New!

General Information

Model 78841 is a member of the Jade™ family of high-performance PCIe boards. The Jade architecture embodies a new stream-lined approach to FPGA-based boards, simplifying the design to reduce power and cost, while still providing some of the highest-performance FPGA resources available today. Designed to work with Pentek's new Navigator™ Design Suite of tools, the combination of Jade and Navigator offers users an efficient path to developing and deploying FPGA-based data acquisition and processing.

The 78841 is a high-speed data converter with programmable DDCs (digital downconverters). It is suitable for connection to HF or IF ports of a communications or radar system. Its built-in data capture feature offers an ideal turnkey solution as well as a platform for developing and deploying custom FPGA-processing IP.

It includes a 3.6 GHz, 12-bit A/D converter and a large DDR4 memory. In addition to supporting PCI Express Gen. 3 as a native interface, Model 78841 includes optional high-bandwidth connections to the Kintex UltraScale FPGA for custom digital I/O.

The Jade Architecture

Evolved from the proven designs of the Pentek Cobalt and Onyx families, Jade raises the processing performance with the new flagship family of Kintex UltraScale FPGAs from Xilinx. As the central feature of the board architecture, the FPGA has access to all data and control paths, enabling factory-installed functions including data multiplexing, channel selection, data packing, gating, triggering and memory control. The Jade 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 Jade family is delivered with factory-installed applications ideally matched to the board's analog interfaces. The 78841 factory-installed functions include an A/D acquisition IP module and a programmable digital downconverter. In addition, IP modules for DDR4 SDRAM memories, a controller for all data clocking and synchronization functions, a test signal generator and a PCIe interface complete the factory-installed functions and enable the 78841 to operate as a complete turnkey solution, without the need to develop any FPGA IP.

Extendable IP Design

For applications that require specialized functions, users can install their own custom IP for data processing. Pentek Navigator 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 Navigator kit to completely replace the Pentek IP with their own.

Xilinx Kintex UltraScale FPGA

The Kintex UltraScale FPGA site can be populated with a range of FPGAs to match the specific requirements of the processing task, spanning the KU035 through KU115. The KU115 features 5520 DSP48E2 slices and is ideal for modulation/demodulation, encoding/decoding, encryption/decryption, ➤

Features

- Ideal radar and software radio interface solution
- Supports Xilinx Kintex Ultra-Scale FPGAs
- One-channel mode with 3.6 GHz, 12-bit A/D
- Two-channel mode with 1.8 GHz, 12-bit A/Ds
- Programmable one- or two-channel DDC (Digital Downconverter)
- 5 GB of DDR4 SDRAM
- μSync clock/sync bus for multiboard synchronization
- PCI Express (Gen. 1, 2 & 3) interface up to x8
- Optional LVDS and gigabit serial connections to the FPGA for custom I/O
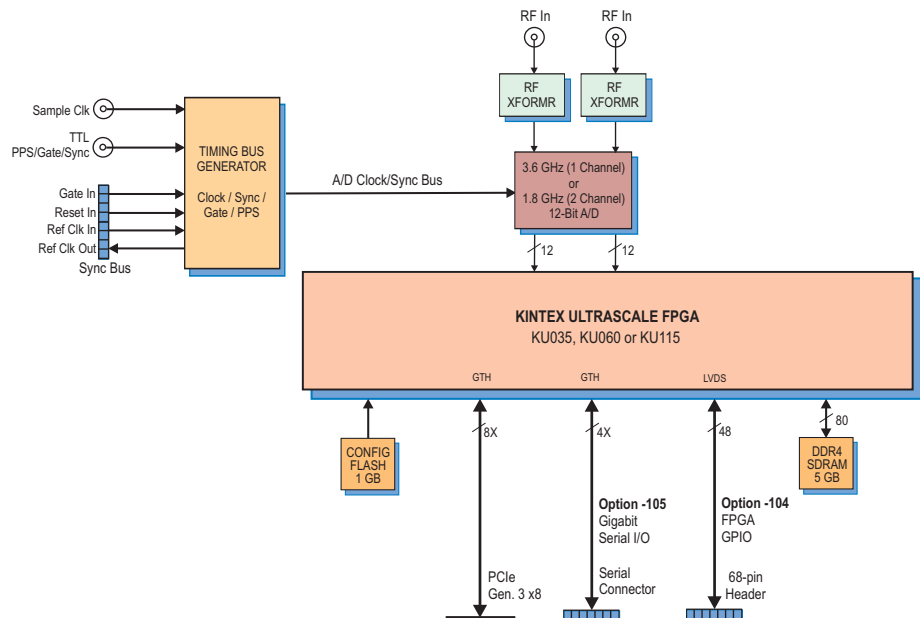
A/D Acquisition IP Module

The 78841 features an A/D Acquisition IP Module for easy capture and data moving. The IP module can receive data from the A/D, or a test signal generator. The IP module has associated a 5 GB DDR4 memory for buffering data in FIFO mode or for storing data in transient capture mode.

In single-channel mode, all of 5 GB are used to store the single-channel of input data. In dual-channel mode, one half of the memory stores data from input channel 1 and the other half stores data from input channel 2. In both modes, continuous, full-rate transient capture of 12-bit data is supported.

The memory bank is supported with a DMA engine for moving A/D data through the PCIe interface. This powerful linked-list DMA engine is 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 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 the FPGA is a powerful DDC IP core. The core supports a single-channel mode, accepting data samples from the A/D at the full 3.6 GHz rate. Additionally, a dual-channel mode supports the A/D's 1.8 GHz two-channel operation .

In single-channel mode, decimation can be programmed to 8 or 16 to 512 in steps of 16.

In dual-channel mode, decimation can be programmed to 4 or 8 to 256 in steps of 8. In dual-channel mode, both channels share the same decimation rate.

In either mode, the DDC can be bypassed completely.

The decimating filter for each DDC accepts a unique set of user-supplied 16-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 16-bit I + 16-bit Q samples at a rate of f_s/N.

and channelization of the signals between transmission and reception. For applications not requiring large DSP resources or logic, a lower-cost FPGA can be installed.

Option -104 connects 24 pairs of LVDS signals from the FPGA to a 68-pin DIL ribbon-cable header on the PCIe board for custom I/O.
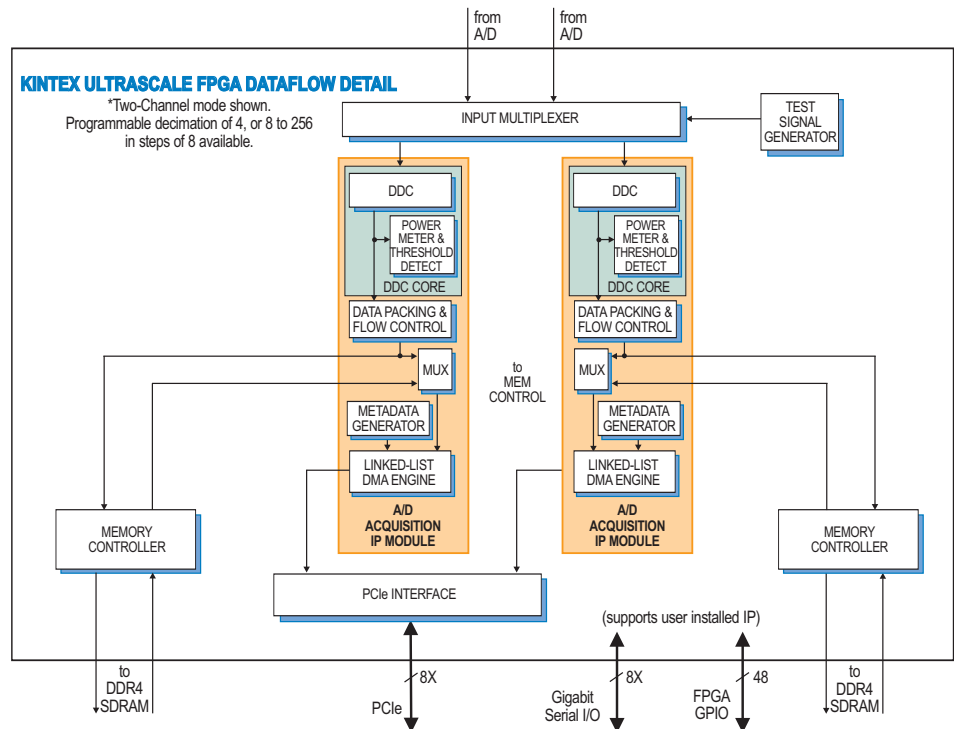
Option -105 connects one 8X gigabit serial link from the FPGA to an 8X gigabit serial connector along the top edge of the PCIe board.

A/D Converter Stage

The front end accepts analog HF or IF inputs on a pair of front panel SSMC connectors with transformer coupling into a Texas Instruments ADC12D1800 12-bit A/D. The converter operates in single-channel interleaved mode with a sampling rate of 3.6 GHz and an input bandwidth of 1.75 GHz; or, in dual-channel mode with a sampling rate of 1.8 GHz and input bandwidth of 2.8 GHz.

The full-scale input level of the ADC12D1800 can be digitally trimmed from +2 dBm to +4 dBm to simplify system calibration. A built-in AutoSync feature supports A/D synchronization across multiple boards.

The A/D digital outputs are delivered into the Kintex UltraScale FPGA for signal processing, data capture or for routing to other board resources. ➤

KINTEX ULTRASCALE FPGA DATAFLOW DETAIL

*Two-Channel mode shown. Programmable decimation of 4, or 8 to 256 in steps of 8 available.

Development Systems

The SPARK Development Systems are fully-integrated platforms for Pentek Cobalt, Onyx, Jade and Flexor boards. Available in a PC rackmount (Model 8266), a 3U VPX chassis (Model 8267) or a 6U VPX chassis (Model 8264) , they were created to save engineers and system integrators the time and expense associated with building and testing a development system. Each SPARK system is delivered with the Pentek board(s) and required software installed and equipped with sufficient cooling and power to ensure optimum performance.

SPARK
Development Systems

Ordering Information

Model	Description
78841	1-Ch. 3.6 GHz or 2-Ch. 1.8 GHz, 12-bit A/D with Wideband DDC, Kintex UltraScale FPGA - x8 PCIe

Options:

- 084	XCKU060-2 FPGA
- 087	XCKU115-2 FPGA
- 104	LVDS FPGA I/O
- 105	Gigabit serial FPGA I/O
- 702	Air cooled, Level L2

▶ Memory Resources

The 78861 architecture supports a 5 GB bank of DDR4 SDRAM memory.

User-installed IP along with the Pentek-supplied DDR4 controller core within the FPGA can take advantage of the memory for custom applications.

PCI Express Interface

The Model 78841 includes an industry-standard interface fully compliant with PCI Express Gen. 1, 2 and 3 bus specifications. Supporting PCIe links up to x8, the interface includes multiple DMA controllers for efficient transfers to and from the module.

Clocking and Synchronization

The 78841 accepts a 1.8 GHz dual-edge sample clock via a front panel SSMC connector. A second front panel SSMC accepts a TTL signal that can function as Gate, PPS or Sync.

A front panel µSync bus connector allows multiple boards to be synchronized, ideal for multichannel systems. The µSync bus includes gate, reset, and in and out reference clock signals. Two 78841's can be synchronized with a simple cable. For larger systems, multiple 78841's can be synchronized using the Model 7192 high-speed sync module to drive the sync bus.

Specifications

Front Panel Analog Signal Inputs
   Input Type: Transformer-coupled, front panel female SSMC connectors
A/D Converter
   Type: Texas Instruments ADC12D1800
   Sampling Rate: Single-channel mode: 500 MHz to 3.6 GHz; dual-channel mode: 150 MHz to 1.8 GHz
   Resolution: 12 bits
   Input Bandwidth: single-channel mode: 1.75 GHz; dual-channel mode: 2.8 GHz
   Full Scale Input Level: may be trimmed from +2 dBm to +4 dBm with a 15-bit integer
Digital Downconverters
   Modes: One or two channels, programmable
   Supported Sample Rate: One-channel mode: 3.6 GHz, two-channel mode: 1.8 GHz
   Single-channel mode: decimation can be programmed to 8 or 16 to 512 in steps of 16

   Dual-channel mode: decimation can be programmed to 4 or 8 to 256 in steps of 8; both channels share the same decimation value
   Either mode: the DDC can be bypassed completely
   LO Tuning Freq. Resolution: 32 bits, 0 to f_s
   LO SFDR: >120 dB
   Phase Offset Resolution: 32 bits, 0 to 360 degrees
   FIR Filter: User-programmable 18-bit coefficients
   Default Filter Set: 80% bandwidth, <0.3 dB passband ripple, >100 dB stopband attenuation
Sample Clock Source: Front panel SSMC connector
Timing Bus: 19-pin µSync bus connector includes sync and gate/trigger inputs, CML
External Trigger Input
   Type: Front panel female SSMC connector, LVTTL
   Function: Programmable functions include: trigger, gate, sync and PPS
Field Programmable Gate Array
   Standard: Xilinx Kintex UltraScale XCKU035-2
   Option -084: Xilinx Kintex UltraScale XCKU060-2
   Option -087: Xilinx Kintex UltraScale XCKU115-2
Custom I/O
   Option -104: Installs a connector with 24 LVDS pairs to the FPGA
   Option -105: Installs a connector for one 8X gigabit serial link to the FPGA
Memory
   Type: DDR4 SDRAM
   Size: 5 GB
   Speed: 1200 MHz (2400 MHz DDR)
PCI-Express Interface
   PCI Express Bus: Gen. 1, 2 or 3: x4 or x8
Environmental
   Standard: L0 (air cooled)
      Operating Temp: 0° to 50° C
      Storage Temp: –20° to 90° C
      Relative Humidity: 0 to 95%, non-condensing
   Option -702: L2 (air cooled)
      Operating Temp: –20° to 65° C
      Storage Temp: –40° to 100° C
      Relative Humidity: 0 to 95%, non-condensing
Size: Half-length PCIe card, 4.38 in. x 7.13 in.