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실습 5

VGA Programming on KAU Computer System
(VGAProg01)

Ref: Video IP Cores for Altera DE-Series Boards

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- An Image Frame
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VGA_Subsystem in KAU_Computer

- Display Control in KAU_Computer
  - To control VGA DAC and the images on a screen
  - VGA Controller
  - VGA Pixel Buffer

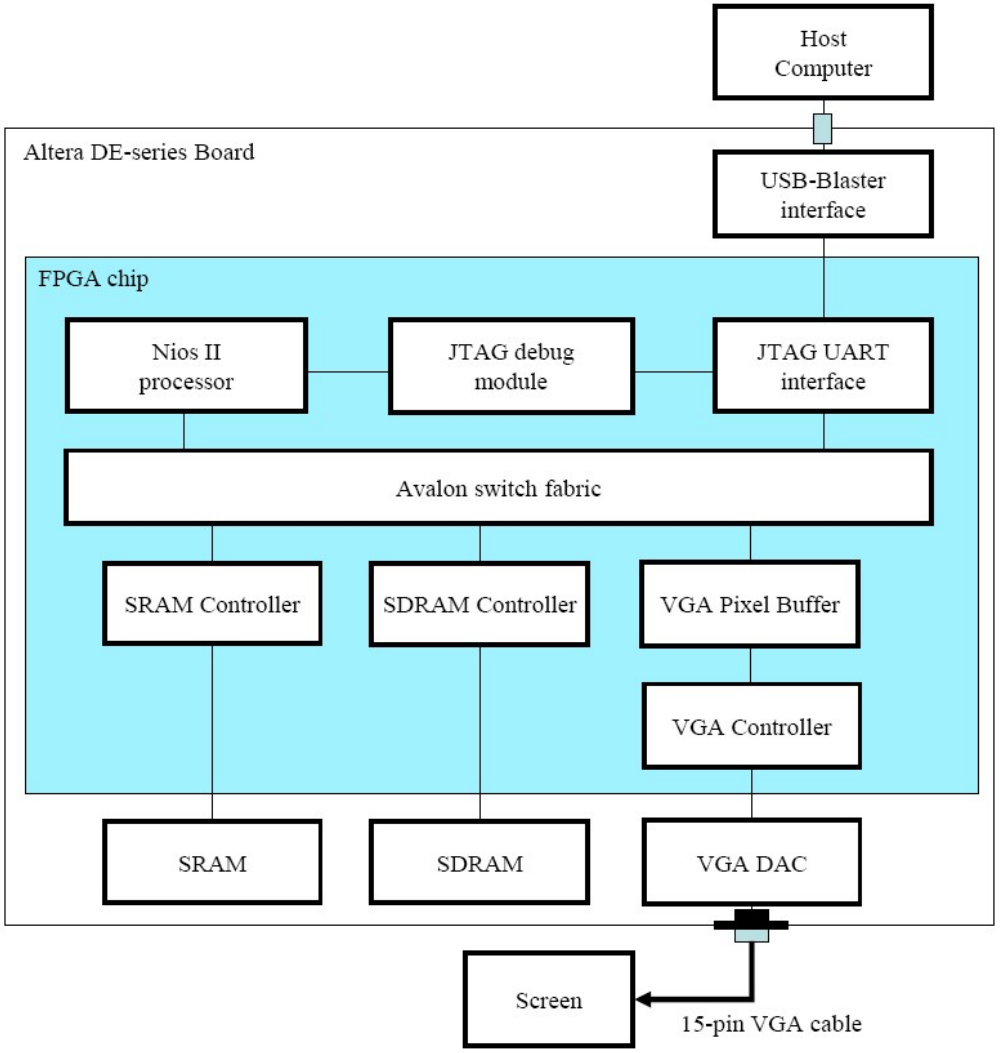
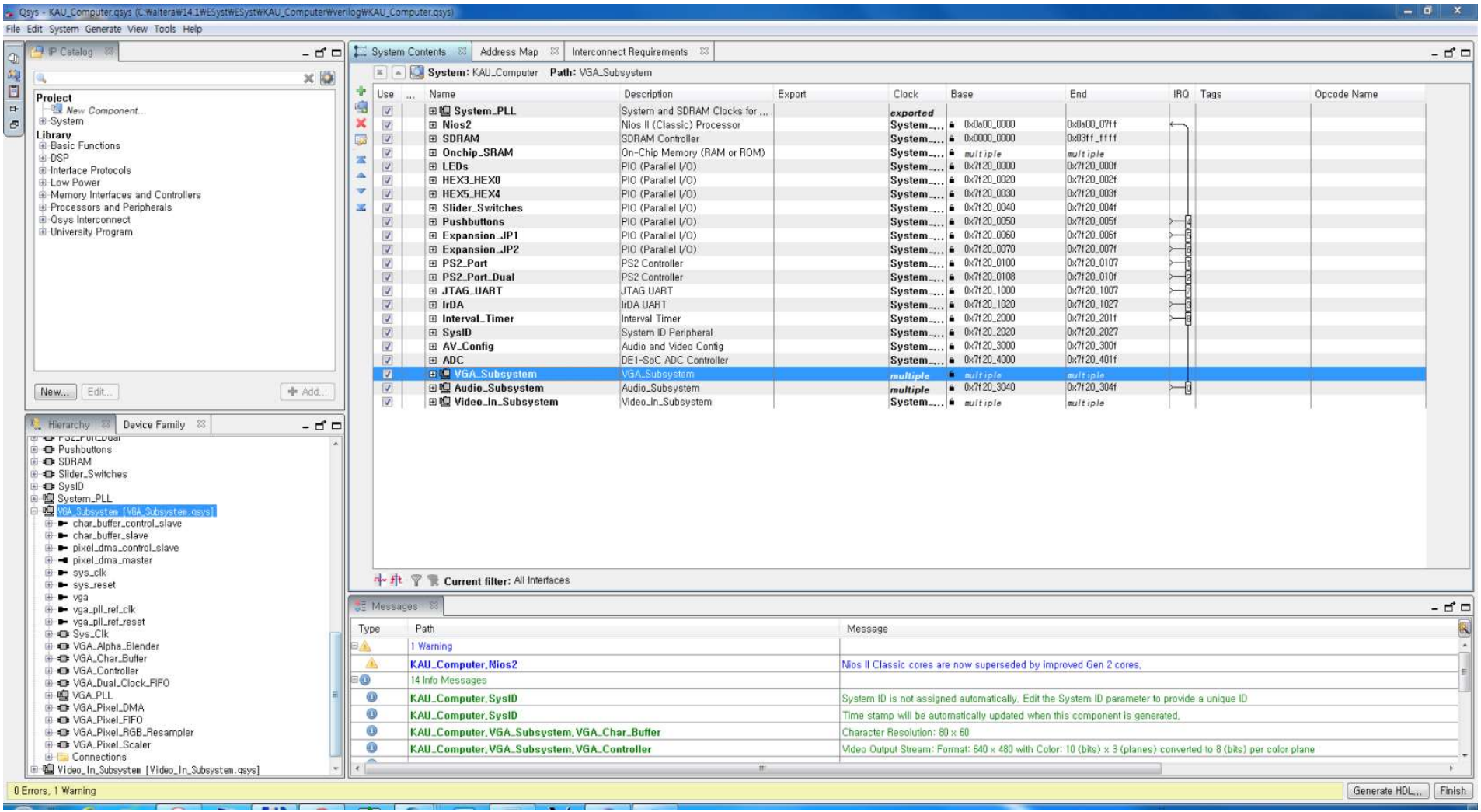
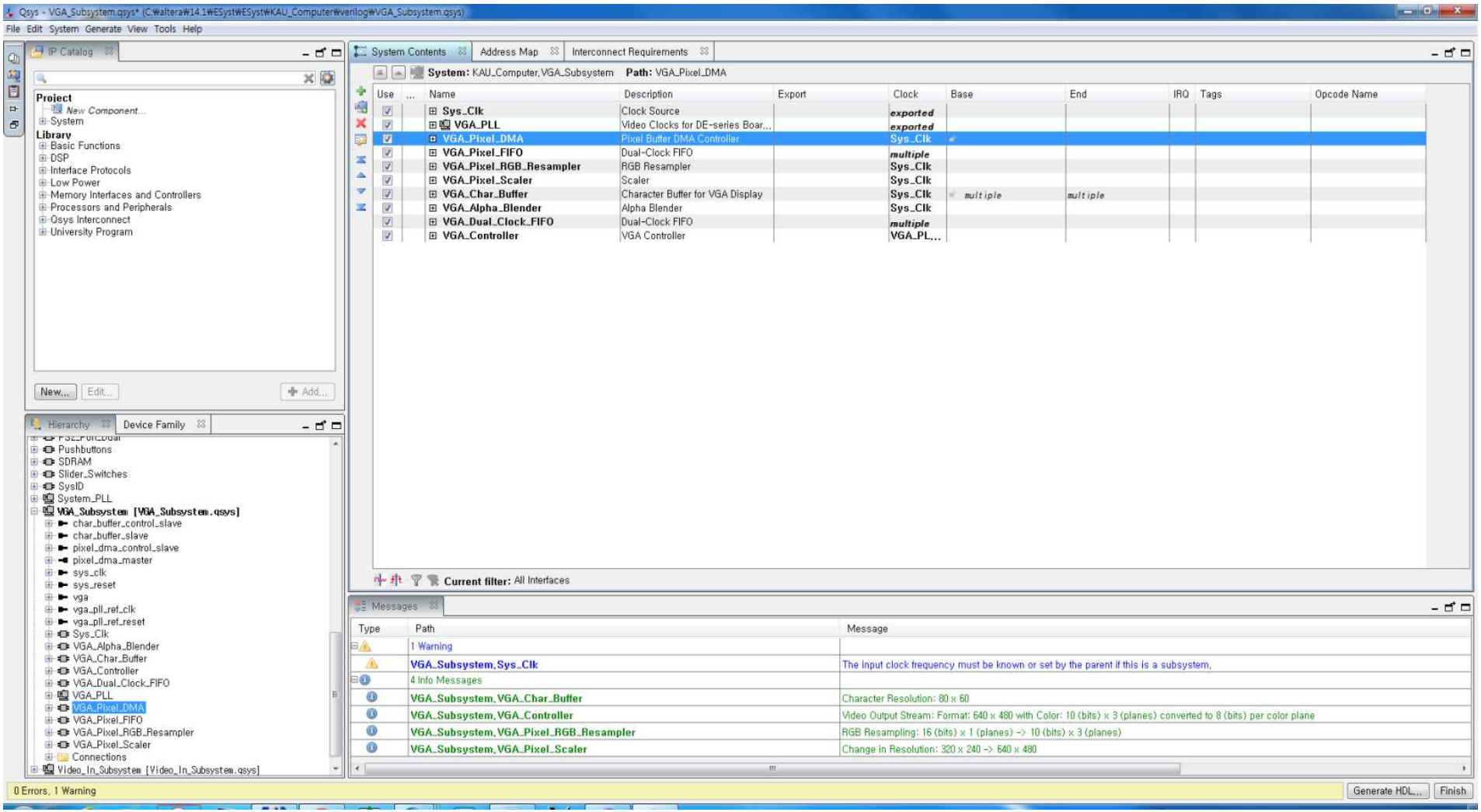


Figure 1. Portion of the DE-series Media Computer used in this exercise

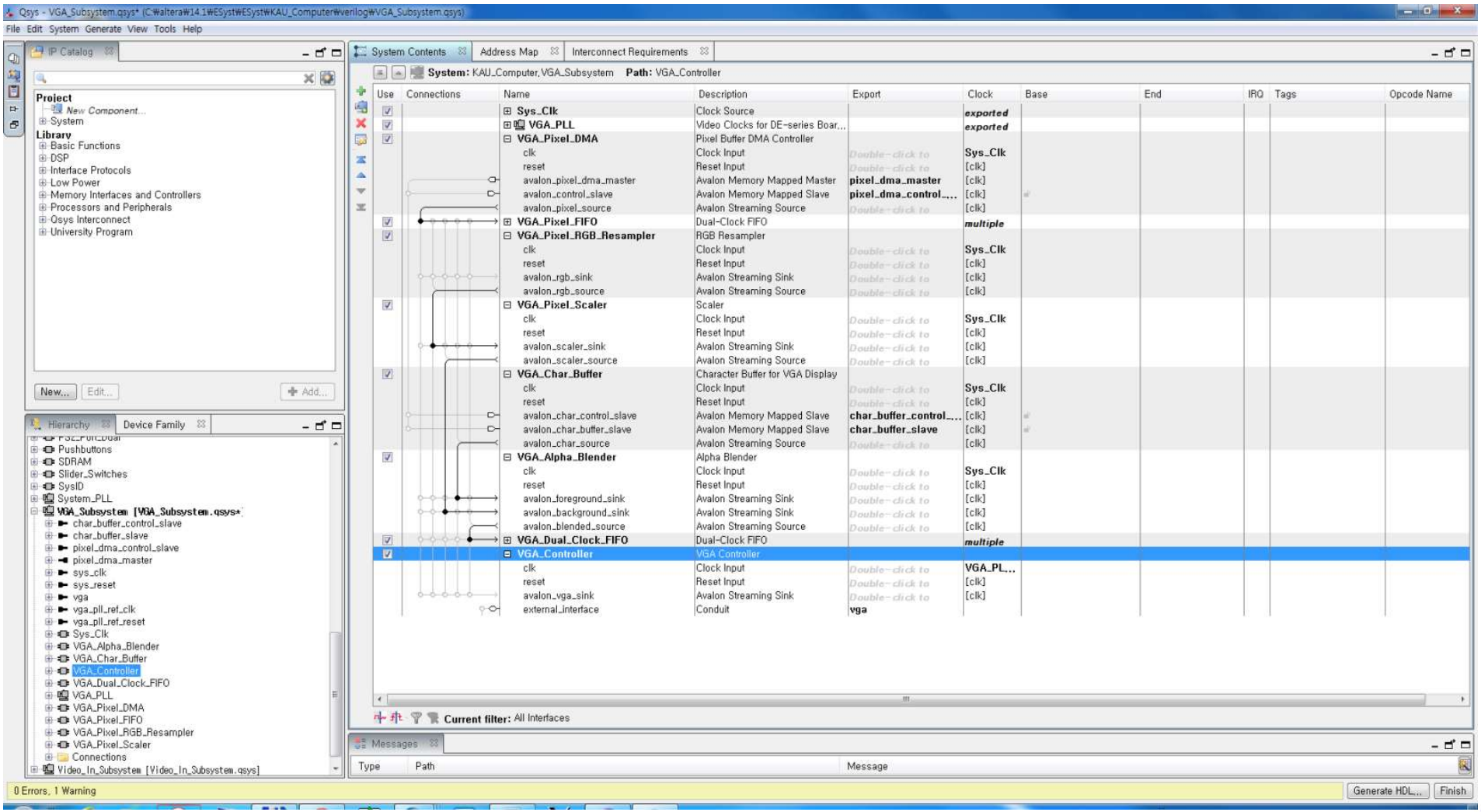
KAU_Computer



VGA_Subsystem in KAU_Computer



VGA_Subsystem in KAU_Computer



An Image Frame - 16bit RGB

- An image frame
  - Stored in memory
  - 16-bit RGB
  - Address of pixels
    - X-Y addressing mode
      - (BaseAddr)+(pixel offset)
    - Continuous mode
      - (BaseAddr)+(W*y+x)*2

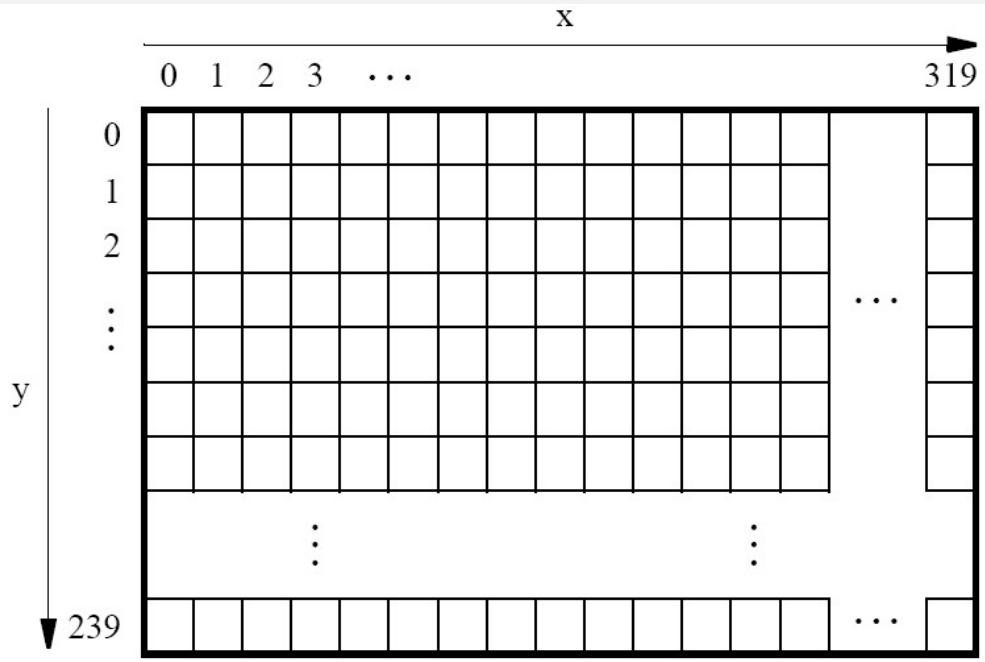
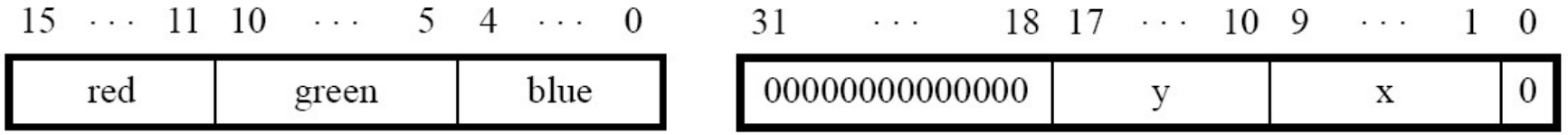


Figure 2. Pixel array.



(a) Pixel color (b) Pixel (x,y) offset

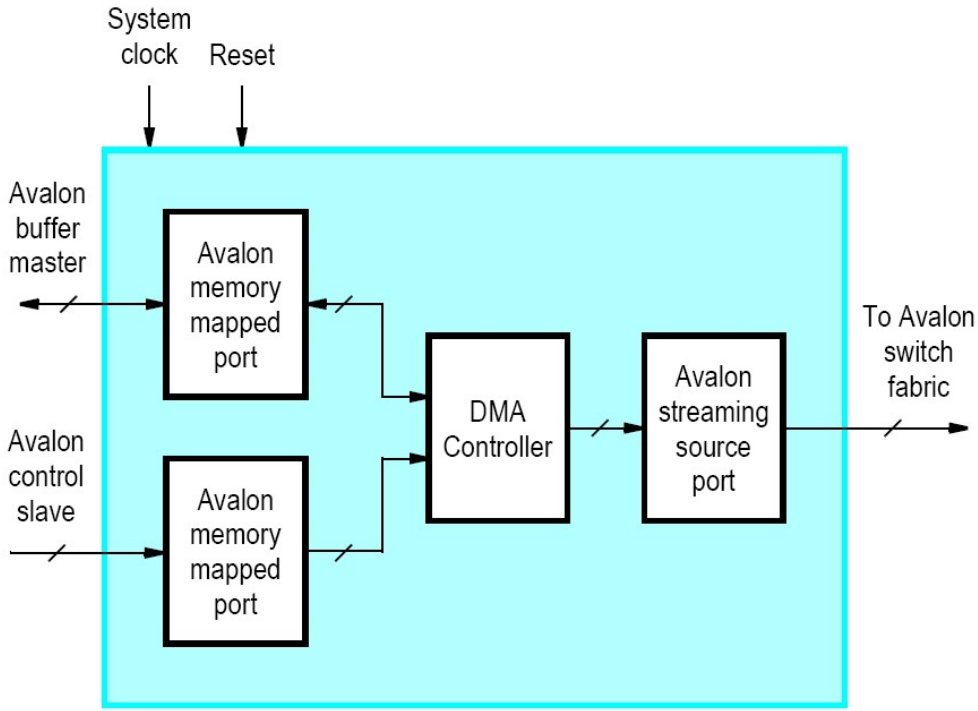
Figure 3. Pixel color and offset.

An Image Frame - 8/24/32 bit RGB

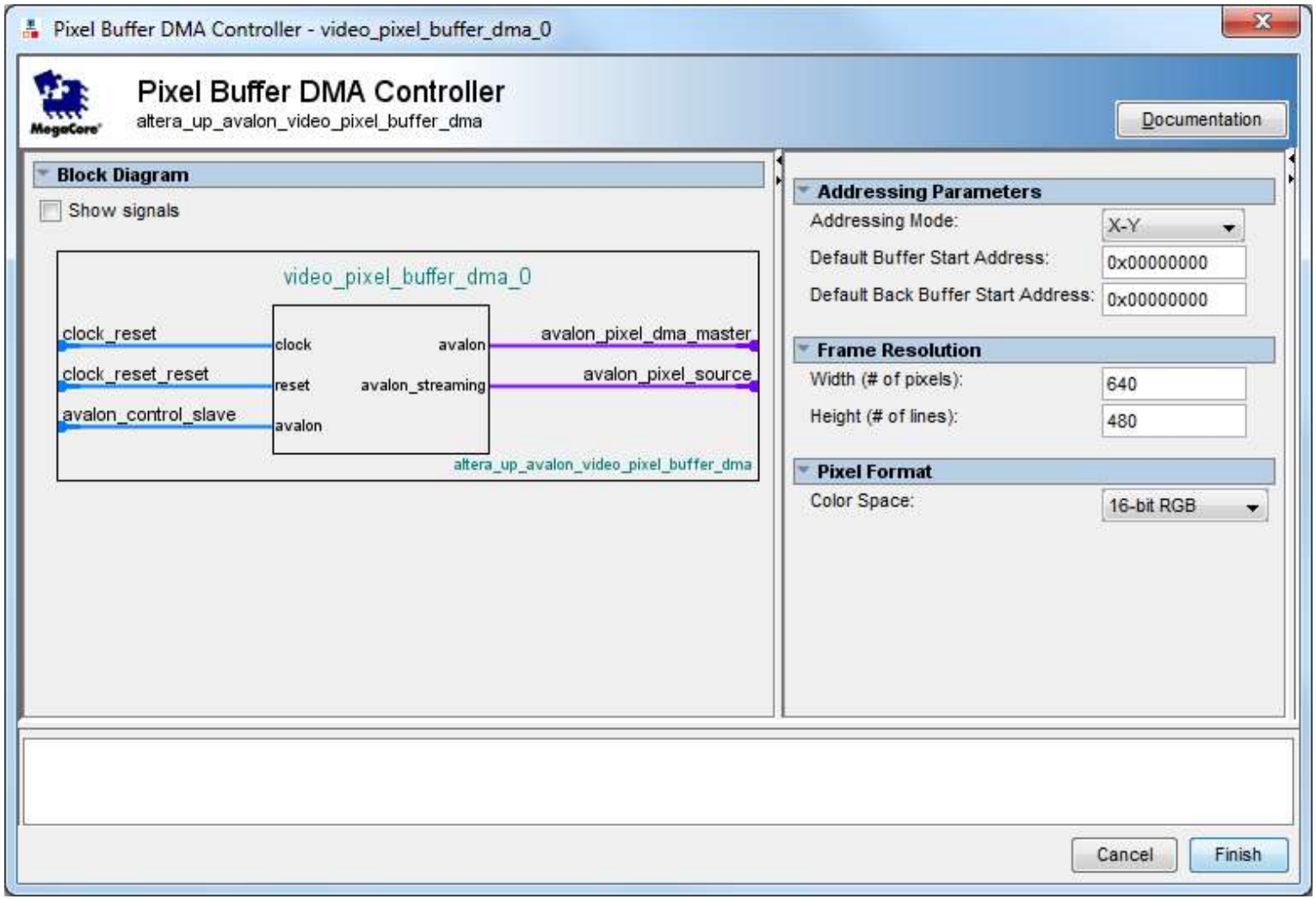
- For other color pixel representation, refer to section 3.1 and 3.2 of *Video IP Cores for Altera DE-Series Boards*

VGA pixel DMA (Pixel Buffer DMA)

- VGA pixel (buffer) DMA
  - An interface between the VGA controller and the memory where the image frames are stored
  - Memory-mapped registers for accessing the VGA pixel buffer control



VGA pixel DMA (Pixel Buffer DMA)



VGA pixel DMA (Pixel Buffer DMA)

- Software Programming Model

Table 4. Pixel Buffer register map

Offset in bytes	Register Name	R/W	Bit Description							
			31…24	23…16	15…8	7…4	3	2	1	0
0	Buffer	R	Buffer's start address							
4	BackBuffer	R/W	Back buffer's start address							
8	Resolution	R	Y		X					
12	Status	R	m	n	*(1)*	B	*(1)*		A	S

- *Buffer* : 32-bit address of the start of the frame buffer
- *BackBuffer* : the start address of the frame buffer to be changed
  - Write the desired frame's start address into the *BackBuffer* register
  - Second write operation on the *Buffer* register
    - A request to swap the contents of the *Buffer* and the *BackBuffer* registers
- *Resolution* : the resolution of the image frame (or the screen)

VGA pixel DMA (Pixel Buffer DMA)

Table 5. Status register bits

Bit number	Bit name	R/W	Description
31 - 24	m	R	Width of Y coordinate address
23 - 16	n	R	Width of X coordinate address
7 - 4	B	R	number of bytes of color: 1 (greyscale, 8-bit color), 2 (9-bit and 16-bit color), 3 (24-bit color) or 4 (30-bit and 32-bit color)
1	A	R	Addressing mode: 0 (X,Y), or 1 (consecutive)
0	S	R	Swap: 0 when swap is done, else 1

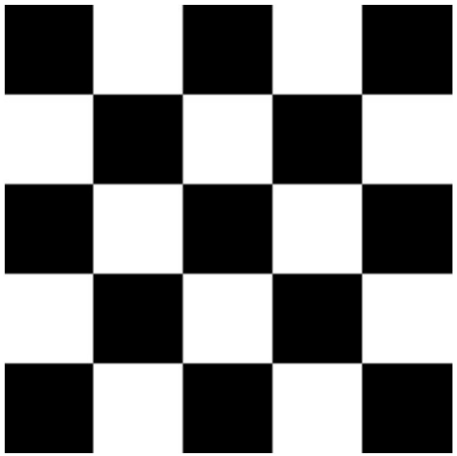
- The Pixel Buffer's Device Drivers for the Nios II Processor
  - Refer to *Video IP Cores for Altera DE-Series Boards*

Exercise 1 : LCD Dead Pixel Test

- This is a simple test designed to make it easier to detect LCD "dead pixels" (pixels that are either **stuck-ON** or **stuck-OFF**) by displaying a series of solid background color pages for contrast.
- Design a function which fill a rectangle with a given 16-bit RGB data
  - `void FillPattern16(alt_u16 *pFB, alt_u16 sx, alt_u16 sy, alt_u16 w, alt_u16 h, alt_u16 data, int addr_mode);`
- LCD Display Test
  - Check if there is any dead pixels on your LCD display
  - Prepare image frames of which pixels are all in R, G, B, White, or Black
  - Write a program to display the images prepared repeatedly with the following transition order R➔G➔B➔White➔Black
  - Can you find any dead pixels?

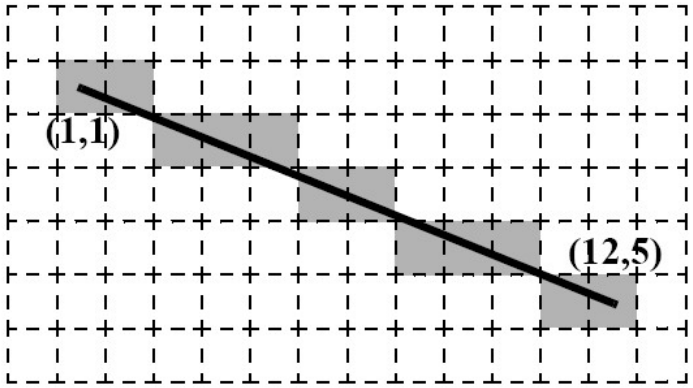
Exercise 2 : Displaying Checker-board pattern

- Draw a checkerboard pattern on the VGA display
  - Write a pattern to the memory buffer
  - Configure the Pixel Buffer DMA to access the memory buffer
- Animation
  - Write three different checkerboard patterns to three separate memory buffers (different sizes or colors at your own)
  - Change the patterns with arbitrary order and interval



Exercise 3 : Line-Drawing

- Drawing a line on a screen
  - Coloring pixels between two points (x1, y1) and (x2, y2) such that they resemble a line as closely as possible
  - Drawing a line between points (1,1) and (12,5)



- An algorithm
  - slope = (y2-y1)/(x2-x1)
  - Move along the x-axis and compute y-coordinate
    - y = slope * (x-x1) + y1
    - moving along the x axis has a drawback when a line is steep
  - Bresenham's algorithm
    - alter the algorithm to move along the y axis when a line is steep

Exercise 3 : Line-Drawing

- Bresenham's algorithm
- Write a C-language program that implements the line algorithm
- Download the program into the KAU_Computer
- Connect a 15-pin VGA cable to the VGA connector on the board and th LCD monitor
- Run your program

```
1   draw_line(x0, x1, y0, y1)
2
3       boolean is_steep = abs(y1 - y0) > abs(x1 - x0)
4       if is_steep then
5           swap(x0, y0)
6           swap(x1, y1)
7       if x0 > x1 then
8           swap(x0, x1)
9           swap(y0, y1)
10
11      int deltax = x1 - x0
12      int deltay = abs(y1 - y0)
13      int error = -(deltax / 2)
14      int y = y0
15      if y0 < y1 then y_step = 1 else y_step = -1
16
17      for x from x0 to x1
18          if is_steep then draw_pixel(y,x) else draw_pixel(x,y)
19          error = error + deltay
20          if error >= 0 then
21              y = y + y_step
22              error = error - deltax
```

Homework 4, Due 5/2

- Inspect the IP modules from the Pixel Buffer DMA to the VGA controller in VGA_Subsystem of KAU_Computer
  - Read the data sheet for the IP modules
    - Dual-Clock FIFO
    - RGB Resampler
    - Scaler
    - Character buffer for VGA display
    - Alpha Blender
  - Summarizes the functions of each modules briefly (2 pages in A4)
- Modify the VGA_Subsystem such that it can handle 8-bit gray-scale image frame
  - Name the system as KAU_Computer_8BGray
  - Generate & Compile & program it to display checker board pattern

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