
Core3DES v3.1

Handbook



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Introduction

Core Overview

The Core3DES macro implements the Triple Data Encryption Standard (3DES or Triple DES), which provides a means of securing data. The Triple DES algorithm is described in the Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) Publication (PUB) 46-3, and is an extension of the DES (Data Encryption Standard) algorithm (Figure 1) and also described in FIPS PUB 46-3. The Triple DES algorithm takes as inputs 64 bits of plaintext data and 192 bits of a cipher key, and after 48 cycles, produces a 64-bit ciphered version of the original plaintext data as output.¹ The entire 168-bit cipher key consists of three sub-keys, denoted as K1, K2, and K3, representing the left third (MSB), the middle third, and the right third (LSB) of the cipher key, respectively.

During the 48 cycles, or iterations, of the algorithm, the data bits are subjected to permutation and addition functions, which consist of key schedules, calculated by rotations and permutations applied to the original 168-bit cipher key.

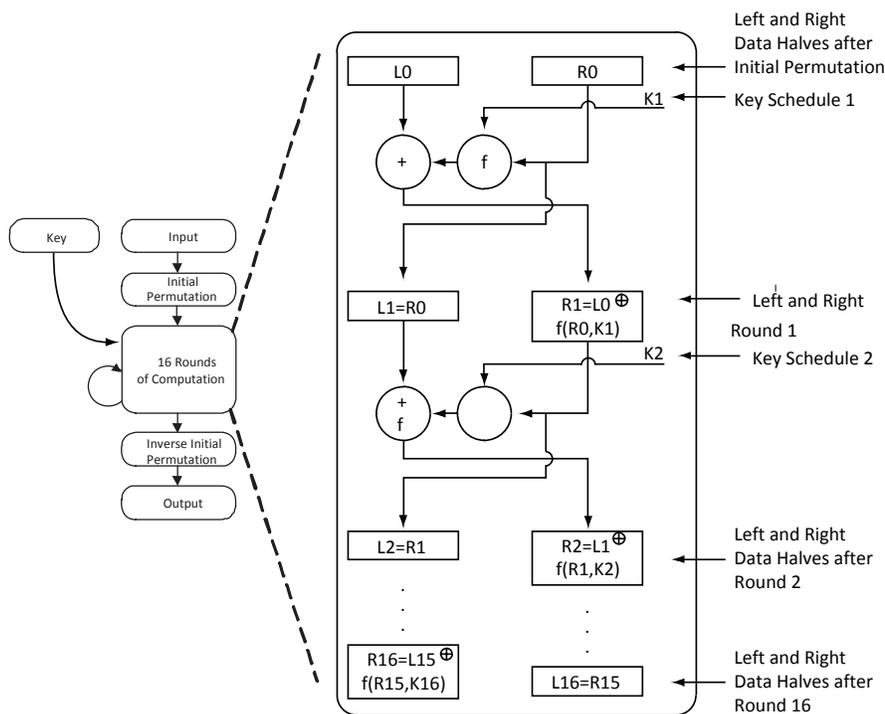


Figure 1 DES Algorithm

¹ Only 168 of the 192 bits of the key are used in the calculations, as the least significant bit of each byte of the cipher key is used to provide oddparity for the key bytes.

The Triple DES encryption algorithm is executed in the specific sequential order shown in [Figure 2](#).

1. Encrypt using DES with cipher key K1 (left third of 168-bit cipher key).
2. Decrypt using DES with cipher key K2 (middle third of 168-bit cipher key).
3. Encrypt using DES with cipher key K3 (right third of 168-bit cipher key).

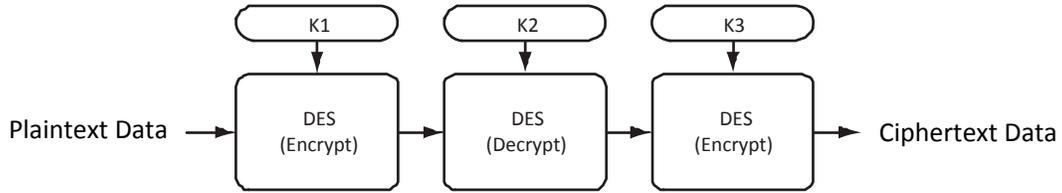


Figure 2 Encryption Flow Diagram for 3DES

The Triple DES decryption algorithm is executed in the specific sequential order shown in [Figure 3](#).

1. Decrypt using DES with cipher key K3 (right third of 168-bit cipher key).
2. Encrypt using DES with cipher key K2 (middle third of 168-bit cipher key).
3. Decrypt using DES with cipher key K1 (left third of 168-bit cipher key).

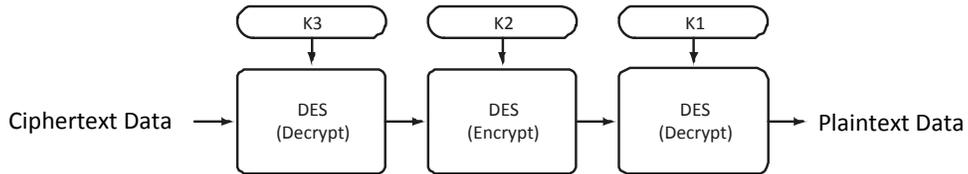


Figure 3 Decryption Flow Diagram for 3DES

Since three sequential DES operations are required, the total compute time for Triple DES (encryption or decryption) is three times that for single DES, or $16 \times 3 = 48$ clock cycles.

Design Security

Figure 4 shows a typical system diagram. Note that the cipher key, which is the "secret" key, can be made up of FPGA logic cells, thereby preventing the possibility of design or data theft. Microsemi® Flash-based devices (ProASIC3) employ FlashLock™ technology, and Microsemi antifuse-based devices (Axcelerator, SX-A, RT54SX-S) employ FuseLock™ technology, each of which provides a means to keep the cipher key and the rest of the logic secure. The output of the Core3DES macro should be connected to registers or FIFOs, as it is only valid for one clock cycle, as shown in the sections "Encryption" on page 11 and "Decryption" on page 12.

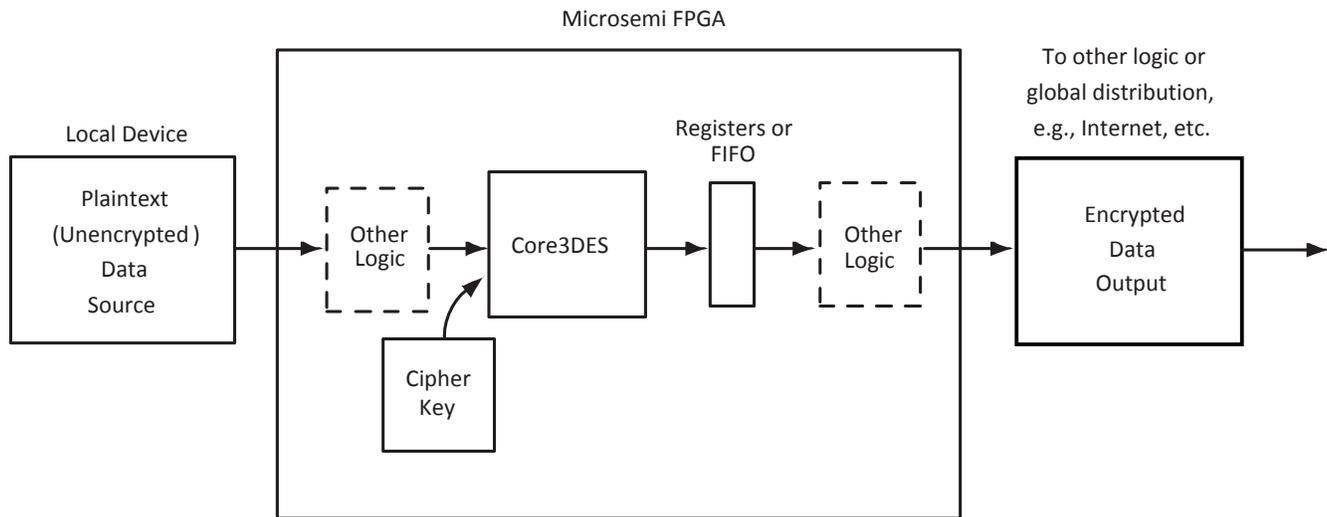


Figure 4 Typical Core3DES System

Key Features

- Compliant with FIPS PUB 46-3
- TECB (TDEA Electronic Codebook) Implementation per ANSI Standard X9.52
- Example Source Code Provided for TCBC, TCFB, and TOFB Modes
- 168-Bit Cipher Key (consisting of 56-bit cipher keys in 3 stages, with 24 additional parity bits)
- All Major Microsemi Device Families Supported
- Parity Checking Logic for Cipher Key
- Encryption and Decryption Possible with Same Core
- 48-Clock Cycle Operation to Encrypt or Decrypt 64 Bits of Data
- Pause/Resume Functionality to Continue Encryption or Decryption at Will
- Provides Data Security within a Secure Microsemi FPGA

Core Version

This handbook supports Core3DES version 3.1.

Supported Families

- IGLOO[®]
- IGLOO2
- IGLOOe
- IGLOO^{PLUS}
- Fusion
- ProASIC^{®3}
- ProASIC3E
- ProASIC3L
- Axcelerator[®]
- RTAX-S
- ProASIC^{PLUS}[®]
- RTSX-S
- SX-A
- SmartFusion[®]
- SmartFusion2
- RTG4[™]

Device Utilization and Performance

The Core3DES macro has been implemented in the families listed in [Table 1](#).

Table 1 Core3DES Device Utilization and Performance

Family	Cells or Tiles			Utilization		Performance (MHz)	Throughput (Mbps)
	Sequential	Combinatorial	Total	Device	Total (%)		
IGLOO/e	136	1,180	1,316	AGL600V2/ AGLE600V2	10	42	56
IGLOO ^{PLUS}	136	1,180	1,316	AGLP125V2	42	42	56
IGLOO2	135	947	947	M2GL050	1.70	124	165
Fusion	156	1,257	1,413	AFS600	11	75	100
ProASIC3/E/L	156	1,257	1,413	A3P600/ A3PE600/ A3P600L	11	80	107
Axcelerator	152	620	772	AX125	39	125	167
RTAX-S	152	620	772	RTAX1000S	5	81	108
ProASIC ^{PLUS}	150	1,456	1,606	APA075	53	50	67
SX-A	152	620	772	A545SX16A	55	100	133
RTSX-S	152	620	772	RT54SX32S	28	60	80
SmartFusion	136	1,330	1,466	A2F500M3G	13.80	73	97
SmartFusion2	135	947	947	M2S050	1.70	124	165
RTG4	135	753	755	RT4G150	0.50	111	148

Note: Data in this table achieved using typical synthesis and layout settings. Data throughput is computed by taking the bit width of the data (64 bits), dividing by the number of cycles (48), and multiplying by the clock rate (performance); the result is listed in Mbps (millions of bits per second).

Design Description

I/O Signals

The port signals for the Core3DES macro are defined in [Table 2](#) and illustrated in [Figure 5](#). Core3DES has 202 I/O signals (described in [Table 2](#)). Most arrayed ports are labeled with indices that begin with the number 1 (most significant bit) and ascend up to the width of the arrayed port (least significant bit, which is 64 for most of the arrayed ports in this core). The arrayed ports are labeled in this fashion to correspond with the nomenclature described in Federal Information Processing Standards Publication 46-3 (FIPS PUB 46-3). The only deviation from this nomenclature is the Key Select output bus, which descends from 1 down to 0.

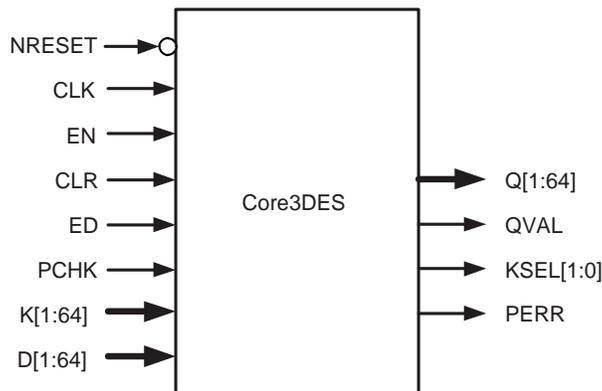


Figure 5 Core3DES I/O Signal Diagram

Table 2 Core3DES I/O Signals

Name	Type	Description
NRESET	Input	Active-low asynchronous reset
CLK	Input	System clock: reference clock for all internal Triple DES logic
EN	Input	Enable signal: set to '1' for normal continuous operation, set to '0' to pause
CLR	Input	Synchronous clear signal: set to '1' to clear logic at any time
ED	Input	Encrypt/Decrypt: '1' to Encrypt, '0' to Decrypt
PCHK	Input	Parity Check: set to '1' to enable parity checking of cipher key bits
K[1:64]	Input	Input Key: 64 bit (56 bits + 8 parity bits) cipher key input bus (time-multiplexed K1,K2,K3 sub-keys)
D[1:64]	Input	Data in: 64 bit data input bus
Q[1:64]	Output	Output Data out: 64 bits of ciphertext (for Encrypt operation, plaintext for Decrypt operation)
QVAL	Output	Q Valid: '1' indicates that valid Encrypt/Decrypt data is available on Q [1:64]
KSEL[1:0]	Output	Key Select: Selection bits for cipher key sub-keys K1, K2, and K3. When 00: K1 needs to be presented on the K[1:64] input bus, when 01: K2 needs to be presented on the K[1:64] input bus, when 10: K3 needs to be presented on the K[1:64] input bus.
PERR	Output	Parity Error: '1' indicates that a parity error has occurred on the K cipher key input bits

Parameters/Generics

Core3DES has a parameter (Verilog) and generic (VHDL), described in [Table 3](#), for configuring the RTL code. A parameter and generic is an integer type. This parameter/generic is mapped to configuration options in the SmartDesign Configuration window.

Table 3 Core3DES Configuration Parameter/Generic

Name	Values	Description
FAMILY	0 to 99	Must be set to match the supported FPGA family. IGLOO PLUS - 23 IGLOOe - 21 IGLOO - 20 Fusion - 17 ProASIC3L - 22 ProASIC3E - 16 ProASIC3 - 15 Axcelerator - 11 RTAX-S - 12 ProASICPLUS - 14 RTSX-S - 9 SX-A – 8 SmartFusion - 18 Smartfusion2 - 19 IGLOO2 - 24 RTG4 - 25

Functional Block Description

Core3DES consists of four main blocks (shown in [Figure 6](#)).

- Data schedule logic - computes the intermediate data values at each round of the DES algorithm.
- Iteration state machine logic - keeps track of which round of the DES algorithm is currently in progress.
- Key schedule logic - computes the intermediate keys at each round of the DES algorithm.
- Parity check logic - checks for odd-parity compliance of the 56 bits of cipher key and issues an error signal if parity is not correct.

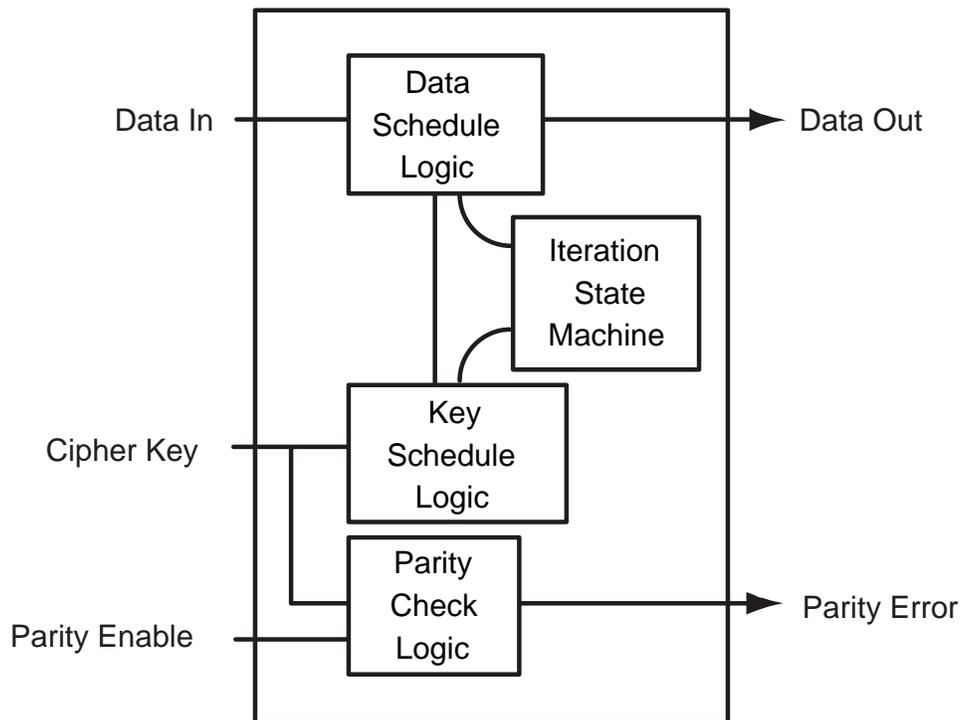


Figure 6 DES Algorithm Block Diagram

Core3DES Operation

Selecting a Cipher Key

Since there is only one cipher key $K[1:64]$ input port and the Triple DES algorithm requires three 64-bit cipher subkeys (three 56-bit cipher sub-keys, less than 8 parity bits, per sub-key), the three cipher sub-keys must be presented in sequence on the same $K[1:64]$ input port. The $KSEL[1:0]$ output port must be decoded by the designer for use in external selection logic for each of the three 64-bit cipher sub-keys.

Since the $KSEL[1:0]$ output port may be connected to address lines of an external RAM or ROM device, there is an extra clock cycle of latency built into the Core3DES logic. In other words, when the $KSEL[1:0]$ port changes value, the next cipher sub-key is not required immediately on the next rising edge of the clock, however; it will be required by the second rising edge of the clock. This is illustrated in “Encryption” on page 11 and “Decryption” on page 12.

Parity Checking

If you want to use parity checking with the cipher key $K[1:64]$ inputs, the PCHK input must be held at logic '1'. The parity checking logic determines whether or not an odd number of logic '1' values are present in each byte of the cipher key. This function can be disabled at any time by setting the PCHK input to logic '0'.

Note: If parity checking is disabled by setting the PCHK input to logic '0,' the least significant bits of each byte of the cipher key ($K[8]$, $K[16]$, $K[24]$, $K[32]$, $K[40]$, $K[48]$, $K[56]$, and $K[64]$) can each be statically connected to either a logic '1' or logic '0' value, since they are the parity bits and will not be used (Figure 7).

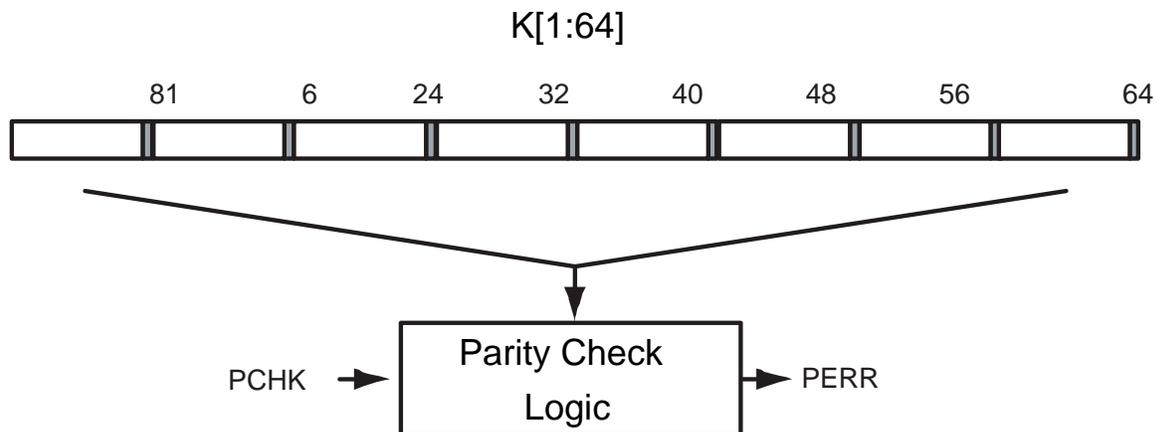


Figure 7 Key Parity Check

Encryption

To begin the process of encrypting data, the following inputs are set:

- K[1:64] is set to the first of three cipher sub-keys (ck1 in Figure 8) to encrypt the data.
- D[1:64] is set to the plaintext data (d1 in Figure 8) to be encrypted.
- ED is set to logic '1'.
- EN is set to logic '1'.

After 15 clock cycles of the EN input being held continuously at a logic '1' value, the KSEL[1:0] outputs change from '00' to '01', indicating that the second of three cipher sub-keys (ck2 in Figure 8) need to be presented on the K[1:64] inputs, which must be done by the rising clock edge of the start of clock cycle 17 (one complete clock cycle of slack is built into the Core3DES circuitry). After 31 clock cycles of the EN input being held at a logic '1', the KSEL[1:0] outputs changes from '01' to '10', indicating that the third of three cipher sub-keys (ck3 in Figure 8) need to be presented on the K[1:64] inputs, which must be done by the rising clock edge of the start of clock cycle 33.

After 48 clock cycles of the EN input being held continuously at a logic '1' value, the QVAL signal transitions from logic '0' to logic '1' and remains valid for one clock cycle, indicating that valid ciphertext (encrypted) data (q1 in Figure 8) is available on the Q[1:64] outputs.

Note that the encrypted data is only available during clock cycle 48, thus you must register or latch the data on Q[1:64], using the QVAL signal as a qualifying register enable or latch enable.

As shown in Figure 8, continuous encryption is possible. For example, the second 64-bit plaintext data word (d2 in Figure 8) can be immediately encrypted by presenting d2 on the D[1:64] inputs by the rising clock edge of clock cycle 49 and by presenting the cipher sub-keys ck1, ck2, and ck3 in the sequence described earlier in this section.

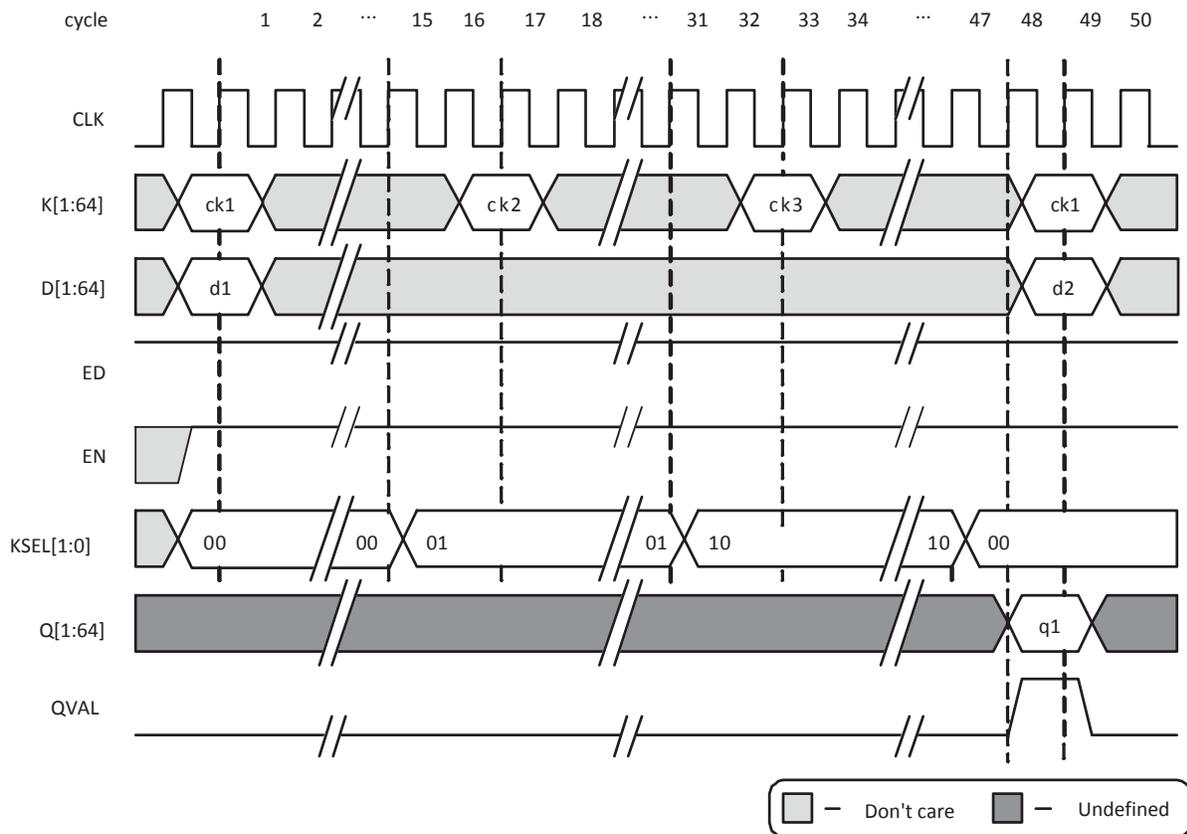


Figure 8 Example Encryption Sequence

Decryption

To begin the process of decrypting data, the following inputs are set:

- K[1:64] is set to the third of three cipher sub-keys (ck3 in Figure 9) to decrypt the data.
- D[1:64] is set to the ciphertext data (d1 in Figure 9) to be decrypted.
- ED is set to logic '0'.
- EN is set to logic '1'.

After 15 clock cycles of the EN input being held continuously at a logic '1' value, the KSEL[1:0] outputs change from '10' to '01', indicating that the second of three cipher sub-keys (ck2 in Figure 9) must be presented on the K[1:64] inputs, which is done by the rising clock edge of the start of clock cycle 17 (one complete clock cycle of slack is built into the Core3DES circuitry). After 31 clock cycles of the EN input being held at a logic '1', the KSEL[1:0] outputs will change from '01' to '00', indicating that the first of three cipher sub-keys (ck1 in Figure 9) need to be presented on the K[1:64] inputs, which must be done by the rising clock edge of the start of clock cycle 33. Note that for decryption, the order in which the three cipher sub-keys are required differs from the encryption process (described in the previous section); cipher sub-key three is required first, cipher sub-key two is next, and cipher sub-key one is last.

After 48 clock cycles of the EN input being held continuously at a logic '1' value, the QVAL signal transitions from logic '0' to logic '1' and remains valid for one clock cycle, indicating that valid plaintext (unencrypted data, shown as q1 in Figure 9) is available on the Q[1:64] outputs.

Note that the decrypted plaintext data is only available during clock cycle 48, thus you must register or latch the data on Q[1:64] using the QVAL signal as a qualifying register enable or latch enable.

As shown in Figure 9, continuous decryption is possible. For example, the second 64-bit ciphertext data word (d2 in Figure 9) can be immediately decrypted by presenting d2 on the D[1:64] inputs by the rising clock edge of clock cycle 49 and by presenting the cipher sub-keys ck3, ck2, and ck1 in the sequence described earlier in this section.

After 16 clock cycles of the EN input being held continuously at a logic '1' value, the QVAL signal transitions from logic '0' to logic '1' and remains valid for one clock cycle, indicating that valid plaintext (unencrypted data shown as q1 in Figure 9) is available on the Q[1:64] outputs.

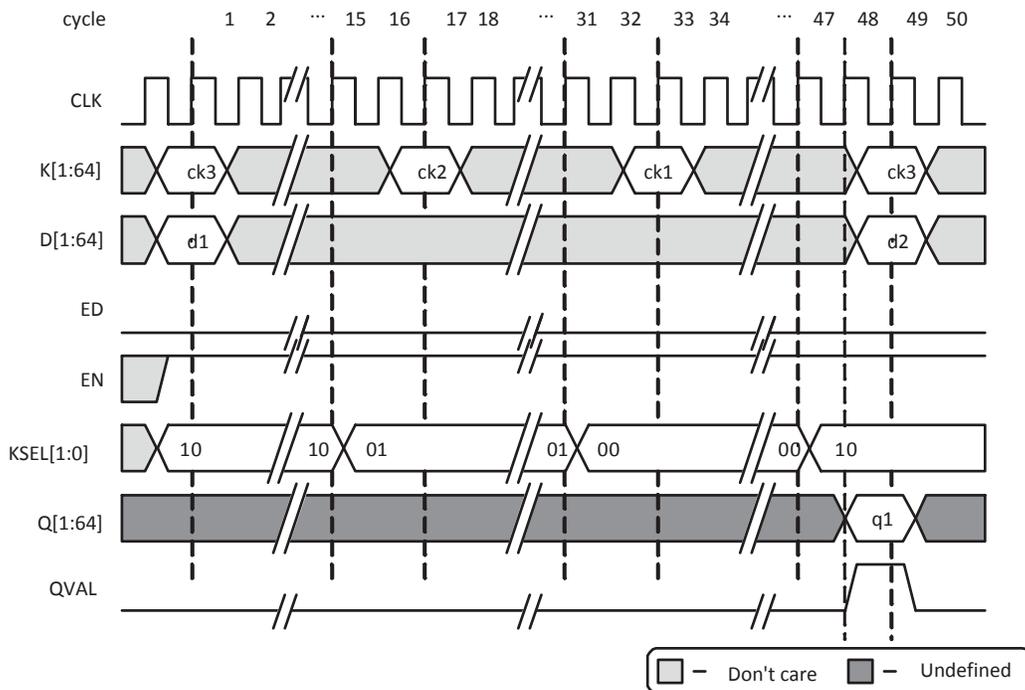


Figure 9 Example Decryption Sequence

Pause/Resume

For normal operation, the EN input is held at a logic 1 value. The core can be paused by holding the EN input at a logic 0 value, indefinitely, as shown in Figure 10. To resume operation, the EN input must be brought back to a logic 1 value. This functionality applies to either encryption or decryption. Note that the ED input must remain at logic 1 throughout an entire encryption cycle, or at logic 0 throughout an entire decryption cycle; otherwise, unpredictable results on the Q[1:64] outputs occur.

The pause/resume functionality is provided as an aid to you. The EN input would be held statically at a logic 1 value, and the data input needs to change every 48 clock cycles to encrypt the next block. After all blocks of data are encrypted, you would then need to hold the EN input at a logic 0 value, since if it is left at logic 1, data continues to be encrypted forever. When ready for the next blocks of data, you can then resume the encryption process by holding the EN input at a logic 1 value.

Another possible use may be if you have an elastic buffer (FIFO) connected to the Q[1:64] outputs. If the FIFO is filling up with encrypted data faster than the encrypted data is being read out of the FIFO, you may wish to pause the Core3DES macro by setting the EN input to a logic 0 when the full or almost-full flag logic from the FIFO is active. When the FIFO full or almost-full flag logic clears, the Core3DES macro can then resume operation by again setting the EN input to a logic 1 value.

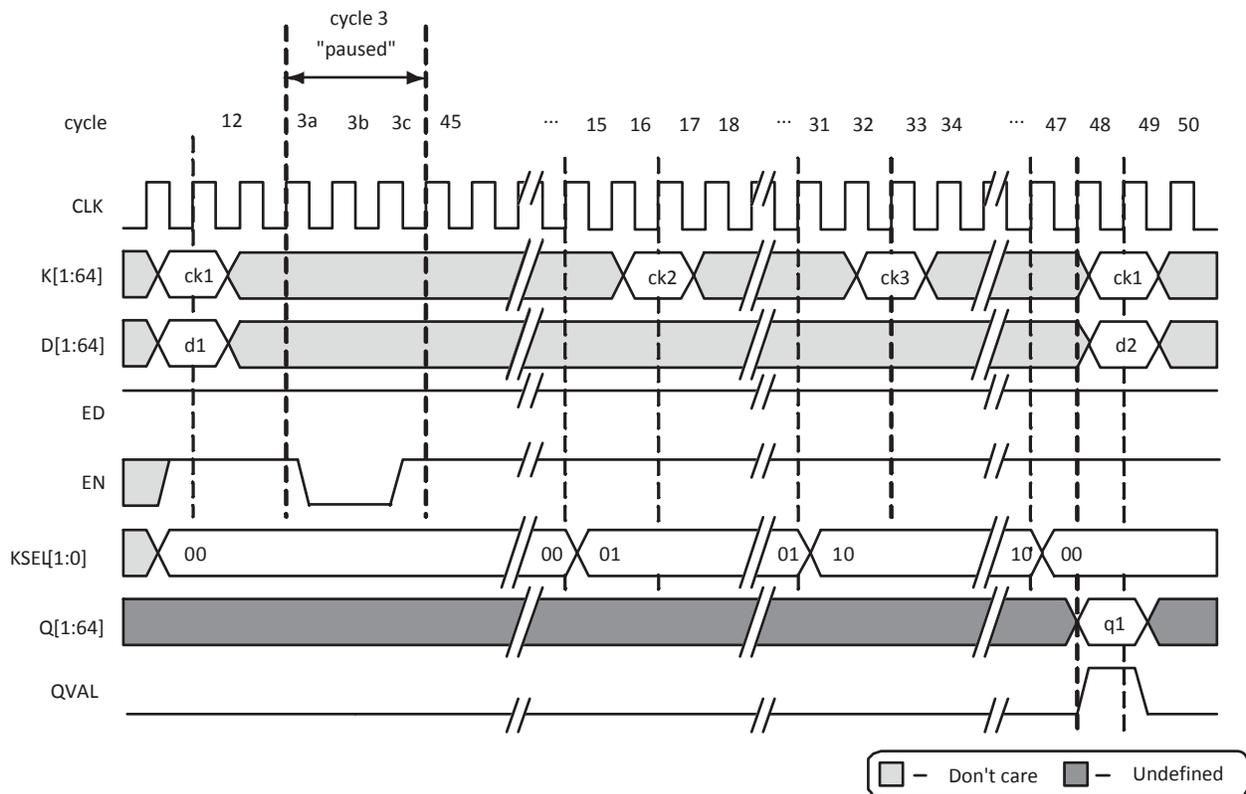


Figure 10 Example Encryption Pause/Resume Sequence

Clear/Abort

At any point in the process of encrypting or decrypting data, you can abort the current operation by setting the CLR input to logic 1. This clears all current calculations with the key schedule and data schedule logic. You can then immediately begin to use a different cipher key and data input on the very next cycle, as shown in Figure 11.

The clear/abort functionality is useful when you want to change the cipher key, possibly in the middle of an encryption or decryption sequence. You are able to immediately halt the current operation simply by holding the CLR input at a logic 1 value for at least one clock cycle, and commence immediately on the following clock cycle with a new cipher key and/or new data. If the Core3DES macro is integrated into a system containing a processor, the processor may want to abort the encryption or decryption operation for some specific event (for example, low or failing power condition).

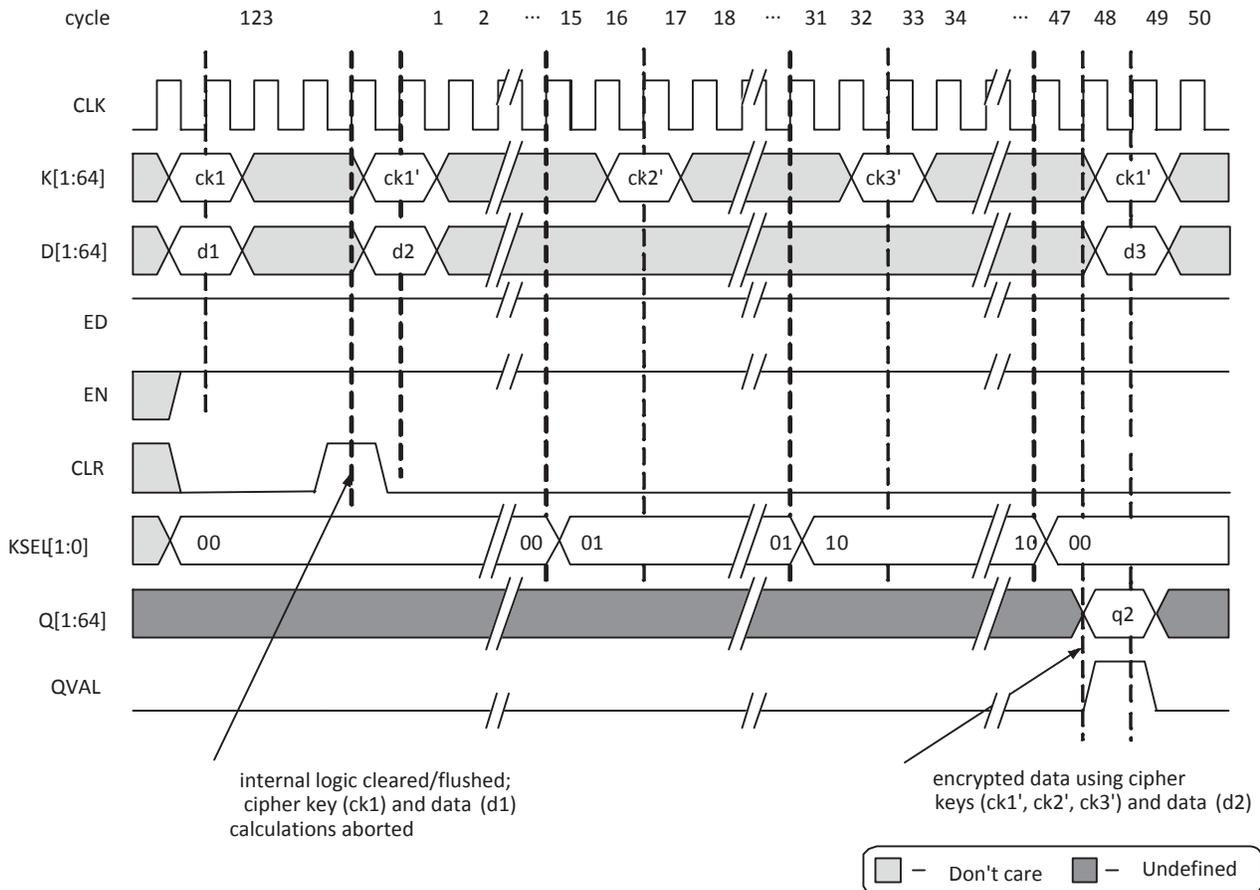


Figure 11 Example Encryption Abort Sequence

Modes of Operation

Core3DES is implemented using the TECB (TDEA Electronic Codebook) mode of operation, per ANSI Standard X9.52.

Depending on the application, other modes of operation for Triple DES may be desirable. For this reason, Microsemi provides example VHDL and Verilog source code for the TCBC (TDEA Cipher Block Chaining), TCFB (TDEA Cipher Feedback), and TOFB (TDEA Output Feedback) modes. For detailed information on specific modes of operation, refer to ANSI Standard X9.52.

Tool Flows and Testbench Operation

License

Core3DES is licensed two ways: Obfuscated and register transfer level (RTL).

Obfuscated

Complete RTL code is provided for the core, allowing the core to be instantiated with SmartDesign. Simulation, Synthesis, and Layout can be performed within Libero® System-on-Chip (SoC). The RTL code for the core is obfuscated and some of the testbench source files are not provided; they are precompiled into the compiled simulation library instead.

RTL

Complete RTL source code is provided for the core and testbenches.

SmartDesign

Core3DES is preinstalled in the SmartDesign IP Deployment design environment. The core can be configured using the configuration GUI within SmartDesign, as shown in [Figure 12](#). For information on using SmartDesign to instantiate and generate cores, refer to the [Using the DirectCore in Libero SoC User Guide](#) or [Libero Online Help](#).



Figure 12 Core3DES Configuration Window in SmartDesign

Simulation Flows

The User Testbench for Core3DES is included in all releases. To run simulations, select the User Testbench flow within CoreConsole and click **Save & Generate** on the Generate pane. The User Testbench is selected through the Core Testbench Configuration GUI. When SmartDesign generates the Libero project, it installs the user testbench files.

To run the user testbench, set the design root to the Core3DES instantiation in the Libero design hierarchy pane and click **Simulation** in the Libero **Design Flow** window. This will invoke ModelSim® and automatically run the simulation.

Synthesis in Libero

To run synthesis on the core with the parameter/generic set in SmartDesign, set the design root appropriately and click the Synthesis icon in **Libero Project Flow** window. The Synthesis window appears, displaying the Synplicity[®] project. If using Verilog, set Synplicity to use the Verilog 2001 standard. Run Synplicity.

Place-and-Route in Libero

After running Synthesis, click **Layout** in Libero to invoke Designer. Core3DES requires no special place and-route settings.

Testbench Operation

An example user testbench is included with the obfuscated and RTL releases of Core3DES. The obfuscated and RTL releases provide the precompiled ModelSim format, as well as the source code for the user testbench to ease the process of integrating and verifying the Core3DES macro into a design. The user testbench includes a simple example design that serves as a reference for users that want to implement their own designs.

The source code for each user testbench includes example support routines to aid the user in testing the Core3DES macro. Refer to the comments in the user testbench source code for details on the support routines (tasks for Verilog testbenches, functions and procedures for VHDL testbenches.) Using the supplied testbench as a guide, you can easily customize the verification of the core by adding or removing any of the tests listed in NIST Special Publication 800-20 or by adding any custom test cases.

Ordering Information

Ordering Codes

Order Core3DES through your local Microsemi sales representative. Use the following number convention when ordering: Core3DES-XX, where XX is listed in [Table 4](#).

Table 4 Ordering Codes

XX	Description
OM	RTL for Obfuscated RTL— multiple use license
RM	RTL for RTL source — multiple-use license

Export Restrictions

Core3DES is subject to export controls and is licensable under the U.S. Department of Commerce's Export Administration Regulations, the U.S. Department of State's International Traffic in Arms Regulations, or other laws, government regulations, or restrictions. Microsemi is currently in the process of obtaining additional permissions to ship Core3DES to a wider audience. The licensee will not import, export, re-export, divert, transfer, or disclose Core3DES without complying strictly with the export control laws and all legal requirements in the relevant jurisdictions, including and without limitation, obtaining the prior approval of the U.S. Department of Commerce or the U.S. Department of State, as applicable.

List of Changes

The following table lists critical changes that were made in each revision of the document.

Date	Change	Page
February 2015	Updated for Core3DES v3.1 release.	NA
March 2009	Initial release.	NA

Product Support

Microsemi SoC Products Group backs its products with various support services, including Customer Service, Customer Technical Support Center, a website, electronic mail, and worldwide sales offices. This appendix contains information about contacting Microsemi SoC Products Group and using these support services.

Customer Service

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

From North America, call **800.262.1060**

From the rest of the world, call **650.318.4460**

Fax, from anywhere in the world **650. 318.8044**

Customer Technical Support Center

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

Technical Support

For Microsemi SoC Products Support, visit <http://www.microsemi.com/products/fpga-soc/design-support/fpga-soc-support>.

Website

You can browse a variety of technical and non-technical information on the Microsemi SoC Products Group home page, at <http://www.microsemi.com/soc/>.

Contacting the Customer Technical Support Center

Highly skilled engineers staff the Technical Support Center. The Technical Support Center can be contacted by email or through the Microsemi SoC Products Group website.

Email

You can communicate your technical questions to our email address and receive answers back by email, fax, or phone. Also, if you have design problems, you can email your design files to receive assistance. We constantly monitor the email account throughout the day. When sending your request to us, please be sure to include your full name, company name, and your contact information for efficient processing of your request.

The technical support email address is soc_tech@microsemi.com.

My Cases

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Customers needing assistance outside the US time zones can either contact technical support via email (soc_tech@microsemi.com) or contact a local sales office. [Sales office listings](#) can be found at www.microsemi.com/soc/company/contact/default.aspx.

ITAR Technical Support

For technical support on RH and RT FPGAs that are regulated by International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR), contact us via soc_tech_itar@microsemi.com. Alternatively, within [My Cases](#), select **Yes** in the ITAR drop-down list. For a complete list of ITAR-regulated Microsemi FPGAs, visit the [ITAR](#) web page.



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