A Low Power VLSI Implementation of Reconfigurable FIR Filter Using Carry Bypass Adder

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ABSTRACT

Reconfigurable Finite Impulse Response (RFIR) filters are essential components in Software Defined Radio (SDR) systems, where filter coefficients dynamically adjust during runtime. This paper presents a Low-Cost Carry Bypass Adder Reconfigurable Finite Impulse Response (LC-CBA-RFIR) filter to efficiently perform RFIR filter operations. The design leverages DRAM-based Reconfigurable Partial Product Generators (DRPPG), incorporating multiplexers and dual-port distributed RAM to handle filter coefficients dynamically. The RFIR filter architecture, implemented and verified using Verilog code in ModelSim software, is evaluated for ASIC performance metrics such as area, power, Area Power Product (APP), and Area Delay Product (ADP), alongside FPGA performance metrics like LUTs, flip-flops, slices, and operational frequency. The results indicate significant improvements in both ASIC and FPGA implementations using the LC-CBA-RFIR method compared to conventional methods.

Keywords: Reconfigurable Finite Impulse Response, Software Defined Radio, Carry Bypass Adder, DRAM-Based Reconfigurable Partial Product Generator, ModelSim.

INTRODUCTION

Finite Impulse Response (FIR) filters are critical in various signal processing applications, such as communication systems, where they are used for tasks like interference cancellation, channel equalization, spectral shaping, and matched filtering. Recent research has introduced numerous implementation and architectural strategies to enhance the performance of these filters concerning system complexity and processing speed [1]. FIR filters are widely utilized

in Digital Signal Processing (DSP) applications, primarily implemented on electronic systems [2]. In numerous scenarios, such as digital up-converters, digital down-converters, multichannel filters, and software-defined radio systems, FIR filter coefficients rapidly change during execution [3, 4]. Compared to traditional non-reconfigurable FIR filter designs, RFIR filters offer reduced resource consumption and power usage [5].

Discrete FIR filtering is extensively applied in low-power, high-performance Embedded Computing Systems (ECS), from wireless transmitters/receivers to image and video processing units [6]. Modern research primarily focuses on designing fully integrated circuits (ICs) tailored for wireless applications and developed using advanced fabrication methodologies. Challenges in portable telecommunication devices include achieving long battery life, reduced weight, lower cost, and minimized size, necessitating low-power, small-area integrated devices [7]. The adaptive filter is notably employed in DSP applications due to its simplicity and effective convergence performance, particularly when implemented as a tap-delay line FIR filter updated using the "Widrow-Haff Least Mean Square" (WH-LSM) algorithm [8]. The shared LUT design for DA-based RFIR digital filters reduces hardware costs by decomposing RAM [9]. A power-efficient FIR filter design for DSP applications, utilizing FPGA with Xilinx 6V1X130T1FF1156, showed that pipeline FIR filter structures, though efficient for high-speed applications, consume more resources and power due to their extensive use of registers [10].

RFIR filters are essential in multimedia and mobile communication applications due to their benefits, such as low cost, minimal area, low power consumption, and high-speed operation [11, 12]. Although pipelined modified booth multipliers used in RFIR filter architectures significantly reduce power consumption compared to existing architectures, they are not suitable for low-power applications [13]. Low-power 8-bit RFIR filters have shown improved efficiency, but they are limited to 8-bit data processing [14]. Digital RFIR filters employ lowpower serial multipliers and adders, shift/adder, shift/multiplier combinational booth multipliers, and folding transformations in linear phase architectures [15]. Traditional adders have longer critical paths and higher power consumption, leading to increased hardware utilization and longer execution times in previous designs. To address these issues, this work introduces the Carry Bypass Adder (CBA) to enhance RFIR architecture performance in terms of reduced area, power, and delay. In the ASIC implementation, area, power, and delay are minimized using the Cadence Encounter tool with 180nm and 45nm library technology. In the FPGA implementation, the number of LUTs, slices, and flip-flops is reduced in CBA-RFIR across various Virtex devices, including Virtex 4, Virtex 5, and Virtex 6. This paper is structured as follows: Section 2 covers related work, Section 3 describes the LC-CBA-RFIR design architecture, Section 4 discusses the experimental setup and results, and Section 5 concludes the paper.

LITERATURE SURVEY

S.Y. Park and P.K. Meher [16] proposed a novel pipelined architecture for a low-power, high-throughput, and low-area adaptive filter based on Distributed Arithmetic (DA). The design maximized FIR filter throughput through parallel LUT updates and simultaneous filtering and weight operations. Power consumption was reduced using a fast bit-clock for Carry-Save Accumulation (CSA), although slower clocks were used for other operations. S. Ramanathan,

G. Anand, P. Reddy, and S.A. Sridevi [17] developed a low-power adaptive FIR filter based on DA with high throughput, low power, and small area. The Least Mean Square (LMS) algorithm minimized Mean Square Error (MSE) by updating weights to align the current filter output with the desired response. The pipelined DA table reduced switching activity, lowering power consumption, though the approach primarily focused on minimizing power.

N. Sriram and J. Selvakumar [18] utilized a Pipelined Modified Booth Multiplier (PMBM) for a low-power RFIR filter architecture, which exhibited high delay due to reduced system speed and throughput. K.M. Basant, P.K. Meher, S.K. Singhal, and M.N.S. Swamy [19] introduced a high-performance VLSI architecture for RFIR filters using DA, comparing direct and transposed form structures. They concluded that the direct form structure required fewer registers than the transpose form, but only discussed structures for a block size of 4.

R. Jia, H.G. Yang, C.Y. Lin, R. Chen, X.G. Wang, and Z.H. Guo [20] presented a novel RFIR filter design based on statistics-centric reconfigurable (SCR) FIR filter architecture. Performance parameters such as area, speed, and power were analyzed for high-order FIR filters, demonstrating improvements over conventional FIR filters, though the dynamic reconfigurability mechanism was not addressed. Previous works often utilized conventional adders, such as full adders, pipeline adders, and parallel adders, which increased area, power consumption, critical path length, and hardware utilization in FPGA implementations. The proposed LC-CBA-RFIR method addresses these challenges by optimizing ASIC and FPGA implementation results.

LC-CBA- RFIR METHODOLOGY

The CBA-RFIR technique consists of Serial-inParallel-out Shift Register (SIPOSR), Distributed Read Access Memory (DRAM) based Reconfigurable Partial Product Generator (RPPG), Pipeline Adder Tree (PAT) shifter and pipeline shift add three elements on the FPGA implementation. The CBA-RFIR technique based on RFIR filter structure has been implemented in FPGA with CBA.

3.1 The DA based LC-CBA-RFIR filter used for the FPG implementation

The FPGA methodology is developed from a dedicated hardware to a heterogeneous system, which is why it's a popular choice in the communication base stations instead of being a prototype platform. The reconfigurable DA-based on FIR filter is used for FPGA implementation by employing the CBA-RFIR technique. The LUT's are developed by using the DRAM with FPGA implementation. The multiple numbers of the partial inner-products Sl, are retrieved from the DRAM simultaneously, so only one LUT value is read from DRAM, per cycle. Furthermore, if "L" is the bit width of the input, the duration of the sample period of the design is L times the operating clock period. That is not suitable for the application requiring high-throughput. DRAM is employed to develop LUT for each bit slice because of its high-resource consumption. Hence, decompose the partial inner-product generator into Q parallel sections and every section has R time-multiplexed operations corresponding to R bit slices. When L is a Composite number provided by L = RQ (Here R and Q are two positive integers), index l in Eq. (1) is mapped with r + qp for r = 0,1,2,...., -1 to modify in Eq. (2) as

$$y = \sum_{l=0}^{l-1} 2^{-1} \left(\sum_{p=0}^{p-1} S_{l,p} \right)$$
 (1)

$$S_{l,p=\sum_{m=0}^{m-1}h(m+pM)[S(M+pM)]}$$
 (2)

Here, $l=0,1,2,\ldots,L-1$ and $p=0,1,2,\ldots,P-1$ since the sum of partial product is S l, p of the M samples.

$$\sum_{q=1}^{Q-1} 2^{-RP} \left[\sum_{r=0}^{R-1} 2^{-1} \left(\sum_{p=0}^{P-1} r + q, R, P \right) \right]$$
 (3)

In Eq. (3), q represents as index and r represents time index. The structure of the CBA-RFIR timemultiplexed DA based FIR filter by employing DRAM is shown in the Fig.1.

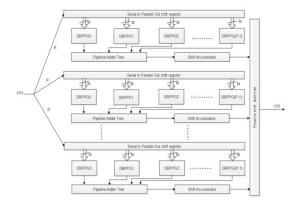


Figure.1 The CBA-RFIR time-multiplexed DA based FIR filter by employing DRAM

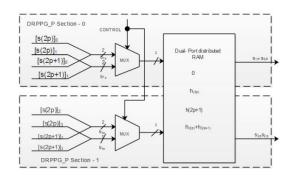


Figure.2 The structure of DRAM base DRPPG

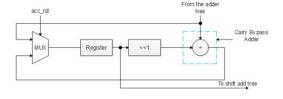


Figure.3 The structure of shift accumulator

To develop Eq. (3), the CBA-RFIR structure has Q section and every section consists of P DRAM based Reconfigurable Partial Product Generators (DRPPG) and the PAT to compute the rightmost result followed by Shift Accumulator (SA) which performs over R cycles according to the second summation. However, it employs dual-port DRAM to decrease the total size of the LUTs by half than that of a 2-DRPPGs in which two different sections shares a single DRAM. In the Fig.2 shows the structure of DRAM based on DRPPG. In r t h cycle

is P DRPPG in q t h section operate P — partial inner product S r +q "p used for p = 0,1,2, , P — 1to add by using the Pipeline Adder Tree (PAT). The outcomes of the PATs are accumulated through AS on the R cycle shown in the Fig. 3. The accumulated rate is reset at each R cycle by control signal to keep the accumulator register ready to be utilized for calculation of the next filter output. The f c l k maximum operating clock period and the CBA-RFIR techniques up ports the input sample range by f c l k R /.

3.1.1. Carry bypass adder

In the CBA, Ripple Carry Adder (RCA) is employed to add four-bits at a time and the carry generated will be propagated to next stage with the help of multiplexer utilizing selected input as Bypass logic. Bypasslogic is formed from the production values as it is computed in the CLA. Depending on the carrying value and bypass logic, the carry is propagated to the next stage. The CBA is an adder implementation, which improves the delay of an RCA. The 4-bit CBA design requires 4-FA circuits. The input buses would be a 4-bit A and 4-bit B with a carry- in (C in) signal. The output would be a 4-bit bus X and Carry-out (C o ut) signal. The first 2-FAs would add the first 2-bits together. The C o ut signal from the second-FA (C 1) would drive the selected signal for three 2:1 multiplexers. Fig. 4 shows the block diagram of the carry bypass adder. The 4-bit RCA is shown in Fig. 5.

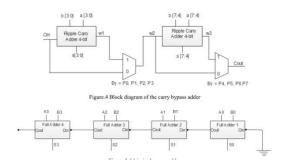


Figure.5 4-bit ripple carry adder

Multiple FA are cascaded in parallel to add an Nbit. For N-bit parallel adder, there are N-number of FA circuits. An RCA is a logic circuit, in which Cout of each FA is Cin of the succeeding next significant FA that is known as RCA due to each carry bit gets rippled into the next stage. In RCA the sum and carryout bits of any half adder stage are not valid until Cin of that stage occurs. Propagation delay is the time elapsed between the application of input and occurrence of the corresponding output.

For example, for a NOT gate, when the input is "zero" the output will be "one". The time taken for the NOT gate's output to become "zero" after the application of logic "one" to NOT gate's input is the propagation delay. Similarly the carry propagation delay is the time elapsed between the application of the carry in signal and the occurrence of the *C o u t* signal. Sum out *S* 0 and *C o u t* count of the FA "one" is valid only after the delay of the 1-bit FA. In the same way, sum out *S* 3 of the 4-bit FA is valid only after the joint propagation delays of 1- bit FA to 4-bit FA. The final outcome of the RCA is valid only after the joint propagation delay of the FA circuit inside it.

4. Result and discussion

The LC-CBA-RFIR design timing diagram was verified in Modelsim 10.1c using Verilog code. RTL schematic was taken from Synplify pro tool. FPGA performance was analyzed for different devices of Virtex-4, Virtex-5, and Virtex-6 by using Xilinx ISE tool. In LC-CBA-RFIR work, ASIC implementation of RFIR filter algorithm was verified by using Cadence tools in 180nm as well as 45nm technology.

4.1 ASIC synthesis

ASIC synthesis is implemented in Cadence tool for different technologies like 180nm and 45nm. From this tool, the parameter performance was calculated such as area, power, and delay.

4.1.1. Area

With shrinking system size, ASIC should be able to accommodate maximum functionality in minimum area. The designer specifies area constraint and cadence tool is used to optimize the area performance. The area is optimized by having lesser number of cells and by replacing multiple cells with a single cell that includes both functionalities.

4.1.2. Power

Development of hand-held devices has led to a reduction of battery size and hence providing low power consuming systems. Low power consumption has become a basic requirement for a lot of designers.

4.1.3. Delay

The designer specifies the maximum delay between primary input and a primary output. This is taken as maximum delay across any critical path.

Table 1. The performance of area, power and delay the proposed method for 180nm and 45nm technology

Technology	Method	Bits &	Area	Power	Delay	APP	ADP
- CO		Taps	(um2)	(nW)	(ps)	(um2 * nW)	(um2 * ps)
180nm	Existing	8 B & 3T	282242	2649825.18	292	747907806600	82414664
	–I [7]	8 B & 7T	325521	8858665.45	298	2883681489465	97005258
	Existing-	8B & 3T	265478	2458978.13	285	652804561484	75661230
	II [13]	8B & 7T	306852	8654255.56	295	2655575455260	90521340
	Existing	8B & 3T	256478	2418971.12	279	679402784138	71557362
	[8]	8B & 7T	296221	8545246.69	287	2651558764566	85015427
	LC-CBA	8 B & 3T	234789	2241023.1	271	526167549147	63627819
	-RFIR	8 B & 7T	271420	8345131.5	280	2265035456020	75997600
45nm	Existing [7]	8 B & 3T	15182	99848.24	199	1515892336	3021218
		8 B & 7T	18546	59895.26	220	1110812670	4080120
	Existing	8B & 3T	13343	96466.32	197	1287145838	2628571
	[13]	8B & 7T	16598	56206.95	217	932907188	3601766
	Existing [8]	8B & 3T	12403	98400.23	198	1220455200	2455794
		8B & 7T	15489	55402.65	215	858121578	3330135
	LC-CBA	8 B & 3T	10428	89452.43	189	932805456	1970892
	-RFIR	8 B & 7T	12605	48648.88	205	613208040	2584025

The comparison of the area, power, delay, APP, and ADP for different technologies such as 180nm and 45nm presented in Table 1. Additionally, this table presents a comparison of

Existing-I, Existing-II, Existing-III and LC-CBA-RFIR. These four methods developed using Verilog and the output are tabulated. In existing [7], the RFIR filter was implemented for various taps. But this technique does not focus on FPGA. In existing [13], FIR designed by using full adder that occupy large area. In existing method [8], the normal digital adder performed the accumulation operation, which occupies more area. In the LCCBA-RFIR method, carry select adder was used in the accumulator, which required less space to operate the shifting and accumulation. Due to this CBA adder, the area, power, delay, APP, and ADP have minimized in LC-CBA-RFIR architecture than conventional RFIR filter.

The comparison graph of the area, power, area power product, and area-delay product is shown in Figs.6, 7, 8, and 9. These results are drawn by using 180nm technology for different kind of bits and tabs such as 8 B & 3T, and 8 B & 7T. According to that graph, the blue line represents existing and the orange line represents as an LC-CBA-RFIR based method. From this graph, it is clear that LC-CBA-RFIR method consumes less area, less power, less area power product and less area-delay product than conventional methods.

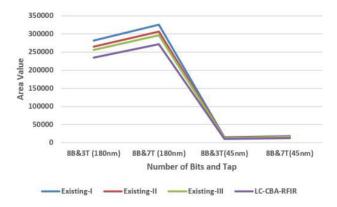


Figure.6 Area performance of different bits and tabs for 180nm and 45nm technology

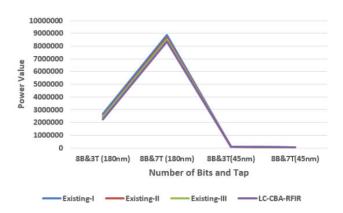


Figure.7 Power performance of different bits and tabs for 180nm and 45nm technology

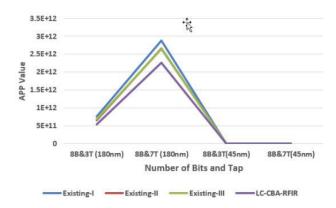


Figure.8 APP performance of different bits and tabs for 180nm and 45nm technology

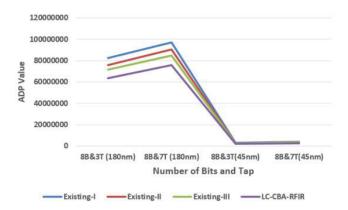


Figure.9 ADP performance of different bits and tabs for 180nm and 45nm technology

Table 2. Reduced percentage of area, power, delay, APP, and ADP for LC-CBA-RFIR method

Technology	Window	Reduced % of	Reduced % of	Reduced % of	Reduced % of
		Area	power	APP	ADP
180nm	8 B & 3T	8.45	15.40	22.52	11.08
	8 B & 7T	8.43	6.70	14.54	10.66
	Average	8.44	11.05	18.53	10.87
	8 B & 3T	15.92	9.09	29.68	19.74
45nm	8 B & 7T	18.61	12.19	28.54	22.40
	Average	17.26	10.64	29.11	21.07

The reduction percentage of area, power, delay, APP, and ADP for different bits and taps like 8 B & 3T, and 8 B & 7T are given in Tab 2. This architecture result has been taken in both 180nm and 45nm technology. In 180nm technology, 8.44 % of area, 11.05% of power, 18.53% of APP, and 10.87% of ADP is minimized in LC-CBA-RFIR as well as 45nm technology, 17.26% of area, 10.64% of power, 29.11% of APP, and 21.07% of ADP is reduced in LC-CBA-RFIR method when compared to the conventional method.

4.2 FPGA synthesis

This FPGA synthesis is implemented in Xilinx tool for different devices such as Virtex-4, Virtex-5, and Virtex-6. From this tool, the performance parameter like LUT, flip-flop, Slices, and Frequency has been calculated.

4.2.1. LUT

A LUT, which stands for LUT, in general terms it is basically a table that determines what is the output for any given input(s). In the context of combinational logic, it is the truth table. This truth table effectively defines how combinational logic behaves.

4.2.2. Flip-flop

Flip-flops are binary shift registers used to synchronize logic and save logical states between clock cycles within an FPGA circuit. On every clock edge, a flip-flop latches the 1 or 0 (TRUE or FALSE) value on its input and holds that value constant until the next clock edge.

4.2.3. Slices

Logic resources are resources on the FPGA that perform logic functions. Logic resources are grouped in slices to create configurable logic blocks. A slice contains a set of LUTs, flip-flops, and multiplexers. A LUT is a collection of logic gates hard-wired on the FPGA.

4.2.4. Frequency

Frequency is defined as the rate at which something occurs over a particular period of time or in a given sample.

Table 3 is the comparison of the 8-bit input sample to analyze performance parameters such as LUTs, the number of flip-flops, slices, and operating frequency for different FPGA devices such as vertex 4, vertex 5 and vertex 6. This result has been taken for different bits and taps like 8 B & 3T, and 8 B & 7T. From this table, it is concluded that the LUT, flipflop, slices reduced and operating frequency is increased in LC-CBA-RFIR method than the existing RFID method. Due to the reduction of those parameters, the area has been minimized in filter architecture.

FPGA performance of Virtex-4 devices for 8-bit different taps is shown in Fig.10. In that graph, LUT, Flip-flop, slices, and Frequency have been analyzed of the Virtex-4 device for different bits and tabs like 8 B & 3T, and 8 B & 7T. From this graph, it clears that all the FPGA performance is improved in LCCBA-RFIR design than conventional design.

The RTL schematic of FIR filter is shown in Fig.11, which is taken from Synplify pro software using Verilog code. This architecture is having a separate code for each block such as a counter, reg_bank, GRPPG, and an accumulator. Input is stored in a registered bank in the form of bitwise. That register bank input is performed DRPPG operation, which contains MUX and DRAM. In DRAM, the coefficient value is stored to perform FIR filter operation. DRPPG output is performed on the accumulate operation then it will give RFIR filter output in "y".

Table 3. Implemented on different Xilinx FPGA devices for various tap of 8 bit FIR filter

			8- bit input			
Target FPGA	Circu	it	LUT	Flip-flop	Slice	Frequency (MHz)
	Existing [4]	8B & 3T	161/10944	110/10944	115/5472	85.213
Virtex4		8B & 7T	210/10944	155/10944	190/5472	93.562
xc4vfx12	Existing [12]	8B & 3T	150/10944	102/10944	103/5472	98.253
		8B & 7T	195/1094	142/10944	175/5472	105.124
	Existing [8]	8B & 3T	142/10944	98/10944	94/5472	108.312
		8B & 7T	189/10944	136/10944	162/5492	114.902
	LC-CBA- RFIR	8B & 3T	115/10944	87/10944	78/5472	110.012
		8B & 7T	156/10944	114/10944	140/5472	117.410
	Existing [4]	8B & 3T	180/12480	105/12480	112/3120	120.442
Virtex5		8B & 7T	198/12480	122/12480	98/3120	67.223
xc5vlx20 T	Existing [12]	8B & 3T	172/12480	95/12480	98/3120	133.342
1		8B & 7T	183/12480	102/12480	85/3120	75.862
	Existing	8B & 3T	160/12480	75/12480	89/3120	141.417
	[8]	8B & 7T	178/12480	98/12480	76/3120	89.432
	LC-CBA- RFIR	8B & 3T	115/12480	59/12480	81/3120	145.624
		8B & 7T	146/12480	84/12480	72/3120	94.145
	Existing [4]	8B & 3T	194/46560	115/93120	99/11640	98.152
Virtex6		8B & 7T	170/46560	82/93120	88/11640	38.245
xc6vex75	Existing [12]	8B & 3T	186/46560	108/93120	82/11640	110.124
		8B & 7T	162/46560	98/93120	72/11640	40.235
	Existing	8B & 3T	165/46560	96/93120	79/11640	136.912
	[8]	8B & 7T	149/46560	68/93120	66/11640	48.645
	LC-CBA- RFIR	8B & 3T	124/46560	88/93120	64/11640	141.267
		8B & 7T	126/46560	56/93120	52/11640	54.486

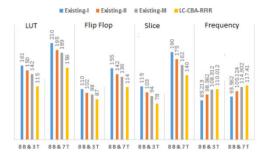


Figure 10 FPGA performance of Virtex-4 device for 8B &3T and 8B & 7T

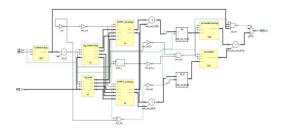


Figure.11 RTL schematic diagram of 8B & 3T



Figure.12 Output wave form of 8B & 3T

The output waveform of 8B & 3T is shown in Fig.12. The input value is represented as a red color waveform. For example, '4, 3, 2, and 1' is input value, which is stored in register bank

in the form of r00, r01, r02, r03, r10, r11, r12, and r13. That register bank is represented as a brown color waveform. DRPPG output is denoted as s10p_U, s32p_U, s10p_L, and s32p_L, which gives the output base on MUX selection line and a DRAM in DRPPG. This input such as '4, 3, 2, and 1' is stored in the registered bank, which performs the filter operation according to Section. 3.3.2. Here, consider co-efficient as '0, 1, 2, and 3' for four different inputs. The output value 10 is stored in "y", which is represented as blue color. When proc_en and out_en are in a high state (1), the output is generated in "y". From this waveform, it is clear that the RFIR architecture is working perfectly.

The RTL schematic of LC-CBA-RFIR design for 8B& 3T is shown in Fig.13, which is taken from cadence tool. For ASIC implementation, same code has been used which is used for the FPGA implementation. Cadence RTL compiler is used to convert RTL Verilog into Gate level Verilog. Verilog codes are read by using a Tcl file and corresponding libraries are also set into the Tcl file. After synthesizing, Area, Power and Delay, the result is displayed in cadence tool. Finally, total area, total delay, total power, APP and ADP are reduced in LCCBA-RFIR method when compared to the conventional methods.

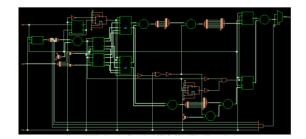


Figure.13 RTL schematic of LC-CBA-RFIR for 8B & 3T in 180nm technology

5. Conclusion

In this paper, LC-CBA-RFIR architecture has been implemented in ModelSim software by writing Verilog code. Area, power and the delay parameters are evaluated for different bits and taps like 8 B & 3T, and 8 B & 7T. Using FPGA implementation, LUT's, slices, flip-flops and the frequency improved in LCCBA-RFIR architecture. In ASIC 180nm technology, 8.44 % of area, 11.05% of power, 18.53% of APP and 10.87% of ADP is minimized in LC-CBA-RFIR where as in the 45nm technology, 17.26% of area, 10.64% of power, 29.11% of APP and 21.07% of ADP is reduced by using LC-CBA-RFIR technique. In future, this FIR filter design will be performed by using Carry Increment Adder (CIA) to further reduce the hardware utilization like LUT, slices, and flip flop as well as area, power and delay.

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