April 2000

**Geode™**

**C**

**S9210**

**Graphics**

**Companion**

DS<br>NST

**Controller**

# **Geode™ CS9210 Graphics Companion DSTN Controller**

# **General Description**

The CS9210 graphics companion is suitable for systems that use either the GXLV or GXm processor along with the CS5530 I/O companion; all members of the National Semiconductor<sup>®</sup> Geode<sup>™</sup> family of products. The CS9210 converts the digital RGB output stream to the digital graphics input stream required by most industry standard DSTN color flat panel LCDs. It can drive all standard DSTN flat panels up to a 1024x768 resolution. The system connection example shows how the CS9210 interfaces with the rest of the system components.

# **Features**

- 18-bit color support for digital pixel input
- 65 MHz pixel clock operation supports up to 1024x768 panels
- Simultaneous CRT and DSTN display with up to 75 Hz refresh rate
- 2X display refresh modes, up to 120 Hz
- Supports most SVGA DSTN panels and the VESA FPDI (Flat Panel Display Interface) Revision 1.0 **Specification**
- TFT panel support provided by use of one connector; allows a pass-through mode for the digital pixel input
- Programmable frame rate modulation (FRM), up to 32 levels
- Programmable dither, up to 16 levels
- Supports EDO memory, 16-bit interface
- Configuration via a serial programming interface
- Low-power, 3.3V operation
- 144-pin LQFP (Low-profile Quad Flat Pack)



# **Table of Contents**





**Geode™**

**C**

**S9210**

# **2.0 Signal Definitions**

This section defines the signals and external interface of the Geode CS9210. Figure 2-1 shows the pins organized by their functional groupings (internal test and electrical pins are not shown).

# **2.1 PIN ASSIGNMENTS**

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The tables in this section use several common abbreviations. Table 2-1 lists the mnemonics and their meanings.

Figure 2-2 shows the pin assignment for the CS9210 with Tables 2-2 and 2-3 listing the pin assignments sorted by pin number and alphabetically by signal name, respectively.

In Section 2.2 "Signal Descriptions" a description of each signal within its associated functional group is provided.

## **Table 2-1. Pin Type Definitions**







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**C**

**S9210**





#### 73 VDD PWR -- MD\_B7 I/O 4 MD\_B8 I/O 4 MD\_B9 I/O 4 77 MD\_B10 | I/O | 4 MD\_B11 I/O 4 MD\_B12 I/O 4 MD\_B13 I/O 4 81 MD\_B14 | I/O | 4 MD\_B15 I/O 4 83 MA\_B0 0 4 84 MA\_B1 0 4 85 MA\_B2 0 4 MA\_B3 O 4 87 MA\_B4 O 4 MA\_B5 O 4 89 VSS GND --90 VSS GND -- VDD PWR -- 92 MA\_B6 0 4 MA\_B7 O 4 MA\_B8 O 4 95 MA\_B9 0 4 96 LD0 0 12 97 LD1 0 12 98 LD2 0 12 99 LD3 O 12 100 LD4 0 12 101 LD5 0 12 102 LD6 0 12 103 LD7 0 12 104 LD8 0 12 105 LD9 0 12 106 LD10 | O | 12 107 LD11 0 12 **Pin No. Signal Name Type Drive (mA)**

108 VDD PWR --



# **Table 2-2. Pin Assignments - Sorted by Pin Number**



# **Table 2-3. Pin Assignments - Sorted Alphabetically by Signal Name**

**Pin No.**

# **2.2 SIGNAL DESCRIPTIONS**

## **2.2.1 Pixel Port Interface Signals**



#### **2.2.2 Serial Interface Signals**



## **2.2.3 Flat Panel Interface Signals**



# **2.2.3 Flat Panel Interface Signals (Continued)**



# **2.2.4 Memory Interface Signals**





## **2.2.4 Memory Interface Signals (Continued)**

#### **2.2.5 Reset and Internal Test Pins**



## **2.2.6 Power and Ground Pins**



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**C**

**S9210**

# **3.0 Functional Description**

The Geode CS9210 graphics companion connects to the TFT port of the CS5530 I/O companion chip (see Figure 3-1). It formats the graphics refresh data for the DSTN display and controls the refresh of the DSTN LCD.

The CS9210 must be connected to two 60ns EDO (Extended Data Out) 256Kx16 DRAMs that store a DSTNformatted copy of the frame buffer. Pixel data is received by the pixel port, formatted by a programmable FRM (Frame Rate Modulator) and dither block, and then stored in the CS9210 frame buffer. The formatted pixel data is subsequently read from the DRAMs and used to refresh the DSTN panel. The panel can be refreshed at 1X or 2X the input refresh rate, up to a maximum refresh rate of 120 Hz. Using two banks of DRAM, the CS9210 controls each bank independently to allow for maximal use of the DRAM bandwidth and to minimize the amount of on-chip buffering.

The FRM/dithering formatting is accomplished via a pair of mapping RAMs. The first is used for FRM coloring; the second for dithering. The FRM RAM is a 32x64-bit map, representing 64 frames of data for 32 color patterns. The dithering RAM is a 16x4x4-bit map, yielding 16 dithering levels. The RAM-based FRM/dither approach gives the OEM the most flexibility to tune the FRM and dithering algorithms for a specific panel.

The FRM and dither maps are loaded, along with the remaining control registers, through a simple serial programming port that connects to the CS5530 I/O companion chip as illustrated in Figure 3-1. Figure 3-2 shows an alternative connection method.

## **3.1 MODE SELECTION**

The CS9210 can be configured for three modes of operation. The mode selected depends on the type of panel being connected to the flat panel interface:

- 16-bit DSTN Mode - Supports DSTN panels with 640x480 or 800x600 resolutions.
- 24-bit DSTN Mode
	- Supports DSTN panels with 1024x768 pixel resolution.
- TFT Pass-Through Mode
	- Allows a common connector to be used for TFT LCD panels and DSTN LCD panels. The system software can configure the CS9210 to operate in a Pass-Through mode that presents the digital pixel (RGB) input data on the UD/LD output pins to drive a TFT panel on the common connector. The input data is registered internally before being presented at the output pins to better control the timing of the panel interface signals.

Mode selection is programmed via Index 02h, bits 1 and 0 as shown in Table 3-1. Depending on the mode selected, the panel data that is presented on the UD/LD buses will vary.



**Figure 3-1. CS5530 and CS9210 Signal Connections**



Table 3-2 shows the mapping of the data in the three supported modes. The notation "UG1", for example, represents the bit value for the green component of pixel number 1 for the upper panel data. Note that exactly 2 and 2/3 pixels are presented to the panel per SHFCLK in 16 bit DSTN mode. The 16-bit DSTN mode pixel data sequence shown in Table 3-2 would start on the next SHFCLK with UB2 and LB2 followed by the bit values for the red, green, and blue components of pixel 3.

The mode selection is dictated by the panel type. A panel with a 1024x768 pixel resolution cannot be made to run at an 800x600 resolution by changing the mode selection from 24-bit DSTN to 16-bit DSTN.

Also note that the 16-bit/24-bit designation applies to the width of the data presented every SHFCLK to the DSTN panel on the UD/LD outputs. The 16-bit/24-bit designation has nothing to do with bits-per-pixel.

#### **3.2 2X REFRESH MODE**

When 2X refresh mode is enabled, each incoming frame of screen data is duplicated or displayed twice on the LCD panel. The rate at which frames are displayed to the panel is twice the incoming frame rate. Higher refresh rates improve picture quality and help to reduce any flickering effects caused by frame rate modulation.



**Table 3-2. Panel Output Signal Mapping**

**Note**: An "Unused" panel output is driven low at all times.

# **3.3 TIMING SIGNALS AND PANEL CLOCK**

The CS9210 controls the generation of the flat panel timing signals via internal counters that count pixels as they are output to the display. When the last pixel of a line is output, the LP signal is asserted. The duration of the LP is programmable via the LP Start and End registers at Index 0Ch-0Fh has shown in Table 3-3. Certain panels require extra LPs at the end of a frame scan. This requirement is also supported. The FLM output is asserted after a vertical sync has occurred and the first pixel line, while ENA\_DISP is active, has begun. Position and duration of the FLM pulse is also programmable via the FLM Start and End registers at Index 10h-13h as shown in Table 3-3.

The CS9210 generates the STN panel clock. Since fractional pixels are generally sent on the pixel bus to STN panels, the ability to control the SHFCLK signal on a pixelto-pixel basis is provided to modulate the panel clock duty cycle. Generally, for 16-bit DSTNs, the panel clock is the DOTCLK divided by four with every fourth pulse masked off (three SHFCLKs for four DOTCLK/4s). Programmable options provide support for a wide range of panels.

# **3.4 SIMULTANEOUS DISPLAY**

The problem with displaying pixel data to both a CRT screen and a dual-scan STN panel at the same time, is that both the upper and lower halves of a dual-scan STN panel screen must be written at the same time. For a dualscan STN panel, pixel data for two horizontal scan lines is written to the panel at the same time, one scan line to the upper half of the panel and one scan line to the lower half of the panel. This differs from the order that pixel data is written to a CRT screen, where the pixel data for one horizontal scan line at a time is written to the screen, starting with the scan line at the top of the screen and ending at the bottom of the screen.

Designs which incorporate the CS9210 are able to support simultaneous display with a dual-scan STN panel and CRT. The CS9210 stores an entire frame of pixel data in one of the external DRAM frame buffers, and then reorders the pixel data stream to include pixel data for both the upper and lower halves of the screen before sending the data out to the panel. The data in the DRAM buffer has already been frame-rate-modulated and/or dithered, if necessary, and packed as three bits per pixel.

Simultaneous display is supported with both the panel and CRT in the same mode and refresh rate. In this mode, the refresh rate should be set as high as possible while maintaining compatibility with established monitor timing standards (typically 72-75 Hz). The same pixel input data is fed to the CRT and the CS9210 simultaneously. As the data comes into the CS9210, it is stored in one of the external DRAM frame buffers. At the same time data is being stored for the current frame, the CS9210 is reading pixel data for the previous frame from the other external DRAM frame buffer and sending it out on the flat panel interface.

![](_page_14_Picture_1407.jpeg)

#### **Table 3-3. Timing Related Registers**

#### **3.5 MAXIMUM FREQUENCY**

The CS9210 will operate at a DOTCLK frequency of up to 65 MHz. There is no minimum frequency for the CS9210 device; however, many flat panels have signal timings that require minimum frequencies. Refer to the flat panel display specifications as appropriate.

#### **3.6 RESET PROCEDURES**

The SCLK and DOTCLK inputs do not need to be running when RESET# is asserted low. The assertion of RESET# or the issue of a soft reset through the serial interface will force the CS9210 into an internal reset state. After RESET# is deasserted or after a soft reset is issued, the CS9210 requires four SCLK pulses followed by ten DOT-CLK pulses to bring it out of the internal reset state.

#### **3.7 SERIAL INTERFACE**

The serial interface is used to read and write registers and the FRM and dithering pattern memories inside the CS9210. One byte at a time is transferred across the serial interface. The serial interface protocol defines an 8 bit address for up to 256 bytes of direct addressing. The address mapping for this 256 byte address space is defined in Table 4-1 on page 24.

As shown in Table 3-4, the Control Register, Index 02h, which is accessed through this serial interface, contains a bit called LCD Enable (bit 6). This bit is turned on only after all timing registers and FRM/Dither memories have been programmed. The LCD panel will not power on until this bit is enabled.

When this bit is enabled, all other registers accessed through the serial interface become read only and cannot be written to, and the FRM and dither memory address ranges cannot be accessed at all. Writing to other registers or the FRM and dither memory addresses while the LCD enable bit is enabled has no effect. Reading from the FRM and dither memory address spaces while the LCD enable bit is enabled returns unknown data.

#### **Table 3-4. LCD Enable Bit**

![](_page_15_Picture_899.jpeg)

The read and write protocols for the serial interface are described in Table 3-5 and illustrated in Figures 3-3 and 3- 4. The protocol begins with the assertion of the SCS input, followed by one start bit and three command bits. Only two commands are defined, one for read and one for write. The read protocol continues with one idle bit and eight bits of read data on SDO. The write protocol continues with eight bits of write data on SDIN and one idle bit. The deassertion of the SCS input for one SCLK cycle is required to end the transaction.

Note that data driven into the CS9210 is shown changing on the falling edge of SCLK. In general, this is a good practice to avoid hold time problems that might occur if the data were changing near the rising edge of SCLK. The CS9210 samples the serial interface input signals with the rising edge of SCLK. Data driven on the SDO output by the CS9210 changes on the rising edge of SCLK.

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**C**

**S9210**

![](_page_16_Picture_572.jpeg)

#### **Table 3-5. Serial Interface Read/Write Sequences**

#### **3.8 COLOR GENERATION**

Each pixel on an LCD panel consists of three primary color components: red, green, and blue. Each primary color component, for a given pixel, can be either turned on or turned off. A total of eight colors can be generated for a given pixel through different combinations of turning each color component either on or off. In order to generate more colors, frame rate modulation (FRM) and dithering are used in the CS9210. The CS9210 is capable of generating 262,144 different colors based on the 18-bit RGB pixel input from the pixel port interface. The following sections describe how frame rate modulation and dithering are implemented.

#### **3.8.1 Frame Rate Modulation (FRM)**

The idea of frame rate modulation is to turn each primary color component of a pixel on and off at a certain rate to create the perception of various color intensities. The intensity or brightness of each color component depends on what percentage of time the color component is turned on and what percentage of time the color component is turned off.

For example, take a given pixel whose blue and green color components are always off. If the pixel's red color component was also always off, the pixel would be black. If the pixel's red color component was always on, the pixel would be bright red, as bright as the red could get. However, if the red color component were alternating between being on and off, the pixel would look about half as bright as the brightest red.

The CS9210 independently turns the red, green, and blue pixel color components on and off on a per frame basis (a frame is one entire screen of pixels). The FRM sequence specifies which frames the color component will be on and which ones it will be off. These sequences are 64 bits long, with each bit representing one frame. Once the end of a sequence has been reached, the CS9210 will go back to the beginning of the sequence and start over.

Figure 3-5 illustrates how one color component of a given pixel might be turned on and off over 64 frames to achieve the perception of a given color component intensity.

The pixel port data of the CS9210 is comprised of six bits for each of the three primary colors. Each of these 6-bit color intensity values is dithered down to five bits (see Section 3.8.2 "Dithering" on page 20 for a detailed description of dithering). These 5-bit color intensity values are then used to select one of the 32 FRM sequences stored in the CS9210.

![](_page_17_Figure_10.jpeg)

**Figure 3-5. Sample FRM Sequence**

#### **3.8.1.1 Choosing FRM Sequences**

Care must be taken when choosing FRM sequences to reduce the effects of flickering (the low frequency variations) that can be detected by the human eye. Definition of FRM sequences will also depend on the characteristics of the LCD panel being used. For these reasons, generation of an FRM sequence table involves lots of experimentation. Table 3-6 illustrates an FRM sequence table for a single primary color component.

An FRM sequence of 1's and 0's is defined for each 5-bit input color component intensity value. The frequency ratio indicates the number of 0 to 1 transitions within the 64 frame sequence. This value multiplied by the screen refresh rate will give the frequency of frame rate modulation for the given color component intensity. The intensity ratio indicates the fractional amount of time that the pixel color component will be turned on.

Higher frame modulation frequencies result in better picture quality. Very low frequencies are more noticeable to the human eye. It also seems that the human eye is less responsive to differences in frequency at low intensities.

The relationship between input intensity and the resulting intensity ratio of the FRM sequence is not necessarily linear. This relationship depends on the non-linear characteristics of the LCD panel used.

In the FRM Sequence Table it was determined through experimentation that intensity ratios outside the range of 16/64 to 48/64 (other than 0/64 and 64/64) resulted in frequency ratios that were low enough that the human eye would be able to detect flickering more easily. However, because the human eye is less sensitive to frequency variations at low intensity, instead of jumping directly from 0/64 to 16/64, it appeared acceptable to gradually increase the intensity ratio from 0/64 to 16/64. The intensity ratio then slowly increases from 16/64 to 48/64 to create a smooth transition through different gray scale levels. The full scale intensity ratio is truncated at 48/64 intentionally to reduce the effect of sudden changes in intensity level and frequency variation.

![](_page_18_Picture_587.jpeg)

#### **Table 3-6. FRM Sequence Table Example For One Color Component**

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**C**

**S9210**

#### **3.8.1.2 Removal of Flickering**

One side effect of frame rate modulation is flickering. When a large group of pixels on an LCD panel are the exact same color, and all of the pixels in this large group are blinking on and off together in synchronization, the flickering effect is detectable by the human eye. The CS9210 removes detectable flickering by de-synchronizing adjacent pixels so that they do not turn on and off at the same time.

This reduction of flickering due to FRM is achieved in the CS9210 through the use of one pair of linear feedback shift registers (LFSRs) for each pixel color component to introduce screen position dependent randomization. For each color component, one 15-bit LFSR, which is advanced each pixel, is used to generate global randomization, and one 9-bit LFSR, which is advanced each horizontal line, is used to generate local randomization. Both LFSRs are reset to their seeded value at the beginning of each frame. The lower six bits of each LFSR is added to the frame count and the resulting value is used to index the FRM sequence table. The addition of the lower six bits of these two LFSRs gives each pixel location on the screen a fixed random offset into the FRM sequence table so that adjacent pixels of the same color are not on the same frame count in the 64-bit FRM sequence.

#### **3.8.2 Dithering**

The idea behind dithering is to achieve intermediate color intensities by allowing the human eye to blend or average the intensities of adjacent pixels on a screen. Intensity resolution is gained by sacrificing spatial resolution.

For example, consider just the red color component of a 2x2 square of pixels. If the only two options for the red color component were to be turned on or off, then there would only be two colors, black and the brightest red. However, if two of the pixels' red color components in the 2x2 square were turned on and two were turned off, the human eye would blend these adjacent pixels and the 2x2 pixel square would appear to be half as bright as the brightest red. The drawback is that fine details and boundaries between regions of differing color intensities become slightly blurred.

The CS9210 supports dithering patterns over a 4x4 pixel area. A 4x4 pixel area supports 16 different dithering patterns. This means that the 6-bit input intensity for a given pixel primary color component can be reduced to its two most significant bits by using the four least significant bits to select a 4x4 pixel pattern whose average intensity is equal to the original 6-bit input intensity value.

For example, consider a display screen (not a DSTN panel) which is capable of producing four different intensities of the red color component for each pixel. Given a 6 bit red intensity value, "010110", the problem is to come up with a 4x4 pixel pattern using only the four available red pixel intensities that, when averaged together, yields the value of the original 6-bit intensity.

Figure 3-6 shows a potential dither pattern for this color intensity. As the computer starts to update the screen, the X[1:0] and Y[1:0] values will both be 00. According to the 4x4 pattern in Figure 3-6, the value "100000" will be sent to the screen. After that pixel has been sent, the next pixel in the display line will be processed, incrementing X[1:0] to 01 and leaving Y[1:0] untouched. Looking at the dither pattern, the value for this pixel is "010000", which is sent to the display screen. The dither pattern is traversed in this manner, X increments after each pixel and Y increments after each display line, until the whole screen has been rendered. If all sixteen values of this dither pattern were averaged, the result would match the original value of "010110".

The actual dithering pattern is a 4x4 pattern of 1's and 0's. A "0" in a given position of the pattern indicates that the truncated value of the input color component intensity be used. A "1" means use the next higher truncated value. Since, in the previous example, only four different intensities are capable of being generated, only the upper two bits are sent to the display screen, the rest are dropped. For an intensity value of "010110"; the truncated value is "01", and the next higher truncated value is "10".

		X[1:0]			
		00	01	10	11
Y[1:0]	00	100000	010000	100000	010000
	01	010000	100000	010000	010000
	10	100000	010000	100000	010000
	11	010000	010000	010000	100000

**Figure 3-6. Dithered 4x4 Pixel Pattern**

Figure 3-7 shows the suggested order in which 1's should be added to the dithering pattern as the least significant four bits of the input intensity increase in value from 0 to 15.

![](_page_20_Figure_2.jpeg)

#### **Figure 3-7. 4-bit Dither Pattern Sequence**

For the previous dithering pattern example where the input intensity value was "010110", the value of the least significant four bits is 6, which means that positions 1 through 6 in Figure 3-7 of the dithering pattern would be set to 1, all other positions would be set to 0. If the least significant four bits have a value of 0, all sixteen positions will be set to 0.

#### **3.8.2.1 N-Bit Dithering Schemes**

All discussions to this point have referred to a 4-bit dithering scheme. A 4-bit dithering scheme is one in which the least significant four bits of the input intensity value for each pixel color component are truncated and these least significant four bits are used to select a 4x4 dithering pattern.

Other dithering schemes include 3-bit, 2-bit, and 1-bit dithering. In the 3-bit dithering scheme, only the least significant three bits of the input intensity value for each color component are truncated. These three bits are then used to select a 4x4 dithering pattern similar to the 4-bit scheme. As the value of the least significant three bits increases from 0 to 7, two 1's are added to the pattern for each increment of the 3-bit value.

The 2-bit dithering scheme selects a dithering pattern based on the least significant two bits of the input intensity value for each color component. As the value of these two bits increases from 0 to 3, four 1's are added to the pattern for each increment of the 2-bit value.

The 1-bit dithering scheme uses the least significant bit of the input intensity value to select one of two dithering patterns. When the least significant bit is 0, the pattern is all 0's. When the least significant bit is 1, the pattern is alternating 0's and 1's.

Figure 3-8 shows the suggested order for adding 1's to the dithering patterns for the 3-, 2-, and 1-bit dithering schemes.

X[1:0]

**3-Bit Scheme**

![](_page_20_Picture_919.jpeg)

#### **2-Bit Scheme**

![](_page_20_Picture_920.jpeg)

#### **1-Bit Scheme**

![](_page_20_Figure_16.jpeg)

**Figure 3-8. N-Bit Dithering Pattern Schemes**

#### **3.8.3 Combining FRM and Dithering**

The temporal and spatial modulation techniques of FRM and dithering are combined to reduce each input color component intensity value down to a single bit without sacrificing the color resolution of the original 6-bit intensity value. Each 6-bit color component of the input pixel data is first dithered and then the dithered value becomes the input for FRM.

FRM and dithering can be combined in different ways. As indicated previously, the upper five bits of the input intensity value for each pixel color component selects a different FRM sequence. This leaves only the least significant bit of the intensity value to dither on, using the 1-bit dithering scheme. By reducing the number of most significant bits of the input intensity value that are used to select the FRM sequence there will be more least significant bits remaining to dither on.

For example, in a 4-bit FRM and 2-bit dithering scheme, only the upper four bits of the input color component intensity value would be used to select an FRM sequence from the FRM sequence table, the remaining two bits are then used in the 2-bit dithering scheme. Although all five of the upper bits are used to index the FRM sequence table, the FRM sequence table would be programmed with duplicate FRM sequences so that the least significant of the upper five bits has no effect on the resulting FRM sequence.

Although 3-bit FRM/3-bit dither and 2-bit FRM/4-bit dither modes are also supported, they are not recommended because of the loss of spatial resolution with large dithering patterns.

#### **3.8.3.1 Modified FRM and Dithering**

The CS9210 supports a mixed color generation mode where a combination of 4-bit FRM and 2-bit dithering is used at the extreme upper and lower values of intensity and 5-bit FRM and 1-bit dithering is used at the middle values of intensity. In this modified FRM and dithering mode, when the upper four bits of the intensity value are all 1's or all 0's, the 4-bit FRM and 2-bit dithering mode is used, otherwise 5-bit FRM and 1-bit dithering is used. In this mode, the 2-bit dithering patterns are programmed into the CS9210 dither memories and the 1-bit dithering patterns are implemented in hardware.

This mode enables better color perception at extreme high and low intensities by using dithering to achieve variations in color, rather than frame rate modulation. It also avoids the flickering effect that frame rate modulation sometimes introduces at extreme color intensity values.

#### **3.9 PROGRAMMING THE FRM AND DITHER MEMORIES**

The FRM sequence tables and dithering patterns for each primary color component are stored inside fully-programmable memories within the CS9210. There is one FRM memory and one dither memory for each color component, red, green, and blue. These memories are programmed through the serial interface of the CS9210. The serial interface writes or reads one byte at a time.

#### **3.9.1 Addressing the FRM Memories**

As previously described, the upper five bits of each color component intensity value are used to select one of 32 different FRM sequences in the FRM sequence table. Each FRM sequence is 64 bits long, one bit for each frame in a 64 frame sequence. The address to one of the FRM memories (red, green, or blue) is then a total of 11 bits, six bits from the frame count and five bits from the intensity value. This means that for each color component (red, green, and blue) there is one 2048x1 bit memory for storing the FRM sequence table.

The bit address for an FRM memory is defined as the concatenation of the 6-bit frame count and the upper five bits of the intensity value, as shown below:

FRM Memory Bit Address[10:0]

 $=$  {FrameCount[5:0], Intensity[5:1]}

The CS9210 serial interface is a byte-addressed interface, meaning eight bits are written to an FRM memory at a time. The bit, located at bit address offset 0 (FRM memory bit Address $[2:0] = 0$ , is the first bit of the byte sent across the serial interface. The first bit is the one marked "Data[7]" in Figure 3-4, which describes the serial interface write protocol.

The red, green, and blue FRM memories can be programmed individually, or all at once. Writing to all three FRM memories at the same time means that the FRM sequence table is the same for each of the three color components. The Control Register (Index 02h) selects which FRM memory, red, green, or blue, is selected for read and writing.

The address for the serial interface is eight bits, allowing 256 bytes of direct addressing. Because the red, green, and blue FRM memories are 256 bytes in size, they are each divided into four blocks of 64 bytes. At any given time, only one of the 64 byte blocks of FRM memory is mapped into the serial interface address range. This is shown in Table 4-2, Index 03h. The FRM Memory Block Select Register is used to select which of the four blocks of the selected FRM memory is being mapped to this address range.

The 8-bit address presented on the serial interface is formed by adding the base address of the FRM memory block address space, Index C0h, to FRM memory bit Address[8:3]. FRM memory bit Address[8:3] is the byte offset address into the block and the block is selected by FRM memory bit Address[10:9].

# **3.9.2 Addressing the Dithering Memories**

As described in a previous section, the least significant four bits of each color component intensity value are used to select a 4x4 dithering pattern. In other words, there are 16 different 16-bit dithering patterns for each color component (red, green, and blue). This requires one 256x1-bit memory for each color component. The address to one of these dithering pattern memories is then eight bits in length.

The bit address for dithering memory is defined as the concatenation of:

- 1) the least significant two bits of the display screen horizontal position pixel count
- 2) the least significant two bits of the display screen vertical position pixel count
- 3) the least significant four bits of the input intensity value

This concatenation is as shown below:

Dithering Memory Bit Address[7:0]

 $= {X-Count[1:0], Y-Count[1:0], Intensity[3:0]}$ 

Eight bits are written at a time across the CS9210 serial interface into the dither memory. The bit at bit address offset 0 (dither memory bit Address[2:0] = 0) is the first bit of the byte sent across the serial interface. The first bit is the one marked "Data[7]" in Figure 3-4, which describes the serial interface write protocol.

The red, green, and blue dither memories can be programmed individually, or all at once. Writing to all three dither memories at the same time means that the dithering patterns are the same for each of the three color components

At any given time, only one of the three dither memories, red, green, or blue, is mapped into the serial interface address range as shown in Table 4-4, Index 80h. The Control Register selects which dither memory, red, green, or blue, is selected for read and writing.

The 8-bit address presented on the serial interface is formed by adding the base address of the dither memory address space from Index 80h to dither memory bit Address[7:3].

# **4.0 Register Descriptions**

This section describes the registers of the Geode CS9210 graphics companion. The internal register map is shown in Table 4-1, followed by descriptions of the individual registers and their bit formats. All registers are accessed through the serial interface, one byte at a time.

**Note:** All reserved bits must be written to 0 unless otherwise specified.

![](_page_23_Picture_542.jpeg)

#### **Table 4-1. Register Map**

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# **Register Descriptions (Continued)**

# **Table 4-2. CS9210 Registers**

![](_page_24_Picture_1225.jpeg)

# **Register Descriptions (Continued)**

# **Table 4-2. CS9210 Registers (Continued)**

![](_page_25_Picture_998.jpeg)

![](_page_26_Figure_0.jpeg)

**Geode™**

**C**

**S9210**

# **Register Descriptions (Continued)**

![](_page_27_Picture_679.jpeg)

# **Geode™ C S9210**

# **Register Descriptions (Continued)**

# **Table 4-4. CS9210 Registers (LFSR Seed, Dithering and FRM Memory Block)**

![](_page_28_Picture_647.jpeg)

# **5.0 Electrical Specifications**

This section provides information on absolute maximum ratings, recommended operating conditions, DC characteristics, and AC characteristics for the Geode CS9210 Graphics Companion. All voltage values in the electrical specifications are with respect to  $V_{SS}$  unless otherwise noted.

## **5.1 ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM RATINGS**

Table 5-1 lists absolute maximum ratings for the CS9210. Stresses beyond the listed ratings may cause permanent damage to the device. Exposure to conditions beyond these limits may (1) reduce device reliability and (2) result in premature failure even when there is no immediately apparent sign of failure. Prolonged exposure to conditions at or near the absolute maximum ratings may also result in reduced useful life and reliability. These are stress ratings only and do not imply that operation under any conditions other than those listed under Table 5-2 is possible.

#### **5.2 RECOMMENDED OPERATING CONDITIONS**

Table 5-2 lists the recommended operating conditions for the CS9210.

#### **Table 5-1. Absolute Maximum Ratings**

![](_page_29_Picture_536.jpeg)

![](_page_29_Picture_537.jpeg)

## **Table 5-2. Recommended Operating Conditions**

# **5.3 DC CHARACTERISTICS**

# **Table 5-3. DC Characteristics (at Recommended Operating Conditions)**

![](_page_30_Picture_211.jpeg)

## **5.4 AC CHARACTERISTICS**

The following tables list the AC characteristics including output delays, input setup requirements, input hold requirements and output float delays. The rising-clockedge reference level V<sub>REF</sub>, and other reference levels are shown in Table 5-4. Input or output signals must cross these levels during testing.

Input setup and hold times are specified minimums that define the smallest acceptable sampling window for which a synchronous input signal must be stable for correct operation. All AC tests are at  $V_{DD} = 2.75$  to 3.05V (2.9V nominal),  $T_C = 0^{\circ}C$  to 70°C,  $C_L = 50$  pF unless otherwise specified.

#### **Table 5-4. Drive Level and Measurement Points for Switching Characteristics**

![](_page_31_Picture_451.jpeg)

![](_page_31_Figure_6.jpeg)

**Legend:** A = Maximum Output Delay Specification

- B = Minimum Output Delay Specification C = Minimum Input Setup Specification
- D = Minimum Input Hold Specification

**Figure 5-1. Drive Level and Measurement Points for Switching Characteristics**

# **5.4.1 Pixel Port Timing**

![](_page_32_Picture_226.jpeg)

![](_page_32_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_32_Figure_4.jpeg)

**Figure 5-2. Pixel Port Interface Signals**

## **5.4.2 Serial Interface Timing**

![](_page_33_Picture_222.jpeg)

![](_page_33_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_33_Figure_4.jpeg)

**Figure 5-3. Serial Interface Signals**

## **5.4.3 Flat Panel Timing**

![](_page_34_Picture_269.jpeg)

# **Table 5-7. Flat Panel Interface Timing (50 pF Output Load)**

![](_page_34_Figure_4.jpeg)

# **Figure 5-4. Flat Panel Interface Signals**

#### **5.4.4 Memory Interface Timing**

![](_page_35_Picture_540.jpeg)

## **Table 5-8. Memory Interface Timing (15 pF Output Load)**

![](_page_35_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_36_Figure_0.jpeg)

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# **Appendix A Support Documentation**

## **A.1 REVISION HISTORY**

This document is a report of the revision/creation process of the data book for the Geode CS9210 graphics companion. Any revisions (i.e., additions, deletions, parameter corrections, etc.) are recorded in the table(s) below.

![](_page_37_Picture_246.jpeg)

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