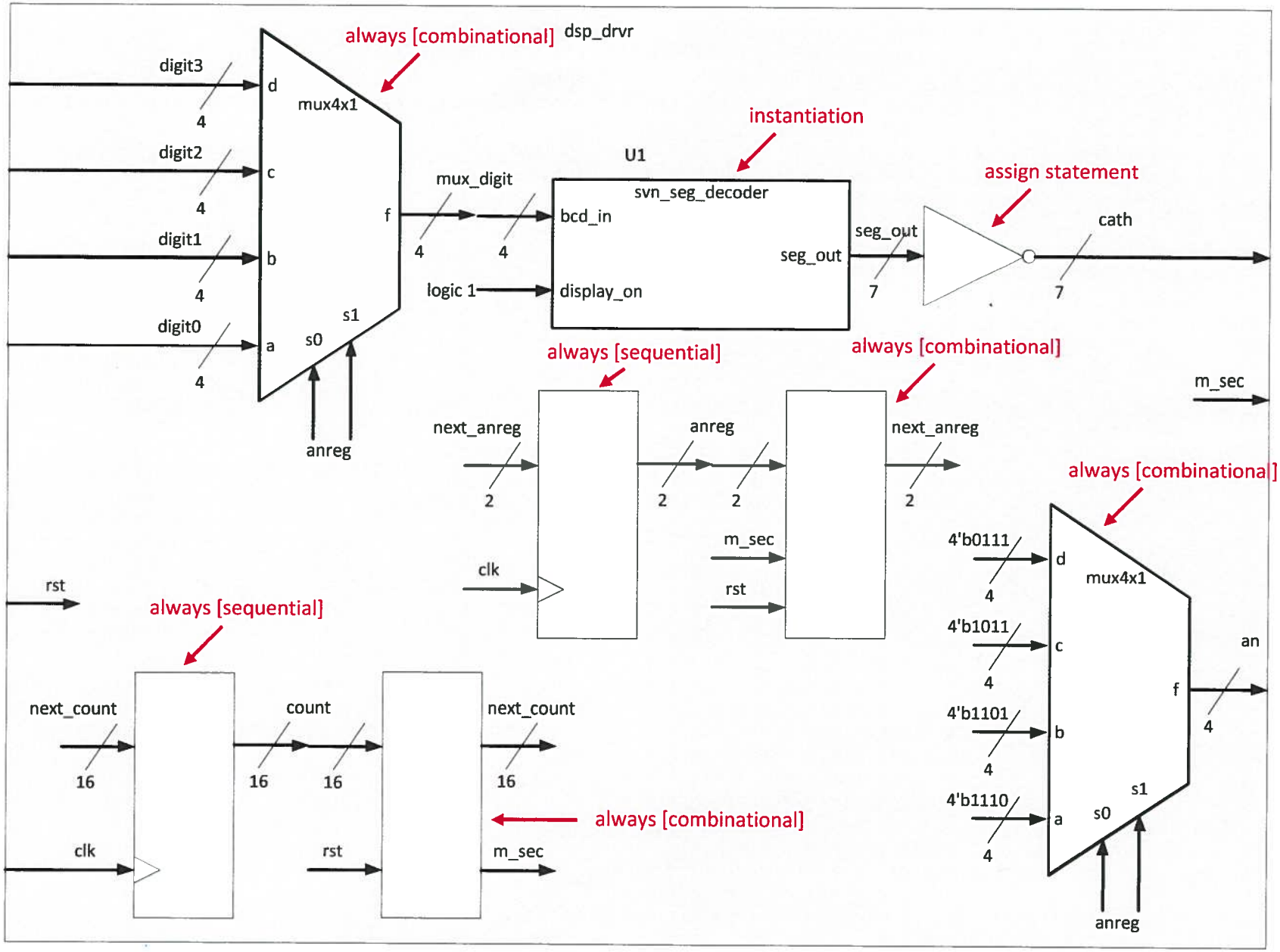
Block Diagram for Nexys2 Display Driver Module 10/2/2012



series resistor for protection against short circuits (a short circuit would occur if an FPGA pin assigned to a pushbutton or slide switch was inadvertently defined as an output).

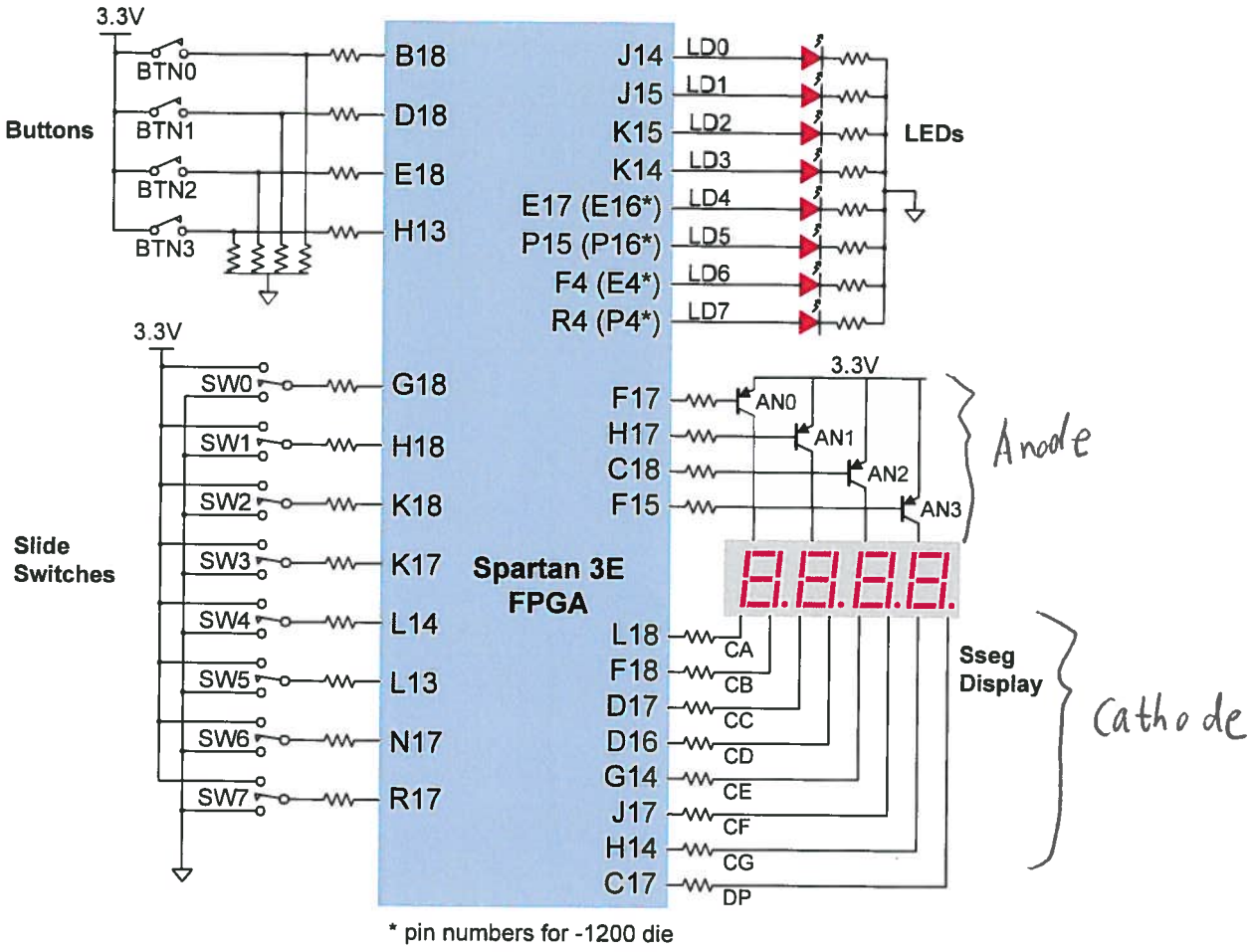


Figure 8: Nexys2 I/O devices and circuits

Outputs: LEDs

Eight LEDs are provided for circuit outputs. LED anodes are driven from the FPGA via 390-ohm resistors, so a logic '1' output will illuminate them with 3-4ma of drive current. A ninth LED is provided as a power-on LED, and a tenth LED indicates FPGA programming status. Note that LEDs 4-7 have different pin assignments due to pinout differences between the -500 and the -1200 die.

Outputs: Seven-Segment Display

The Nexys2 board contains a four-digit common anode seven-segment LED display. Each of the four digits is composed of seven segments arranged in a "figure 8" pattern, with an LED embedded in each segment. Segment LEDs can be individually illuminated, so any one of 128 patterns can be displayed on a digit by illuminating certain LED segments and leaving the others dark. Of these 128 possible patterns, the ten corresponding to the decimal digits are the most useful.

The anodes of the seven LEDs forming each digit are tied together into one "common anode" circuit node, but the LED cathodes remain separate. The common anode signals are available as four "digit enable" input signals to the 4-digit display. The cathodes of similar segments on all four displays are connected into seven circuit nodes labeled CA through CG (so, for example, the four "D" cathodes from the four digits are grouped together into a single circuit node called "CD"). These seven cathode signals are available as inputs to the 4-digit display. This signal connection scheme creates a multiplexed display, where the cathode signals are common to all digits but they can only illuminate the segments of the digit whose corresponding anode signal is asserted.

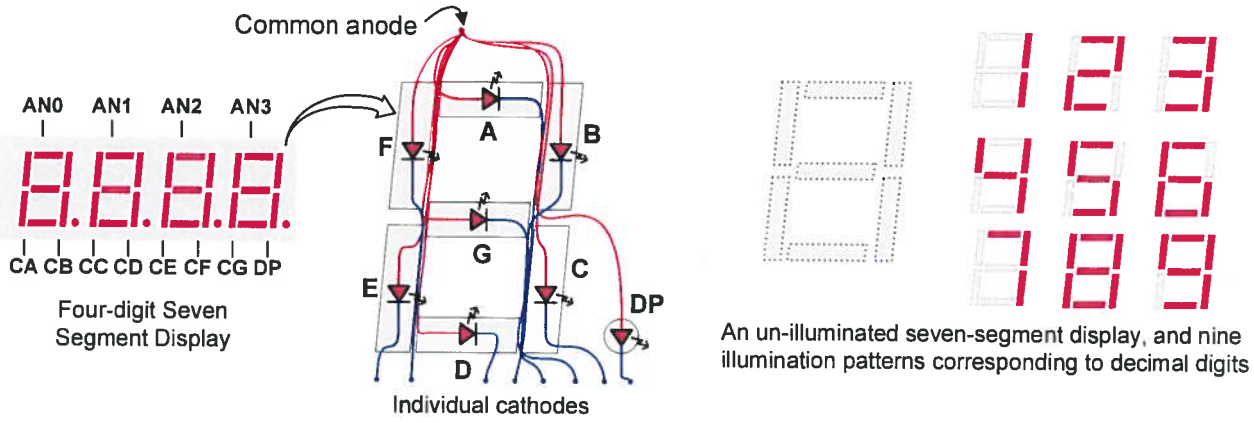


Figure 9: Nexys2 seven-segment displays

A scanning display controller circuit can be used to show a four-digit number on this display. This circuit drives the anode signals and corresponding cathode patterns of each digit in a repeating, continuous succession, at an update rate that is faster than the human eye can detect. Each digit is illuminated just one-quarter of the time, but because the eye cannot perceive the darkening of a digit before it is illuminated again, the digit appears continuously illuminated. If the update or "refresh" rate is slowed to around 45 hertz, most people will begin to see the display flicker.

In order for each of the four digits to appear bright and continuously illuminated, all four digits should be driven once every 1 to 16ms, for a refresh frequency of 1KHz to 60Hz. For example, in a 60Hz refresh scheme, the entire display would be refreshed once every 16ms, and each digit would be illuminated for ¼ of the refresh cycle, or 4ms. The controller must drive the cathodes with the correct pattern when the corresponding anode signal is driven. To illustrate the process, if AN0 is asserted while CB and CC are asserted, then a "1" will be displayed in digit position 1. Then, if AN1 is asserted while CA, CB and CC are asserted, then a "7" will be displayed in digit position 2. If AN0 and CB, CC are driven for 4ms, and then A1 and CA, CB, CC are driven for 4ms in an endless succession, the display will show "17" in the first two digits. An example timing diagram for a four-digit controller is provided.

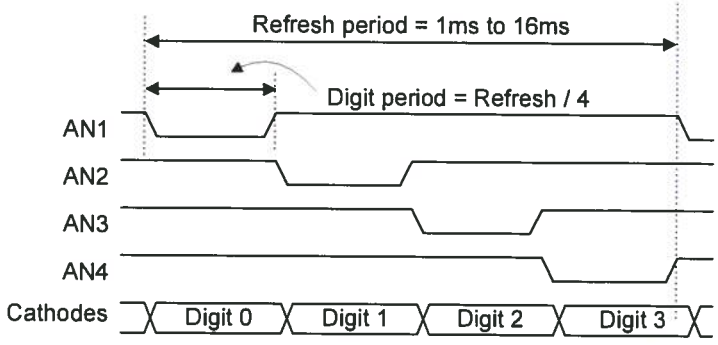


Figure 10: Seven-segment display timing diagram

Peripheral Connectors

The Nexys2 board provides four two-row 6-pin Pmod connectors that together can accommodate up to 8 Pmods. The four 12-pin connectors each have 8 data signals, two GND pins, and two Vdd pins. All data signals include short circuit protection resistors and ESD protection Diodes. A jumper block adjacent to each Pmod connector can connect the Pmod's Vdd signal to the Nexys2 board's 3.3V supply or to the input power bus (VU). If the jumper is set to VU and USB power is driving the main power bus, care should be taken to ensure no more than 200mA is consumed by the Pmod. Further, if the jumper is set to VU, a voltage source connected to the Pmod can drive the main power bus of the Nexys2 board, so care should be taken to avoid connecting conflicting power supplies.

The Pmod connectors are labeled JA (nearest the power jack), JB, JC, and JD (nearest the expansion connector). Pinouts for the Pmod connectors are provided in the table below.

More than 30 low-cost are available for attachment to these connectors. Pmods can either be attached directly, or by using a small cable. Available Pmods include A/D and D/A converters, motor drivers, speaker amplifiers, distance measuring devices, etc. Please see www.digilentinc.com for more information.

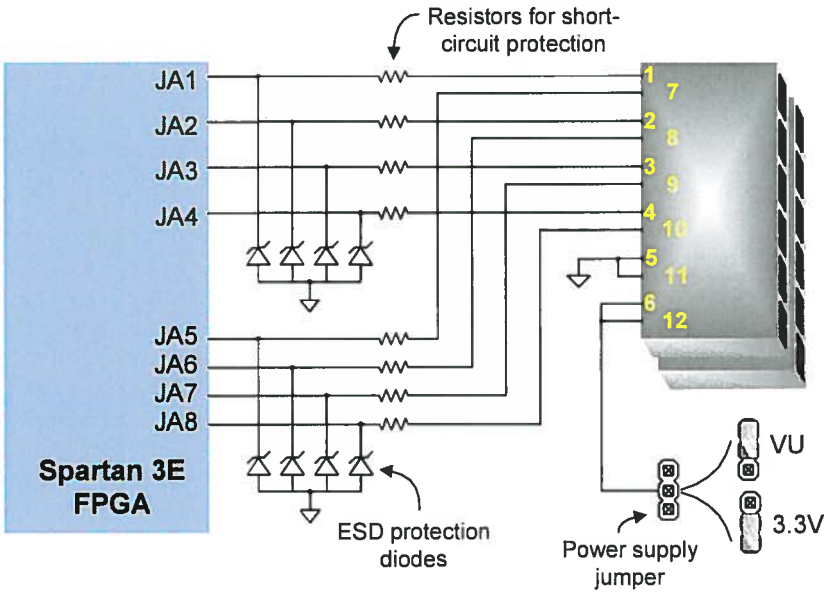


Figure 23: Nexys2 Pmod connector circuits

Table 3: Nexys2 Pmod Connector Pin Assignments							
Pmod JA		**Pmod JB**		**Pmod JC**		**Pmod JD**	
JA1: L15	JA7: K13	JB1: M13	JB7: P17	JC1: G15	JC7: H15	JD1: J13	JD7: K14[1]
JA2: K12	JA8: L16	JB2: R18	JB8: R16	JC2: J16	JC8: F14	JD2: M18	JD8: K15[2]
JA3: L17	JA9: M14	JB3: R15	JB9: T18	JC3: G13	JC9: G16	JD3: N18	JD9: J15[3]
JA4: M15	JA10: M16	JB4: T17	JB10: U18	JC4: H16	JC10: J12	JD4:; P18	JD10: J14[4]

Notes: [1] shared with LD3 [2] shared with LD3 [3] shared with LD3 [4] shared with LD3