DE1-SoC FPGA Board: Peripheral Buttons

By: Adam Narten; Winter 2018

Tools

Quartus Prime 17.0 Eclipse for DS-5 v.5.25.0

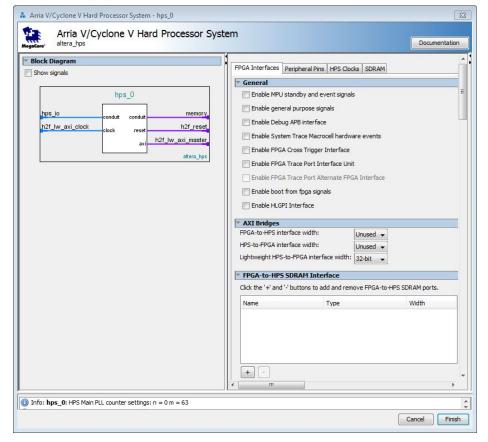
Introduction

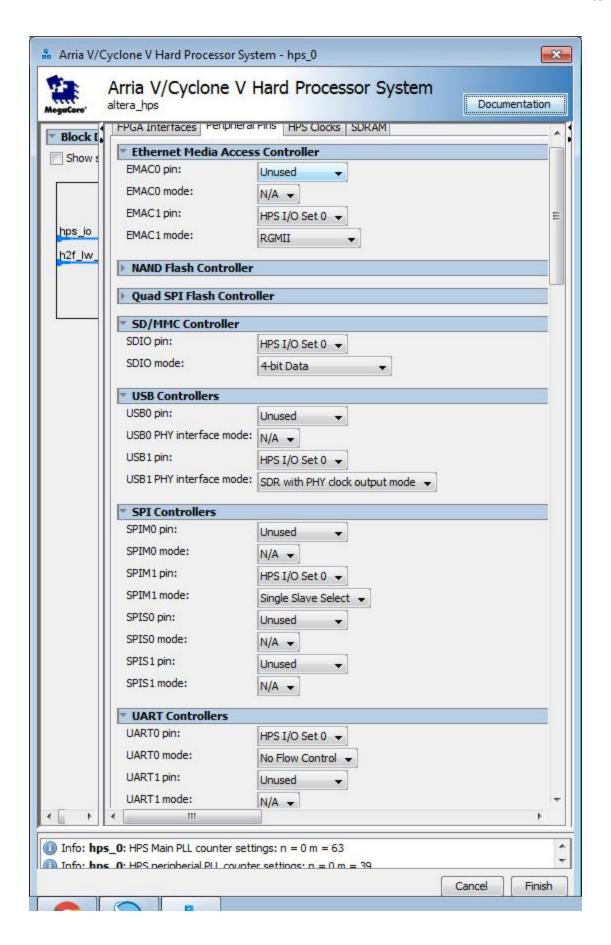
These notes will show how to setup and configure the on board buttons, as well as provide a sample task that shows button reactions on the red LEDS.

Hardware Procedure

The following images show the minimum required components in the Qsys system as well as the required settings.

- 1. Clock
 - Use the default clock source created by the New Project Wizard
- 2. HPS System
 - Note this is the same as the tutorial setup done in the ECE 492 Labs.

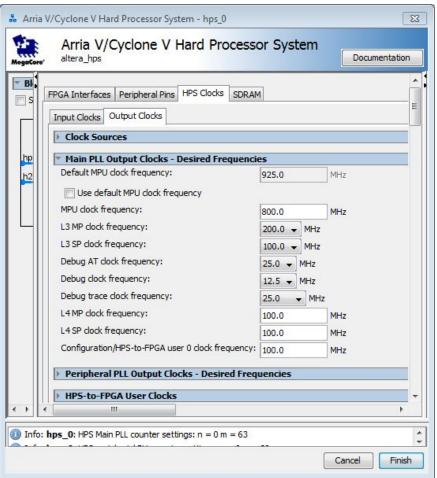


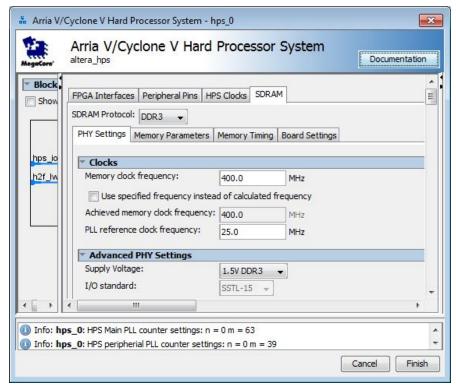


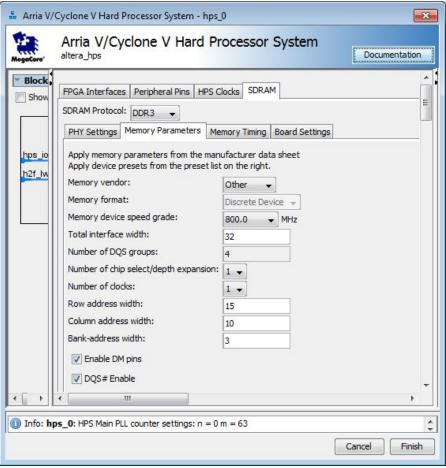


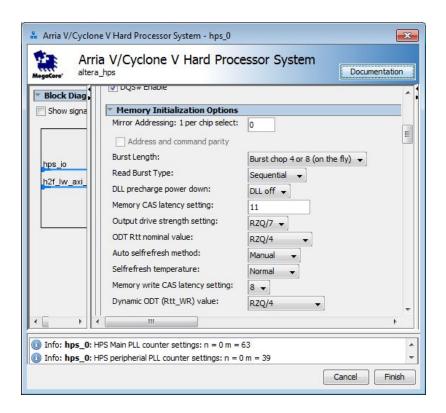
In the Peripheral Mux Table click on the GPIO09, GPIO35, GPIO40, GPIO48, GPIO53, GPIO54 and GPIO61 pins to appropriately map them manually.

Under the HPS Clocks tab leave the Input Clocks tab as the default. The output clocks are as follows:



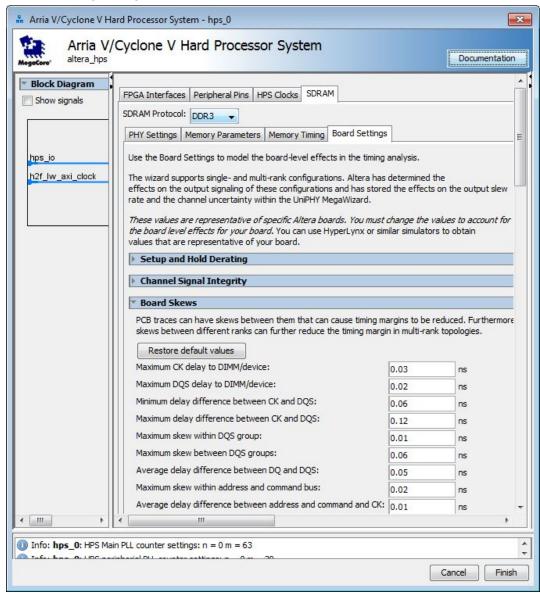






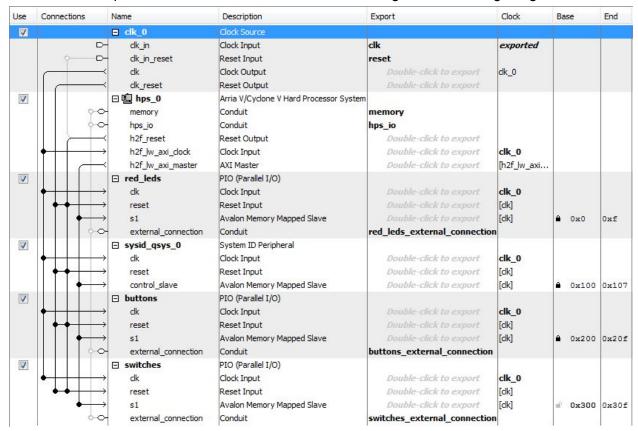
Under Board Settings -> Setup and Hold Derating and Channel Signal Integrity, leave Altera's default settings checked.

The remaining configuration is as follows:



- 3. PIO (Parallel I/O) for red LEDs
 Set the width to 10 and the direction to output. Leave all other settings as default.
- 4. PIO (Parallel I/O) for buttons
 Set the width to 4 and the direction to input. Leave all other settings as default.
- 5. PIO (Parallel I/O) for switches
 Set the width to 10 and the direction to input. Leave all other settings as default.
- 6. System ID PeripheralUse the default configuration

Once these components are added, connect them according to the following image:



Note, the base addresses for the red leds and buttons are set at 0x000 and 0x200, respectively. You may change these to suit your design as long as they are updated in the button.h file (discussed later). The system ID peripheral and switches base addresses are 0x100 and 0x300; these may also be changed as needed.

Next, ensure your toplevel VHDL file in Quartus is connected as follows. A template is provided in buttons.vhd for reference.

A. Declare these pins in the entity (in addition to all of the hps signals):

```
-- FPGA side pins

LEDR : out std_logic_vector(9 downto 0);

-- Button / Key Pins

KEY_N : in std_logic_vector(3 downto 0);

-- Switches

SW : in std_logic_vector(9 downto 0)
```

B. Add these ports in the architecture's component declaration buttons_external_connection_export: in std_logic_vector(3 downto 0) := (others => 'X'); -- export red_leds_external_connection_export: out std_logic_vector(9 downto 0); -- export switches_external_connection_export: in std_logic_vector(9 downto 0) := (others => 'X') -- export

```
C. Port map the pins to the ports in the instantiation:
reset_reset_n => SW(9),
buttons_external_connection_export => KEY_N,
red_leds_external_connection_export => LEDR,
switches_external_connection_export => SW
```

Note, the reset signal is now 'connected' to switch 9. This means that in order for the board to function properly, the reset signal must be asserted high upon flashing the board by physically turning the switch "on". With this implementation, switch 9 cannot be used for any other purpose and must be left in the "on" position to function properly; turning it "off" results in a reset of the board which requires reflashing.

Ensure that the .qip and .tcl scripts have also been added to the project before compiling. Also be sure to run the appropriate .tcl scripts beforehand. Then you may compile the design.

A zipped archive of a template project is included with this report for your reference.

Software Procedure

To ensure the software can properly communicate with the hardware, specify the base addresses in the button.h file, specifically for the red LEDs and buttons.

Since the buttons are active low, 0xf is constantly being written to the LEDs turning them on. Thus once a button is pressed, the value changes and can be handled accordingly. To handle the button presses, a driver file button.c (button.h) has been provided to give an example. It is recommended that calls to key_pressed() are done in a loop to ensure quick response time. Alternatively, interrupts could be implemented by the end user to provide more reliable response time. An example is shown in the attached app.c file. The end user can add any additional functionality to handle button presses in the appropriately commented places in the app.c task. Also note, certain time delays have been added in button.c to allow for button debounce time. These times can be modified to satisfy user preference.

References

[1] University of Toronto. *Digital Embedded Systems Lab: Push Buttons*. [Online]. Available: http://www-ug.eecg.utoronto.ca/desl/nios_devices_SoC/dev_pushbuttons.html

Attached Files

app.c: Provides an example main.c and AppTask to detect button presses.

button.c: Provides button driver functions for reading button behavior.

button.h: Header file for the button driver functions.

buttons.qar: Archived Quartus/Qsys project example to implement peripheral buttons.

pin assignment DE1 SoC.tcl: Pin Assignments tcl script provided by Terasic