New!

Model 78621

3-Channel 200 MHz A/D with DDC, DUC with 2-Channel 800 MHz D/A, and a Virtex-6 FPGA - x8 PCIe

Cobalt

GateFlow

ReadyFlow Board Support Package

Features

- Complete radar and software radio interface solution
- Supports Xilinx Virtex-6 LXT and SXT FPGAs
- Three 200 MHz 16-bit A/Ds
- Three multiband DDCs (digital downconverters)
- Two 800 MHz 16-bit D/As
- One DUC (digital upconverter)
- Multiboard programmable beamformer
- Up to 2 GB of DDR3 SDRAM or 32 MB of QDRII+ SRAM
- Sample clock synchronization to an external system reference
- LVPECL clock/sync bus for multiboard synchronization
- PCI Express (Gen. 1 & 2) interface up to x8 wide
- LVDS connections to the Virtex-6 FPGA for custom I/O

General Information

Model 78621 is a member of the Cobalt™ family of high performance PCIe boards based on the Xilinx Virtex-6 FPGA. A multi-channel, high-speed data converter with programmable DDCs, it is suitable for connection to HF or IF ports of a communications or radar system. Its built-in data capture and playback features offer an ideal turnkey solution.

It includes three A/Ds, two D/As and four banks of memory. In addition to supporting PCI Express Gen. 2 as a native interface, the Model 78621 includes a general-purpose connector for application-specific I/O.

The Cobalt Architecture

The Pentek Cobalt Architecture features a Virtex-6 FPGA. All of the board's data and control paths are accessible by the FPGA, enabling factory-installed functions including data multiplexing, channel selection, data packing, gating, triggering and memory control. The Cobalt Architecture organizes the FPGA as a container for data processing applications where each function exists as an intellectual property (IP) module.

Each member of the Cobalt family is delivered with factory-installed applications ideally matched to the board's analog interfaces. The 78621 factory installed functions include three A/D acquisition and a D/A waveform playback IP modules. Each of the three acquisition IP modules contains a powerful, programmable DDC IP core. The waveform playback IP module contains an intrepolation IP core, ideal for matching playback rates to the data and decimation rates of the acquisition modules. IP modules for either DDR3 or QDRII+ memories, a controller for all data clocking and synchronization functions, a test signal generator, an Aurora gigabit serial interface, and a PCIe interface complete the factory-installed functions and enable the 78621 to operate as a complete turnkey solution, without the need to develop any FPGA IP.

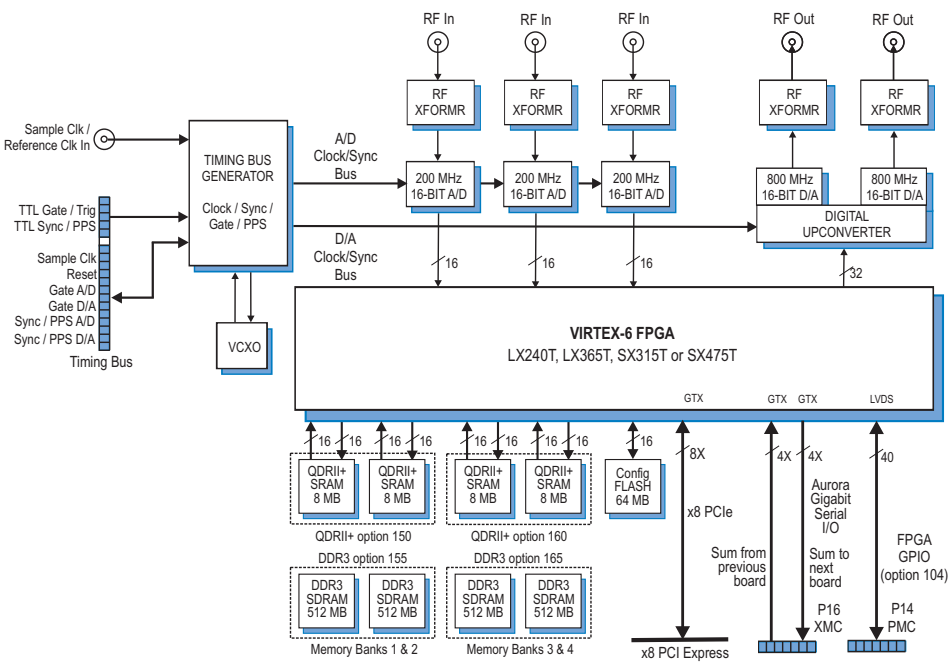
Extendable IP Design

For applications that require specialized function, users can install their own custom IP for data processing. Pentek GateFlow FPGA Design Kits include all of the factory-installed modules as documented source code. Developers can integrate their own IP with the Pentek factory-installed functions or use the GateFlow kit to completely replace the Pentek IP with their own.

Xilinx Virtex-6 FPGA

The Virtex-6 FPGA can be populated with a variety of different FPGAs to match the specific requirements of the processing task. Supported FPGAs include: LX240T, LX365T, SX315T, or SX475T. The SXT parts feature up to 2016 DSP48E slices and are ideal for modulation/demodulation, encoding/decoding, encryption/decryption, and channelization of the signals between transmission and reception. For applications not requiring large DSP resources, one of the lower-cost LXT FPGAs can be installed.

Option -104 installs the P14 PMC connector with 20 pairs of LVDS connections to the FPGA for custom I/O. ➤



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A/D Acquisition IP Modules

The 78621 features three A/D Acquisition IP Modules for easily capturing and moving data. Each module can receive data from any of the three A/Ds, a test signal generator or from the D/A Waveform Playback IP Module in loopback mode.

Each IP module has an associated memory bank for buffering data in FIFO mode or for storing data in transient capture mode. All memory banks are supported with DMA engines for easily moving A/D data through the PCIe interface.

These powerful linked-list DMA engines are capable of a unique Acquisition Gate Driven mode. In this mode, the length of a transfer performed by a link definition need not be known prior to data acquisition; rather, it is governed by the length of the acquisition gate. This is extremely useful in applications where an external gate drives acquisition and the exact length of that gate is not known or is likely to vary.

For each transfer, the DMA engine can automatically construct metadata packets containing A/D channel ID, a sample-accurate time stamp and data length information. These actions simplify the host processor's job of identifying and executing on the data.

DDC IP Cores

Within each A/D Acquisition IP Module is a powerful DDC IP core. Because of the flexible input routing of the A/D Acquisition IP Modules, many different configurations can be achieved including one A/D driving all three DDCs or each of the three A/Ds driving its own DDC.

Each DDC has an independent 32-bit tuning frequency setting that ranges from DC to f_s, where f_s is the A/D sampling frequency. Each DDC can have its own unique decimation setting, supporting as many as three different output bandwidths for the board. Decimations can be program-med from 2 to 65,536 providing a wide range to satisfy most applications.

The decimating filter for each DDC accepts a unique set of user-supplied 18-bit coefficients. The 80% default filters deliver an output bandwidth of $0.8*f_s/N$, where N is the decimation setting. The rejection of adjacent-band components within the 80% output bandwidth is better than 100 dB. Each DDC delivers a complex output stream consisting of 24-bit I + 24-bit Q or16-bit I + 16-bit Q samples at a rate of f_s/N.

Beamformer IP Core

In addition to the DDCs, the 78621 features a complete beamforming subsystem. Each DDC core contains programable I & Q phase and gain adjustments followed by a power meter that continuously measures the individual average power output. The time constant of the averaging interval for each meter is programmable up to 8K samples. The power meters present average power measurements for each DDC core output in easy-to-read registers.

In addition, each DDC core includes a threshold detector to automatically send an interrupt to the processor if the average power level of any DDC core falls below or exceeds a programmable threshold.

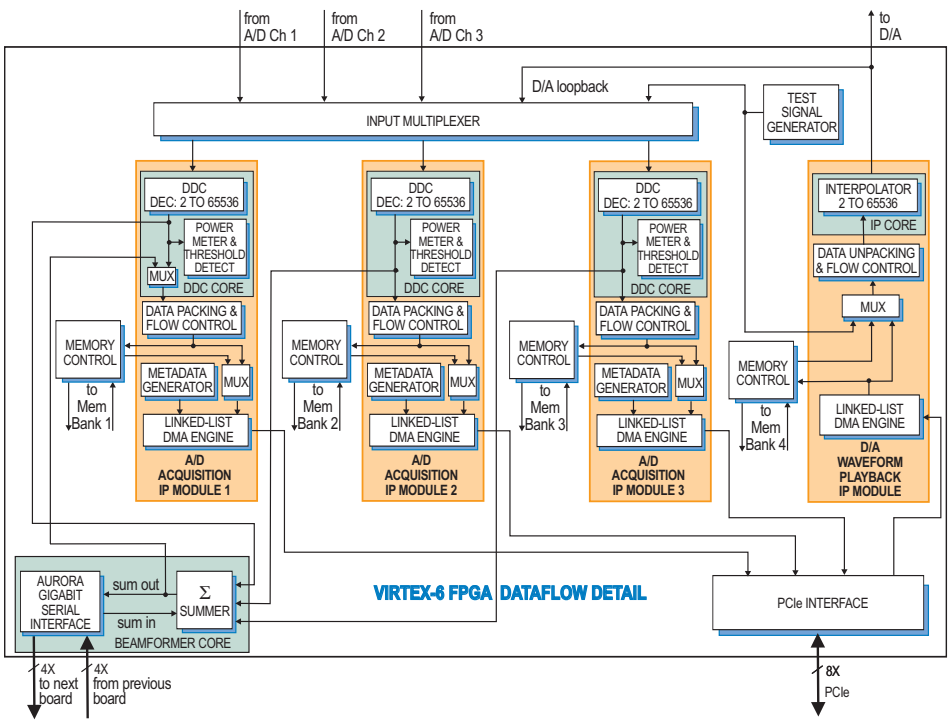
A programmable summation block provides summing of any of the three DDC core outputs. An additional programmable gain stage compensates for summation change bit growth. A power meter and threshold detect block is provided for the summed output. The output is then directed back into the A/D Acquisition IP Module 1 FIFO for reading over the PCIe. For larger systems, multiple 78621's can be chained together via a built-in Xilinx Aurora gigabit serial interface through the P16 XMC connector. This allows summation across channels on multiple boards.

D/A Waveform Playback IP Module

The Model 78621 factory-installed functions include a sophisticated D/A Waveform Playback IP module. A linked-list controller allows users to easily play back to the dual D/As waveforms stored in either on-board memory or off- board host memory .

Parameters including length of waveform, delay from playback trigger, waveform repetition, etc. can be programmed for each waveform.

Up to 64 individual link entries can be chained together to create complex waveforms with a minimum of programming. ➤



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➤ A/D Converter Stage

The front end accepts three analog HF or IF inputs on front panel SSMC connectors with transformer coupling into three Texas Instruments ADS5485 200 MHz, 16-bit A/D converters.

The digital outputs are delivered into the Virtex-6 FPGA for signal processing, data capture and for routing to other board resources.

Digital Upconverter and D/A Stage

A TI DAC5688 DUC (digital upconverter) and D/A accepts a baseband real or complex data stream from the FPGA and provides that input to the upconvert, interpolate and dual D/A stages.

When operating as a DUC, it interpolates and translates real or complex baseband input signals to any IF center frequency up to 360 MHz. It delivers real or quadrature (I+Q) analog outputs to the dual 16-bit D/A converter. Analog output is through a pair of front panel SSMC connectors.

If translation is disabled, the DAC5688 acts as a dual interpolating 16-bit D/A with output sampling rates up to 800 MHz. In both modes the DAC5688 provides interpolation factors of 2x, 4x and 8x. In addition to the DAC5688, an FPGA based interpolator core provides additional interpolation from 2x to 65,536x. The two interpolators can be combined to crate a total range from 2x to 524,288x.

Clocking and Synchronization

Two internal timing buses provide either a single clock or two different clock rates to the A/D and D/A signal paths.

Each timing bus includes a clock, sync and a gate or trigger signal. An on-board clock generator receives an external sample clock from the front panel SSMC connector. This clock can be used directly for either the A/D or D/A sections or can be divided by a built-in clock synthesizer circuit to provide different A/D and D/A clocks. In an alternate mode, the sample clock can be sourced from an on-board programmable VCXO (Voltage-Controlled Crystal Oscillator). In this mode, the front panel SSMC connector can be used to provide a 10 MHz reference clock for synchronizing the internal oscillator.

A front panel 26-pin LVPECL Clock/Sync connector allows multiple boards to be synchronized. In the slave mode, it accepts LVPECL inputs that drive the clock, sync and gate signals. In the master mode, the LVPECL bus can drive the timing signals for synchronizing multiple boards.

Multiple 78621's can be driven from the LVPECL bus master, supporting synchronous sampling and sync functions across all connected boards.

Memory Resources

The 78621 architecture supports up to four independent memory banks which can be configured with all QDRII+ SRAM, DDR3 SDRAM, or as combination of two banks of each type of memory.

Each QDRII+ SRAM bank can be up to 8 MB deep and is an integral part of the module's DMA capabilities, providing FIFO memory space for creating DMA packets. For applications requiring deep memory resources, DDR3 SDRAM banks can each be up to 512 MB deep. Built-in memory functions include an A/D data transient capture mode and D/A waveform playback mode.

In addition to the factory-installed functions, custom user-installed IP within the FPGA can take advantage of the memories for many other purposes.

PCI Express Interface

The Model 78621 includes an industry-standard interface fully compliant with PCI Express Gen. 1 & 2 bus specifications. The x8 lane interface includes multiple DMA controllers for efficient transfers to and from the board. ➤

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➤ Specifications

Front Panel Analog Signal Inputs
- **Input Type:** Transformer-coupled, front panel female SSMC connectors
- **Transformer Type:** Coil Craft WBC4-6TLB
- **Full Scale Input:** +8 dBm into 50 ohms
- **3 dB Passband:** 300 kHz to 700 MHz

A/D Converters
- **Type:** Texas Instruments ADS5485
- **Sampling Rate:** 10 MHz to 200 MHz
- **Resolution:** 16 bits

Digital Downconverters
- **Quantity:** Three channels
- **Decimation Range:** 2 to 65,536 in integer steps
- **LO Tuning Freq. Resolution:** 32 bits, 0 to Fs
- **LO SFDR:** >120 dB
- **Phase Offset Resolution:** 32 bits, 0 to 2 Pi radians
- **FIR Filter:** 18-bit coefficients, 24-bit output, with user programmable coefficients
- **Default Filter Set:** 80% bandwidth, <0.3 dB passband ripple, >100 dB stopband attenuation

D/A Converters
- **Type:** Texas Instruments DAC5688
- **Input Data Rate:** 250 MHz max.
- **Output IF:** DC to 400 MHz max.
- **Output Signal:** 2-channel real or 1-channel with frequency translation
- **Output Sampling Rate:** 800 MHz max. with 2x, 4x or 8x interpolation
- **Resolution:** 16 bits

Digital Interpolator
- **Interpolation Range:** 2x to 65,536 in integer steps

Front Panel Analog Signal Outputs
- **Output Type:** Transformer-coupled, front panel female SSMC connectors
- **Transformer Type:** Coil Craft WBC4-6TLB
- **Full Scale Output:** +4 dBm into 50 ohms
- **3 dB Passband:** 300 kHz to 700 MHz

Sample Clock Sources: On-board clock synthesizer generates two clocks: one A/D clock and one D/A clock

Clock Synthesizer
- **Clock Source:** Selectable from on-board programmable VCXO, front panel external clock or LVPECL timing bus
- **Synchronization:** Clocks can be locked to a front panel 5 or 10 MHz system reference

External Clock
- **Type:** Front panel female SSMC connector, sine wave, 0 to +10 dBm, AC- coupled, 50 ohms, accepts 10 to 500 MHz sample clock or a 5 or 10 MHz system reference

Timing Bus: 26-pin connector LVPECL bus includes, clock/sync/gate/PPS inputs and outputs; TTL signal for gate/trigger and sync/PPS inputs

Field Programmable Gate Array
- **Standard:** Xilinx Virtex-6 XC6VLX240T
- **Optional:** Xilinx Virtex-6 XC6VLX365T, XC6VSX315T, or XC6VSX475T

Custom I/O
- **Option -104:** Installs the PMC P14 connector with 20 LVDS pairs to the FPGA

Memory
- **Option 150 or 160:** Two 8 MB QDRII+ SRAM memory banks
- **Option 155 or 165:** Two 512 MB DDR3 SDRAM memory banks

PCI-Express Interface
- **PCI Express Bus:** Gen. 1 x8 or Gen. 2 x4

Environmental
- **Operating Temp:** 0° to 50° C
- **Storage Temp:** –20° to 90° C
- **Relative Humidity:** 0 to 95%, non-cond.

Size: Half length PCIe card, 4.38 in. x 7.13 in.

Ordering Information

Model Description

78621	3-Channel 200 MHz A/D with DDC, DUC with 2-Channel 800 MHz D/A, and a Virtex-6 FPGA - x8 PCIe

Options:

-062	XC6VLX240T
-063	XC6VLX365T
-064	XC6VSX315T
-065	XC6VSX475T
-104	LVDS FPGA I/O through P14 connector
-150	Two 8 MB QDRII+ SRAM Memory Banks (Banks 1 and 2)
-160	Two 8 MB QDRII+ SRAM Memory Banks (Banks 3 and 4)
-155	Two 512 MB DDR3 SDRAM Memory Banks (Banks 1 and 2)
-165	Two 512 MB DDR3 SDRAM Memory Banks (Banks 3 and 4)

Contact Pentek for availability of conduction-cooled versions

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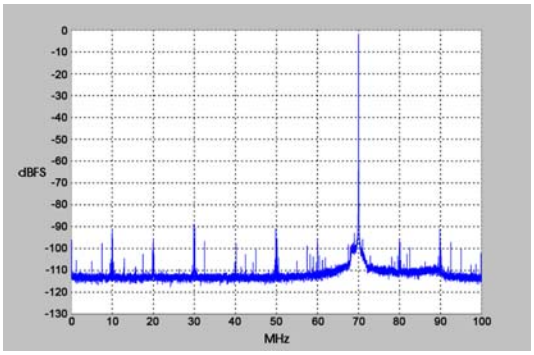
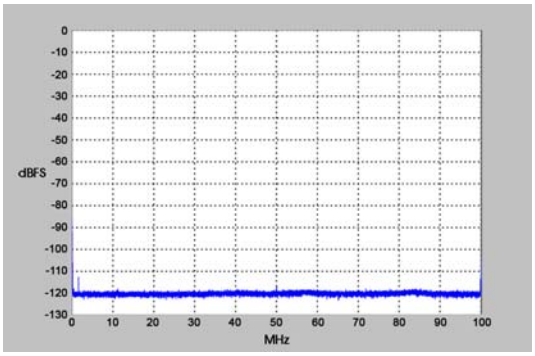
A/D Performance

Spurious Free Dynamic Range



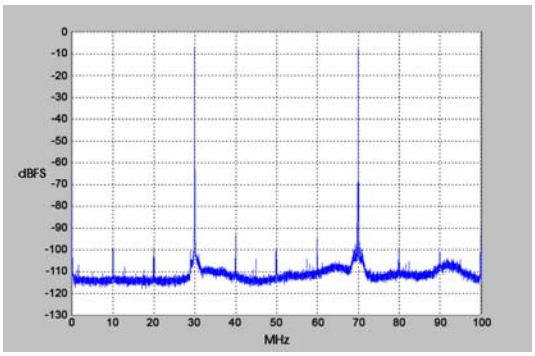
f_{in} = 70 MHz, f_s = 200 MHz, Internal Clock

Spurious Pick-up



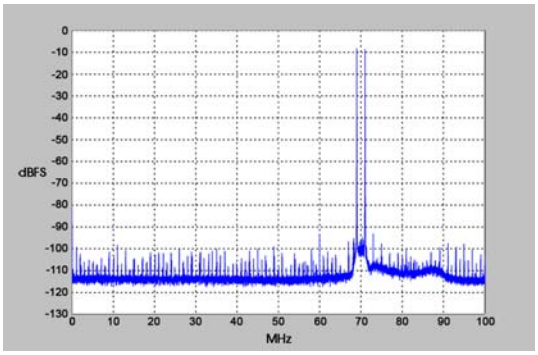
f_s = 200 MHz, Internal Clock

Two-Tone SFDR



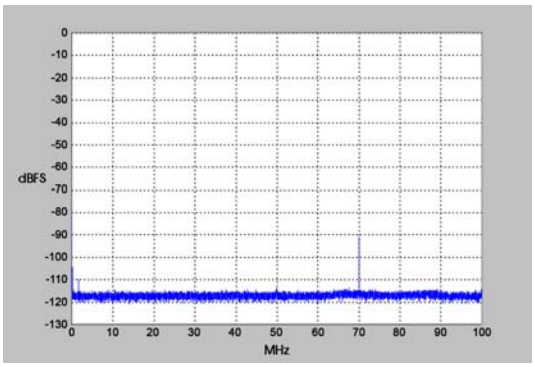
f_1 = 30 MHz, f_2 = 70 MHz, f_s = 200 MHz

Two-Tone SFDR



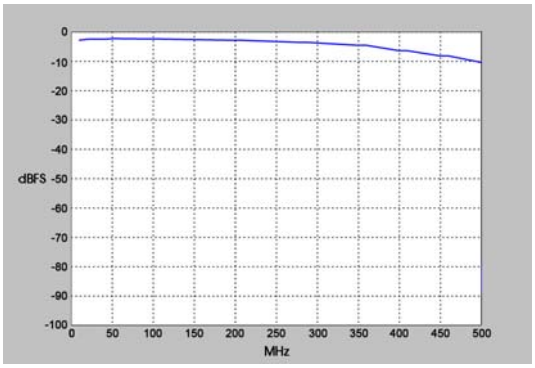
f_1 = 69 MHz, f_2 = 71 MHz, f_s = 200 MHz

Adjacent Channel Crosstalk Crosstalk



$f_{in\ Ch2}$ = 70 MHz, f_s = 200 MHz, Ch 1 shown

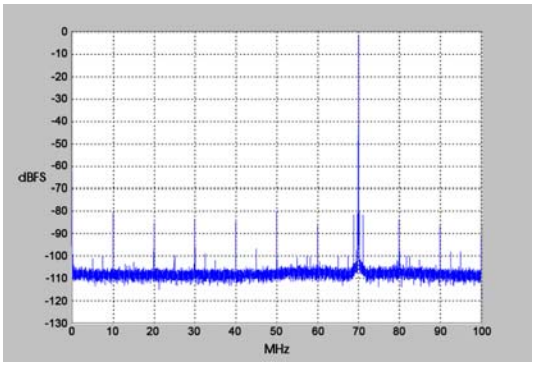
Input Frequency Response



f_s = 200 MHz, Internal Clock

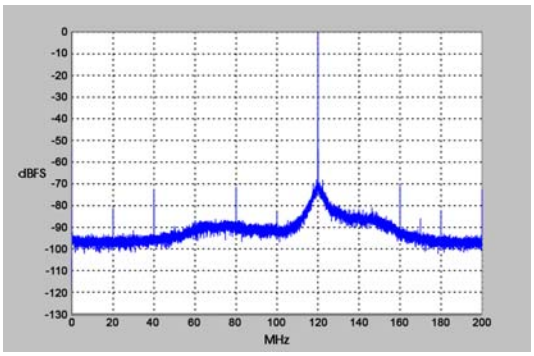
D/A Performance

Spurious Free Dynamic Range



f_{out} = 70 MHz, f_s = 200 MHz, Internal Clock

Spurious Free Dynamic Range



f_{out} = 140 MHz, f_s = 400 MHz, External Clock

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