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What are OFFSET Constraints?

By: Chris Zeh

A fundamental timing constraint is the OFFSET constraint. This paper discusses the overall purpose of OFFSET constraints, the specific paths that are covered by OFFSET constraints, and the differences between the OFFSET IN and OFFSET OUT constraints. Additionally, examples of timing reports are included with the common application of the OFFSET IN and OFFSET OUT constraints.

Why Use OFFSET Constraints?

The OFFSET constraint is a fundamental timing constraint. OFFSET constraints are used to define the timing relationship between an external clock pad and its associated data-in or data-out pad. This relationship is also known as constraining the *Pad-to-Setup* or *Clock-to-Out* paths on the device. These constraints are important for specifying timing interfaces with external components.

Pad to Setup or OFFSET IN BEFORE constraint is used to ensure that the external clock and external input data meet the setup time on the internal flip-flop.

Clock-to-Out or OFFSET OUT AFTER constraint is used to control the setup/hold requirement of the downstream devices, as well as the external output data pad and the external clock pad.

The OFFSET IN BEFORE and OFFSET OUT AFTER constraints allows you to specify the internal data delay from the input pads or to the output pads with respect to the clock. Alternatively, the OFFSET IN AFTER and OFFSET OUT BEFORE constraints allows you to specify external data and clock relationship for the timing on the path to

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the input pads and to the output pads for the Xilinx device. The timing software determines the internal requirements without requiring a FROM PADS TO FFS or FROM FFS TO PADS constraint. See [Figure 1](#) and [Figure 2](#).

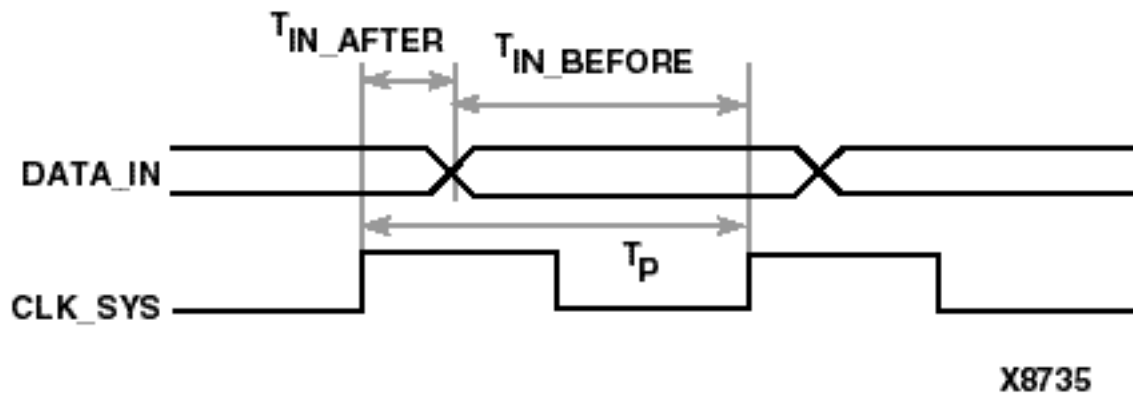


Figure 1: Timing Reference Diagram of OFFSET IN Constraint

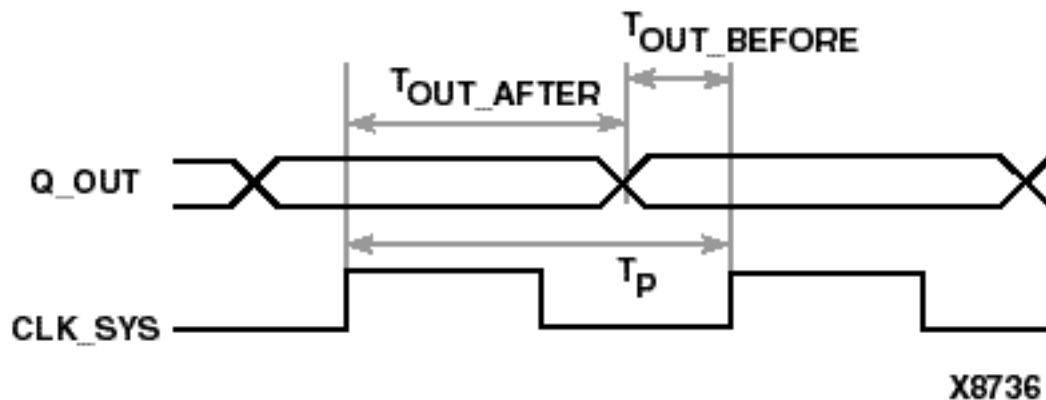


Figure 2: Timing Reference Diagram of OFFSET OUT Constraint

You can use these FROM:TO constraint options in the following situations:

- Calculate whether a setup time is violated at a flip-flop whose data and clock inputs are derived from external nets
- Specify the delay of an external output net derived from the Q output of an internal flip-flop that is clocked from an external device pin

The OFFSET constraint provides the following advantages:

- Includes clock path delay in the analysis for each individual synchronous element
- Includes paths for all synchronous element types (FFS, RAMS, LATCHES, and etc.)
- Utilizes a global syntax that allows all inputs or outputs to be constrained with respect to an external clock
- Analyzes setup and hold time violation on inputs

The OFFSET constraint automatically accounts for the following clocking path delays:

- Provides accurate timing information and uses the jitter defined on the associated PERIOD constraint
- Increases the amount of time for input signals to arrive at synchronous elements (clock and data paths are in parallel)
 - ◆ Subtracts the clock path delay from the data path delay for inputs
- Reduces the amount of time for output signals to arrive at output pins (clock and data paths are in series)
 - ◆ Adds the clock path delay to the data path delay for outputs
- Includes clock phase introduced by a DLL/DCM for each individual synchronous element defined by the associated PERIOD constraint
- Includes clock phase introduced by a rising or falling clock edge

The initial clock edge for analysis of OFFSET constraints is defined by the HIGH/LOW keyword of the PERIOD constraint:

- HIGH keyword => the initial clock edge is rising
- LOW keyword => the initial clock edge is falling

What Paths are Covered by OFFSET Constraints?

The OFFSET constraints cover the following and are shown in [Figure 3](#):

- From input pads to synchronous elements (OFFSET IN)
- From synchronous elements to output pads (OFFSET OUT)

If the clock that clocks a synchronous element does not come through an input pad – for example, it is derived from another clock – then the OFFSET constraint will fail to return any paths during timing analysis.

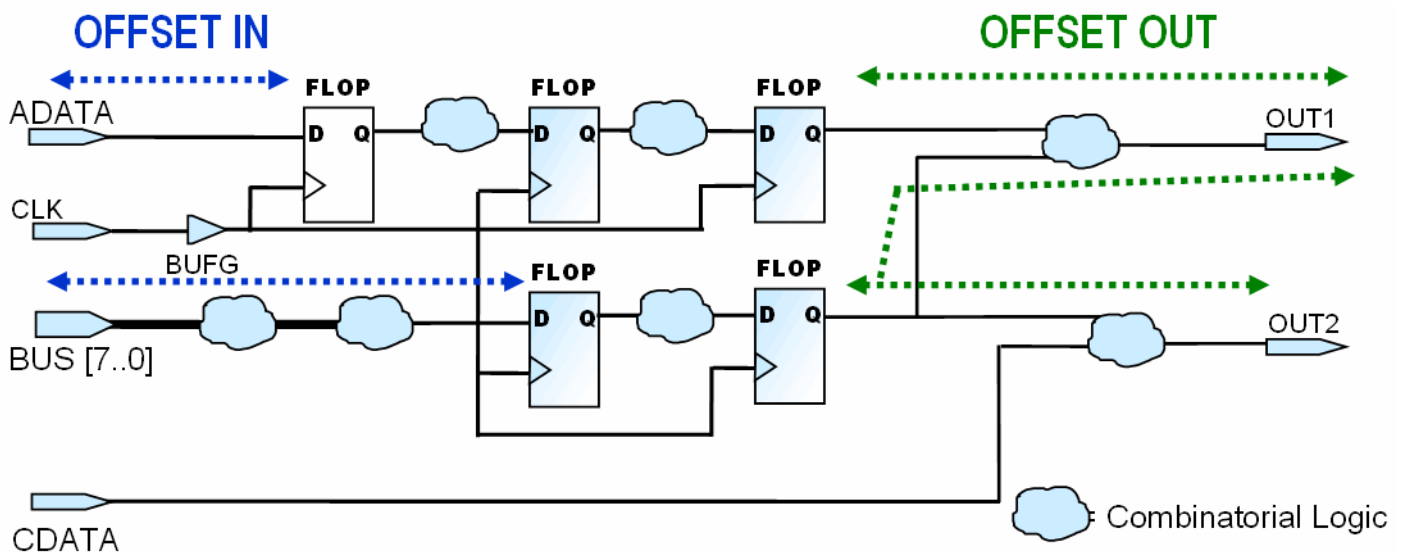


Figure 3: Circuit Diagram of OFFSET Constraints

The OFFSET constraint is analyzed with respect to only a single clock edge. If the OFFSET constraint is used to analyze multiple clock phases or clock edges, as in

source synchronous designs or Dual-Data Rate application, then the OFFSET constraint must be manually adjusted by the clock phase.

The OFFSET constraint does not optimize paths clocked by an internally generated clock. You can use FROM:TO or multi-cycle constraints for these paths, taking into account the clock delay. To obtain an I/O timing analysis on internal clocks or derived clocks, you can use the following options:

- Create a FROM:TO or multi-cycle constraint on these paths
- Determine if the internal clock is related to an external clock signal:

Change the requirement based upon the relationship between the two clocks. For example, when the internal clock is a “divide by two” version of the external clock, and the original requirement of the OFFSET OUT with the internal clock was 10 ns, then the requirement of the OFFSET OUT with the external clock is 20 ns.

You can specify OFFSET constraints in three levels of coverage, as follows:

- A Global OFFSET applies to all inputs or outputs for a specific clock
- A Group OFFSET identifies a group of input or outputs clocked by a common clock that have the same timing requirement
- A Net-Specific OFFSET specifies the timing by each input or output

OFFSET constraints with a more specific scope override a more general scope.

A group OFFSET overrides a global OFFSET specified for the same I/O. Net-specific OFFSET overrides both global and group OFFSET. This priority rule allows you to start with global OFFSETs, and then to create group or net-specific OFFSET constraint for I/O with special timing requirements.

Use global and group OFFSET constraints to reduce memory usage and runtime. Using wildcards in net-specific OFFSET constraint creates multiple net-specific OFFSET constraints, not a group OFFSET constraint.

A group OFFSET constraint can include both a register group and a pad group. Group OFFSET allows you to group pads or registers to use the same requirement. The register group can be used to identify path source or destination that has different requirements from or to a single pad on a clock edge. You can use the pad group to identify path sources or destinations that have different requirements from or to a group of pads on the same clock edge. You can group and constrain the pads and registers all at once, which is useful if a clock is used on the rising and falling edge for inputs and outputs.

The rising and falling groups require different group OFFSET constraints. In [Figure 4](#), registers A, B, and C are different time groups (TIMEGRP AB = RISING FFS; TIMEGRP C = FALLING FFS;), even though these registers have the same data and clock source. This allows you to perform two different timing analyses for these registers.

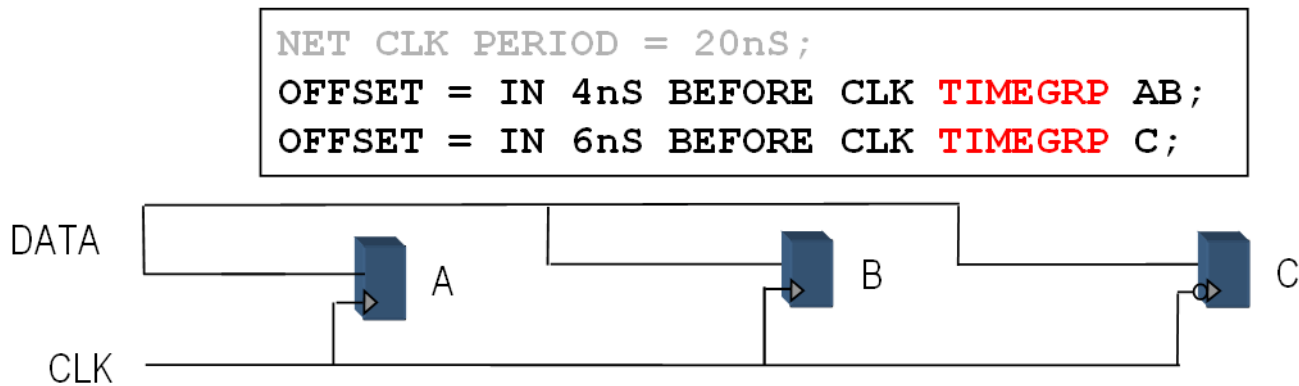


Figure 4: OFFSET with Different TIMEGRPs

For CPLD designs, the clock inputs referenced by the OFFSET constraints must be explicitly assigned to a global clock pin (using either a BUFG symbol or applying the BUFG=CLK constraint to an ordinary input). Otherwise, the OFFSET constraint will not be used during timing driven optimization of the design.

What is the OFFSET IN Constraint?

The OFFSET IN constraint is used to define the Pad-To-Setup timing requirement. The OFFSET IN is an external clock-to-data relationship specification. It takes into account the clock delay, clock edge, and DLL/DCM introduced clock phase when analyzing the setup requirement ($\text{data_delay} + \text{setup} - \text{clock_delay} - \text{clock_arrival}$). Clock arrival takes into account any clock phase generated by the DLL/DCM or clock edge.

If the timing report does not display a clock arrival time, then the timing analysis tools did not analyze a PERIOD constraint for that specific synchronous element.

When creating pad-to-setup requirements, make sure to incorporate any phase or PERIOD adjustment factor into the value specified for an OFFSET IN constraint. For the following example, refer to the schematic in Figure 3. If the net from the CLK90 pin of the DLL/DCM clocks your register, then the OFFSET value should be adjusted by a quarter of the PERIOD constraint value. For example, if the PERIOD constraint value is 20 ns and is from the CLK90 of the DCM, the OFFSET IN value should be adjusted by an additional 5 ns:

Original Constraint: NET "PAD_IN" OFFSET = IN 10 BEFORE "PADCLKIN";

Modified Constraint: NET "PAD_IN" OFFSET = IN 15 BEFORE "PADCLKIN";

Note: The clock net name required for OFFSET constraints is the clock net name attached to the IPAD. In this case, it is "PADCLKIN", not "CLK90".

OFFSET IN BEFORE

The OFFSET IN BEFORE constraint defines the time available for data to propagate from the pad and setup at the synchronous element. You can visualize this as the time that the data arrives at the edge of the device before the next clock edge arrives at the device. This "OFFSET = IN 2 ns BEFORE clock_pad" constraint reads that the data

will be valid at the input data pad, some time period (2 ns) BEFORE the reference clock edge arrives at the clock pad. The tools automatically calculate and control internal data and clock delays to meet the flip-flop setup time. See Figure 1 and Figure 5.

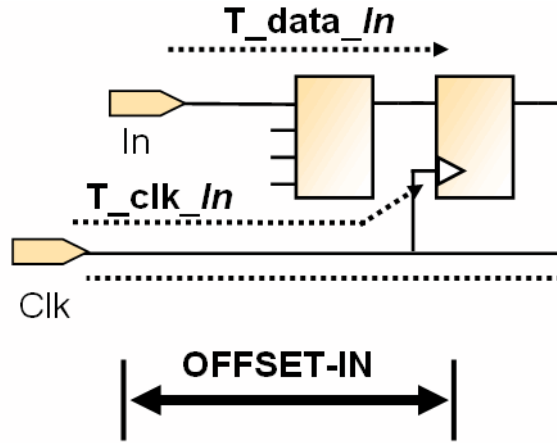


Figure 5: Circuit Diagram with Calculation Variables for OFFSET IN BEFORE Constraints

The following equation defines the setup relationship:

$$T_{Data} + T_{Setup} - T_{Clock} \leq T_{offset_IN_BEFORE}$$

The OFFSET IN requirement value is used as a setup time requirement of the FPGA during the setup time analysis. The VALID keyword is used in conjunction with the requirement to create a hold-time requirement during a hold-time analysis. The VALID keyword specifies the duration of the incoming data valid window, and the timing analysis tools perform a hold-time analysis. By default, the VALID value is equal to the OFFSET time requirement, which specifies a zero hold-time requirement. See Figure 6.

The following equation defines the hold relationship:

$$T_{Clock} - T_{data} + T_{hold} \leq T_{offset_IN_BEFORE_VALID}$$

The following are examples of the OFFSET IN with the VALID keyword:

- TIMEGRP DATA_IN OFFSET IN = 1 VALID 3 BEFORE CLK TIMEGRP FF_RISING;
- TIMEGRP DATA_IN OFFSET IN = 4 VALID 3 BEFORE CLK TIMEGRP FF_FALLING;

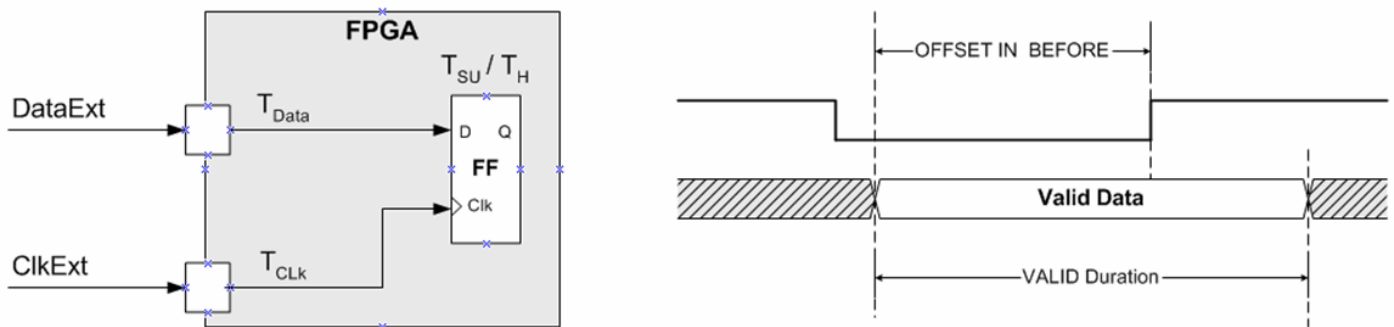


Figure 6: OFFSET IN Constraint with VALID Keyword

The OFFSET Constraint is analyzed with respect to the rising clock edge, which is specified with the HIGH keyword of the PERIOD constraint. The OFFSET HIGH/LOW keyword can be used to override the HIGH/LOW keyword defined by the PERIOD constraint. This is extremely useful for DDR design, with a 50% duty cycle, when the signal is capturing data on the rising and falling clock edges or producing data on rising and falling clock edges. For example, if the PERIOD constraint has the HIGH keyword and the OFFSET has the LOW keyword, the falling edged synchronous elements will have the clock arrival time set to zero.

The following is an example of the OFFSET IN with the HIGH/LOW keyword:

```
TIMEGRP DATA_IN OFFSET IN = 1 VALID 3 BEFORE CLK LOW;
```

The equation for external setup included in the OFFSET IN analysis of the FPGA is Data Delay plus the Flip-Flop Setup time minus the prorated version of the Clock Path Delay. The longer the clock path delay, the smaller the external setup time. The prorated clock path delay is used to obtain an accurate setup time analysis. The general prorating factors are 85% for Global Routing and 80% for Local Routing.

The prorated clock path delays are not used for device families that are older than Virtex™-II.

The equation for external hold included in the OFFSET IN analysis of the FPGA is: Clock Path Delay plus Flip-Flop Hold time minus the prorated version of the Data Delay. If the data delay is longer than the clock delay, the end result is a smaller hold time. The prorated data delays are similar to the prorated values in the setup analysis.

The prorated data delays are not used for device families older than Virtex-II.

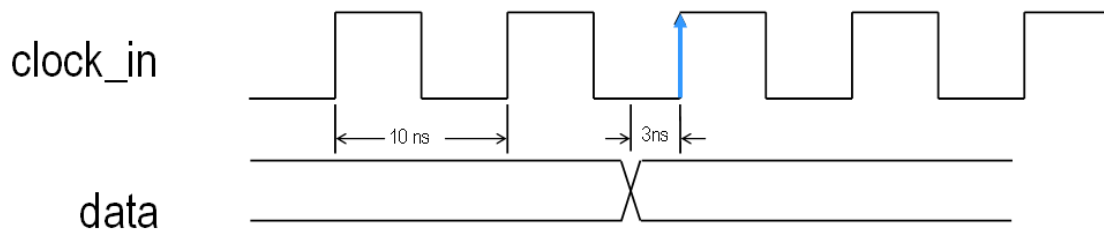
Simple Example

A simple example of the OFFSET IN constraint has an initial clock edge at 0 ns based upon the PERIOD constraint. The timing report displays the initial clock edge as the clock arrival time. The resulting timing report displays the data path, the clock path, and the clock arrival time (shown in bold). An example report is shown below.

If the timing report does not display a clock arrival time, then the timing analysis tools did not recognize a PERIOD constraint for that particular synchronous element.

In [Figure 7](#), the OFFSET requirement is 3 ns before the initial clock edge. The equation used in timing analysis is as follows:

$$\text{Slack} = (\text{Requirement} - (\text{Data Path} - \text{Clock Path} - \text{Clock Arrival}))$$



```
TIMESPEC TS_clock = PERIOD clock_grp 10 ns HIGH 50 %;
OFFSET = IN 3 ns BEFORE clock;
```

Figure 7: Timing Diagram of Simple OFFSET IN Constraint

Timing Report Example

```
Slack:                -0.191ns (requirement -(data path - clock path - clock arrival + uncertainty))
Source:               reset (PAD)
Destination:         my_oddrA_ODDR_inst/FF0 (FF)
Destination Clock:   clock0_dds_bufg rising at 0.000ns
Requirement:         3.000ns
Data Path Delay:     2.784ns (Levels of Logic = 1)
Clock Path Delay:    -0.168ns (Levels of Logic = 3)
Clock Uncertainty:   0.239ns
```

Data Path: reset to my_oddrA_ODDR_inst/FF0

Location	Delay type	Delay(ns)	Physical Resource	Logical Resource(s)

K14.I	Tiopi	0.747	reset	reset
			reset_IBUF	
OLOGIC_X1Y188.SR	net (fanout=40)	1.136	reset_IBUF	
OLOGIC_X1Y188.CLK	Tosrck	0.901	OutAz_0_OBUF	my_oddrA_ODDR_inst/FF0

Total		2.784ns	(1.648ns logic, 1.136ns route)	
			(59.2% logic, 40.8% route)	

Clock Path: clock0 to my_oddrA_ODDR_inst/FF0

Location	Delay type	Delay(ns)	Physical Resource	Logical Resource(s)

E19.I	Tiopi	0.639	clock0	clock0
			MY_ddr_dcm/CLKIN_IBUFG_INST	
DCM_ADV_X0Y4.CLKIN	net (fanout=1)	0.903	MY_ddr_dcm/CLKIN_IBUFG_OUT	
DCM_ADV_X0Y4.CLKFX	Tdmcko_CLKFX	-5.568	MY_ddr_dcm/DCM_ADV_INST	MY_ddr_dcm/DCM_ADV_INST
BUFGCTRL_X0Y19.IO	net (fanout=1)	1.368	MY_ddr_dcm/CLKFX_BUF	
BUFGCTRL_X0Y19.O	Tbgcko_O	0.644	MY_ddr_dcm/CLKFX_BUFG_INST	MY_ddr_dcm/CLKFX_BUFG_INST
OLOGIC_X1Y188.CLK	net (fanout=24)	1.846	clock0_dds_bufg	

Total		-0.168ns	(-4.285ns logic, 4.117ns route)	

Two-Phase Example

A two-phase or both clock edges example of the OFFSET IN constraint has an initial clock edge that correlates to the two edges of the clock. The first clock edge is at 0 ns based upon the PERIOD constraint, and the second clock edge is at half the PERIOD constraint. The timing report displays the clock arrival time for each edge of the clock.

The resulting timing report displays the data path, the clock path, and the clock arrival time (shown in bold). An example timing report is shown below. In this example, the PERIOD constraint has the clock arrival on the falling edge, based upon the LOW keyword. So, the clock arrival time for the falling edge synchronous elements will be a zero and the rising edge synchronous elements will be at half the PERIOD constraint. If both edges are used, as in Dual-Data Rate, then two OFFSET constraints are created; one for each clock edge. In Figure 8, the OFFSET requirement is 3 ns before the initial clock edge. If the PERIOD constraint had the HIGH keyword, the LOW keyword on the OFFSET IN, the following constraints would produce the same example report:

- TIMESPEC TS_clock = PERIOD clock 10 ns HIGH 50%;
- OFFSET = IN 3 ns BEFORE clock LOW

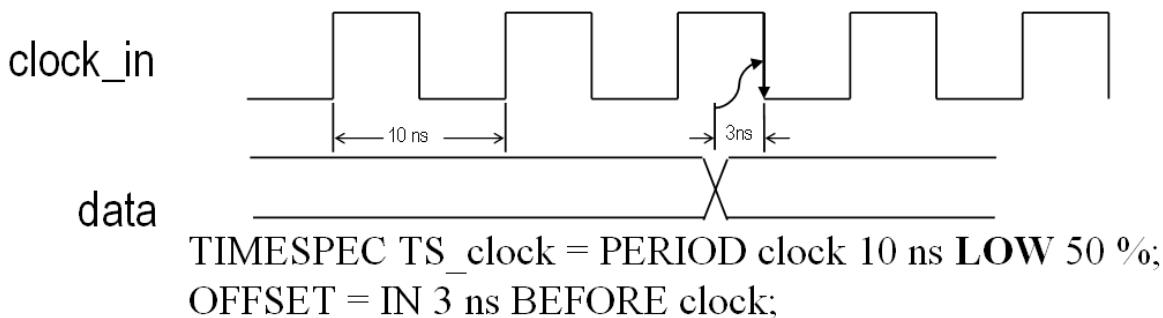


Figure 8: Timing Diagram with Two-Phase OFFSET IN Constraints

Timing Report Example

```
Slack:                0.231ns (requirement - (data path - clock path - clock arrival + uncertainty))
Source:              DataD<9> (PAD)
Destination:        TmpAa_1 (FF)
Destination Clock:  clock0_dds_bufg falling at 0.000ns
Requirement:        3.000ns
Data Path Delay:    2.492ns (Levels of Logic = 2)
Clock Path Delay:   -0.038ns (Levels of Logic = 3)
Clock Uncertainty:  0.239ns
```

Data Path: DataD<9> to TmpAa_1

Location	Delay type	Delay(ns)	Physical Resource	Logical Resource(s)
R9.I	Tiopi	0.709	DataD<9>	DataD<9> DataD_9_IBUF
SLICE_X67Y142.F4	net (fanout=1)	1.606	DataD_9_IBUF	
SLICE_X67Y142.CLK	Tas	0.177	TmpAa<1>	SumAa<1>1 TmpAa_1
Total		2.492ns (0.886ns logic, 1.606ns route)		

(35.6% logic, 64.4% route)

Clock Path: clock0 to TmpAa_1

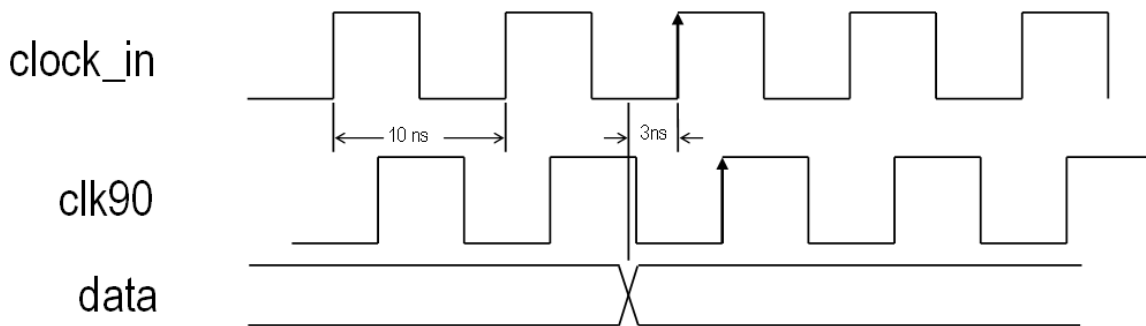
Location	Delay type	Delay(ns)	Physical Resource	Logical Resource(s)

E19.I	Tiopi	0.639	clock0	clock0
DCM_ADV_X0Y4.CLKIN	net (fanout=1)	0.903	MY_dds_dcm/CLKIN_IBUFG_OUT	MY_dds_dcm/CLKIN_IBUFG_INST
DCM_ADV_X0Y4.CLKFX	Tdmcko_CLKFX	-5.568	MY_dds_dcm/DCM_ADV_INST	MY_dds_dcm/DCM_ADV_INST
BUFGCTRL_X0Y19.I0	net (fanout=1)	1.368	MY_dds_dcm/CLKFX_BUF	
BUFGCTRL_X0Y19.O	Tbgcko_0	0.644	MY_dds_dcm/CLKFX_IBUFG_INST	MY_dds_dcm/CLKFX_IBUFG_INST
SLICE_X67Y142.CLK	net (fanout=24)	1.976	clock0_dds_bufg	

Total		-0.038ns	(-4.285ns logic, 4.247ns route)	

Phase-Shifted Example

A DCM phase-shifted clock, CLK90, example of the OFFSET IN constraint has an initial clock edge at 0 ns based upon the PERIOD constraint. Since the clock is phase-shifted by the DCM, the timing report displays the clock arrival time as the phase-shifted amount. If the CLK90 output is used, then the phase-shifted amount will be a quarter of the PERIOD. In this example, the PERIOD constraint has the initial clock arrival on the rising edge, but the clock arrival value is at 2.5 ns. The resulting timing report displays the data path, the clock path, and the clock arrival time (shown in bold). An example timing report is shown below. In [Figure 9](#), the OFFSET requirement is 3 ns before the initial clock edge.



TIMESPEC TS_clock = PERIOD clock_grp 10 ns **HIGH 50 %**;
 OFFSET = IN 3 ns BEFORE clock;

Figure 9: Timing Diagram for Phase-shifted Clock In OFFSET IN Constraint

Timing Report Example

```
Slack:                -2.308ns (requirement -(data path - clock path - clock arrival + uncertainty))
Source:               reset (PAD)
Destination:         my_oddrA_ODDR_inst/FF0 (FF)
Destination Clock:   clock90_bufg rising at 2.500ns
Requirement:         3.000ns
Data Path Delay:     2.784ns (Levels of Logic = 1)
Clock Path Delay:    -0.168ns (Levels of Logic = 3)
Clock Uncertainty:   0.239ns
```

Data Path: reset to my_oddrA_ODDR_inst/FF0

Location	Delay type	Delay(ns)	Physical Resource	Logical Resource(s)
K14.I	Tiopi	0.747	reset	reset reset_IBUF
OLOGIC_X1Y188.SR	net (fanout=40)	1.136	reset_IBUF	
OLOGIC_X1Y188.CLK	Tosrck	0.901	OutAz_0_OBUF	my_oddrA_ODDR_inst/FF0

Total		2.784ns	(1.648ns logic, 1.136ns route) (59.2% logic, 40.8% route)	

Clock Path: clock0 to my_oddrA_ODDR_inst/FF0

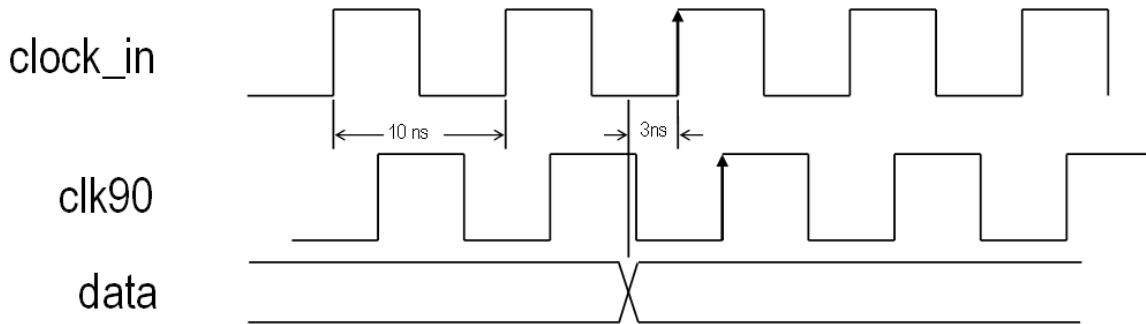
Location	Delay type	Delay(ns)	Physical Resource	Logical Resource(s)
E19.I	Tiopi	0.639	clock0	clock0 MY_ddr_dcm/CLKIN_IBUFG_INST
DCM_ADV_X0Y4.CLKIN	net (fanout=1)	0.903	MY_ddr_dcm/CLKIN_IBUFG_OUT	
DCM_ADV_X0Y4.CLKFX	Tdmcko_CLKFX	-5.568	MY_ddr_dcm/DCM_ADV_INST	MY_ddr_dcm/DCM_ADV_INST
BUFGCTRL_X0Y19.IO	net (fanout=1)	1.368	MY_ddr_dcm/CLKFX_BUF	
BUFGCTRL_X0Y19.O	Tbgcko_O	0.644	MY_ddr_dcm/CLKFX_BUFG_INST	MY_ddr_dcm/CLKFX_BUFG_INST
OLOGIC_X1Y188.CLK	net (fanout=24)	1.846	clock0_ddr_bufg	

Total		-0.168ns	(-4.285ns logic, 4.117ns route)	

Fixed Phase-Shifted Example

A DCM fixed phase-shifted clock example of the OFFSET IN constraint has an initial clock edge at 0 ns based upon the PERIOD constraint. Since the clock is phase-shifted by the DCM, the timing report displays the clock arrival time as the phase-shifted amount. If the CLK0 output is phase-shifted by a user-specified amount, then the

phase-shifted amount will be a percentage of the PERIOD. In this example, the PERIOD constraints has the initial clock arrival on the rising edge, but the clock arrival value is at the fixed phase-shifted amount, as seen in the example timing report. The resulting timing report displays the data path, the clock path, and the clock arrival time (shown in bold). An example timing report is shown below. In Figure 10, the OFFSET requirement is 3 ns before the initial clock edge.



```
TIMESPEC TS_clock = PERIOD clock_grp 10 ns HIGH 50 %;
OFFSET = IN 3 ns BEFORE clock;
```

Figure 10: Timing Diagram of Fixed Phase-shifted Clock in OFFSET IN Constraint

Timing Report Example

```
Slack: -4.269ns (requirement - (data path - clock path - clock arrival + uncertainty))
Source: DataD<9> (PAD)
Destination: TmpAa_1 (FF)
Destination Clock: clock1_fixed_bufg rising at 4.500ns
Requirement: 3.000ns
Data Path Delay: 2.492ns (Levels of Logic = 2)
Clock Path Delay: -0.038ns (Levels of Logic = 3)
Clock Uncertainty: 0.239ns
```

Data Path: DataD<9> to TmpAa_1

Location	Delay type	Delay(ns)	Physical Resource	Logical Resource(s)

R9.I	Tiopi	0.709	DataD<9>	DataD<9>
			DataD_9_IBUF	
SLICE_X67Y142.F4	net (fanout=1)	1.606	DataD_9_IBUF	
SLICE_X67Y142.CLK	Tas	0.177	TmpAa<1>	SumAa<1>1
				TmpAa_1

Total		2.492ns	(0.886ns logic, 1.606ns route)	
			(35.6% logic, 64.4% route)	

Clock Path: clock0 to TmpAa_1

Location	Delay type	Delay(ns)	Physical Resource	Logical Resource(s)
E19.I	Tiopi	0.639	clock0	clock0
DCM_ADV_X0Y4.CLKIN	net (fanout=1)	0.903	MY_dds_dcm/CLKIN_IBUFG_OUT	MY_dds_dcm/CLKIN_IBUFG_INST
DCM_ADV_X0Y4.CLKFX	Tdmcko_CLKFX	-5.568	MY_dds_dcm/DCM_ADV_INST	MY_dds_dcm/DCM_ADV_INST
BUFGCTRL_X0Y19.I0	net (fanout=1)	1.368	MY_dds_dcm/CLKFX_BUF	MY_dds_dcm/CLKFX_BUF
BUFGCTRL_X0Y19.O	Tbgcko_O	0.644	MY_dds_dcm/CLKFX_BUFG_INST	MY_dds_dcm/CLKFX_BUFG_INST
SLICE_X67Y142.CLK	net (fanout=24)	1.976	clock0_dds_bufg	clock0_dds_bufg
Total		-0.038ns	(-4.285ns logic, 4.247ns route)	

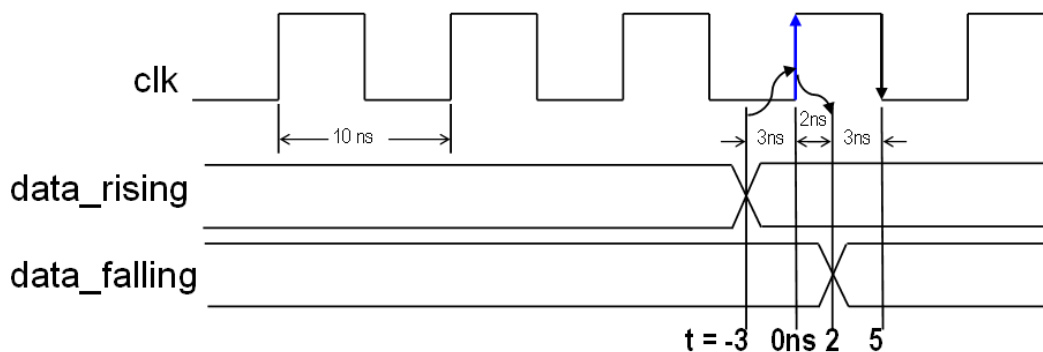
Dual-Data Rate Example

A Dual-Data Rate example of the OFFSET IN constraint has an initial clock edge at 0 ns and half the PERIOD constraint, which correlates to the two clock edges. The timing report displays the clock arrival time for each edge of the clock. Since the data is being clocked in on both edges of the clock, the clock arrival time for the falling edge needs to be managed. The timing analysis tools do not automatically adjust any of the clock phases during analysis, so the constraints must be manually adjusted. The timing analysis tools offer two options to manage the falling edge clock arrival time. The resulting timing report displays the data path, the clock path, and the clock arrival time (shown in bold). An example timing report is shown below.

The first option is to create two time groups, one for rising edge synchronous elements and the second for the falling edge synchronous elements. Then create an OFFSET IN constraint for each time group, the second OFFSET IN constraint will have a different requirement. The falling edge OFFSET IN constraint requirement should be the “original requirement” minus half of the PERIOD constraint. So, if you have the original requirement as 3 ns with a PERIOD of 10 ns, the falling edge OFFSET IN constraint requirement is -2 ns. This will compensate for the clock arrival time associated with the falling edge synchronous elements. The negative value is legal in the constraints language.

The second option is to create one time group and one corresponding OFFSET IN constraint with the original constraint requirement. The only addition is the LOW keyword (if the PERIOD constraint has the HIGH keyword). If the PERIOD constraint has the LOW keyword, then the OFFSET constraint would use the LOW keyword. This option can only be used if the duty cycle on the clock is 50/50.

In this example the PERIOD constraint has the clock arrival on both the rising edge and falling edge, so the clock arrival value is 0 ns and 5 ns. During the timing analysis, the difference between the rising and falling edges of the clock is added to the falling-edge-data-path analysis, so you need to subtract that difference from the original requirement. In [Figure 11](#), the OFFSET requirement is 3 ns before the initial clock edge.



TIMESPEC TS_clock = PERIOD clock_grp 10 ns HIGH 50 %;
 OFFSET = IN 3 ns BEFORE clock;
 OFFSET = IN -2 ns BEFORE clock TIMEGRP falling_ffs_grp;

Figure 11: Timing Diagram for Dual Data Rate in OFFSET IN Constraint

Timing Report Example for OFFSET = IN 3 ns BEFORE Clock

Slack: 0.101ns (requirement - (data path - clock path - clock arrival + uncertainty))
 Source: DataA<3> (PAD)
 Destination: TmpAa_3 (FF)
 Destination Clock: clock0_ddr_bufg **rising at 0.000ns**
 Requirement: 3.000ns
 Data Path Delay: 2.654ns (Levels of Logic = 2)
 Clock Path Delay: -0.006ns (Levels of Logic = 3)
 Clock Uncertainty: 0.239ns

Data Path: DataA<3> to TmpAa_3

Location	Delay type	Delay(ns)	Physical Resource	Logical Resource(s)
AF20.I	Tiopi	0.762	DataA<3>	DataA<3> DataA_3_IBUF
SLICE_X69Y140.F4	net (fanout=2)	1.715	DataA_3_IBUF	
SLICE_X69Y140.CLK	Tas	0.177	TmpAa<3>	SumAa<3>1 TmpAa_3
Total		2.654ns	(0.939ns logic, 1.715ns route) (35.4% logic, 64.6% route)	

Clock Path: clock0 to TmpAa_3

Location	Delay type	Delay(ns)	Physical Resource	Logical Resource(s)

Location	Delay type	Delay(ns)	Physical Resource	Logical Resource(s)
E19.I	Tiopi	0.639	clock0	clock0
				MY_dds_dcm/CLKIN_IBUFG_INST
DCM_ADV_X0Y4.CLKIN	net (fanout=1)	0.903	MY_dds_dcm/CLKIN_IBUFG_OUT	
DCM_ADV_X0Y4.CLKFX	Tdmcko_CLKFX	-5.568	MY_dds_dcm/DCM_ADV_INST	MY_dds_dcm/DCM_ADV_INST
BUFGCTRL_X0Y19.I0	net (fanout=1)	1.368	MY_dds_dcm/CLKFX_BUF	
BUFGCTRL_X0Y19.O	Tbgcko_O	0.644	MY_dds_dcm/CLKFX_IBUFG_INST	MY_dds_dcm/CLKFX_IBUFG_INST
				MY_dds_dcm/CLKFX_BUF_INST
SLICE_X69Y140.CLK	net (fanout=24)	2.008	clock0_dds_bufg	
Total		-0.006ns (-4.285ns logic, 4.279ns route)		

Timing Report Example for OFFSET = IN -2 ns BEFORE Clock

Slack: -2.755ns (requirement - (data path - clock path - clock arrival + uncertainty))
 Source: DataA<3> (PAD)
 Destination: TmpAa_3 (FF)
 Destination Clock: clock0_dds_bufg **falling at 5.000ns**
 Requirement: -2.000ns
 Data Path Delay: 2.654ns (Levels of Logic = 2)
 Clock Path Delay: -0.006ns (Levels of Logic = 3)
 Clock Uncertainty: 0.239ns

Data Path: DataA<3> to TmpAa_3

Location	Delay type	Delay(ns)	Physical Resource	Logical Resource(s)
AF20.I	Tiopi	0.762	DataA<3>	DataA<3>
				DataA_3_IBUF
SLICE_X69Y140.F4	net (fanout=2)	1.715	DataA_3_IBUF	
SLICE_X69Y140.CLK	Tas	0.177	TmpAa<3>	SumAa<3>1
				TmpAa_3
Total		2.654ns (0.939ns logic, 1.715ns route) (35.4% logic, 64.6% route)		

Clock Path: clock0 to TmpAa_3

Location	Delay type	Delay(ns)	Physical Resource	Logical Resource(s)
E19.I	Tiopi	0.639	clock0	clock0
				MY_dds_dcm/CLKIN_IBUFG_INST

DCM_ADV_X0Y4.CLKIN	net (fanout=1)	0.903	MY_ddr_dcm/CLKIN_IBUFG_OUT
DCM_ADV_X0Y4.CLKFX	Tdmcko_CLKFX	-5.568	MY_ddr_dcm/DCM_ADV_INST MY_ddr_dcm/DCM_ADV_INST
BUFGCTRL_X0Y19.I0	net (fanout=1)	1.368	MY_ddr_dcm/CLKFX_BUF
BUFGCTRL_X0Y19.O	Tbgcko_O	0.644	MY_ddr_dcm/CLKFX_BUFG_INST MY_ddr_dcm/CLKFX_BUFG_INST
SLICE_X69Y140.CLK	net (fanout=24)	2.008	clock0_ddr_bufg

Total		-0.006ns	(-4.285ns logic, 4.279ns route)

OFFSET IN AFTER

The OFFSET IN AFTER constraint describes the time used by the data external to the FPGA. OFFSET IN subtracts this time from the PERIOD declared for the clock to determine the time available for the data to propagate from the pad to the setup at the synchronous element. You can visualize this time as the difference of data arriving at the edge of the device after the current clock edge arrives at the edge of the device. This “OFFSET = IN 2 ns AFTER clock_pad” constraint reads that the data to be registered in the FPGA is available on the FPGA’s input pad, some time period (2ns), AFTER the reference clock edge is recognized by the upstream device. To adhere to the OFFSET constraint syntax, assume no skew on CLK between the devices (see [Figure 1](#)). The following equation defines this relationship:

$$T_{Data} + T_{Setup} - T_{Clock} \leq T_{Period} - T_{offset_IN_AFTER}$$

A PERIOD or FREQUENCY constraint is required for OFFSET IN constraints with the AFTER keyword.

What is the OFFSET OUT Constraint?

The OFFSET OUT constraint is used to define the clock-to-pad timing requirements. The OFFSET OUT constraint is an external clock-to-data specification and takes into account the clock delay, clock edge, and DLL/DCM introduced clock phase when analyzing the clock-to-out requirements (clock_delay + clock_to_out + data_delay + clock_arrival). Clock arrival time takes into account any clock phase generated by the DLL/DCM or clock edge. If the timing report does not display a clock arrival time, then the timing analysis tools did not analyze a PERIOD constraint for that specific synchronous element.

When you create clock-to-pad requirements, be sure to incorporate any phase or PERIOD adjustment factor into the value specified for an OFFSET OUT constraint. For the following example, refer to [Figure 2](#). If your register is clocked by the net from the CLK90 pin of the DLL, which has a PERIOD of 20 ns, the OFFSET value should be adjusted by 5 ns less than the original constraint:

Original Constraint: NET "PAD_OUT" OFFSET = OUT 15 AFTER "PADCLKIN";

Modified Constraint: NET "PAD_OUT" OFFSET = OUT 10 AFTER "PADCLKIN";

OFFSET OUT AFTER

The OFFSET OUT AFTER constraint defines the time available for the data to propagate from the synchronous element to the pad. You can visualize this time as the data leaving the edge of the device after the current clock edge arrives at the edge of the device. This “OFFSET = OUT 2 ns AFTER clock_pad” constraint reads that the

data to be registered in the downstream device is available on the FPGA's data output pad, some time period (2 ns), AFTER the reference clock pulse is recognized by the FPGA, at the clock pad. See [Figure 2](#) and [Figure 12](#).

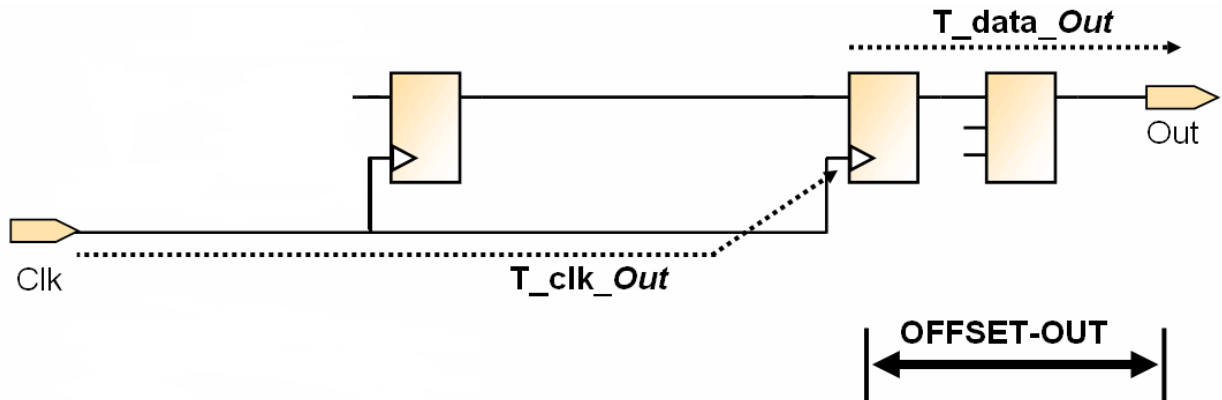


Figure 12: Circuit Diagram with Calculation Variables for OFFSET OUT AFTER Constraints

The following equation defines this relationship:

$$TQ + T_{Clock2Out} + T_{Clock} \leq T_{offset_OUT_AFTER}$$

The analysis of this constraint involves ensuring that the maximum delay along the reference path (CLK_SYS to COMP) and the maximum delay along the data path (COMP to Q_OUT) do not exceed the specified offset.

The OFFSET HIGH/LOW keyword can be used to override the HIGH/LOW keyword defined by the PERIOD constraint. This is very useful for DDR design, with a 50% duty cycle, when the signal is capturing data on the rising and falling clock edges or producing data on a rising and falling clock edges. For example, the PERIOD constraint has the HIGH keyword and the OFFSET has the LOW keyword, the falling edged synchronous elements will have the clock arrival time set to zero.

The following is an example of the OFFSET OUT with the HIGH/LOW keyword:

```
TIMEGRP DATA_OUT OFFSET OUT = 10 AFTER CLK LOW;
```

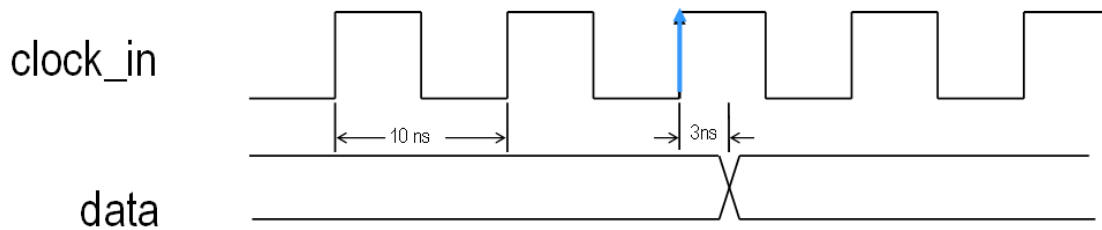
Simple Example

A simple example of the OFFSET OUT constraints has the initial clock edge at 0 ns based upon the PERIOD constraint. The timing report displays the initial clock edge as the clock arrival time. The resulting timing report displays the data path, the clock path, and the clock arrival time (shown in bold). An example timing report is shown below.

If the timing report does not display a clock arrival time, then the timing analysis tools did not recognize a PERIOD constraint for that particular synchronous element.

In Figure 13, the OFFSET requirement is 3 ns. The equation used in timing analysis is as follows:

$$Slack = (Requirement - (Clock Arrival + Clock Path + Data Path))$$



TIMESPEC TS_clock = PERIOD clock_grp 10 ns HIGH 50 %;
 OFFSET = OUT 3 ns AFTER clock;

Figure 13: Timing Diagram of simple OFFSET OUT Constraint

Timing Report Example

```
Slack: -0.865ns (requirement - (clock arrival + clock path + data path + uncertainty))
Source: OutD_7 (FF)
Destination: OutD<7> (PAD)
Source Clock: clock3_std_bufg rising at 0.000ns
Requirement: 3.000ns
Data Path Delay: 3.405ns (Levels of Logic = 1)
Clock Path Delay: 0.280ns (Levels of Logic = 3)
Clock Uncertainty: 0.180ns
```

Clock Path: clock3 to OutD_7

Location	Delay type	Delay(ns)	Physical Resource	Logical Resource(s)
D20.I	Tiopi	0.775	clock3	clock3
DCM_ADV_X0Y6.CLKIN	net (fanout=1)	1.035	MY_Std_dcm/CLKIN_IBUFG_OUT	MY_Std_dcm/CLKIN_IBUFG_INST
DCM_ADV_X0Y6.CLK0	Tdmcko_CLK	-6.420	MY_Std_dcm/DCM_ADV_INST	MY_Std_dcm/DCM_ADV_INST
BUFGCTRL_X0Y26.I0	net (fanout=1)	1.718	MY_Std_dcm/CLK0_BUF	MY_Std_dcm/CLK0_BUF
BUFGCTRL_X0Y26.O	Tbgcko_O	0.700	MY_Std_dcm/CLK0_BUFG_INST	MY_Std_dcm/CLK0_BUFG_INST
OLOGIC_X2Y187.CLK	net (fanout=9)	2.472	clock3_std_bufg	clock3_std_bufg
Total		0.280ns	(-4.945ns logic, 5.225ns route)	

Data Path: OutD_7 to OutD<7>

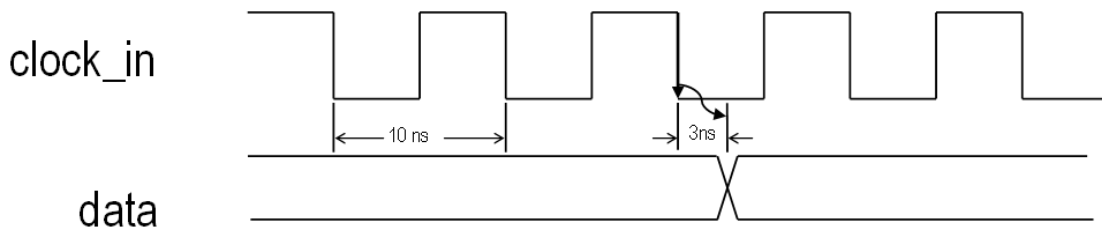
Location	Delay type	Delay(ns)	Physical Resource	Logical Resource(s)
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OLOGIC_X2Y187.OQ	Tockq	0.406	OutD_7
			OutD_7
D4.O	net (fanout=1)	0.002	OutD_7
D4.PAD	Tioop	2.997	OutD<7>
			OutD_7_OBUF
			OutD<7>

Total		3.405ns (3.403ns logic, 0.002ns route)	(99.9% logic, 0.1% route)

Two-Phase Example

A two-phase (use of both edges) example of the OFFSET OUT constraint has the initial clock edge that correlates to the two edges of the clock. The first clock edge is at 0 ns based upon the PERIOD constraint and the second clock edge is at half the PERIOD constraint. The timing report displays the clock arrival time for each edge of the clock. In this example, the PERIOD constraint has the clock arrival on the falling edge, based upon the LOW keyword. Consequently, the clock arrival time for the falling edge synchronous elements will be zero and the rising edge synchronous elements will be at half the PERIOD constraint. The resulting timing report displays the data path, the clock path, and the clock arrival time (shown in bold). An example timing report is shown below. In [Figure 14](#), the OFFSET requirement is 3 ns.



TIMESPEC TS_clock = PERIOD clock 10 ns **LOW 50 %**;
 OFFSET = OUT 3 ns AFTER clock;

Figure 14: Timing Diagram of Two-Phase in OFFSET OUT Constraint

Timing Report Example

```
Slack: -0.865ns (requirement - (clock arrival + clock path + data path + uncertainty))
Source: OutD_7 (FF)
Destination: OutD<7> (PAD)
Source Clock: clock3_std_bufg falling at 0.000ns
Requirement: .3.000ns
Data Path Delay: 3.405ns (Levels of Logic = 1)
Clock Path Delay: 0.280ns (Levels of Logic = 3)
Clock Uncertainty: 0.180ns

Clock Path: clock3 to OutD_7
```

Location	Delay type	Delay(ns)	Physical Resource Logical Resource(s)

D20.I	Tiopi	0.775	clock3 clock3 MY_Std_dcm/CLKIN_IBUFG_INST
DCM_ADV_X0Y6.CLKIN	net (fanout=1)	1.035	MY_Std_dcm/CLKIN_IBUFG_OUT
DCM_ADV_X0Y6.CLK0	Tdmcko_CLK	-6.420	MY_Std_dcm/DCM_ADV_INST MY_Std_dcm/DCM_ADV_INST
BUFGCTRL_X0Y26.I0	net (fanout=1)	1.718	MY_Std_dcm/CLK0_BUF
BUFGCTRL_X0Y26.O	Tbgcko_O	0.700	MY_Std_dcm/CLK0_BUFG_INST MY_Std_dcm/CLK0_BUFG_INST
OLOGIC_X2Y187.CLK	net (fanout=9)	2.472	clock3_std_bufg

Total		0.280ns	(-4.945ns logic, 5.225ns route)

Data Path: OutD_7 to OutD<7>

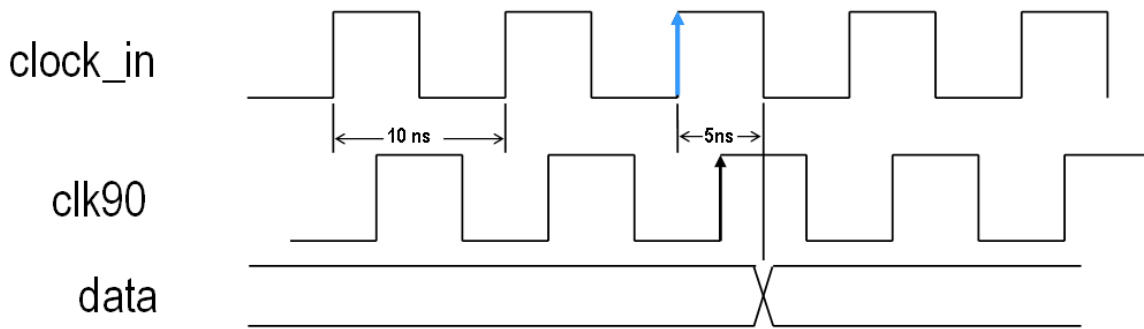
Location	Delay type	Delay(ns)	Physical Resource Logical Resource(s)

OLOGIC_X2Y187.OQ	Tockq	0.406	OutD_7 OutD_7
D4.O	net (fanout=1)	0.002	OutD_7
D4.PAD	Tioop	2.997	OutD<7> OutD_7_OBUF OutD<7>

Total		3.405ns	(3.403ns logic, 0.002ns route) (99.9% logic, 0.1% route)

Phase-Shifted Example

A DCM phase-shifted, CLK90, example of the OFFSET OUT constraint has the initial clock edge at 0 ns based upon the PERIOD constraint. Since the clock is phase-shifted by the DCM, the timing report displays the clock arrival time as the phase-shifted amount. If the CLK90 output is used, then the phase-shifted amount will be a quarter of the PERIOD. The clock arrival time corresponds to the phase shifting amount, which is 2.5 ns in this case. The resulting timing report displays the data path, the clock path, and the clock arrival time (shown in bold). An example timing report is shown below. In [Figure 15](#), the OFFSET requirement is 5 ns.



TIMESPEC TS_clock = PERIOD clock_grp 10 ns HIGH 50 %;
 OFFSET = OUT 5 ns AFTER clock;

Figure 15: Timing Diagram of Phase-shifted Clock in OFFSET OUT Constraint

Timing Report Example

```
Slack: -1.365ns (requirement -(clock arrival + clock path + data path + uncertainty))
Source: OutD_7 (FF)
Destination: OutD<7> (PAD)
Source Clock: clock3_std_bufg rising at 2.500ns
Requirement: 5.000ns
Data Path Delay: 3.405ns (Levels of Logic = 1)
Clock Path Delay: 0.280ns (Levels of Logic = 3)
Clock Uncertainty: 0.180ns
```

Clock Path: clock3 to OutD_7

Location	Delay type	Delay(ns)	Physical Resource	Logical Resource(s)
D20.I	Tiopi	0.775	clock3	clock3
DCM_ADV_X0Y6.CLKIN	net (fanout=1)	1.035	MY_Std_dcm/CLKIN_IBUFG_OUT	MY_Std_dcm/CLKIN_IBUFG_INST
DCM_ADV_X0Y6.CLK0	Tdmcko_CLK	-6.420	MY_Std_dcm/DCM_ADV_INST	MY_Std_dcm/DCM_ADV_INST
BUFGCTRL_X0Y26.I0	net (fanout=1)	1.718	MY_Std_dcm/CLK0_BUF	MY_Std_dcm/CLK0_BUF
BUFGCTRL_X0Y26.O	Tbgcko_O	0.700	MY_Std_dcm/CLK0_BUF_INST	MY_Std_dcm/CLK0_BUF_INST
OLOGIC_X2Y187.CLK	net (fanout=9)	2.472	clock3_std_bufg	clock3_std_bufg
Total		0.280ns	(-4.945ns logic, 5.225ns route)	

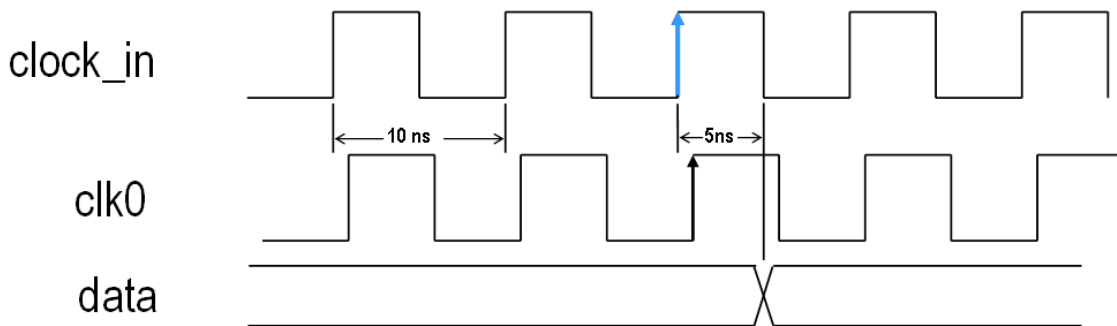
Data Path: OutD_7 to OutD<7>

Location	Delay type	Delay(ns)	Physical Resource
----------	------------	-----------	-------------------

			Logical Resource(s)
-----			-----
OLOGIC_X2Y187.OQ	Tockq	0.406	OutD_7
			OutD_7
D4.O	net (fanout=1)	0.002	OutD_7
D4.PAD	Tioop	2.997	OutD<7>
			OutD_7_OBUF
			OutD<7>
-----			-----
Total		3.405ns	(3.403ns logic, 0.002ns route)
			(99.9% logic, 0.1% route)

Fixed Phase-Shifted Example

A DCM fixed phase-shifted example of the OFFSET OUT constraint has the initial clock edge at 0 ns, based upon the PERIOD constraint. Since the clock is phase-shifted by the DCM, the timing report displays the clock arrival time as the phase-shifted amount. If the CLK0 output is phase-shifted by a user-specified amount, then the phase-shifted amount will be a percentage of the PERIOD. In this example, the PERIOD constraint has the initial clock arrival on the rising edge, but the clock arrival value is at the fixed phase-shifted amount (as seen in the example timing report). The clock arrival time corresponds to the phase-shifting amount. The resulting timing report displays the data path, the clock path, and the clock arrival time (shown in bold). An example timing report is shown below. In [Figure 16](#), the OFFSET requirement is 5 ns.



```
TIMESPEC TS_clock = PERIOD clock_grp 10 ns HIGH 50 %;
OFFSET = OUT 5 ns AFTER clock;
```

Figure 16: Timing Diagram of Fixed Phase-shifted Clock in OFFSET OUT Constraint

Timing Report Example

```
Slack: 0.535ns (requirement - (clock arrival + clock path + data path + uncertainty))
Source: OutD_7 (FF)
Destination: OutD<7> (PAD)
Source Clock: clock3_std_bufg rising at 0.600ns
Requirement: 5.000ns
Data Path Delay: 3.405ns (Levels of Logic = 1)
Clock Path Delay: 0.280ns (Levels of Logic = 3)
```

Clock Uncertainty: 0.180ns

Clock Path: clock3 to OutD_7

Location	Delay type	Delay(ns)	Physical Resource Logical Resource(s)

D20.I	Tiopi	0.775	clock3 clock3 MY_Std_dcm/CLKIN_IBUFG_INST
DCM_ADV_X0Y6.CLKIN	net (fanout=1)	1.035	MY_Std_dcm/CLKIN_IBUFG_OUT
DCM_ADV_X0Y6.CLK0	Tdmcko_CLK	-6.420	MY_Std_dcm/DCM_ADV_INST MY_Std_dcm/DCM_ADV_INST
BUFGCTRL_X0Y26.I0	net (fanout=1)	1.718	MY_Std_dcm/CLK0_BUF
BUFGCTRL_X0Y26.O	Tbgcko_O	0.700	MY_Std_dcm/CLK0_BUFG_INST MY_Std_dcm/CLK0_BUFG_INST
OLOGIC_X2Y187.CLK	net (fanout=9)	2.472	clock3_std_bufg

Total		0.280ns	(-4.945ns logic, 5.225ns route)

Data Path: OutD_7 to OutD<7>

Location	Delay type	Delay(ns)	Physical Resource Logical Resource(s)

OLOGIC_X2Y187.OQ	Tockq	0.406	OutD_7 OutD_7
D4.O	net (fanout=1)	0.002	OutD_7
D4.PAD	Tioop	2.997	OutD<7> OutD_7_OBUF OutD<7>

Total		3.405ns	(3.403ns logic, 0.002ns route) (99.9% logic, 0.1% route)

Dual-Data Rate Example

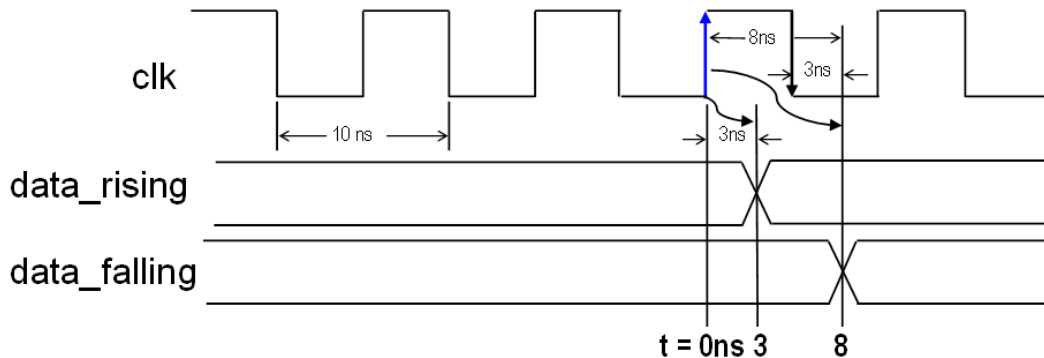
A dual-data rate example of the OFFSET OUT constraint has the initial clock edge at 0 ns and half the PERIOD constraint, which correlates to the two edges of the clock. The timing report will display the clock arrival time for each edge of the clock. Since the data is being clocked in on both edges of the clock, the clock arrival time for the falling edge needs to be managed. The timing analysis tools do not automatically adjust any of the clock phases during analysis, so the constraints must be manually adjusted. The timing analysis tools offer two options to manage the falling edge clock arrival time. The resulting timing report displays the data path, the clock path, and the clock arrival time (shown in bold). An example timing report is shown below.

The first option is to create two time groups, one for rising edge synchronous elements and the second for the falling edge synchronous elements. Then create an OFFSET OUT constraint for each time group, the second OFFSET OUT constraint will have a different requirement. The falling edge OFFSET OUT constraint requirement should

be the “original requirement” plus half the PERIOD constraint. So, if you have the original requirement as 3 ns with a PERIOD of 10, the falling edge OFFSET OUT constraint requirement is 8 ns. This will compensate for the clock arrival time associated with the falling edge synchronous elements.

The second option is to create one time group and one corresponding OFFSET OUT constraint with the original constraint requirement. The only addition is the LOW keyword (if the PERIOD constraint has the HIGH keyword). If the PERIOD constraint has the LOW keyword, then the OFFSET constraint has the LOW keyword. This option can only be used if the duty cycle on the clock is 50/50.

During the timing analysis, the difference between the rising and falling edges of the clock is subtracted from the falling-edge-data-path analysis, and that difference is added to the original requirement. In Figure 17, the OFFSET requirement is 3 ns.



```
TIMESPEC TS_clock = PERIOD clock_grp 10 ns HIGH 50 %;
OFFSET = OUT 3 ns AFTER clock;
OFFSET = OUT 8 ns AFTER clock TIMEGRP falling_ffs_grp ;
```

Figure 17: Timing Diagram of Dual Data Rate in OFFSET OUT Constraint

Timing Report Example of OFFSET = OUT 3 ns AFTER Clock

```
Slack: -0.783ns (requirement -(clock arrival + clock path + data path + uncertainty))
Source: OutA_4 (FF)
Destination: OutA<4> (PAD)
Source Clock: clock0_ddr_bufg rising at 0.000ns
Requirement: 3.000ns
Data Path Delay: 3.372ns (Levels of Logic = 1)
Clock Path Delay: 0.172ns (Levels of Logic = 3)
Clock Uncertainty: 0.239ns
```

Clock Path: clock0 to OutA_4

Location	Delay type	Delay (ns)	Physical Resource	Logical Resource(s)
E19.I	Tiopi	0.768	clock0	clock0 MY_ddr_dcm/CLKIN_IBUFG_INST

DCM_ADV_X0Y4.CLKIN	net (fanout=1)	0.982	MY_dds_dcm/CLKIN_IBUFG_OUT
DCM_ADV_X0Y4.CLKFX	Tdmcko_CLKFX	-6.260	MY_dds_dcm/DCM_ADV_INST MY_dds_dcm/DCM_ADV_INST
BUFGCTRL_X0Y19.I0	net (fanout=1)	1.487	MY_dds_dcm/CLKFX_BUF
BUFGCTRL_X0Y19.O	Tbgcko_O	0.700	MY_dds_dcm/CLKFX_BUFG_INST MY_dds_dcm/CLKFX_BUFG_INST
OLOGIC_X2Y83.CLK	net (fanout=26)	2.495	clock0_dds_bufg

Total		0.172ns	(-4.792ns logic, 4.964ns route)

Data Path: OutA_4 to OutA<4>

Location	Delay type	Delay(ns)	Physical Resource Logical Resource(s)

OLOGIC_X2Y83.OQ	Tockq	0.406	OutA_4 OutA_4
AG6.O	net (fanout=1)	0.002	OutA_4
AG6.PAD	Tioop	2.964	OutA<4> OutA_4_OBUF OutA<4>

Total		3.372ns	(3.370ns logic, 0.002ns route) (99.9% logic, 0.1% route)

Timing Report Example of OFFSET = OUT 8 ns AFTER Clock

Slack: -0.783ns (requirement -(clock arrival + clock path + data path + uncertainty))
 Source: OutA_4 (FF)
 Destination: OutA<4> (PAD)
 Source Clock: clock0_dds_bufg **falling at 5.000ns**
 Requirement: 8.000ns
 Data Path Delay: 3.372ns (Levels of Logic = 1)
 Clock Path Delay: 0.172ns (Levels of Logic = 3)
 Clock Uncertainty: 0.239ns

Clock Path: clock0 to OutA_4

Location	Delay type	Delay(ns)	Physical Resource Logical Resource(s)

E19.I	Tiopi	0.768	clock0 clock0 MY_dds_dcm/CLKIN_IBUFG_INST
DCM_ADV_X0Y4.CLKIN	net (fanout=1)	0.982	MY_dds_dcm/CLKIN_IBUFG_OUT
DCM_ADV_X0Y4.CLKFX	Tdmcko_CLKFX	-6.260	MY_dds_dcm/DCM_ADV_INST MY_dds_dcm/DCM_ADV_INST
BUFGCTRL_X0Y19.I0	net (fanout=1)	1.487	MY_dds_dcm/CLKFX_BUF
BUFGCTRL_X0Y19.O	Tbgcko_O	0.700	MY_dds_dcm/CLKFX_BUFG_INST

Location	Delay type	Delay(ns)	Physical Resource	Logical Resource(s)
OLOGIC_X2Y83.CLK	net (fanout=26)	2.495	MY_dds_dcm/CLKFX_BUFQ_INST clock0_dds_bufg	

Total		0.172ns	(-4.792ns logic, 4.964ns route)	
Data Path: OutA_4 to OutA<4>				
OLOGIC_X2Y83.OQ	Tockq	0.406	OutA_4	OutA_4
AG6.O	net (fanout=1)	0.002	OutA_4	
AG6.PAD	Tioop	2.964	OutA<4>	OutA_4_OBUF OutA<4>

Total		3.372ns	(3.370ns logic, 0.002ns route) (99.9% logic, 0.1% route)	

OFFSET OUT BEFORE

The OFFSET OUT BEFORE constraint defines the time used by the data external to the FPGA. OFFSET subtracts this time from the clock PERIOD to determine the time available for the data to propagate from the synchronous element to the pad. You can visualize this time as the data leaving the edge of the device before the next clock edge arrives at the edge of the device. This “OFFSET = OUT 2 ns BEFORE clock_pad” constraint reads that the data to be registered in the downstream device is available on the FPGA’s output pad, some time period, BEFORE the clock pulse is recognized by the downstream device. To adhere to the OFFSET constraint syntax, assume no skew on CLK between the devices (see [Figure 3](#)). The following equation defines this relationship:

$$TQ + T_{Clock2Out} + T_{Clock} \leq T_{Period} - T_{offset_OUT_BEFORE}$$

The analysis of the OFFSET OUT constraint involves ensuring that the maximum delay along the reference path (CLK_SYS to COMP) and the maximum delay along the data path (COMP to Q_OUT) do not exceed the clock period minus the specified offset.

A PERIOD or FREQUENCY is required for OFFSET OUT constraints with the BEFORE keyword.

OFFSET Constraint Syntax

This syntax is simple and easy to understand. For more information, refer to the [Constraints Guide](#) in the OFFSET constraints section.

Revision History

The following table shows the revision history for this document.

Date	Version	Revision
02/27/2006	1.0	Initial Xilinx release.