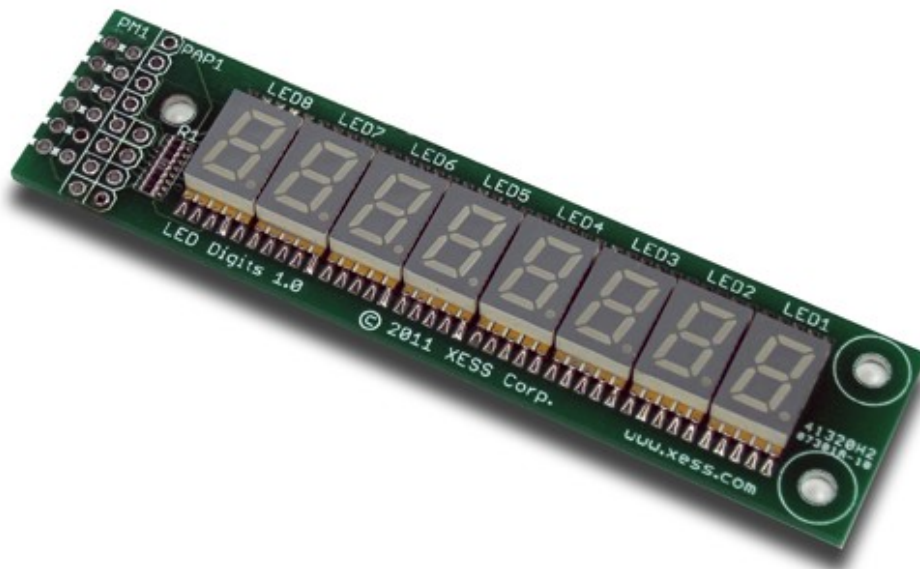


StickIt! LED Digits V1.0 User Manual

How to install and use your new StickIt! LED Digits Module



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StickIt! LED Digits V1.0 User Manual
MAN003 (V1.0) February 4, 2012

The following table shows the revision history for this document.

Date	Version	Revision
01/18/12	1.0	Initial release for StickIt! LED Digits module V1.0.

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C.1 *Preliminaries*

Here's some helpful information before getting started.

Getting Help!

Here are some places to get help if you encounter problems:

- If you can't get the StickIt! LED Digits module to work, send an e-mail message describing your problem to help@xess.com or submit a problem report at <http://www.xess.com/help.php>. Our web site also has
 - answers to frequently-asked-questions,
 - example designs, application notes and tutorials,
 - a forum where you can post questions.

Take Notice!

It's pretty hard to get in trouble with this module.

Packing List

Here is what you should have received in your package:

- a StickIt! LED Digits module.
- PMOD™ male header.
- Wing male headers (8-pin & 4-pin).

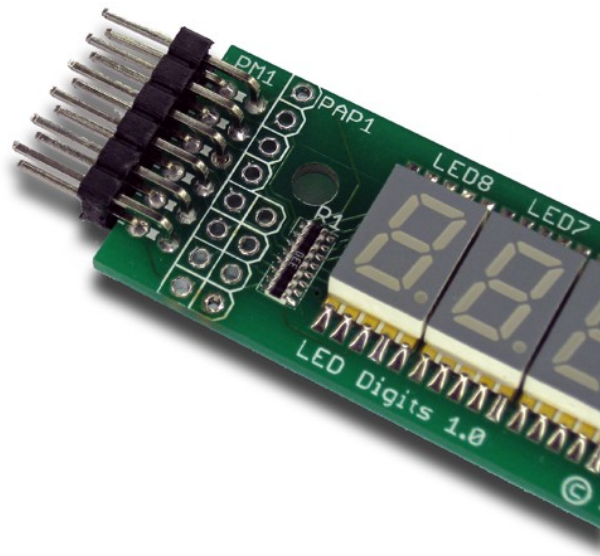
C.2 Setup

The StickIt! LED Digits module provides a row of eight seven-segment LED digits that you can insert into an eight-bit PMOD or Wing socket on your StickIt! board.

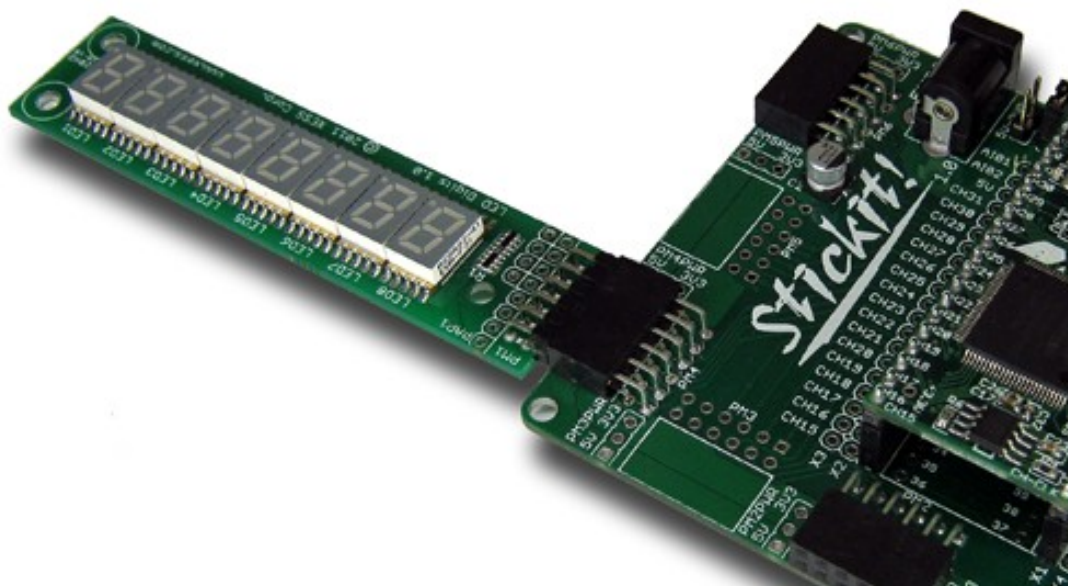
Inserting Your StickIt! LED Digits Module Into Your StickIt! Board

Inserting Into a PMOD Socket

To use the StickIt! LED Digits module with a PMOD socket, first solder the included male PMOD header to the module as shown. (**To insure a stable connection, only use a header with 0.25" square pins.**)



Then insert the module into one of the eight-bit PMOD sockets on the StickIt! Board. (This module does not directly connect to any power supply so there is no need to change the setting of the voltage selection jumper of the PMOD socket.)

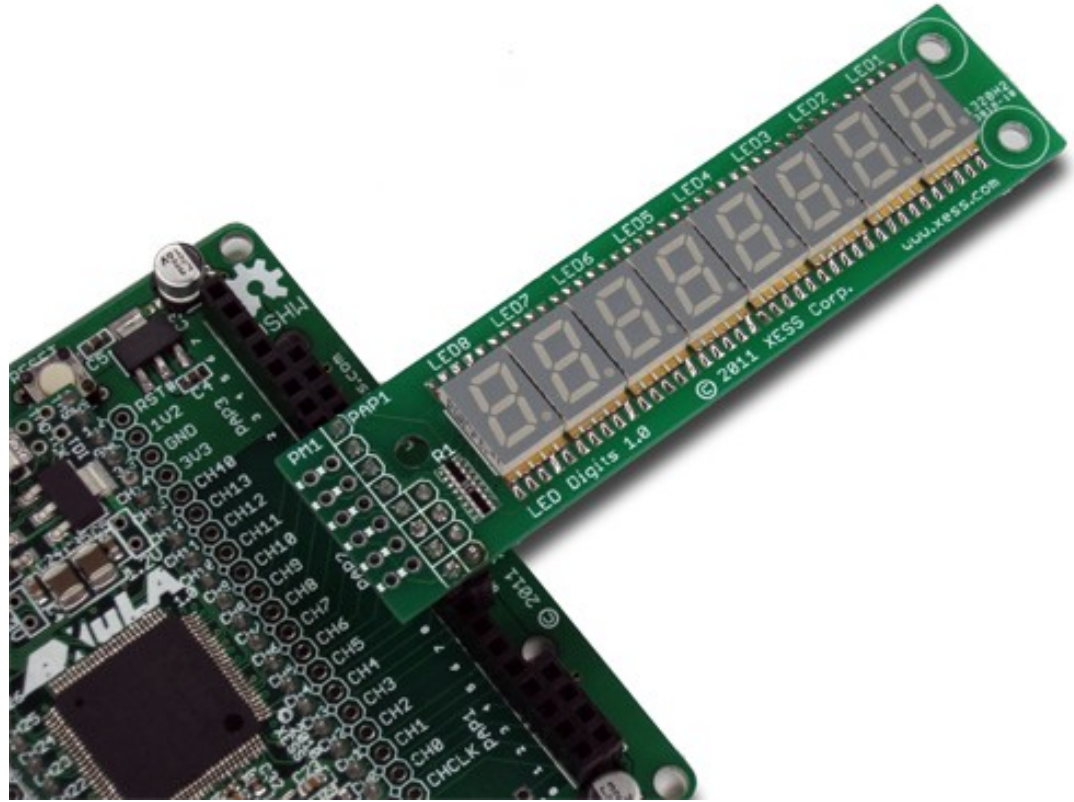


Inserting Into a Wing Socket

To use the StickIt! LED Digits module with a Wing socket, first solder the included male Wing headers to the module as shown. (**To insure a stable connection, only use a header with 0.25" square pins.**)



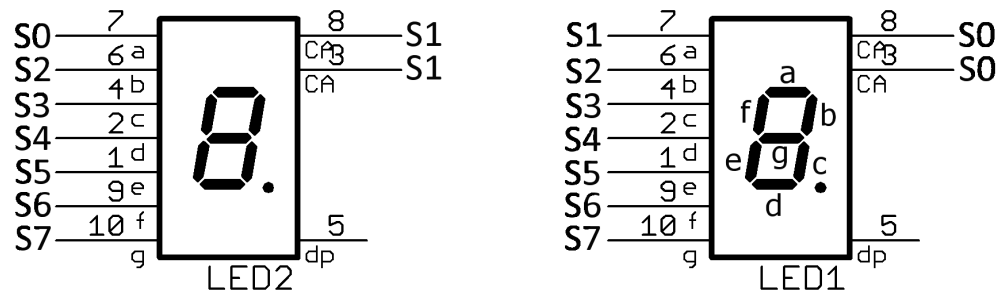
Then insert the module into one of the eight-bit Wing sockets on the StickIt! board.



C.3 Operation

This chapter describes the operation of the StickIt! LED Digits module using a simplified schematic. You can find a complete [schematic](#) at the end of this manual.

A total of 56 LED segments are distributed over the eight digits on the module. All these segments can be controlled with only eight I/O signals by using [Charlieplexing](#). You can see how this works by examining the operation of just two of the LED digits on the module.



To light up digit LED1, the common anode pin (CA) is driven high by signal S0. This will serve as the source of the current for any segments in this digit that are turned on. To turn on a segment, the corresponding signal is pulled to ground. For example, to turn on segments b and c, signals S2 and S3 are pulled low. To keep the other segments off, the rest of the signals are placed in a high-impedance state so there is no current path through them. Note that only one signal is at a high level (S0) and all the others are either pulled low or in a high-impedance state. Because of this, no segments in LED2 will be on because its CA pin (driven by signal S1) will never be driven high while LED1 is active.

In a similar manner, when digit LED2 is activated by driving signal S1 high and grounding or tristating signals S0 and S2-S7, then LED1 will be inactive because S0 will never be driven high.

By rapidly switching the activation back-and-forth between digits LED1 and LED2, persistence-of-vision (POV) will make it appear that the sixteen segments are displaying a static pattern even though only eight signals are used to drive them. This technique can be extended across all eight of the LED digits. A table of the signal connections to the pins controlling the segments of each digit is shown below.

Pin	LED1	LED2	LED3	LED4	LED5	LED6	LED7	LED8
CA	S0	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7
a	S1	S0	S0	S0	S0	S0	S0	S0
b	S2	S2	S1	S1	S1	S1	S1	S1
c	S3	S3	S3	S2	S2	S2	S2	S2
d	S4	S4	S4	S4	S3	S3	S3	S3
e	S5	S5	S5	S5	S5	S4	S4	S4
f	S6	S6	S6	S6	S6	S6	S5	S5
g	S7	S7	S7	S7	S7	S7	S7	S6

C.4 *Using the Module*

To use the StickIt! LED Digits module, you will need to do the following:

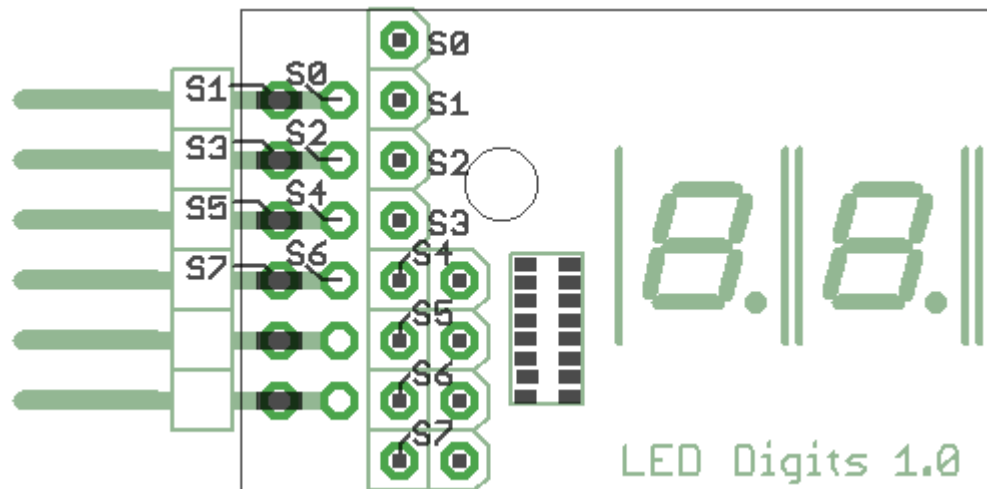
- Create a Xilinx ISE FPGA project and write some HDL code for Charlieplexing the LED digits.
- Attach the module to either a PMOD or Wing socket on the StickIt! board.
- Determine the channel signals on the PMOD or Wing socket that connect to each I/O pin of the module.
- Find which FPGA pin of the XuLA board connects to each channel signal.
- Make a UCF file associating each FPGA pin with an I/O pin of the module.
- Include the UCF file in your ISE project.

That's a lot of work just to display some simple digits, so we've done most of it for you. Just go to <http://github.com/xesscorp/StickIt>. There, you will find a subdirectory with a Xilinx ISE project that includes:

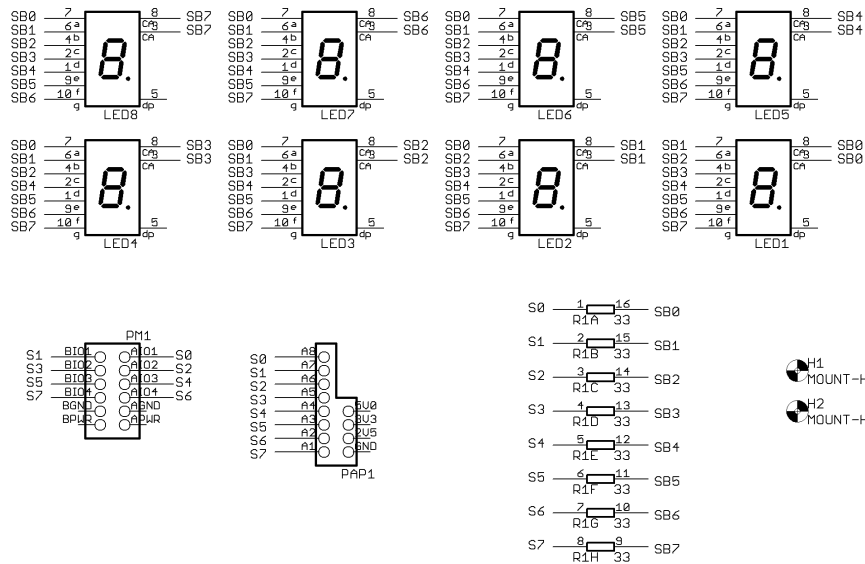
- a Charlieplexing HDL module,
- an example that uses the Charlieplexing module for displaying data on a StickIt! LED Digits module,
- and a UCF file containing the FPGA pin assignments to use when installing the StickIt! LED Digits module into any of the PMOD or Wing sockets.

A.1 I/O Locations

The connections of the I/O signals to the PMOD and Wing headers of the StickIt! LED Digits module are shown below.



A.2 Schematic



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LED Digits

PROJECT: StickIt-LedDigits	REV: 1.0	Date: 11/3/2011 9:02:17 PM
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