I/O constraints as I/O delays (minimum and maximum delays for input and output) or external setup/clock-to-out.

#### To set a constraint for all I/Os:

- 1. Enter the Maximum and/or Minimum delays for the Input and/or Output.
- 2. Click Next to go to the next step or Finish to exit the wizard.



### **Specific Clock Constraints**

Constraint Wizard									X
You can set constraints									
Introduction	Syntax	Clock Nam <del>c</del>	Period (ns)	External Setup (ns)	External Hold (ns)	Max Input Delay (ns)	Min Input Delay (ns)	Max Clock-to-out (ns)	Min Clock-I (ns)
Overall clock	Click here	to add a cons	straint on a	potential cloc	< pin	,	,		
constraint	_ ·	CLK_IN	4.000						
Overall I/O	_ ·	DATA_REG_	2.000						
constraint	- ·	SM_RD:Q	4.000						
Specific clock constraints Generated clock constraints Specific input constraints Specific output constraints Summary	7	step[1]:Q	2.000						>
,	ning: Some	potential clock	s in your d	esign are not o	constrained.				
Help						< Back	Next >	Finish	Cancel

Figure 7 · Constraint Wizard – Specific Clock Constraints

In this window you can set a period and I/O timing constraints for a specific clock domain. All I/Os within the domain will be affected by the I/O timing constraints. You can modify the constraints from the grid.

#### To add a constraint for a potential clock:

- 1. Click the first row in the grid, enter the constraint information, and click the green check mark.
- 2. Click **Next** to go to the next step or **Finish** to exit the wizard.

Note: This option is available only when there is a potential clock in your design.



#### **Generated Clock Constraints**

Constraint Wizard	
Constraining ge You can set constrain	nerated clocks nts for generated clocks.
Introduction	Syntax Clock Pin Reference Pin Multiplier Divide External Setup (ns) Laboration (National Setup (ns) Setup (ns
Overall clock constraint	Click here to add a constraint on a potential clock pin
Overall I/O constraint Specific clock constraints Generated clock constraints Specific input constraints Specific output constraints Summary	
<u> </u>	
W	/arning: Some potential clocks in your design are not constrained.
Help	< Back Next > Finish Cancel

Figure 8 · Constraint Wizard – Generated Clock Constraints

In this window you can set a period and I/O timing constraints for a specific generated clock domain. You can modify the constraints from the grid.

#### To add a constraint for a generated clock:

- 1. Click the first row in the grid, enter the constraint information, and click the green check mark.
- 2. Click **Next** to go to the next step or **Finish** to exit the wizard.

Note: This option is available only when there is a generated clock in your design.



### **Specific Input Constraints**

	straints for specific	input pins.						
Introduction	Syntax	Port Name	Clock	External Setup (ns)	External Hold (ns)	Max Input Delay (ns)	Min Input Delay (ns)	
Overall clock	- W	CPUADD[0]	CLK_IN					
constraint	- Y	CPUADD[1]	CLK_IN					
Constraint	- Y	CPUADD[2]	CLK_IN					
Overall I/O	7	CPUADD[3]	CLK_IN					
constraint		CPUADD[4]	CLK_IN					
	7	CPUADD[5]	CLK_IN					
Specific clock	- Y	CPUADD[6]	CLK_IN					
constraints		CPUDATA[0]	CLK_IN					
Generated clock	T T	CPUDATA[10]	CLK IN					
constraints	- ÷	CPUDATA[11]	CLK_IN					
		CPUDATA[12]	CLK_IN					
Specific input	T Y	CPUDATA[13]	CLK_IN					
constraints	T T	CPUDATA[14]	CLK_IN					
	- ·	CPUDATA[15]	CLK IN					
Specific output constraints		CPUDATA[1]	CLK_IN					
	T Y	CPUDATA[2]	CLK_IN					
Summary		CPUDATA[3]	CLK IN					
Summary	T Y	CPUDATA[4]	CLK IN					
		CPUDATA[5]	CLK_IN					
	· ·	CPUDATA[6]	CLK IN					

Figure 9 · Constraint Wizard – Specific Input Constraints

In this window you can set constraints for specific input pins. You can modify the constraints from the grid.

#### To set a constraint for an input pin:

- 1. Set the maximum and/or minimum input delay for selected pin in the grid.
- 2. Click Next to go to the next step or Finish to exit the wizard.
- Note: This option is available only when there is an input pin in your design.

Double-click the **Port Name** or **Clock** header in the table to change the sorting order by input port name or clock name.



#### **Specific Output Constraints**

ATT N	individual ou straints for specific						
Introduction	Syntax	Port Name	Clock	Max Clock-to-out (ns)	Min Clock-to-out (ns)	Max Output Delay (ns)	Min Output Delay (ns)
Overall clock		BYPASS	CLK_IN				
constraint		CPUDATA[0]	CLK_IN				
		CPUDATA[10]	CLK_IN				
Overall I/O constraint	TY -	CPUDATA[11]	CLK_IN				
Constant	- ÷	CPUDATA[12]	CLK_IN				
Specific clock	<b>V</b>	CPUDATA[13]	CLK_IN				
constraints	T Y	CPUDATA[14]	CLK_IN				
	- ÷	CPUDATA[15]					
Generated clock constraints	- ÷	CPUDATA[1]	CLK IN				
constraints	T Y	CPUDATA[2]	CLK_IN				
Specific input	- ·	CPUDATA[3]	CLK IN				
constraints	- ÷	CPUDATA[4]	CLK_IN				
	- ÷	CPUDATA[5]	CLK_IN				
Specific output	- ÷	CPUDATA[6]	CLK_IN				
constraints	T Y	CPUDATA[7]	CLK_IN				
	- ·	CPUDATA[8]	CLK_IN				
Summary	- ÷		CLK_IN				
	- ÷	CPU NREADY					
	- ÷	CILCO2_SILAM	-				
		CDC33_CDAM					

Figure 10 · Constraint Wizard – Specific Output Constraints

In this window you can set constraints for specific output pins. You can modify the constraints from the grid.

#### To set a constraint for an output pin:

- 1. Set the maximum and/or minimum output delay for selected pin in the grid.
- 2. Click **Next** to go to the next step or **Finish** to exit the wizard.
  - Note: This option is available only when there is an output pin in your design.

Double-click the **Port Name** or **Clock** header in the table to change the sorting order by output port name or clock name.



#### **Summary**

Constraint Wizard		×
Summary	sfully completed the Constraint Wizard. ate the constraints listed below. Summary All explicit clocks Period: 2 ns (Frequency: 500 MHz) All inputs Maximum input delay: 7 ns All outputs Minimum output delay: 7 ns Minimum output delay: 7 ns	
Help	< Back Finish Cancel	-

Figure 11 · Constraint Wizard – Summary

This window summarizes the requirements specified in the wizard and information about all clock and I/O constraints in the design.

Click Finish to create the constraints.

#### See Also

Editable Constraints Grid

### **Using Clock Types**

Clock constraints enable you to specify your clock sources and clock requirements, such as the frequency and duty cycle. SmartTime detects possible clocks by tracing back the design from the clock pins of all sequential components until it finds an input port, the output of another sequential element, or the output of a PLL. SmartTime classifies clock sources into three types:

- Explicit Clocks
- Potential Clocks
- <u>Clock Networks</u>

Grouping clocks into these three types helps you manage clock domains efficiently when you add a new clock domain for analysis or when you create a new clock constraint using the Select Source Pins for Clock Constraint dialog box (as shown below).



Select Source Pins	for Clock Constra	int		
Specify pins 📀	by explicit list	C by keyword and wildo	card	
Available Pins:			Assigned Pins:	
CPUClk VidRefClk		Add >		
		Add All >		
		< Remove		
		< Remove All		
Filter available of				
Pin Type:	Explicit clocks	<b>_</b>		
*		Filter		
Help			ОК	Cancel

Figure 12 · Select Source Pins for Clock Constraint Dialog Box

Select Source Pins for Clock Constraint Dialog Box

### **Explicit Clocks**

Explicit clocks are pins or ports connected to the clock pin of one or more sequential component, and where each clock is one of the following:

- The output of a PLL
- · An input port that does not get gated between the source and the clock pins it drives
- The output pin of a sequential element that does not get gated between the source and the clock pins it drives
- Any pin or port on which a clock constraint was specified

By default, SmartTime displays domains with explicit clocks in the Timing Analysis View. You can browse these domains in the Domain Browser of the Timing Analysis View.



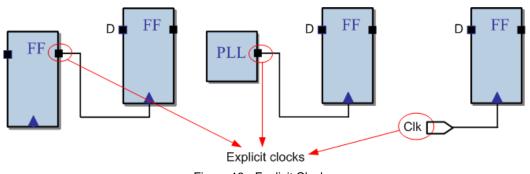
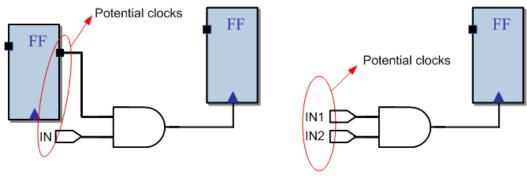


Figure 13 · Explicit Clocks

Select Source Pins for Clock Constraint Dialog Box Using Clock Types Potential Clocks Clock Networks

### **Potential Clocks**

Potential clocks are the clock sources that could be either enabled sources or clock sources. This type of clock is generally associated with the use of gated clocks. When associated with gated clocks, SmartTime cannot differentiate between the enabled sources and clock sources. Both sources appear in the potential clocks list and not the explicit clocks list.



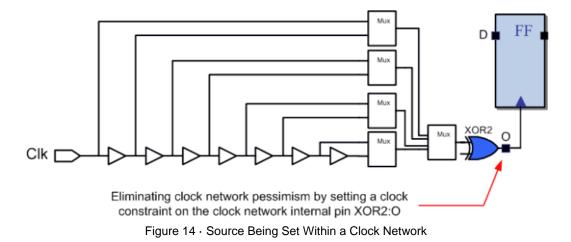
#### See Also

Select Source Pins for Clock Constraint Dialog Box Using Clock Types Clock Networks Explicit Clocks

### **Clock Networks**

Clock networks are internal clock network pins used as a clock source. With this network type, you can set the clock constraint on any pin in the clock network. You may want to do this to eliminate clock network pessimism by short-cutting a reconvergent combinational logic on the clock network (as shown below). Clock network pessimism triggers an overestimation of the clock skew, making the timing analysis inaccurate.





Select Source Pins for Clock Constraint Dialog Box Using Clock Types Potential Clocks Explicit Clocks

### **Specifying Clock Constraints**

Specifying <u>clock</u> constraints is the most effective way to constrain and verify the timing behavior of a sequential design. Use clock constraints to meet your performance goals.

#### To specify a clock constraint:

1. Add the constraint in the <u>editable constraints grid</u> or open the <u>Create Clock Constraint</u> dialog box using one of the following methods:

From the **Constraints** menu, choose **Clock**.

Click the icon.

Right-click the **Clock** in the Constraint Browser.

Double-click any field in the Generated Clock Constraints grid.

The Create Clock Constraint dialog box appears (as shown below).

Create Clock Constraint	K
Clock Sources:	
Help OK Cancel	

Figure 15 · Create Clock Constraint Dialog Box



- 2. Select the pin to use as the clock source. You can click the **Browse** button to display the <u>Select</u> <u>Source Pins for Clock Constraint Dialog Box</u> (as shown below).
  - Note: Do not select a source pin when you specify a virtual clock. Virtual clocks can be used to define a clock outside the FPGA that it is used to synchronize I/Os.

Use the **Choose the Clock Source Pin** dialog box to display a list of source pins from which you can choose. By default, it displays the explicit clock sources of the design. To choose other pins in the design as clock source pins, select **Filter available objects - Pin Type** as **Explicit clocks**, **Potential clocks**, **Input ports**, **All Pins**, **All Nets**, **Pins on clock network**, or **Nets in clock network**. To display a subset of the displayed clock source pins, you can create and apply a filter.

Multiple source pins can be specified for the same clock when a single clock is entering the FPGA using multiple inputs with different delays.

Click **OK** to save these dialog box settings.

- 3. Specify the **Period** in nanoseconds (ns) or **Frequency** in megahertz (MHz).
- 4. Modify the Clock Name. The name of the first clock source is provided as default.
- 5. Modify the **Duty cycle**, if needed.
- 6. Modify the **Offset** of the clock, if needed.
- 7. Modify the first edge direction of the clock, if needed.
- 7. Click OK. The new constraint appears in the Constraints List.
  - Note: Note: When you choose File > Commit, SmartTime saves the newly created constraint in the database.

😌 Constraints Editor												
E Constraints È Requirements		Syntax	Clock Name	Clock Source	Period (ns)	Frequency (MHz)	Dutycycle (%)	First Edge	Offset (ns)	Waveform	File	Comments
		Click here	e to add a const	raint								
Generated Clock	1	٣	my clock	CLK	100.00	10.000	50.000	rising	0.000	0 50	GUI	
Input Delay												
Output Delay												
Exceptions												
Max Delay												
Min Delay Multicycle												
False Path												
- Advanced												
Clock Source Latency												
Disable Timing												
Clock Uncertainty												

Figure 16 · SmartTime Timing Constraint View

#### See Also

<u>Clock</u> definition <u>Create a Clock</u> Create Clock Constraint Dialog Box

### Specifying Generated Clock Constraints

Specifying a generated clock constraint enables you to define an internally generated clock for your design and verify its timing behavior. Use generated clock constraints and <u>clock constraints</u> to meet your performance goals.

To specify a generated clock constraint:

 Add the constraint in the <u>editable constraints grid</u> or open the <u>Create Generated Clock Constraint</u> dialog box using one of the following methods:

From the Constraints menu, choose Generated Clock.

Click the icon.

Right-click the GeneratedClock in the Constraint Browser.



Double-click any field in the Generated Clock Constraints grid.

The Create Generated Clock Constraint dialog box appears (as shown below).

Create Generated Clock Constraint	×
Clock Reference:	
Clock Port FPGA	
Generated Clock Name	
The generated frequency is such as	
f(clock) = f(reference) × 1 / 1 Get Pre-Computed Factor	rs
The generated waveform is the same as 💌 the reference waveform	
Comment:	
	_
Help OK Cancel	

Figure 17 · Create Generated Clock Constraint

 Select a Clock Pin to use as the generated clock source. To display a list of available generated clock source pins, click the Browse button. The <u>Select Generated Clock Source</u> dialog box appears (as shown below).



Using Automatically Generated Clock Constraints

Select Generated Clock Source	X
Select a pin:	
XCMP33/U0/U2_DDR1:Q XCMP33/U0/U2_DDR2:Q pll1:CLK1 pll1:CLK2	
Filter available objects:	
Type: Explicit clocks	
Filter:	
* Filter	
Help OK Cancel	

Figure 18 · Select Generated Clock Source Dialog Box

- 3. Modify the Clock Name if necessary.
- 4. Click OK to save these dialog box settings.
- 5. Specify a **Clock Reference**. To display a list of available clock reference pins, click the **Browse** button. The <u>Select Generated Clock Reference</u> dialog box appears.
- 5. Click **OK** to save this dialog box settings.
- 6. Specify the values to calculate the generated frequency: a multiplication factor and/or a division factor (both positive integers).
- 7. Specify the first edge of the generated waveform either same as or inverted with respect to the reference waveform.
- 8. Click OK. The new constraint appears in the Constraints List.

#### See Also

<u>Clock</u> <u>Create a Clock</u> <u>Create Clock Constraint Dialog Box</u>

### Using Automatically Generated Clock Constraints

If your design uses a static PLL, SmartTime automatically generates the required frequency at the output of the PLL, provided you have supplied the input frequency. When you start SmartTime, a generated clock constraint appears in the Constraints List with the multiplication and division factor extracted from the PLL configuration. The **File** column specifies this constraint as **auto-generated** (as shown below).



Constraints Editor										_ [
Constraints		Syntax	Clock Name	Clock Pin	Reference Pin	Multiplier	Divider	Waveform	File	Comments
B Requirements		Click her	e to add a constrai	int						
* Clock	1	٣	\$1155/Core:GLA	\$1155/Core.GLA	\$1155/Core:CLKA	8	8	synchronized	auto-generated	
Generated Clock	2	1	\$1156/Core:GLA	\$1156/Core:GLA	\$1156/Core:CLKA	8	8	synchronized	auto-generated	
Input Delay										
Output Delay										
Exceptions										
Max Delay										
Min Delay										
Multicycle										
False Path										
⊡ Advanced										
Clock Source Latency										
Disable Timing										
Clock Uncertainty										

#### Figure 19 · Constraints Editor

Note: Note: SmartTime does not automatically create a Generated Clock constraint if you have already set a constraint on the PLL output.

If you delete the automatically generated clock constraint, SmartTime does not regenerate it the next time you open the design. However, you can easily create it again by using the following steps:

1. Open the Create Generated Clock Constraint dialog box (as shown below).

Create Generated Clock Constraint	×
Clock Reference:	
Generated Clock Name	
,	
The generated frequency is such as	
f(clock) = f(reference) x 1 / 1 Get Pre-Computed Factor	ors
The generated waveform is the same as 💌 the reference waveform	
Comment:	
	_
Help OK Cancel	

Figure 20 · Create Generated Clock Constraint

- 2. Select the PLL output as the Clock Pin source for the generated clock.
- 3. Select the PLL input clock as the Clock Reference for the generated clock.
- 4. Click Get Pre-Computed Factors. SmartTime retrieves the factor from the static PLL configuration.
- 5. Click OK.

### Specifying an Input Delay Constraint

Use the input delay constraint to define the arrival time of an input relative to a clock.

#### To specify an input timing delay constraint:

1. Add the constraint in the <u>Editable Constraints Grid</u> or open the **Set Input Delay Constraint** dialog box using one of the following methods:

From the SmartTime Constraints menu, choose Input Delay.

Click the 📴 icon.



Right-click the **Input Delay** in the Constraint Browser. Double-click any field in the Input Delay Constraints grid.

The Set Input Delay Constraint dialog box appears (as shown below).

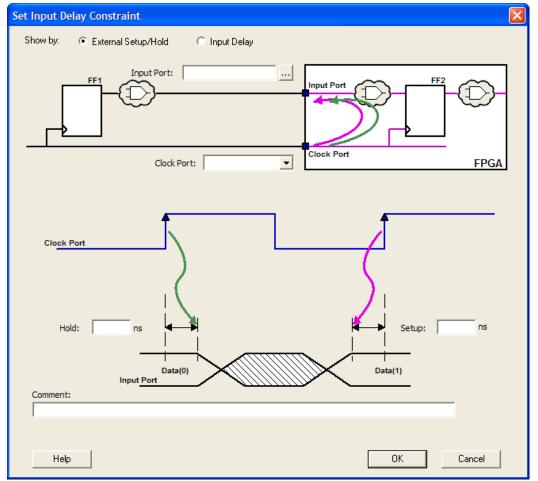


Figure 21 · Set Input Delay Dialog Box

2. Select either External Setup/Hold or Input Delay.

**External Setup/Hold** enables you to enter an input delay constraint by specifying the timing budget inside the FPGA using the external setup and hold time. This is the default selection.

Note: Note: The external hold information is currently used for analysis only and not by the optimization tools. For the basic timing analysis flow of a simple design, select External Setup/Hold.

Input Delay enables you to enter an input delay constraint by specifying the timing budget outside the FPGA. You can enter the Maximum Delay, the Minimum Delay, or both.

Note: The Minimum Delay is currently used for analysis only and not by the optimization tools.

When you change values in one view, SmartTime automatically updates the other view.

3. Specify the **Input Port** or click the **Browse** button to display the **Select Ports for Input Delay** dialog box.



Select Ports for Input Delay		
Specify pins 💿 by explicit list	O by keyword and wildcard	
Available Pins:	Assigned Pins	:
Adr Clock Enable	Add >	
	Add All >	
	< Remove	
	< Remove All	
Filter available pins:		
Pin Type: Input ports	<b>_</b>	
*	Filter	
Help	ОК	Cancel

Figure 22 · Select Ports for Input Delay Dialog Box

- 3. Select the name of the input pin(s) from the **Available Pins** list. Choose the **Pin Type** from the dropdown list. You can use the filter to narrow the pin list. You can select multiple ports in this window.
- 4. Click Add or Add All to move the input pin(s) from the Available Pins list to the Assigned Pins list.
- 5. Click OK.

The Set Input Delay Constraint dialog box displays the updated Input Port information.



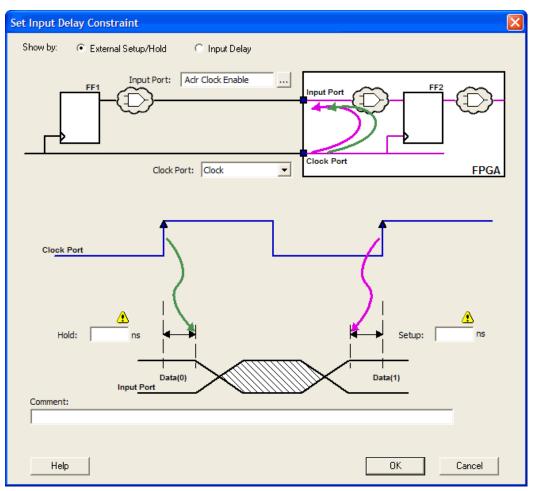


Figure 23 · Updated Set Input Delay Constraint Dialog Box

- 4. Select a clock from the **Clock Port** drop-down list.
- 5. If you selected **Show by: External Setup/Hold**, specifythe External Setup. If you selected **Show by: Input Delay**, specify the Maximum Delay value.
- 6. If you selected **Show by External Setup/Hold**, specify the External Hold. If you selected **Show by:** Input Delay, specify the Minimum Delay value.
- 7. Click **OK**.

SmartTime adds this constraint to the Constraints List in the SmartTime Constraints Editor.

#### See Also

Set Input Delay Constraint Dialog Box Select Source or Destination Pins for Constraint Dialog Box

### Specifying an Output Delay Constraint

Use the output delay constraints to define the output delay of an output relative to a clock.

#### To specify an output delay constraint:

1. Add the constraint in the <u>Editable Constraints Grid</u> to open the **Set Output Delay Constraint** dialog box using one of the following methods:

From the SmartTime Constraints menu, choose Output Delay.

Click the 上 icon.

Right-click Output Delay in the Constraint Browser.



Double-click any field in the Output Delay Constraints grid. The **Set Output Delay Constraint** dialog box appears.

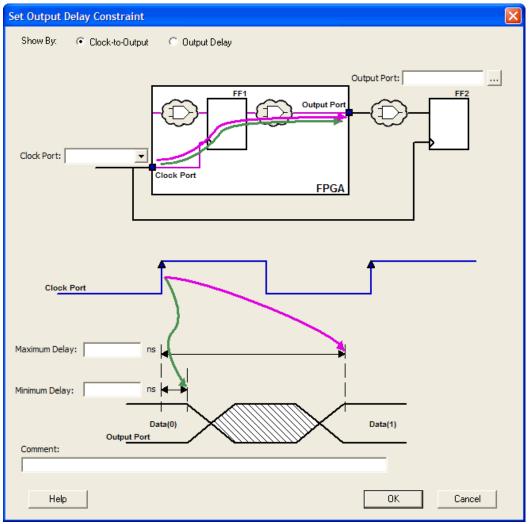


Figure 24 · Set Output Delay Constraint Dialog Box

Specify either Clock-to-Output or Output Delay.

**Clock-to-Output** enables you to enter an output delay constraint by specifying the timing budget inside the FPGA. This is the default selection.

Note: The Minimum Delay value is currently used for analysis only and not by the optimization tool.

**Output Delay** enables you to enter an output delay constraint by specifying the timing budget outside the FPGA. You can enter either the Maximum Delay, the Minimum Delay, or both.

Note: The Minimum Delay is currently used for analysis only and not by the optimization tools.

When you change values in one view, SmartTime automatically updates the values in the other view.

3. Enter the name of the **Output Port** or click the Browse button to display the **Select Ports for Output Delay** dialog box.



Select Ports for	Output Delay			
Specify pins	• by explicit list	C by keyword an	d wildcard	
Available Pins:			Assigned Pins:	
Q(0) Q(1) Q(10)		Add >		
Q(11) Q(12) Q(13) Q(14)		Add All >		
Q(14) Q(15) Q(2) Q(3)		< Remove		
Q(4) Q(5) Q(6) O(7)		< Remove Al	T I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I	
Filter available	pins:			
Pin Type:	Output ports	•		
*		Filter		
Help			ОК	Cancel

Figure 25 · Select Ports for Output Delay Dialog Box

- 4. Select the output pin(s) from the **Available Pin** list. Choose the **Pin Type** from the drop-down list. You can use the filter to narrow the pin list. You can select multiple ports in this dialog box.
- 5. Click Add or Add All to move the output pin(s) from the Available Pins list to the Assigned Pins list.
- 6. Click **OK**. The **Set Output Delay Constraint** dialog box displays the updated representation of the Output Port graphic.
- 7. Select a clock port from the Clock Port drop-down list.
- 8. Enter the Maximum Delay value.
- 9. Enter the Minimum Delay value.
- 10. Click OK. SmartTime adds this constraint to the Constraints List in the Constraints Editor.

Set Output Delay Constraint dialog box Select Source or Destination Pins for Constraint dialog box



### I/O Editor - SmartFusion2 and IGLOO2

Double-click I/O Constraints (in the Libero SoC Design Flow window, **Implement Design > Edit Constraints > I/O Constraints**) to start the I/O Editor.

The I/O Editor opens and displays all assigned and unassigned I/O macros and their attributes in a spreadsheet format.

Use I/O Attribute Editor to:

- · View, sort, select, and edit common and device-specific I/O attributes
- · Lock and unlock assigned attributes

You can view the I/O attributes by port or by package pin. Click the **Ports** tab to view I/O attributes by port name. Click the **Package Pins** tab to view I/O attributes by pin number.

Each row corresponds to an I/O macro (port) or a pin in the design, depending on the view displayed. The column headings specify the names of the I/O attributes in your design. The first four column headings are standard for all families so they will not change. However, the other column headings will change depending on the family you are designing for. For some I/O attributes, you will choose from a drop-down menu; for others, you might enter a value.

#### To edit I/O attributes:

- 1. Select an I/O standard for each I/O macro in your device.
- 2. Select I/O attributes that are available for your selected I/O standard.

### Assigning Pins in Package View

I/O Editor includes a Package Pins view in addition to its Ports view. Click the **Package Pins** tab to display your I/O attributes by package pin number. This view makes it easier to assign address/data ports to adjacent pins. Additionally, it enables you to assign VREF pins (which you cannot do in Ports view) and to sort on banks.

#### **Package Pins View**

The Package Pins View displays all columns shown in the Ports view plus the following additional columns:

- Function
- Dedicated
- VREF
- User Reserved

**Function** is the functionality of the I/O (for example, GND or ground). See the datasheet for your device for details about each function.

**Dedicated** determines whether the pin is reserved for some special functionality, such as UJTAG / Analog Block / XTL pads inputs.

**VREF** (Voltage referenced), if checked, assigns the selected pin as a VREF. This column only appears for devices that support VREF (IGLOOe, Fusion, SmartFusion, ProASIC3L ProASIC3E). A device supports VREF if one or more of its I/O banks support VREF. IGLOO (excluding IGLOOe) and ProASIC3 (excluding ProASIC3L A3PE3000L and ProASIC3E) devices are not supported.

**User Reserved**, if checked, reserves the pin for use in another design. When a pin is reserved, you cannot assign it to a port. To unreserve the pin, deselect the **User Reserved** check box.



### Edit Multiple Rows in I/O Editor

#### To edit multiple rows:

- Select the rows to edit. To select consecutive rows, click the first row, press and hold down the SHIFT key, and then click the last row. To select rows that are not consecutive, press and hold down the CTRL key, and then click each row to select. Continue to hold down the SHIFT or CTRL key.
- 2. While still holding down the SHIFT or CTRL key, click in the cell containing the value you want to change. Release the SHIFT or CTRL key, and then release the mouse button.

The change occurs in all selected rows.

Note: Note: You can also select an entire column, which enables you to edit all rows in that column.

### Sorting I/O Attributes

You can sort rows by column in either ascending or descending order.

#### To sort I/O macros by attributes:

- Double-click a column heading to sort the table rows in ascending order.
- Double-click the column again to sort the table rows in descending order.

When sorted, an arrowhead appears in the column header to indicate the sort order.

### Specifying an I/O Standard

Use the I/O Standard column to select an I/O specification for each pin.

If required to match the I/O standard, other I/O attributes, such as I/O threshold, slew, and loading, are automatically set to their default settings; you cannot edit these defaults.

You can change the I/O standards only for a generic I/O buffer to any of the legal I/O standards.

#### To specify an I/O standard:

- 1. Click the I/O Standard cell in the desired macro row.
- 2. Type or select a supported I/O standard from the drop-down list.

For devices that support I/O banks, the list is restricted to legal choices only. When an I/O is assigned, the I/O standards available for that I/O are limited to what the I/O bank location can support.

Note: Changing an I/O standard may also unassign existing I/Os. In addition, when a macro is assigned an I/O standard, the I/O bank is automatically assigned the voltages VCCI and VREF, if necessary. Unassigning this macro will undo these assignments as well.

### I/O Bank Settings

To change I/O Bank Settings in SmartFusion2 and IGLOO2 devices:

- 1. Click the I/O Bank Settings button 😤.
- 2. Choose the Bank you wish to modify. When you select your I/O Bank the list of Enabled and Disabled Technologies appears in the I/O Bank Settings dialog box (as shown in the figure below).



📲 I/O Bank Se	ttings				? 🔀
Bank Choose Bank:	Bank3 💌 🗌	Locked Bank	Type: MSIO		
-Voltage Selectio	n				
	Range	Min	Typical	Max	
VDDI:	сом 🔽	2.37	2.5 💌	2.62	
VREF:	None 🔽				
	Use default p	ins for VREF			
Ena	bled Technologies			Disabled Technologi	es
BUSIYDS LVCMS255 LVDS MINILVDS MLVDS RSDS			HSTLI LVCM0512 LVCM0515 LVCM0518 LVCM0533 LVPECL LVTTL PCI SSTL18I SSTL18I SSTL18I SSTL2I		
Unplace pins	on VCCI/VCCR cha	ange			
Help				ОК	Cancel

Figure 26 · I/O Bank Settings

3. Leave the **Use default pins for VREFs** option selected to set default VREF pins and unset nondefault VREF pins. If you unselect this option when setting a new VREF technology, no VREF pins are set. If you unselect this option when default VREF pins are already set, it unsets them.

If the **Use default pins for VREFs** option is selected when you click **OK** or **Apply**, the software: 1) determines if setting default VREF pins causes any I/O macros to become unassigned, and if so, displays a warning message enabling you to cancel this operation, 2) determines if unsetting non-default VREF pins causes any I/O macros to become unassigned, and if so, displays a warning message enabling you to cancel this operation, and 3) sets default VREF pins and unsets non-default VREF pins.

- 4. Click to Unplace pins on VCCI/VCCR change, if necessary.
- 5. Click OK

### Auto-Assign I/O Banks

The I/O Bank Assigner tool runs automatically when you run Layout. You can also use this tool from within the I/O Editor. The I/O Bank Assigner tool automatically assigns technologies and VREF pins (if required) to every I/O bank that does not currently have any technologies assigned to it. This tool is available when at least one I/O bank is unassigned.

Each time you run the I/O Bank Assigner, it unassigns all technologies from all I/O banks and then reassigns them when it finds a feasible solution. To prevent I/O Bank Assigner from unassigning and reassigning I/O technologies each time you run it, lock the I/O banks by selecting **Locked** in the <u>I/O Bank</u> <u>Settings</u> dialog box or by importing the set\_iobanks PDC command with its -fixed argument set to YES.

To automatically assign technologies to I/O banks, in Project Manager, in the **I/O Attribute Editor** choose **Tools>Auto-Assign I/O Banks**.

Messages appear in the Output window informing you when the automatic I/O bank assignment begins and ends. If the assignment is successful, **I/O Bank Assigner completed successfully** appears in the Output window.

If the assignment is not successful, an error message appears in the Output window.

Note: Note: All I/O technologies assigned to I/O banks by the I/O Bank Assigner in Layout are unlocked.



To undo the I/O bank assignments, choose **Undo** from the **Edit** menu. Undo removes the I/O technologies assigned by the I/O Bank Assigner. It does not remove the I/O technologies previously assigned. To redo the changes undone by the Undo command, choose **Redo** from the **Edit** menu.

### Common I/O Attributes

The I/O Attribute Editor displays common attributes for all I/O macros:

Port Name indicates the I/O macro name.

Group identifies the group name.

Macro Cell indicates the type of I/O macro.

Pin Number indicates the current pin assignment.

Locked, if checked, indicates that you cannot change the current pin assignment during layout.

Besides the common I/O attributes, the I/O Attribute Editor displays device-specific attributes such as I/O Standard, Skew, and Output Load. Only attributes applicable to a specific device appear in the I/O Attribute Editor table



### I/O Attributes by Family

Attribute	Family					
	IGLOO	Smartfusion and Fusion	SmartFusion2 and IGLOO2	ProASIC3		
Bank Name	х	х	х	Х		
I/O Standard	х	x	x	Х		
I/O Threshold	X, IGLOO PLUS only					
Output Drive	х	х	x	Х		
<u>Slew</u>	х	х	x	Х		
Resistor Pull	х	х	x	Х		
Schmitt Trigger	X, IGLOOe and IGLOO PLUS only	x	x	X, ProASIC3e and ProASIC3L only		
Input Delay	X, IGLOOe and IGLOO PLUS only	X	x	X, ProASIC3e and ProASIC3L only		
<u>Skew</u>	х	х	x	Х		
Output Load	х	х	x	Х		
Use Register	х	х	x	Х		
Hot Swappable	х	х	x	Х		
Hold State	X, IGLOO PLUS only					
User_Reserved	х	х	X	X, ProASIC3e and ProASIC3L only		

The following table displays the attributes supported for each family.

Refer to the appropriate datasheet for information about I/O standards for different families.

Note: For Fusion and ProASIC3L devices, not all attributes apply to all banks for a given I/O standard. Refer to the Fusion and ProASIC3L datasheets for details.

#### See Also

<u>Common I/O attributes (all families)</u> <u>I/O Attributes by Family</u> (all families)



### ChipPlanner and Floorplanning in MultiView Navigator for SmartFusion2 and IGLOO2

Open ChipPlanner from the Libero SoC Design Flow window. Under **Implement Design > Edit Constraints**, double-click **Floorplan Constraints**.

ChipPlanner is the <u>floorplanning</u> tool you use to create and edit regions on your chip and assign logic to these regions. You can also use it to view routing information and influence place-and-route for more optimal results. This tool is particularly useful when you need maximum control over your design placement.

#### Use ChipPlanner to:

- · View macro assignments made during layout
- Assign, unassign, or move macros
- Lock macro assignments
- View net connections using a ratsnest or route view
- View architectural boundaries
- View and edit silicon features, such as I/O banks
- · Create Regions and assign macros or nets to regions (floorplanning)

#### **Using PDC Files**

Any constraint that you can enter using ChipPlanner, you can also enter using a Physical Design Constraint (PDC) file. A PDC file is a Tool Command Language (Tcl) script file specifying physical constraints. This file can be imported and exported from Designer.

#### See Also

Starting ChipPlanner Using Multiview Navigator



### Starting ChipPlanner - SmartFusion2 and IGLOO2

ChipPlanner requires a compiled design. If you start ChipPlanner before compiling your design, Libero SoC guides you through the compile process before opening ChipPlanner.

To start ChipPlanner from Libero SoC, Under Implement Design > Edit Constraints, double-click Floorplan Constraints.

If the MultiView Navigator is already running interactively, you can start ChipPlanner from within MVN. Either click the **ChipPlanner** button in the MVN toolbar, or from the **Tools** menu, choose **ChipPlanner**.

ChipPlanner opens in the Tools window of the <u>MultiView Navigator</u> interface and displays pins, I/O macro assignments and I/O banks.

When you select an assigned macro, the macro location appears selected in the <u>World Window</u> and the I/O macro name is selected in the <u>Logical</u> and <u>Physical</u> hierarchy tabs.



### **Colors and Symbols**

Colors and symbols differentiate the I/O and logic macros in ChipPlanner. The following table defines the default colors assigned to symbols. You can change these colors per design.

Color	Definition
White Border	A white border denotes a selected object.
Black Background	A black background denotes an unused or unassigned module.
Blue	Blue denotes a combinatorial module.
Yellow	Yellow denotes <i>locked</i> logic modules. If the module is selected, the symbol appears yellow. If the module is unselected, the border appears yellow.
Green	Green denotes I/O modules.
Red	Red denotes clock modules.
Magenta	Magenta denotes sequential modules.
	Reserved modules that are not user definable are gray, crossed-out symbols on a black background.
	Clock modules are red. Unused/unassigned modules are red symbols on a black background. Used/assigned modules are black symbols on a red background.
	Input/Output modules are green. Unused/unassigned modules are green symbols on a black background. Used/assigned modules are black symbols on a green background.
Ð	Combinatorial modules are blue. Unused/unassigned modules are blue symbols on a black background. Used/assigned modules are black symbols on a blue background.
	Sequential modules are magenta. Unused/unassigned modules are magenta symbols on a black background. Used/assigned modules are black symbols on a magenta background.
	Buffer modules are blue.



Color	Definition
RAM	RAM modules are green. Unused/unassigned modules are green symbols (RAM) on a black background. Used/assigned modules are black on a green background.
RAM	on a green background.
PLL	PLL modules are green. Unused/unassigned modules are green symbols (PLL) on a black background. Used/assigned modules are black on a green background.
PLL	
<mark>₽</mark>	I/O Inbuff modules are pink on a black background. Used/assigned modules are black on a pink background.



### **Setting ChipPlanner Properties**

You can bring the selected macro or net into view in ChipPlanner by setting the **Move the display to show** Selected Macro and Center display around Selected Net properties.

The first property brings the selected macro into view in the ChipPlanner window. Likewise, the second one brings the selected net into view and zooms into the selected net. By default, both properties are selected. If you do not want your viewing area to change when you select a macro or net, you can clear these check boxes.

#### To set ChipPlanner properties:

- From the View menu, choose Properties.
   Note: You can also right-click anywhere in the ChipPlanner window, except on a region, and choose Properties from the right-click menu.
- 2. In the ChipPlanner Properties dialog box, clear one or both check boxes.
- 3. Click OK.



### **Changing Colors**

You can control which objects are visible in your design and what color they are.

#### To set display properties:

- 1. From the **View** menu, choose **DisplaySettings**. The Display Settings dialog box displays a list of all the architectural features you can turn on and off in your tool.
- 2. To make an object visible, select the **Visible** check box.
- 3. To change the color used to display the object, click its color bar and select another color.

#### To save or open previously saved display settings, click:

- 1. Save to save your display settings to a file.
- 2. Load to open a saved display settings file.
- 3. Default to load the default display settings.
- 4. Click Apply to see your changes.
- 5. Click **OK** to dismiss the dialog box.

	Object Type	Visible	Color	
1	Combinatorial Cells	<u> </u>		
2	Sequential Cells			
3	IO Sequential Cells			
4	IO FIFO			
5	IO Pads			
6	Buffer	<b>N</b>		
7	RAM	<b>N</b>		
8	PLL			
9	Routed signal to PLL interface			
10	PLL Output West Module	<b>N</b>		
11	PLL Output East Module	<b>N</b>		
12	Clock Chip Level Multiplexor	<b>N</b>		
13	IO FIFO block control	<b>N</b>		
14	Locked Module	<b>N</b>		
15	Selection	V		Ţ
Save	e / Load Display Settings		Save	

Figure 27 · Display Settings Dialog Box in ChipPlanner



# Floorplanning



## Floorplanning

Floorplanning includes creating regions and making logic assignments to those regions. It is an optional methodology you can use to improve the performance and routability of your design. The objective in floorplanning is to assign logic to specific regions on the chip to enhance performance and routability.

When floorplanning, you analyze your design to see if certain logic can be clustered within regions. Clustering is especially helpful for hierarchical designs with plenty of local connectivity within a block. If your timing analysis indicates several paths with negative slack, try clustering the logic included in these paths into their own regions. This forces the placement of logic within the path closer together and may improve timing.

Use ChipPlanner before and after running Layout to help you floorplan.

### See Also

<u>Creating Regions</u> <u>Assigning a Macro to a Region</u> <u>Assigning a Net to a Region</u>



## **About Regions**

A region is a user-defined area on the device. When floorplanning, you can assign logic to regions to improve the design performance. You can use ChipPlanner to create regions or create them with PDC commands.

ChipPlanner supports the following types of regions:

## Logic Region (Inclusive/Exclusive)

A logic region is a region that has logic assigned to it. Logic can include core logic, memory, and I/O modules. The place-and-route tool will place all the logic assigned to a logic region inside that region. The floorplanning process usually requires you to create several regions and assign logic to them.

Logic regions can either be inclusive or exclusive. If a logic region is exclusive, it means that the place-androute tool cannot place any logic within the region other than what you have previously assigned to it. If a logic region is inclusive, the place-and-route tool can place any logic within the region.

### **Empty Region**

To prevent logic from being placed within a predefined area in the device, you can create an empty region. The place-and-route tool will not place any logic within an empty region; however, the routing resources within the region can be used.

### **Local Clock Regions**

Not available for all families; see Using Local and Quadrant Clock Regions for supported families.

A local clock is a portion of the global clock network on the device. Local clock regions are inclusive by default and cannot be changed. Each family has different local clock capabilities. For specific details, see the datasheet for your device.

### **Quadrant Clock Regions**

Not available for all families; see Using Local and Quadrant Clock Regions for supported families.

A quadrant clock is a portion of the global clock network on the device. Each family has different quadrant clock capabilities. For specific details, see the datasheet for your device. You create and delete a quadrant clock in the same way that you create a local clock in IGLOO and ProASIC3 devices.

### **Overlapping Regions**

If you create Logic regions whose areas intersect, the regions are defined to be overlapping. The place-androute tool will detect the area where these regions intersect and try to place logic common to both of them within this area.

### **Blocks and Regions**

Nets driving a block can be assigned to regions, local clocks, and quadrant clocks. VREF I/Os are not supported in the top design if the block has I/Os.

### See Also

<u>Creating Regions</u> <u>Using Empty Regions</u> <u>Using Local Clock and Quadrant Clock Regions</u> <u>Editing Regions</u>



## **Creating Regions**

With ChipPlanner, you can create empty, exclusive, inclusive, QuadrantClock and LocalClock regions under certain conditions:

Region Type	Conditions	
Empty	Cannot assign macros to an empty region Cannot create empty regions in areas that contain locked macros	
Exclusive	Only contains macros assigned to the region	
Inclusive	Contains all macros, both assigned and unassigned to the region	
LocalClock	Can create LocalClock regions for SmartFusion, IGLOO, ProASIC3 and Fusion devices in a PDC file Cannot resize or move a LocalClock region Cannot assign logic to a LocalClock region	
QuadrantClock	Can assign CORE, RAM, and I/Os to QuadrantClock regions that are inclusive Can create QuadrantClock regions only for IGLOO and ProASIC3 devices	

Table 1 · Types of Regions

Note: To create an empty or logic region:

- 1. From the Region menu, choose CreateEmpty, Create Exclusive, or Create Inclusive.
- 2. Click and drag the mouse over the area where you want the region to be placed. As you drag out the region, a tooltip appears in its lower-right corner, showing you how many tiles, RAMs, and I/Os are in the region.

To create a LocalClock region (not available for all families; see <u>Using Local and Quadrant Clock</u> <u>Regions</u> for supported families):

- 1. In the **Net** tab of the Hierarchy window, select a clock net. Clock nets have a clock icon next to them in the Net view.
- 2. From the Region menu, choose Create LocalClock, or click its icon in the toolbar.
- 3. Click and drag a rectangle from the top-left corner of the new LocalClock region to its bottom-right corner. As you drag out the region, a tooltip appears in its lower-right corner, showing you how many tiles, RAMs, and I/Os are in the region.

To create a QuadrantClock region (not available for all families; see <u>Using Local and Quadrant Clock</u> <u>Regions</u> for supported families):

- 1. In the **Net** tab of the Hierarchy window, select a clock net. Clock nets have a clock icon next to them in the Net view.
- 2. From the **Region** menu, choose **Create QuadrantClock**, or click its icon in the toolbar. Select a point in the Chip appears in the status bar.
- 3. Select a point in the chip that is driven by QCLK. ChipPlanner creates a QuadrantClock region for the given net. The region name is Qclock\_<netname> and appears in the **Regions** tab of the Hierarchy View window. A tickmark appears next to the net in the Net tab and next to all the macros driven by it.

#### See Also

<u>Creating LocalClock Regions</u> <u>Creating QuadrantClock regions</u>



## **Empty Regions**

Empty regions allow you to create exclusive areas on the device where no logic placement can occur. Empty regions help guide the placer to pack your logic closer together and thereby use more local routing resources to connect it. You cannot create empty regions in areas that contain locked macros. Use the following guidelines for empty regions.

### **Use Empty Regions to Guide the Place-and-Route Process**

If your design does not completely use up your target device (for example 60% utilization or lower), use empty regions to cluster your logic placement into specific subareas of the chip. This helps when you have originally placed-and-routed the design into a smaller device but want to fit it to a larger part while still preserving the performance you have achieved in the smaller device.

## **Use Empty Regions to Reduce Routing Congestion**

Creating empty regions next to the congested area(s) of your design helps reduce congestion. When you place an empty region next to congested logic blocks or regions, the placer cannot place any logic next to your region or logic block. Logic, which would normally be placed there, is forced to be placed somewhere else. Routing resources next to the congested area are, therefore, freed up and provide the router more options to route signals into the congested block.

Before deciding to place empty region(s), analyze your design for congestion areas. Use the **Ratsnest** view in ChipPlanner to see dense areas of connectivity into and out of your logic blocks or regions. Create empty regions in these congested areas and see it if improves the routability of your logic.

### **Use Empty Regions to Reserve Device Resources**

If you want to preserve the placement of your existing design but plan additional modifications in the future, create empty regions in the areas of the chip where you plan to add additional logic. As you add new logic, remove or resize your empty regions accordingly to fit your new logic. Empty regions placed over I/O pins reserve them for future use as the I/O needs of your design changes. There are some restrictions for using empty regions in this manner.

### See Also

Creating Regions Using Logic Regions Using LocalClock and QuadrantClock Regions Editing Regions



## Logic Regions

Use Logic regions to condense the placement of certain logic blocks in your design. This allows you to control logic placement at the region or block level. This may simplify your floorplanning task, since you might not have to place logic instances individually on the device. The following sections contain guidelines for using Logic regions.

### **Use Logic Regions to Localize Placement of Logic Blocks**

If you partitioned your design into several modules, and some of these modules contain regular structures (such as arithmetic logic, register arrays, counters, or multiplexors), place these modules into Logic regions. These logic functions have a good amount of both local connectivity and regularity to their structure, which makes them good candidates for regions. Interconnects between your regions now become interconnects between hierarchical blocks in your design. Floorplan your regions so there is a smooth horizontal or vertical data flow between each Logic region.

## For Pipelined Logic, Place Registers on Region Boundaries

If you assigned logic to a region so its inputs and outputs are bounded by a register array (pipeline registers), it is a good idea to place these pipeline registers close to the boundary of the region. If you plan to manually fix the placement of your pipeline registers, make sure you orient them in the correct direction to assure a smooth data flow between them and their interfacing logic.

### **Aligning RAM I/O with Placement**

Before placing your memory blocks, review your design and understand how data is flowing into and out of them. Determine what logic blocks are driving the memory inputs (for example, address line, control signals) and what logic is driven by the memory outputs (for example, databus lines). Follow these guidelines:

- Place pins that drive or are driven by your memory blocks close to where your memory blocks are placed.
- Create an empty region next to your memory block to free up local routing resources that may need to be used to connect to the memory blocks.
- If you are driving high fan-in memory inputs such as read/write clocks or read/write enables, try using low-skew routing resources such as global nets or clock spines to connect them. Make sure your clock spine assignments are aligned with your RAM placement.

### See Also

<u>Creating Regions</u> <u>Using Empty Regions</u> <u>Using LocalClock and QuadrantClock Regions</u> <u>Editing Regions</u>



## **Editing Regions**

After creating regions, with the exception of LocalClock regions, you can rename, delete, move, and re-size them. LocalClock regions can only be renamed or deleted.

Regions must have unique names. Two regions cannot have the same name.

### To change the name of a region:

- 1. In the **Hierarchy** window, click the **Regions** tab.
- 2. Select the region with the name you want to change.
- 3. From the Region menu, choose Properties.
- 4. In the **Properties** dialog box, type the new region name over the existing one.
- Tip: Tip: You can also right-click a region, choose **Properties**, and type a new region name in the **Properties** dialog box.

### To delete a region:

• Right-click the region, and chose Delete.

### To move a region:

• Select the region and drag it to a new location.

Note: Note: You cannot move the region if a macro assigned to the region is locked.

### To re-size a region:

- 1. Select the region.
- 2. Grab and drag the sides and corners to re-size the region. You cannot resize a region smaller than the logic it already contains.

### To merge a region:

- 1. In the **Hierarchy** window, click the **Regions** tab.
- 2. Select the regions you want to merge.
- 3. Right-click any selected region and choose **Merge**.

#### The merge operation:

- Creates a new region with rectangles of all selected regions
- Assigns logic and nets that were assigned to the selected region to the new region
- Removes the selected regions

### See Also

Creating Regions Using Empty Regions Using Logic Regions Using Local Clock and Quadrant Clock regions



## Assigning a Macro to a Region

During floorplanning, you can improve design performance by assigning macros to regions.

- Note: Note: You can use the Logical or Physical tab right-click menus to bypass the Assign Instances to Region dialog box and assign instances to regions directly. To do so, in the Hierarchy window, Logical/Physical tab, select one or more instances, right-click and choose Assign to Region.
- Note: You can also use the right-click menu to assign instances in the results from the ActiveLists and in results from the Find command (in the Log window).

#### To assign a macro to a region:

1. In the Regions tab of the Hierarchy window, right-click a region and choose **Assign/Unassign Instance**from the right-click menu. The **Assign Instances to Region** dialog box appears with the name of the selected region in the **Region name** field. The dialog box displays all the macros that you can assign to the selected region.

🖷 Assign Instances to Region 🛛 🔀				
Region name: UserRegion0				
Unassigned instances: jextra_reg/U0 jextra_reg/U1/U0 jsadl6_reg/U1 jsadl6_reg/U2/U0 jsi20_reg/U0 jsi20_reg/U1/U0 jsi21_reg/U0 jsi21_reg/U1/U0 jsi21_reg/U0 jsw0_reg/U0	Assigned instances:			
isw0_reg/U1/U0 isw1_reg/U0	0 Items. 0 Selected			
Filter unassigned instances:     Matching pattern     Connected to nets matching pattern	Filter assigned instances:			
C Connected to ports matching pattern           *         Filter   OK	Show Usage Cancel Help			

Figure 28 · Assign Instances to Region Dialog Box

- 2. To display a subset of the unassigned instances, you can create and apply filters. To filter the unassigned instances list by a pattern, enter the pattern (string) in the text box to the left of the Filter button, select **Matching pattern**, and then click **Filter**. Only the instances that match the pattern appear in the **Unassigned Instances** list. For example, enter \*U18\* to display only unassigned instances containing the characters U18. You can also display only instances connected to net or port names matching the specified pattern. These filters are valid for both regular and Block flows. In regular flows, each port is connected to only one instance, which is an I/O.
- 3. To assign specific instances to the region, select one or more instances in the **Assignable Instances** list box, and then click **Assign**. To assign all instances to the region, click **Assign All**.
- 4. Click OK.

The total number of instances that you can assign as well as the number of currently selected unassigned instances appears under the list box.



Tip: Tip: You can also assign logic to regions from the Hierarchy window. To do so, drag and drop the logic from the Hierarchy window to the region.

### See Also

Unassigning a Macro from a Region



## Assigning a Net to a Region

Assigning a net to a region results in assigning all instances connected by the net to the specified region. The assignment of all instances of a net to a region packs logic more closely together, which improves (reduces) net delays.

Assigning nets to regions also enables you to apply floorplanning constraints correctly over design iterations. During design iterations you may change your design, causing a change in the instances connected by a particular net. The assignment of a net to a region assigns all instances connected by that net in the current design iteration, enabling your constraints to be applied correctly.

- Note: You can use the right-click menu to assign a net to a region. To do so, select one or more nets in the Nets tab of the Hierarchy menu, right-click, and choose Assign to Region. Using the right-click menu assigns all instances except the driver macro.
- Note: You can also use the right-click menu to assign nets in the ActiveList, and in the results from the Find command (in the Log window).

#### To assign a net to a region:

1. In the Regions tab of the Hierarchy window, right-click a region and choose **Assign/Unassign Net** from the right-click menu.

The **Assign Nets to Region** dialog box appears with the name of the selected region in the **Region name** field. The dialog box displays all the nets that you can assign to the selected region (as shown in the figure below).

🖽 Assign Nets to Region 🛛 🔹				
Region name: UserRegion0	•			
Assignable nets:	Include Driver	Assigned nets:		
counter1_1/DFN1E1C0_NU counter1_1/DFN1E1C0_NU counter1_1/DFN1E1C0_NU counter1_1/DFN1E1C0_NU counter1_1/DFN1E1C0_NU	Assign >>> Assign All >> << Unassign < Unassign All	counter1_1/AND2_3_Y counter1_1/NU_15_16 nRESET_c q_c[0]		
68 Items, 0 Selected		4 Items, 0 Selected		
Filter unassigned nets:		Filter assigned nets:		
<ul> <li>Matching pattern</li> </ul>		Filter		
C Connected to instance				
C Fanout greater than		Show Usage		
Filter	ОК	Cancel Help		

Figure 29 · Assign Nets to Region Dialog Box

To display a subset of the unassigned nets, you can create and apply filters.

- To filter the unassigned nets list by a pattern, enter it in the text box to the left of the Filter button, select Matching pattern, and then click Filter. Only the nets that match the pattern appear in the Assignable nets list. For example, enter \*INV\* to display only unassigned nets containing the characters INV.
- 3. To assign specific nets, select one or more nets in the **Assignable nets** list box, and click **Assign**.

#### To select all nets, click Assign All.

Check the Include Driver checkbox to assign all instances, including the driver connected by the selected net, to the region.

3. Click **OK** to continue.

The total number of nets that you can assign, as well as the number of currently selected unassigned nets, appears in the list box.



Tip: Tip: You can assign nets from the Hierarchy window. To do so, drag and drop the nets from the Hierarchy window to the region in ChipPlanner.

#### See Also

Editing Regions Assigning a Macro to a Region Assigning Nets to Regions Dialog Box



## Unassigning a Macro from a Region

### To unassign a macro from a region:

- 1. In the Hierarchy window (Logical or Physical tab), select the macro to unassign.
- 2. From the Logic menu, choose Unassign From Region.
- Tip: Tip: You can also right-click the macro, and choose Unassign From Region.

You can also unassign all macros from a specific region.

### To unassign all macros from a region:

- 1. Select the region from which to unassign all macros.
- 2. From the Logic menu, choose Unassign All From Region.

### See Also

Assigning a Macro to a Region



## Assigning Logic to Locations

Manually assigning logic is an optional methodology to help you improve the performance and density of your design.

You do not need to manually assign logic to particular locations in your design. However, should you have specific design requirements, ChipPlanner allows you to have maximum control over your design.

#### To assign logic to specific locations:

- 1. Select the logic in the Physical tab of the Hierarchy window or in an Active List.
- 2. Drag the logic to the desired location. As you drag, valid assignment locations are highlighted. To remove the assignment, from the **Edit** menu, choose **Undo**.

If the logic assignment is valid, the logic is assigned and locked. To save changes for this design session, commit your changes when exiting the MultiView Navigator.

### To assign logic to multiple locations:

- 1. While holding down the CTRL or SHIFT key, select the logic in the order you want it placed.
- 2. From the Logic menu, choose Assign To Location.
- 3. One by one, select the desired locations. The macros are placed in the order selected.

#### To unassign logic from a location:

- 1. Select the logic.
- 2. From the Logic menu, choose Unassign From Location.

#### To unassign logic from multiple locations:

- 1. While holding down the CTRL or SHIFT key, select the logic you want to unassign.
- 2. From the Logic menu, choose Unassign From Location.

#### To unassign logic from all locations:

• From the Logic menu, choose Unassign All From Location.

#### See Also

Moving Logic to Other Locations



# Unassigning All Logic from a Location

### To unassign all logic from a location:

• From the Logic menu, choose Unassign All From Location.



## Moving Logic to Other Locations

You can move logic that was assigned manually or automatically during Layout.

### To move logic:

- 1. Select the logic to move.
- 2. Drag the logic to the new location.
- Tip: Tip: To remove the assigned macro, from the Edit menu, choose Undo.

### See Also

Assigning Logic to Locations Locking Logic to Locations



## Locking Logic to Locations

Locked logic is not moved during Layout. Locked logic only becomes permanent if you commit the changes to your design before exiting.

### To lock macros:

- 1. Select the macro to lock. To select multiple macros, hold down the **CTRL** key and select multiple macros with your mouse. To select all macros, from the **Edit** menu, choose **Select All**.
- 2. From the **Logic** menu, choose **Lock**.
- 3. From the **File** menu, choose **Commit** to save your changes in this session. To save your changes in the design file (.ADB), you must save your design in Designer as well.

#### To unlock a macro:

- 1. Select the macro. To select multiple macros, hold down the **CTRL** key and select multiple macros. To select all macros, from the **Edit** menu, choose **Select All**.
- 2. From the Logic menu, choose Unlock.

#### See Also

Assigning Logic to Locations Moving Logic to Other Locations



# **Product Support**

The Microsemi SoC Products Group backs its products with various support services including a Customer Technical Support Center and Non-Technical Customer Service. This appendix contains information about contacting the SoC Products Group and using these support services.

## Contacting the Customer Technical Support Center

Microsemi staffs its Customer Technical Support Center with highly skilled engineers who can help answer your hardware, software, and design questions. The Customer Technical Support Center spends a great deal of time creating application notes and answers to FAQs. So, before you contact us, please visit our online resources. It is very likely we have already answered your questions.

### **Technical Support**

Microsemi customers can receive technical support on Microsemi SoC products by calling Technical Support Hotline anytime Monday through Friday. Customers also have the option to interactively submit and track cases online at My Cases or submit questions through email anytime during the week.

Web: www.actel.com/mycases

Phone (North America): 1.800.262.1060

Phone (International): +1 650.318.4460

Email: soc\_tech@microsemi.com

### **ITAR Technical Support**

Microsemi customers can receive ITAR technical support on Microsemi SoC products by calling ITAR Technical Support Hotline: Monday through Friday, from 9 AM to 6 PM Pacific Time. Customers also have the option to interactively submit and track cases online at My Cases or submit questions through email anytime during the week.

Web: www.actel.com/mycases

Phone (North America): 1.888.988.ITAR

Phone (International): +1 650.318.4900

Email: soc\_tech\_itar@microsemi.com

## Non-Technical Customer Service

Contact Customer Service for non-technical product support, such as product pricing, product upgrades, update information, order status, and authorization.

Microsemi's customer service representatives are available Monday through Friday, from 8 AM to 5 PM Pacific Time, to answer non-technical questions.

Phone: +1 650.318.2470



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