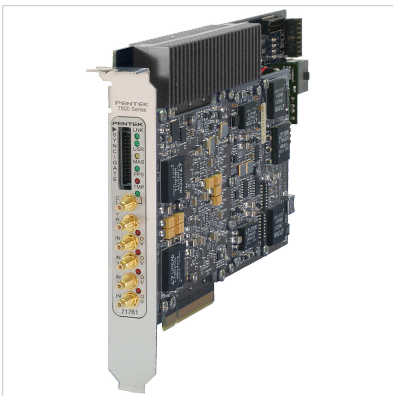


# Onyx 78761

4-channel 200 MHz A/D with DDCs  
PCIe board with Virtex-7 FPGA

## Complete radar and software radio interface solution

- Radar and software radio receiver
- Communications receiver
- Analog signal interface for data recording
- Wideband data acquisition
- Remote monitoring
- Sensor interfaces



**The 78761 is a multichannel, high-speed data converter with programmable DDCs (digital downconverters), 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 as well as a platform for developing and deploying custom FPGA processing IP.

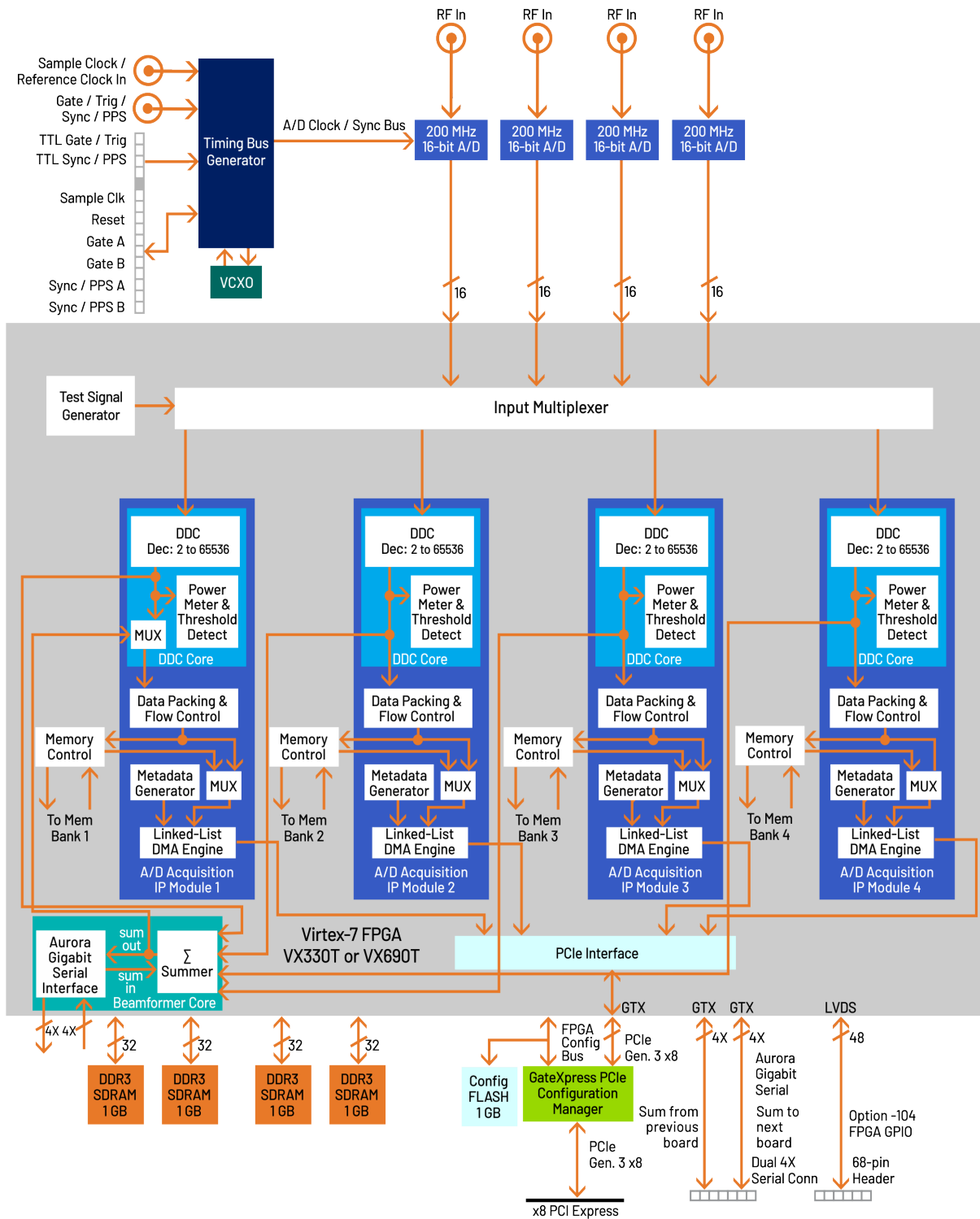
The 78761 includes four A/Ds and four banks of memory. In addition to supporting PCI Express Gen. 3 as a native interface, the 78761 includes an optional connection to the Virtex-7 FPGA for custom I/O.

## FEATURES

- Supports Xilinx® Virtex®-7 VXT FPGA
- GateXpress® supports dynamic FPGA reconfiguration across PCIe
- Four 200 MHz 16-bit A/Ds
- Four multiband DDCs (digital downconverters)
- Multiband programmable beamformer
- Four GB of DDR3 SDRAM
- Sample clock synchronization to an external system reference
- LVPECL clock/sync bus for multimodule synchronization
- PCI Express (Gen. 1, 2 & 3) interface up to x8
- Optional LVDS connections to the Xilinx® Virtex®-7 FPGA for custom I/O

## 78761 BLOCK DIAGRAM

Click on a block for more information.



## THE ONYX ARCHITECTURE

Based on the proven design of the Mercury Cobalt family, Onyx raises the processing performance with the new flagship family of Virtex-7 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 Onyx 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 Onyx family is delivered with factory-installed applications ideally matched to the board's analog interfaces. The 78761 factory-installed functions include four A/D acquisition IP modules for simplifying data capture and data transfer.

Each of the four acquisition IP modules contains a powerful, programmable DDC IP core. IP modules for DDR3 SDRAM memories, a controller for all data clocking and synchronization functions, a test signal generator, a programmable beamforming IP core, an Aurora gigabit serial interface, and a PCIe interface complete the factory-installed functions and enable the 78761 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. The GateFlow FPGA Design Kits include all of the factory-installed modules as document source code. Developers can integrate their own IP with the factory-installed functions or use the GateFlow kit to completely replace the IP with their own.

## XILINX VIRTEX-7 FPGA

The Xilinx Virtex-7 FPGA site can be populated with one of two FPGAs to match the specific requirements of the processing task. Supported FPGAs are VX330T or VX690T. The VX690T features 3600 DSP48E1 slices and is ideal for modulation/demodulation, encoding/decoding, encryption/decryption, and channelization of the signals between transmission and reception. For applications not requiring large DSP resources or logic, the lower-cost VX330T can be installed.

## A/D ACQUISITION IP MODULES

The 78761 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 board's analog interface 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 Xilinx® Virtex®-7 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 modules 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 modules can be driven from the LVPECL bus master, supporting synchronous sampling and sync functions across all connected boards.

## 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 four DDCs or each of the four 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 four different output bandwidths for the board. Decimations can be programmed 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  $0.8 \cdot f_s / N$ , 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 or 16-bit I + 16-bit Q samples at a rate of  $f_s / N$ .

### BEAMFORMER IP CORE

In addition to the DDCs, the 78761 features a complete beamforming subsystem. Each DDC core contains programmable 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 four 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 78761'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.

### MEMORY RESOURCES

The 78761 architecture supports four independent DDR3 SDRAM memory banks. Each bank is 1 GB deep and is an integral part of the module's DMA capabilities, providing FIFO memory space for creating DMA packets. Built-in memory functions include multichannel A/D data capture, tagging and streaming.

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 78761 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 board.

### GATEXPRESS FOR FPGA CONFIGURATION

The Onyx architecture includes GateXpress®, a sophisticated FPGA-PCIe configuration manager for loading and reloading the FPGA. At power up, GateXpress immediately presents a PCIe target for the host computer to discover, effectively giving the FPGA time to load from FLASH. This is especially important for larger FPGAs where the loading times can exceed the PCIe discovery window, typically 100 msec on most PCs.

The board's configuration FLASH can hold four FPGA images. Images can be factory-installed IP or custom IP created by the user, and programmed into the FLASH via JTAG using Xilinx iMPACT or through the board's PCIe interface. At power up the user can choose which image will load based on a hardware switch setting. Once

booted, GateXpress allows the user three options for dynamically reconfiguring the FPGA with a new IP image:

- The first is the option to load an alternate image from FLASH through software control. The user selects the desired image and issues a reload command.
- The second option is for applications where the FPGA image must be loaded directly through the PCIe interface. This is important in security situations where there can be no latent user image left in nonvolatile memory when power is removed. In applications where the FPGA IP may need to change many times during the course of a mission, images can be stored on the host computer and loaded through PCIe as needed.
- The third option, typically used during development, allows the user to directly load the FPGA through JTAG using Xilinx iMPACT.

In all three FPGA loading scenarios, GateXpress handles the hardware negotiation simplifying and streamlining the loading task. In addition, GateXpress preserves the PCIe configuration space allowing dynamic FPGA reconfiguration without a host computer reset to rediscover the board. After the reload, the host simply continues to see the board with the expected device ID.

## READYFLOW

Mercury provides ReadyFlow<sup>®</sup> BSPs (Board Support Packages) for all Cobalt, Onyx, and Flexor products. Available for both Linux and Windows, these packages:

- Provide a path for quick start-up through application completion
- Allow programming at high, intermediate and low levels to meet various needs
- Are illustrated with numerous examples
- Include complete documentation and definitions of all functions
- Include library and example source code.

ReadyFlow BSPs contain C-language examples that can be used to demonstrate the capabilities of Cobalt, Onyx, and Flexor products. These programming examples will help you get an immediate start on writing your own application. They provide sample code that is known to work, giving you a means of verifying that your board set is operational.

## COMMAND LINE INTERFACE

The Command Line Interface provides access to pre-compiled executable examples that operate the hardware right out of the box, without the need to write any code. Board-specific hardware

operating arguments can be entered in the command line to control parameters: number of channels to enable, sample clock frequency, data transfer size, reference clock frequency, reference clock source, etc.

The Command Line Interface can be used to call an example application from within a larger user application to control the hardware, and parameter arguments are passed to the application for execution. Functions that control data acquisition automatically save captured data to a pre-named host file or are routed to the Signal Analyzer example function for display.

## SIGNAL ANALYZER

When used with the Command Line Interface, the Signal Analyzer allows users to immediately start acquiring and displaying A/D data. A full-featured analysis tool, the Signal Analyzer displays data in time and frequency domains. Built-in measurement functions display 2nd and 3rd harmonics, THD, and SINAD. Interactive cursors allow users to mark data points and instantly calculate amplitude and frequency of displayed signals.





## GATEFLOW

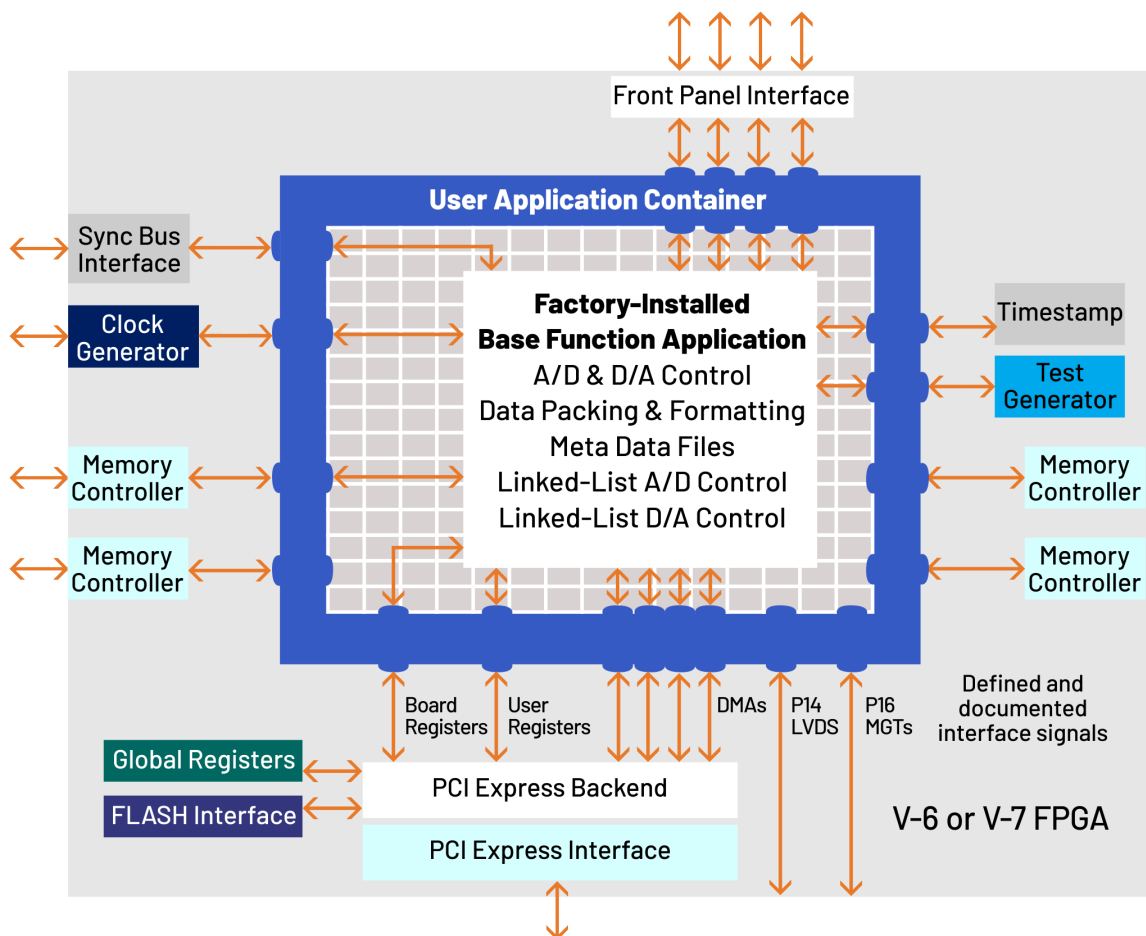
The GateFlow<sup>®</sup> FPGA Design Kit (FDK) allows the user to modify, replace and extend the standard installed functions in the FPGA to incorporate special modes of operation, new control structures, and specialized signal-processing algorithms.

The Cobalt (Virtex-6), Onyx (Virtex-7), and Flexor (Virtex-7) architectures configure the FPGA with standard factory-supplied interfaces including memory controllers, DMA engines, A/D and D/A interfaces, timing and synchronization structures, triggering and gating logic, time stamping and header tagging, data formatting engines, and the PCIe interface. These resources are connected to the User Application Container using well-defined ports that present easy-to-use data and control signals, effectively abstracting the lower-level details of the hardware.

## The User Application Container

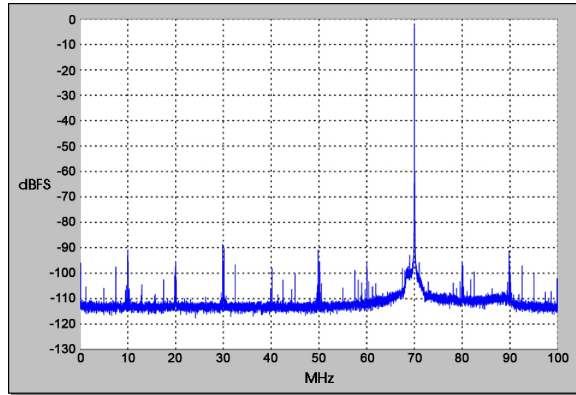
Shown below is the FPGA block diagram of a typical Cobalt, Onyx or Flexor module. The User Application Container holds a collection of different installed IP modules connected to the various interfaces through the standard ports surrounding the container. The specific IP modules for each product are described in further detail in the datasheet of that product.

The GateFlow FDK provides a complete Xilinx's ISE or Vivado project folder containing all the files necessary for the FPGA developer to recompile the entire project with or without any required changes. VHDL source code for each IP module provides excellent examples of how the IP modules work, how they might be modified, and how they might be replaced with custom IP to implement a specific function.



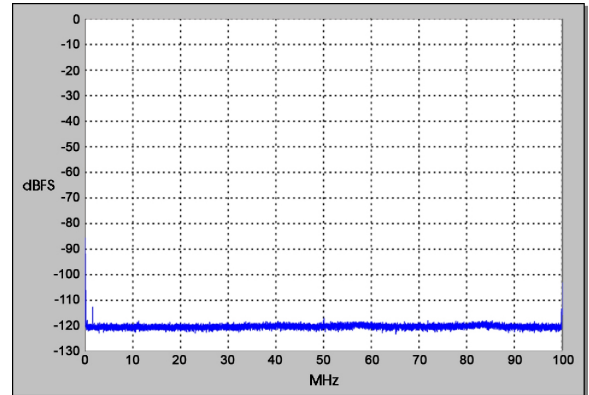
## A/D PERFORMANCE

**Spurious Free Dynamic Range**



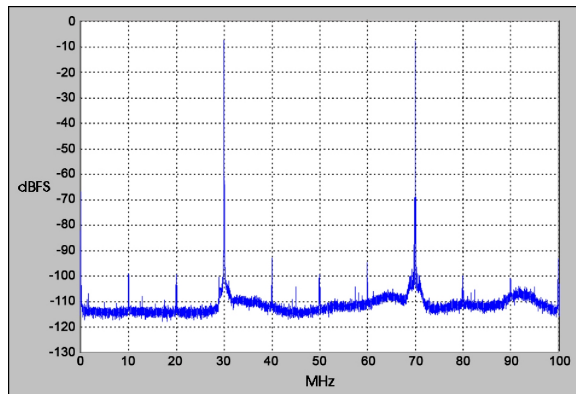
$f_{in} = 70$  MHz,  $f_s = 200$  MHz, Internal Clock

**Spurious Pick-up**



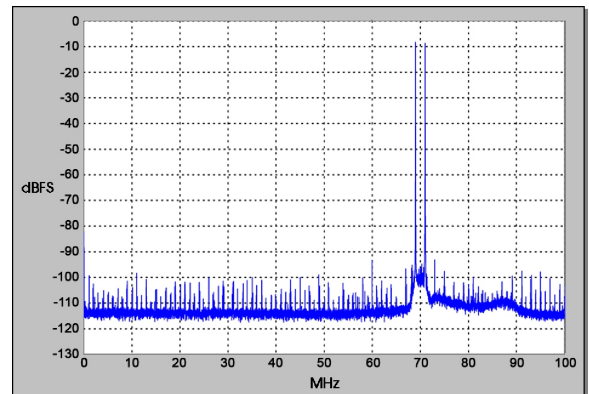
$f_s = 200$  MHz, Internal Clock

**Two-Tone SFDR**



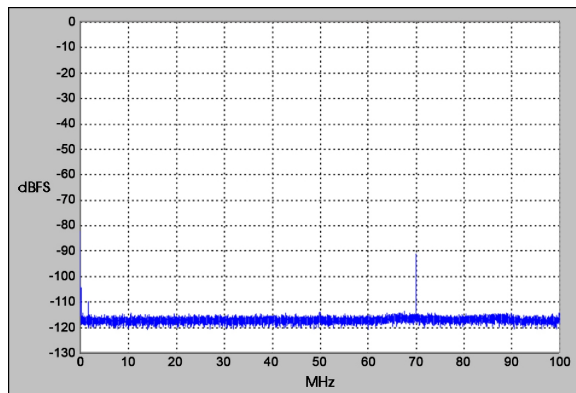
$f_1 = 30$  MHz,  $f_2 = 70$  MHz,  $f_s = 200$  MHz

**Two-Tone SFDR**



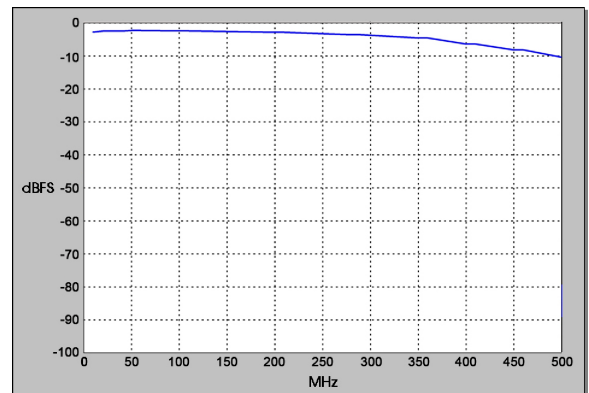
$f_1 = 69$  MHz,  $f_2 = 71$  MHz,  $f_s = 200$  MHz

**Adjacent Channel Crosstalk**



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

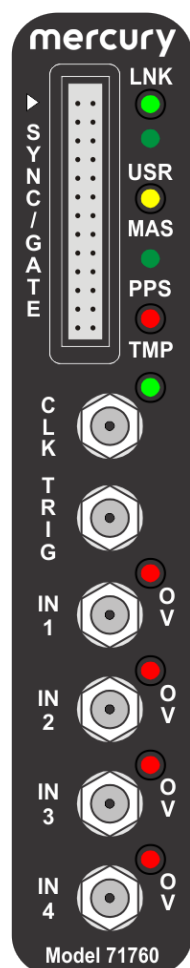
**Input Frequency Response**



$f_s = 200$  MHz, Internal Clock

## FRONT PANEL CONNECTIONS

The XMC front panel includes six SSMC coaxial connectors and a 26-pin Sync Bus connector for input/output of clock, trigger and analog signals. The front panel also includes ten LEDs.



- **Sync Bus Connector:** The 26-pin Sync Bus front panel connector, labeled **SYNC/GATE**, provides clock, sync, and gate input/output pins for the Sync Bus.
- **Link LED:** The green **LNK** LED blinks when a valid link has been established over the PCIe interface.
- **User LED:** The green **USR** LED is for user applications.
- **MAS LED:** The yellow **MAS** LED illuminates when this model is the Sync Bus Master.
- **PPS LED:** The green **PPS** LED illuminates when a valid PPS signal is detected. The LED will blink at the rate of the PPS signal.
- **Over Temperature LED:** The red **TMP** LED illuminates when an over-temperature or over-voltage condition is indicated by any of the temperature/voltage sensors on the PCB.
- **Clock Input Connector:** One SSMC coaxial connector, labeled **CLK**, for input of an external sample clock.
- **Trigger Input Connector:** The SSMC coaxial connector labeled **TRIG** is for input of an external trigger. The signal must be a LVTTTL signal.

- **Analog Input Connectors:** Four SSMC coaxial connectors, labeled **IN 1**, **IN 2**, **IN 3** and **IN 4** are for each ADC input channel.
- **ADC Overload LED:** Four red **OV** (overload) LEDs for each A/D input.

## 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: Four channels

Decimation Range: 2x to 65,536x in two stages of 2x to 256x

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: 18-bit coefficients, 24-bit output, user-programmable coefficient

Default Filter Set 80% bandwidth, <0.3 dB passband ripple, >100 dB stopband attenuation

## Beamformer

Summation: Four channels on-board; multiple boards can be summed via Summation Expansion Chain

Summation Expansion Chain: One chain in and one chain out link via XMC connector using Aurora protocol

Phase Shift Coefficients: I & Q with 16-bit resolution

Gain Coefficients: 16-bit resolution

Channel Summation: 24-bit

Multiboard Summation Expansion: 32-bit

## 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 sample clock or PLL 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

**External Trigger Input**

Type: Front panel female SSMC connector, LVTTTL

Function: Programmable functions include: trigger, gate, sync and PPS

**Field Programmable Gate Array**

- Standard: Xilinx Virtex-7 XC7VX330T-2
- Optional: Xilinx Virtex-7 XC7VX690T-2

**Custom I/O**

- 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

**Memory**

Type: DDR3 SDRAM

Size: Four banks, 1 GB each

Speed: 800 MHz (1600 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

**Physical**

Dimensions: Half-length PCIe card

- Depth: 181.0 mm (7.13 in.)
- Height: 111 mm (4.38 in.)

Weight: PCIe Carrier: 110 grams (3.9 oz)

**ORDERING INFORMATION**

Model	Description
78761	4-Channel 200 MHz A/D with DDCs and Virtex-7 FPGA - x8 PCIe

Options	Description
-076	XC7VX690T-2 FPGA
-104	LVDS FPGA I/O through P14 connector
-702	Air-cooled, Level 2

Contact Mercury for compatible option combinations.

**ACCESSORY PRODUCTS**

Model	Description
2171	Cable Kit: SSMC to SMA

## FORM FACTORS

Onyx products are available in standard form factors including 3U VPX, 6U VPX, PCIe, and XMC. The Onyx Model 71761 XMC (4-Channel 200 MHz A/D with DDC, Virtex-7 FPGA) has the following variants:

Model	
52761	3U VPX board (single XMC)
54761	3U VPX board (single XMC with optical/backplane RF)
57761	6U VPX board (single XMC)
58761	6U VPX board (dual XMC)
71761	XMC module
78761	PCIe board (single XMC)

## DEVELOPMENT SYSTEMS

Mercury offers development systems for Onyx products. They come with all pre-tested software and hardware ready for immediate operation. These systems are intended to save engineers and system integrators the time and expense associated with building and testing a development system that ensures optimum performance of Onyx boards. Please [contact Mercury](#) to configure a system that matches your requirements.



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**For technical details, contact:**  
[mrcy.com/go/CF78761](https://mrcy.com/go/CF78761)



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