

Design And Implementation Of a Digital Pseudo-Noise Walsh codes Using FPGA

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Abstract: This paper presents the design and implementation of Walsh code generators with lengths of (8), (16), and (32-bits) bits using shift registers on a Cyclone II EP2C20F484C7 FPGA from ALTERA placed on education and development board DE-1. Walsh codes, as orthogonal sequences, enable efficient multi-user direct-sequence spread spectrum (DSSS) communication by minimizing cross-user interference. The core contribution is a shift-register-based generator architecture that outputs Walsh codes in a synchronized manner with the system clock, enabling scalable multi-user support while maintaining low resource usage on the Cyclone II FPGA. The work includes HDL descriptions, synthesis considerations on DE-1, and verification through functional and timing tests, demonstrating reliable code generation across all specified lengths and straightforward extension to additional lengths if required. The results indicate that the proposed approach provides a compact, deterministic, and easily verifiable implementation suitable for education, prototyping, and small-scale DSSS experiments.

Keywords: DSSS, Walsh Codes, PNWCG, FPGA.

I. INTRODUCTION

Field Programmable Gate Arrays (FPGAs) offer flexible, parallel, and reconfigurable platforms for prototyping digital signal processing systems. Walsh codes provide a complete set of orthogonal binary sequences widely used in direct-sequence spread spectrum (DSSS) systems to separate multiple users sharing the same channel without self-interference. This work focuses on implementing Walsh code generators of lengths (8), (16), and (32-bits) using shift registers as the primary building blocks, implemented on the Terasic DE-1 development board featuring a Cyclone II FPGA. The use of shift registers enables a compact, deterministic hardware realization where codes are produced serially or in parallel, synchronized to a common clock. The DE-1 board is chosen for its accessibility and its suitability for educational demonstrations and rapid prototyping of DSSS hardware architectures. The paper outlines a practical HDL design, discusses timing and resource considerations on DE-1, and demonstrates straightforward verification steps to validate orthogonality and timing.

In paper [1], the DSSS is designed for pseudo-noise code generator with only (11) chips, while in this research we have (32) chips and it is possible to develop up to 64 chips.

In paper [2], the DSSS is designed for pseudo-noise code generator with only (16) chips, while in this research we have (32) chips and it is possible to develop up to 64 chips.

II. RESEARCH IMPORTANCE AND ITS OBJECTIVES

Research Importance:

The design of Walsh code generators using shift registers on FPGA chips installed on the DE-1 development and education board holds great significance in the field of digital communication systems, particularly for applications relying on Direct Sequence Spread Spectrum (DSSS) technology. These codes provide orthogonality, which enables multiple users to share the communication channel without interference, enhancing both the efficiency and quality of communication. Utilizing FPGA allows for high design flexibility, rapid implementation, and compatibility with practical educational and research environments, making this research highly valuable for students and researchers in communications engineering and digital electronics. The DE-1 board serves as an ideal platform for development and education, offering advanced resources and programming capabilities to implement and demonstrate complex digital systems like Walsh code generators practically and clearly.

Research Objectives:

- To design and implement Walsh code generators of length (8), (16), and (32-bits) using shift registers on FPGA, prioritizing efficient utilization of the DE-1 board resource.

- To realize accurate, synchronizing, and repeatable Walsh code generation that meets essential geometric properties such as orthogonality and independence among codes.

-To study the impact of code length on generator performance in terms of resource consumption, generation speed, and suitability for various multi-user communication application.
-To provide a practical and applicable model for educational and research purposes in designing DSSS systems on FPGA using shift registers.
- To evaluate and test the implementations on the DE-1 board to ensure compliance with specifications and analyze the generators' performance in real conditions through simulation and field testing.
These objectives enable a deep understanding of how to build and implement Walsh code generators on FPGA and enhance the ability of engineers and students to design advanced, practical communication systems.

III. RESEARCH MATERIALS AND ITS WAYS

To design, and test the PNWCG for 8,16 32 bits, the following tools and software are used:

- Cyclone II EP2C20F484C7 FPGA chip from ALTERA with highly accuracy, speed, and level specifications, placed on education and development board DE-1 [3].
- Transmitter for eight users each having its own unique 16-bit Walsh code, data bit sequence and receiver which is considered as highly accuracy digital matched filter designed on FPGA chips.
- VHDL programming language with Quartus II 9.1 design environment [4].
- Design Environment MATLAB R2008a.
- GDS-1052 digital oscilloscope with Free Wave program to take the results.
- PC computer for designing and injecting the design in the FPGA chip.

IV. THE WALSH CODES MATRIXES FOR LENGTH 8,16 AND 32 BITS

To generate Walsh codes that are mutually orthogonal and each (8 bits) long ,we use the Hadamard matrix (H8) of size (8x8), matrix (H16) of size (16x16) and matrix (H32) of size (32x32) shown in the matrix (1) , (3) and (5) [5].

The first row is taken as the code for the first user , the second row as the code for the second user , the thrid row as the code for the thrid user , and the eighth row as the code for the eighth user.....etc.

$$H_8 = \begin{bmatrix} H_4 & H_4 \\ H_4 & \overline{H_4} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} +1 & +1 & +1 & +1 & +1 & +1 & +1 & +1 \\ +1 & -1 & +1 & -1 & +1 & -1 & +1 & -1 \\ +1 & +1 & -1 & -1 & +1 & +1 & -1 & -1 \\ +1 & -1 & -1 & +1 & +1 & -1 & -1 & +1 \\ +1 & +1 & +1 & +1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ +1 & -1 & +1 & -1 & -1 & +1 & -1 & +1 \\ +1 & +1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & +1 & +1 \\ +1 & -1 & -1 & +1 & -1 & +1 & +1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (1)$$

The sum of the products of any tow Walsh codes of length 8 bits equales zero according to the mathematical relaetionship [6]:

$$\sum_{i=1}^8 W_i(a) \cdot W_i(b) = 0 \quad (2)$$

Where $W_i(a)$, $W_i(b)$ tow Walsh codes of length 8 bits, ($i = 1 \dots 8$) refers to each bit in the code.

$$H_{16} = \begin{bmatrix} H_8 & H_8 \\ H_8 & \overline{H_8} \end{bmatrix} =$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} +1 & +1 & +1 & +1 & +1 & +1 & +1 & +1 & +1 & +1 & +1 & +1 & +1 & +1 & +1 & +1 \\ +1 & -1 & +1 & -1 & +1 & -1 & +1 & -1 & +1 & -1 & +1 & -1 & +1 & -1 & +1 & -1 \\ +1 & +1 & -1 & -1 & +1 & +1 & -1 & -1 & +1 & +1 & -1 & -1 & +1 & +1 & -1 & -1 \\ +1 & -1 & -1 & +1 & +1 & -1 & -1 & +1 & +1 & -1 & -1 & +1 & +1 & -1 & -1 & +1 \\ +1 & +1 & +1 & +1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & +1 & +1 & +1 & +1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ +1 & -1 & +1 & -1 & -1 & +1 & -1 & +1 & +1 & -1 & +1 & -1 & -1 & +1 & -1 & +1 \\ +1 & +1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & +1 & +1 & +1 & +1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & +1 & +1 \\ +1 & -1 & -1 & +1 & -1 & +1 & +1 & -1 & +1 & -1 & -1 & +1 & -1 & +1 & +1 & -1 \\ +1 & +1 & +1 & +1 & +1 & +1 & +1 & +1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ +1 & -1 & +1 & -1 & +1 & -1 & +1 & -1 & -1 & +1 & -1 & +1 & -1 & +1 & -1 & +1 \\ +1 & +1 & -1 & -1 & +1 & +1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & +1 & +1 & -1 & -1 & +1 & +1 \\ +1 & -1 & -1 & +1 & -1 & +1 & +1 & -1 & -1 & +1 & +1 & -1 & +1 & -1 & -1 & +1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (3)$$

The sum of the products of any tow Walsh codes of length 16 bits equales zero according to the mathematical relaionship:

$$\sum_{i=1}^{16} W_i(a) \cdot W_i(b) = 0 \quad (4)$$

Where $W_i(a)$, $W_i(b)$ tow Walsh codes of length 16 bits, ($i = 1 \dots 16$) refers to each bit in the code.

$$H_{32} = \begin{bmatrix} H_{16} & H_{16} \\ H_{16} & \overline{H_{16}} \end{bmatrix} =$$

(5)

The sum of the products of any two Walsh codes of length 32 bits equals zero according to the mathematical relationship:

$$\sum_{i=1}^{32} W_i(a) \cdot W_i(b) = 0 \quad (6)$$

Where $W_i(a)$, $W_i(b)$ two Walsh codes of length 32 bits, (i) refers to each bit in the code.

V. BLOCK DIAGRAM OF THE DIGITAL PSEUDO-NOISE WALSH CODE GENERATOR FOR 8 BITS

For designing the hardware of pseudo-random code generator (PNWCG), (8-bit) shift registers are used with parallel output and shift input, where the binary code value is loaded into the register [7].

The last bit of register is connected to the shift input so that shifting begins with each clock pulse, allowing the desired code to be obtained.

Table (1) shows the values of (8) bits Walsh codes and the values recorded in the shift register of the PNWCG.

Table (1): PNWC for (8) bits	
code	values
c1=11111111	255
c2=10101010	85
c3=11001100	51
c4=10011001	153
c5=11110000	15
c6=10100101	165
c7=11000011	195
c8=10010110	105

The block diagram of the PNWCG for (8) bits is shown in the figure (1) for c1, c2 and the block diagram of the PNWCG for (8) bits for c2 in the Quartus II 9.1 design environment is shown in the figure (2).

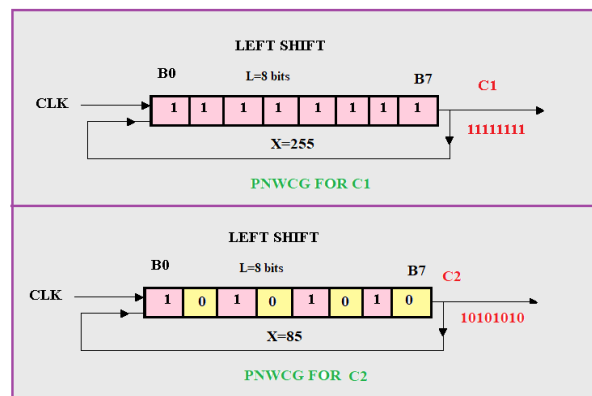


Figure (1): block diagram of the PNWCG for (8) bits for c1 and c2

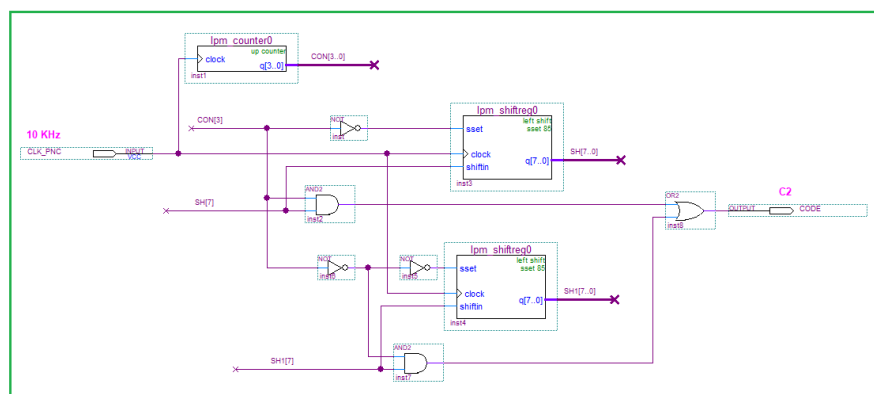


Figure (2): block diagram of the PNWCG for (8) bits for c2 in the Quartus II 9.1 design environment.
The results of the PNWCG designed for (8) bits Walsh codes using an FPGA chip placed on the DE-1 Education and Development board are shown in the figure (3).

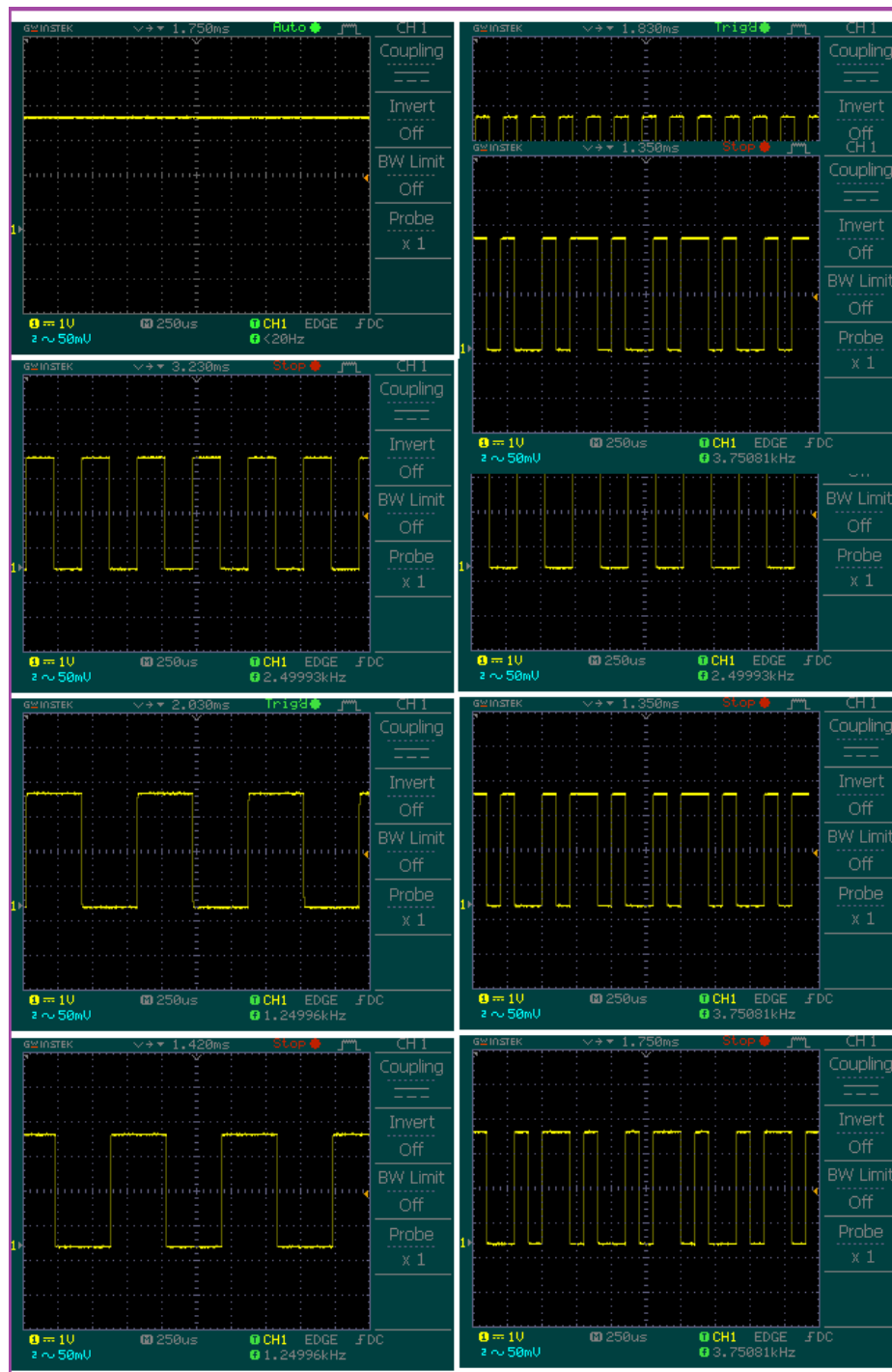


Figure (3):Walsh codes system DSSS for (8) bits: c1,c2,c3,c4,c5,c6,c7,c8 in the time domain

VI. BLOCK DIAGRAM OF THE DIGITAL PSEDO-NOISE WALSH CODE GENERATOR FOR 16 BITS

For designing the hardware of pseudo-random code generator (PNWCG), (16-bit) shift registers are used with parallel output and shift input, where the binary code value is loaded into the register.

The last bit of register is connected to the shift input so that shifting begins with each clock pulse, allowing the desired code to be obtained.

Table (2) shows the values of (16) bits Walsh codes and the values recorded in the shift register of the PNWCG.

The results of the PNWCG designed for (16) bits Walsh codes using an FPGA chip placed on the DE-1 Education and Development board are shown in the figure (6) and figure (7).

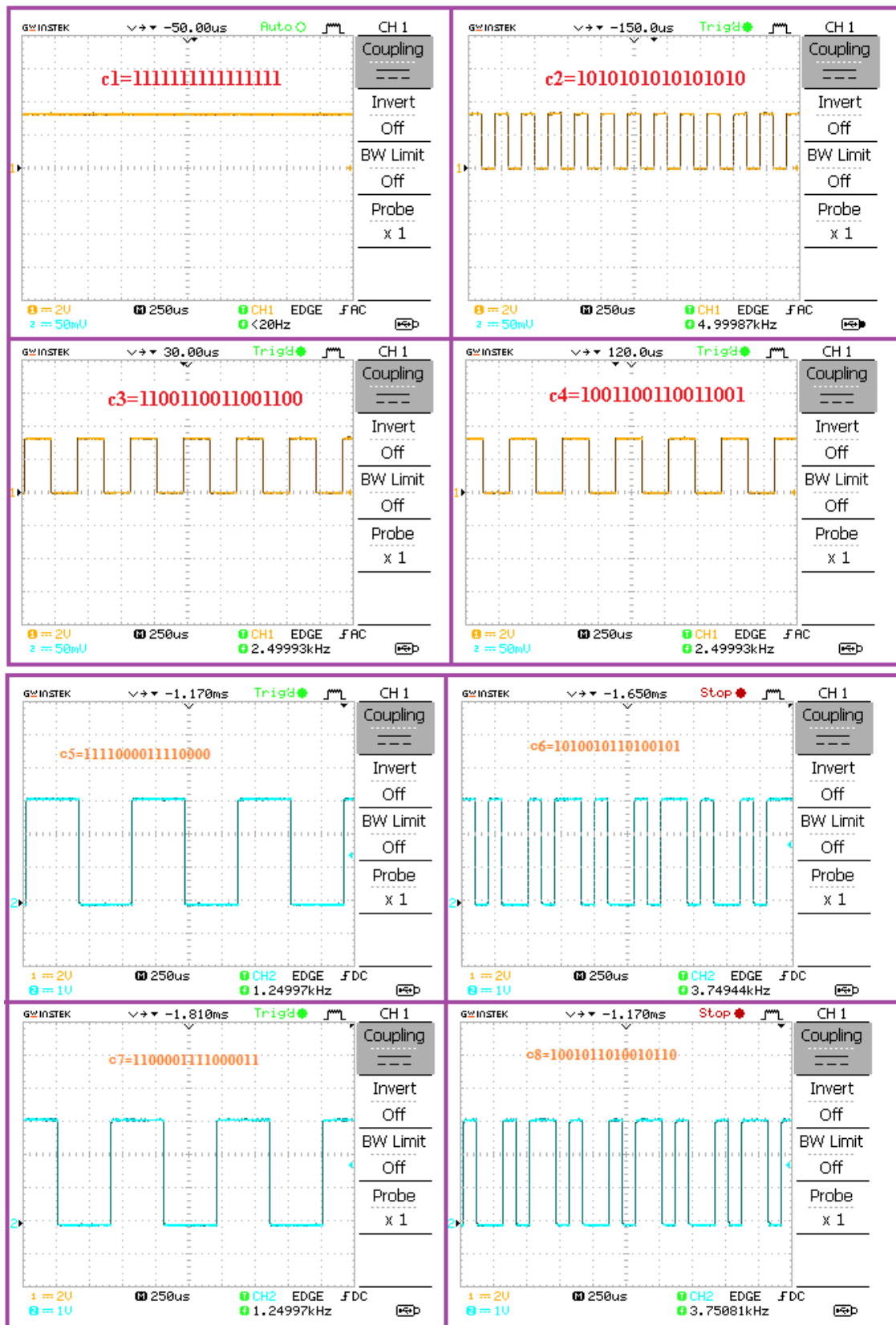


Figure (6):Walsh codes system DSSS for (16) bits: c1,c2,c3,c4,c5,c6,c7,c8 in the time domain

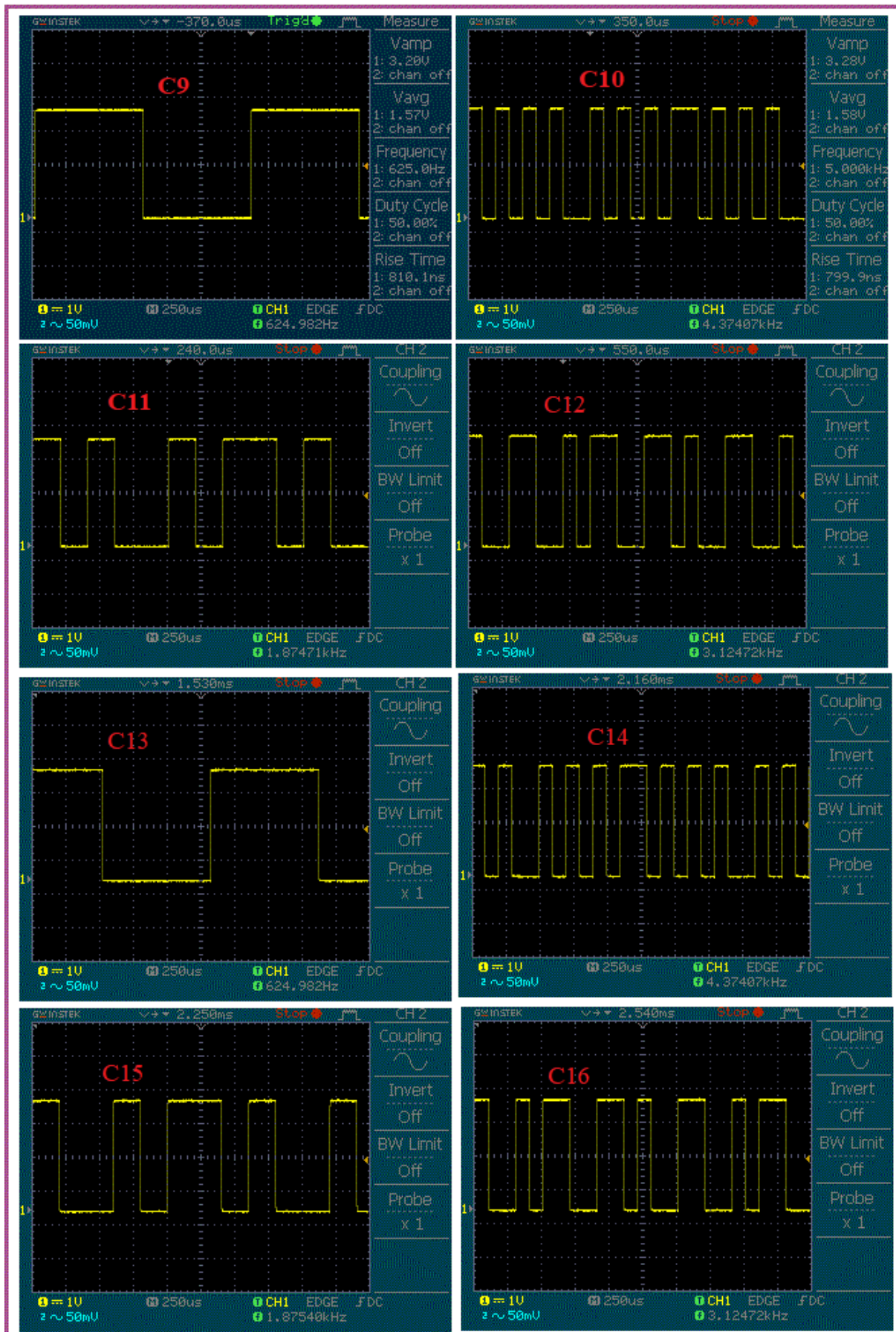


Figure (7):Walsh codes system DSSS: c9,c10,c11,c12,c13,c14,c15,c16 in the time domain

VII. BLOCK DIAGRAM OF THE DIGITAL PSEDO-NOISE WALSH CODE GENERATOR FOR 32 BITS

For designing the hardware of pseudo-random code generator (PNWCG), (32-bit) shift registers are used with parallel output and shift input, where the binary code value is loaded into the register.

The last bit of register is connected to the shift input so that shifting begins with each clock pulse, allowing the desired code to be obtained.

Table (3) shows the values of (32) bits Walsh codes and the values recorded in the shift register of the PNWCG

Table (3): PNWC for (32) bits	
Code	Values
c1=11111111111111111111111111111111	4294967295
c2=10101010101010101010101010101010	1431655765
c3=11001100110011001100110011001100	858993459
c4=10011001100110011001100110011001	2576980377
c5=11110000111100001111000011110000	252654135
c6=10100101101001011010010110100101	2779096485
c7=11000011110000111100001111000011	3284386755
c8=10010110100101101001011010010110	1768515945
c9=11111111000000001111111100000000	16711935
c10=10101010010101010101010010101010	2857740885
c11=11001100001100111100110000110011	3425946675
c12=10011001011001101001100101100110	1721329305
c13=11110000000011111111000000001111	4027576335
c14=10100101010110101010010101011010	1520786085
c15=11000011001111001100001100111100	1019428035
c16=10010110011010011001011001101001	2523502185
c17=11111111111111110000000000000000	65535
c18=10101010101010100101010101010101	2863289685
c19=11001100110011000011001100110011	3435934515
c20=10011001100110010110011001100110	1718000085
c21=11110000111100000000111100001111	4042264335
c22=10100101101001010101101001011010	1515890085
c23=11000011110000110011110000111100	1010615235
c24=10010110100101100110100101101001	2526439785
c25=11111111000000000000000011111111	4278190335
c26=10101010010101010101010110101010	1437248085
c27=11001100001100110011001111001100	869059635
c28=10011001011001100110011010011001	2573624985
c29=11110000000011110000111111110000	267448335
c30=10100101010110100101101010100101	2774162085
c31=11000011001111000011110011000011	3275539260
c32=10010110011010010110100110010110	1771476585

The block diagram of the PNWCG for (32) bits is shown in the figure (8), for c1,c2 and the block diagram of the PNWCG for (32) bits for c2 in the Quartus II 9.1 design environment is shown in the figure (9).

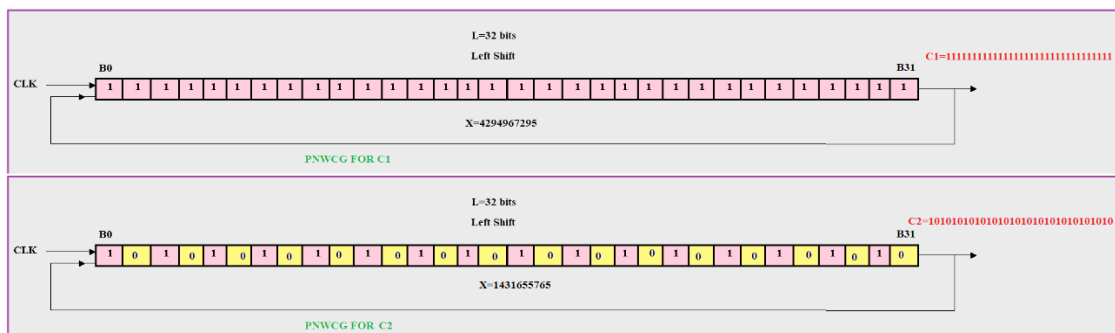


Figure (8): block diagram of the PNWCG for (32) bits for c1 and c2

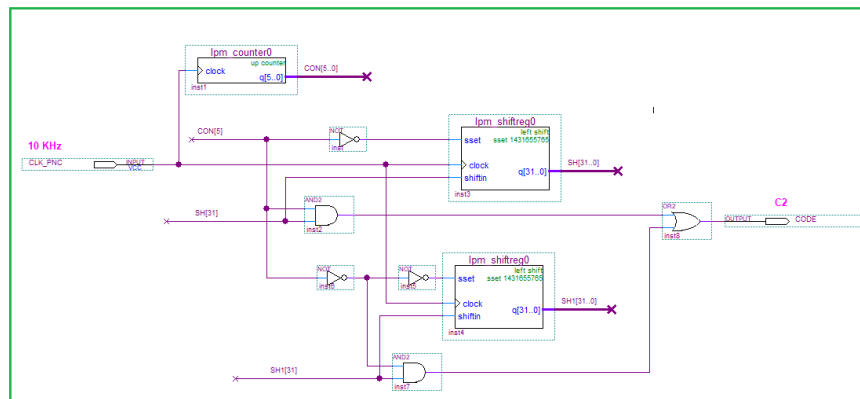


Figure (9): block diagram of the PNWCG for (32) bits for c2 in the Quartus II 9.I design environment.

The results of the PNWCG designed for (32) bits Walsh codes using an FPGA chip placed on the DE-1 Education and Development board are shown in the figure (10)

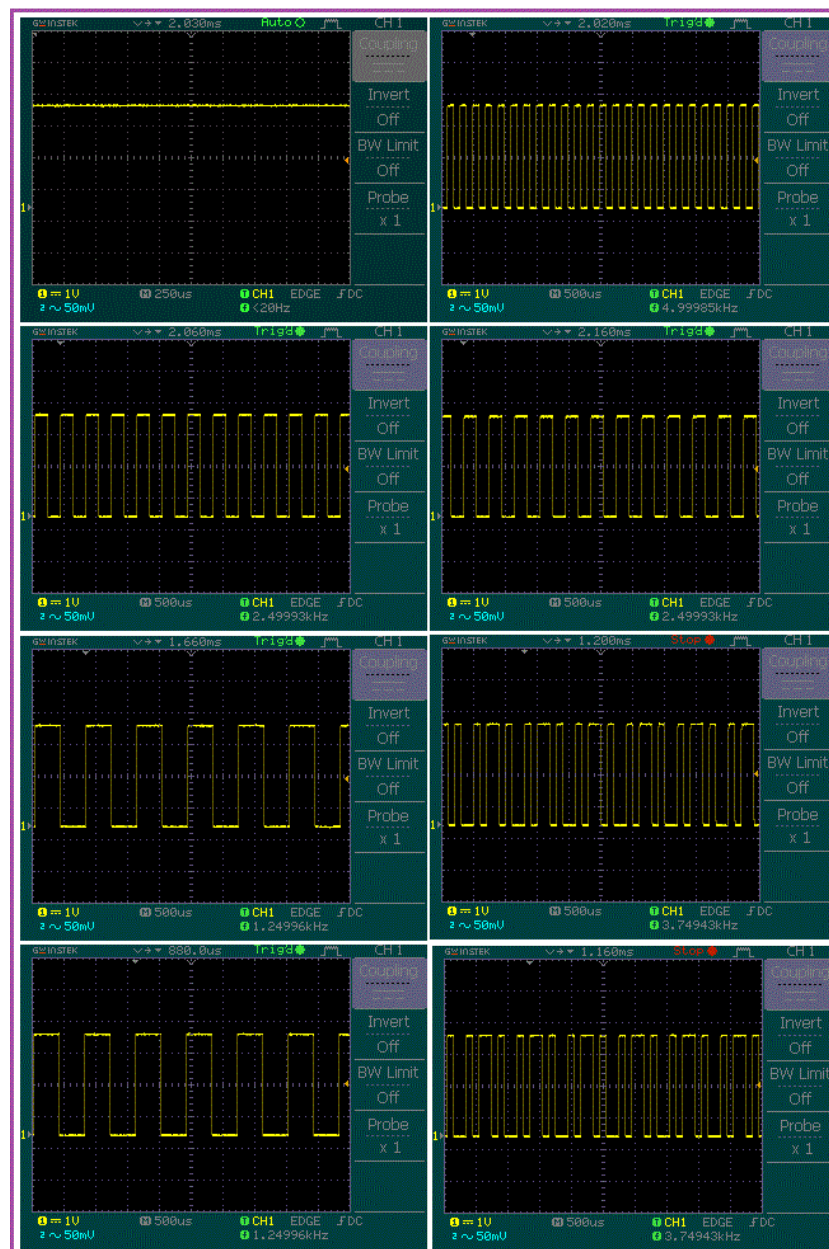


Figure (10):Walsh codes system DSSS for (32) bits: c1,c2,c3,c4,c5,c6,c7,c8 in the time domain

VIII. BLOCK DIAGRAM OF THE CLOCK AND DATA GERATOR

To generate clock pulses with a frequency of (10 KHz) for all components PNWCG , a direct digital frequency synthesizer (DDFS) with an input frequency of (50 MHz) was used.

Frequency code for DDFS is calculated according to the mathematical formula [8]:

$$F_{CLK} = \frac{L \cdot F_{SYS}}{2^n} \Rightarrow L = \frac{2^n \times F_{CLK}}{F_{SYS}} \quad (7)$$

Where : (L) frequency code of DDFS , (n=32) bits number of phase accumulator DDFS ,(F_{sys} =50MHz) the reference frequency from DE-1, (F_{clk} =10KHz) the clock frequency to be generated by DDFS.

$$L = \frac{2^n \times F_{CLK}}{F_{SYS}} = \frac{2^{32} \times 10}{50000} = 85899$$

To generate the codes walsh with lengths of (8) , (16) , and (32-bits) , a (10 KHz) clock pulse was used. the functional diagram of the clock pulse generator in Quartus II 9.I design environment shown in the figure (11).

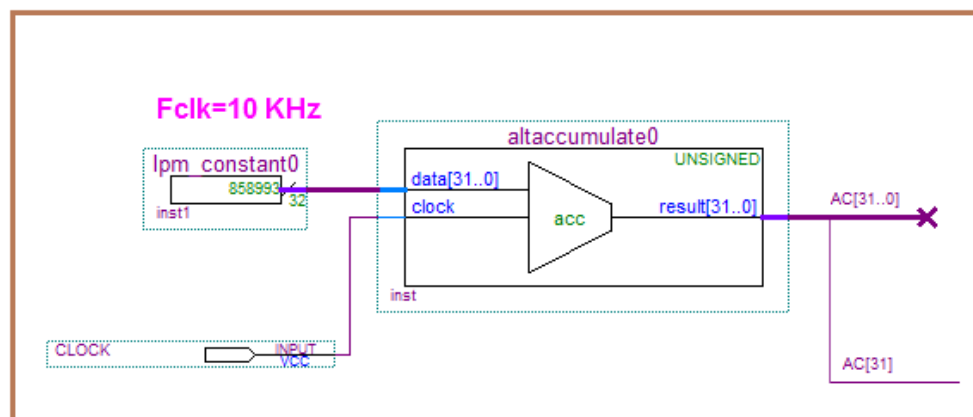


Figure (11): functional diagram of the clock pulse generator in the Quartus II 9.I design environment.

The practical designed results of the clock pulse generator using an FPGA chip located on the DE-1 board and using the Quartus 9.I design software environment are shown in figure (12).

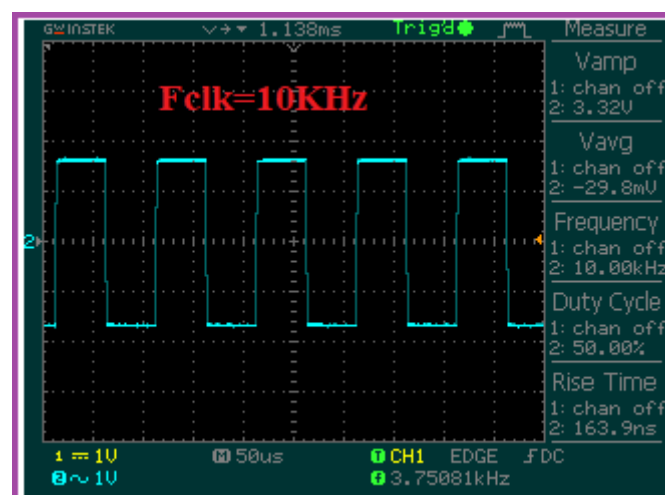


Figure (12):clock pulse with frequency 10 KHz

IX. CONCLUSION AND RESULTS

In this study, a Walsh code generator with lengths of 8, 16, and 32 bits was designed and implemented using shift registers and digital circuits programmed on an FPGA platform with the DE-1 development board. The clock pulse generator was

designed based on Direct Digital Frequency Synthesis (DDFS) operating at a frequency of 10 kHz, providing high flexibility in frequency generation for encryption and digital communication applications.

Main results:

Accuracy and stability: Testing confirmed that the design generates Walsh codes of various lengths with high accuracy and frequency stability, ensuring reliable performance in communication and encryption applications.

Flexibility: The system can easily switch code lengths, enhancing customization and adaptability using only FPGA programming resources.

Time efficiency: Simulation and hardware implementation results showed that the generation time and synchronization checks are suitable for practical applications with low power consumption compared to traditional systems.

Scalability and development ease: Thanks to the FPGA's open digital architecture, new features and improvements can be integrated without full redesign, such as error correction or additional code sets.

Conclusions:

The combination of shift registers with FPGA digital circuits provides an effective and reliable solution for generating Walsh codes with configurable lengths, meeting high performance encryption system requirements.

The DDFS-based clock pulse generator ensures frequency flexibility with stable and precise timing required for communication systems.

The implemented system is suitable for use in encryption, communication, and digital signal processing, where fast and accurate customized waveforms are essential.

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BIOGRAPHY



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