

# ARM L210 MBIST Controller

Revision: r0p1

## Technical Reference Manual

**ARM**<sup>®</sup>

# ARM L210 MBIST Controller

## Technical Reference Manual

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### Release Information

The table below shows the release state and change history of this document.

Change history		
Date	Issue	Change
27 June, 2003	A	First release
13 April, 2004	B	rOp1 release
26 July, 2004	C	Bang pattern erratum.

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### Product Status

The information in this document is final, that is for a developed product.

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# Preface

This preface introduces the *ARM L210 MBIST Controller Technical Reference Manual*. It contains the following sections:

- *About this manual* on page x
- *Feedback* on page xiii.

## About this manual

This manual describes the ARM L210 *Memory Built-In Self Test* (MBIST) Controller.

## Product revision status

The *rpn* identifier indicates the revision status of the product described in this manual, where:

**rn** Identifies the major revision of the product.

**pn** Identifies the minor revision or modification status of the product.

## Intended audience

This manual is written for hardware engineers who are using the ARM L210 MBIST Controller to test the ARM L210 cache.

## Using this manual

This manual is organized into the following chapters:

### Chapter 1 *Introduction*

Read this chapter to learn about MBIST technology and the ARM L210 interface to the ARM L210 MBIST Controller.

### Chapter 2 *Functional Description*

Read this chapter to learn the timing sequences for loading MBIST instructions, starting the MBIST test, detecting failures, and retrieving the data log.

### Chapter 3 *MBIST Instruction Register*

Read this chapter to learn how to use the MBIST Instruction Register to configure the mode of operation of the MBIST engine.

### Appendix A *Signal Descriptions*

Read this appendix to learn the names and functions of the ARM L210 MBIST Controller signals.

## Conventions

This manual uses the conventions described in:

- *Typographical* on page xi
- *Timing diagrams* on page xi

- *Signals* on page xii.

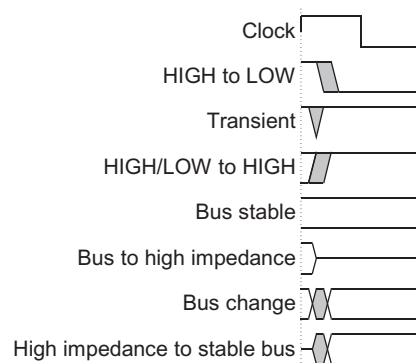
## Typographical

The typographical conventions are:

<i>italic</i>	Highlights important notes, introduces special terminology, denotes internal cross-references and citations.
<b>bold</b>	Highlights interface elements, such as menu names. Denotes ARM processor signal names. Also used for terms in descriptive lists, where appropriate.
monospace	Denotes text that can be entered at the keyboard, such as commands, file and program names, and source code.
<u>monospace</u>	Denotes a permitted abbreviation for a command or option. The underlined text can be entered instead of the full command or option name.
<b>monospace bold</b>	Denotes language keywords when used outside example code.

## Timing diagrams

The figure named *Key to timing diagram conventions* explains the components used in timing diagrams. Variations, when they occur, have clear labels. You must not assume any timing information that is not explicit in the diagrams.



### Key to timing diagram conventions

Shading indicates times during which the signal level is undefined. When a signal is shaded, the level of the signal is unimportant and does not affect normal operation.

## Signals

The signal conventions are:

<b>Signal level</b>	Asserted means HIGH for active-HIGH signals and LOW for active-LOW signals.
<b>Suffix N</b>	Denotes active-LOW in the <b>MBISTRESETN</b> signal.
<b>Prefix n</b>	Denotes active-LOW in the <b>nRESET</b> signal.

## Further reading

This section lists other relevant publications by ARM Limited.

ARM Limited periodically provides updates and corrections to its documentation. See <http://www.arm.com> for current errata sheets, addenda, and the ARM Frequently Asked Questions list.

## ARM publications

This manual contains information that is specific to the ARM L210 module. See the following documents for other relevant information:

- *ARM L210 Technical Reference Manual* (ARM DDI 0284)
- *ARM L210 Implementation Guide* (ARM DII 0069).

## Feedback

ARM Limited welcomes feedback on the ARM L210 MBIST Controller and its documentation.

### Feedback on the ARM L210 MBIST Controller

If you have any comments or suggestions about this product, contact your supplier giving:

- the product name
- a concise explanation of your comments.

### Feedback on this manual

If you have any comments on this manual, send email to [errata@arm.com](mailto:errata@arm.com) giving:

- the title
- the number
- the page number(s) to which your comments apply
- a concise explanation of your comments.

ARM Limited also welcomes general suggestions for additions and improvements.



# Chapter 1

## Introduction

This chapter describes the ARM L210 MBIST Controller. It contains the following sections:

- *About the ARM L210 MBIST Controller* on page 1-2
- *ARM L210 MBIST Controller interface* on page 1-3
- *Silicon revision information* on page 1-7.

## 1.1 About the ARM L210 MBIST Controller

MBIST is the industry-standard method of testing embedded memories. MBIST works by performing sequences of reads and writes to the memory according to a test algorithm. Many industry-standard test algorithms exist.

An MBIST controller generates the correct sequence of reads and writes. The ARM L210 MBIST Controller is for use with the ARM L210 to perform memory testing of the level-2 cache RAM.

———— **Note** —————

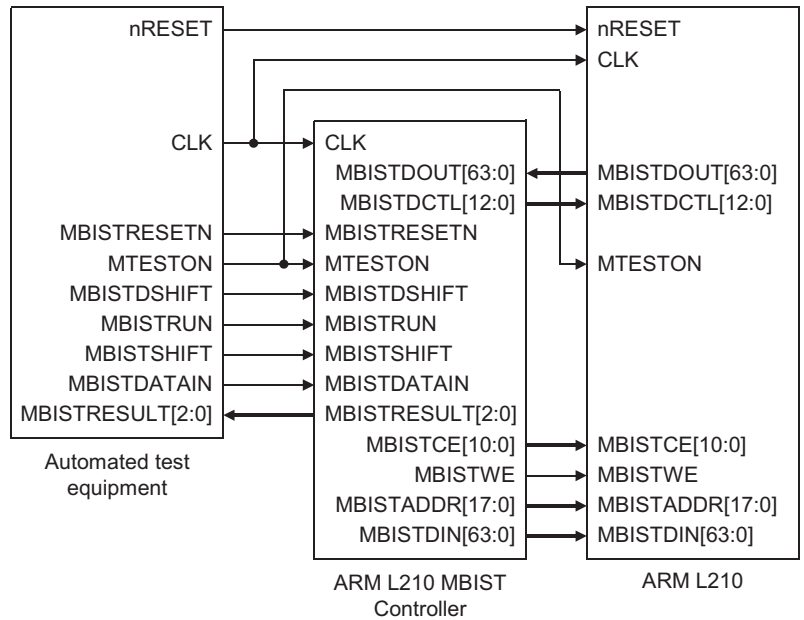
This implementation of the ARM L210 MBIST Controller supports only 8-way cache designs.

—————



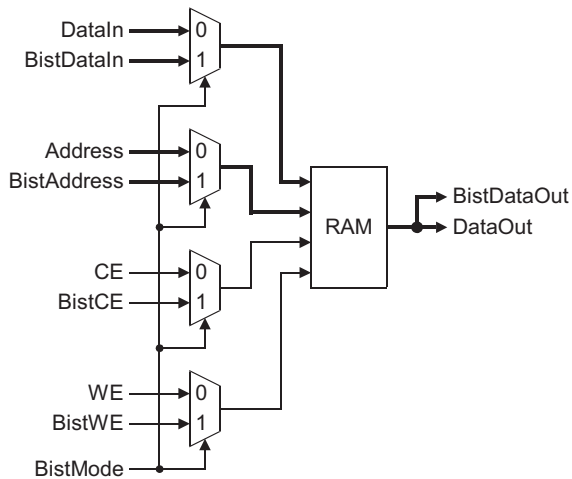
## 1.2 ARM L210 MBIST Controller interface

Figure 1-1 shows the ARM L210 MBIST Controller interface to the *Automated Test Equipment (ATE)* and to the MBIST interface of the ARM L210.



**Figure 1-1 ARM L210 MBIST Controller wiring diagram**

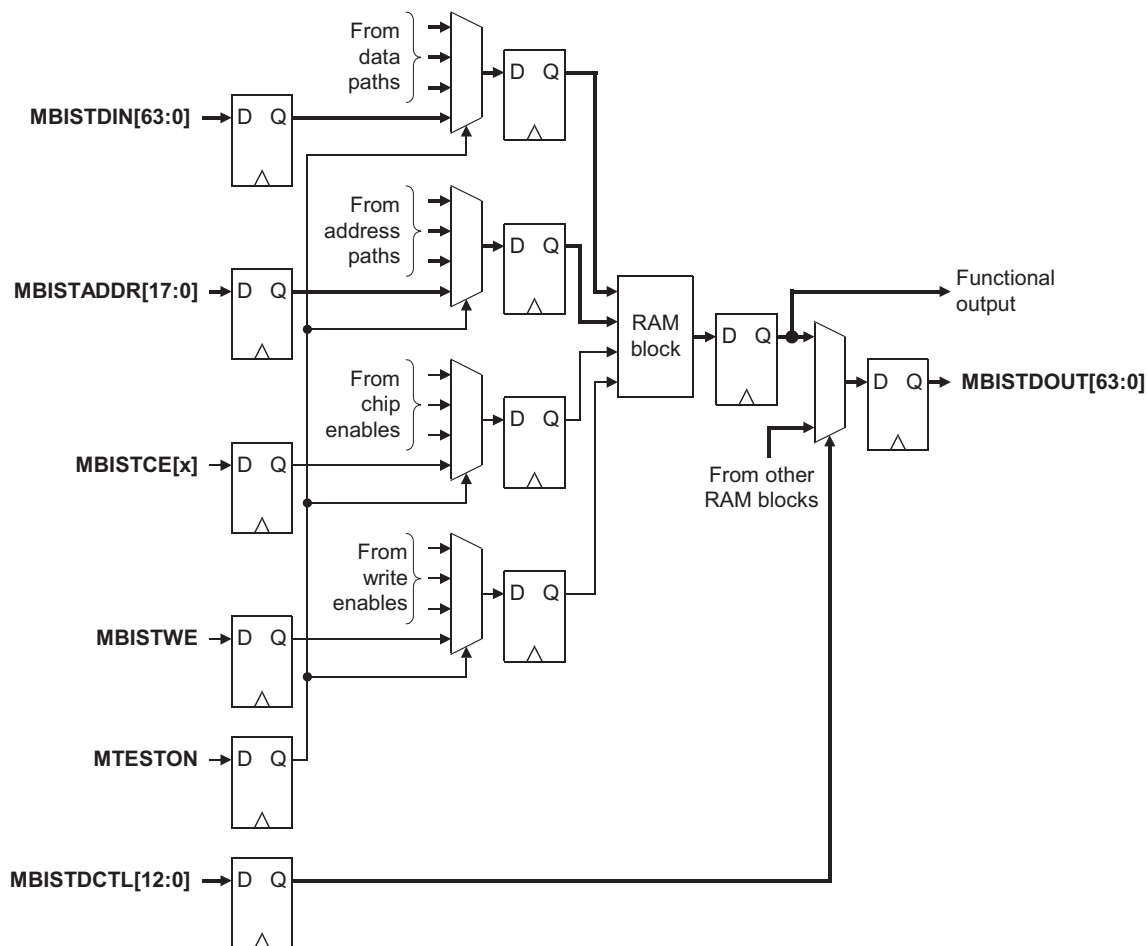
Figure 1-2 on page 1-4 shows the traditional method of accessing a cache RAM for MBIST.



**Figure 1-2 Traditional method of interfacing MBIST**

Because this method significantly reduces the maximum operating frequency, it is not suitable for high-performance designs. Instead, the ARM L210 MBIST Controller uses an additional input to the existing functional multiplexers without reducing maximum operating frequency.

Figure 1-3 on page 1-5 shows the five pipeline stages used to access the cache RAM arrays.



**Figure 1-3 MBIST interface of the ARM L210**

The ARM L210 MBIST Controller accesses memory through the MBIST interface of the ARM L210. Table 1-1 lists the ARM L210 MBIST interface signals.

**Table 1-1 Signals of the ARM L210 MBIST interface**

Name	I/O	Description
nRESET	Input	Global active LOW reset signal.
CLK	Input	Active HIGH clock signal. This clock drives the ARM L210 logic.
MBISTDOUT[63:0]	Output	Data out bus from all cache RAM blocks.

Table 1-1 Signals of the ARM L210 MBIST interface (continued)

Name	I/O	Description
<b>MBISTDCTL[12:0]</b>	Input	Delayed versions of the <b>MBISTCE[10:0]</b> signal and the doubleword select signal, <b>MBISTADDR[1:0]</b> . Selects the correct read data after it passes through the MBIST pipeline stages. <b>MBISTDCTL[12:0]</b> = delayed { <b>MBISTCE[10:0]</b> , <b>MBISTADDR[1:0]</b> }.
<b>MTESTON</b>	Input	Select signal for cache RAM array. This signal is the select input to the multiplexers that access the cache RAM arrays for test. When asserted, <b>MTESTON</b> takes priority over all other select inputs to the multiplexers.
<b>MBISTCE[10:0]</b>	Input	One-hot chip enable signals to select cache RAM arrays for test.
<b>MBISTWE</b>	Input	Global write enable signal for all RAM arrays.
<b>MBISTADDR[17:0]</b>	Input	Address signal for cache RAM array. <b>MBISTADDR[1:0]</b> is the doubleword select value. See <i>Y addr and xaddr fields, MBIR[23:20] and MBIR[27:24]</i> on page 3-5 for a description of the doubleword select. Not all RAM arrays use the full address width.
<b>MBISTDIN[63:0]</b>	Input	Data bus to the cache RAM arrays. Not all RAM arrays use the full data width.

———— **Note** ————

The interface of the ARM L210 MBIST Controller communicates with both the ATE and the MBIST interface of the ARM L210. See Appendix A *Signal Descriptions* for descriptions of the interface signals of the ARM L210 MBIST Controller. See the *ARM L210 Technical Reference Manual* for more details on the MBIST interface of the ARM L210.

## 1.3 Silicon revision information

This manual is for revision r0p1 of the L210 MBIST Controller. See *Product revision status* on page x for details of revision numbering.

The r0p1 L2 MBIST Controller is updated to correct errata in the r0p0 L2 MBIST Controller. There are no other functional differences between the r0p0 and r0p1 L2 MBIST Controllers.



# Chapter 2

## Functional Description

This chapter provides timing sequences for loading instructions, starting the MBIST engine, detecting failures, and retrieving the data log. It contains the following sections:

- *Timing* on page 2-2
- *Bitmap mode* on page 2-6.

## 2.1 Timing

A 46-bit instruction, loaded serially at the start of each test, controls the operation of the ARM L210 MBIST Controller. Chapter 3 *MBIST Instruction Register* describes how to write the instruction.

The timing diagrams in this section show the clock running at two different speeds:

- the slower clock relates to the clock driven by your ATE
- the faster clock relates to the clock driven by an on-chip PLL.

If you do not have an on-chip PLL, both clocks relate to the clock driven by your ATE.

Timing diagrams in the following sections show the procedures for operating the ARM L210 MBIST Controller:

- *Instruction load*
- *Starting MBIST*
- *Failure detection* on page 2-3
- *Data log retrieval* on page 2-3.

### 2.1.1 Instruction load

To load an MBIST instruction, drive **MBISTSHIFT** HIGH. At the next rising clock edge, the 46-bit shift sequence begins as Figure 2-1 shows. To enable data input from the ATE, the PLL is in bypass mode, and the clock is not running at test frequency.

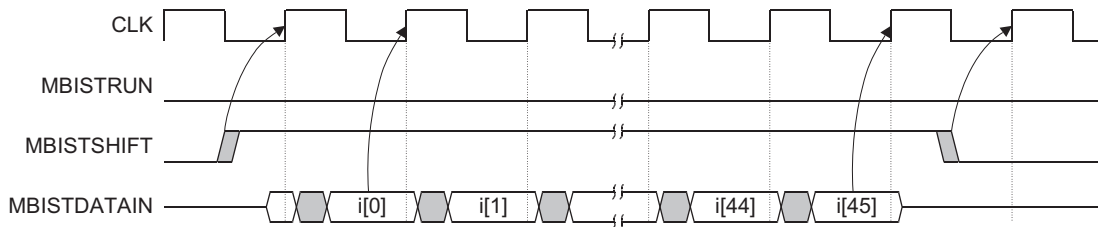


Figure 2-1 Loading the ARM L210 MBIST Controller instruction

### 2.1.2 Starting MBIST

After loading the MBIST instruction, drive **MBISTSHIFT** LOW and disable **CLK**. With **CLK** disabled, drive **MBISTRUN** HIGH and, after an **MBISTRUN** setup time, start the PLL at the test frequency as Figure 2-2 on page 2-3 shows.



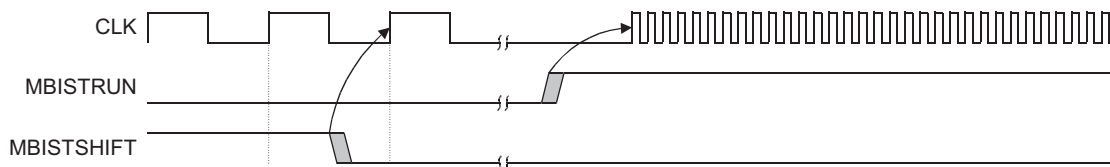


Figure 2-2 Starting the MBIST test

### 2.1.3 Failure detection

The **MBISTRESULT[1]** flag goes HIGH two **CLK** cycles after the controller detects a failure, as Figure 2-3 shows. It stays HIGH if sticky fail is enabled. If stop on fail is enabled, the **MBISTRESULT[2]** flag goes HIGH two cycles later.

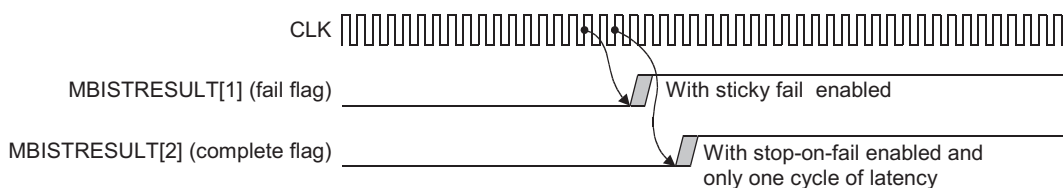


Figure 2-3 Detecting an MBIST failure

#### Note

To ensure that a failure at test speed can be observed by the ATE, specify a sticky fail in the MBIST instruction. See *Control field, MBIR[39:34]* on page 3-11.

### 2.1.4 Data log retrieval

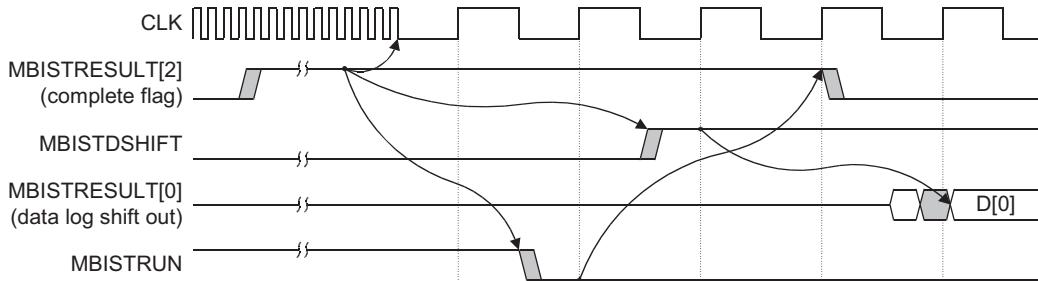
During a test, the ARM L210 MBIST Controller automatically logs the first detected failure. If required, you can retrieve the data log at the end of the test to generate failure statistics. Figure 2-4 on page 2-4 and Figure 2-5 on page 2-4 show the method of retrieving a data log.

#### Note

**MBISTRESULT[0]** is the serial data output for instructions and the data log.

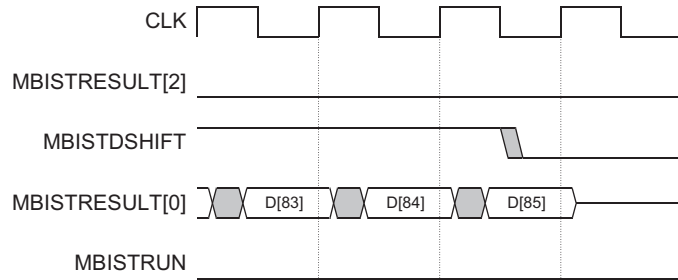
After the **MBISTRESULT[2]** flag goes HIGH, stop the test by putting the PLL in bypass mode and driving **MBISTRUN** LOW as Figure 2-4 on page 2-4 shows. To begin shifting out the data log on **MBISTRESULT[0]**, drive **MBISTDSHIFT** HIGH. The

**MBISTRESULT[2]** flag goes LOW two cycles after **MBISTRUN** goes LOW. Data begins shifting out on **MBISTRESULT[0]** two cycles after **MBISTDSHIFT** goes HIGH.



**Figure 2-4 Start of data log retrieval**

When the last data log bit shifts out, drive **MBISTDSHIFT** LOW as Figure 2-5 shows.



**Figure 2-5 End of data log retrieval**

Table 2-1 shows the format of the data log.

**Table 2-1 Data log format**

Bits	Description
[85:68]	Address of the failing location.
[67:4]	Failing data bits. These bits are set for faulty bits and cleared for passing bits.
[3:0]	The data seed used in the test. See <i>Data seed field, MBIR[19:16]</i> on page 3-5.

The address contained in the data log refers to the full address of the failing location as it appears on the **MBISTADDR[17:0]** port of the MBIST interface of the ARM L210. It always includes the doubleword select value in the least significant two bits (see *Y*

*addr* and *xaddr* fields, *MBIR*[23:20] and *MBIR*[27:24] on page 3-5 for more information on the doubleword select value). Contact ARM if you require more information.

## 2.2 Bitmap mode

In bitmap mode, you can identify all failing locations in a RAM. Each time a failure occurs, the controller stops executing the current test and waits for you to begin shifting out the data log as Figure 2-6 shows.

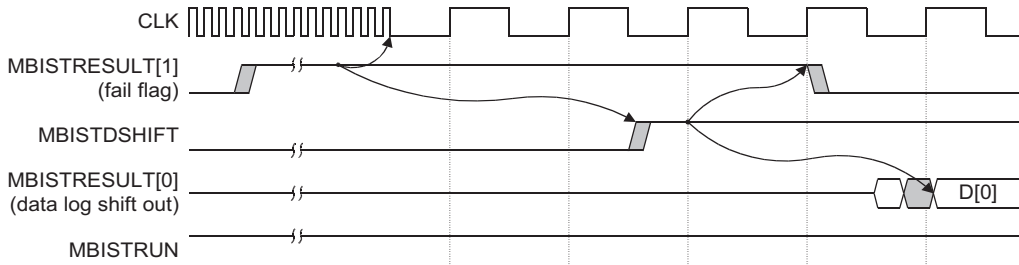


Figure 2-6 Start of bitmap data log retrieval

After you finish shifting and drive **MBISTDSHIFT** LOW, the controller then resumes testing where it stopped as Figure 2-7 shows. This process continues until the test algorithm completes. A fault can cause a failure to occur several times during a given test algorithm. The fault might be logged multiple times depending on the number of reads performed by the algorithm and the exact nature of the fault.

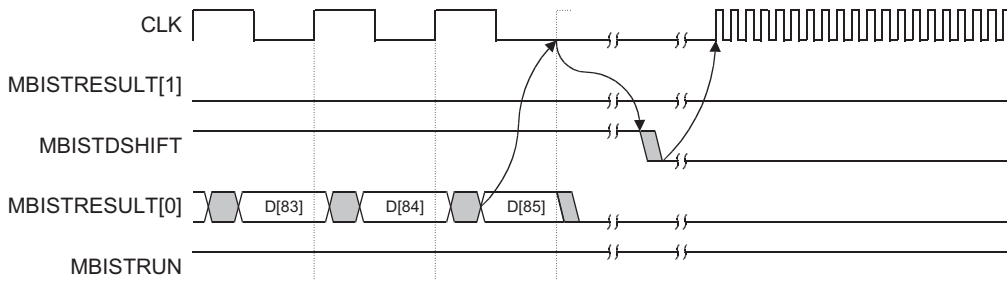


Figure 2-7 End of bitmap data log retrieval

Loading a new instruction resets bitmap mode.

# Chapter 3

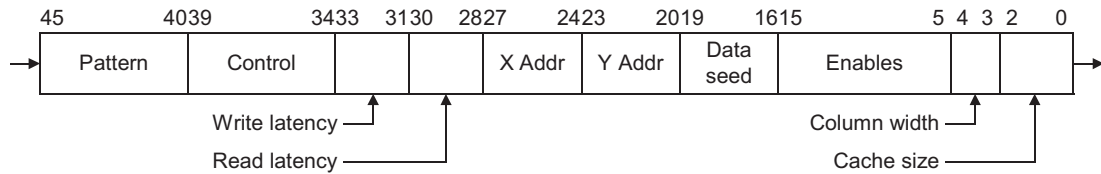
## MBIST Instruction Register

This chapter describes how to use the *MBIST Instruction Register* (MBIR) to configure the mode of operation of the MBIST engine. It contains the following sections:

- *About the MBIST Instruction Register* on page 3-2
- *Field descriptions* on page 3-3.

### 3.1 About the MBIST Instruction Register

Figure 3-1 shows the bit fields of the MBIR.



**Figure 3-1 Memory BIST Instruction Register**

The MBIR fields set up the behavior of the MBIST engine:

<b>Cache size</b>	Specifies a cache size of 128KB, 256KB, 512KB, 1MB, or 2MB.
<b>Column width</b>	Specifies 4, 8, 16, or 32 columns per block of RAM.
<b>Enables</b>	Specifies the RAM under test.
<b>Data seed</b>	Specifies the four-bit data background.
<b>Y addr</b>	Specifies the number of bits in the y-address counter.
<b>X addr</b>	Specifies the number of bits in the x-address counter.
<b>Read latency</b>	Specifies the number of cycles to allow for a RAM read.
<b>Write latency</b>	Specifies the number of cycles to allow for a RAM write.
<b>Control</b>	Specifies MBIST mode of operation and sticky or nonsticky fail flag.
<b>Pattern</b>	Specifies the test algorithm.

*Field descriptions* on page 3-3 describes the MBIR fields in more detail.

## 3.2 Field descriptions

The following sections describe the MBIR fields:

- *Cache size field, MBIR[2:0]*
- *Column width field, MBIR[4:3]* on page 3-4
- *Enables field, MBIR[15:5]* on page 3-4
- *Data seed field, MBIR[19:16]* on page 3-5
- *Y addr and xaddr fields, MBIR[23:20] and MBIR[27:24]* on page 3-5
- *Read latency and write latency fields, MBIR[30:28] and MBIR[33:31]* on page 3-9
- *Control field, MBIR[39:34]* on page 3-11
- *Pattern field, MBIR[45:40]* on page 3-11.

### 3.2.1 Cache size field, MBIR[2:0]

The cache size field specifies the size of the cache in your implementation of the ARM L210 module and therefore must always be the same. Table 3-1 shows the supported cache sizes.

**Table 3-1 Cache size field encoding**

Cache size MBIR[2:0]	Cache size
b000	Reserved
b001	128K
b010	256K
b011	512K
b100	1M
b101	2M
b110	Reserved
b111	Reserved

### 3.2.2 Column width field, MBIR[4:3]

The column width field specifies the number of columns in each block of RAM in the array under test. The column address is always encoded in the least significant bits of the RAM address, so the number of columns determines the number of bits used. This information is important for the correct operation of certain MBIST operations, such as bit-line stress testing and writing a true physical checkerboard pattern to the array.

Table 3-2 shows the supported column widths along with the number of LSB address bits used for each and the MBIR encodings required to select them.

**Table 3-2 Column width field encoding**

Column width MBIR[4:3]	Number of columns	Number of address bits
b00	4	2
b01	8	3
b10	16	4
b11	32	5

### 3.2.3 Enables field, MBIR[15:5]

Table 3-3 shows how each bit in the enables field selects the cache RAM array to be tested. You can select only one array at a time. Selecting multiple arrays produces Undefined behavior.

**Table 3-3 Enables field encoding**

Enables MBIR[15:5]	RAM name
b00000000001	Data
b00000000010	Tag 0
b00000000100	Tag 1
b00000001000	Tag 2
b00000010000	Tag 3
b00000100000	Tag 4
b00001000000	Tag 5



**Table 3-3 Enables field encoding (continued)**

<b>Enables MBIR[15:5]</b>	<b>RAM name</b>
b00010000000	Tag 6
b00100000000	Tag 7
b01000000000	Dirty
b10000000000	Data parity

### 3.2.4 Data seed field, MBIR[19:16]

The four-bit data seed field supplies the background data for the test algorithm at instruction load.

———— **Note** —————

In the Go/No-Go algorithm, the Read Write Read March (y-fast) and Bang algorithms do not use the data seed value. See Table 3-11 on page 3-14 for the data used in the Go/No-Go algorithm.

The data seed enables you to select values stored into arrays for I<sub>DDQ</sub> ATPG, or to select data words to search for unexpected sensitivities during march or bit-line stress tests. The MBIST engine replicates the four bits of data 16 times to give the full 64 bits of data required on the MBISTDIN[63:0] port of the ARM L210 MBIST interface.

### 3.2.5 Y addr and xaddr fields, MBIR[23:20] and MBIR[27:24]

The number of address bits you must specify for a RAM can be determined from the MBIR fields:

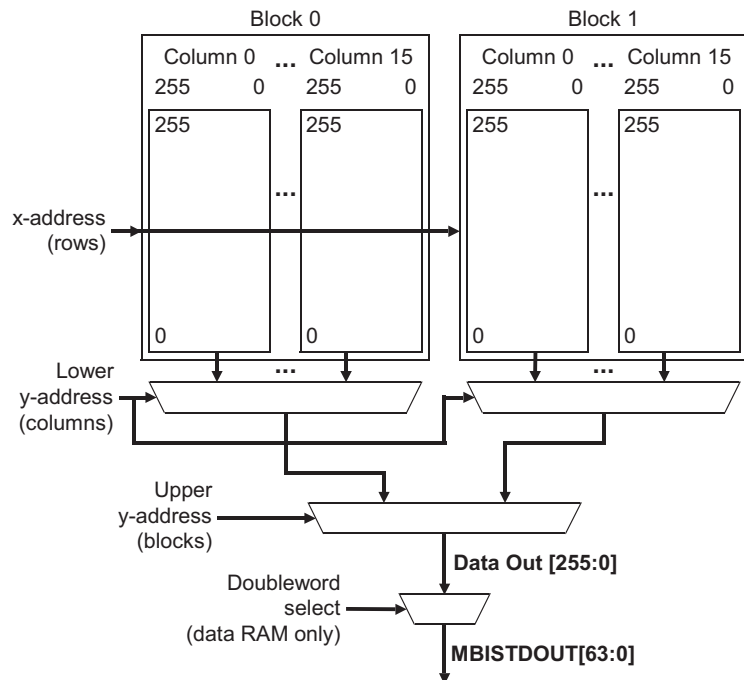
- x addr
- y addr.

This enables you to specify your address range in two dimensions, which represents the topology of the physical implementation of the RAM more accurately. These two dimensions are controlled by two separate address counters, the x-address counter and the y-address counter. One counter can be incremented or decremented only when the other counter has expired. The chosen test algorithm determines which counter moves faster.

Use this procedure to determine how many bits to assign to the x-address and y-address counters:

1. Determine the column width of the RAM array. The y-address must have at least that many bits for the column select. If it is a data RAM, then add two bits to that number for the doubleword select.
2. Determine how many address bits the RAM requires (see *ARM L210 RAMs* on page 3-9). Subtract the current y-address bit number from that number. If the result is eight or fewer bits, then they are all assigned to the x-address for the row select. Otherwise, eight bits are used for the x-address and any unassigned bits are added to the bits already assigned to the y-address and used for the block select.

Figure 3-2 is an example topology for the data RAM in a 256K level-2 cache.



**Figure 3-2 Example data RAM topology**

The cache RAM in Figure 3-2 has a column width of 16, so it uses four bits for the column address. These four bits map to the least significant bits of the y-address counter. Because this is a data RAM, it requires two additional doubleword select bits.

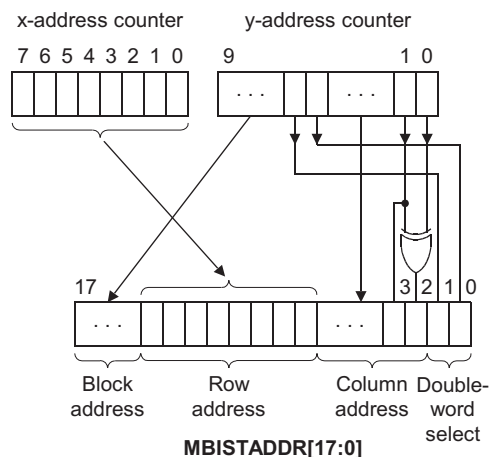
The doubleword select bits choose between the four 64-bit groups of RAM data before sending the data to the 64-bit **MBISTDOUT[63:0]** bus. These two bits always map to the y-address counter bits between the column address and the block address.

Because this cache RAM has 256 rows per column, it uses eight bits for the row address, which uses up all eight bits of the x-address counter. This RAM also contains two blocks of 16 columns each, so it uses one bit for the block address, which maps to the most significant bit of the y-address counter. To correctly test this RAM, the y addr field must have a value of seven (**MBIR[23:20] = b0111**), and the X addr field must have a value of eight (**MBIR[27:24] = b1000**). Values higher or lower than these produce incorrect results.

———— **Note** —————

If the columns have fewer than 256 rows, you must still assign address bits to the row address until all eight bits are used before assigning any to the block address. If the cache RAM has more than 256 rows per column, then the additional bits must be assigned to the block address. This does not have any detrimental effects on the test coverage of the RAM.

Figure 3-3 shows how the ARM L210 MBIST Controller builds the address output. The doubleword select bits are the least significant two bits of the address. These two bits are ignored unless the data RAM is selected. The exclusive OR of the two least significant bits of the y-address counter is the least significant bit of the column address for physical addressing of the columns. This is followed by the row address from the x-address counter and, if required, the block address.



**Figure 3-3 MBIST address scrambling**

**Y addr**

The y addr field specifies the number of y-address counter bits to use during test. Table 3-4 lists the y addr settings.

**Table 3-4 Y addr field encoding**

<b>Y addr MBIR[23:0]</b>	<b>Number of counter bits</b>
<b0010	Unsupported
b0010	2
b0011	3
b0100	4
b0101	5
b0110	6
b0111	7
b1000	8
b1001	9
b1010	10
>b1010	Reserved

**X addr**

The x addr field specifies the number of x-address counter bits to use during test. Table 3-5 lists the x addr settings.

**Table 3-5 X addr field encoding**

<b>X addr MBIR[27:24]</b>	<b>Number of counter bits</b>
<b0010	Unsupported
b0010	2
b0011	3
b0100	4

**Table 3-5 X addr field encoding (continued)**

<b>X addr MBIR[27:24]</b>	<b>Number of counter bits</b>
b0101	5
b0110	6
b0111	7
b1000	8
>b1000	Reserved

### ARM L210 RAMs

Table 3-6 shows the required sums of the x addr and y addr fields for complete testing of each RAM type.

**Table 3-6 Required sums of x addr and y addr fields**

<b>Cache size</b>	<b>Data RAM</b>	<b>Data parity RAM</b>	<b>Tag or dirty RAMs</b>
128K	14	12	9
256K	15	13	10
512K	16	14	11
1M	17	15	12
2M	18	16	13

### 3.2.6 Read latency and write latency fields, MBIR[30:28] and MBIR[33:31]

The read latency and write latency fields of the MBIR are used to specify the read and write latency of the RAM under test. Read and write latencies are the numbers of cycles that the RAM requires to complete read and write operations. For example, in a write to a RAM with a write latency of two cycles, the RAM inputs are valid for a single cycle. The next cycle is a NOP cycle with the chip enable negated. Similarly, in a read from a RAM with a read latency of three cycles, the RAM inputs are valid for a single cycle. After two NOP cycles, the read data is valid on the RAM outputs.

**Note**

Even if the RAM under test uses the same latency for both read and write operations, you must still program both the read latency and write latency fields of the MBIR with the same value.

Table 3-7 shows the latency settings for read operations.

**Table 3-7 Read latency field encoding**

<b>Read latency MBIR[30:28]</b>	<b>Number of cycles per read operation</b>
b000	1
b001	2
b010	3
b011	4
b100	5
b101	6
b110	7
b111	8

Table 3-8 shows the latency settings for write operations.

**Table 3-8 Write latency field encoding**

<b>Write latency MBIR[33:31]</b>	<b>Number of cycles per write operation</b>
b000	1
b001	2
b010	3
b011	4
b100	5

Table 3-8 Write latency field encoding (continued)

Write latency MBIR[33:31]	Number of cycles per write operation
b101	6
b110	7
b111	8

### 3.2.7 Control field, MBIR[39:34]

The control field specifies the MBIST function. Table 3-9 shows how the control field affects the behavior of the ARM L210 MBIST Controller.

Table 3-9 Control field encoding

Control MBIR[39:34]	Behavior	Description
bx00000	Default	Test runs to completion. If MBIR[39] = 0, sticky fail present after first failure.
bx00001	Stop on fail	End of test on failure.
bx00011	Bitmap mode	Enables logging of each failure. See <i>Bitmap mode</i> on page 2-6.

**MBIR[39]** selects a nonsticky or sticky fail flag, **MBISTRESULT[1]**:

- When **MBIR[39]** is set, the fail bit toggles in real time. It goes HIGH for failing comparisons and LOW for passing comparisons.

————— **Note** —————

Setting **MBIR[39]** can cause the fail bit to toggle at the test frequency. It is not recommended when the external pin or the ATE cannot follow the test frequency.

- When **MBIR[39]** is cleared, the fail bit is sticky. It remains HIGH after the first failure until a new MBIST instruction shifts in or until the data log shifts out.

### 3.2.8 Pattern field, MBIR[45:40]

The ARM L210 MBIST controller comes with industry-standard pattern algorithms and a bit-line stress algorithm. You can group algorithms together to create a specific memory test methodology for your product.

Table 3-10 describes the supported algorithms, and *Pattern specification* describes their use. The N values in the table refer to the number of RAM accesses per address location and give an indication of the test time when using that algorithm.

Table 3-10 Pattern field encoding

Pattern MBIR[45:40]	Algorithm name	N	Description
b000000	Write Solids	1N	Write a solid pattern to memory
b000001	Read Solids	1N	Read a solid pattern from memory
b000010	Write Checkerboard	1N	Write a checkerboard pattern to memory
b000011	Read Checkerboard	1N	Read a checkerboard pattern from memory
b000100	March C+ (x-fast)	14N	March C+ algorithm, incrementing x-address first
b001011	March C+ (y-fast)	14N	March C+ algorithm, incrementing y-address first
b000101	Fail Pattern	6N	Tests memory failure detection capability
b000110	Read Write March (x-fast)	6N	Read write march pattern, incrementing x-address first
b000111	Read Write March (y-fast)	6N	Read write march pattern incrementing y-address first
b001000	Read Write Read March (x-fast)	8N	Read write read march pattern, incrementing x-address first
b001001	Read Write Read March (y-fast)	8N	Read write read march pattern, incrementing y-address first
b001010	Bang	18N	Bit-line stress pattern
b111111	Go/No-Go	30N	See Table 3-11 on page 3-14

### Pattern specification

This section describes the MBIST test patterns. An x-fast pattern increments or decrements the x-address counter first. A y-fast pattern increments or decrements the y-address counter first. *Y addr and xaddr fields, MBIR[23:20] and MBIR[27:24]* on page 3-5 describes the x-address and y-address counters.

The first four patterns are useful for data retention or I<sub>DDQ</sub> testing.

**Write Solids** This initializes the RAM with the supplied data seed.

**Read Solids** This reads each RAM location once, expecting the supplied data seed.



**Write Checkerboard**

This initializes the RAM with a physical checkerboard pattern created by alternating the supplied data seed and its inverse.

**Read Checkerboard**

This reads back the physical checkerboard pattern created by alternating the supplied data seed and its inverse.

For the next set of patterns, the following notation is used to describe the algorithm:

- 0 represents the data seed
- 1 represents the inverse data seed
- w represents a write operation
- r represents a read operation
- $\uparrow$  indicates that the address is incremented
- $\downarrow$  indicates that the address is decremented.

**March C+ (x-fast or y-fast)**

This is the industry-standard March C+ algorithm:

$$\uparrow (w0) \uparrow (r0, w1, r1) \uparrow (r1, w0, r0) \downarrow (r0, w1, r1) \downarrow (r1, w0, r0) \uparrow (r0)$$
**Read Write March (x-fast or y-fast)**

$$\uparrow (w0) \uparrow (r0, w1) \downarrow (r1, w0) \uparrow (r0)$$
**Read Write Read March (x-fast or y-fast)**

$$\uparrow (w0) \uparrow (r0, w1, r1) \downarrow (r1, w0, r0) \uparrow (r0)$$
**Bang**

This test is always performed x-fast. It executes multiple consecutive writes and reads effectively stressing a bit-line pair. While this pattern does detect stuck-at faults, its primary intent is to address the analog characteristics of the memory. In the following algorithm description, row 0 indicates a read or write of the data seed to the sacrificial row, which is always the first row of the column being addressed.

$$\uparrow (w0) \uparrow (r0, w1, w1(\text{row } 0) \times 6) \uparrow (r1 \times 5, w0(\text{row } 0), r1, w0) \uparrow (r0)$$

**Go/No-Go** If you do not want to implement your own memorytest strategy, use the Go/No-Go test pattern that performs the algorithms shown in Table 3-11.

**Table 3-11 Go/No-Go test pattern**

Sequence	Algorithm	Data
1	Write Checkerboard	Data seed
2	Read Checkerboard	Data seed
3	Write Checkerboard	NOT(Data seed)
4	Read Checkerboard	NOT(Data seed)
5	Read Write Read March (y-fast)	0x6
6	Bang	0xF

This test suite provides a comprehensive test of the arrays. The series of tests in Go/No-Go are the result of the experience in memory testing by ARM memory test engineers.

# Appendix A

## Signal Descriptions

This appendix describes the ARM L210 MBIST Controller signals. It contains the following section:

- *Signal descriptions* on page A-2.

## A.1 Signal descriptions

Table A-1 lists the ARM L210 MBIST Controller interface signals.

**Table A-1 Signals of the ARM L210 MBIST Controller interface**

Pin	I/O	Description
<b>CLK</b>	Input	Active HIGH clock signal. This clock drives the ARM L210 MBIST Controller logic.
<b>MBISTDOUT[63:0]</b>	Input	Data out bus from all RAM arrays.
<b>MBISTDCTL[12:0]</b>	Output	Delayed versions of the <b>MBISTCE[10:0]</b> signal and the doubleword select signal, <b>MBISTADDR[1:0]</b> . Selects the correct read data after it passes through the MBIST pipeline stages. <b>MBISTDCTL[12:0]</b> = delayed { <b>MBISTCE[10:0]</b> , <b>MBISTADDR[1:0]</b> }.
<b>MBISTRESETN</b>	Input	Active LOW reset signal for the ARM L210 MBIST Controller logic. This signal must be asserted for at least one full <b>CLK</b> cycle before programming the controller for the first test.
<b>MTESTON</b>	Input	RAM array select signal. This signal is the select input to the multiplexers that access the RAM arrays for test. <b>MTESTON</b> also enables the registers in the L210 MBIST Controller to clock in new data.
<b>MBISTDSHIFT</b>	Input	Shift out. Asserting this signal enables serial unload of the data log.
<b>MBISTRUN</b>	Input	Test run. Asserting this signal begins the programmed test algorithm.
<b>MBISTSHIFT</b>	Input	Shift in. Asserting this signal enables serial load of the MBIST Instruction Register.
<b>MBISTDATAIN</b>	Output	Serial data input for loading the MBIST Instruction Register.
<b>MBISTRESULT[2:0]</b>	Output	ARM L210 MBIST Controller output. This signal provides test status and serial data log output: <b>MBISTRESULT[2]</b> = test complete flag, asserted at the end of the test <b>MBISTRESULT[1]</b> = fail flag, asserted when failure is detected <b>MBISTRESULT[0]</b> = address expire flag or data log output. During testing, this signal goes HIGH each time both the x-address and y-address counters expire, which indicates progression to the next stage of the selected test pattern. When shifting out the data log, this signal is the serial data output.
<b>MBISTCE[10:0]</b>	Output	One-hot chip enable signals to select RAM blocks for test.

Table A-1 Signals of the ARM L210 MBIST Controller interface (continued)

Pin	I/O	Description
MBISTWE	Output	Global write enable signal for all RAM arrays.
MBISTADDR[17:0]	Output	RAM array address signal. <b>MBISTADDR[1:0]</b> is the doubleword select value. See <i>Y addr and xaddr fields, MBIR[23:20] and MBIR[27:24]</i> on page 3-5 for a description of the doubleword select. Not all RAM arrays use the full address width.
MBISTDIN[63:0]	Output	Data bus to the RAM arrays. Not all RAM arrays use the full data width.



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