FPGA

- SPLDs and CPLDs are relatively small and useful for simple logic devices
 - Up to about 20000 gates
- Field Programmable Gate Arrays (FPGA) can handle larger circuits
 - No AND/OR planes
 - Provide logic blocks, I/O blocks, and interconnection wires and switches
 - Logic blocks provide functionality
 - Interconnection switches allow logic blocks to be connected to each other and to the I/O pins

Field Programmable Logic Devices (FPGAs)

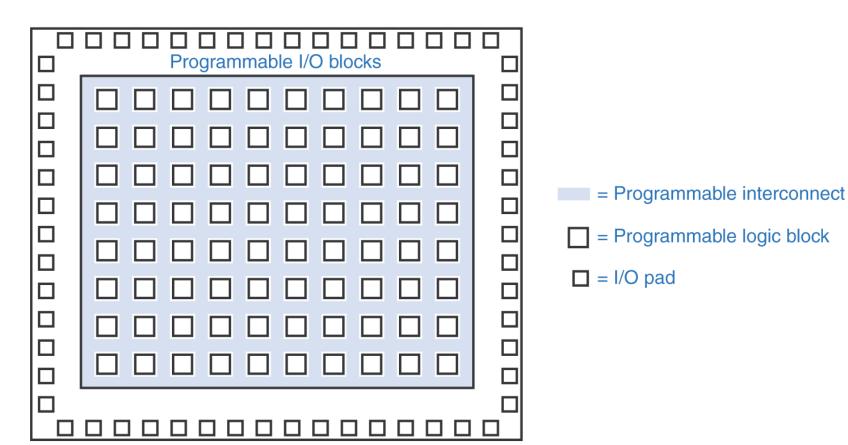
- Gate arrays are non-programmable devices that can be manufactured more cheaply than other types of IC, because they contain a standard grid of logic gates whose interconnections are specified by the customer.
- When a customer orders a new type of chip, the manufacturer does not have to design it from scratch, but can just take a standard gate array and modify it to the customer's requirement.

Field Programmable Logic Devices (FPGAs)

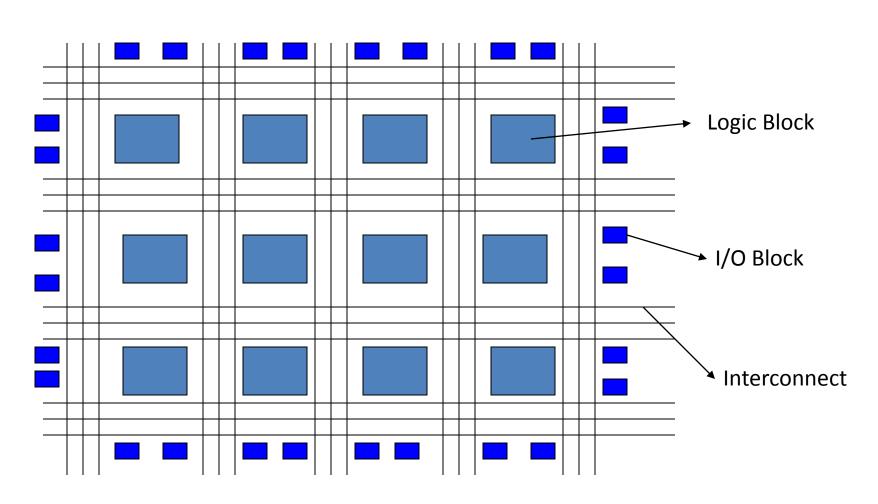
- FPGAs use a similar grid of logic gates, but the programming is done by the customer, not by the manufacturer.
- The term "field-programmable" may be obscure to some, but the "field" is just an engineering term for the world outside the factory where customers live.

General FPGA Architecture

Field Programmable Gate Array



Structure of FPGA (Xilinx)



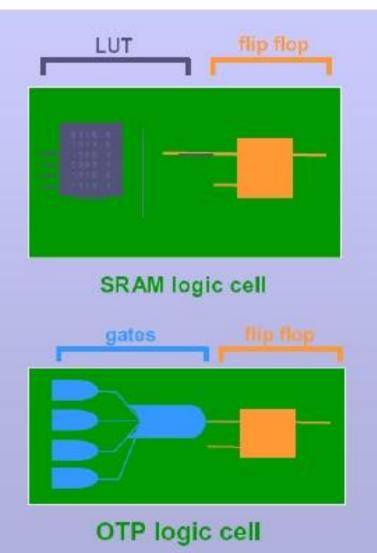
Programming an FPGA

- In System Programming method is used
 - None of the other PLD technologies are volatile
 - FPGA storage cells are loaded via a PROM when power is first applied

FPGA Types

- 2 types of FPGAs
- Reprogrammable (SRAMbased)
 - Xilinx, Altera, Lattice, Atmel

- One-time Programmable (OTP)
 - Actel, Quicklogic



FPGA advantages

- Highly flexible
 - Control your design down to the individual gate level
 - Designs can be updated without rewiring
 - Quick turnaround during development
 - Easy to try alternative solutions
- Excellent real-time performance
 - No interrupt handler context switch overhead
 - Fully parallel operation

FPGA

- FPGA applications:
 - i. DSP
 - ii. Software-defined radio
 - iii. Aerospace
 - iv. Defense system
 - v. ASIC
 - vi. Medical Imaging
 - vii. Computer vision
 - viii. Speech Recognition
 - ix. Bioinformatic
 - x. And others.