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Advancements and Challenges in FPGA Prototyping for High-Performance Computing Applications

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Abstract: Field-Programmable Gate Arrays (FPGAs) have emerged as versatile hardware platforms in high-performance computing, offering a unique balance of flexibility, performance, and energy efficiency. This article explores the advancements in FPGA prototyping techniques and their applications across various computational domains. It examines how modern FPGAs, with their reconfigurable architecture, provide viable alternatives to fixed-function processors for specific workloads, particularly those with irregular parallelism patterns. The discussion encompasses recent developments in FPGA design tools, including High-Level Synthesis capabilities that have democratized hardware development, along with the performance advantages demonstrated in data processing, machine learning, and cryptographic applications. While highlighting these benefits, the article also addresses significant challenges that limit widespread FPGA adoption, including resource constraints, design complexity, and scaling issues when transitioning from prototypes to production environments.

Keywords: Reconfigurable Computing, Hardware Acceleration, High-level Synthesis, Energy Efficiency, Spatial Computing







