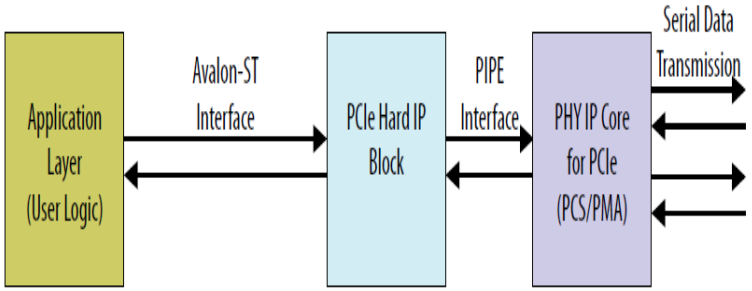
Altera PCIe reference design testing

CRU INDIA TEAM

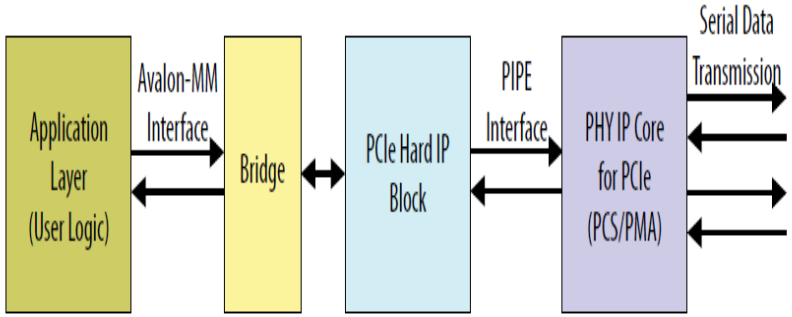
Example Design :Variation

We have found four example designs :

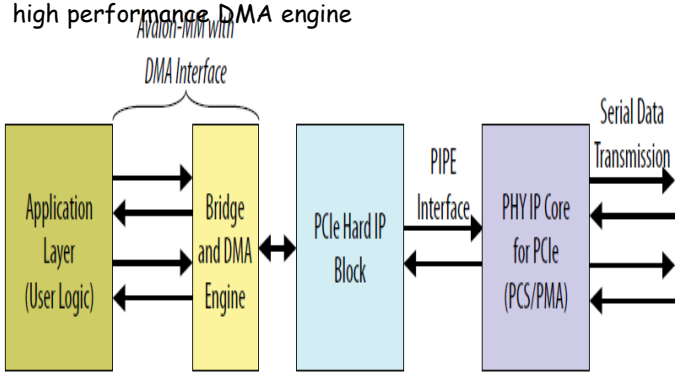
1. Stratix V Avalon-ST Interface for PCIe Solutions -- for better understanding of PCIe hip



2. Stratix V Avalon-MM Interface for PCIe Solutions— for quick design

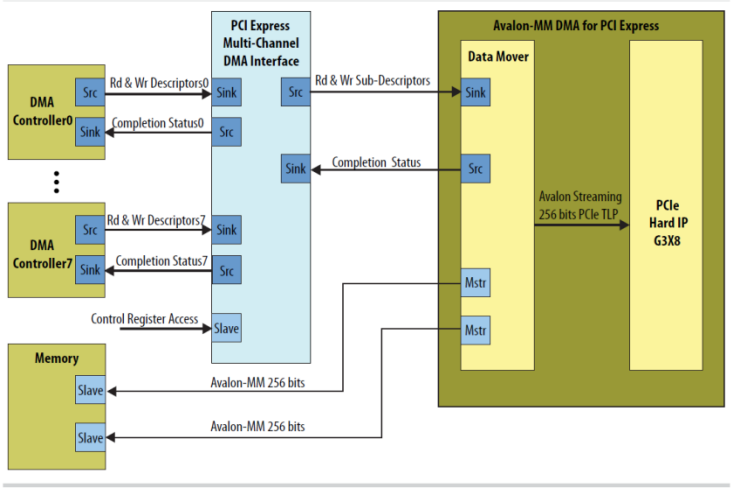


3. V-Series Avalon-MM DMA Interface for PCIe Solutions – high performance DMA engine



4. PCI Express Multi-Channel DMA Interface--multichannel DMA ,support 8chs, one mem for 8 chs

Figure 1: PCI Express Multi-Channel DMA Interface Example Design System-Level Block Diagram



PCIe_Testing

- There are multiple PCIe reference design available in web . We have selected reference design based on 1st and 3rd example design:
  -- Stratix V Avalon-ST Interface for PCIe Solutions
  -- V-Series Avalon-MM DMA Interface for PCIe Solutions

- APPs

  --Both the reference design includes a Windows-based software application that sets up the DMA transfers. The software application also measures and displays the performance achieved for the transfers.

  --We have another jungo app that detect the presence of Altera board on PCI bus and fetch the details of reference design.

- Ref design selection:

  --Reference design1 based on 1st example design has multiple variation .We have selected the three of them
  --Gen 1 X8/Gen2 X8/Gen3 X4

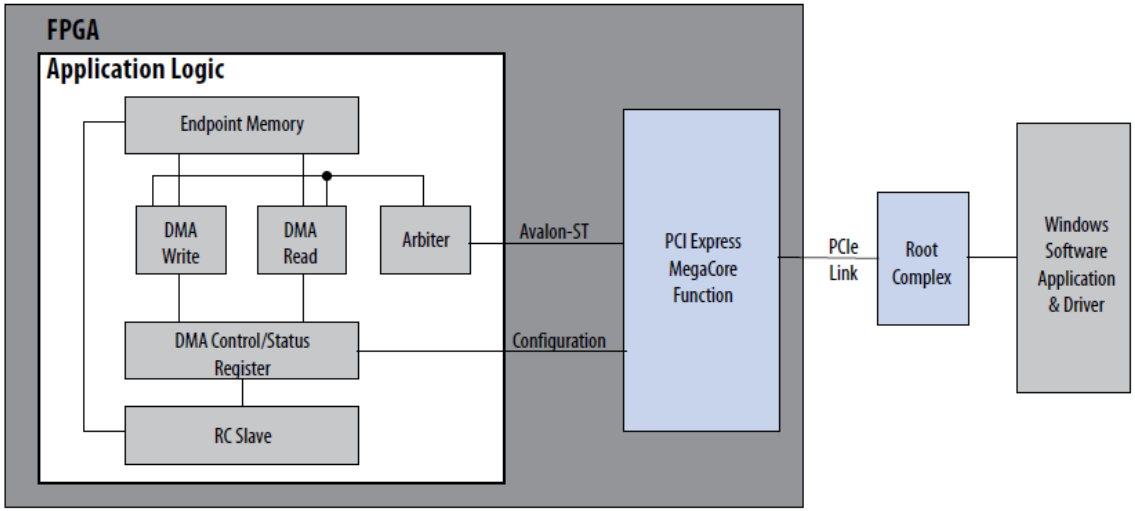
  --Reference design2 based on 3rd example design also has multiple variation .We have selected the one of them
  --Gen 3 X8

- There are two computers in VECC ,one support upto Gen2X8 and another upto Gen3 X8.

- We are not able to install the windows application for ref design 1 on computer that support upto Gen3X8.
  So,the result for DMA is for Gen2 X8

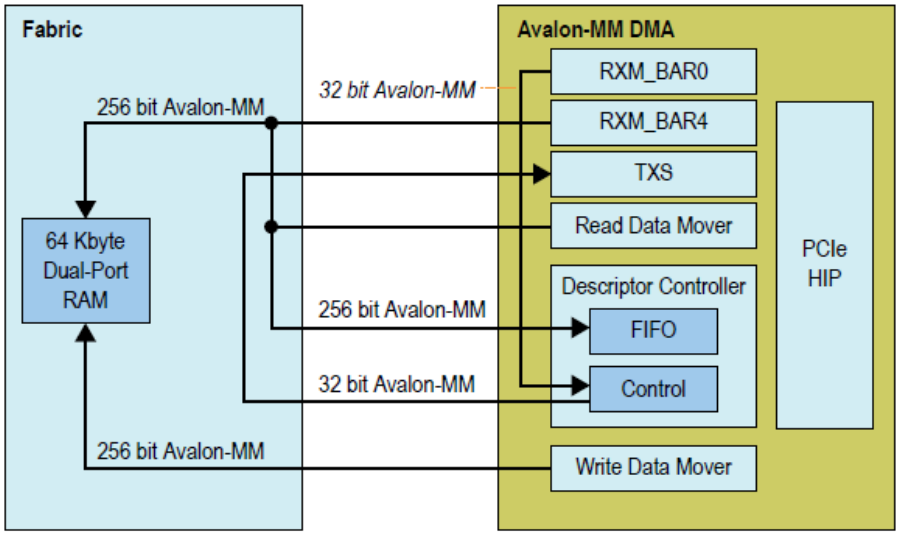
- We are able to install the drivers for ref design 2 on computer that support upto Gen3X8.Device manager has listed the Altera board. But, not able to run the application prog. till now.. So, right now we do not have results for DMA of reference design 2.

Reference design 1



User design contains the DMA engine

Reference design 2



User design contains the only the dual port RAM,
DMA is accessed through MM regs

Board and system setup

- Before prog. the FPGA,we have to change some DIP switches setting to create the testing environment and manage the trade off b/n configuration time and bus enumeration time

- **Problem**
  --Configuration time is much much greater than Bus enumeration time
  --FPGA will be still in configuration mode after bus enumeration, So, host will not detect PCIe based FPGA board

- **Reasons behind solution:**
  --FPGA needs power for configuration.
  --After configuration FPGA needs Power (either via PCI BUS or externally) to hold the configuration.
  --But when we shut down and restart or restart the host.,FPGA will not get power for some time in case of Power source=PCI BUS.
  --So, FPGA will lose its configuration.
  --So, We need to apply external power for the time being.

  Solution:

  --apply external power to prog. the FPGA
  --shut down and restart or restart the host i.e bus enumeration (FPGA remains configured ,since we have applied external power)
  --so host will detect FPGA board on PCI bus

- **To manage the trade off b/n configuration time and bus enumeration time, there are other solutions like CvP and FPPX32**
- **But, CvP is not supported by Gen3 X8 mode**
- **We are trying to program the FLASH using PFL.**

PCIe Control DIP Switch

PCI Express Control DIP Switch

The PCI Express control DIP switch (SW6) can enable or disable different configurations. Table 2–16 shows the switch controls and descriptions.

Table 2–16. PCI Express Control DIP Switch Controls

Switch	Schematic Signal Name	Description	Default
1	PCIE_PRSNT2n_x1	ON : Enable x1 presence detect OFF : Disable x1 presence detect	ON
2	PCIE_PRSNT2n_x4	ON : Enable x4 presence detect OFF : Disable x4 presence detect	ON
3	PCIE_PRSNT2n_x8	ON : Enable x8 presence detect OFF : Disable x8 presence detect	ON
4	—	Unused	—

SW setting: OFF OFF ON ON

JTAG Control DIP Switch

JTAG Control DIP Switch

The JTAG control DIP switch (SW3) provides you an option to either remove or include devices in the active JTAG chain. However, the Stratix V GX FPGA device is always in the JTAG chain. Table 2–14 shows the switch controls and its descriptions.

Table 2–14. JTAG Control DIP Switch Controls

Switch	Schematic Signal Name	Description	Default
1	5M2210_JTAG_EN	ON : Bypass MAX V CPLD System Controller. OFF : MAX V CPLD System Controller in-chain.	OFF
2	HSMA_JTAG_EN	ON : Bypass HSMC port A. OFF : HSMC port A in-chain.	ON
3	HSMB_JTAG_EN	ON : Bypass HSMC port B. OFF : HSMC port B in-chain.	ON
4	PCIE_JTAG_EN	ON : On-Board USB-Blaster II or external USB-Blaster is the chain master. OFF : PCI Express edge connector is the chain master.	ON

SW setting: ON ON ON ON

Board setting DIP Switch

Board Settings DIP Switch

The board settings DIP switch (SW5) controls various features specific to the board and the MAX V CPLD System Controller logic design. Table 2–12 lists the switch controls and descriptions.

Table 2–12. Board Settings DIP Switch Controls (Part 1 of 2)

Switch	Schematic Signal Name	Description	Default
1	CLK_SEL	ON : SMA input clock select. OFF : Programmable oscillator input clock select (default 100 MHz).	OFF
2	CLK_ENABLE	ON : On-Board oscillator enabled. OFF : On-Board oscillator disabled.	ON

Table 2–12. Board Settings DIP Switch Controls (Part 2 of 2)

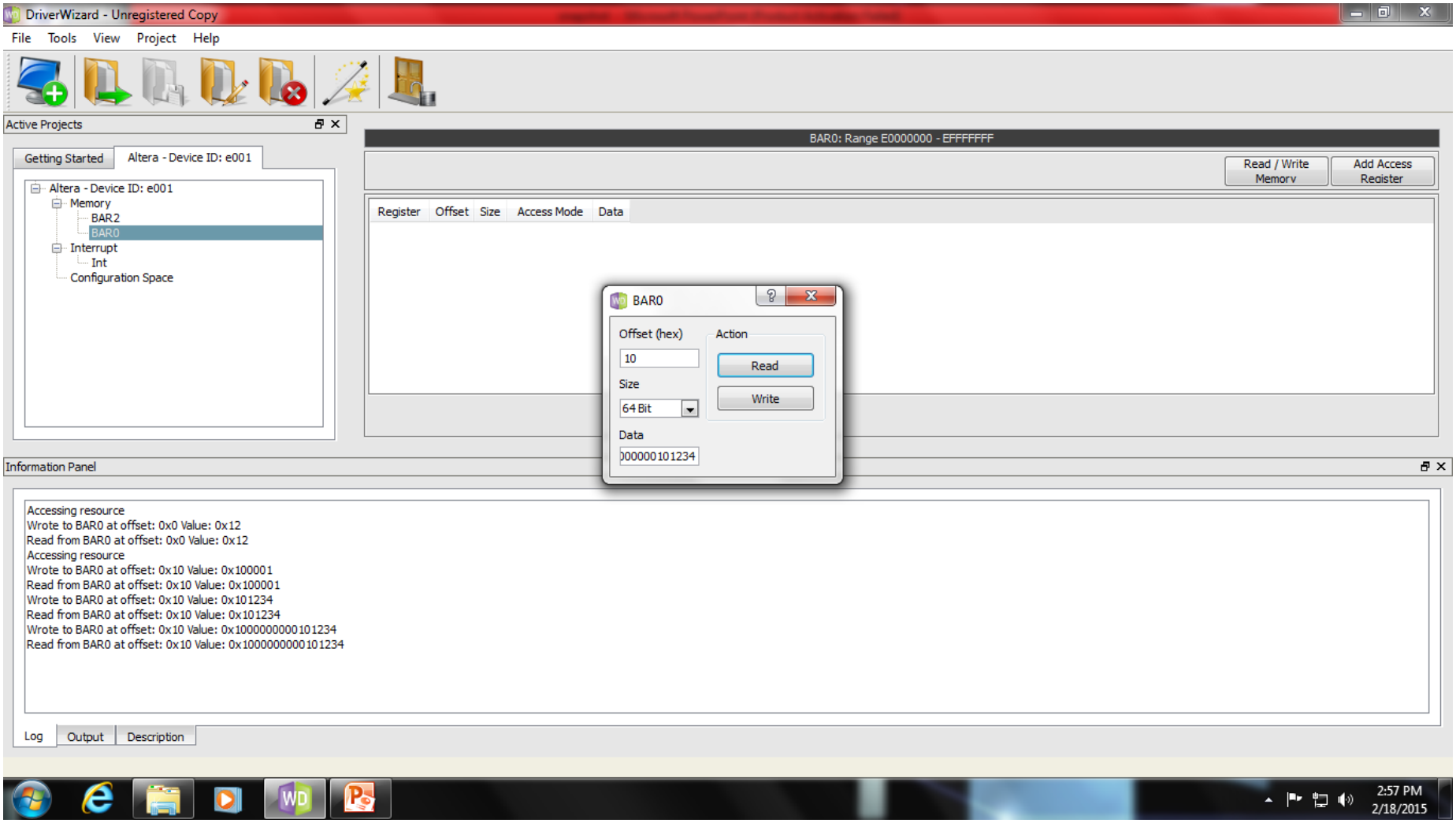
Switch	Schematic Signal Name	Description	Default
3	FACTORY_LOAD	ON : Load user 1 design from flash at power up. OFF : Load factory design from flash at power up.	OFF
4	SECURITY_MODE	ON : Do not send FACTORY command at power-up. OFF : Send FACTORY command at power-up.	ON

SW setting: OFF ON ON OFF

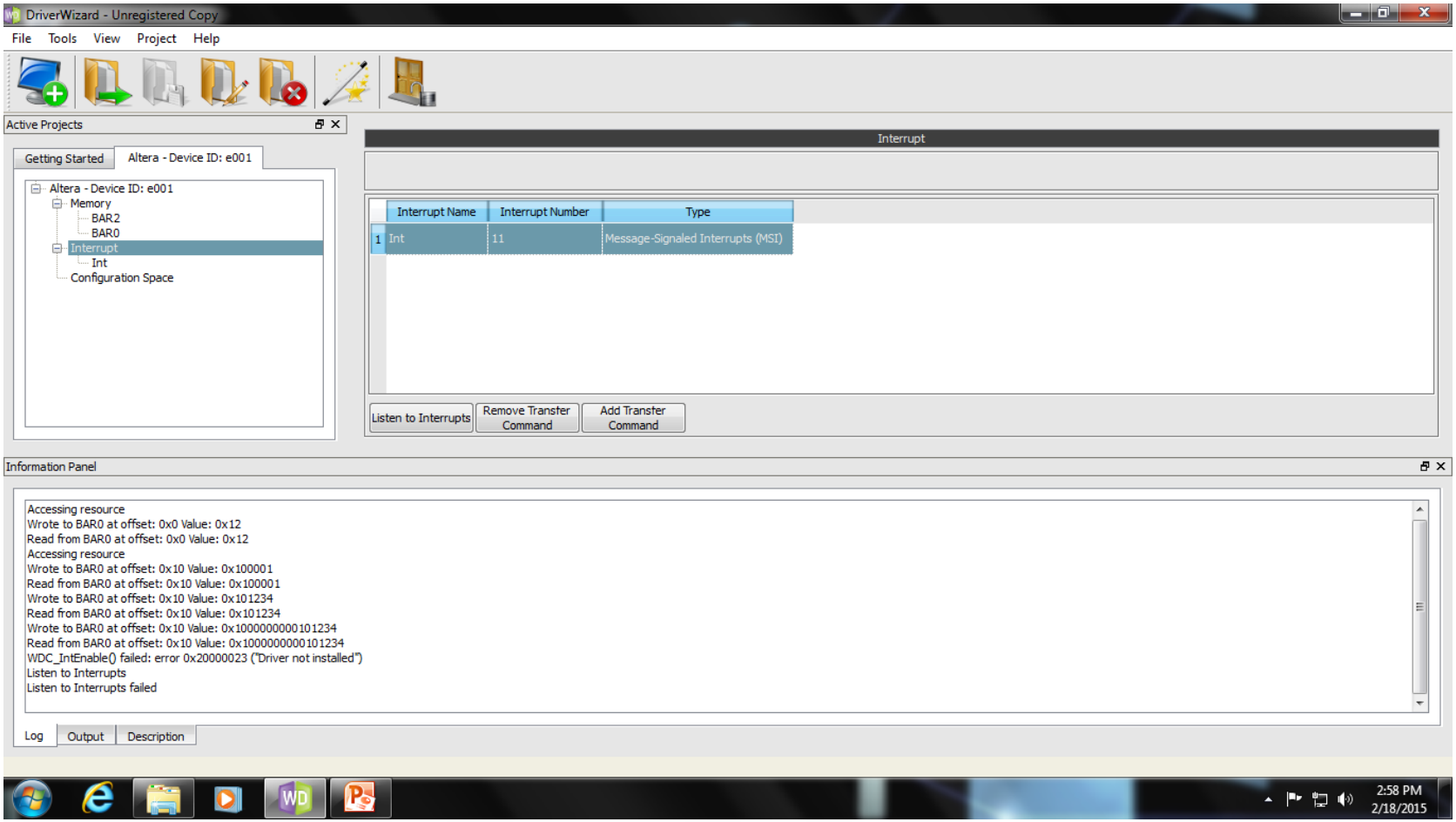
Jungo APP results

Gen1 x8 Avalon ST reference design1: Results

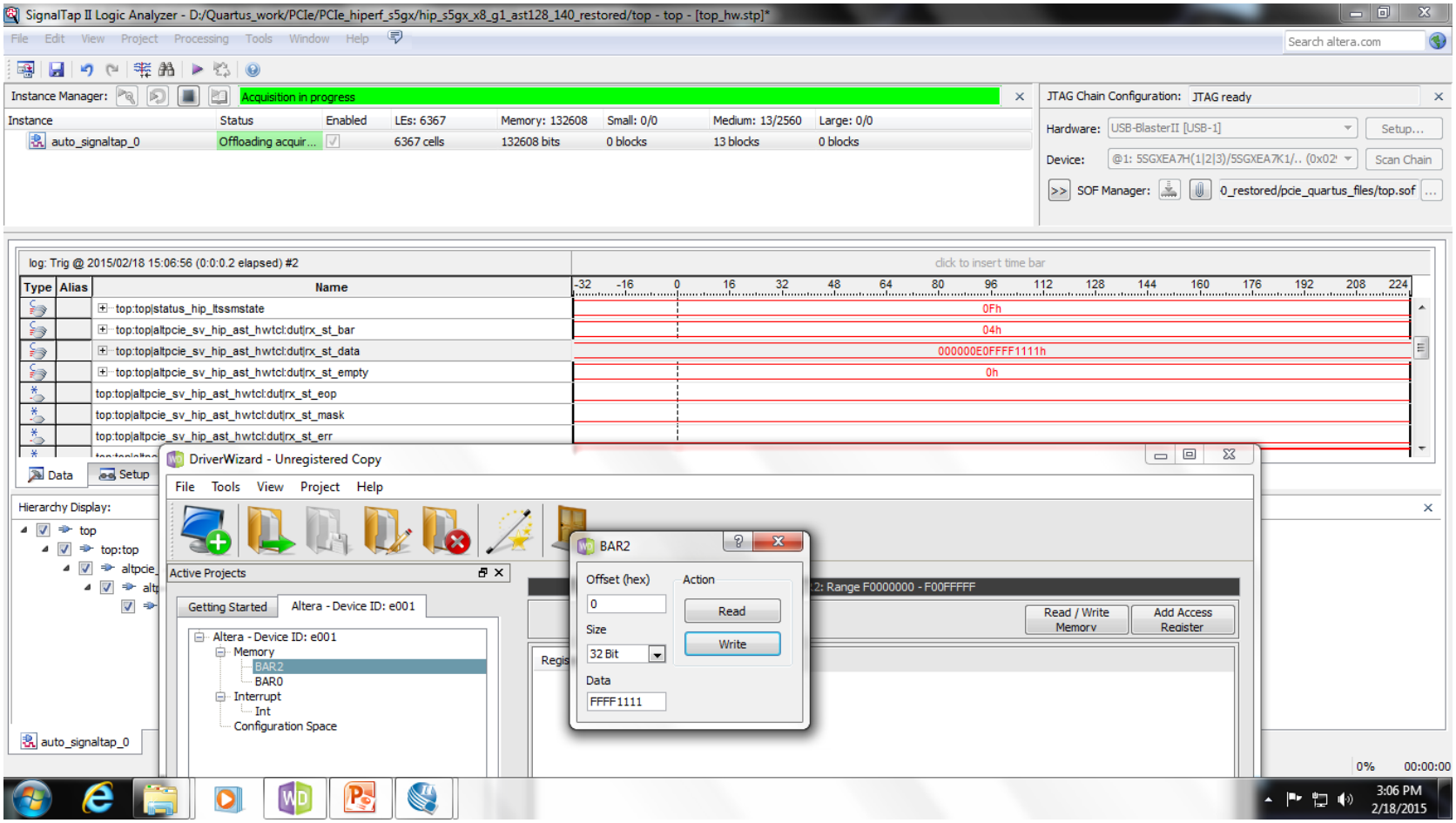
Memory Read/Write



Interrupt

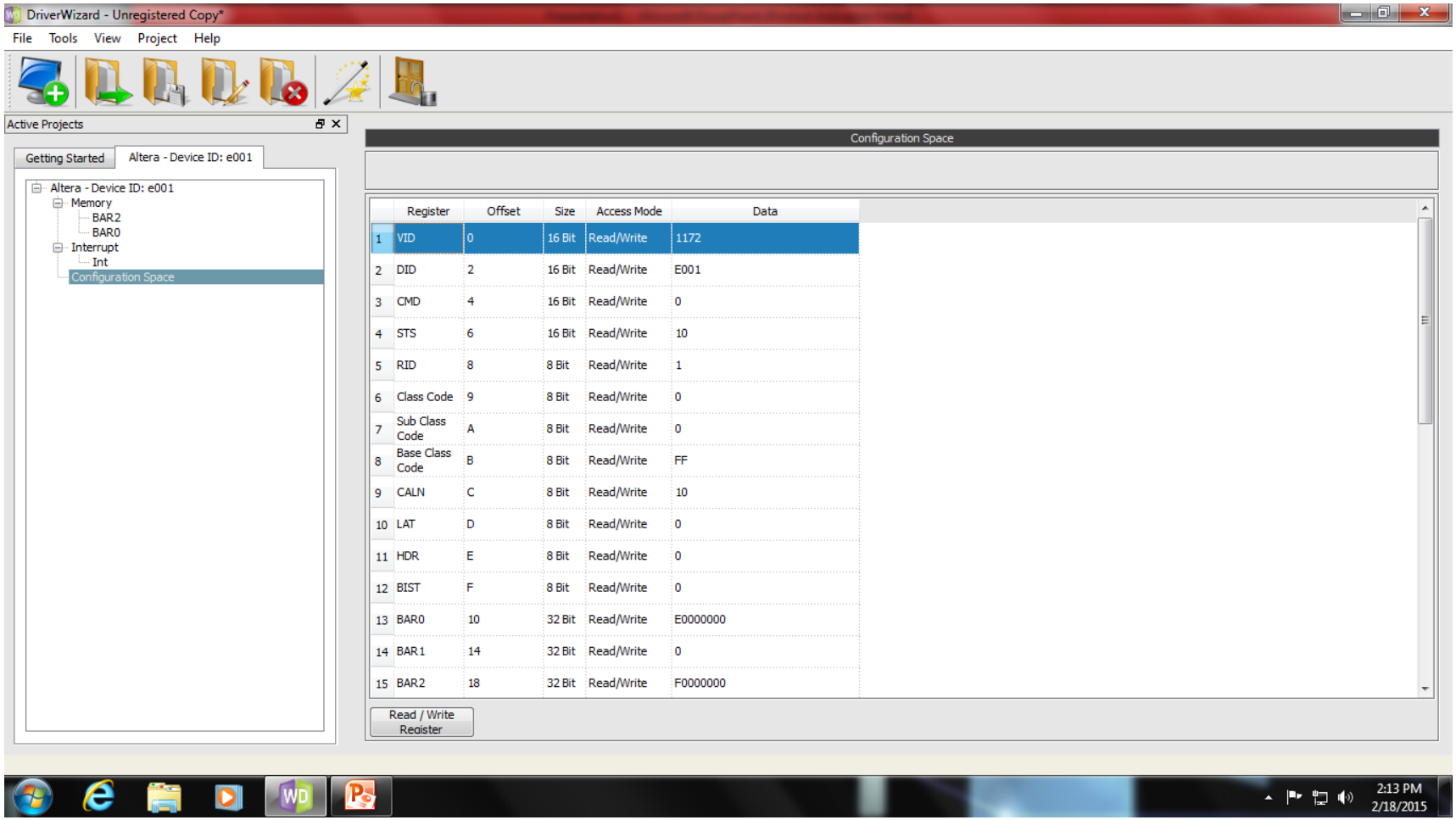

DriverWizard - Unregistered Copy
File Tools View Project Help
Active Projects
Getting Started
Altera - Device ID: e001
Altera - Device ID: e001
Memory
BAR2
BAR0
Interrupt
Int
Configuration Space
Interrupt
Interrupt Name
Interrupt Number
Type
1 Int 11 Message-Signaled Interrupts (MSI)
Listen to Interrupts
Remove Transfer Command
Add Transfer Command
Information Panel
Accessing resource
Wrote to BAR0 at offset: 0x0 Value: 0x12
Read from BAR0 at offset: 0x0 Value: 0x12
Accessing resource
Wrote to BAR0 at offset: 0x10 Value: 0x100001
Read from BAR0 at offset: 0x10 Value: 0x100001
Wrote to BAR0 at offset: 0x10 Value: 0x101234
Read from BAR0 at offset: 0x10 Value: 0x101234
Wrote to BAR0 at offset: 0x10 Value: 0x1000000000101234
Read from BAR0 at offset: 0x10 Value: 0x1000000000101234
WDC_IntEnable() failed: error 0x20000023 ("Driver not installed")
Listen to Interrupts
Listen to Interrupts failed
Log
Output
Description
2:58 PM
2/18/2015

Data Passed the protocol layer

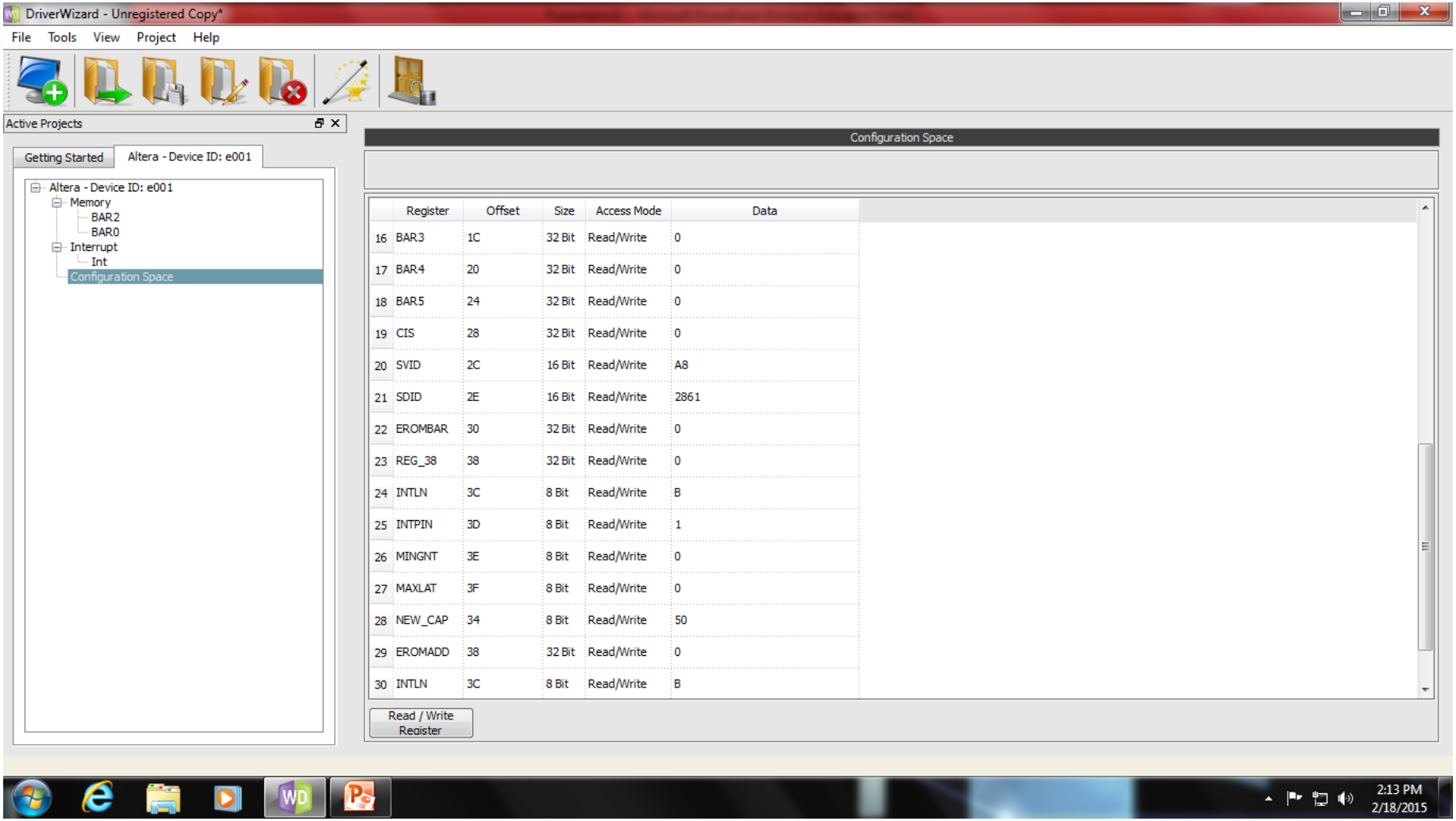


Gen2 x8 Avalon ST reference design1:Results

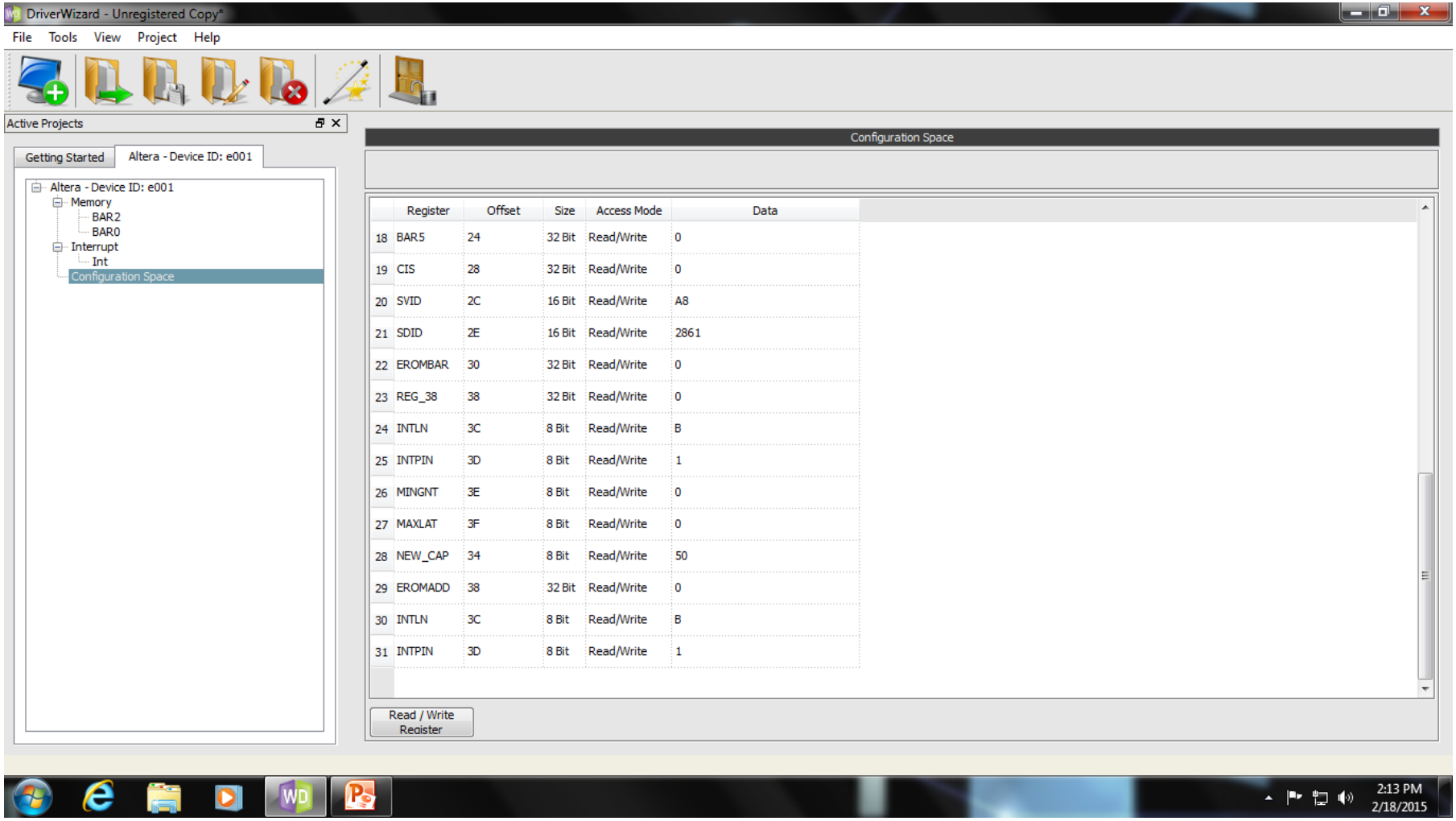
Configuration space header(registers)



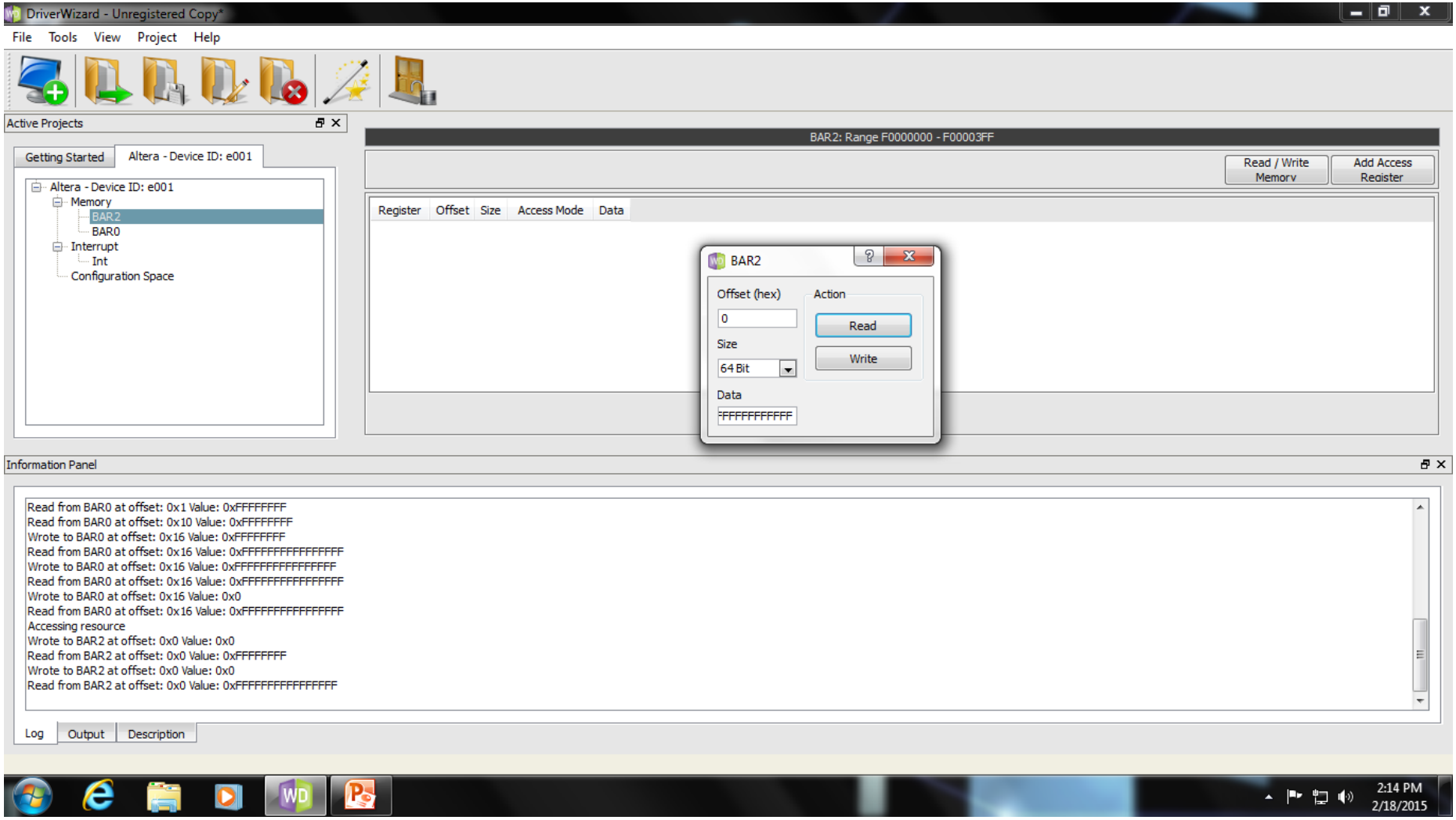
Configuration space header(registers)



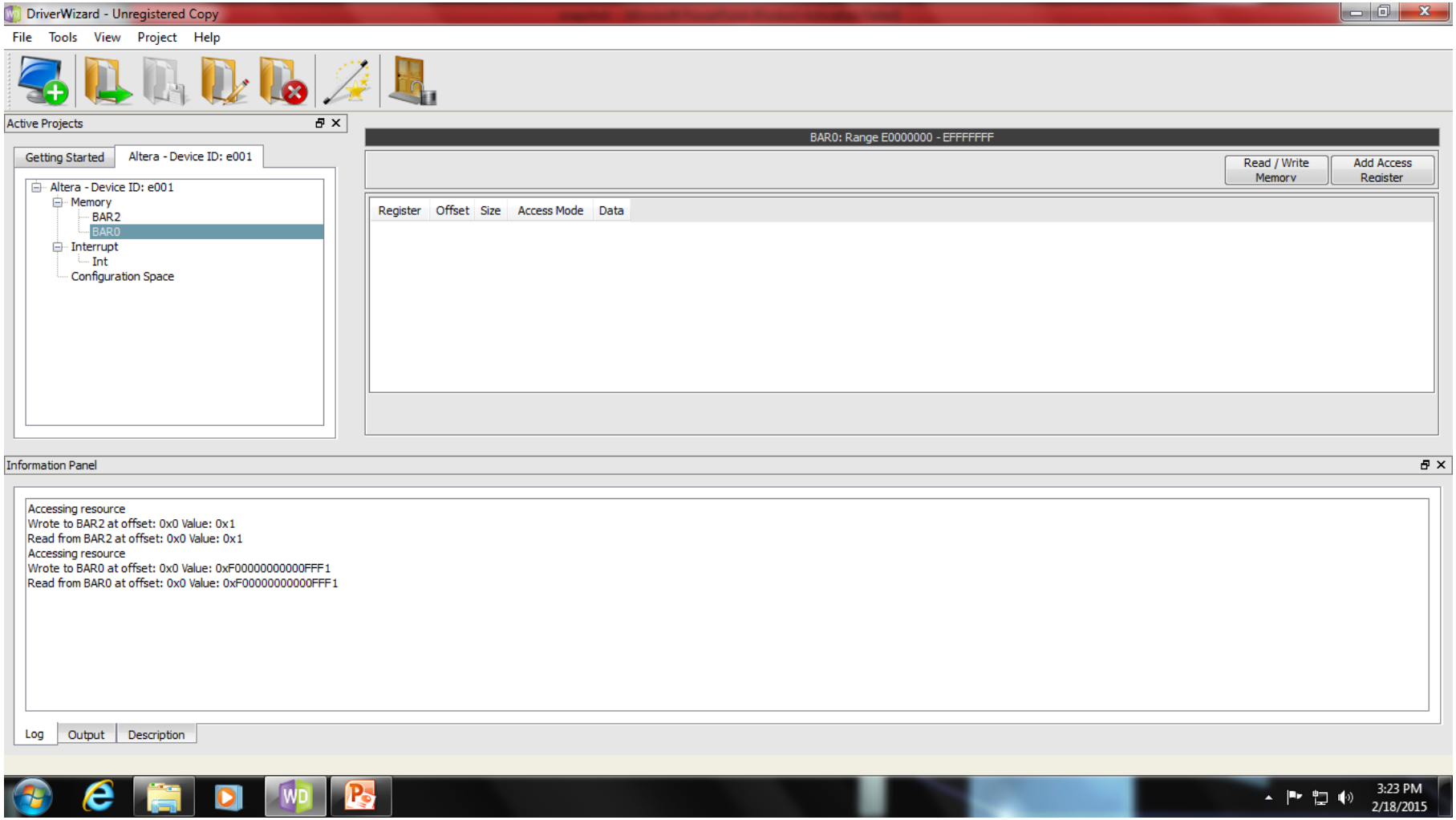
Configuration space header(registers)



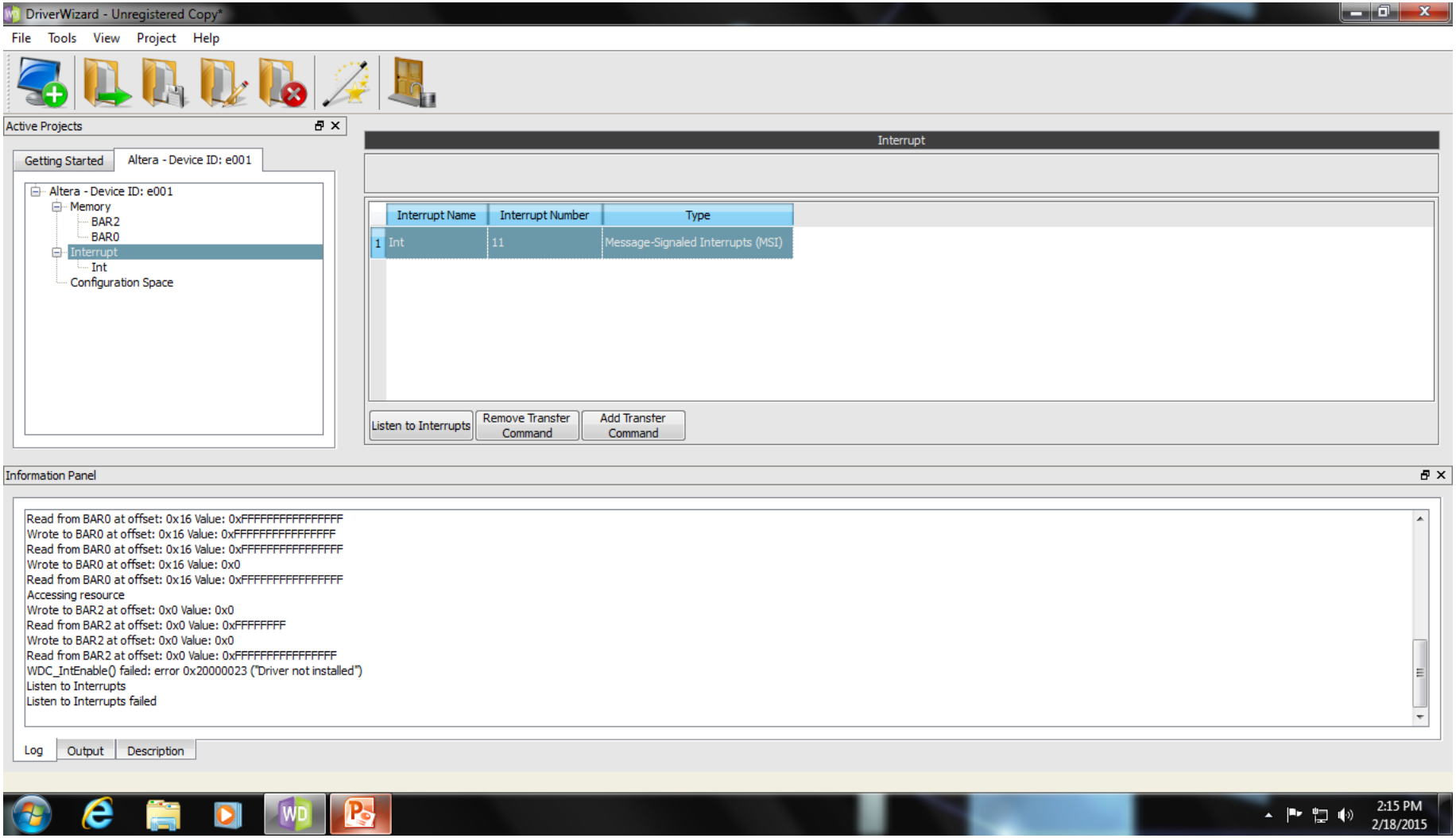
Memory Read/Write(error)



Memory Read/Write

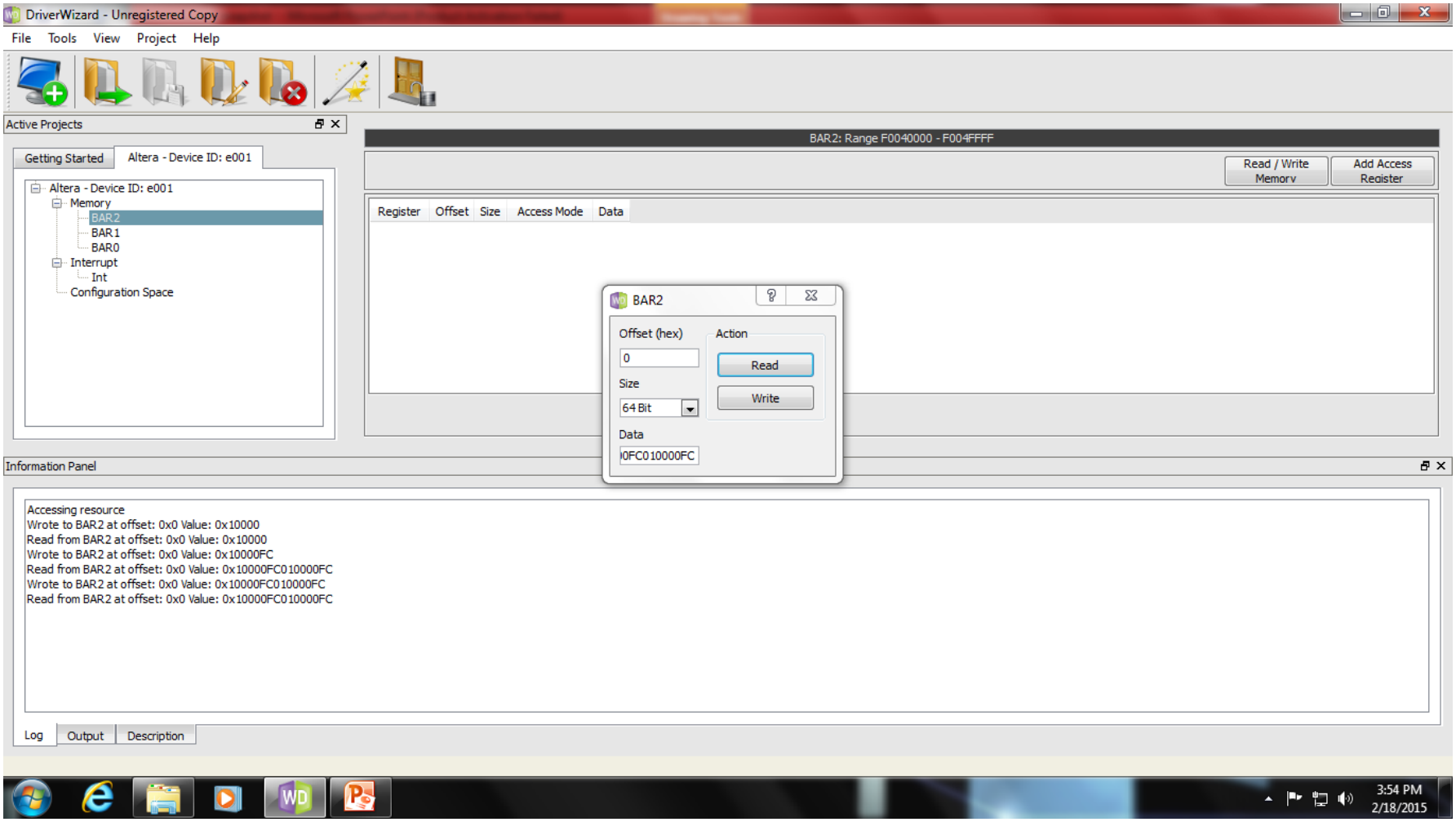


Interrupt

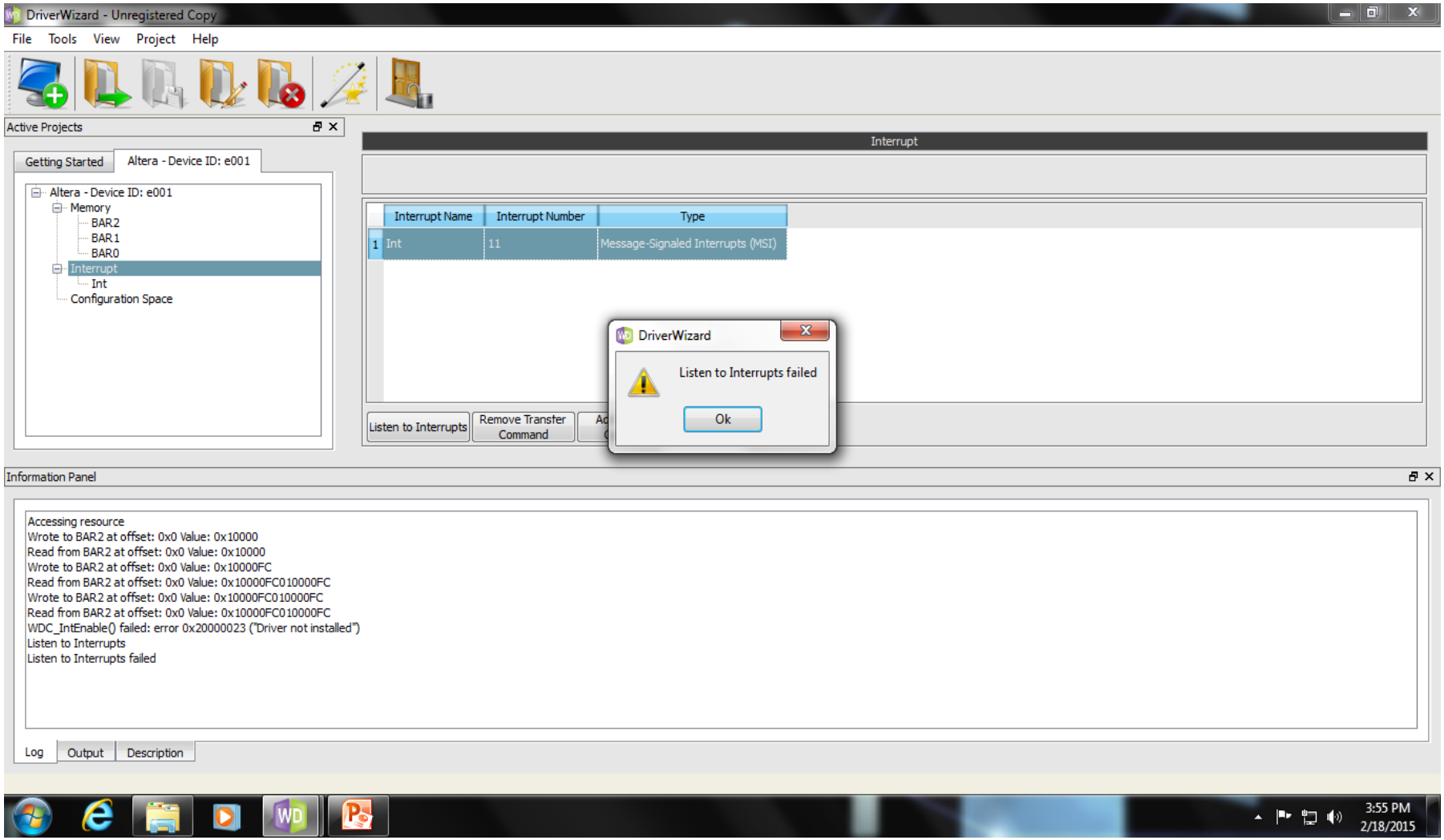

DriverWizard - Unregistered Copy*
File Tools View Project Help
Active Projects
Getting Started
Altera - Device ID: e001
Altera - Device ID: e001
Memory
BAR2
BAR0
Interrupt
Int
Configuration Space
Interrupt
Interrupt Name
Interrupt Number
Type
1 Int
11
Message-Signaled Interrupts (MSI)
Listen to Interrupts
Remove Transfer Command
Add Transfer Command
Information Panel
Read from BAR0 at offset: 0x16 Value: 0xFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF
Wrote to BAR0 at offset: 0x16 Value: 0xFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF
Read from BAR0 at offset: 0x16 Value: 0xFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF
Wrote to BAR0 at offset: 0x16 Value: 0x0
Read from BAR0 at offset: 0x16 Value: 0xFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF
Accessing resource
Wrote to BAR2 at offset: 0x0 Value: 0x0
Read from BAR2 at offset: 0x0 Value: 0xFFFFFFFF
Wrote to BAR2 at offset: 0x0 Value: 0x0
Read from BAR2 at offset: 0x0 Value: 0xFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF
WDC_IntEnable() failed: error 0x20000023 ("Driver not installed")
Listen to Interrupts
Listen to Interrupts failed
Log
Output
Description
2:15 PM
2/18/2015

Gen3 x4 Avalon ST reference design1:Results

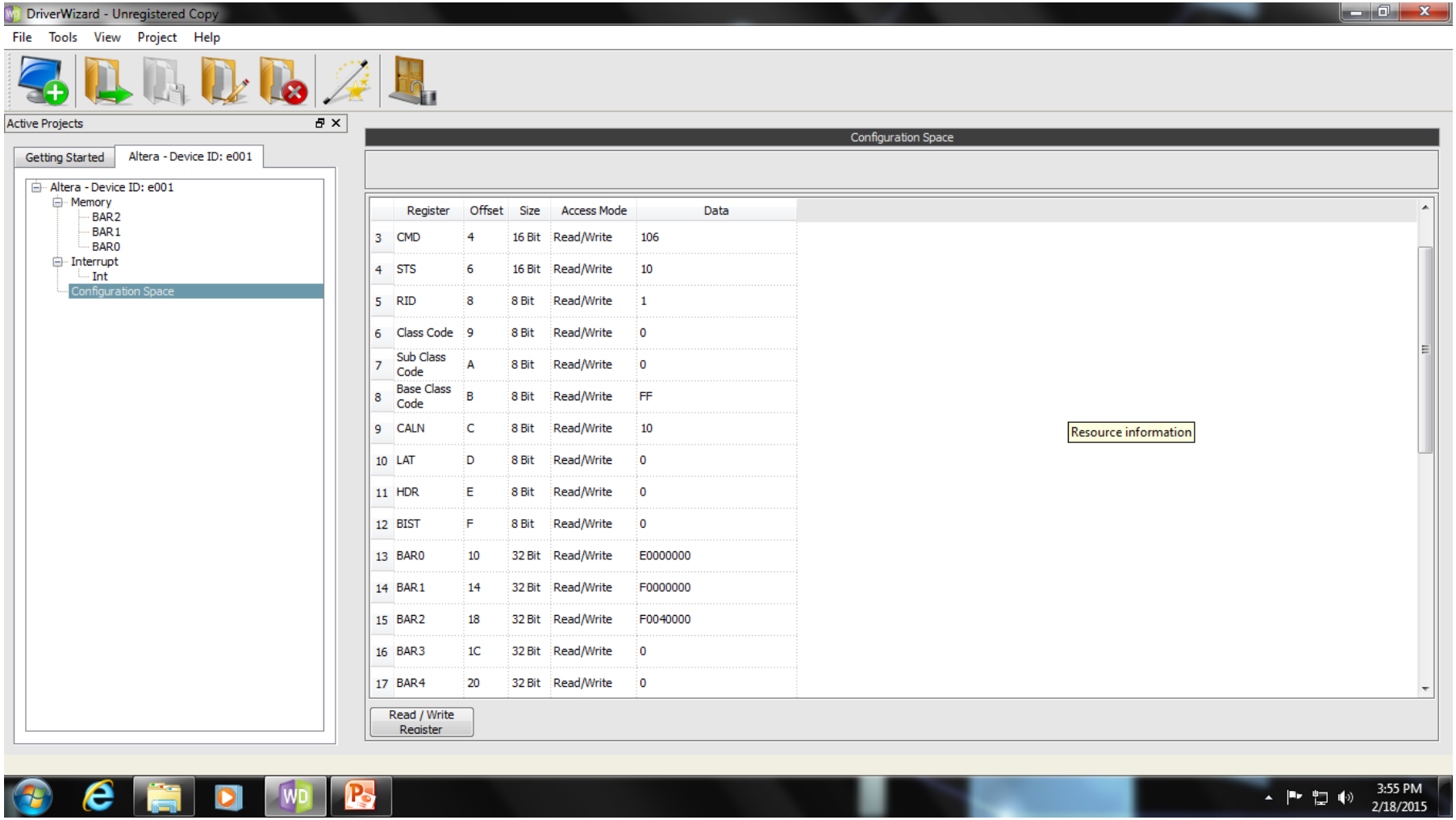
Memory Read/Write



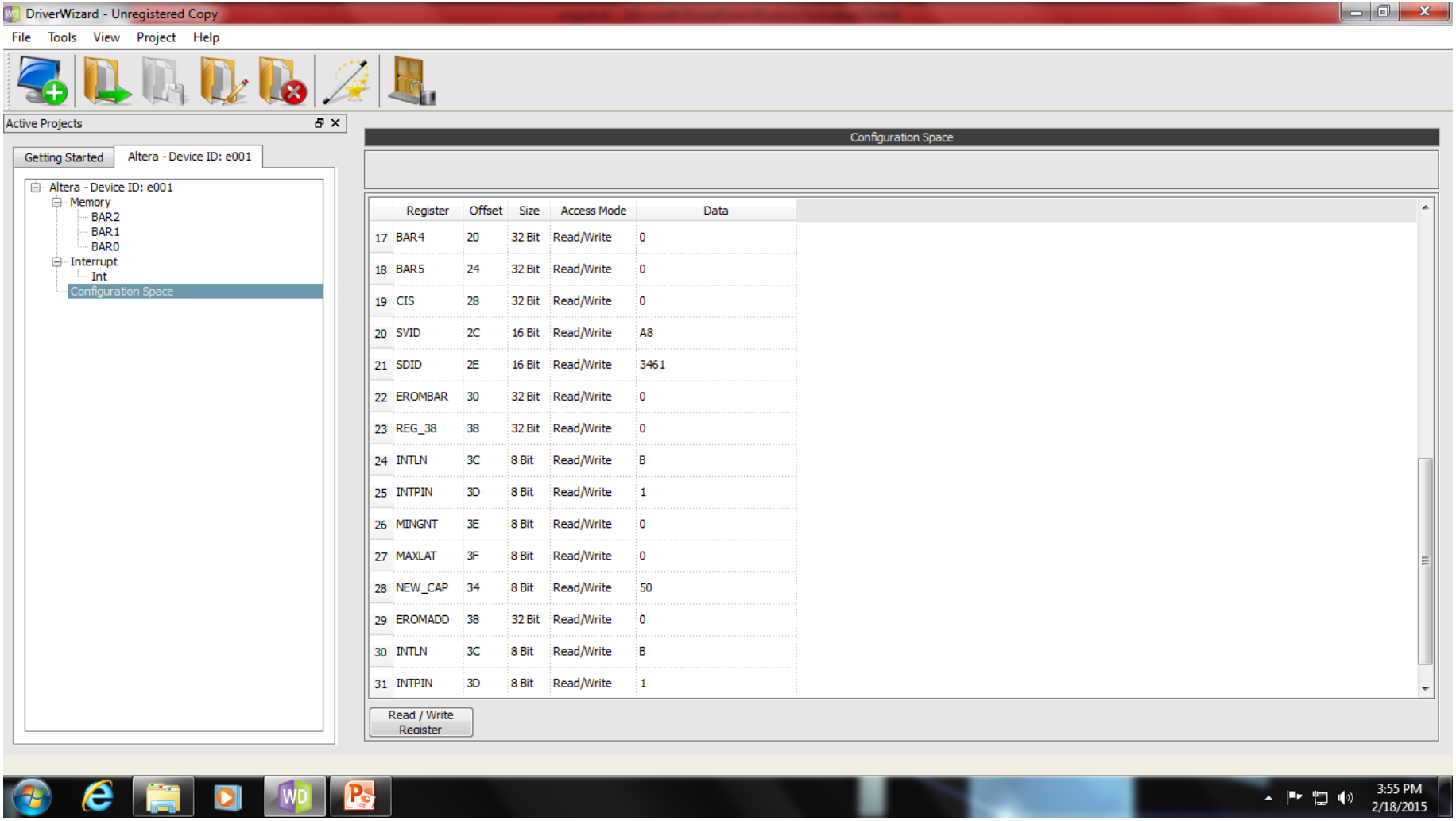
Interrupt


DriverWizard - Unregistered Copy
File Tools View Project Help
Active Projects
Getting Started
Altera - Device ID: e001
Altera - Device ID: e001
Memory
BAR2
BAR1
BAR0
Interrupt
Int
Configuration Space
Interrupt
Interrupt Name
Interrupt Number
Type
1 Int
11
Message-Signaled Interrupts (MSI)
Listen to Interrupts
Remove Transfer Command
DriverWizard
Listen to Interrupts failed
Ok
Information Panel
Accessing resource
Wrote to BAR2 at offset: 0x0 Value: 0x10000
Read from BAR2 at offset: 0x0 Value: 0x10000
Wrote to BAR2 at offset: 0x0 Value: 0x10000FC
Read from BAR2 at offset: 0x0 Value: 0x10000FC010000FC
Wrote to BAR2 at offset: 0x0 Value: 0x10000FC010000FC
Read from BAR2 at offset: 0x0 Value: 0x10000FC010000FC
WDC_IntEnable() failed: error 0x20000023 ("Driver not installed")
Listen to Interrupts
Listen to Interrupts failed
Log
Output
Description
3:55 PM
2/18/2015

Configuration space header(registers)



Configuration space header(registers)



Results

Result of reference design1 using Jungo app(see jungo_app_results section)

	Memory RD/WR(32/64 bit)	Interrupt	Configuration Header
• Gen1 X8	Yes, both 32 and 64 bit RD &WR successful	Listen to Interrupt failed	Shows the header
• Gen2 X8	Yes, both 32 and 64 bit RD &WR successful	Listen to Interrupt failed	Shows the header
• Gen3 X4	Yes, both 32 and 64 bit RD &WR successful	Listen to Interrupt failed	Shows the header

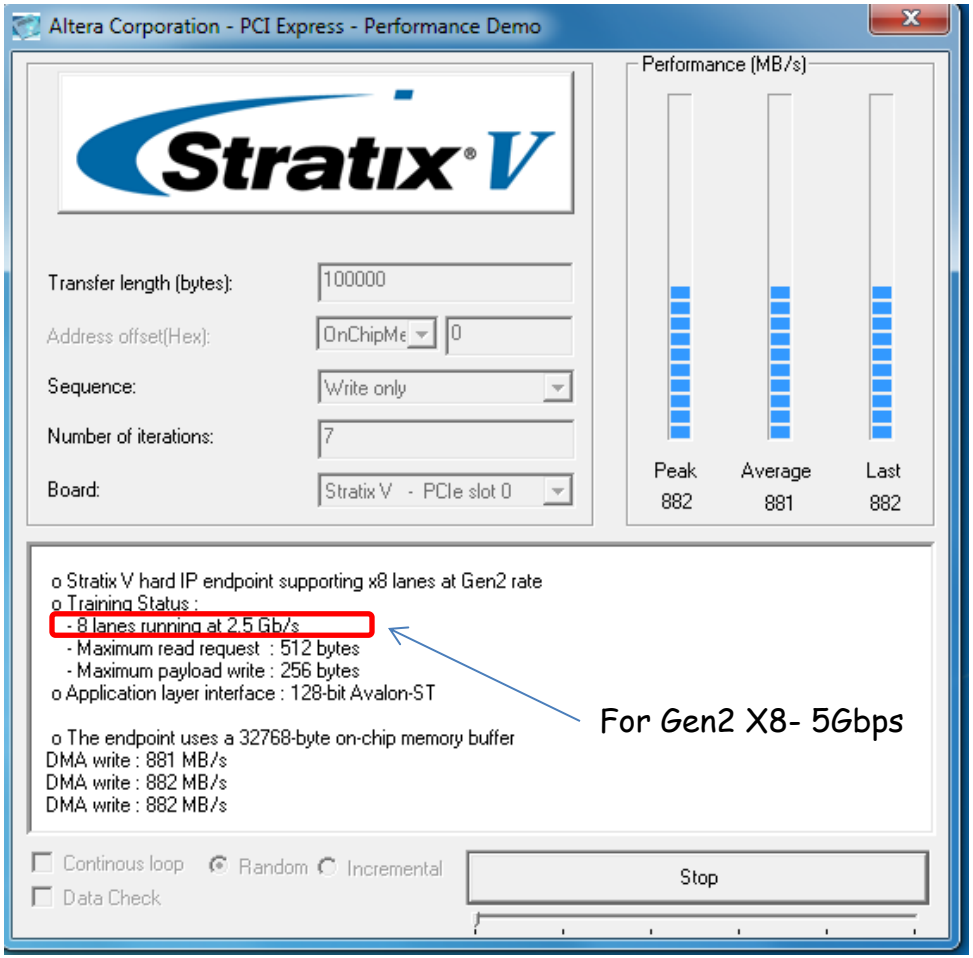
1. We have tested the memory read and write functionality(32 bit and 64 bit) for each variation .Memory read and write is successful except in case of Gen2 X8,where initially there are wrong memory read and write. The problem resolved when we have re-tested (done everything from step1) it later.

2. Listen to interrupt failed for each variation. **Evaluating interrupt**….
   --**Implement MSI-X option is off in Capabilities register > MSI-X Capabilities**

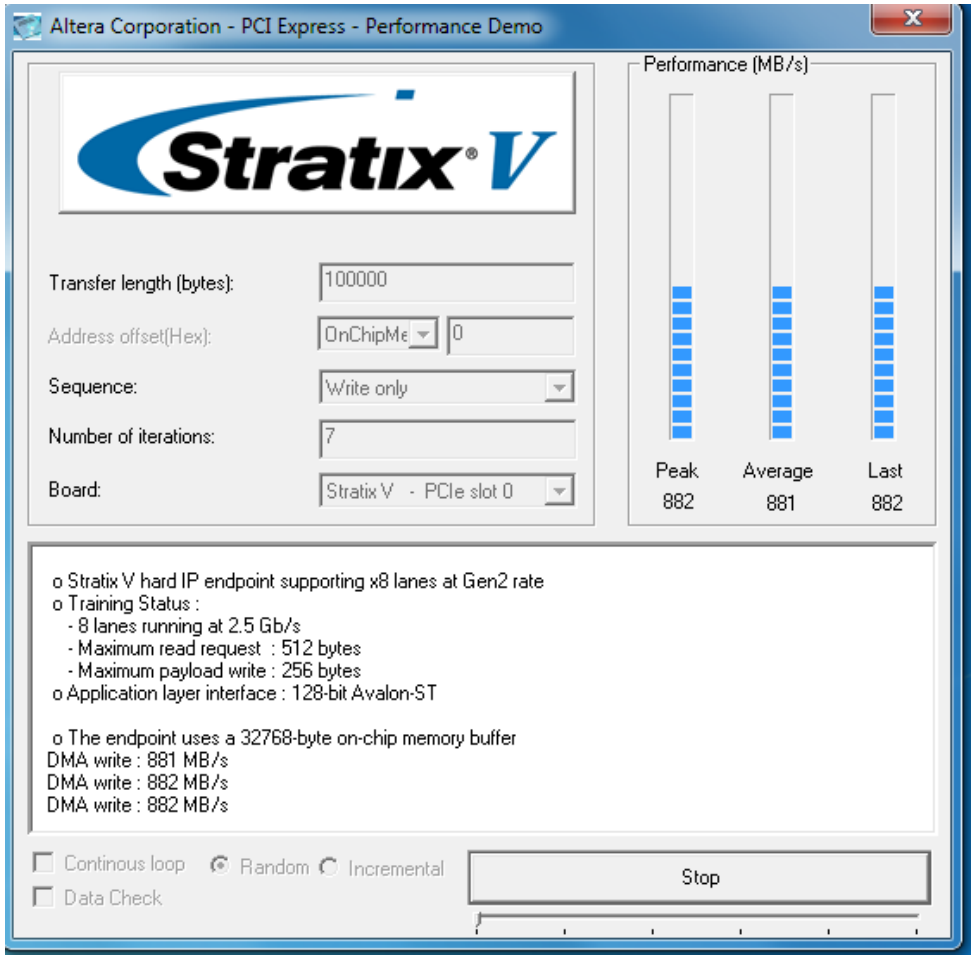
3. Show the Configuration space register (header) for each variation.

PCIE DMA APPLICATION

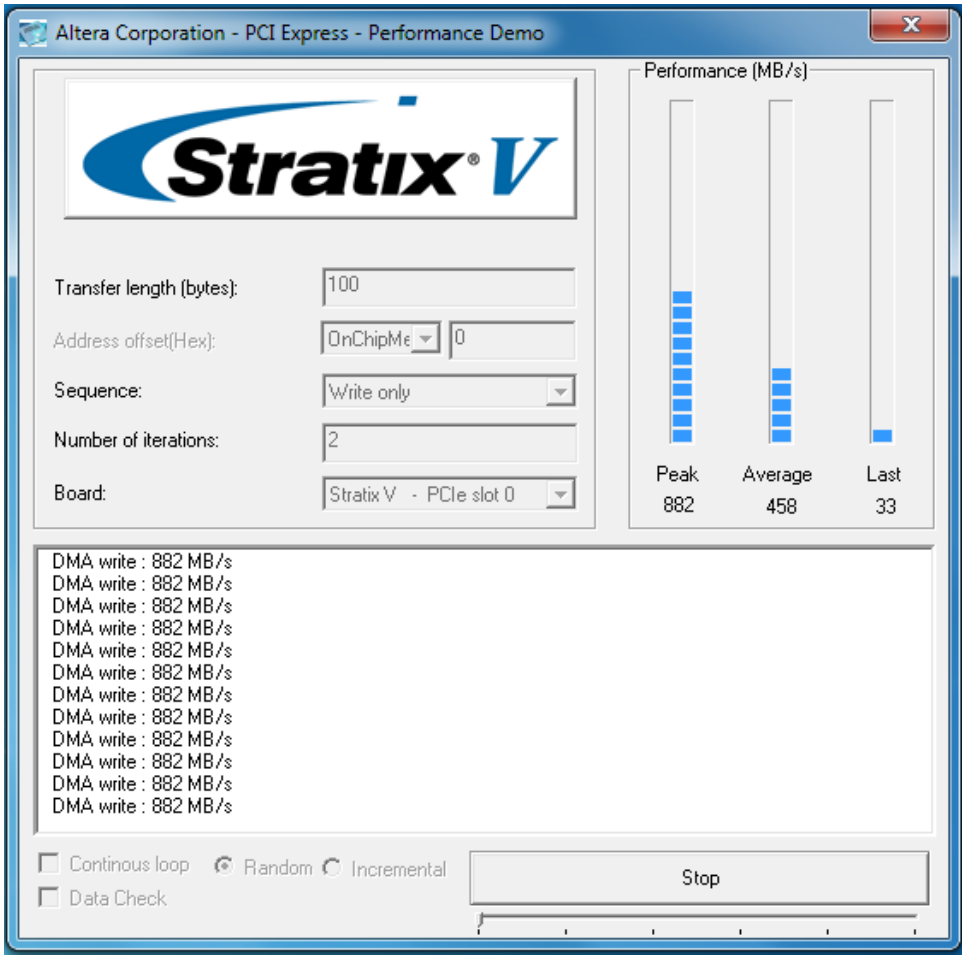
Design summary and Link training status



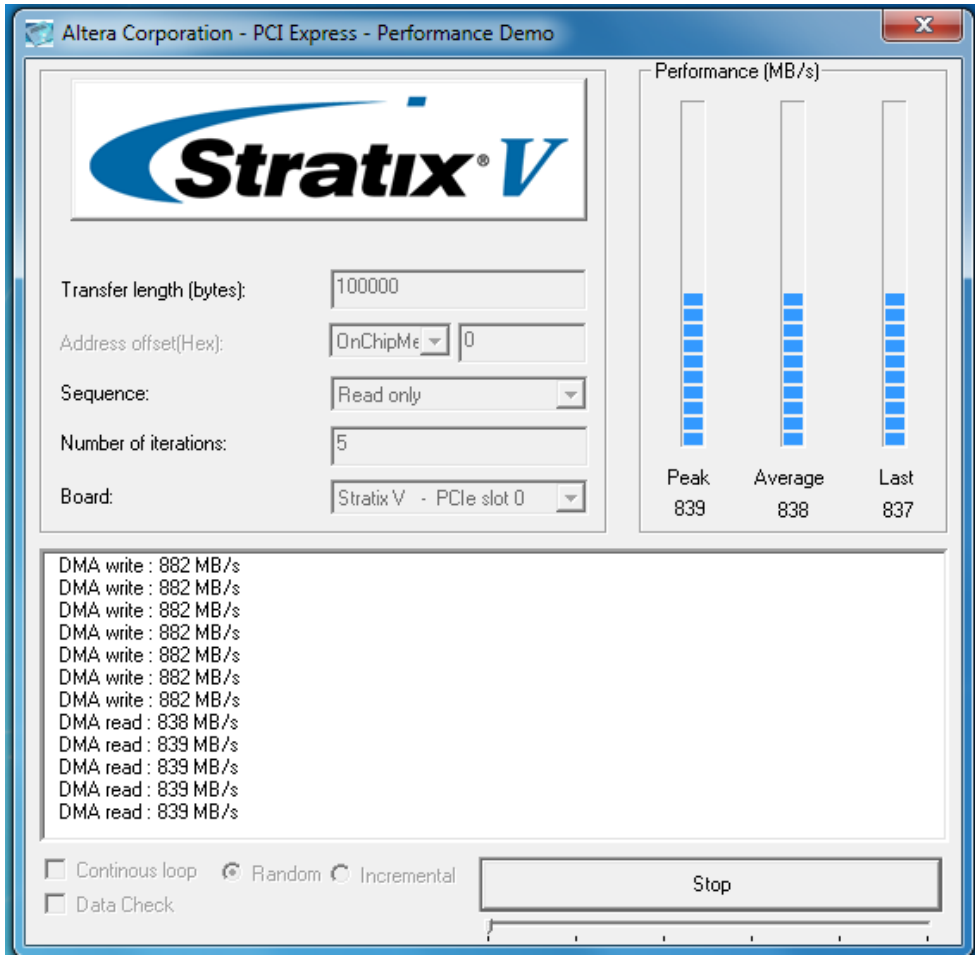
Write only/7 iterations/transfer length=100000 bytes
look the performance



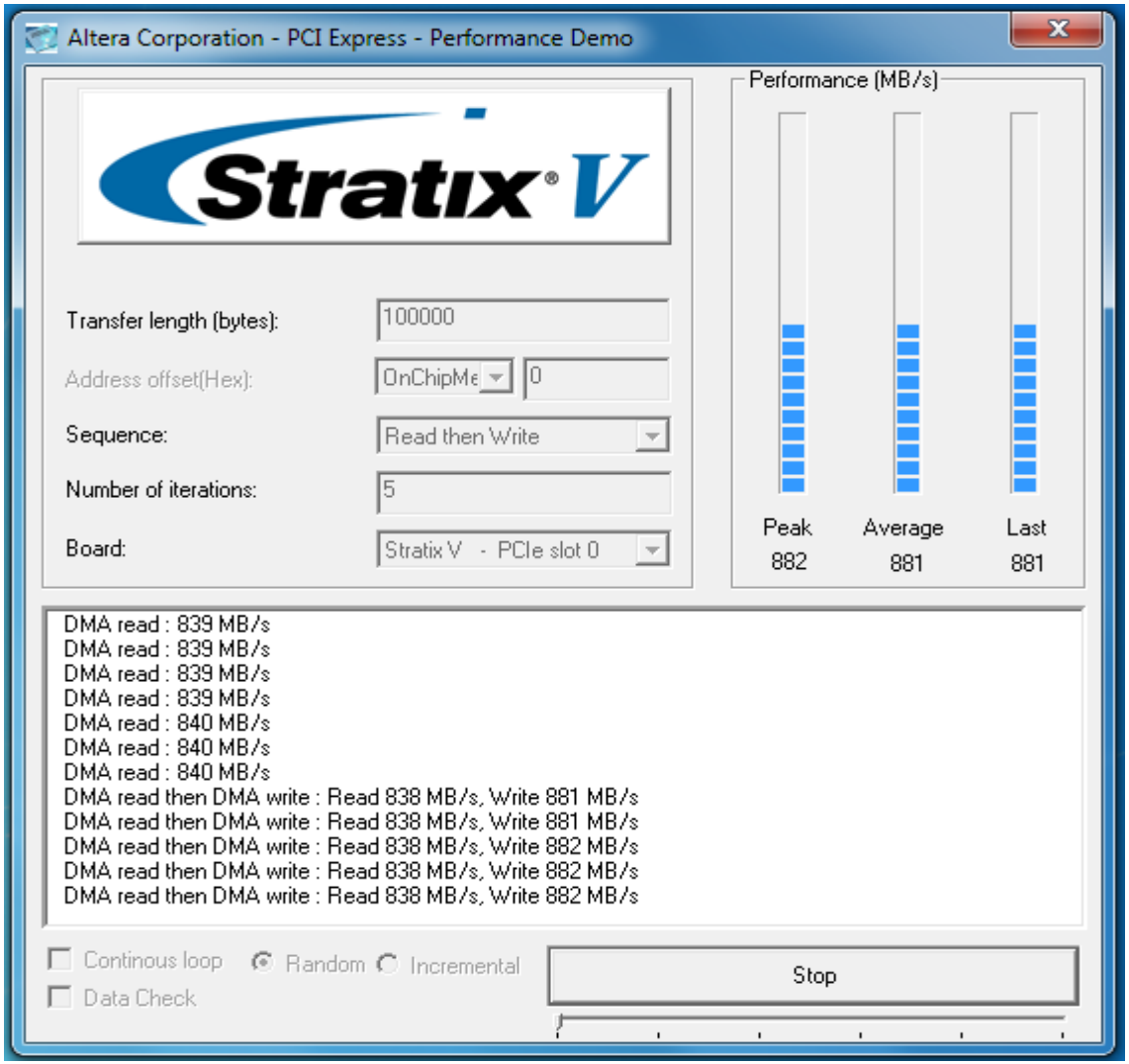
Write only/2 iterations/transfer length=100 bytes
look the performance**



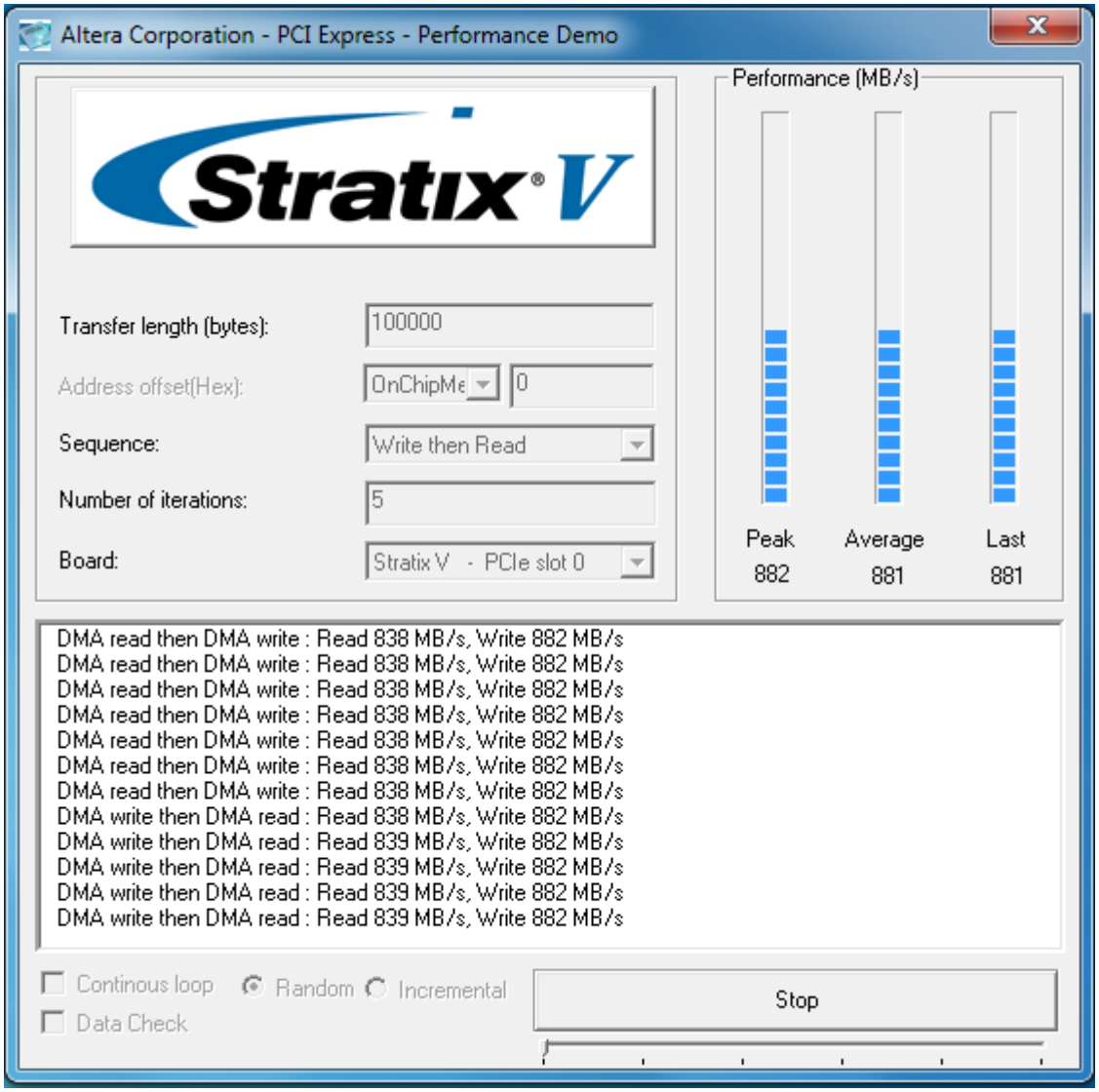
Read only/5 iterations/transfer length=100000 bytes
look the performance



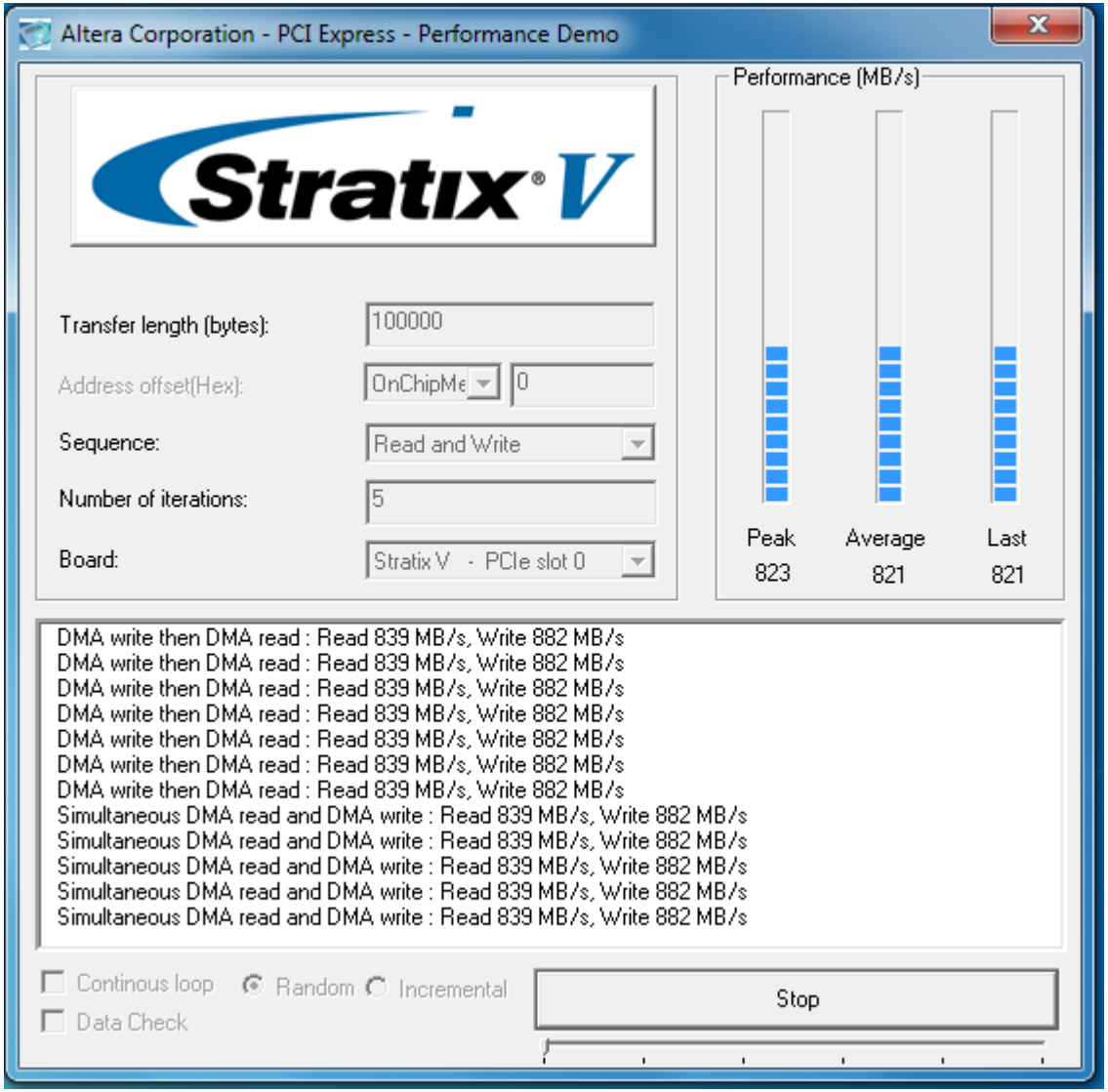
Read then write/5 iterations/transfer length=100000 bytes
look the performance



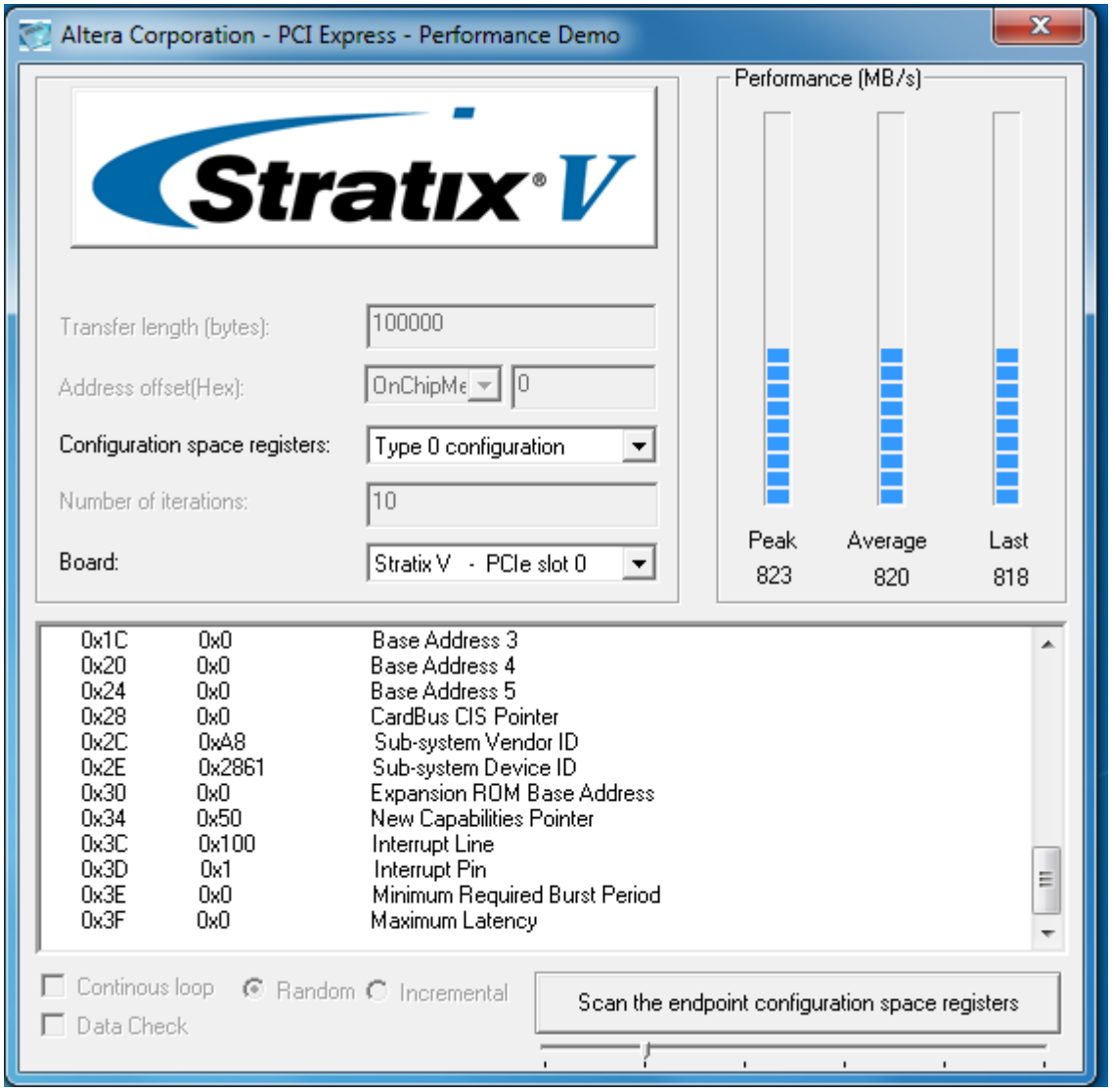
Write then Read/5 iterations/transfer length=100000 bytes
look the performance



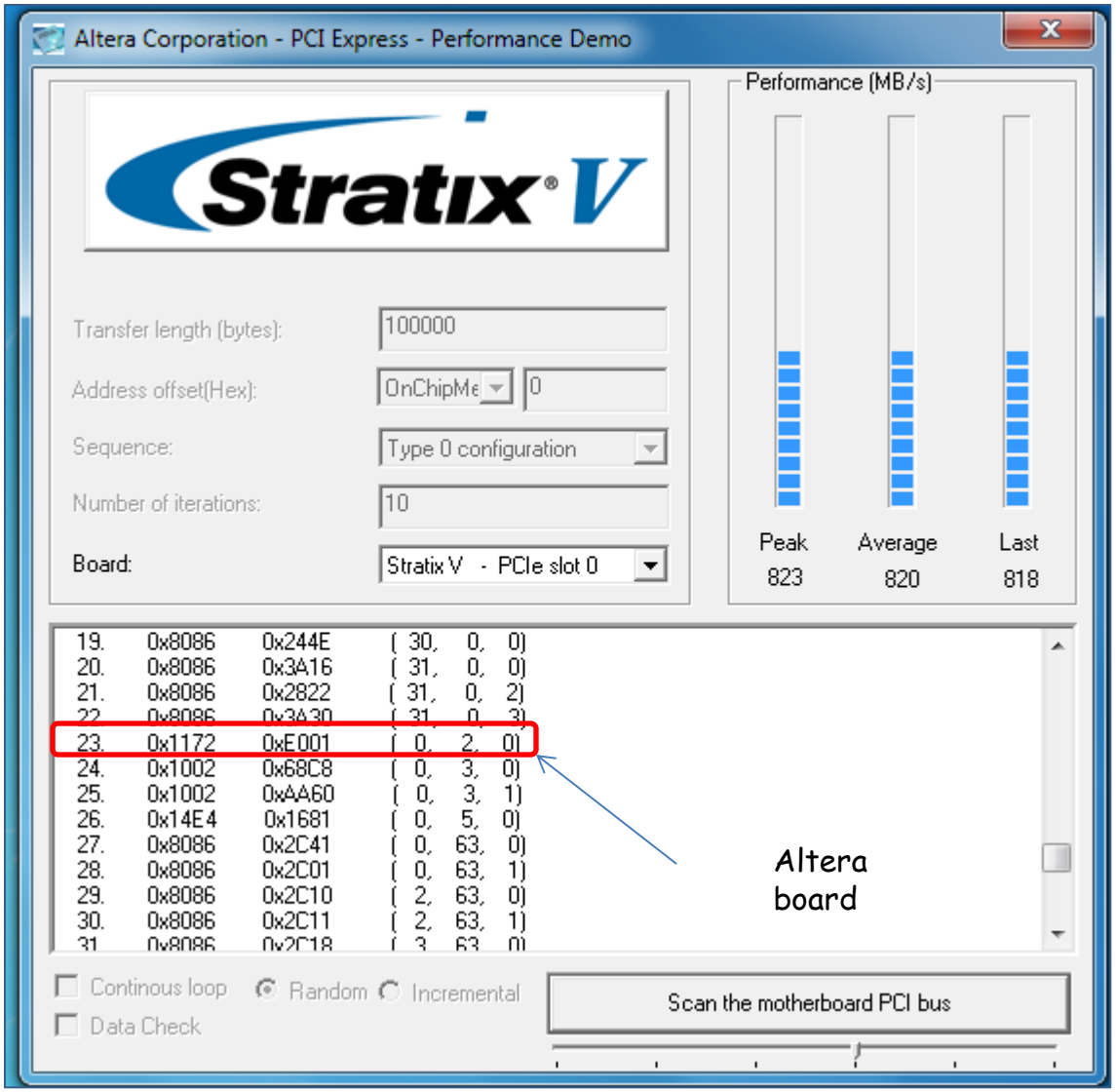
Read and write /5 iterations/transfer length=100000 bytes
look the performance



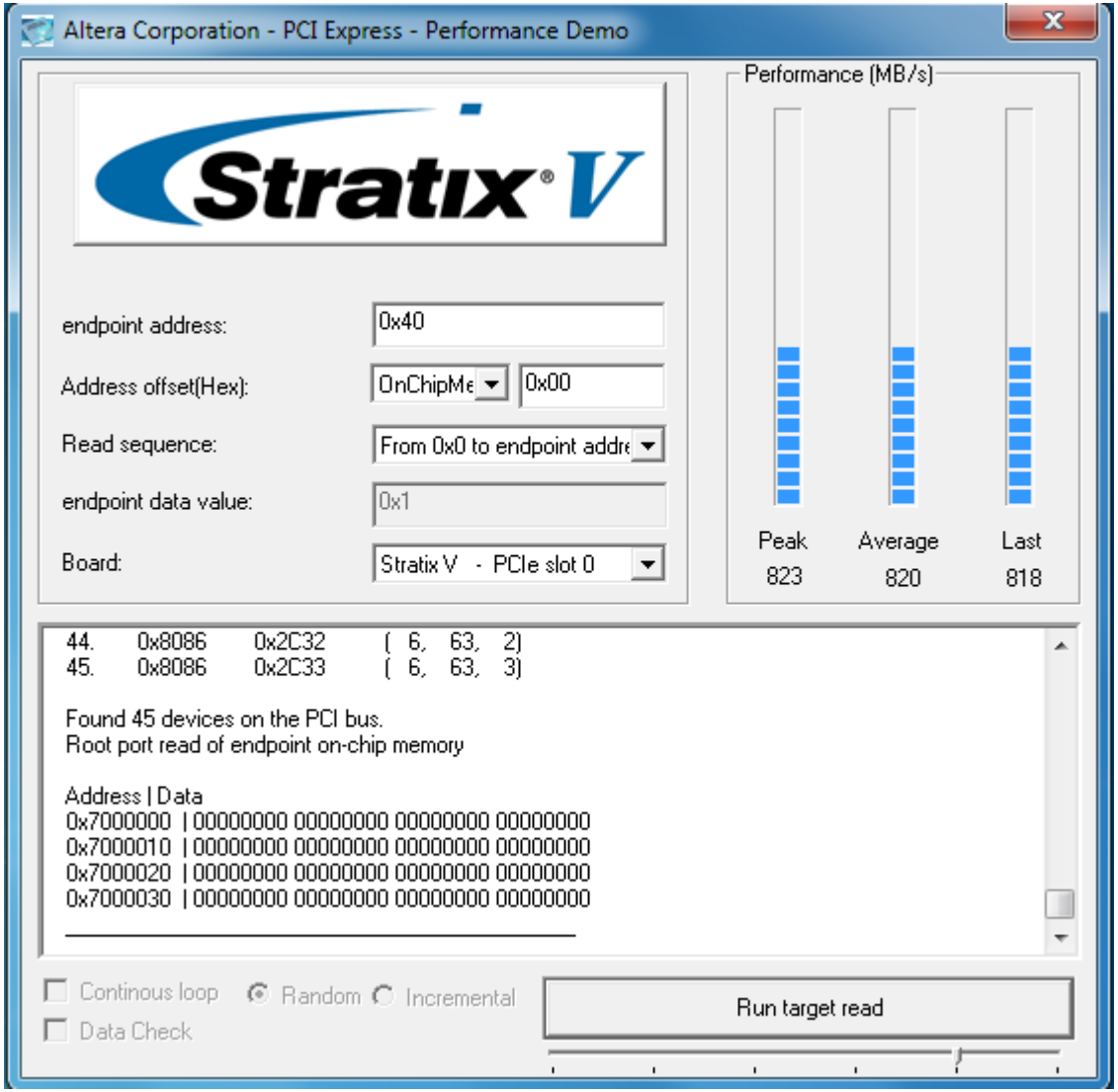
EP configuration space registers



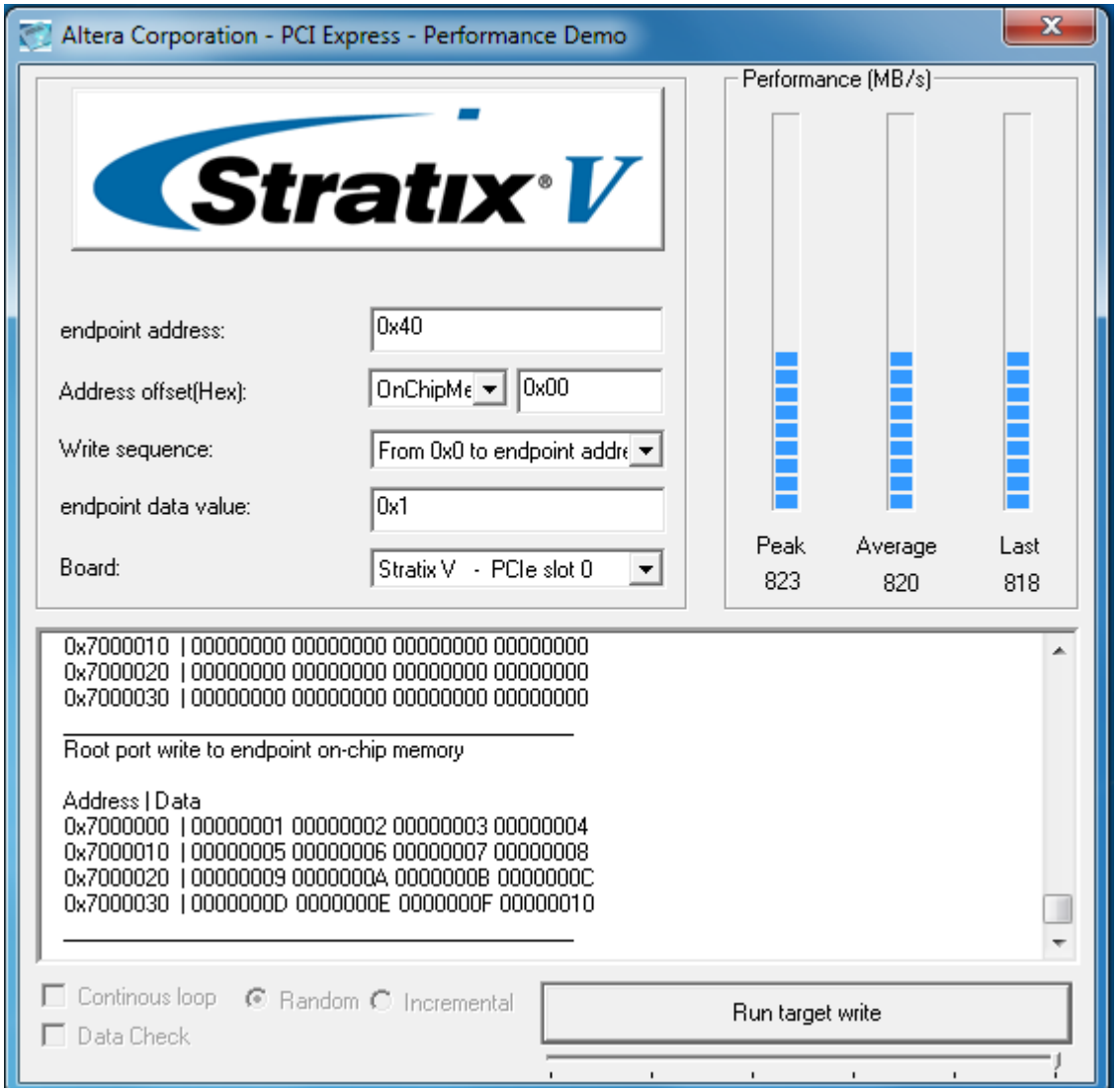
Scan the Motherboard PCI BUS



EP memory write



EP memory write



Results

Result of reference design1 (gen2 X8) using DMA app

1. Performance is same for write only, read only, write then read, read then write ,write and read
2. Performance degraded when the transfer length reduces from 100000 byte to 100 bytes
   --- due to the increasing ratio of header versus payload data and partly filled PCIe packets
3. App fetches board settings, PCI bus of motherboard ,EP configuration space register information
4. App reads and writes to the target memory.
5. Link training status gives some other indication.

Figure 1: TLP Format

Start	SequenceID	TLP Header	Data Payload	ECRC	LCRC	End
1 Byte	2 Bytes	3-4 DW	0-1024 DW	1 DW	1 DW	1 Byte

The theoretical maximum throughput is calculated using the following formula:
Throughput % = payload size / (payload size + overhead)

For a 256-byte maximum payload size and a three dword TLP header (or five dword overhead), the maximum possible throughput is (256/(256+20)), or 92%.

Benchmark results 1

- The following tables list the performance of x1, x4, and x8 operations with the Stratix V GX FPGA development board for the Intel i7-3930K 3.8 GHz Sandy Bridge-E processor using reference design1.
- The table shows the average throughput with the following parameters:
  - 100 KByte transfer
  - 20 iterations
  - A 256-byte payload
  - Maximum 512-byte read request
  - 256-byte read completion

  In CRU,input data stream for single DMA ch is 3200 MB/s

Table 7: Stratix V Hard IP for PCI Express Performance - Intel i7-3930K Processor

Configuration	DMA Reads (MB/s)	DMA Writes (MB/s)	Simultaneous DMA Read/ Writes (MB/s)	Theoretical Maximum Throughput (MB/s)	
				Read	Write
Gen3, x4	3324	3473	3212/2991	3710	3710
Gen2, x8	3326	3507	3267/2910	3710	3710
Gen2, x4	1704	1767	1653/1514	1855	1855
Gen2, x1	475	438	401/358	463	463
Gen1, x8	1676	1763	1647/1491	1855	1855
Gen1, x4	839	881	832/800	927	927
Gen1, x1	222	222	214/200	231	231

DMA results of RUN2
(Thanks to Budapest Team)

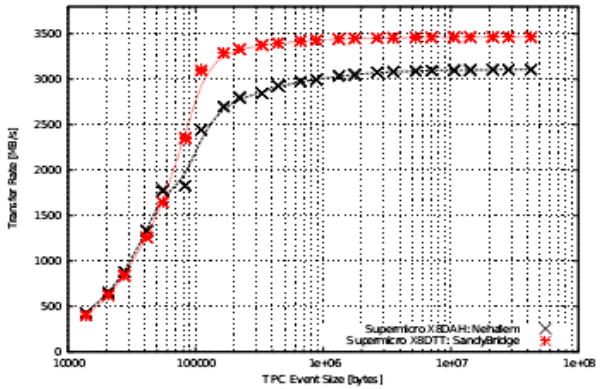


Figure 3. PCIe payload throughput of C-RORC to host RAM transfer as a sum of 12 independent DMA channels for a range of TPC event sizes tested on two different machines.

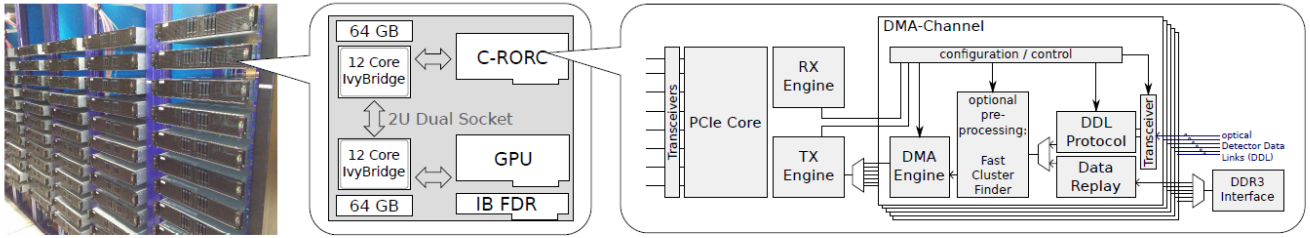


Figure 5: C-RORC Installation in the ALICE HLT for Run 2 and schematic drawing of the dataflow in the firmware.

--SandyBridge architecture having the PCIe endpoint implemented directly in the CPU against a Ne-halem architecture where PCIe is connected using an IO-Hub.

--Both architectures show decreased transfer rates for small event sizes due to the increased overhead into the ReportBuffer, the increas-ing ratio of header versus payload data and only partly filled PCIe packets.

--is sum equal to 12*DMA transfer rate of one ch ?
--independent chs ??

PCIE & CRU

Gathered basic idea of PCIe w.r.t. our requirement based on Erno's view

1. PCIe is a BUS protocol, so multiple components can share it
   --multiple GBT links can share the PCIe BUS

2. Two types of BUS protocol-EP and RP
   --CRU will use EP BUS and O2 will use RP BUS protocol

3. O2 will see CRU (PCI40)as a piece of HW on PCI BUS
   --multiple FW blocks of CRU will be accessed via BAR registers
   --CSRs(contains BARS) will be mapped to system memory
   --Thus, we can access the FW blocks (registers) of CRU via application program (running on computers) by simple system memory RD and WR

4. To speed up data transfer, we need DMA(minimum processor intervention)
   --processor handover the memory transfer request to DMA and after successful transfer, DMA sends an ack. to processor
   --multiple GBT links send the data to DMA controllers
   --DMA controllers manage the data transfer b/n CRU and system memory through PCI BUS
   --DMA controller is master on that PCI BUS, so, multichannel bus master DMA term is used (from CRU development status slide,18th feb,2015)

5. PCIE configuration space is 256 byte space

Future plans

- More precise requirement analysis of MC BM DMA
  ---data flow,interfaces,architecture
- Comparison table –module required and modules available with Altera
- More DMA performance test with available reference design
- Study the DMA controller