Hardware Development Guide for the i.MX 6ULL Applications Processor

1. About This Book

1.1. Overview

This document helps the hardware engineers design and test their i.MX 6ULL processor-based designs. It provides information about board layout recommendations and design checklists to ensure first-pass success and avoidance of the board bring-up problems. It also provides information about board-level testing and simulation, such as using BSDL for board-level testing, using the IBIS model for electrical integrity simulation, and more.

Engineers are expected to have a working understanding of board layouts and terminology, IBIS modeling, BSDL testing, and common board hardware terminology.

This guide is released along with the relevant device-specific hardware documentation such as datasheets, reference manuals, and application notes available on www.nxp.com.

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1.1.1. Devices supported

This guide currently supports the i.MX 6ULL.

1.2. Essential reference

This guide is intended as a companion to the i.MX 6ULL chip reference manuals and data sheets. For the reflow profile and thermal limits during soldering, see General soldering Temperature Process Guidelines (document AN3300). These documents are available on www.nxp.com.

1.3. Suggested reading

This section lists the additional resources that provide the background for the information in this manual as well as the general information about the architecture.

1.3.1. General information

The following documents provide useful information about the ARM processor architecture and the computer architecture in general:

For information about the ARM® Cortex®-A7 processor, see:

- www.arm.com/products/processors/cortex-a/cortex-a7.php
- Computer Architecture: A Quantitative Approach (Fourth Edition) by John L. Hennessy and David A. Patterson
- Computer Organization and Design: The Hardware/Software Interface (Second Edition), by David A. Patterson and John L. Hennessy

The following documents provide useful information about the high-speed board design:

- Right the First Time- A Practical Handbook on High Speed PCB and System Design Volumes I & II - Lee W. Ritchey (Speeding Edge) - ISBN 0-9741936-0-72
- Signal and Power Integrity Simplified (2nd Edition) Eric Bogatin (Prentice Hall)- ISBN 0-13-703502-0
- High Speed Digital Design- A Handbook of Black Magic Howard W. Johnson & Martin Graham (Prentice Hall) - ISBN 0-13-395724-1
- High Speed Signal Propagation Advanced Black Magic Howard W. Johnson & Martin Graham - (Prentice Hall) - ISBN 0-13-084408-X
- High Speed Digital System Design A handbook of Interconnect Theory and Practice Hall, Hall and McCall (Wiley Interscience 2000) - ISBN 0-36090-2
- Signal Integrity Issues and Printed Circuit Design Doug Brooks (Prentice Hall) ISBN 0-13-141884-X
- PCB Design for Real-World EMI Control Bruce R. Archambeault (Kluwer Academic Publishers Group) - ISBN 1-4020-7130-2

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- Digital Design for Interference Specifications A Practical Handbook for EMI Suppression— David L. Terrell & R. Kenneth Keenan (Newnes Publishing) - ISBN 0-7506-7282-X
- Electromagnetic Compatibility Engineering Henry Ott (1st Edition John Wiley and Sons) ISBN 0-471-85068-3
- Introduction to Electromagnetic Compatibility Clayton R. Paul (John Wiley and Sons) ISBN 978-0-470-18930-6
- Grounding & Shielding Techniques Ralph Morrison (5th Edition John Wiley & Sons) ISBN 0-471-24518-6
- EMC for Product Engineers Tim Williams (Newnes Publishing) ISBN 0-7506- 2466-3

1.4. Related documentation

The NXP documentation is listed in Section 6.8, "Other references". The additional literature is published as new NXP products become available. For a current list of documentation, see www.nxp.com.

1.5. Conventions

This document uses the following notational conventions:

Table 1. Conventions

Courier	Used to indicate commands, command parameters, code examples, and file and directory names.	
Italics	Italics indicates command or function parameters.	
Bold	The function names are written in bold.	
cleared/set	When a bit takes the value of zero, it is said to be cleared; when it takes a value of one, it is said to be set.	
mnemonics	The instruction mnemonics are shown in lowercase bold. The book titles in text are set in italics.	
sig_name	The internal signals are written in all lowercase.	
nnnn nnnnh	Denotes a hexadecimal number.	
0b	Denotes a binary number.	
rA, rB	The instruction syntax used to identify a source GPR.	
rD	The instruction syntax used to identify a destination GPR.	
REG[FIELD]	The abbreviations for registers are shown in uppercase. The specific bits, fields, or ranges appear in brackets. For example, MSR[LE] refers to the little-endian mode enable bit in the machine state register.	
х	In some contexts, such as signal encodings, the unitalicized x indicates a don't care.	
x	The italicized x indicates an alphanumeric variable.	
n, m	The italicized n indicates a numeric variable.	

NOTE

In this document, the notation for all logical, bit-wise, arithmetic, comparison, and assignment operations follows the C language conventions.

1.6. Signal conventions

Table 2. Signal conventions

Convention Definition	
PWR_ON_RESET An overbar indicates that a signal is active when low.	
_b, _B Alternate notation indicating an active-low signal.	
signal_name The lowercase italics is used to indicate internal signals.	

1.7. Acronyms and abbreviations

The following table defines the acronyms and abbreviations used in this document.

Table 3. Definitions and acronyms

Term	Definition	
ARM	Advanced RISC Machines processor architecture	
BGA	Ball Grid Array package	
вом	Bill Of Materials	
BSDL	Boundary Scan Description Language	
CAN	Flexible Controller Area Network peripheral	
ССМ	Clock Controller Module	
DDR	Dual Data Rate DRAM	
DDR3	DDR3 DRAM	
DDR3L	Low-voltage DDR3 DRAM	
DDR3U	Ultra-low-voltage DDR3 DRAM	
DRAM	Dynamic Random Access Memory	
ECSPI	Enhanced Configurable SPI peripheral	
EIM	External Interface Module	
ENET	10/100/1000-Mbps Ethernet MAC peripheral	

Table 3. Definitions and acronyms

Term	Definition	
EPIT	nhanced Periodic Interrupt Timer peripheral	
ESR	Equivalent Series Resistance (of a crystal)	
GND	Ground	

2. i.MX 6ULL Design Checklist

This document provides a design checklist for the i.MX 6ULL processor.

The design checklist tables contain recommendations for the optimal design. Where appropriate, the checklist tables also provide an explanation of the recommendation so that you have a greater understanding of why certain techniques are recommended. All supplemental tables referenced by the checklist appear in the sections following the design checklist tables.

2.1. Design checklist tables

Table 4. DDR recommendations

Checkbox	Recommendation	Explanation/supplemental recommendation
	1. Connect the ZQPAD to an external 240 Ω 1 % resistor to the GND.	This is a reference used during the DRAM output buffer driver calibration.
	2. Connect the DRAM_VREF to a source that is 50 % of the NVCC_DRAM voltage value.	You may tie the DDR_VREF to a precision external resistor divider. Shunt the DDR_VREF to the GND with a closely-mounted 0.1 μF capacitor. See Table 15 for resistor values. Using resistors with the recommended tolerances ensures the ±2 % DDR_VREF tolerance per the DDR3 specification. You may use PMIC's tracking regulator, as used on the NXP reference designs.
	3. Connect the DRAM_RESET to a 10 k Ω 5 % pulldown resistor to the GND.	DDR3: the DRAM_RESET must be pulled down to meet the JEDEC sequence until the controller is configured and starts driving. The DRAM_RESET must be kept high when the DDR3 enters the self-refresh mode. LPDDR2: DRAM_RESET must be left unconnected. Some NXP reference designs use a 1 % resistor simply to consolidate the BOM. The DRAM_RESET is an active-low signal.
	4. The DRAM_SDCKE0 and DRAM_SDCKE1 require external pull-down resistors to the GND for the JEDEC compliance when using the LPDDR2.	LPDDR2: the SDCKE[1:0] must be pulled down to meet the JEDEC sequence until the controller is configured and starts driving. The NXP designs use 10 k Ω . DDR3: the SDCKE[1:0] pull-down is not required to meet the JEDEC, unless the deep-sleep or standby modes are used (see point 5).

Table 4. DDR recommendations

Checkbox	Recommendation	Explanation/supplemental recommendation
	5. The DRAM_SDCKE0 and DRAM_SDCKE1 require external resistors (such as 10 kΩ) to the GND to minimize the current drain during the Deep-Sleep Mode (DSM).	The BSP (Board Support Package) uses a common DDR routine for both the fly-by and T-topology designs. The fly-by designs have a parallel resistor termination on the address lines, while the T-topology designs do not. During the low-power self-refresh, the BSP programs the pad control register GRP_CTLDS to 0x00000000. Therefore, the DRAM_SDCKE0, DRAM_SDCKE1, and the other associated GRP_CTLDS I/O are forced to the high-impedance state. Because the DRAM_SDCKE0 and DRAM_SDCKE1 are forced to high-Z, the external pull-down resistors are required to avoid floating outputs during standby. In the NXP designs, $10~\text{k}\Omega$ resistors are used for this purpose. Any other termination on the DRAM_SDCKE0 and DRAM_SDCKE1 lines (such as $50~\Omega$) must not be present; the simulation must be performed to ensure the CKE signal integrity.
	6. Make sure that a correct LPDDR2 function is connected to a correct I/O. Note that this does not necessarily correspond to the I/O name.	The MMDC IO names are for the DDR3 by default. When the LPDDR2 is selected, the I/O name (DDR3 MMDC PAD) does not match the LPDDR2 functionality. See the "LPDDR2 and DDR3 pin mux mapping" table in the "Multi Mode DDR Controller (MMDC)" chapter of the chip reference manual.

Table 5. LCD recommendations for developer's boot modes

Checkbox	Recommendation	Explanation/supplemental recommendation
	1. When the LCD boot signals are used as the system's LCD signals, the other functions (or GPIO outputs after the boot) use a passive resistor network to select the desired boot mode for the development boards.	Because only resistors are used, the LCD bus loads can cause current drain leading to higher (false) supply current measurements. Each LCD boot signal must connect to a series resistor to isolate the bus from the resistors and/or switchers; see Figure 1. Each configured LCD boot signal sees either a 10 k Ω pull-down or a 10 k Ω pull-up. For each switch-enabled pulled-up signal, the supply is presented with a 10 k Ω current load. An alternate approach using the buffers is implemented in the i.MX 6ULL EVK development board design. Either of these implementations is acceptable.
		Using the LCD boot interface lines as inputs may result in a wrong boot-up due to the source overcoming the pull resistor value. A peripheral device may require the LCD signal to have an external or on-chip resistor to minimize the signal floating. If the usage of the LCD boot signal affects the peripheral device, then either an analog switch, an open collector buffer, or an equivalent must isolate the path. A pull-up or pull-down resistor at the peripheral device may be required to maintain the desired logic level. See the switch or device data sheet for the operating specifications.
	 The BOOT_CFG signals are required for the proper functionality and operation and must not be left floating. 	See the "System Boot" chapter in the chip reference manual for a correct boot configuration. Note that an incorrect setting may result from an improper booting sequence.

Table 6. Boot mode input recommendations

Checkbox	Recommendation	Explanation/supplemental recommendation
	to achieve logic 0: •Tie to the GND through an external resistor of any value. •Tie directly to the GND.	The BOOT_MODE1 and BOOT_MODE0 each have on-chip pull-down devices with a nominal value of 100 k Ω , a projected minimum of 60 k Ω , and a projected maximum of 140 k Ω . Be aware that when these are logic-high, the current is drawn from the VDD_SNVS_IN supply. In production, when the on-chip fuses determine the boot configuration, both boot mode inputs can be disconnected.

Table 7. I²C recommendations

Checkbox	Recommendation	Explanation/supplemental recommendation
	rates.	The bus can only operate as fast as the slowest peripheral on the bus. If a faster operation is required, move the slow devices to another $\rm I^2C$ port.
	is supported and does not conflict with	These chips support up to four I ² C ports. If it is undesirable to move the conflicting device to another I ² C port, review the peripheral operation to see if it supports the remapping of the address.
		This can result in excessive loading. A good design practice is to place one pair of pull-ups only.

Table 8. JTAG recommendations

Checkbox	Recommendation	Explanation/supplemental recommendation
	pull-down resistors on the JTAG_TDO.	The JTAG_TDO is configured with an on-chip keeper circuit so that the floating condition is actively eliminated if an external pull resistor is not present. An external pull resistor on the JTAG_TDO is detrimental. See Table 16 for a summary of the JTAG interface.

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Table 8. JTAG recommendations

Checkbox	Recommendation	Explanation/supplemental recommendation
	2. Ensure that the on-chip pull-up/pull-down configuration is followed when the external resistors are used with the JTAG signals (with the exception of the JTAG_TDO). For example, do not use an external pull-down on an input that has an on-chip pull-up.	The external resistors can be used with all JTAG signals except for the JTAG_TDO, but they are not required. See Table 16 for a summary of the JTAG interface.
	3. JTAG_MOD may be referred to as SJC_MOD in some documents. Both names refer to the same signal. JTAG_MOD must be externally connected to GND for normal operation in a system. The termination to GND through an external pull-down resistor is allowed. Use 4.7 k Ω .	When the JTAG_MOD is low, the JTAG interface is configured for a common software debug, adding all the system TAPs to the chain. When the JTAG_MOD is high, the JTAG interface is configured to a mode compliant with the IEEE 1149.1 standard.

Table 9. Power supply decoupling recommendations

Checkbox	Supply	Decoupling and bulk caps (min qty)	Notes
	VDD_SOC_IN	2×0.22uF²+1×4.7uF¹+1×22uF³	14x14 package: Place the 22 μF cap and one of the 0.22 μF caps next to the ball K10.
	VDD_ARM_CAP	2×0.22uF²+1×22uF³	14x14 package: Place the 22 μF cap and one of the 0.22 μF caps next to the ball G9. Place "+" within 50 mils of the via. Do not connect any loads to the VDDARM_CAP.
	VDD_SOC_CAP	3×0.22uF²+1×22uF³	14x14 package: Place a 22 μF cap and one of the 0.22 μF caps next to the ball AA10. Place "+" within 50 mils of via.
	VDD_HIGH_IN	1×0.22uF²+1×4.7uF¹	_
	VDD_HIGH_CAP	1×0.22uF²+1×10uF¹	VDDHIGH_CAP is restricted to MX6ULL loads.
	VDD_SNVS_IN	1×0.22uF²	_
	VDD_SNVS_CAP	1×0.22uF²	If the nominal value is larger than recommended, the power-up/down ramp time is excessive and the suspend/resume operation cannot be guaranteed. Select a small capacitor with a low ESR. Do not connect any loads to the VDD_SNVS_CAP.
	NVCC_DRAM	6×0.22uF²+1×10uF³	_
	NVCC_PLL	1×0.22uF²+1×10uF¹	Do not connect any loads to this LDO output.
	NVCC_xxxx	1×0.22uF²	One capacitor per via. The grouped NVCC balls can share one capacitor.

Table 9. Power	er supply decoupling	recommendations
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Checkbox	Supply	Decoupling and bulk caps (min qty)	Notes
	VDD_USB_CAP		You may use a single 10 μ F capacitor instead of 2 ×4.7 μ F capacitors. Do not connect any loads to this LDO output.
	USB_OTG1_VBUS	1×1uF¹	10 V rated.
	USB_OTG2_VBUS	1×1uF¹	10 V rated.

- 1. Use the smallest capacitor package size allowed with your design rules.
- 2. For 0.22 μF capacitors, use 0402 package.
- 3. For 22 μF capacitors, 0603 package preferred; 0805 and 1206 are acceptable.

Table 10. Power and decoupling recommendations

Table 10. I ower and decoupling recommendations		
Checkbox Recommendation	Explanation/supplemental recommendation	
Comply with the power-up sequence guidelines (as described in the data sheet) to guarantee a reliable operation of the device.	Any deviation from these sequences may result in these situations: • Excessive current during the power-up phase • Prevention of the device from booting • Irreversible damage to the processor (worst-case scenario)	
2. Do not overload the coin-cell backup power rail VDD_SNVS_IN. Note that the following I/Os are associated with the VDD_SNVS_IN; most inputs have on-chip pull resistors and do not require external resistors: • POR_B – configurable on-chip pull-up • ONOFF – on-chip pull-up • BOOT_MODE0 – on-chip pull-down • BOOT_MODE1 – on-chip pull-down • TAMPER – on-chip keeper • PMIC_STBY_REQ – configurable output • PMIC_ON_REQ – push-pull output • TEST_MODE – on-chip pull-down	Concerning the i.MX 6ULL: •When VDD_SNVS_IN = VDD_HIGH_IN, the SNVS domain current is drawn from both equally. •When VDD_HIGH_IN > VDD_SNVS_IN, the VDD_HIGH_IN supplies all the SNVS domain current and the current flows into the VDD_SNVS_IN to charge the coin-cell battery. •When VDD_SNVS_IN > VDD_HIGH_IN, the VDD_SNVS_IN supplies current to the SNVS, and some current flows into the VDD_HIGH_IN. Note: the VDD_HIGH_IN must be valid (above the internal detector threshold, 2.4 V typically) for the current flow to occur. Thus, the current flow only happens when the VDD_HIGH_IN is powered to a level below the VDD_SNVS_IN. If the VDD_HIGH_IN is off or low, no extra current is drawn from the VDD_SNVS_IN. The whole circuit assumes it is charging a coin cell and starts charging when the VDD_HIGH_IN is valid. If you drive the VDD_SNVS_IN with a non-battery power source, it must be at the same level as the VDD_HIGH_IN or the current flows between them. When the VDD_SNVS_IN is not powered by a battery, it is recommended that VDD_SNVS_IN = VDD_HIGH_IN. If the VDD_SNVS_IN is tied to a battery, the battery eventually discharges to a value equal to that of the VDD_HIGH_IN and never subsequently charges above the VDD_HIGH_IN. The battery chemistry may add restrictions to the VDD_HIGH_IN. The battery chemistry may add restrictions to the VDD_HIGH_IN's voltage range. The external charging components must be based on the battery manufacturer's specifications.	

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Table 10. Power and decoupling recommendations

Checkbox	Recommendation	Explanation/supplemental recommendation
		The common limitation for the ripple noise must be less than 5 % Vp-p of the supply voltage average value. These related power rails are affected: all VDD_xxx_IN and VDD_xxx_CAP.
	a coin cell, a Schottky diode is required between the VDD_HIGH_IN and VDD_SNVS_IN. The cathode is connected to	When no power is supplied to the VDD_VSNVS_IN, the diode limits the voltage difference between the two on-chip SNVS power domains to approximately 0.3 V. The processor is designed to allow the current flow between the two SNVS power domains proportional to the voltage difference.

Table 11. Oscillator and clock recommendations

Checkbox	Recommendation	Explanation/supplemental recommendation
	a crystal between the RTC_XTALI and RTC_XTALO. Choose a crystal with a maximum of 100 kΩ ESR (Equivalent Series Resistance) and follow the manufacturer's recommendation for the loading capacitance. Do not use an external biasing resistor because the bias circuit is on-chip.	The capacitors implemented on either side of the crystal are about twice the crystal load capacitance. To hit the target oscillation frequency, the board capacitors must be reduced to compensate for the board and chip parasitic capacitance; typically 15–16 pF is employed. The integrated oscillation amplifier has an on-chip self-biasing scheme, but it is high-impedance (relatively weak) to minimize the power consumption. Care must be taken to limit the parasitic leakage from the RTC_XTALI and RTC_XTALO to either the power or ground (> 100 M Ω) as this negatively affects the amplifier bias and causes a reduction of the startup margin. Use short traces between the crystal and the processor with a ground plane under the crystal, load capacitors, and associated traces.
	can be driven DC-coupled with the RTC_XTALO floated or driven with a complimentary signal.	The voltage level of this driving clock must not exceed the voltage of the VDD_SNVS_CAP and the frequency must be <100 kHz under the typical conditions. Do not exceed the VDD_SNVS_CAP or a damage/malfunction may occur. The RTC_XTALI signal must not be driven if the VDD_SNVS_CAP supply is off. This can lead to damage or malfunction. For the RTC_XTALI VIL and VIH voltage levels, see the latest i.MX 6ULL datasheet available at www.nxp.com . Note that if this external clock stops, the internal ring oscillator starts automatically.
	3. An on-chip loose-tolerance ring oscillator of approximately 40 kHz is available. If the RTC_XTALI is tied to the GND and the RTC_XTALO is floating, the on-chip oscillator is automatically engaged.	When a high-accuracy real-time clock is not required, the system may use the on-chip 40 kHz oscillator. The tolerance is ± 50 %. The ring oscillator starts faster than the external crystal and is used until the external crystal reaches a stable oscillation. The ring oscillator also starts automatically if no clock is detected at the RTC_XTALI at any time.

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Table 11. Oscillator and clock recommendations

Checkbox	Recommendation	Explanation/supplemental recommendation
	and XTALO. An 80 typical ESR crystal rated for a maximum drive level of 250 W is acceptable. Alternately, a 50 typical ESR crystal rated for a maximum drive level of 200 W may be used.	The NXP BSP software requires 24 MHz on this clock. This clock is used as a reference for the USB and PCIe, so there are strict frequency tolerance and jitter requirements. See Table 17 for guidelines. See the crystal oscillator (XTALOSC) reference manual chapter and the relevant interface specification chapters for details. To access a calculator for the 24 MHz crystal drive level, see i.MX 6 Series Crystal Drive (24 MHz) (document EB830).
		For the XTALI VIL and VIH voltage levels, see the latest i.MX 6ULL datasheet. See the crystal oscillator (XTALOSC) reference manual chapter and the relevant interface specification chapters for details.
	7. Bias the XTALI with a 2.2 M resistor to the GND. Mount the resistor close to the XTALI ball.	The XTALI bias must be adjusted externally to ensure a reasonable start-up time.

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Table 12. Reset and ON OFF recommendations

Checkbox	Recommendation	Explanation/supplemental recommendation
	control the processor POR, then the POR_B must be immediately asserted at the power-up and remain asserted until the VDD_ARM_CAP	A reset switch may be wired to the chip's POR_B, which is a cold-reset negative-logic input that resets all modules and logic in the IC. The POR_B may be used in addition to the internally-generated power-on reset signal (logical AND, both the internal and external signals are considered active low).
	input may be connected to an ON/OFF SPST push-button switch. The on-chip de-bouncing is provided and this input has an on-chip pull-up. If not used, the ON/OFF can be a no connect.	A brief connection to the GND in the OFF mode causes the internal power management state machine to change the state to ON. In the ON mode, a brief connection to the GND generates an interrupt (intended to be a software-controllable power-down). Approximately five seconds or more to the GND causes a forced OFF.

Table 13. USB recommendations

Checkbox	Recommendation	Explanation/supplemental recommendation
	1. USB OTG. To comply with the USB OTG specification, the VBUS supply on the OTG connector must be off by default when the boards power up and keep off until the OTG_ID is pulled low.	The processor can turn the VBUS on when it's required.

Table 14. Miscellaneous recommendations

Checkbox	Recommendation	Explanation/supplemental recommendation
	The TEST_MODE input is internally connected to an on-chip pull-down device. The user can either float this signal or tie it to the GND.	This input is reserved for the NXP manufacturing use.
	2. The GPANAIO must be a no connect.	This output is reserved for the NXP manufacturing use.
		Depending on the feature set, some versions of the IC may have the NC contacts connected inside the BGA.

The following figure provides supporting information for Table 18.

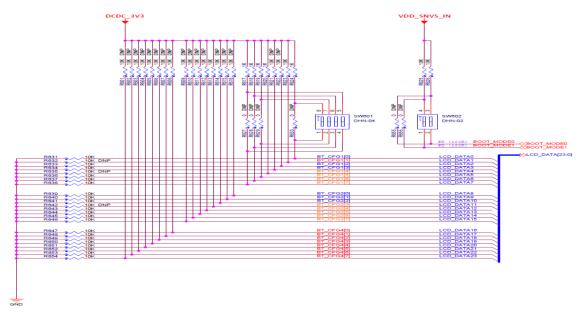


Figure 1. Boot configuration for development mode

2.2. DDR reference circuit

The following table is a resistor chart (see Table 4 recommendation #2). The recommendations are appropriate for designs with the DDR memory chips with a maximum Vref input current of 2 μ A each.

Number of DRAM with 2 μA Vref input current	Resistor divider value (two resistors)
2	= 1.21 kΩ 1%
2	= 1.54 kΩ 0.5%
2	= 2.32 kΩ 0.1%

Table 15. DDR Vref resistor sizing guideline

2.3. JTAG signal termination

The following table is the JTAG termination chart (see recommendations in Table 8).

JTAG signal I/O type On-chip termination **External termination** JTAG_TCK Not required; can use 10 kΩ pull-down Input 47 kΩ pull-up JTAG_TMS 47 kΩ pull-up Not required; can use 10 kΩ pull-up Input JTAG_TDI Input 47 kΩ pull-up Not required; can use 10 kΩ pull-up JTAG_TDO 3-state output 100 kΩ pull-up Do not use pull-up or pull-down JTAG TRSTB Not required; can use 10 kΩ pullup Input 47 kΩ pull-up JTAG_MOD 100 kΩ pull-up Use 4.7 k Ω pulldown or tie to the GND Input

Table 16. JTAG interface summary

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2.4. Oscillator tolerance

The following table provides the 24 MHz oscillator tolerance guidelines (see Table 11, recommendations #4 and #5). Because these are the guidelines, verify all tolerances as per the official specifications.

Table 17. MHz crystal tolerance guidelines

Interface	Tolerance (± ppm)
Ethernet	50
USB2.0	150

2.5. Unused analog interfaces

The following table shows the recommended connections for the unused analog interfaces.

Table 18. Recommended connections for unused analog interfaces

Module	Contact name	Recommendations if unused
	ADC_VREFH	Tie to the VDDA_ADC_3P3
ADC	VDDA_ADC_3P3	The VDDA_ADC_3P3 must be powered even if the ADC is not used.
ССМ	CCM_CLK1_P, CCM_CLK1_N	Float
DTC	RTC_XTALI	Ground
RTC	RTC_XTALO	Float
USBOTG	USB_OTG1_CHD_B, USB_OTG1_DN, USB_OTG1_DP, USB1_OTG_VBUS USB_OTG2_DN, USB_OTG2_DP, USB2_OTG_VBUS	Float

^{1.} These supplies must remain powered if the boundary scan test needs to be done.

2.6. Migrating from i.MX 6UltraLite to i.MX 6ULL

The main feature changes from the i.MX 6UltraLite to the i.MX 6ULL are adding the EPDC and ESAI support. The i.MX 6ULL's EPDC supports the E-book DC4 board. The detailed migration from the i.MX 6UltraLite to the i.MX 6ULL is available at www.nxp.com/products/microcontrollers-and-processors/i.mx-applications-processors/i.mx-6-processors/i.mx-6-processors/i.mx-6-ull-single-core-processor-with-arm-cortex-a7-core:i.MX6ULL.

3. i.MX 6ULL Layout Recommendations

3.1. Introduction

This chapter provides the recommendations to help the design engineers with the layout of an i.MX 6ULL-based system.

3.2. Basic design recommendations

The i.MX 6ULL processor is available in multiple packages.

When using the Allegro tool, the best practice is to use the footprint as created by NXP. When not using the Allegro tool, use the Allegro footprint export feature (supported by many tools). If the export is not possible, create the footprint per the package mechanical dimensions outlined in the product data sheet.

The native Allegro layout and gerber files are available on www.nxp.com.

3.2.1. Placement of bulk and decoupling capacitors

Place the small decoupling and larger bulk capacitors on the bottom side of the CPU.

The 0402 decoupling and 0603 bulk capacitors must be placed as close as possible to the power balls. The distance must be less than 50 mils. The additional bulk capacitors can be placed near the edge of the BGA via array. Placing the decoupling capacitors close to the power balls is critical to minimize the inductance and ensure the high-speed transient current demand by the processor.

The correct via size is critical for preserving the adequate routing space. The recommended geometry for the via pads is: pad size 18 mils and drill 8 mils.

The preferred BGA power decoupling design layout is available at <u>www.nxp.com</u>. Use the NXP design strategy for power and decoupling.

3.3. Stackup recommendations

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A high-speed design requires a good stackup to have the right impedance for the critical traces.

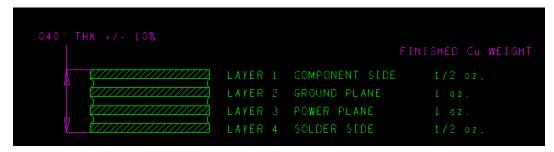


Figure 2. i.MX 6ULL EVK PCB stackup info

The constraints for the trace width may depend on a number of factors, such as the board stack-up and the associated dielectric and copper thickness, the required impedance, and the required current (for the power traces). The NXP reference design uses a minimum trace width of 3 mils for the DDR routing. The stack-up also determines the constraints for routing and spacing.

Consider the following when designing the stack-up and selecting the material for your board:

- The board stack-up is critical for the high-speed signal quality.
- Pre-plan the impedance of the critical traces.
- The high-speed signals must have the reference planes on the adjacent layers to minimize the cross-talk.
- The NXP reference design equals Isola FR4.
- The NXP validation boards equal Isola FR4.
- The recommended stack-up is 4-layer, with the layer stack shown in the following figure. The left-hand image shows the detail provided by NXP inside the fabrication detail as a part of the Gerber files. The right-hand side shows the solution suggested by the PCB fabrication company for our requirements.

This table shows the i.MX 6ULL EVK PCB stack-up implementation:

Layers	Single-	ended	Differential					
	Trace width (Mils)	Impedance (Ωs)	Trace width (Mils) Trace spacing 'Air- gap' (Mils) Impedance (Ωs) Trace width (Mils) Trace spacing 'Airgap' (Mils) Imped					Impedance (Ωs)
TOP	4.5	50	4	4	90	4	7	100
вот	4.5	50	4	4	90	4	7	100

Table 19. Stack-up implementation

3.4. DDR connection information

The following figures show the block diagrams from the reference design boards for the DDR3 interface and the LPDDR2 interface (respectively) with the i.MX 6ULL.

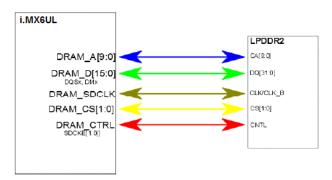


Figure 3. i.MX 6ULL LPDDR2 interface

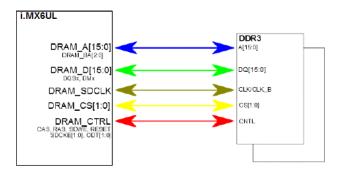


Figure 4. i.MX 6ULL DDR3 interface

The DDR3 interface is one of the most critical interfaces for chip routing. It must have a 50 Ω controlled impedance for the single-ended traces, and 100 Ω for the differential pairs.

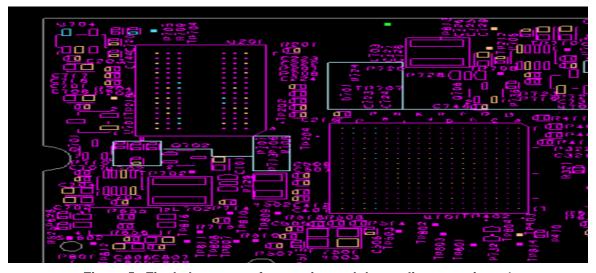


Figure 5. Final placement of memories and decoupling capacitors 1

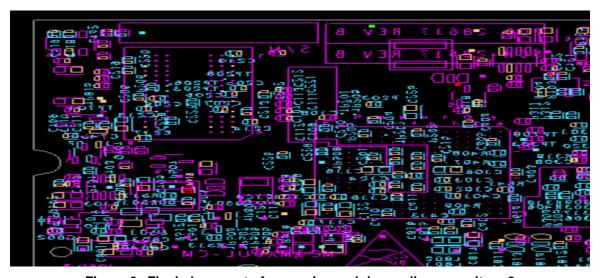


Figure 6. Final placement of memories and decoupling capacitors 2

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3.4.1. DDR routing rules

DDR3 routing can be accomplished in two different ways: routing all signals at the same length or routing by the byte group.

Routing all signals at the same length can be more difficult because of the tight space between the DDR and the processor and the large number of the required interconnects. However, it is the better way because it makes the signal timing analysis straightforward. Ideally, we could route all the signals at the same length. Nevertheless, it could be difficult because of the large number of connections in the tight space between the DDR and the processor. The following table explains the rules for routing the signals by the same length.

Signals Total length		Recommendations
Address and Bank	Clock length	Match the signals ±25 mils of the value specified in the length column.
Data and Buffer Clock length		Match the signals ±25 mils of the value specified in the length column.
Control signals	Clock length	Match the signals ±25 mils of the value specified in the length column.
Clock DRAM_SDCLK[1:0]	Longest trace less than or equal to 2 inches	Match the signals of clocks signals ±5 mils. Each differential clock pair.
DRAM_SDQS[1:0] and DRAM_SDQS[1:0]_B	Clock length	Match the signals of the DQS signals ±10 mils of the value specified in the length column.

Table 20. DDR3 routing by the same length

Routing by the byte group requires a better control of the signals of each group. It is also more difficult for analysis and constraint settings. However, its advantage is that the constraint to match the lengths can be applied to a smaller group of signals. This is often more achievable once the constraints are properly set. The following table explains the rules for routing the signals by the byte group.

Chip signals	Group	Length (m	ils) Min	Recommendations
DRAM_SDCLK0 DRAM_SDCLK0_B	Clock	Short as possible	2 inches	Match the signals ± 5 mils.
DRAM_A[15:0] DRAM_SDBA[2:0] DRAM_RAS DRAM_CAS DRAM_SDWE		Clock (min) - 200	Clock (min)1	Match the signals ± 25 mils.
DRAM_D[7:0] DRAM_DQM0 DRAM_SDQS0 DRAM_SDQS0_B	Byte Group 1	_	Clock (min)	Match the signals of each byte group \pm 25 mils. Match the differential signals of DQS \pm 10 mils.
DRAM_D[15:8] DRAM_DQM1 DRAM_SDQS1 DRAM_SDQS1_B	Byte Group 2	_	Clock (min)	_
DRAM_CS[1:0] DRAM_SDCKE[1:0] DRAM_SDODT[1:0]	Control signals	Clock (min) - 200	Clock (min)	Match the signals ± 50 mils.

Table 21. DDR3 routing by byte group

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shortest length of the clock group signals because this group has a the impedance for the signals must be 50 Ω for the single-ended and 100 Ω for the differential pairs.

3.5. Routing considerations

The chip supports up to 2 GB of the DRAM memory. The i.MX 6ULL DDR routing must be separated into three groups: data, address, and control. Each group has its own method of routing from the i.MX 6 series chip to the DDR memory. The DDR layout has 2 GB and 1 GB options.

3.5.1. Swapping data lines

The DDR3 pin-swapping technique for the data bus lines within the bytes makes it easier to:

- Route the direct lines
- Avoid changes between the layers

The rules are as follows:

- Hardware write leveling—the lowest-order bit within the byte lane must remain on the lowest order bit of the lane by the JEDEC compliance (see the "Write Leveling" section in JESD79-3E).
 - The lowest bit of each byte must be aligned between the i.MX 6ULL and DDR chips. For example, D0 of i.MX 6ULL to D0 of DDR chip, D8 of i.MX 6ULL to D8 of DDR chip.
 - Other data lines are free to swap within the byte lane.
- The JEDEC DDR3 memory restrictions are:
 - No restrictions for the complete byte lane swapping.
 - The DQS and DQM must follow the lanes.

NOTE

If the byte lane swapping was done, the target DDR IC register read value must be transposed according to the data line swapping.

3.5.2. High-speed signal routing recommendations

For more information about general high-speed routing considerations, see *High Frequency Design Considerations* (document AN12298).

The following list provides the recommendations for the high-speed signals trace routing. Note that the propagation delay and the impedance control must match to have a correct communication with the devices.

- The high-speed signals (DDR, RMII, display) must not cross the gaps in the reference plane.
- Avoid creating slots, voids, and splits in the reference planes. Review the via voids to ensure they
 do not create splits (space-out vias).
- Provide the ground return vias within a 100-mil distance from the signal layer-transition vias when transitioning between different reference ground planes.
- A solid GND plane must be directly under the crystal, associated components, and traces.
- Clocks or strobes that are on the same layer need at least 2.5× spacing from an adjacent trace (2.5× height from the reference plane) to reduce cross-talk.
- All synchronous modules must have the bus length matching and the relative clock length control. For the SD module interfaces:

- Match the data and the CMD trace lengths (the length delta depends on the bus rates).
- The CLK must be longer than the longest signal in the Data/CMD group (+5 mils).
- Similar DDR rules must be followed for the data, address, and control as for the SD module interfaces.

NOTE

If the byte lane swapping was done, the target DDR IC register read value must be transposed according to the data line swapping.

3.6. DDR power recommendations

The following recommendations apply to the VREF (P0V675_REFDDR) voltage reference plane.

- Use < 30 mils trace between the decoupling cap and the destination.
- Maintain a 25 mils clearance from the other nets.

Decouple using the distributed 0.22 µF capacitors by the regulator, controller, and devices.

• Place one 1.0 μF near the source of the VREF: one near the VREF pin on the controller and two between the controller and the devices.

3.7. USB recommendations

Use these recommendations for the USB:

- Route the high-speed clocks and the DP and DM differential pair first.
- Route the DP and DM signals on the top or bottom layers of the board.
- The trace width and spacing of the DP and DM signals must meet the differential impedance requirement of 90 Ω .
- Route the traces over the continuous planes (power and ground).
 - They must not pass over any power/GND plane slots or the anti-etch.
 - When placing the connectors, make sure the ground plane clear-outs around each pin have the ground continuity between all pins.
- Maintain the parallelism (skew-matched) between the DP and DM, and match the overall differential length difference to less than 5 mils.
- Maintain the symmetric routing for each differential pair.

Do not route the DP and DM traces under the oscillators or parallel to the clock traces and/or data buses.

- Minimize the lengths of the high-speed signals that run parallel to the DP and DM pair.
- Keep the DP and DM traces as short as possible.
- Route the DP and DM signals with a minimum amount of corners. Use 45-degree turns instead of 90-degree turns.
- Avoid layer changes (vias) on the DP and DM signals. Do not create stubs or branches.

Provide the ground return vias within a 50 mils distance from the signal layer-transition vias when transitioning between different reference ground planes.

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3.8. Impedance signal recommendations

Use the following table as a reference when updating or creating the constraints in the software PCB tool to set up the impedance and the correct trace width.

Table 22. Impedance signal recommendations

Signal group	Impedance	Layout tolerance (±)
All signals, unless specified	50 Ω SE	10 %
USB Diff signals	90 Ω Diff	10 %
Diff signals: DDR, Phy IC to Ethernet Connector	100 Ω Diff	10 %

The following figure shows the dimensions of a stripline and microstrip pair. Figure 8 shows the differential pair routing.

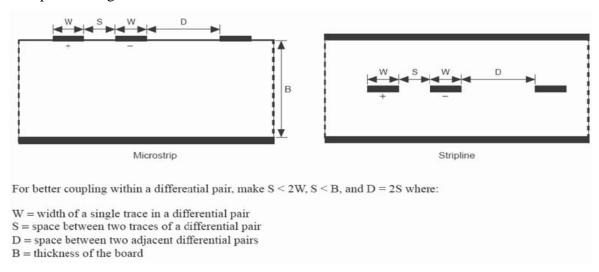


Figure 7. Microstrip and stripline differential pair dimensions

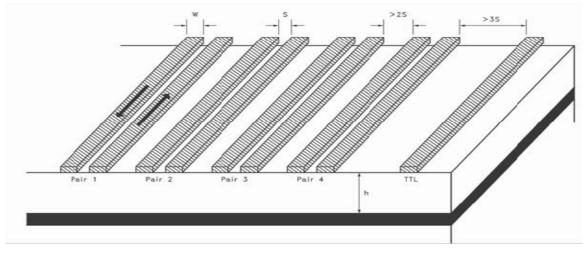


Figure 8. Differential pair routing

The space between two adjacent differential pairs must be greater than or equal to twice the

- space between the two individual conductors.
- The skew between the LVDS pairs must be within the minimum recommendation (± 100 mils).

3.9. ESD and radiated emissions recommendations

The PCB design should four layers, with solid power and ground planes. The recommendations for the ESD immunity and radiated emissions performance are as follows:

- All components with the ground chassis shields (USB jack, buttons, and so on) must connect the shield to the PCB chassis ground ring.
- The ferrite beads must be placed on each signal line connecting to an external cable. These ferrite beads must be placed as close to the PCB jack as possible.

NOTE

The ferrite beads must have a minimum impedance of 500 Ω at 100 MHz with the exception of the ferrite on the USB_5V.

- The ferrite beads must not be placed on the USB D+/D- signal lines as this can cause the USB signal integrity problems. For the radiated emissions problems due to the USB, a common mode choke may be placed on the D+/D- signal lines. However, in most cases, it is not required if the PCB layout is satisfactory. Ideally, the common mode choke must be approved for the high-speed USB use or tested thoroughly to verify that there are no signal integrity issues created.
- It is highly recommended to use the ESD protection devices on the ports connecting to the external connectors. Add low-capacitance TVS arrays to the USB interfaces. For example, SEMTECH's RClamp0854P protects the high-speed data interfaces such as USB2.0 and USB OTG from the overvoltage caused by the ESD, CDE, and EFT. See the reference schematic (available at www.nxp.com) for detailed information about the ESD protection implementation on the USB interfaces.

If possible, stitch the board all around with vias with a 100 mils spacing between them connected to the GND planes with the exposed solder mask to improve the EMI. It's called the Faraday cage.

3.10. Component placement recommendations

Adhere to the following recommendations when placing the components.

- Place the components such that the short and/or critical routes can be easily laid out.
 - The critical routes determine the component location.
 - Orient the devices to facilitate the routes (minimize the length and crossovers).
- Consider placing the following pairings adjacent.
 - i.MX and DDR.
 - PHY and associated jack.
 - Jack and CODEC input.
 - Bluetooth[®] (or other RF) and antenna.

3.11. Reducing skew and phase problems in deferential pairs traces

The differential pair technology has evolved to require more stringent checking in the area of phase control. This is evident from the higher data rates associated with the parallel buses such as the DDR or Ethernet. In the simplest of terms, the differential pair technology sends the opposite and equal signals down a pair of traces. Keeping these opposite signals in phase is essential to ensure that they function as intended.

The following figures show two examples of the static routing where a match is achieved without the need to tune one element of the differential pair.

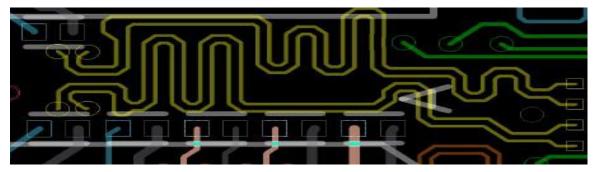


Figure 9. Yellow traces differential pairs 1

The following figure shows the addition of a delay trace to one element of the differential pair to avoid the length mismatch (which reduces the skew and phase problems). The green box highlights the detail.

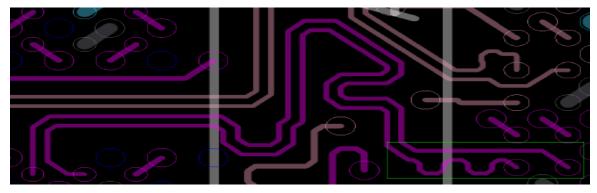


Figure 10. Small bumps added to the shorter differential pair

3.12. eMMC HS200 mode recommendations

The HS200 bus speed mode for the eMMC offers the following features:

- SDR data-sampling method.
- CLK frequency of up to 200 MHz and data rate of up to 200 MB/s.
- 4-bit or 8-bit bus widths supported.
- Single-ended signaling with four selectable drive strengths.
- Signaling levels of 1.8 V.

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• Tuning concept for the read operations.

The PCB design recommendations for the eMMC HS200 mode are:

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- The propagation time skew of the signals between the controller and the eMMC must be within 50 ps.
- The maximum length of the traces must be 60 mm as the parasitic capacitance causes the driving load capacitance increase.
- The maximum line length difference must be 8 mm.
- The hardware reset pin of the eMMC must be configured as floating or connecting to GND if not used.
- The maximum line length of the DDR50 must be 60 mm.
- The maximum line length difference of DDR50 must be 8 mm.

4. Avoiding Board Bring-up Problems

4.1. Introduction

This chapter provides the recommendations to avoid typical mistakes when bringing up a board for the first time. These recommendations consist of the basic techniques that are useful for detecting board issues and addressing the three most typical bring-up pitfalls: power, clocks, and reset. A sample bring-up checklist is provided at the end of this chapter.

4.2. Using current monitor to avoid power pitfalls

An excessive current can damage the board. Avoid this problem by using a current-limiting laboratory supply set to the expected typical main current draw (at most). Monitor the main supply current with an ammeter when powering up the board for the first time. You can use the supply's internal ammeter (if it has one). By monitoring the main supply current and controlling the current limit, any excessive current can usually be detected before a permanent damage occurs.

4.3. Using a voltage report to avoid power pitfalls

Using incorrect voltage rails is a common power pitfall. To avoid this mistake, create a basic table called "voltage report" before bringing up the board. This table helps to validate that all supplies reach the expected levels.

To create a voltage report, gather these information:

- The board voltage sources.
- The default power-up values for the board voltage sources.
- The best location on the board to measure the voltage level of each supply.

Carefully determine the best measurement location for each power supply to avoid a large voltage drop (IR drop) on the board, which causes inaccurate current values to be measured. The following guidelines help to produce the best current measurements:

- Measure as close to the load as possible (in this case the i.MX 6ULL processor).
- Make two measurements: the first after the initial board power-up and the second while running a
 heavy use-case that stresses the i.MX 6ULL processor.

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Ensure that the supplies that power the i.MX 6ULL meet the DC electrical specifications as listed in the chip-specific data sheet.

Source	Net name	Expected (V)	Measured (V)	Measured point	Comment
Main	VSYS	5.0	5.103	TP814	_
LDO	VDD_SNVS_3V3	3.3	3.334	TP701	_
DCDC	DCDC_3V3	3.3	3.261	TP705	_
DCDC	DRAM_1V35	1.35	1.376	TP708	_
DCDC	VDD_ARM_SOC_IN	1.4	1.411	TP702	_
LDO	VLDO_3V3	3.3	3.275	TP704	_
LDO	VLDO_1V8	1.8	1.792	TP707	_
LDO	NVCC_SD	3.3/1.8	3.311	TP709	_
i.MX 6ULL	VDD_ARM_CAP	1.1	1.1	C106	_
i.MX 6ULL	VDD_SOC_CAP	1.1	1.1	C116	_
i.MX 6ULL	VDD_HIGH_CAP	2.5	2.515	C120	_
i.MX 6ULL	VDDSNVS_CAP	1.1	1.1	C124	_
i.MX 6ULL	NVCC_PLL_OUT	1.1	1.1	C122	_

Table 23. Sample voltage report

4.4. Checking for clock pitfalls

Problems with the external clocks are another common source of the board bring-up issues. Ensure that all clock sources run as expected.

The XTALI/XTALO and RTC_XTALI/RTC_XTALO clocks are the main clock sources for the 24 MHz and 32 kHz reference clocks on the i.MX 6ULL, respectively. Although not required, using the low-jitter external oscillators to feed the CLK1_P/N on the i.MX 6ULL can be an advantage if the low-jitter or special frequency clock sources are required by the modules driven by the CLK1_P/N. See the CCM chapter in the i.MX 6ULL chip reference manual for details. If a 32.768 kHz crystal is not connected to the i.MX 6ULL, an on-chip ring oscillator is automatically used for the low-frequency clock source.

When checking the crystal frequencies, use an active probe to avoid excessive loading. A parasitic probe typically inhibits the 32.768 kHz and 24 MHz oscillators from starting up. Use these guidelines:

- The RTC_XTALI clock runs at 32.768 kHz (can be generated internally or applied externally).
- The XTALI/XTALO runs at 24 MHz (used for the PLL reference).
- The CLK1_P/N can be used as oscillator inputs for the low-jitter special frequency sources.
- CLK1_P/N is optional.

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In addition to probing the external input clocks, you can check the internal clocks by outputting them at the debug signals CLKO1 and CLKO2 (IOMUXed signals). See the CCM chapter in the chip reference manual for more details about the clock sources that can be output to those debug signals. The JTAG tools can be used to configure the necessary registers to do this.

4.5. Avoiding reset pitfalls

Follow these guidelines to make sure that you boot using the correct boot mode.

- During the initial power-up (while asserting the POR_B reset signal), ensure that the 24 MHz and 32.768 kHz clock is active before releasing the POR_B.
- Follow the recommended power-up sequence specified in the i.MX 6ULL data sheet.
- Ensure the POR_B signal remains asserted (low) until all voltage rails associated with the boot-up are on.

The GPIOs and internal fuses control how the i.MX 6ULL boots. For a more detailed description about the different boot modes, see the system boot chapter of the chip reference manual.

4.5.1. Sample board bring-up checklist

Note that the checklist incorporates the recommendations described in the previous sections. The blank cells must be filled in during the bring-up as appropriate.

Table 24. Board bring-up checklist

Checklist Item Details		Owner	Findings and status
Note: The following items must be o	ompleted serially.		
Perform a visual inspection.	Check the major components to make sure nothing is misplaced or rotated before applying power.		
2. Verify all i.MX 6ULL voltage rails.	Confirm that the voltages match the data sheet requirements. Be sure to check the voltages not only at the voltage source, but also as close to the i.MX 6ULL as possible (like on a bypass capacitor). This reveals any IR drops on the board that may cause issues later on. Ideally, all of the i.MX 6ULL voltage rails should be checked, but the VDD_ARM_SOC_IN are particularly important voltages. These are the core logic voltages and must fall within the parameters provided in the i.MX 6ULL data sheet. The VDD_SNVS_IN, NVCC_GPIO, and NVCC_DRAM are also critical to the i.MX 6ULL boot-up.		
3. Verify the power-up sequence.	Verify that the Power-On Reset (POR_B) is de-asserted (high) after all power rails come up and are stable. See the i.MX 6ULL data sheet for details about the power-up sequencing.		
4. Measure/probe the input clocks (32 kHz, 24 MHz, and other).	Without a properly running clock, the i.MX 6ULL does not function properly.		
5. Check the JTAG connectivity.	This is one of the most fundamental and basic access points for the i.MX 6ULL to allow the debug and execution of the low-level code.		
Note: The following items may be we	orked on in parallel with the other bring-up tasks.	•	•

Table 24. Board bring-up checklist

	·		
Checklist Item	Details	Owner	Findings and status
Access the internal RAM.	Verify the basic operation of the i.MX 6ULL in the system. Perform a basic test by performing a write-read-verify to the internal RAM. No software initialization is necessary to access the internal RAM.		
Verify the CLKO outputs (measure and verify the default clock frequencies for the desired clock output options) if the board design supports the probing of the CLKO pin.	This ensures that the corresponding clock is working and that the PLLs are working. Note that this step requires the chip initialization (for example, via the JTAG debugger) to properly set up the IOMUX to output the CLKO and to set up the clock control module to output the desired clock. See the reference manual for more details.		
Measure the boot mode frequencies. Set the boot mode switch for each boot mode and measure the following (depending on system availability): NAND (probe CE to verify boot, measure RE frequency) SPI-NOR (probe slave select and measure clock frequency) MMC/SD (measure clock frequency)	This verifies the specified signals' connectivity between the i.MX 6ULL and the boot device and that the boot mode signals are properly set. See the "System Boot" chapter in the reference manual for details about configuring the various boot modes.		
Run the basic DDR initialization and test the memory.	If using a JTAG debugger, run the DDR initialization and open the debugger memory window pointing to the DDR memory map starting address. Try writing some words and verify if they are read correctly. If not, recheck the DDR initialization sequence and whether the DDR is correctly soldered onto the board. It is also recommended to recheck the schematic to ensure that the DDR memory is connected to the i.MX 6ULL correctly.		

5. Understanding the IBIS Model

This chapter explains how to use the IBIS (Input/output Buffer Information Specification) model, which is an Electronic Industries Alliance standard for the electronic behavioral specifications of the integrated circuit input/output analog characteristics. The model is generated in the ASCII text format and consists of multiple tables that capture the current vs. voltage (IV) and voltage vs. time (VT) characteristics of each buffer. The IBIS models are generally used to perform the PCB-board-level Signal Integrity (SI) simulations and timing analyses.

The IBIS model features are:

- Supports fast chip-package-board simulation with the SPICE-level accuracy and faster than any transistor-level model.
- Provides the following for the portable model data:
 - I/O buffers, series elements, terminators.
 - Package RLC parasitics.
 - Electrical board description.

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5.1. IBIS structure and content

The IBIS file contains the data required to model a component's input, output, and I/O buffers behaviorally in the ASCII format. The basic IBIS file contains the following data:

- Header information regarding the model file.
- Information about the component, the package's electrical characteristics, and the pin-to-buffer model mapping (in other words, which pins are connected to which buffer models).
- The data required to model each unique input, output, and I/O buffer design on the component.

The IBIS models are component-centric, which means that they enable you to model an entire component rather than only a particular buffer. In addition to the electrical characteristics of a component's buffers, the IBIS file includes the component's pin-to-buffer mapping and the electrical parameters of the component's package.

5.2. Header information

The first section of the IBIS file provides basic information about the file and its data. The following table explains the header information notation.

Table 25. Header information

Keyword	Required	Description
[IBIS Ver]	Yes	The version of the IBIS Specification this file uses.
[Comment char]	No	Change the comment character. Defaults to the pipe () character.
[File Name]	Yes	Name of this file. All file names must be lowercase. The file name extension for the IBIS file is .ibs.
[File Rev]	Yes	The revision level of this file. The specification contains the guidelines for assigning the revision levels.
[Date]	No	The date when this file was created.
[Source]	No	The source of the data in this file. The data is taken from a simulation and validated on the board.
[Notes]	No	The component or file-specific notes.
[Disclaimer]	No	May be legally required.
[Copyright]	No	The file's copyright notice.

Example 1. Header information

[IBIS Ver]	4.2	
[Comment Char]	_char	
[File Name]	14x14_imx6ull_autmtv_1.ibs[File Rev]	001
[Date]	Sat Jan 31 02:23:00 2015	
[Source]	FSL Viper 2012.03.14	
[Notes]		

5.2.1. Component and pin information

The second section of the IBIS file is where the data book information regarding the component's pinout, the pin-to-buffer mapping, and the package and pin electrical parameters are placed.

Table 26. Component and pin information

Keyword	Required	Comment
[Component]		The name of the component being modeled. The standard practice is to use the industry standard part designation. Note that the IBIS files may contain multiple [Component] descriptions.
[Manufacturer]	Yes	The name of the component manufacturer.
[Package]		This keyword contains the range (minimum, typical, and maximum values) over which the packages' lead resistance, inductance, and capacitance vary (the R_pkg, L_pkg, and C_pkg parameters).
[Pin]		This keyword contains the pin-to-buffer mapping information. In addition, the model creator can use this keyword to list the package information: R, L, and C data for each individual pin (R_pin, L_pin, and C_pin parameters).
[Package Model]	No	If the component model includes an external package model (or uses the [Define Package Model] keyword within the IBIS file itself), this keyword indicates the name of that package model.
[Pin Mapping]		This keyword is used if the model creator wants to include the information on the buffer power and ground connections. This information may be used for simulations involving multiple outputs switching.
[Diff Pin]	No	This keyword is used to associate the buffers that must be driven in a complementary fashion as a differential pair.
[Model Selector]	Yes	This keyword provides a simple means by which several buffers can be made optionally available for simulation at the same physical pin of the component.

Example 2. Component and pin information

[Compone	ent] imx6ull 14 cturer] NXP	x14	-	-		
[Package	e]					
variab	le typ	min	max			
R_pkg	0.19939	6.56E-03	0.3526			
L_pkg	4.44E-09	1.69E-10	8.61E-09			
C_pkg	5.70E-13	3.18E-13	4.04E-12			
1						
I						
[Pin]	signal_name	model_name	R_pin	L_pin	C_pin	
A1	GND	GND	NA	NA	NA	
A2	SD1_DATA3	gpio	0.353071	7.62806nH	0.6007274pF	

5.2.2. Model information

The [Model] keyword starts the description of the data for a particular buffer.

Table 27. Model information

Keyword	Comment
[Model Spec]	The general set of parameters for the model simulation.
[Receiver Thresholds]	The threshold information for the different simulation cases.
[Temperature Range]	The temperature range over which the min, typ, and max IV and switching data are gathered.
[Voltage Range]	The range over which the Vcc is varied to obtain the min, typ, and max pull-up and power clamp data.
[Pulldown] [Pullup] [GND_clamp] [POWER_clamp]	IV information. For more details, see Section 5.2.3 "IV information".
[Ramp] [Rising Waveform] [Falling Waveform]	VT information. For more details, see Section 5.2.4, "VT information".
11 0	VT golden model information. For more details, see Section 5.2.5,"Golden model VT information".

5.2.3. IV information

The IV information is composed of four Current-over-Voltage tables: [Pullup], [Pulldown], [GND_clamp], and [Power_clamp]. Each look-up table describes a different part of the IO cell model.

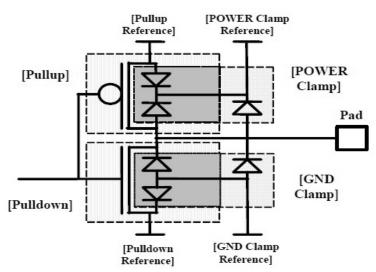


Figure 11. IO cell model

5.2.4. VT information

Table 28. Ramp and waveform keywords

Keyword	Required	Comment
[Ramp]	Yes	Basic ramp rate information, given as a dV/dt_r for the rising edges and dV/dt_f for the falling edges. Note: The dV value is the 20 % to 80 % voltage swing of the buffer when driving into the specified load, R_load (for [Ramp], this load defaults to 50). For the CMOS drivers or the I/O buffers, this load is assumed to be connected to the voltages defined by the [Voltage Range] keyword for the falling edges and to ground for the rising edges.
[Rising Waveform]	No	The actual rising (low-to-high transition) waveform, provided as a VT table.
[Falling Waveform]	No	The actual falling (high-to-low transition) waveform, provided as a VT table.

Ramp and waveform keywords example

```
| variable typ
dV/dt r 0.4627/0.3456n
                         0.4326/0.4568n
962/0.3030ndV/dt f
                         0.4546/0.3481n
                                          0.4272/
0.3918n 0.4774/0.3569n
R load = 0.2400k
[Rising Waveform]
 R fixture= 0.2400k
V fixture= 0.0
V fixture_m in= 0.0
V fixture max= 0.0
|time
           V(typ)
                      V(min)
                                      V(max)
           0.3369uV 12.4052uV
|0.0s
                                   41.7335nV
|19.7866fS 0.6730uV 12.7375uV
                                  0.3823uV
|20.8863fS 0.6917uV 12.7519uV
                                   0.4013uV
|21.9489fS 0.7058uV 12.7657uV
                                   0.4196uV
```

The [Ramp] keyword is always required, even if the [Rising Waveform] and [Falling Waveform] keywords are used. However, the VT tables under [Rising Waveform] and [Falling Waveform] are generally preferred to [Ramp] for the following reasons:

- The VT data may be provided under a variety of loads and termination voltages.
- The VT tables may be used to describe the transition data for devices as they turn on and off.
- [Ramp] effectively averages the transitions of the device without providing any details on the shapes of the transitions themselves. All details of the transition ledges would be lost.

The VT data should be included under two [Rising Waveform] and two [Falling Waveform] sections, each containing the data tables for a Vcc-connected load and a Ground-connected load (although other loading combinations are also permitted).

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The most appropriate load is a resistive value corresponding to the impedance of the system transmission lines the buffer is to drive (own impedance). For example, a buffer intended for use in a 60 Ω system is best modeled using a 60 Ω load (R_fixture).

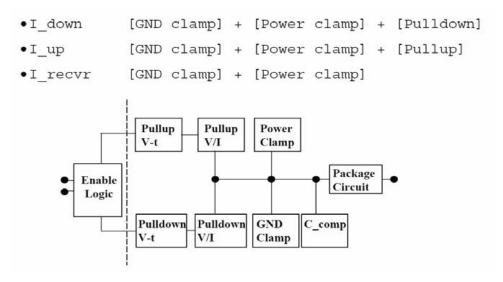


Figure 12. Model data interpretation

5.2.5. Golden model VT information

The golden waveforms are a set of waveforms simulated using known ideal test loads. They are useful for verifying the accuracy of the behavioral simulation results against the transistor level circuit model from which the IBIS model parameters originated.

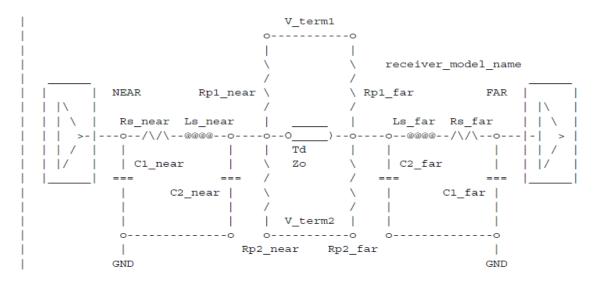


Figure 13. Model data interpretation

Keyword	Required	Comment
[Test Data]		Provides a set of golden waveforms and references the conditions under which they were derived. It is useful for verifying the accuracy of the behavioral simulation results against the transistor level circuit model from which the IBIS model parameters originated.
[Rising Waveform Near] [Rising Waveform Far] [Falling Waveform Near] [Falling Waveform Far]	Yes	Current-Over-Voltage tables, for far and near portions of the golden model, as shown in Figure 13.
[Test Load]	Yes	Defines a test load network and its associated electrical parameters for reference by the golden waveforms under the [Test Data] keyword. If the Test_load_type is differential, the test load is a pair of the circuits shown in Figure 13. If the R_diff_near or R_diff_far subparameter is used, a resistor is connected between the near or far nodes of the two circuits. If the Test_load_type is Single_ended, the R_diff_near and R_diff_far are ignored.

5.3. NXP naming conventions for model names and usage in i.MX **6ULL IBIS file**

The model names are defined per each [Model selector]. The models may differ from each other by having different parameters—such as voltage, drive strength, mode of operation, and slew rate. The mode of operation, drive strength, and slew rate parameters are programmable by software.

5.3.1. [Model Selector] ddr

The "ddr" model type supports the DDR signals.

5.3.1.1. DDR [Model Selector]

The "ddr" models exist for the DDR3, DDR3L, and LPDDR2 protocols. This model has these parameters:

- DDR protocol
- DDR IO type
- Drive strength
- ODT enable/disable

The IBIS model name is composed from the parameters' values in two ways, as follows:

• Without the active ODT circuit:

<ddr protocol> sel<ddr type> ds<drive strength> mio

• With the active ODT circuit:

<ddr protocol>odt_t<ODT_value>_sel<ddr_type>_mi

Hardware Development Guide for the i.MX 6ULL Applications Processor, User's Guide, Rev. 1, 04/2019 **NXP Semiconductors** The DDR write models ("_mio" suffix) have no simulated ODT, as the ODT is disabled during the write. The write models' DS parameter is meaningful and changes to describe the different levels of the drive strength. The DDR read models (the "_mi" suffix) have no meaningful DS parameter, as no driving happens during the read. The read models' ODT parameter is meaningful and changes to describe the different levels of the ODT impedance.

Table 30. Mo	odule selector	reference	guide fo	or DDR
--------------	----------------	-----------	----------	--------

DDR protocol	Selected according to the DDR used. The DDR IO voltage level is selected accordingly.
DDR IO type	Controlled by the IOMUXC_SW_PAD_CTL_GRP_DDR_TYPE[19:18] register in the IOMUXC (IOMUX controller) DDR_SEL bits to select between the DDR3 and LPDDR2.
Drive strength	Controlled by bits [5:3] (DSE) of the following registers in the IOMUX (IOMUX controller): IOMUXC_SW_PAD_CTL_GRP_BxDS (4 registers) IOMUXC_SW_PAD_CTL_GRP_CTLDS IOMUXC_SW_PAD_CTL_PAD_DRAM_ADDRxx (16 registers) IOMUXC_SW_PAD_CTL_PAD_DRAM_DQMx (4 registers) IOMUXC_SW_PAD_CTL_PAD_DRAM_RAS_B IOMUXC_SW_PAD_CTL_PAD_DRAM_CAS_B IOMUXC_SW_PAD_CTL_PAD_DRAM_CSx_B (2 registers) IOMUXC_SW_PAD_CTL_PAD_DRAM_SDWE_B IOMUXC_SW_PAD_CTL_PAD_DRAM_ODTx (2 registers) IOMUXC_SW_PAD_CTL_PAD_DRAM_SDBAx (3 registers) IOMUXC_SW_PAD_CTL_PAD_DRAM_SDBAX (2 registers) IOMUXC_SW_PAD_CTL_PAD_DRAM_SDCKE0 (2 registers) IOMUXC_SW_PAD_CTL_PAD_DRAM_SDCKE0 (2 registers) IOMUXC_SW_PAD_CTL_PAD_DRAM_SDCKE0 (2 registers) IOMUXC_SW_PAD_CTL_PAD_DRAM_SDCKE0 (2 registers) IOMUXC_SW_PAD_CTL_PAD_DRAM_RESET
ODT value	Controlled by bits [18:16], [14:12], [10:8], and [6:4] in the MPODTCTRL register of the MMDC.

Example 4. [Model Selector] DDR in IBIS file

See the register description in the IOMUXC chapter in the chip reference manual for further details about this model.

5.3.2. [Model Selector] GPIO

This model has these parameters:

- Voltage level.
- Drive strength.
- Slew rate.
- Speed.

The IBIS model name is composed from the parameters' values as follows:

```
\verb|gpio<voltage_level>_ds<drive_strength>_sr<slew_rate(1 bit)>< \verb|speed(2 bits)>_mio||
```

Table 31. Module selector reference guide for GPIO

Voltage level	For i.MX 6ULL chips, there are no user configurations for the voltage level because the GPIO cell senses the NVCC and auto-configures itself accordingly. The IBIS user can choose between the high and low voltages by selecting a different model at [Model Selector].
Drive strength	Controlled by the DSE bits (bits [5:3]) in the IOMUXC_SW_PAD_CTL_PAD_ <pad name="">.</pad>
Slew rate	Controlled by the SRE bit (bit 0) in the IOMUXC_SW_PAD_CTL_PAD_ <pad name="">.</pad>
Speed	Controlled by the SPEED bits (bits [7:6]) in the IOMUXC_SW_PAD_CTL_PAD_ <pad name="">.</pad>

See the register description in the IOMUXC chapter in the chip reference manual for further details about this model.

5.4. Quality assurance for the IBIS models

The IBIS models are validated against the IBIS specification, which provides a way to objectively measure the correlation of the model simulation results with the reference transistor-level spice simulation or measurements.

Correlation: The process of making a quantitative comparison between two sets of the I/O buffer characterization data, such as laboratory measurement vs. structural simulation or behavioral simulation vs. structural simulation.

Correlation: Level A means for categorizing the I/O buffer characterization data based on how much the modeling engineers know about the processing conditions of a sample component and which correlation metric they used.

All models have passed these checks:

- IBISCHK without errors or unexplained warnings.
- Data for the basic simulation checked.
- Data for the timing analysis checked.
- Data for the power analysis checked.
- Correlated against the Spice simulations.

5.5. IBIS usage

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The NXP board designers used the i.MX 6ULL IBIS model with the Hyperlynx tool by Mentor Graphics.

These effective board design results were achieved after loading:

- i.MX 6ULL IBIS model.
- Companion IC IBIS models.
- Board model in the HyperLynx format.

The board simulations for various GPIO and DDR signals were run.

5.6. References

Consult these references for more information about the IBIS model:

- IBIS Open Forum (www.eda.org/ibis/). The IBIS Open Forum consists of EDA vendors, computer manufacturers, semiconductor vendors, universities, and end-users. It proposes updates and reviews, revises standards, and organizes summits. It promotes the IBIS models and provides useful documentation and tools.
- IBIS specification (eda.org/pub/ibis/ver4.2/)

6. Using the Manufacturing Tool

6.1. Overview

The i.MX manufacturing tool is designed to program firmware into storage devices such as NAND or eSDe through the EVK and preload the data area with media files in an efficient and convenient manner. It is intended for NXP Semiconductors customers or their OEMs who plan to mass manufacture i.MX-based products.

The application is not designed to test the devices or to diagnose the manufacturing problems. The devices initialized with this application still need to be functionally verified.

6.2. Feature summary

The tool includes these features:

- Continuous operation—the operations automatically begin with the connection of a new device and multiple operations (such as update and copy) can be linked together seamlessly.
- Enumeration—the static-ID firmware loaded into the RAM in the recovery-mode prevents the Windows® OS from enumerating every device.
- AutoPlay—various Windows OS 'pop-up' application and status messages, such as Explorer in Windows XP and Windows 7 OS.

In addition, these characteristics improve the tool's ease of use:

- An independent process bar is set up for each physical USB port.
- The tool begins processing with the connection of the first device detected and enables you to replace each device after the completion instead of the need to wait for all devices to complete.
- The tool uses color-based indicators to indicate the work status on each of the ports.
 - The blue color indicates that the device is being processed.
 - The green color indicates that the device was successfully processed and that the
 programmed device can be replaced with a new one, independently of the of the device's
 progress.
 - The red color indicates that the device failed to process.

6.3. Version support

Table 32. Version support

Tool	Version requirement
i.MX 6ULL Manufacturing Tool for WinCE	Version 2.3.2 or later

6.4. Connecting the manufacturing tool to your device

The manufacturing tool can be connected using a USB hub-based physical setup or a direct connection, as described in Section 6.4.1, "Connecting with a USB hub", and Section 6.4.2, "Connecting directly".

6.4.1. Connecting with a USB hub

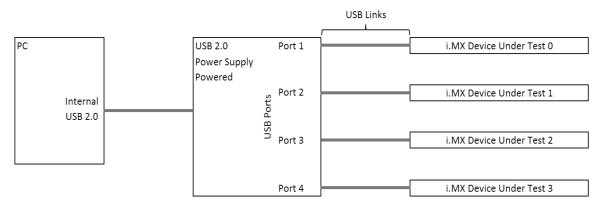


Figure 14. Physical connection with a USB hub

Connect an external USB 2.0-powered hub to the PC's USB connection. The hub must meet these criteria:

- USB 2.0 compliant.
- Externally-powered and not bus-powered.

NOTE

The hub must be able to supply at least 500 mA per USB port.

The PC must recognize the external USB hub. The manufacturing tool configures the USB ports (up to 16) on the external hub(s) for use.

6.4.2. Connecting directly

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The following figure shows the direct connect setup configuration. Each device connects to a single port on an internal PCI USB controller. This configuration is limited to the number of PCI slots available.

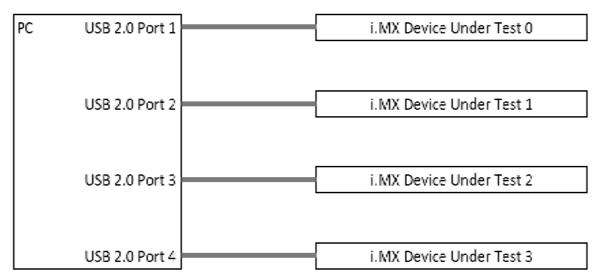


Figure 15. Physical connection without a USB hub

6.5. Installing the manufacturing tool

The following subsections explain how to install the manufacturing tool. These subsections are organized in a chronological order.

6.5.1. Running the .exe

The following steps explain where to install the .exe. This executable can be run directly and requires no special installation.

- 1. Unzip the tool package to your local directory (for example, D:\mfgtools-rel\).
- 2. Find MfgTool.exe in the list of files.
- 3. Run MfgTool.exe in your local directory.

A user interface similar to the one shown in the following figure appears.

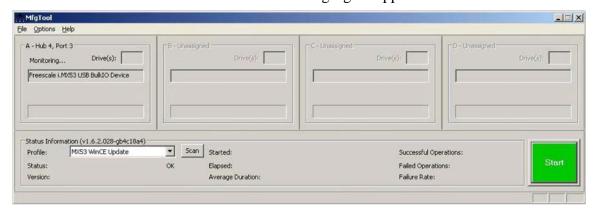


Figure 16. Example user interface

6.6. Using the manufacturing tool

When you have completed all steps in Section 6.4, "Connecting the manufacturing tool to your device", and Section 6.5, "Installing the manufacturing tool", the tool is ready for use.

The status information panel is located near the bottom of the main application window. Use this panel to select a profile and to see the status of the profile and/or the firmware version of the update operation.

Click the green "Start" button to initiate the process.

Once a process is started, a blue status bar indicates the progress. The process can be stopped by clicking the red "Stop" button.

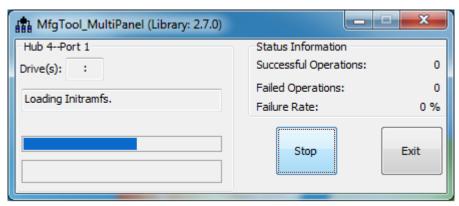


Figure 17. Processing

If the process completes successfully, the status bar turns green. Click the "Stop" button to finish the process. If the status bar turns red, the processing failed.

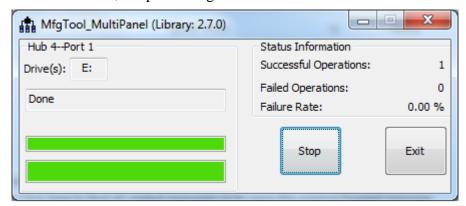


Figure 18. Successful process

Once the "Start/Stop" button is clicked and the operations begin, the status information panel displays the following information:

```
Start Time Time the operations began

Elapsed Time How long have operations been running

Average Duration Average time to complete a single device

Successful Operations How many devices successfully updated Failed Operations How many device updates have failed

Failure Rate Percentage of failures
```

NXP Semiconductors

If you have a terminal tool to monitor the debug serial port of your board, you may open it to see more process information than what is presented in the GUI.

6.7. Customizing the manufacturing tool

This chapter illustrates the tool's behavior with the screenshots from the reference design boards provided by NXP. However, you may customize the tool for other designs. For detailed information on customizing the manufacturing tool, see the *Manufacturing Tool User's Manual*.

6.8. Other references

For more detailed information about the manufacturing tool, see the following documents included in the manufacturing tool release package. Contact your local NXP sales office for assistance in obtaining the documents if needed:

- For detailed information on how to use the manufacturing tool, see the *Manufacturing Tool V2* Quick Start Guide.
- For detailed information on how to script the processing operations of the manufacturing tool, see the *Manufacturing Tool V2 UCL User Manual*.
- For information about how to generate the manufacturing tool firmware for Linux and Android, see the *Manufacturing Tool V2 Linux or Android Firmware Development Guide*.
- For the change list and known issues, see the *Manufacturing Tool V2 Release Notes*.

7. Using BSDL for Board-Level Testing

7.1. BSDL overview

The Boundary Scan Description Language (BSDL) is used for the board-level testing after the components are assembled. The interface for this test uses the JTAG pins. The definition is contained within IEEE Std 1149.1.

7.2. How BSDL functions

The BSDL file defines the internal scan chain, which is the serial linkage of the IO cells, within a particular device. The scan chain looks like a large shift register, which provides a means to read the logic level applied to a pin or to output a logic state on that pin. Using the JTAG commands, a test tool uses the BSDL file to control the scan chain so that the device-board connectivity can be tested.

For example, when using an external ROM test interface, the test tool would do this:

- 1. Output a specific set of addresses and controls to pins connected to the ROM.
- 2. Perform a read command and scan out the values of the ROM data pins.
- 3. Compare the values read with the known golden values.

Based on this procedure, the tool can determine whether the interface between the two parts is connected properly and does not contain any shorts or opens.

7.3. Downloading the BSDL file

The BSDL file for each i.MX processor is stored on the NXP website upon the product release. Contact your local sales office or field applications engineer to check the availability of information before the product releases.

7.4. Pin coverage of BSDL

Each pin is defined as a port within the BSDL file. You can open the file with a text editor (such as WordPad) to review how each pin functions. The BSDL file defines these functions as follows:

```
-- PORT DESCRIPTION TERMS
-- in = input only
-- out = three-state output (0, Z, 1)
-- buffer = two-state output (0, 1)
-- inout
          = bidirectional
-- linkage = OTHER (vdd, vss, analog)
```

The appearance of the "linkage" in a pin's file implies that the pin cannot be used with the boundary scan. These are usually power pins or analog pins that cannot be defined with a digital logic state.

7.5. Boundary scan operation

The boundary scan operation is controlled by:

- TEST_MODE, POR_B, and JTAG_MOD pins.
- On-chip Fuse bits.

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The JTAG_MOD pin state controls the selection of the JTAG to the core logic or boundary scan operation. See the following references for further information:

- The "System JTAG Controller (SJC)" chapter in the chip reference manual for the definitions of the JTAG interface operations.
- The "JTAG Security Modes" section in the same chapter for an explanation of the operation of the e-Fuse bit definitions in the following table.
- The "Fusemap" chapter in the chip reference manual for the fusemap tables.

Table 33.	System	considerations	for BSDL
-----------	--------	----------------	----------

Pin name	Logic state	Description
JTAG_MOD	1	IEEE 1149.1 JTAG-compliant mode
BOOT_MODE[1:0]	[0:0] [0:1] [1:0]	Boot From Fuses Serial Downloader Internal Boot (Development)
POR_B	1	Power On Reset for the device
	e-Fuse bits	3
JTAG_SMODE[1:0]	[0:0] [0:1]	JTAG enable mode Secure JTAG mode
SJC_DISABLE	0	Secure JTAG Controller is enabled

7.6. I/O pin power considerations

The boundary scan operation uses each of the available device pins to drive or read values within a given system. Therefore, the power supply pin for each specific module must be powered for the IO buffers to operate. This is straightforward for the digital pins within the system.

8. Revision History

This table lists the changes made to this document since the initial release:

Table 34. Revision history

Revision number	Date	Substantive changes
0	11/2016	Initial release.
1	04/2019	Updated Section 3.5.2, "High-speed signal routing recommendations".

Appendix A. Development Platforms

This appendix provides a complete list of the development platforms that are available from NXP to support the i.MX 6ULL.

Table 35. i.MX 6ULL EVK

Version i.MX used	i.MX 6ULL
Schematic PN and Rev.	170-29364 / 170-28616
Features	4 Gbit DDR3L 512 Mbit QSPI Flash eMMC Footprint NAND Footprint 1x SD3.0 SD Card Socket 2x SD2.0 TF Card Sockets LCD 24-bit Parallel Port CSI Camera Connector Footprint Audio Codec 2x 100Mbps Ethernet (RJ45) Sensors Accelerometer Digital eCompass X1 USB OTG; X1 USB HOST 2x CAN Ports ONOFF, RESET Button HDMI Connector Footprint
Quick Start Guide	Available at www.nxp.com./imxsabre.
Schematic	Available at www.nxp.com./imxsabre.
Layout	Available at www.nxp.com./imxsabre.

How to Reach Us:

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www.nxp.com

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