General Information

Model 78660 is a member of the Cobalt® family of high performance PCIe boards based on the Xilinx Virtex-6 FPGA. A multichannel, high-speed data converter, it is suitable for connection to HF or IF ports of a communications or radar system. Its built-in data capture features offer an ideal turnkey solution.

It includes four A/Ds and four banks of memory. In addition to supporting PCI Express Gen. 2 as a native interface, the Model 78660 includes general purpose and gigabit serial connectors 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 78660 factory-installed functions include four A/D acquisition IP 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 78660 to operate as a complete turnkey solution without the need to develop any FPGA IP.
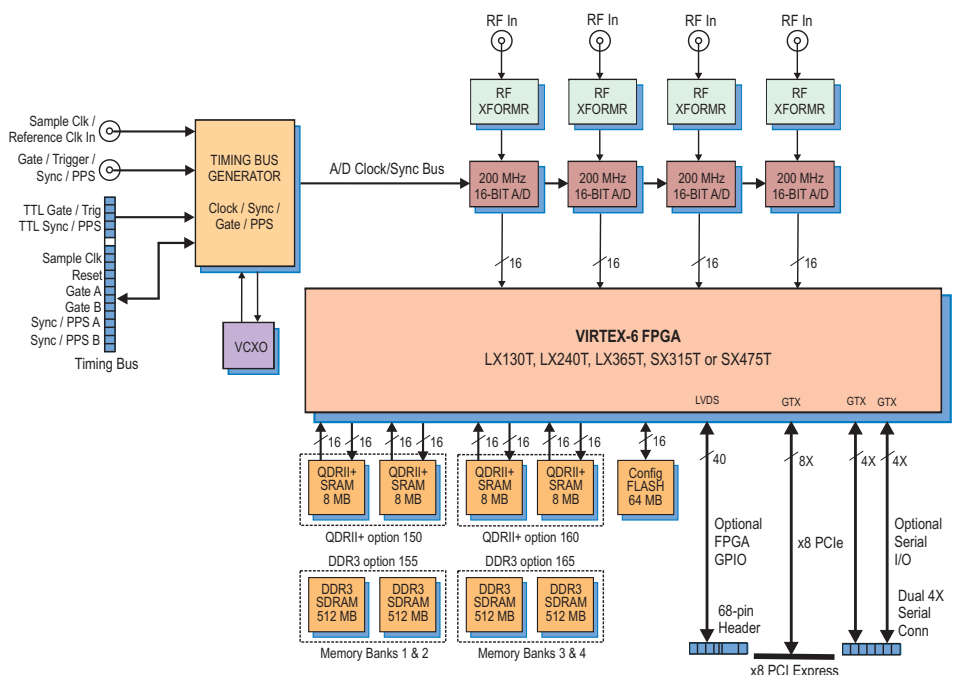
Extendable IP Design

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: LX130T 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 connects 20 pairs of LVDS signals from the FPGA on PMC P14 to a 68-pin DIL ribbon-cable header on the PCIe board for custom I/O.

Option -105 connects two 4X gigabit serial links from the FPGA on XMC P16 to two 4X gigabit serial connectors along the top edge of the PCIe board. ➤

Features

■ Complete radar and software radio interface solution

■ Supports Xilinx Virtex-6 LXT and SXT FPGAs

■ Four 200 MHz 16-bit A/Ds

■ 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

■ User-configurable gigabit serial interface

■ LVDS connections to the Virtex-6 FPGA for custom I/O

A/D Acquisition IP Modules

The 78660 features four A/D Acquisition IP Modules for easily capturing and moving data. Each IP module can receive data from any of the four A/Ds or a test signal generator

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.

A/D Converter Stage

The front end accepts four full-scale analog HF or IF inputs on front panel SSMC connectors at +8 dBm into 50 ohms with transformer coupling into four 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 or for routing to other board resources.

Clocking and Synchronization

An internal timing bus provides all timing and synchronization required by the A/D converters. It includes a clock, two sync and two gate or trigger signals. An on-board clock generator receives an external sample clock from the front panel SSMC connector. This clock can be used directly by the A/D or divided by a built-in clock synthesizer circuit.

In an alternate mode, the sample clock can be sourced from an on-board programmable 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 78660's can be driven from the LVPECL bus master, supporting synchronous sampling and sync functions across all connected boards.

Memory Resources

The 78660 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 board'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.
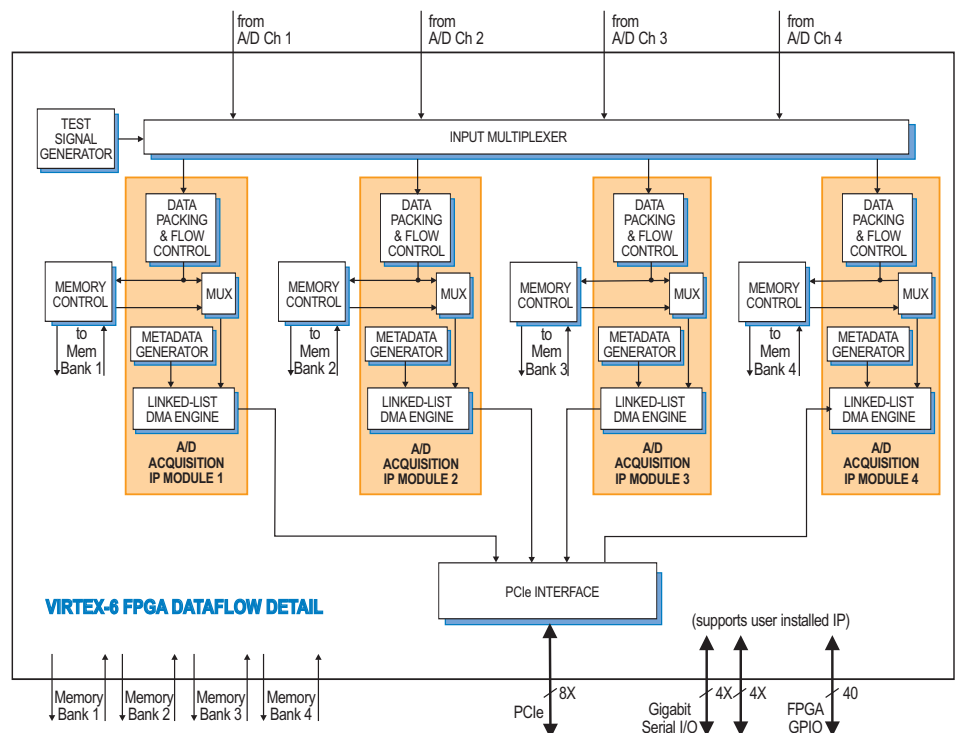
PCI Express Interface

The Model 78660 includes an industry-standard interface fully compliant with PCI Express Gen. 1 & 2 bus specifications. Supporting PCIe links up to x8, the interface includes multiple DMA controllers for efficient transfers to and from the board. ➤

VIRTEX-6 FPGA DATAFLOW DETAIL

➤ 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

Sample Clock Sources: On-board clock synthesizer

Clock Synthesizer
Clock Source: Selectable from on-board programmable VCXO (10 to 810 MHz), front panel external clock or LVPECL timing bus
Synchronization: VCXO can be locked to an external 4 to 180 MHz PLL system reference, typically 10 MHz
Clock Dividers: External clock or VCXO can be divided by 1, 2, 4, 8, or 16 for the A/D clock

External Clock
Type: Front panel female SSMC connector, sine wave, 0 to +10 dBm, AC-coupled, 50 ohms, accepts 10 to 800 MHz divider input clock or PLL system reference

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

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 Virtex-6 XC6VLX130T
Optional: Xilinx Virtex-6 XC6VLX240T, XC6VLX365T, XC6VSX315T, or XC6VSX475T

Custom I/O
Option -104: Connects 20 pairs of LVDS signals from the FPGA on PMC P14 to a 68-pin DIL ribbon-cable header on the PCIe board for custom I/O.
Option -105: Connects two 4X gigabit serial links from the FPGA on XMC P16 to two 4X gigabit serial connectors along the top edge of the PCIe board

Memory
Option 150 or 160: Two 8 MB QDRII+ SRAM memory banks, 400 MHz DDR
Option 155 or 165: Two 512 MB DDR3 SDRAM memory banks, 400 MHz DDR

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

| 78660 | 4-Channel 200 MHz A/D with Virtex-6 FPGA - PCIe |

Options:

| -062 | XC6VLX240T FPGA |
-063	XC6VLX365T FPGA
-064	XC6VSX315T FPGA
-065	XC6VSX475T FPGA
-104	LVDS FPGA I/O through 68-pin ribbon cable connector
-105	Gigabit serial FPGA I/O through two 4X top edge connectors
-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)

A/D Performance

Spurious Free Dynamic Range
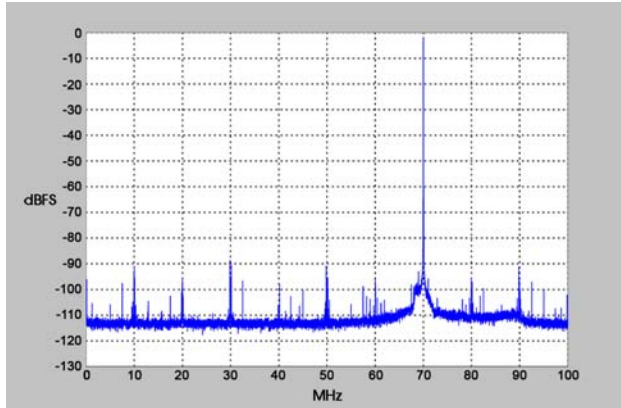
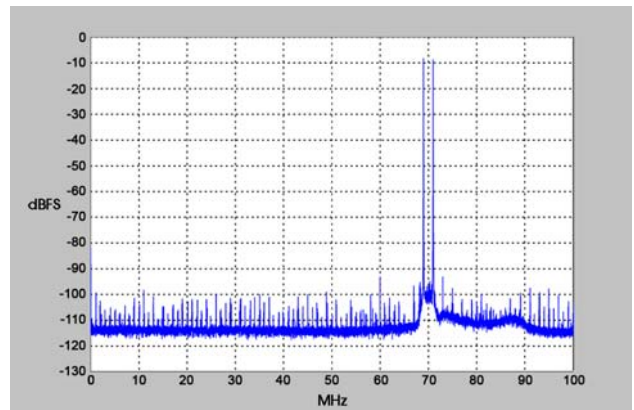f_{in} = 70 MHz, f_s = 200 MHz, Internal Clock

Spurious Pick-up
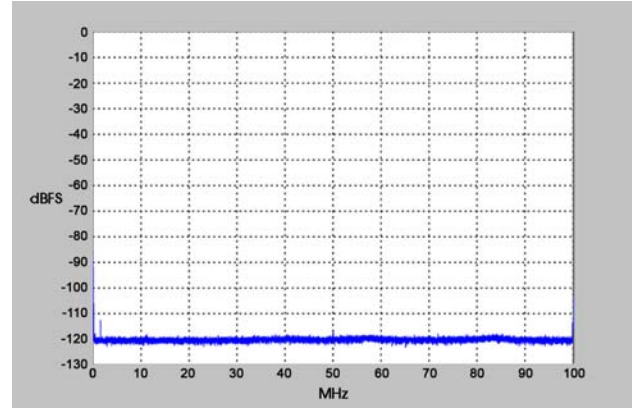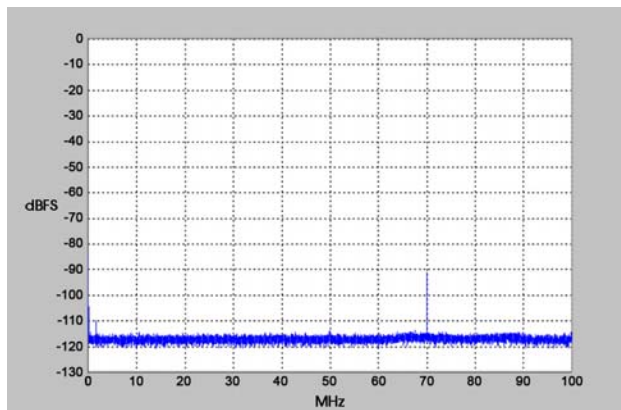
f_s = 200 MHz, Internal Clock

Two-Tone SFDR
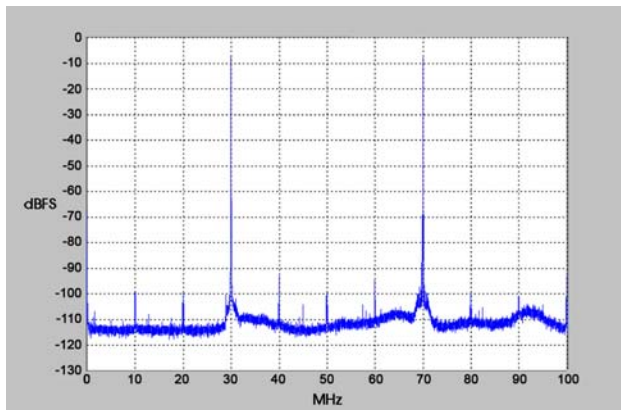
f_1 = 30 MHz, f_2 = 70 MHz, f_s = 200 MHz

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