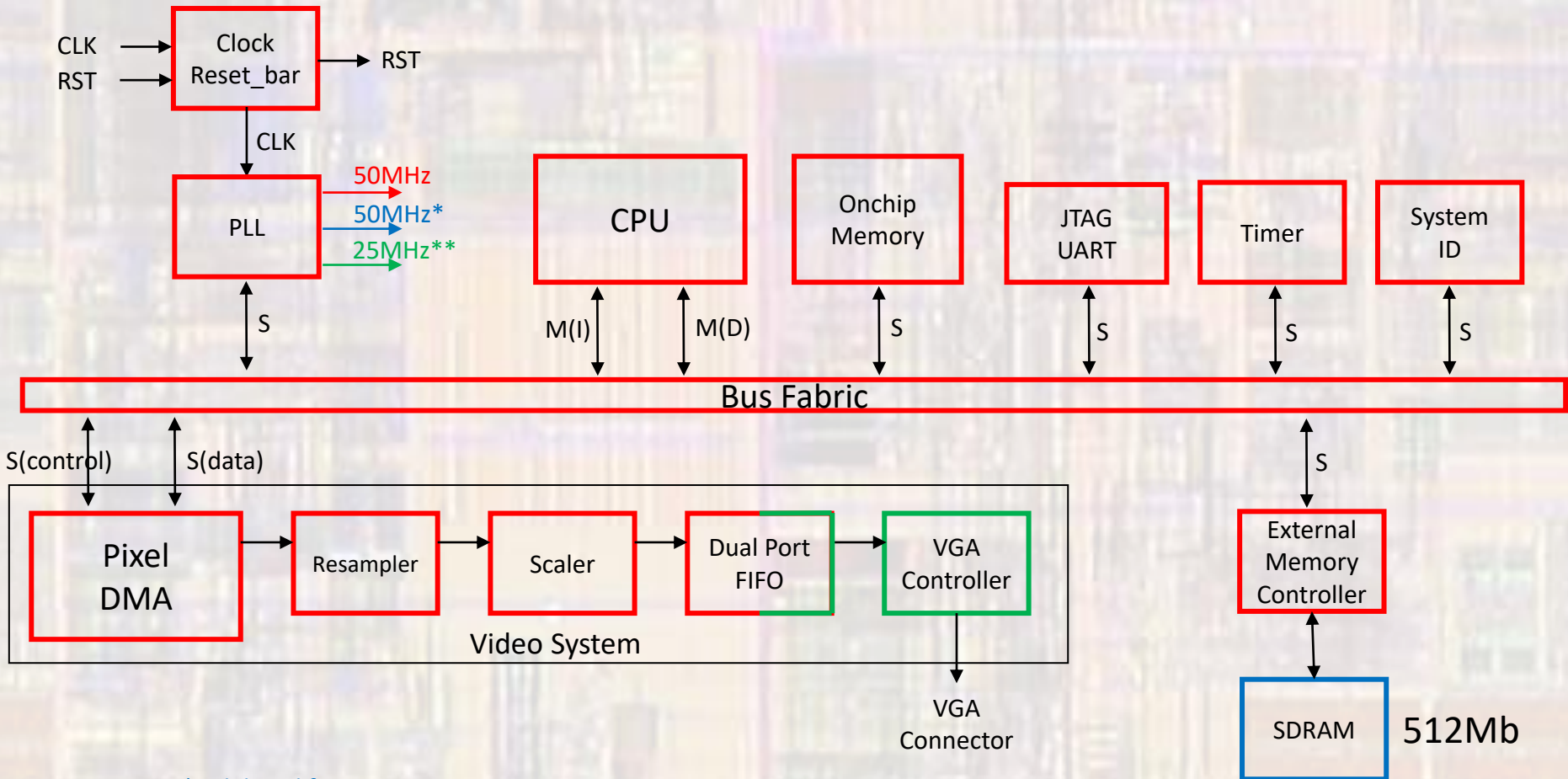


NIOS Pixel Display - SW

Last updated 7/20/23

NIOS II Pixel Display - SW



50MHz* - delayed for SDRAM

25MHz** - VGA clk

NIOS II Pixel Display - SW

- Create Eclipse System
 - Open NIOSII software
 - [Tools](#) → [NIOSII Software Build Tools for Eclipse](#)
 - Create the BSP
 - [File](#) → [New](#) → [NIOSII Application and BSP from template](#)
 - Blank Template
 - Edit the BSP
 - Right click on the BSP, [NIOS II](#) → [BSP Editor](#)
 - Change the properties for small systems
 - [Small C library](#)
 - [Reduced device drivers](#)
 - Re-Generate the BSP

NIOS II Pixel Display - SW

- Create Eclipse System
 - Review the BSP Memory allocations
 - Right click on the BSP, **NIOS** → **BSP Editor** → **Linker Script** Tab
 - Most are in the SDRAM

The screenshot shows the 'BSP Editor - settings.bsp' window with the 'Linker Script' tab selected. It displays two tables: 'Linker Section Mappings' and 'Linker Memory Regions'.

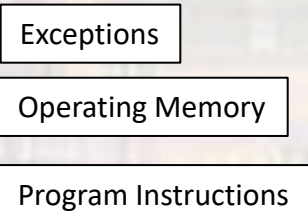
Linker Section Mappings

Linker Section Name	Linker Region Name	Memory Device Name
.bss	new_sdram_controller_0	new_sdram_controller_0
.entry	reset	onchip_memory2_0
.exceptions	onchip_memory2_0	onchip_memory2_0
.heap	new_sdram_controller_0	new_sdram_controller_0
.rodata	new_sdram_controller_0	new_sdram_controller_0
.rwdata	new_sdram_controller_0	new_sdram_controller_0
.stack	new_sdram_controller_0	new_sdram_controller_0
.text	onchip_memory2_0	onchip_memory2_0

Linker Memory Regions

Linker Region Name	Address Range	Memory Device Name	Size (bytes)	Offset (bytes)
onchip_memory2_0	0x04020020 - 0x0403869F	onchip_memory2_0	99968	32
reset	0x04020000 - 0x0402001F	onchip_memory2_0	32	0
new_sdram_controller_0	0x00000000 - 0x03FFFFFF	new_sdram_controller_0	67108864	0

Grayed out entries are automatically created at generate time. They are not editable or persisted in the BSP settings file.



NIOS II Pixel Display - SW

- Create Eclipse System
 - In the BSP – under drivers/inc
 - Open altera_up_avalon_video_pixel_buffer_dma.h
 - Find the video pixel buffer structure name

```
21 @/*
22  * Device structure definition. Each instance of the driver uses one
23  * of these structures to hold its associated state.
24  */
25 typedef struct alt_up_pixel_buffer_dma_dev {
26     /// @brief Channel DMA mode device structure
27     /// @sa Developing Device Drivers for the HAL in Nios II Software Developer's Handbook
28     alt_dev dev;
29     /// @brief the pixel buffer's slave base address
30     unsigned int base;
31     /// @brief the memory buffer's start address
32     unsigned int buffer_start_address;
33     /// @brief the memory back buffer's start address
34     unsigned int back_buffer_start_address;
```

- Create a pointer of this type

```
// define a pointer of type pixel_buffer...
// to use as a reference in the dma functions
//
alt_up_pixel_buffer_dma_dev * pixel_buf_dma_dev;
```

NIOS II Pixel Display - SW

- Create Eclipse System

- In the BSP – under [drivers/inc](#)

- Open altera_up_avalon_video_pixel_buffer_dma.h
- Find the function to open the pixel buffer dma device

```
56 ////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////////
57 // direct operation functions
58 /**
59  * @brief Opens the pixel buffer device specified by <em> name </em>
60  *
61  * @param name -- the pixel buffer component name in SOPC Builder.
62  *
63  * @return The corresponding device structure, or NULL if the device is not found
64  */
65 alt_up_pixel_buffer_dma_dev* alt_up_pixel_buffer_dma_open_dev(const char* name);
66
```

- Open the device and assign it to the previously defined pointer

```
// open the Pixel Buffer port
```

```
// - command is in drivers/inc/altera..video_pixel_buffer_dma.h
```

```
// name reference is in system.h
```

```
// - "/dev/video_pixel_buffer_dma_0"
```

```
//
```

```
pixel_buf_dma_dev = alt_up_pixel_buffer_dma_open_dev ("/dev/video_pixel_buffer_dma_0");
```

```
349 #define ALT_MODULE_CLASS_video_pixel_buffer_dma_0 altera_up_avalon_video_pixel_buffer_dma
350 #define VIDEO_PIXEL_BUFFER_DMA_0_BASE 0x4041020
351 #define VIDEO_PIXEL_BUFFER_DMA_0_IRQ -1
352 #define VIDEO_PIXEL_BUFFER_DMA_0_IRQ_INTERRUPT_CONTROLLER_ID -1
353 #define VIDEO_PIXEL_BUFFER_DMA_0_NAME "/dev/video_pixel_buffer_dma_0"
354 #define VIDEO_PIXEL_BUFFER_DMA_0_SPAN 16
355 #define VIDEO_PIXEL_BUFFER_DMA_0_TYPE "altera_up_avalon_video_pixel_buffer_dma"
...
```

NIOS II Pixel Display - SW

- Create Eclipse System
 - In the BSP – under [drivers/inc](#)
 - Open `altera_up_avalon_video_pixel_buffer_dma.h`
 - The remainder of the pixel buffer dma commands are in this file

```
/**
 * @brief Draw a pixel at the location specified by <em>(x, y)</em> on the VGA monitor
 *
 * @param pixel_buffer -- the pointer to the VGA structure
 * @param color-- the RGB color to be drawn
 * @param x -- the \em x coordinate
 * @param y -- the \em y coordinate
 *
 * @return 0 for success, -1 for error (such as out of bounds)
 **/
int alt_up_pixel_buffer_dma_draw(alt_up_pixel_buffer_dma_dev *pixel_buffer, unsigned int color, unsigned int x, unsigned int y);

/**
 * @brief Changes the back buffer's start address
 *
 * @param pixel_buffer -- the pointer to the VGA structure
 * @param new_address -- the new start address of the back buffer
 *
 * @return 0 for success
 **/
int alt_up_pixel_buffer_dma_change_back_buffer_address(alt_up_pixel_buffer_dma_dev *pixel_buffer, unsigned int new_address);

/**
 * @brief Swaps which buffer is being sent to the VGA Controller
 *
 * @param pixel_buffer -- the pointer to the VGA structure
 *
 * @return 0 for success
 **/
int alt_up_pixel_buffer_dma_swap_buffers(alt_up_pixel_buffer_dma_dev *pixel_buffer);
```

5 bits R
6 bits G
5 bits B

This actually writes to the back buffer

0 - 319

0 - 239

0xF800 = RED

NIOS II Pixel Display - SW

- Create Eclipse System

```
/**
 * @brief Check if swapping buffers has completed
 *
 * @param pixel_buffer -- the pointer to the VGA structure
 *
 * @return 0 if complete, 1 if still processing
 */
int alt_up_pixel_buffer_dma_check_swap_buffers_status(alt_up_pixel_buffer_dma_dev *pixel_buffer);

/**
 * @brief This function clears the screen or the back buffer.
 *
 * @param pixel_buffer -- the pointer to the VGA structure
 * @param backbuffer -- set to 1 to clear the back buffer, otherwise set to 0 to clear the current screen.
 *
 * @return 0 if complete, 1 if still processing
 */
void alt_up_pixel_buffer_dma_clear_screen(alt_up_pixel_buffer_dma_dev *pixel_buffer, int backbuffer);

/**
 * @brief This function draws a box of a given color between points (x0,y0) and (x1,y1).
 *
 * @param pixel_buffer -- the pointer to the VGA structure
 * @param x0,x1,y0,y1 -- coordinates of the top left (x0,y0) and bottom right (x1,y1) corner of the box
 * @param color -- color of the box to be drawn
 * @param backbuffer -- set to 1 to select the back buffer, otherwise set to 0 to select the current screen.
 *
 * @return 0 if complete, 1 if still processing
 */
void alt_up_pixel_buffer_dma_draw_box(alt_up_pixel_buffer_dma_dev *pixel_buffer, int x0, int y0, int x1, int y1, int color, int backbuffer);

/**
 * @brief This function draws a horizontal line of a given color between points (x0,y) and (x1,y).
 *
 * @param pixel_buffer -- the pointer to the VGA structure
 * @param x0,x1,y -- coordinates of the left (x0,y) and the right (x1,y) end-points of the line
 * @param color -- color of the line to be drawn
 * @param backbuffer -- set to 1 to select the back buffer, otherwise set to 0 to select the current screen.
 *
 * @return 0 if complete, 1 if still processing
 */
void alt_up_pixel_buffer_dma_draw_hline(alt_up_pixel_buffer_dma_dev *pixel_buffer, int x0, int x1, int y, int color, int backbuffer);
```

These actually write to the buffers

NIOS II Pixel Display - SW

- Create Eclipse System

These actually write to the buffers

```
/**
 * @brief This function draws a vertical line of a given color between points (x,y0) and (x,y1).
 *
 * @param pixel buffer -- the pointer to the VGA structure
 * @param x,y0,y1 -- coordinates of the top (x,y0) and the bottom (x,y1) end-points of the line
 * @param color -- color of the line to be drawn
 * @param backbuffer -- set to 1 to select the back buffer, otherwise set to 0 to select the current screen.
 *
 * @return 0 if complete, 1 if still processing
 */
void alt_up_pixel_buffer_dma_draw_vline(alt_up_pixel_buffer_dma_dev *pixel_buffer, int x, int y0, int y1, int color, int backbuffer);

/**
 * @brief This function draws a rectangle of a given color between points (x0,y0) and (x1,y1).
 *
 * @param pixel buffer -- the pointer to the VGA structure
 * @param x0,x1,y0,y1 -- coordinates of the top left (x0,y0) and bottom right (x1,y1) corner of the rectangle
 * @param color -- color of the rectangle to be drawn
 * @param backbuffer -- set to 1 to select the back buffer, otherwise set to 0 to select the current screen.
 *
 * @return 0 if complete, 1 if still processing
 */
void alt_up_pixel_buffer_dma_draw_rectangle(alt_up_pixel_buffer_dma_dev *pixel_buffer, int x0, int y0, int x1, int y1, int color, int backbuffer);

/**
 * @brief This function draws a line of a given color between points (x0,y0) and (x1,y1).
 *
 * @param pixel buffer -- the pointer to the VGA structure
 * @param x0,x1,y0,y1 -- coordinates (x0,y0) and (x1,y1) correspond to end points of the line
 * @param color -- color of the line to be drawn
 * @param backbuffer -- set to 1 to select the back buffer, otherwise set to 0 to select the current screen.
 *
 * @return 0 if complete, 1 if still processing
 */
void alt_up_pixel_buffer_dma_draw_line(alt_up_pixel_buffer_dma_dev *pixel_buffer, int x0, int y0, int x1, int y1, int color, int backbuffer);
```

NIOS II Pixel Display - SW

- Create Eclipse System
 - Write a program to print some Pixels to the screen

```
////////////////////
// Includes
////////////////////
#include "altera_up_avalon_video_pixel_buffer_dma.h"
#include <stdio.h>
#include <unistd.h>

int main(void){
    // define a pointer of type pixel_buffer...
    // to use as a reference in the dma functions
    //
    alt_up_pixel_buffer_dma_dev * pixel_buf_dma_dev;

    // open the Pixel Buffer port
    // - command is in drivers/inc/alter...video_pixel_buffer_dma.h
    // name reference is in system.h
    // - "/dev/video_pixel_buffer_dma 0"
    //
    pixel_buf_dma_dev = alt_up_pixel_buffer_dma_open_dev ("/dev/video_pixel_buffer_dma 0");

    // Check for error and output to the console
    //
    if ( pixel_buf_dma_dev == NULL)
        printf ("Error: could not open pixel buffer device \n");
    else
        printf ("Opened pixel buffer device \n");
}
```

Include the DMA functions

Debug code

NIOS II Pixel Display - SW

- Create Eclipse System
 - Write a program to print some Pixels to the screen

```
// Clear the screen
// - command is in drivers/inc/alter...video pixel buffer dma.h
// - wait until done before continuing
//
alt_up_pixel_buffer_dma_clear_screen (pixel_buf_dma_dev, 0);
usleep(1000000); // 1sec

// Draw a box
// - command is in drivers/inc/alter...video pixel buffer dma.h
//
alt_up_pixel_buffer_dma_draw_box (pixel_buf_dma_dev, 100, 50, 149, 99, 0xF800, 0);
alt_up_pixel_buffer_dma_draw_box (pixel_buf_dma_dev, 150, 100, 199, 149, 0x07E0, 0);
alt_up_pixel_buffer_dma_draw_box (pixel_buf_dma_dev, 200, 150, 249, 199, 0x001F, 0);
```

NIOS II Pixel Display - SW

- Create Eclipse System
 - Compile the software
 - Select the code file (box.c)
 - Project → Build Project
 - Right Click on the project → run as → Nios II Hardware

NIOS II Pixel Display - SW

- Create Eclipse System

