



# **Nuclei™ N300 Series**

## **Processor Core**

## **Databook**

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## Revision History

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1.0	2020/2/5	N/A	1. First version as the full English

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## 1. Overview

The Nuclei N300 Series Processor Core, or N300 Series Core for short, is a commercial RISC-V Processor Core Series designed by Nuclei System Technology for MCU, IoT or other low-power applications. The N300 Series is a competitive rival to ARM Cortex-M3/M4/M4F/M33 Processor Cores.

### 1.1. Feature List

The N300 Series have the following features:

- CPU Core
  - 3-pipeline stages , using state-of-the-art processor micro-architecture to deliver the best-of-class performance efficiency and lowest cost.
  - Support dynamic branch predictor.
  - Configurable instruction prefetch logic, which can prefetch subsequent two instructions to hide the instruction memory access latency.
- Supported Instruction Set Architecture (ISA)
  - The N300 Series is a 32-bit RISC-V Processor Core Series, supporting the combination of RV32I/M/A/F/D/C/P instruction extensions.
  - Configurable misaligned memory access hardware support (Load/Store instructions).
- Supported Privileged Modes
  - Support Machine Mode, Supervisor Mode (configurable) and User Mode (configurable).
- Bus Interfaces
  - Support 32-bit wide standard AHB-Lite system bus interface for accessing system instruction and data.
  - Support 32-bit wide Instruction Local Memory (ILM) bus interface (configurable)



with standard AHB-Lite or SRAM interface protocol) for accessing private instruction local memory.

- Support 32-bit wide Data Local Memory (DLM) bus interface (configurable with standard AHB-Lite or SRAM interface protocol) for accessing private data local memory.
- Support 32-bit wide Private Peripheral Interface (PPI) bus interface (with standard APB interface protocol) for accessing private peripherals.
- Support 32-bit wide Fast-IO Interface (FIO) bus interface (with simple zero-cycle interface) for accessing private fast peripherals, e.g., GPIO for fast IO manipulation.

#### ■ Low-Power Management

- Support WFI (Wait For Interrupt) and WFE (Wait For Event) scheme to enter sleep mode.
- Support two-level sleep modes: shallow sleep mode, and deep sleep mode.

#### ■ Core-Private Timer Unit (TIMER)

- 64-bits wide real-time counter.
- Support the generation of the timer interrupt defined by the RISC-V standard.
- Support the generation of the precise periodic timer interrupt (can be used as System Tick) with auto clear-to-zero mode.
- Support the generation of software interrupt defined by the RISC-V standard.

#### ■ Enhanced Core Level Interrupt Controller (ECLIC)

- Support the RISC-V architecturally defined software, timer and external interrupts.
- Support configurable number of external interrupt sources.
- Support configurable number of interrupt levels and priorities, and support software dynamically programmable division of interrupt levels and priorities values.
- Support interrupts preemption based on interrupt levels.
- Support vectored interrupt processing mode for extremely fast interrupt response (6 cycles).
- Support fast interrupts tail-chaining mechanism.

- Support NMI (Non-Maskable Interrupt)
- Memory Protection
  - Support configurable Physical Memory Protection (PMP) to protect the memory.
- Security with Trust Execution Environment
  - Support configurable Trust Execution Environment (TEE) feature.
- Support Instructions Extended by User
  - Support Nuclei Instruction Co-unit Extension (NICE) scheme to support user to extend custom instructions according to their applications.
- Support Instruction Cache (I-Cache)
  - The Cache size is configurable.
  - 2-way associative structure.
  - Cache Line Size is 32 Bytes.
  - Support configurable Scratchpad mode.
- Debugging System
  - Support standard 4-wire or 2-wire JTAG interface.
  - Support standard RISC-V debug specification (v0.13).
  - Support configurable number of Hardware Breakpoints.
  - Support mature interactive debugging software/hardware tools, such as GDB, OpenOCD, Lauterbach TRACE32, Segger J-Link, IAR, etc.
- Software Development Tools
  - The N300 Series support the RISC-V standard compilation toolchain and Integrated Development Environment (IDE) on Linux/Windows systems, such as GCC, MCU-Eclipse, Nuclei-Studio, IAR, etc.

## 1.2. Supported Instruction Set and Privileged Architecture

The N300 Series is following the Nuclei RISC-V Instruction Set and Privileged Architecture Specification (Nuclei\_RISCV\_ISA\_Spec), user can easily get the specification from “Nuclei User

Center” website <http://user.nucleisys.com>.

### 1.3. Top Diagram

The top diagram of N300 Series is as depicted in Figure 1-1, the key points of which are:

- Core Wrapper is the top module of the Core, the sub-modules of it are:
  - Core: The core part.
  - Reset Sync: The module to sync external async reset signal to synced reset with “Asynchronously assert and synchronously de-assert” style.
  - DEBUG: The module to handle the debug functionalities.
- uCore is under Core hierarchy, it is the main part of Core.
- Besides the uCore, there are several other sub-modules:
  - LM Ctrl: The control module for ILM and DLM.
  - ECLIC: The private interrupt controller.
  - TIMER: The private timer unit.
  - BIU: The bus interface unit.
  - Misc Ctrl: Other miscellaneous modules.

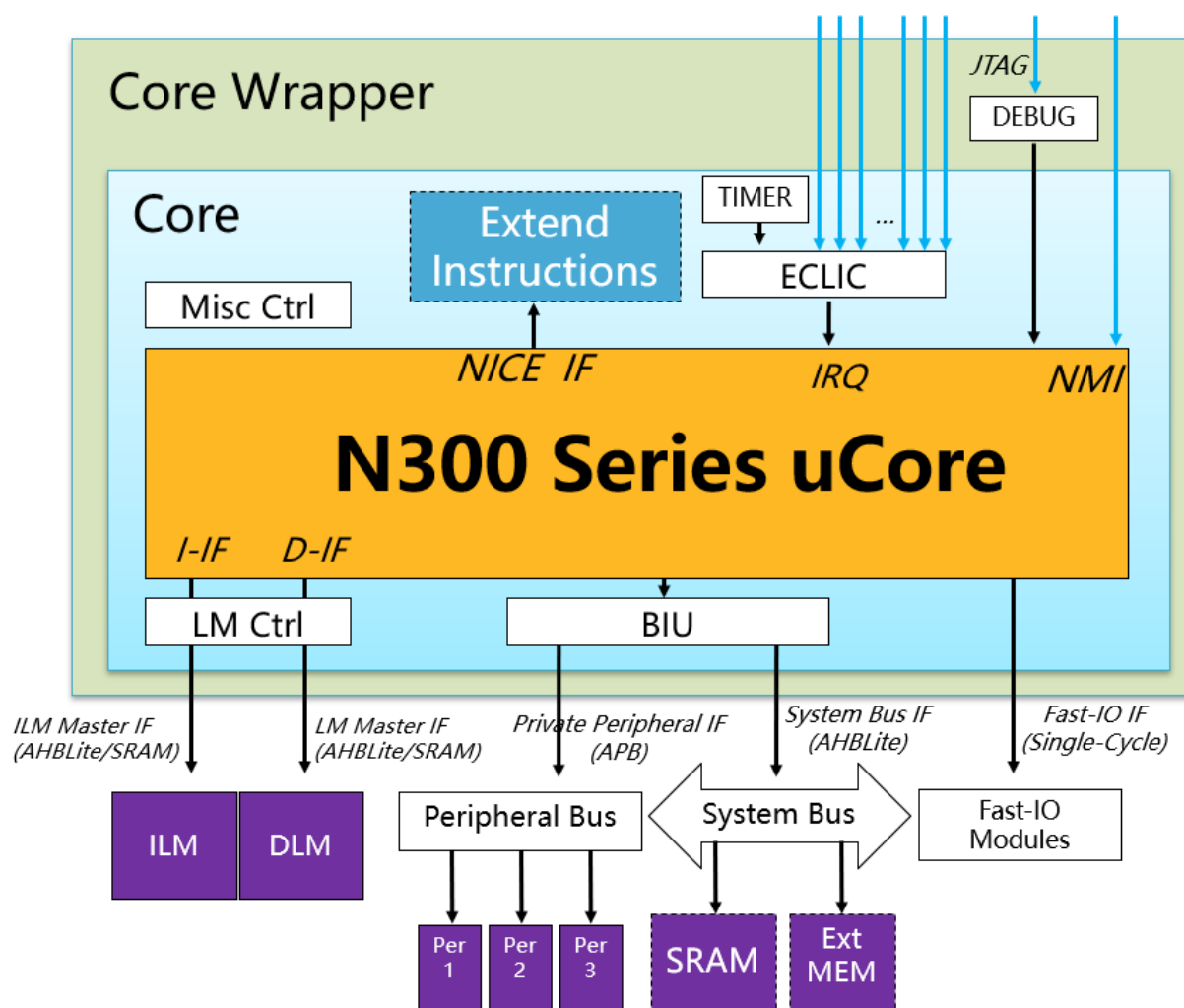


Figure 1-1 The top diagram of N300 Series Core

## 1.4. Different Cores of N300 Series

The N300 is a series of Cores with different configuration templates. Different Cores have different configurable features, as briefly summarized in Table 1-1.

**Table 1-1 Configurable features of different Cores**

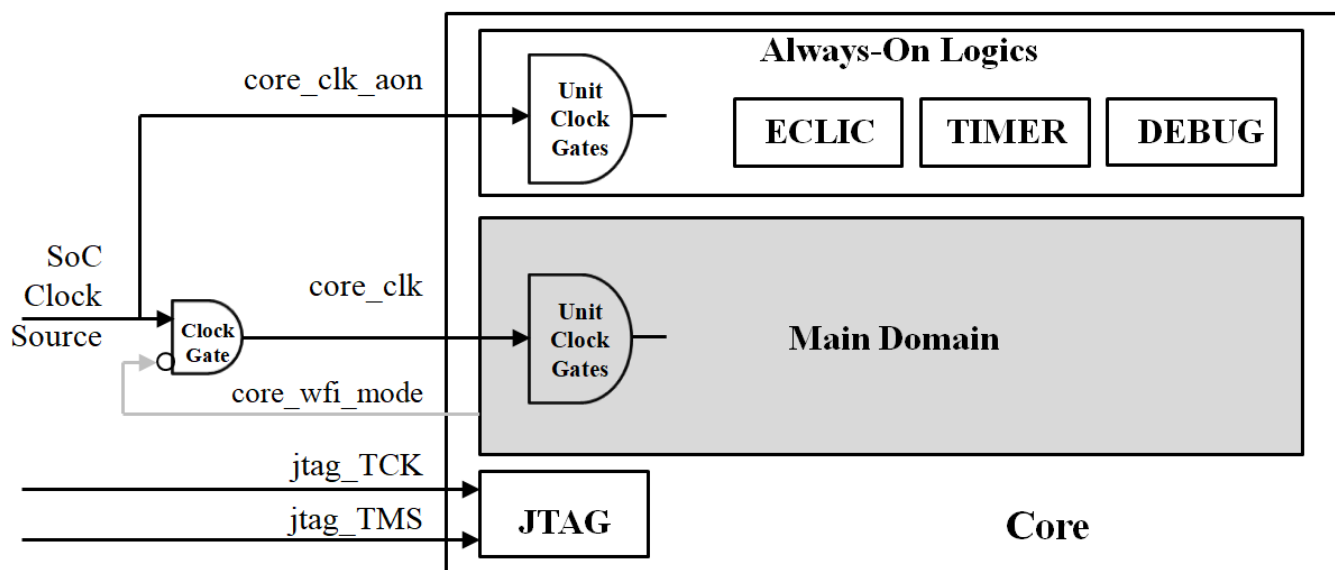
	N305	N307	N308
<b>Baseline Instruction Set</b>	IMAC	IMAC	IMAC
<b>Hardware Multiplier</b>	YES (Single-Cycle)	YES (Single-Cycle)	YES (Single-Cycle)
<b>Hardware Divider</b>	YES	YES	YES
<b>A (Atomic) Instruction Extension</b>	Configurable	Configurable	Configurable
<b>Unaligned Load/Store Hardware Support</b>	Configurable	Configurable	Configurable
<b>Low Power Features</b>	YES	YES	YES
<b>Interrupts Number</b>	Configurable	Configurable	Configurable
<b>NMI</b>	YES	YES	YES
<b>ILM and DLM Interface</b>	Configurable	Configurable	Configurable
<b>PPI Interface</b>	Configurable	Configurable	Configurable
<b>Fast-IO Interface</b>	Configurable	Configurable	Configurable
<b>Instruction Cache (I-Cache)</b>	Configurable	Configurable	Configurable
<b>Scratchpad Mode for I-Cache</b>	Configurable	Configurable	Configurable
<b>User Mode and PMP</b>	Configurable	Configurable	Configurable
<b>Debugging System</b>	Configurable	Configurable	Configurable
<b>User Instruction Extendibility (NICE)</b>	Configurable	Configurable	Configurable
<b>Timing Enhancing Options</b>	Configurable	Configurable	Configurable
<b>Performance Enhancing Options</b>	Configurable	Configurable	Configurable
<b>Single-Precision Floating point Unit</b>	NO	Configurable	Configurable
<b>Double-Precision Floating point Unit</b>	NO	Configurable	Configurable
<b>Packed-SIMD DSP</b>	NO	Configurable	Configurable

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TEE Support	NO	NO	Configurable
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## 2. Functional Introductions

### 2.1. Clock Domains



**Figure 2-1 Clock domains of the N300 Series Core**

The clock domains of the N300 Series Core are shown in Figure 2-1. The entire Core is divided into three asynchronous clock domains:

- The main clock domain (for the `core_clk` and `core_clk_aon`), which drive most of the functional logics of the Core. Note:
  - `core_clk` and `core_clk_aon` have the same frequency and same phases as they are supposed to be clocks from the same clock source.
  - `core_clk` is the main working clock that drives the main domain inside the Core, `core_clk` is supposed to be clock-gated at the SoC level during the sleep mode.
  - `core_clk_aon` is an always-on clock that drives the always-on logic in the Core, including the ECLIC, TIMER, DEBUG, etc.
- The JTAG\_CLK clock domain (for the `jtag_TCK`), which drives the JTAG logics of DEBUG unit.
- The JTAG\_TMS clock domain (for the `jtag_TMS`), since the `jtag_TMS` will be used as clock when switching between 4-wire and 2-wire JTAG modes, hence the `jtag_TMS` is



also a clock driving very few JTAG logics of DEBUG unit.

The above three clock domains are asynchronous with each other, so asynchronous cross-clock domain processing has been implemented in the Core.

## 2.2. Power Domains

There is no power domains specified inside N300 Series Core. Per different applications, the SoC integrator can choose to divide the power domains according to the convenience of the hierarchies inside the Core.

## 2.3. Core Interfaces

Please refer to Chapter 3 for the details of Core interfaces.

## 2.4. Memory Resources

N300 Series Core supports the following memory resources:

### ■ ILM:

- The Core supports Instruction Local Memory (ILM) access via an independent AHB-Lite or SRAM interface if the ILM interface is configured.
- The address space of the ILM is configurable. Please see Section 2.6 for details.
- The ILM is implemented by the SoC integrator and can generally be an SRAM or Flash for storing instructions. If the AHB-Lite interface is implemented, to achieve best performance, the interface should return response at the next cycle after receiving the read request.

### ■ DLM:

- The Core supports Data Local Memory (DLM) access via an independent AHB-Lite or SRAM interface if the DLM interface is configured.
- The address space of the DLM is configurable. Please see Section 2.6 for details.

- The DLM is implemented by the SoC integrator and can generally be an SRAM for storing data. If the AHB-Lite interface is implemented, to achieve best performance, the interface should return response at the next cycle after receiving the read/write request.
- I-Cache:
  - The Core supports I-Cache (Instruction Cache) to cache the instruction fetched from MEM interface. Note: the instruction fetched from ILM interface will not be cached, i.e., if the instruction fetch address fall into ILM address space, it will directly access ILM interface with the I-Cache bypassed.
  - I-Cache is 2-ways associative structure, with Line Size as 32 Bytes. The size of I-Cache is configurable. Please refer to Chapter 4 for more details of configurations.
  - If the core is not configured with ILM, just configured with I-Cache, then the I-Cache can be configured to support the Scratchpad Mode.
  - When under Scratchpad Mode, the Data SRAM of I-Cache will be reused and downgraded to memory mapped SRAM which can be accessed by instruction fetch and data access, like ILM and DLM, but called as Scratchpad here.
  - When under Scratchpad Mode, the base address of Scratchpad is configurable. Please refer to Chapter 4 for more details of configurations.
  - This Scratchpad Mode is controlled by CSR register mcache\_ctl, please refer to “Nuclei\_RISCV\_ISA\_Spec” for more details, user can easily get the specification from “Nuclei User Center” website <http://user.nucleisys.com>.

## 2.5. Private Peripherals

As shown in Figure 1-1, under the Core hierarchy, in addition to the uCore, the following private peripherals are included:

- DEBUG: handle the JTAG interface and related debugging features.
- ECLIC: the Enhanced Core-Level Interrupt Controller.
- TIMER: the private TIMER unit.

The above peripherals are private to the Core and are accessed using memory mapped address.

See Section 2.6 for the details of their specific address space allocation.

## 2.6. Address Spaces of Interfaces and Private Peripherals

There are quite several interfaces and private peripherals for the Core, the address spaces of them are shown in Table 2-1.

**Table 2-1 Address Spaces of the Core**

Unit	Base Address	Offset	Description
DEBUG	Configurable	0x000~ 0xFFFF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Address space of DEBUG unit.</li> <li>■ Note: DEBUG is private inside the core. And DEBUG is used for debugging functionality. The regular application software should not access this space.</li> </ul>
ECLIC	Configurable	0x0000 ~ 0xFFFF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Address space of ECLIC unit.</li> <li>■ Note: ECLIC is private inside the core.</li> </ul>
TIMER	Configurable	0x000 ~ 0xFFF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Address space of TIMER unit.</li> <li>■ Note: TIMER is private inside the core.</li> </ul>
ILM	Configurable	Depends on the configuration of ILM address space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Address space of ILM interface.</li> </ul>
DLM	Configurable	Depends on the configuration of DLM address space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Address space of DLM interface.</li> </ul>
FIO	Configurable	Depends on the configuration of FIO address space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Address space of FIO interface.</li> </ul>
PPI	Configurable	Depends on the configuration of PPI address space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Address space of PPI interface.</li> </ul>
MEM	N/A	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The address space other than the above mentioned spaces are all to MEM (System Memory) interface.</li> </ul>
Note: please refer to Chapter 4 for more details of configurations.			

There are several key points:

- The Core's instruction fetches will not go to DLM, ECLIC, TIMER, FIO, or PPI anyway.
- Since the Core have instruction fetch and data access paths independent inside the Core, the address space of ILM and DLM can be overlapped.
  - If the Core has not been configured with "N300\_CFG \_LSU\_ACCESS\_ILM", then

the data access cannot access ILM interface anyway.

- If the Core has been configured with “N300\_CFG\_LSU\_ACCESS\_ILM”, then the data access can access ILM interface if the data access address fall into the ILM address space. Note: if the data access address fall into both ILM and DLM address spaces (since address spaces of ILM and DLM could be overlapped), then the data access still go to ILM interface.
- The total address space of “ILM and DLM” should not overlap with the total address space of “DEBUG, TIMER, ECLIC, FIO and PPI”, otherwise it is configuration error.
- The address spaces of DEBUG, TIMER, ECLIC, FIO, and PPI should not overlap; otherwise it is the configuration error.

## 2.7. Debug Support

N300 Series Core supports standard 4-wire or 2-wire JTAG interface, standard RISC-V debug specification (v0.13), configurable number of Hardware Breakpoints, and mature interactive debugging software/hardware tools, such as GDB, OpenOCD, Lauterbach TRACE32, Segger J-Link, IAR, etc.

N300 Series Core defines an input signal `i_dbg_stop`, which can be controlled by the SoC level to disable the debug functionality or not:

- If the value of the `i_dbg_stop` signal is 0, the debug functionality of the Core is working properly.
- If the value of the `i_dbg_stop` signal is 1, the debug functionality of the Core is off, and the external Debug Hardware Probe cannot debug the Core through JTAG interface anymore.

## 2.8. Interrupt and Exception Mechanism

For a detailed description of the Core's interrupt and exception mechanisms, please refer to Nuclei ISA specification (Nuclei\_RISCV\_ISA\_Spec), user can easily get the specification from “Nuclei User Center” website <http://user.nucleisys.com>.

## 2.9. NMI Mechanism

NMI (Non-Maskable Interrupt) is a special input signal of the Core, often used to indicate system-level emergency errors (such as external hardware failures, etc.). After encountering the NMI, the Core should abort execution of the current program immediately and process the NMI handler instead. For a detailed description of the NMI mechanism of the N300 Series Core, please refer to Nuclei ISA specification (Nuclei\_RISCV\_ISA\_Spec), user can easily get the specification from “Nuclei User Center” website <http://user.nucleisys.com>.

## 2.10. Control and Status Registers (CSRs)

Some control and status registers (CSRs) are defined in the RISC-V architecture to configure or record the status of execution. CSR registers are registers internal to the Core that uses their private 12-bit encoding space to access.

For a detailed description of the Core's CSRs, please refer to Nuclei ISA specification (Nuclei\_RISCV\_ISA\_Spec), user can easily get the specification from “Nuclei User Center” website <http://user.nucleisys.com>.

## 2.11. Performance Monitor

The RISC-V architecture defines the following two performance counters:

- Cycle Counter:
  - A 64-bit wide clock cycle counter that reflects how many clock cycles the Core has executed. This counter will continuously increment as long as the Core's core\_clk\_aon is ON.
  - The CSR mcycle reflect the lower 32 bits of the counter, and the CSR mcycleh reflect the upper 32 bits of the counter. Please refer to Nuclei ISA specification (Nuclei\_RISCV\_ISA\_Spec) for the details; user can easily get the specification from “Nuclei User Center” website <http://user.nucleisys.com>.

#### ■ Instruction Retirement Counter:

- The RISC-V architecture defines a 64-bit wide instruction completion counter that reflects how many instructions the Core successfully executed. This counter will increment if the processor executes an instruction successfully.
- The CSR minstret reflect the lower 32 bits of the counter, and the CSR minstreth reflect the upper 32 bits of the counter. Please refer to Nuclei ISA specification (Nuclei\_RISCV\_ISA\_Spec) for more details; user can easily get the specification from “Nuclei User Center” website <http://user.nucleisys.com>.

The Cycle Counter and the Instruction Retirement Counter are typically used to measure performance.

By default, the counter is zero value after a reset and then increments itself continuously. But in Nuclei N300 Series Core, considering the counter increases the power consumption, there is an extra bit in the customized CSR mcountinhibit that can pause the counter to save power when users don't need to monitor the performance through the counter. Please refer to Nuclei ISA specification (Nuclei\_RISCV\_ISA\_Spec) for more details; user can easily get the specification from “Nuclei User Center” website <http://user.nucleisys.com>.

## 2.12. TIMER Unit

The RISC-V architecture defines a 64-bit Timer Counter which is clocked by the system's low-speed Real Time Clock frequency. The value of this timer is reflected in the register mtime. The RISC-V architecture also defines a 64-bit mtimecmp register that used as a comparison value for the timer. A timer interrupt is generated if the value of mtime is greater than or equal to the value of mtimecmp.

Note: The RISC-V architecture does not define the mtime and mtimecmp registers as CSR registers, but rather as Memory Address Mapped system registers. The specific memory mapped address is not defined by the RISC-V architecture, so it is defined by the implementation. In the N300 Series Core, mtime and mtimecmp are both implemented in the TIMER Unit.

Besides, the TIMER Unit of N300 Series Core can also generate the periodic timer interrupt (normally as System Tick) and the software interrupt, please refer to Nuclei ISA specification (Nuclei\_RISCV\_ISA\_Spec) for more details; user can easily get the specification from “Nuclei User Center” website <http://user.nucleisys.com>.

## 2.13. Low-Power Mechanism

The low-power mechanism of the N300 Series Core is as below:

- The clocks of the main units in the Core are automatically gated off when they are in idle state to reduce static power consumption.
- The Core supports different sleep modes (shallow sleep mode or deep sleep mode) through WFI (Wait for Interrupt) and WFE (Wait for Event) mechanisms to achieve lower dynamic and static power consumption. For more details about “Wait for Interrupt” and “Wait for Event” mechanism, please refer to Nuclei ISA specification (Nuclei\_RISCV\_ISA\_Spec) for more details; user can easily get the specification from “Nuclei User Center” website <http://user.nucleisys.com>.

### 2.13.1. Clock Control of Entering Sleep Modes

The key points of the clock control (reference scheme) of the core entering sleep mode are as the followings:

- As shown in Figure 2-1, when the WFI/WFE is successfully executed, the output signal `core_wfi_mode` of the Core is asserted, indicating that the Core has entered to the sleep mode; at the SoC level, the signal `core_wfi_mode` should be used to control the external gate logic to disable the `core_clk`.
- If the Core entered the deep sleep mode (`core_sleep_value` is 1), then SoC can decide whether to disable the always on clock `core_clk_aon` according to its actual scenario.

### 2.13.2. Clock Control of Exiting Sleep Mode

The Core can be waked up by interrupt, event, or NMI. Please refer to Nuclei ISA specification (Nuclei\_RISCV\_ISA\_Spec) for more details; user can easily get the specification from “Nuclei User Center” website <http://user.nucleisys.com>.

The key points of the clock control of the Core exiting the sleep mode are as the followings:

- The output signal `core_wfi_mode` will be de-asserted immediately after the core being waked up. Assuming the SoC control the gate of `core_clk` using the signal `core_wfi_mode`, the working clock of core, `core_clk` will be enabled as soon as the signal `core_wfi_mode` is de-asserted.
- For the case that the core is waiting for an interrupt to wake up, because the Core can only handle the interrupt processed and distributed by ECLIC unit, then only the interrupt, which is enabled and has greater interrupt level than the interrupt threshold level, can wake up the core. Furthermore, whether enable the `core_clk_aon` inside the core needs to be handled carefully:
  - As mentioned in Section 2.1, the TIMER unit is clocked by `core_clk_aon`, so if the SoC system has disabled the always-on clock `core_clk_aon`, the TIMER unit cannot generate timer or software interrupt because it has no working clock, and the core cannot be woken up.
  - As mentioned in Section 2.1, the ECLIC unit is clocked by `core_clk_aon`, so if the SoC system has disabled the always-on clock `core_clk_aon`, then the external interrupt signal must kept asserted until the SoC enable the `core_clk_aon` again. Otherwise, the ECLIC unit cannot sample the external interrupt signal because it has no working clock, and the core cannot be woken up.
- For the case that the core is waiting for an event or NMI to wake up, if the core sampled (by the `core_clk_aon`) the input signal `rx_evt` (indicate there is one event) or the input signal `nmi` (indicate there is one NMI), the core will be woken up. Furthermore, whether enable the `core_clk_aon` inside the core needs to be handled carefully:



- If the SoC system has disabled the always-on clock `core_clk_aon`, then the input signal `rx_evt` or `nmi` must keep as 1 until the SoC turns on the clock `core_clk_aon`. Otherwise, the core cannot sample the `rx_evt` or `nmi` as the sample logic has no working clock, and the core will not wake up.

## 2.14. Physical Memory Protection

Since the N300 Series Core is low-power core designed for microcontrollers, it does not support the Memory Management Unit, so all the address access operations are using physical addresses. In order to perform memory access protection and isolation according to memory physical address and execution privilege mode, the RISC-V standard architecture defines a physical memory protection mechanism: Physical Memory Protection (PMP).

N300 Series Core can be configured to support the PMP feature. About the programming mode of PMP, please refer to Nuclei ISA specification (Nuclei\_RISCV\_ISA\_Spec), user can easily get the specification from “Nuclei User Center” website <http://user.nucleisys.com>.

## 2.15. FPU Feature

N300 Series Core can be configured to support single-precision (F extension) or double-precision (D extension) floating point instructions. For the details of F/D extension, please refer to Nuclei RISC-V Instruction Set and Privileged Architecture Specification (Nuclei\_RISCV\_ISA\_Spec), user can easily get the specification from “Nuclei User Center” website <http://user.nucleisys.com>.

## 2.16. DSP Feature

N300 Series Core can be configured to support Packed-SIMD DSP instructions, please refer to another document <Nuclei\_DSP\_QuickStart> for the details of DSP instructions. User can easily get the copy from “Nuclei User Center” website <http://user.nucleisys.com>.

## 2.17. NICE Feature

N300 Series Core can be configured to support user to add their custom instructions with NICE (Nuclei Instruction Co-unit Extension) interface. Please refer to another document <Nuclei\_NICE\_Extension> for the details. User can easily get the copy from “Nuclei User Center” website <http://user.nucleisys.com>.

## 2.18. TEE Feature

N300 Series Core can be configured to support the TEE (Trust Execution Environment) feature. About the details of TEE, please refer to another document <Nuclei\_TEE\_Architecture>. User can easily get the copy from “Nuclei User Center” website <http://user.nucleisys.com>.

## 3. Core Interfaces

### 3.1. Clock and Reset Interface

The clock and reset signals of N300 Series Core are as depicted Table 3-1.

**Table 3-1 Clock and Reset Signals**

Signal Name	Direction	Width	Description
core_clk_aon	Input	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This clock is to drive the Always-On Logics of the Core, please refer to Section 2.1 for more details.</li> </ul>
core_clk	Input	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This clock is to drive the Main Logics of the Core, please refer to Section 2.1 for more details.</li> </ul>
por_reset_n	Input	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Power on Reset. This signal is active low signal. This reset will reset the entire N300 Core including the JTAG logics.</li> <li>Note: this reset signal will be synced inside N300 Core to make it as “asynchronously asserted and synchronously de-asserted” style.</li> </ul>
core_reset_n	Input	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>System Reset. This signal is active low signal. This reset will reset the N300 Core except the JTAG logics.</li> <li>Note: this reset signal will be synced inside N300 Core to make it as “asynchronously asserted and synchronously de-asserted” style.</li> </ul>
reset_bypass	Input	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If the reset_bypass signal is high, then the internal generated reset will be bypassed, to allow DFT (Design For Test) rules.</li> <li>Note: if the reset_bypass is high, the core_reset_n will be bypassed and disabled, only the por_reset_n will really take effects.</li> </ul>
clkgate_bypass	Input	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If the clkgate_bypass is high, the clock gater will be bypassed, to allow DFT (Design For Test) rules.</li> </ul>

### 3.2. 4-wire and 2-wire JTAG Debug Interface

N300 Series Core can be configured to support the standard 4-wire JTAG and 2-wire JTAG interface (two modes can be switched dynamically); it is compliant to IEEE 1149.7 T4 Wide protocol. For the 2-wire mode, the Oscano and Oscan1 mode are supported.

The JTAG signals of N300 Series Core are as depicted Table 3-2.

**Table 3-2 JTAG Signals**

Signal Name	Direction	Width	Description
jtag_TCK	Input	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>JTAG TCK signal.</li> <li>Note: this signal needs to be constrained as Clock (asynchronous to the Core's main clock).</li> </ul>
jtag_TMS_in	Input	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4-wire JTAG TMS signal</li> <li>Or 2-wire JTAG TMS input signal from IO PAD.</li> <li>Note: if support 2-wire mode, this signal need to be constrained as Clock (asynchronous to the Core's main clock and jtag_TCK).</li> </ul>
jtag_TMS_out	Output	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2-wire JTAG TMS output signal to IO PAD.</li> <li>Note: if the 2-wire mode does not need to be supported, then this signal is unused.</li> </ul>
jtag_BK_TMS	Output	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2-wire JTAG TMS bus keep control signal to IO PAD. The functionality of this signal will be detailed at late parts.</li> <li>Note: if the 2-wire mode does not need to be supported, then this signal is unused.</li> </ul>
jtag_DRV_TMS	Output	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2-wire JTAG TMS output enable signal to IO PAD. When the TMS is outputting, this DRV_TMS signal will be high to enable IO PAD as output.</li> <li>Note: if the 2-wire mode does not need to be supported, then this signal is unused.</li> </ul>
jtag_TDI	Input	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4-wire JTAG TDI signal.</li> </ul>
jtag_TDO	Output	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4-wire JTAG TDO signal.</li> </ul>
jtag_DRV_TDO	Output	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4-wire JTAG TDO output enable signal to IO PAD. When the TMO is outputting, this DRV_TMO signal will be high to enable IO PAD as output.</li> </ul>
jtag_dwen	Output	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indicate it is in 2-wire mode.</li> <li>Note: if the SoC level is chaining several JTAG TAPs with Core's JTAG, then when Core's JTAG TAP is in 2-wire mode, it may break other standard 4-wire JTAG TAPs on the chain to mis-function. This jtag_dwen signal can be used to disable other standard 4-wire JTAG TAPs on the chain to make sure they functioned correctly.</li> </ul>

The example JTAG IO PADs are depicted as in Figure 3-1. Note:

- The “Optional” part (TDI and TDO) can just not be implemented. If not implemented, the SoC will just support only 2-wire JTAG mode, i.e., IEEE 1149.7 T4 Narrow standard.
- In the IEEE 1149.7 specification, the 2-wire JTAG require JTAG\_TMS\_PAD to have the “Bus Keep” functionality inside the SoC Chip.
  - Nuclei designed “HBird Debugger Kit” will have the “Bus Keeper Circuit” included, so the SoC Chip does not need to implement the “Bus Keep” functionality inside it,

i.e., JTAG\_TMS\_PAD no need to have “Bus Keep” feature.

- But other third part Debugger Hardware Probes may not have the “Bus Keeper Circuit” included, hence, it is still recommended to have JTAG\_TMS\_PAD implemented with “Bus Keep” feature.
- If user SoC Chip’s IO PAD does not have “Bus Keep” feature, it can be implemented with “IO PAD with controllable pull-up and pull-down of” to achieve it, as depicted in Figure 3-2.
- User can manipulate the pull-up and pull-down control signal as below logic codes:

```
// If the Bus Keep is not enabled, the IO Pad will be pull-up by default.
// If the Bus Keep is enabled, then the pull-up enable is driven from PAD_IN, and
// pull-down enable is driven from ~PAD_IN, to make the IO PAD weakly keep the value
// of PAD_IN.

assign RPUEN = bk_en? PAD_IN : 1'b1;
assign RPDEN = bk_en? ~PAD_IN : 1'b0;

// Note: the above bk_en control signal may come from jtag_BK_TMS directly, or combined
// with other software programmable register bit. For example,
//      bk_en = jtag_BK_TMS & ctrl_bk_enable.
// ctrl_bk_enable is from SoC level programmable register bit, such that user can use
// software to disable “Bus Keep” functionality.
```

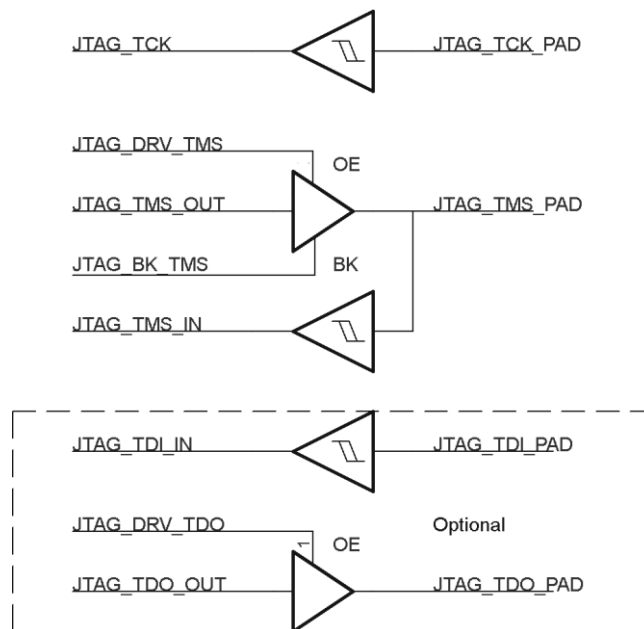
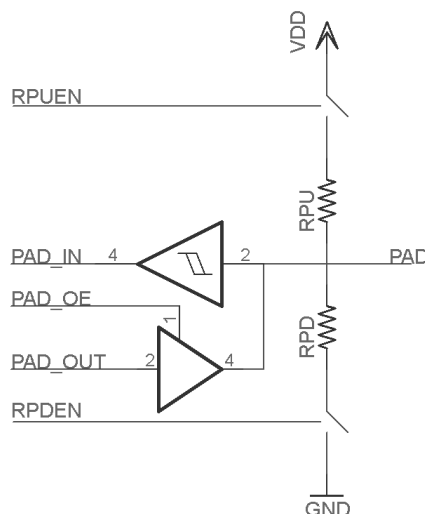


Figure 3-1 The example of JTAG IO PADs



**Figure 3-2 The IO PAD with controllable pull-up and pull-down**

### 3.3. Interrupt Interface

The interrupt signals of N300 Series Core are as depicted Table 3-3

**Table 3-3 Interrupt and NMI signals**

Signal Name	Direction	Width	Description
nmi	Input	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NMI (Non-Maskable Interrupt) input.</li> <li>Note: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>nmi_irq signal will not be synced inside the Core, so this signal need to be synced at the SoC level if it is from different clock domain at SoC.</li> <li>Please refer to Section 2.9 for the details of NMI.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
clic_irq	Input	Configurable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>External Interrupt input, each bit of which can be used to connect an interrupt source.</li> <li>Note: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>clic_irq signal will not be synced inside the Core, so these signals need to be synced at the SoC level if it is from different clock domain at SoC.</li> <li>Please refer to Section 2.9 for the details of interrupt.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## 3.4. Bus Interfaces

N300 Series Core support several bus interfaces, including:

- (Configurable) ILM Master Interface.
- (Configurable) DLM Master Interface.
- (Configurable) PPI Interface.
- (Configurable) FIO Interface.
- MEM (System Memory) Interface.

### 3.4.1. ILM and DLM Interface

ILM interface is used to access Instruction Local Memory, and DLM interface is used to access Data Local Memory. Both the ILM and DLM interface can be configured as AHB-Lite or SRAM protocol interface. If configured as AHB-Lite, it should be noted:

- If the DLM AHB-Lite and ILM AHB-Lite interfaces need to be arbitrated at SoC level, the SoC need to make sure DLM interface have the higher priority than ILM interface.
- N300 Series provide a configurable option “N300\_CFG\_ILM\_DLM\_EXCLUSIVE”, if this option is configured, the Core will guarantee the DLM AHB-Lite and ILM AHB-Lite interfaces will not issue transactions at the same cycle. This configuration can easy the SoC to just use the simple MUX to arbitrate the ILM and DLM AHB-Lite interfaces, without worrying the priority.

#### 3.4.1.1 ILM Master Interface

ILM interface can be configured as AHB-Lite or SRAM protocol.

- If it is configured as AHB-Lite, the signal list is as shown in Table 3-4.
- If it is configured as SRAM, the signal list is as shown in Table 3-5.

**Table 3-4 ILM AHB-Lite signals**

Signal Name	Direction	Width	Description
ilm_htrans	Output	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ AHB-Lite protocol's HTRANS signal.</li> <li>■ Note: in ILM interface, only the IDLE and NONSEQUENTIAL transactions will be issued.</li> </ul>

ilm_haddr	Output	Depends on configuration	■ AHB-Lite protocol's HADDR signal.
ilm_hsize	Output	3	■ AHB-Lite protocol's HSIZE signal. ■ Note: in ILM interface, only the 32bits (HSIZE is 3'b010) transactions will be issued.
ilm_hburst	Output	3	■ AHB-Lite protocol's HBURST signal. ■ Note: in ILM interface, only the SINGLE (HBURST is 3'b000) transactions will be issued.
ilm_hprot	Output	4	■ AHB-Lite protocol's HPROT signal. ■ Note: in ILM interface, ● HPROT[3] is tied to 1, means Cacheable. ● HPROT[2] is tied to 0, means Non-bufferable. ● HPROT[1] can be 1 (Machine Mode) or 0 (User Mode). ● HPROT[0] can be 1 (Data access) or 0 (Instruction access).
ilm_hrdata	Input	32	■ AHB-Lite protocol's HRDATA signal.
ilm_hresp	Input	2	■ AHB-Lite protocol's HRESP signal. ■ Note: in ILM interface, only the OKAY and ERROR response will be supported.
ilm_hready	Input	1	■ AHB-Lite protocol's HREADY signal.
ilm_hwrite	output	1	■ AHB-Lite protocol's HWRITE signal.
ilm_hmastlock	output	1	■ AHB-Lite protocol's HLOCK signal.
ilm_hwdata	output	32	■ AHB-Lite protocol's HWDATA signal.

**Table 3-5 ILM SRAM signals**

Signal Name	Direction	Width	Description
ilm_cs	output	1	■ SRAM's CS signal.
ilm_addr	output	Depends on configuration	■ SRAM's ADDR signal.
ilm_byte_we	output	4	■ SRAM's WEM signal.
ilm_wdata	output	32	■ SRAM's RAM_IN signal.
ilm_rdata	input	32	■ SRAM's RAM_OUT signal.

### 3.4.1.2 DLM Master Interface

DLM interface can be configured as AHB-Lite or SRAM protocol.

- If it is configured as AHB-Lite, the signal list is as shown in Table 3-6.



- If it is configured as SRAM, the signal list is as shown in Table 3-7.

**Table 3-6 DLM AHB-Lite signals**

Signal Name	Direction	Width	Description
dln_htrans	Output	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ AHB-Lite protocol's HTRANS signal.</li> <li>■ Note: in DLM interface, only the IDLE and NONSEQUENTIAL transactions will be issued.</li> </ul>
dln_hwrite	Output	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ AHB-Lite protocol's HWRITE signal.</li> </ul>
dln_haddr	Output	Depends on configuration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ AHB-Lite protocol's HADDR signal.</li> </ul>
dln_hsize	Output	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ AHB-Lite protocol's HSIZE signal.</li> <li>■ Note: in DLM interface, the 8bits, 16bits or 32bits transactions will be issued.</li> </ul>
dln_hburst	Output	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ AHB-Lite protocol's HBURST signal.</li> <li>■ Note: in DLM interface, only the SINGLE (HBURST is 3'b000) transactions will be issued.</li> </ul>
dln_hprot	Output	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ AHB-Lite protocol's HPROT signal.</li> <li>■ Note: in DLM interface, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● HPROT[3] is tied to 1, means Cacheable.</li> <li>● HPROT[2] is tied to 0, means Non-bufferable.</li> <li>● HPROT[1] can be 1 (Machine Mode) or 0 (User Mode).</li> <li>● HPROT[0] is tied to 1 (Data access).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
dln_hmastlock	output	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ AHB-Lite protocol's HLOCK signal.</li> </ul>
dln_master	Output	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ This is not AHB-Lite standard signal.</li> <li>■ Note: in DLM interface, the value of this signal can be 2'b01 (Data access under debug mode) or 2'b00 (Regular data access).</li> </ul>
dln_hwdata	Output	32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ AHB-Lite protocol's HWDATA signal.</li> </ul>
dln_hrdata	Input	32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ AHB-Lite protocol's HRDATA signal.</li> </ul>
dln_hresp	Input	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ AHB-Lite protocol's HRESP signal.</li> <li>■ Note: in DLM interface, only the OKAY and ERROR response will be supported.</li> </ul>
dln_hready	Input	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ AHB-Lite protocol's HREADY signal.</li> </ul>

**Table 3-7 DLM SRAM signals**

Signal Name	Direction	Width	Description
dln_cs	output	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ SRAM's CS signal.</li> </ul>
dln_addr	output	Depends on configuration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ SRAM's ADDR signal.</li> </ul>
dln_byte_we	output	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ SRAM's WEM signal.</li> </ul>

d1m_wdata	output	32	■ SRAM's RAM_IN signal.
d1m_rdata	input	32	■ SRAM's RAM_OUT signal.

### 3.4.2. MEM Interface

MEM interface is used to access system memory for instruction and data. MEM interface is AHB-Lite protocol interface as shown in Table 3-8.

**Table 3-8 MEM signals**

Signal Name	Direction	Width	Description
htrans	Output	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ AHB-Lite protocol's HTRANS signal.</li> <li>■ Note: in MEM interface, if there is no Cache configured in the core, then only the IDLE and NONSEQUENTIAL transactions will be issued; if there are Cache configured, then there could be BUSY and SEQUENTIAL transactions.</li> </ul>
hwrite	Output	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ AHB-Lite protocol's HWRITE signal.</li> </ul>
haddr	Output	32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ AHB-Lite protocol's HADDR signal.</li> </ul>
hsize	Output	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ AHB-Lite protocol's HSIZE signal.</li> <li>■ Note: in MEM interface, the 8bits, 16bits or 32bits transactions will be issued.</li> </ul>
hburst	Output	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ AHB-Lite protocol's HBURST signal.</li> <li>■ Note: in MEM interface, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● If the instruction fetch transaction is not from Cache miss, it is SINGLE (HBURST is 3'b000).</li> <li>● If the data access transaction is not from Cache miss, it is INCR (HBURST is 3'b001).</li> <li>● If the instruction fetch or data access transaction is from Cache miss, it is INCR8 (HBURST is 3'b101).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
hprot	Output	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ AHB-Lite protocol's HPROT signal.</li> <li>■ Note: in MEM interface, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● HPROT[3] is 1 (Cacheable) if the transaction is from Cache miss; otherwise is 0 (Non-Cacheable).</li> <li>● HPROT[2] is 1 (Bufferable) if the transaction is from Cache miss; otherwise is 0 (Non-Bufferable).</li> <li>● HPROT[1] can be 1 (Machine Mode) or 0 (User Mode).</li> <li>● HPROT[0] can be 1 (Data access) or 0 (Instruction fetch).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
hmastlock	output	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ AHB-Lite protocol's HLOCK signal.</li> </ul>
master	Output	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ This is not AHB-Lite standard signal.</li> <li>■ Note: in MEM interface, the value of this signal can be 2'b01 (Data access under debug mode), 2'b00 (Regular data access), or 2'b10 (Regular instruction fetch).</li> </ul>

hwdata	Output	32	■ AHB-Lite protocol's HWDATA signal.
hrdata	Input	32	■ AHB-Lite protocol's HRDATA signal.
hresp	Input	2	■ AHB-Lite protocol's HRESP signal. ■ Note: in DLM interface, only the OKAY and ERROR response will be supported.
hready	Input	1	■ AHB-Lite protocol's HREADY signal.

### 3.4.3. PPI Interface

The configurable PPI (Private Peripheral Interface) is used to access private peripherals. PPI is APB protocol interface as shown in Table 3-9.

**Table 3-9 PPI signals**

Signal Name	Direction	Width	Description
ppi_paddr	Output	32	■ APB protocol's PADDR signal.
ppi_pwrite	Output	1	■ APB protocol's PWRITE signal.
ppi_psel	Output	1	■ APB protocol's PSEL signal.
ppi_dmode	Output	1	■ This is not APB standard signal, indicating the transaction is accessed from debug mode.
ppi_penable	Output	1	■ APB protocol's PENABLE signal.
ppi_pprot	output	3	■ APB protocol's PPROT signal.
ppi_pstrobe	output	4	■ APB protocol's PSTRRB signal.
ppi_pwdata	Output	32	■ APB protocol's PWDATA signal.
ppi_prdata	Input	32	■ APB protocol's PRDATA signal.
ppi_pready	Input	1	■ APB protocol's PREADY signal.
ppi_pslverr	Input	1	■ APB protocol's PSLVERR signal.

### 3.4.4. FIO Interface

The configurable FIO (Fast-IO) interface is used to access private fast peripherals, e.g., GPIO for fast IO manipulation. FIO is simple zero-cycle protocol interface as shown in Table 3-10.

**Table 3-10 FIO signals**

Signal Name	Direction	Width	Description
fio_cmd_valid	Output	1	■ Indicate this is a valid transaction.
fio_cmd_addr	Output	32	■ Indicate the address of transaction.
fio_cmd_read	Output	1	■ Indicate this is a read (1'b1) or write (1'b0).
fio_cmd_dmode	Output	1	■ Indicate this transaction is accessed under debug mode.
fio_cmd_mmode	Output	1	■ Indicate this transaction is accessed under machine mode.
fio_cmd_wdata	Output	32	■ Indicate the write data of transaction.
fio_cmd_wmask	Output	4	■ Indicate the write mask of transaction.
fio_rsp_rdata	Input	32	■ The read-data returned from peripheral. ■ Note: this read-data must take effect at the same cycle as fio_icb_cmd_valid is high.
fio_rsp_err	Input	1	■ The error flag returned from peripheral. ■ Note: this read-data must take effect at the same cycle as fio_icb_cmd_valid is high.

### 3.5. NICE Interface

The configurable NICE interface is used to allow user to extend the custom instructions according to their applications. Please refer to another document <Nuclei\_NICE\_Extension> for the details. User can easily get the copy from “Nuclei User Center” website <http://user.nucleisys.com>.

### 3.6. Trace Interface

The Trace interface is used to output the internal key information from the Core, as shown in Table 3-11.

**Table 3-11 Trace Interface signals**

Signal Name	Direction	Width	Description
-------------	-----------	-------	-------------

trace_ivalid	Output	1	■ Indicate there is a valid instruction is committing or entering trap (exception, NMI, and interrupts).
trace_iexception	Output	1	■ Indicating the Core is entering exception or NMI mode.
trace_interrupt	Output	1	■ Indicating the Core is entering interrupt mode.
trace_cause	Output	32	■ Indicating the cause of trap (same as mcause).
trace_tval	Output	32	■ Indicating the value of exception (same as mtval).
trace_iaddr	Output	32	■ Indicating the PC of current instruction.
trace_instr	Output	32	■ Indicating the instruction code of current instruction.
trace_priv	Output	2	■ Indicating the current privilege mode.

### 3.7. I-Cache SRAM Interface

The I-Cache SRAM interface is the interface of Data RAM and Tag RAM used in Instruction Cache, as shown in Table 3-12.

**Table 3-12 I-Cache SRAM Interface**

Signal Name	Direction	Width	Description
icache_disable_init	Input	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ If this signal is 0, normally after reset, the I-Cache's Tag RAM will be cleared to zero with hundreds or thousands of cycles (depends on the cache size).</li> <li>■ If this signal is 1, then the I-Cache's Tag RAM clear-to-zero operations will be skipped.</li> </ul>
icache_tago_cs	Output	1	■ CS signal of Tag RAMo.
icache_tago_we	Output	1	■ Write enable of Tag RAMo, not support the byte enable.
icache_tago_addr	Output	Depends on configuration	■ Address of Tag RAMo, the width is N300_CFG_ICACHE_ADDR_WIDTH-6
icache_tago_wdata	Output	Depends on configuration	■ Write data of Tag RAMo, the width is 34-N300_CFG_ICACHE_ADDR_WIDTH
icache_tago_rdata	Input	Depends on configuration	■ Read data of Tag RAMo, the width is 34-N300_CFG_ICACHE_ADDR_WIDTH
icache_datao_cs	Output	1	■ CS signal of Data RAMo.
icache_datao_wem	Output	4	■ Write enable of Data RAMo, support the byte enable.
icache_datao_addr	Output	Depends on configuration	■ Address of Data RAMo, the width is N300_CFG_ICACHE_ADDR_WIDTH-3
icache_datao_wdata	Output	32	■ Write data of Data RAMo.
icache_datao_rdata	Input	32	■ Read data of Data RAMo.

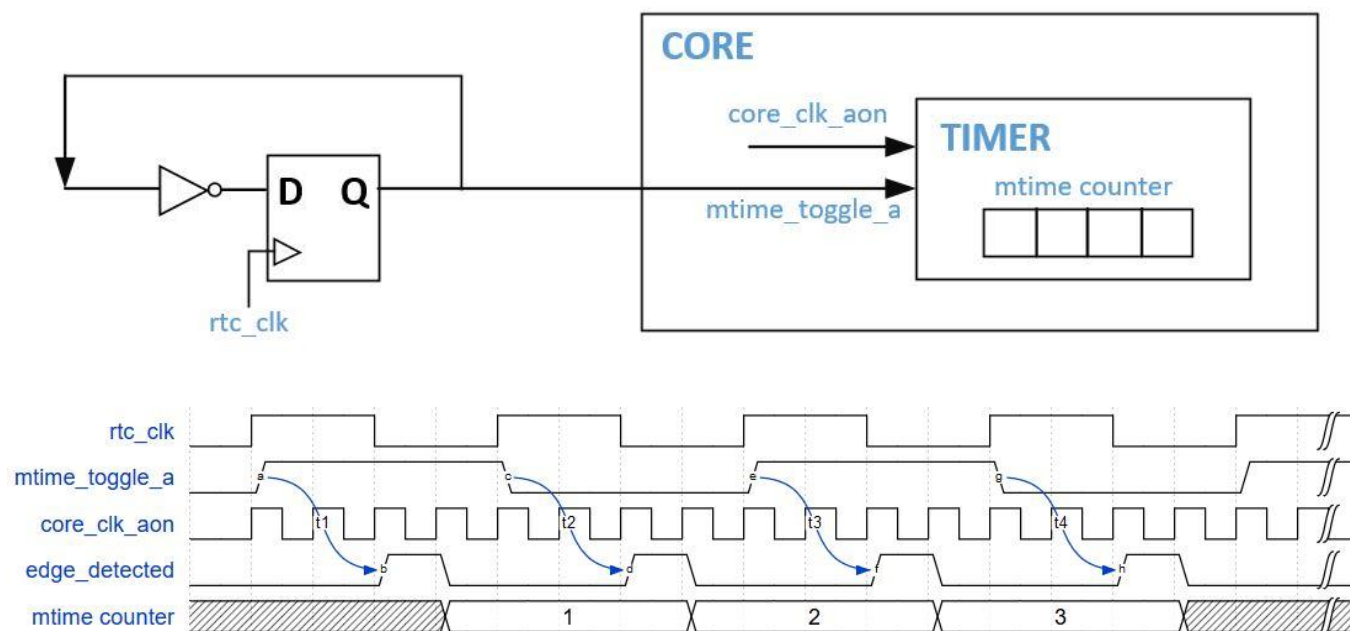
icache_tag1_cs	Output	1	■ CS signal of Tag RAM1.
icache_tag1_we	Output	1	■ Write enable of Tag RAM1, not support the byte enable.
icache_tag1_addr	Output	Depends on configuration	■ Address of Tag RAM1, the width is N300_CFG_ICACHE_ADDR_WIDTH-6
icache_tag1_wdata	Output	Depends on configuration	■ Write data of Tag RAM1, the width is 34-N300_CFG_ICACHE_ADDR_WIDTH
icache_tag1_rdata	Input	Depends on configuration	■ Read data of Tag RAM1, the width is 34-N300_CFG_ICACHE_ADDR_WIDTH
icache_data1_cs	Output	1	■ CS signal of Data RAM1.
icache_data1_wem	Output	1	■ Write enable of Data RAM1, support the byte enable.
icache_data1_addr	Output	Depends on configuration	■ Address of Data RAM1, the width is N300_CFG_ICACHE_ADDR_WIDTH-3
icache_data1_wdata	Output	32	■ Write data of Data RAM1.
icache_data1_rdata	Input	32	■ Read data of Data RAM1.

### 3.8. Other Functional Interface

Table 3-13 Other Interface signals

Signal Name	Direction	Width	Description
tx_evt	Output	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ N300 Series Core use this txevt output a pulse signal as the transmitting Event signal.</li> <li>■ Please refer to “Nuclei_RISCV_ISA_Spec” for more details of CSR register txevt.</li> </ul>
rx_evt	Input	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The receiving Event as the event to wake up Core from WFE mode.</li> <li>■ Please refer to Section 2.13 for more details of WFE.</li> </ul>
mtime_toggle_a	Input	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The mtime_toggle_a is a periodic pulse signal (normally as System Tick) from the SoC system, and used to drive the counter of the internal TIMER unit inside the Core.</li> <li>■ Note: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● This signal is treated as an asynchronous input signal, and is synchronized within the Core (using several DFF synchronizers).</li> <li>● After the synchronization, both the rising edge and falling edge of the signal are sampled by the core_clk_aon of the Core, and any detected edge will trigger the TIMER counter to increment.</li> <li>● It is recommended that use the output of the register driven by the “slow clock” (e.g., rtc_clk, whose frequency is the divided frequency of core_clk_aon ) as the input of this signal. Then the self-increment frequency is equal to the frequency</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

			of the “slow clock”, as shown in the Figure 3-3. Hence, the lower the frequency of the slow clock, the lower the self-increment frequency of the internal timer, the lower the dynamic power consumption.
dbg_toggle_a	Input	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The dbg_toggle_a is a periodic pulse signal from the SoC system, and used to drive the time-out counter of the DEBUG unit inside the Core.</li> <li>■ The time-out counter of DEBUG unit is used to protect the case that if the JTAG Debugger Probe is unexpectedly pulled out which leave the DEBUG unit in an uncertain state.</li> <li>■ Note: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● This DEBUG time-out protection feature is configurable. Hence, this signal will only be there is this feature is configured.</li> <li>● This signal is treated as an asynchronous input signal, and is synchronized within the Core (using several DFF synchronizers).</li> <li>● In order to make the time-out upper limit to around 170-320ms, it is recommended to use 25kHz~50kHz system real-time-clock as the slow clock to generate this dbg_toggle_a signal, the generation scheme of which is similar to Figure 3-3.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
hart_id	Input	32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The Core’s HART ID indication signal, when integration in SoC, this input can be tied to a specific constant value, and the value of it will be reflected in CSR register mhartid inside the Core.</li> <li>■ In single Core case, this signal should be tied as zero.</li> </ul>
reset_vector	Input	32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ This signal is to indicate the PC value of the first instruction to be fetched after reset.</li> <li>■ User can use this signal at SoC level to control the PC address of first instruction executed after reset.</li> </ul>
hart_halted	Output	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ If this output signal is 1, it is indicating the Core is under debug mode.</li> </ul>
i_dbg_stop	input	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ If this input signal is 1, then the Core’s Debug functionality will be disabled, and the external Debug Hardware Probe cannot debug the Core through JTAG interface.</li> </ul>
sysrstreq	output	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ This output signal is the System Reset request generated from the Core. The SoC integrator can use this signal to trigger the Core’s core_reset_n (Note: please must not trigger por_reset_n) to reset the Core except the JTAG logics.</li> </ul>
core_wfi_mode	Output	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ If this signal is 1, then indicating the Core is under sleep mode.</li> <li>■ Please refer to Section 2.13 for more details of sleep modes.</li> </ul>
core_sleep_value	Output	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ When the core_wfi_mode signal is 1, this signal is to indicate the shallow sleep or deep sleep mode.</li> <li>■ Please refer to Section 2.13 for more details of sleep modes.</li> </ul>



**Figure 3-3 mtime\_toggle\_a signal generation**



## 4. Configurable Options

N300 Series Core is fully configurable. The configurable options are as shown in Table 4-1.

Note: about how to configure the processor IP package with GUI tools, please refer to another document <Nuclei\_N300\_Integration\_Guide> for the details. User can easily get the copy from “Nuclei User Center” website <http://user.nucleisys.com>.

**Table 4-1 The configurable option of N300 Series**

Categories	Macro	Description
<b>User Mode</b>	N300_CFG_HAS_UMODE	■ This Macro configures to have the user mode.
<b>TEE</b>	N300_CFG_HAS_TEE	■ This Macro configures to have the TEE feature.
<b>PMP</b>	N300_CFG_HAS_PMP	■ This Macro configures to have the PMP feature. ■ Note: this option only appeared if the User Mode have been configured.
	N300_CFG_PMP_ENTRY_NUM	■ This Macro configures the PMP entries number. ● 8: Means PMP has 8 entries. ● 16: Means PMP has 16 entries.
<b>Debug Features</b>	N300_CFG_HAS_DEBUG	■ This Macro configures to have the Debug functionalities. ■ Note: the Debug unit cost about 4K Gates resource.
	N300_CFG_DEBUG_BASE_ADDR	■ This Macro to configure the base address of the Debug unit. ■ Note: the Debug unit will occupy 4K address space starting from its base address.
	N300_CFG_DEBUG_TRIGM_NUM	■ This Macro to configure the number of Hardware Trigger (2/4/8). ■ Note: each Trigger cost about 64bits DFFs resource.
	N300_CFG_DEBUG_PROGBUF_SIZE	■ This Macro to configure the number of Program Buffer (2~16).
	N300_CFG_HAS_SBA	■ This Macro configures to have SBA (System Bus Access) feature, with this feature the Debugger can directly access the memory without halting the Core.
	N300_CFG_DEBUG_TIMEOUT	■ This Macro configures to have “DEBUG time-out protection” feature. Please refer to the dbg_toggle_a signal

		in Table 3-13 for more details of this feature.
	N300_CFG_DEBUG_COUNTLEN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ This Macro to configure the time-out counter's width of "DEBUG time-out protection" feature.</li> <li>■ Note: the timer-out upper limit is calculated by <math>2^{N300\_CFG\_DEBUG\_COUNTLEN} / (2 * \text{FREQ\_dbg\_toggle\_a})</math>. User should configure this Macro to make the upper limit to around 170-320ms.</li> </ul>
<b>I-Cache</b>	N300_CFG_HAS_ICACHE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ This Macro configures to have I-Cache.</li> </ul>
	N300_CFG_ICACHE_ADDR_WIDTH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ This Macro to configure the I-Cache Size.</li> <li>■ It is using the ADDR_WIDTH as the Cache Size metric, for example, if the Cache Size wants to be 1Kbytes, then the ADDR_WIDTH should be configured as 10.</li> </ul>
	N300_CFG_SCRATCHPAD_MODE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ This Macro to configure the I-Cache has Scratchpad Mode. Please refer to Section 2.4 for the details of Scratchpad Mode.</li> <li>■ Note: this configuration only allowed when ILM is not configured.</li> </ul>
	N300_CFG_SCRATCHPAD_BASE_ADDR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ This Macro to configure the base address of the Scratchpad.</li> </ul>
<b>Local Memory</b>	N300_CFG_HAS_ILM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ This Macro configures to have ILM.</li> </ul>
	N300_CFG_LM_ITF_TYPE_AHBL N300_CFG_LM_ITF_TYPE_SRAM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ This Macro to configure the interface protocol of LM interfaces as the AHB-Lite or SRAM Style.</li> </ul>
	N300_CFG_ILM_BASE_ADDR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ This Macro to configure the base address of the ILM.</li> </ul>
	N300_CFG_ILM_ADDR_WIDTH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ This Macro to configure the address space of ILM.</li> <li>■ For example, if the ADDR_WIDTH is 20, and the BASE_ADDR is 0x1000_0000, then the address space of ILM is 0x1000_0000 ~ 0x100F_FFFF.</li> </ul>
	N300_CFG_HAS_DLM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ This Macro configures to have DLM.</li> </ul>
	N300_CFG_DLM_BASE_ADDR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ This Macro to configure the base address of the DLM.</li> </ul>
	N300_CFG_DLM_ADDR_WIDTH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ This Macro to configure the address space of DLM.</li> <li>■ For example, if the ADDR_WIDTH is 20, and the BASE_ADDR is 0x1000_0000, then the address space of DLM is 0x1000_0000 ~ 0x100F_FFFF.</li> </ul>
	N300_CFG_ILM_DLM_EXCLUSIVE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ If this option is configured, the Core will guarantee the DLM AHB-Lite and ILM AHB-Lite interfaces will not issue</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ transactions at the same cycle.</li> <li>■ Please refer to Section 3.4.1 for more details.</li> </ul>
	N300_CFG_LSU_ACCESS_ILM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ If this option is configured, the Data accessing can directly goes to ILM interface if the accessing address is within ILM space.</li> <li>■ Please refer to Section 2.6 for more details.</li> </ul>
<b>PPI</b>	N300_CFG_HAS_PPI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ This Macro configures to have PPI.</li> </ul>
	N300_CFG_PPI_BASE_ADDR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ This Macro to configure the base address of the PPI interface.</li> </ul>
	N300_CFG_PPI_ADDR_WIDTH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ This Macro to configure the address space of PPI.</li> <li>■ For example, if the ADDR_WIDTH is 20, and the BASE_ADDR is 0x1000_0000, then the address space of PPI is 0x1000_0000 ~0x100F_FFFF.</li> </ul>
<b>FIO</b>	N300_CFG_HAS_FIO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ This Macro configures to have FIO.</li> </ul>
	N300_CFG_FIO_BASE_ADDR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ This Macro to configure the base address of the FIO interface.</li> </ul>
	N300_CFG_FIO_WIDTH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ This Macro to configure the address space of FIO.</li> <li>■ For example, if the ADDR_WIDTH is 20, and the BASE_ADDR is 0x1000_0000, then the address space of FIO is 0x1000_0000 ~0x100F_FFFF.</li> </ul>
<b>ECLIC</b>	N300_CFG_CLIC_BASE_ADDR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ This Macro to configure the base address of the ECLIC. Please refer to Section 2.6 for more details.</li> </ul>
	N300_CFG_CLIC_IRQ_NUM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ This Macro to configure the number of external interrupts; it can be up to 1005 interrupts.</li> </ul>
	N300_CFG_CLICINTCTLBITS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ This Macro to configure the bits width (range from 1 to 8) of level registers in ECLIC.</li> <li>■ For example, if this Macro is configured as 3, then ECLIC can support 8 levels; if this Macro is configured as 8, then ECLIC can support 256 levels.</li> </ul>
	N300_CFG_CLIC_FLOP_OUT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ This Macro to add one more register flop stage at the output of ECLIC to easy the timing of interrupt arbitrations, but added 1 more cycle for interrupt latency.</li> </ul>
<b>TIMER</b>	N300_CFG_TMR_BASE_ADDR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ This Macro to configure the base address of the TIMER. Please refer to Section 2.6 for more details.</li> </ul>
<b>Timing Boost</b>	N300_CFG_HAS_PREFETCH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ If this Macro is configured, then</li> </ul>

		<p>I-Fetch unit will be equipped with a Prefetch Unit for ILM/I-Cache/BIU.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Note: this option will help the timing path of “from ILM/I-Cache/BIU to Instruction-fetch interface”.</li> <li>Note: this option will add around 2K Gates resource and around 8% performance drop.</li> </ul>
	N300_CFG_DELAY_BRANCH_FLUSH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If this Macro is configured, then the branch mis-prediction flush will be added with 1 more cycle penalty, it will help the timing path of “from ALU to branch-resolve to Instruction-fetch interface”.</li> </ul>
NICE	N300_CFG_HAS_NICE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This Macro configures to have NICE feature, to allow user to extend their custom instructions.</li> <li>Note: if this Macro is configured, then N300_CFG_REGFILE_2WP must also be configured.</li> </ul>
	N300_CFG_NICE_64BITS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If the DSP is configured, then this Macro configures to have NICE to support 64bits wide operands.</li> </ul>
FPU	N300_CFG_FPU_SINGLE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This Macro configures to have single-precision floating point support.</li> </ul>
	N300_CFG_FPU_DOUBLE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This Macro configures to have double-precision floating point support.</li> </ul>
	N300_CFG_3CYC_FPU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This Macro configures to have floating point MAC unit as 3 cycles latency (better timing and worse performance), otherwise it is 2 cycles.</li> </ul>
DSP	N300_CFG_HAS_DSP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This Macro configures to have packed-SIMD DSP support.</li> </ul>
	N300_CFG_HAS_DSP_DEDICATE_MUL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This Macro configures to make DSP have dedicated MUL unit, to enhance timing with 6K gatecount cost added.</li> </ul>