

Physical Implementations Chapter 7

Physical Implementation

- After circuit design the next step is to create a real circuit. There are multiple ways to implement a design. Each has its pros and cons.
 - Full-Custom ICs
 - Semicustom (Application-Specific) IC ASICs
 - Off-the-shelf Programmable IC FPGA
 - Other Off-the-shelf IC types

Full-Custom ICs

- An integrated circuit built to implement the specific desired circuit
- Takes months to develop
- Error-prone
- Expensive
- Small size
- Low power
- High performance

Application-Specific IC – ASICs

- Reduced NRE compared to Full-Custom ICs
- Standard Cell
- Gate Arrays, Structured Cell, platform ASIC
- Slower than Full-Custom
- More power that Full-Custom

FPGAs

- Fast turn around time
- No large NRE costs
- Higher power requirements
- Larger size
- Performance not as good as Full-Custom ICs



• Combinational logic is implemented using Look-Up-Tables.





- FPGAs contain a large number of small LUTs
- See Figure 7.21, examples 7.7 and 7.8

FPGAs

- Programmable interconnects (Switch Matrices)
- See figure 7.26
- Configurable Logic Block (CLB)
- See figure 7.28
- Implement a 2-bit Up/Down counter with reset using a CLB

Overall FPGA Architecture

- A grid of CLBs and Switch Matrices
- Programming an FPGA is done as a large serial shift register.
- Different FPGA devices will have their own bit shift pattern.
- See Figure 7.31

Off-The-Shelf Logic

- 7400 series ICs
- When you need a simple logic gate or common logic function.
- Programmable Logic Device (PLD)
- See PAL and PLA fuse maps.