AXI Video Graphics Array (v1.00a) Specification

Introduction

This document describes the specifications of the Video Graphics Array (VGA) core for the On-Chip AXI Bus.

The VGA is a 32-bit master-slave module that attaches to the AXI.

Features

- Supports 32-bit AXI v2.0 bus interface

- Monochrome (1 bit per pixel, 32-pixel per word)

- Supports 640 x 480 video resolution

- Generates 60 Hz vertical synchronization

- Configurable start address

- Support for interrupts and polling
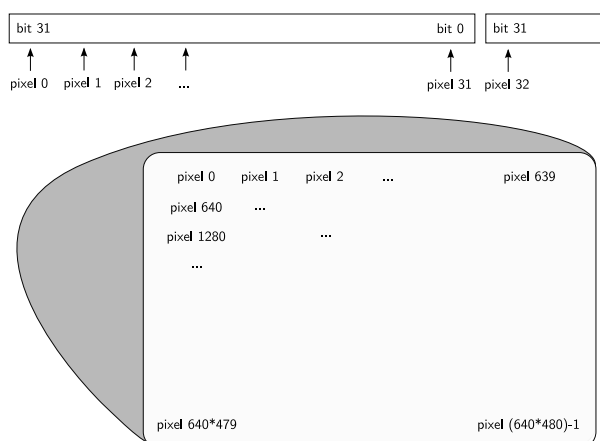
Functional Description

Figure 1: Video buffer data format

After reset, the VGA is initially idle. User sets the start address by writing to the `CFG` register. If the value written to this register is different than `0x0`, then the VGA becomes enabled.

When enabled, the VGA continuously reads 32-bit words, starting from the start address (value of the `CFG` register), and incrementing until the end of the video buffer. It drives the color signals `RED`, `GREEN` and `BLUE` and the horizontal synchronization `HSYNC`.

Each time the VGA reaches the end, it drives the vertical synchronization signal `VSYNC` and sends an interruption using the `IP2INTC_Irpt` signal. It also sets the `INT` register to `0x1`. The `INT` register can be cleared by writing `0x1` to it.
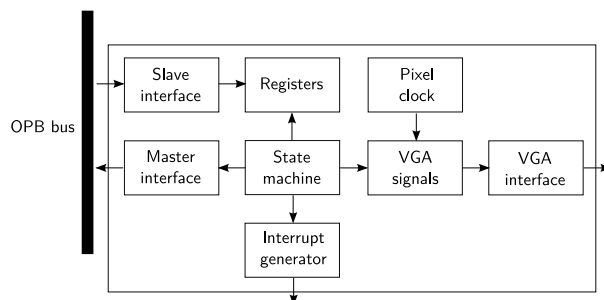

Figure 2: VGA Block diagram

The VGA can be idled by writing `0x0` to the `CFG` register.

Programming Model

Modes

The VGA provides the following modes:

- IDLE: when `CFG` register is `0x0`. In this mode, a test pattern is displayed (vertical lines).

- ENABLED: otherwise

Register offsets

	Offset	Size	Type	Description
CFG	0x00	Word	R/W	Configuration reg.
STT	0x04	Word	R	Status register
INT	0x08	Word	R/W	Interrupt register

Registers descriptions

Configuration register

The configuration registers holds the start address of the video buffer. The value should be modified soon after the vertical synchronization to give best results.

Status register

The status register is not implemented.

Interrupt register

The interrupt register is set to `0x1` after a vertical synchronization and can be cleared by writing `0x1` to it.