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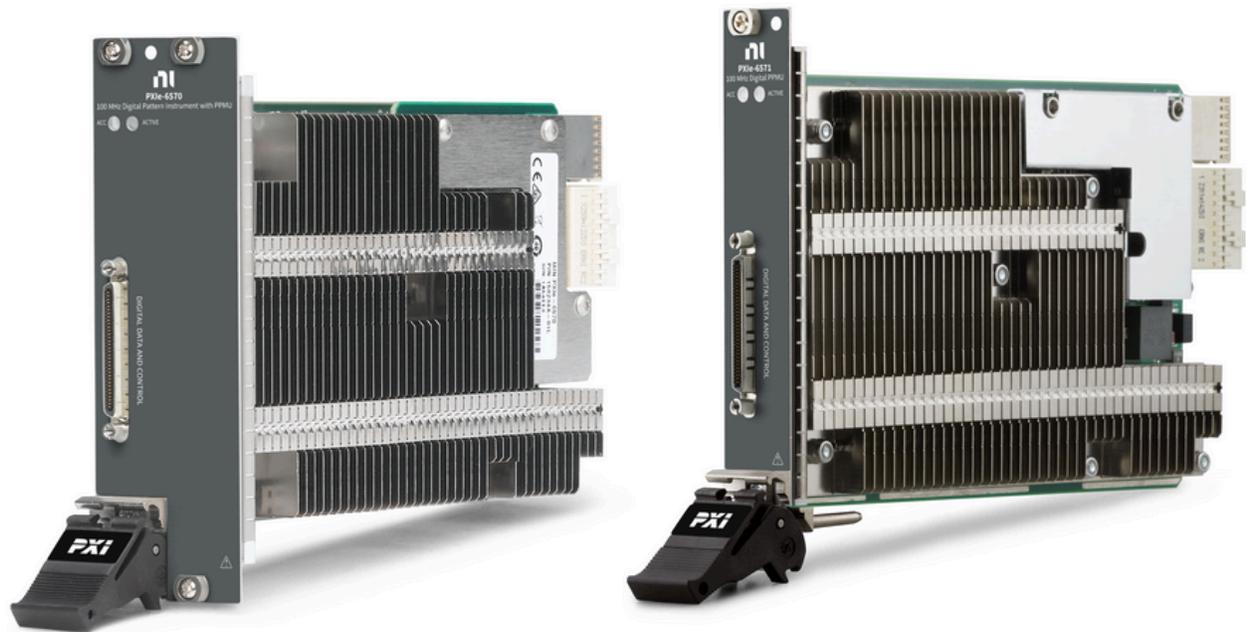
Product Flyer

# PXI Digital Pattern Instruments

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# PXI Digital Pattern Instruments
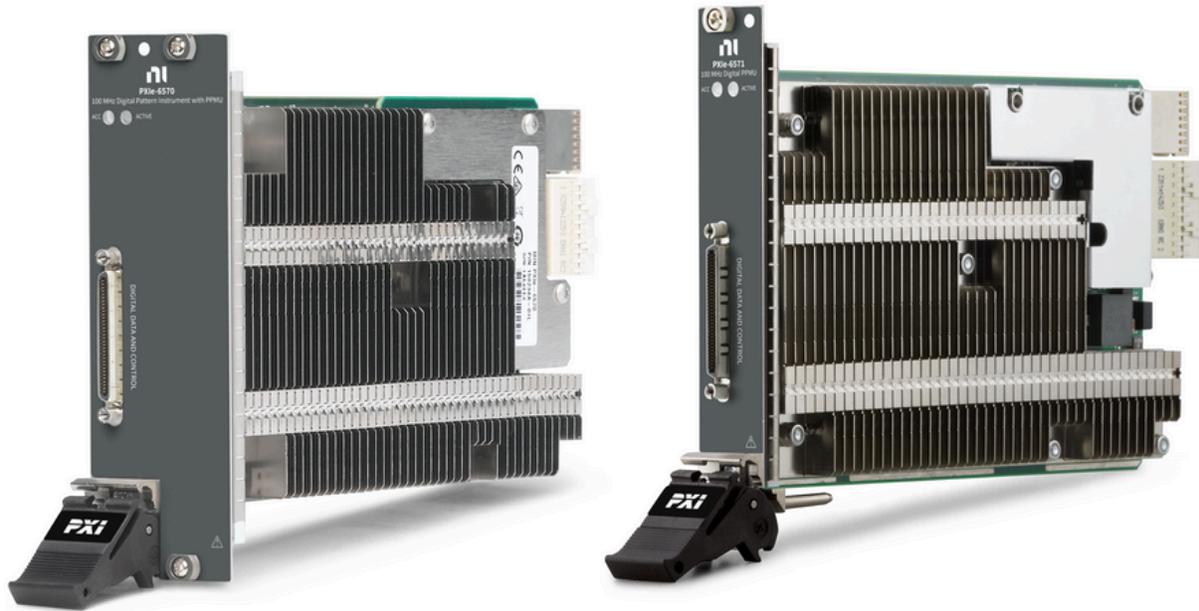
## PXIe-6570, PXIe-6571



**FIGURE 1**

PXIe-6570 and PXIe-6571

- Software: Includes Digital Pattern Editor for pattern development and debugging, API support for LabVIEW and text-based languages, shipping examples, and detailed help files

- 32-channel, 100 MHz vector rate with 39.0625 ps of edge placement resolution

- Digital voltage -2 V to 6 V, and PPMU force voltage -2 V to 7 V

- Up to 200 Mb/s data rate and 160 MHz clock generation

- Combine multiple modules to create digital subsystems with up to 512 channels

- Dedicated source, capture, and history memory resources for up to eight parallel test sites

## Semiconductor ATE-Class Digital on the Open PXI Platform

PXI Digital Pattern Instruments deliver ATE-class digital to the industry-standard PXI platform for testing a broad range of RF and mixed-signal integrated circuits (ICs). The NI PXI platform and NI Semiconductor Test System (STS) are an ideal platform for characterization and production test of RF and mixed-signal ICs from RF front ends and power management ICs to transceivers and Internet of Things systems on chip with built-in connectivity and sensors.

The PXIe-6571 is the highlight of NI's offering for digital production and characterization test of semiconductor devices. For basic digital signals and interfaces, consider the 8-channel variant of the PXIe-6571, the NI PXI Digital I/O Modules, or NI PXI Reconfigurable Digital I/O Modules.

# PXI Digital Pattern Instruments Portfolio

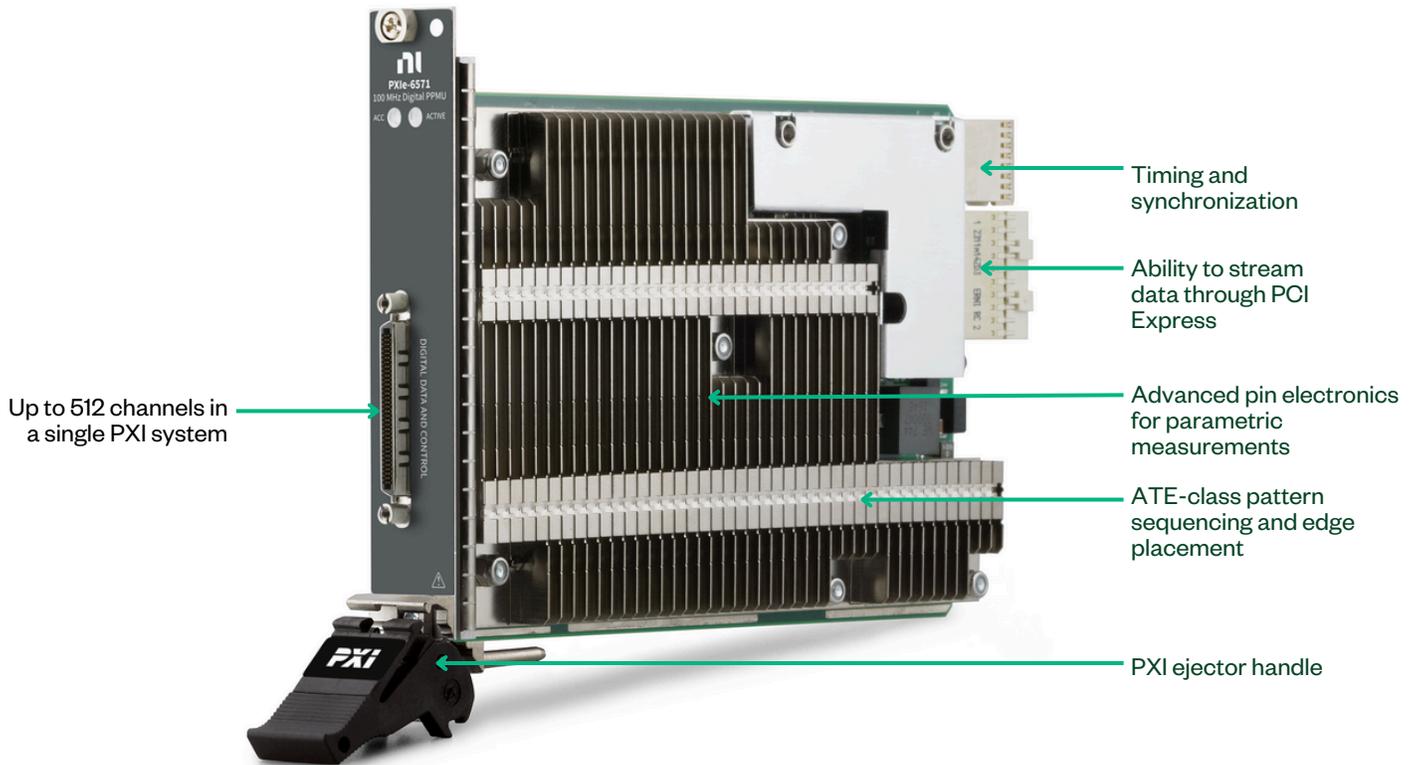| | PXIe-6570 | PXIe-6571[1] | PXIe-6571 8-ch[1] |
|---|---|---|---|
| Module Width | 2 slots | 1 slot | 1 slot |
| Active Load | 24 mA | 16 mA | 16 mA |
| Channels | 32 per module | | 8 per module |
| | 256 maximum in a synchronized subsystem | 512 maximum in a synchronized subsystem | Optimized for low-channel-count bench use |
| Pin Electronics | Digital: -2 V to +6 V, 32 mA<br>PPMU measure voltage: -2 V to +6 V, 32 mA<br>PPMU force voltage: -2 V to +7 V, 32 mA | | |
| Maximum Vector Rate | 100 MHz (10 ns minimum vector period) | | |
| Maximum Data Rate | 200 Mb/s | | |
| Maximum Clock Generation[2] | 160 MHz | | |
| Pattern Timing | 31 time sets<br>39.0625 ps edge placement resolution | | |
| Drive Formats | Non-return (NR), return to low (RL), return to high (RH) (100 MHz max), surround by complement (SBC) (50 MHz max) | | |
| Vector Memory Depth | 128 M/Channel | | |
| Opcode Support | Flow control, sequencer flags and registers, signal, source and capture, subroutine | | |
| Source and Capture Engines | Broadcast or site-unique<br>Serial or parallel<br>8 per instrument | | |
| Source and Capture Memory | 256 Mbit source memory, 1 MSample capture memory | | |
| Frequency Counters | 5 kHz to 200 MHz, per pin | | |
| History RAM | (8,192/N site) - 1 cycles | | |
| SCAN Support | Flattened SCAN patterns, up to 128 M | | |
| Timing Specifications | Warranted | | Typical |
| Calibration[3] | Factory | Traceable | Compliant | ISO17025 | | |

Table 1: PXI Digital Pattern Instruments are built for the testing of semiconductor devices.

[1] Note that the PXIe-6571 requires a chassis with 82 W slot cooling capacity, such as the NI PXIe-1095. The PXIe-6571 8-ch. variant can be used in a 58 W and/or 82 W slot cooling capacity chassis. For more on PXI power and cooling, see this white paper.

[2] Clock rates >133 MHz will have a non-50% duty cycle.

[3] ONLY FOR PXIe-6571 8-ch: Calibration will include all DC performance parameters that are warranted. Calibration will not include timing parameters because they are typical, not warranted.

# Detailed View of the PXIe-6571 Digital Pattern Instrument



Timing and synchronization

Ability to stream data through PCI Express

Advanced pin electronics for parametric measurements

ATE-class pattern sequencing and edge placement

Up to 512 channels in a single PXI system

PXI ejector handle

# Key Features

## Hardware Overview

PXI Digital Pattern Instruments have several types of vector and dynamic pattern memory and feature pin electronics. The block diagram in Figure 2 shows the instruments' functional hardware components.
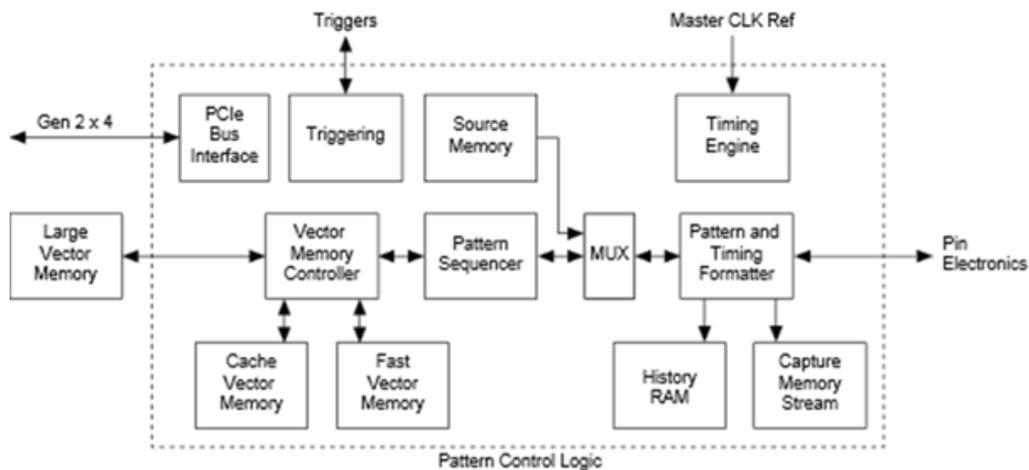


FIGURE 2

PXI Digital Pattern Instruments offer advanced ATE memory features like history, source, and capture memory with the right levels of user abstraction.

# Timing and Execution

PXI Digital Pattern Instruments burst digital data based on patterns that are made up of individual vectors. The time set includes the period of the vector in time, a drive format for the pin, and placement of the digital edges.

The drive formats, or vector formats, supported by these instruments are non-return, return to low, return to high, and surround by complement. Having the ability to use all of these formats gives engineers the ability to make the most efficient digital interface with as few vectors as necessary.
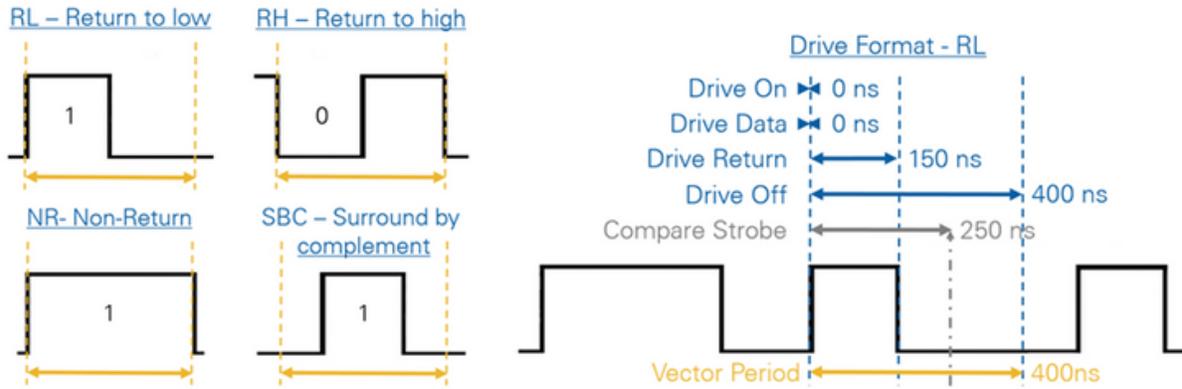


FIGURE 3

The combination of drive format and pattern value will determine what the digital waveform looks like. Each time set for a PXI Digital Pattern Instrument has a defined period, up to six drive edges, and a compare strobe.

The time sets for a PXI Digital Pattern Instrument have up to six drive edges and a compare strobe to act on the formats defined above. Drive on and drive off are edges that determine when the pin drivers will enable and disable. Drive data and drive return define when the pin driver will assert a high or low level. The drive return edge is only used in return vector formats. The compare strobe specifies the time in a vector when the pin comparator determines if the pin is at a high, low, or midband voltage level based on defined thresholds.

# Pin Electronics

Pin electronics provide the electrical interface to the DUT and allows the engineer to drive or receive digital data and emulate the conditions of other loads and components interacting with the device.

In a drive state, the pin driver of the pin electronics is engaged and forces the voltage on the pin to be low or high as determined by a 0 or 1 in the pattern. A pin driver will source or sink up to 32 mA to achieve the defined high or low value on the pin when enabled. Digital pattern instruments use 0 and 1 to represent drive pin states.

Compare states are non-drive states that use the comparators of the pin electronics to assess incoming data against predefined thresholds. Comparators are included in pin electronics and have settable levels for high and low voltages that are made in context to the DUT. To represent the different non-drive states that a pin can take, L, H, X, V, E, and M are all used.
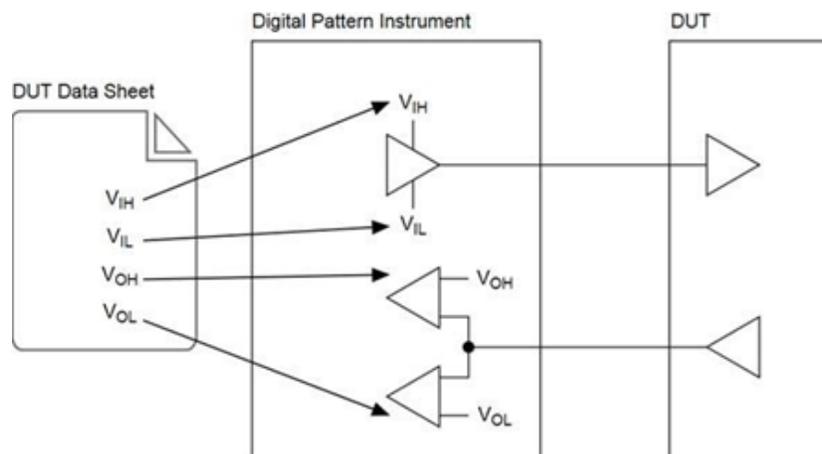


FIGURE 4

Pin drivers and comparators within the pin electronics use defined voltage levels for drive and compare states in the digital pattern.

## NI STS Integration and Digital System Synchronization

PXI Digital Pattern Instruments make up the digital test subsystem of the STS. The instruments are supported in all STS software and are calibrated using a timing calibration load board and a DC calibration load board, both from NI. The diagnostic software and calibration tools ensure high reliability and uptime of the system. It also gives a single system the ability to have many unified digital test resources.

With PXI Digital Pattern Instruments, more test engineers can take advantage of the STS, a PXI-based, open platform semiconductor production test system.

## Synchronized and Integration

PXI Digital Pattern Instruments can be synchronized together within a single PXI chassis using a PXI timing and synchronization module and the NI-Sync device driver. This synchronization can be done both within the STS and in a stand-alone PXI chassis. By synchronizing multiple instruments, a single digital subsystem can have up to 512 synchronized channels that achieve a specified edge placement accuracy performance. A unified digital subsystem can span single sites and combine match and failed conditions across multiple digital pattern instruments.

# Software

## NI-Digital Pattern Application Programming Interface (API)

The NI-Digital Pattern Driver includes a best-in-class API that works with a variety of development options such as LabVIEW, C, and .NET languages. To ensure long-term interoperability of PXI Digital Pattern Instruments, the NI-Digital Pattern Driver API is the same API used for all past and current PXI Digital Pattern Instruments. The driver also provides access to help files, documentation, and ready-to-run shipping examples you can use as a starting point for your application.
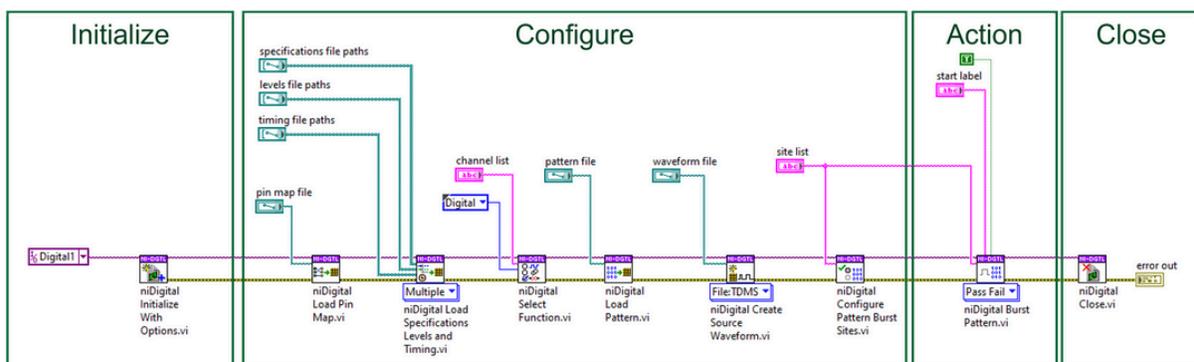


FIGURE 6
Simple LabVIEW code helps you get started with configuring and controlling digital pattern instruments.

# NI Digital Pattern Editor Application Software

The Digital Pattern Editor is an interactive tool for importing, editing, or creating test patterns. The editor also includes tools like Shmoo plots to provide a deeper understanding of DUT performance across variation, as well as debug tools like overlaying pattern failures on a pattern or using digital scope to get an analog view of the pin data. Features like multisite and multi-instrument pattern bursting empower the engineer to expand from development into production leveraging the same workflow. All the sheets developed in the Digital Pattern Editor can be reused by the API in LabVIEW, C, or .NET languages, as well as in the TestStand Semiconductor Module.

## Pattern Development and Format

A pattern file is a collection of vectors, with each vector containing time sets, labels, opcodes, pin states, and comments. The Digital Pattern Editor has development sheets for all these items as well as debug tools for refining patterns, time sets, and specifications. A compiled, binary version of the pattern file is required to edit or burst. Engineers can compile an ASCII text pattern file format (.digipatsrc) into a binary version using the Digital Pattern Editor or a command line process. The ASCII form can be used to convert existing patterns by following the well-defined pattern file format. Design simulation and SCAN files generated by EDA tools can be cyclized and targeted to the NI format using existing customer in-house EDA workflows or third-party cyclizing tools.
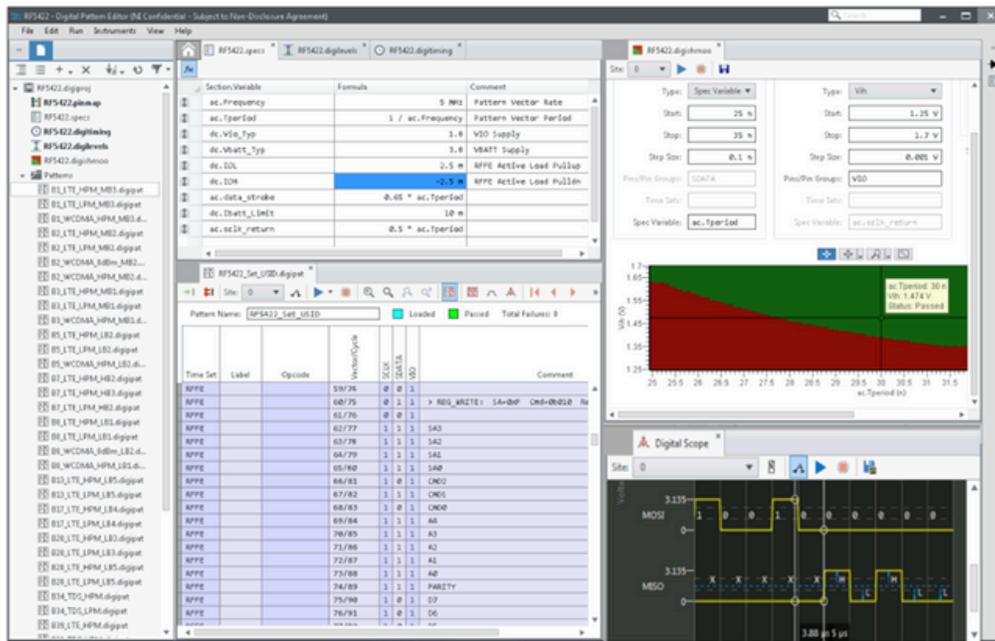


FIGURE 7

The Digital Pattern Editor is powerful development and debug software for semiconductor digital tests. The window can be configured to view development sheets and debugging tools all at the same time.

## History RAM Overlay Feature and History RAM View

Engineers can view the History RAM in two ways: using the History RAM overlay feature in the pattern document and looking at the History RAM view. The History RAM overlay displays the subset of burst results that corresponds to vectors in the current pattern based on the settings specified in the History RAM and signal setup pane. The History RAM view includes the corresponding time sets, labels, opcodes, pattern names, vectors/cycles, pin data, and comments. Rebursting a pattern overwrites the data in the History RAM overlay mode and in the History RAM view.

## Digital Scope

To aid engineers in debugging patterns, the Digital Scope tool displays a progressively updated two-dimensional plot of the actual analog levels of the digital waveform along with the expected data from the pattern.



FIGURE 8

The Digital Scope function allows for viewing a 2D plot of expected versus actual data.

The Digital Scope includes:

- Display of Waveforms: Simultaneously visualize the actual analog levels and expected digital waveforms for accurate comparison.

- Precise Analysis Tools: Easily switch between exact sample points and cursor-based level toggling for detailed waveform inspection.

- Intuitive Navigation: Customize mouse actions to streamline chart navigation, including panning, zooming to fit all plots, and resetting view settings.

- Versatile Export Options: Save results in CSV format for seamless integration into LabVIEW, C, .NET, or the TestStand Semiconductor Module. Additionally, capture the digital scope's state and plot data as an image for documentation or reporting purposes.

**FIGURE 9**

Intuitive navigation allows users to zoom in and see specific levels being output from the device.

## Shmoo Plot

The Shmoo tool displays a dynamically updated intensity plot of pass and fail values for a sweep of two variables. The Shmoo executes on multiple sites and engineers can switch the plot results displayed from site to site during the operation without hindering the sweep's completion. This allows for quickly visualizing DUT response.

Multi-Variable Sweeps: Shmoo plots can sweep up to two variables, including levels, voltages, currents, edges, or specifications, providing detailed insights into parameter interactions. Supported sweep modes include standard sweep, zigzag, progressive resolution, and edge traversal.
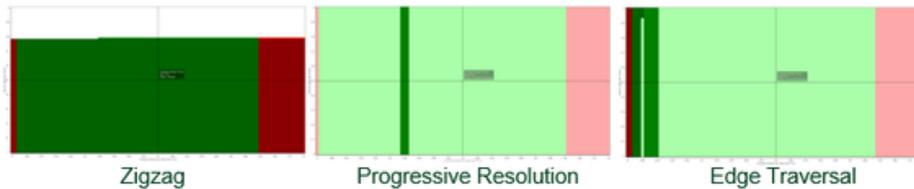


**FIGURE 10**

Shmoo plots can be configured for different sweep modes.

Interactive Control: Engineers can apply settings and initiate bursts at specific points using double-click or cursors, directly within the Digital Pattern Editor. This feature enhances precision and efficiency during the testing process.
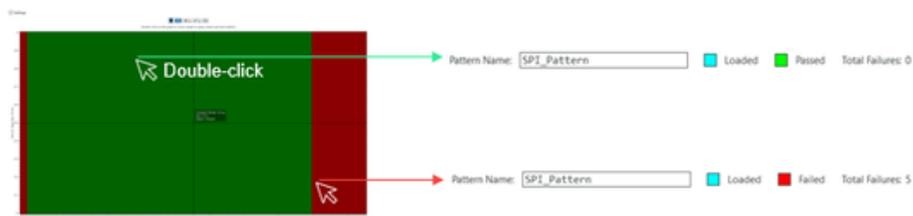


**FIGURE 11**

Shmoo plots are interactive and can help relate back to the burst they reference.

Enhanced Usability and Plotting: Engineers can pan, zoom, and display specific point values for more detailed analysis. You can save, configure, and export multiple plots with results exportable as PNG or text files.



**FIGURE 12**

Shmoo plots are navigable through the built-in plotting tools.

# System View

System View provides control over settings and measurements for all pins and relays connected to your instrument, making it an essential tool for optimizing and managing complex testing configurations.

- Interactive Debugging: System View supports real-time adjustments and debugging of digital pattern instruments, NI-DCPower instruments, and relays. allowing for seamless testing and troubleshooting.

- Pin Monitoring: Users can view the current states of Digital, DC, and Relay pins, providing a live snapshot of the system's behavior. This is essential for detecting and addressing anomalies during testing.

- Pattern and Waveform Management: System View provides a list of patterns and source waveforms loaded on the system. In addition, users can easily view and edit pattern sequencer flags and registers to debug and control patterns.

- Real-Time Visualization: Users can observe the dynamic state changes of pins and instruments in real time, enabling faster decision-making and adjustments without needing to stop the test.

These features make System View a powerful and indispensable tool for engineers, allowing them to manage intricate testing setups with precision, efficiency, and flexibility.



FIGURE 13

The system view allows users to see each of their pin states and other system parameters in real-time during bursts for more intuitive monitoring and debugging.

# NI Software-The Right Tool for the Job

NI has a variety of software for engineers working on research, validation, and production test applications. Learn about our software that helps engineers perform quick ad-hoc tests, build an automated test system, automate data analysis and reporting, develop test sequences, and more.
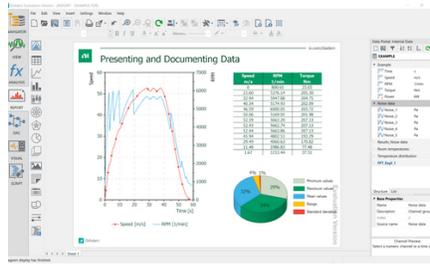
## LabVIEW
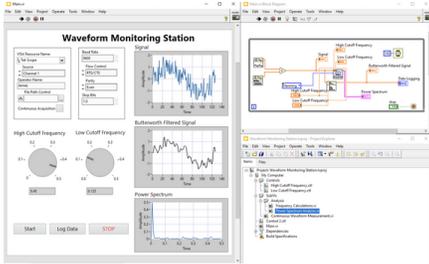


Graphical programming environment that engineers use to develop automated research, validation, and production test systems.

- Acquire data from NI and third-party hardware and communicate using industry protocols
- Use configurable, interactive display elements
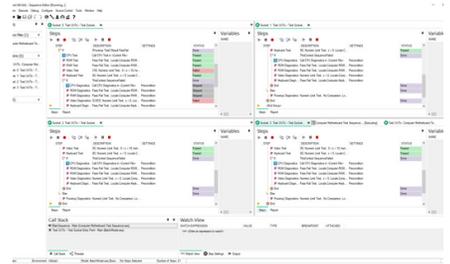- Take advantage of available analysis functions

## DIAdem



Data analytics software for measurement data search, inspection, analysis, and automated reporting.

- Display data in multiple 2D-axis systems
- Perform calculations with a simple point-and-click interface
- Automate your measurement data analysis workflow, from import to analysis
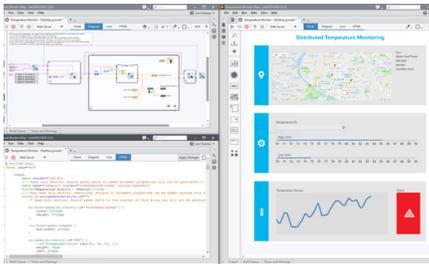
## TestStand



Test executive software that accelerates system development for engineers in validation and production.

- Call and execute tests in LabVIEW, Python, C/C++, or .NET
- Conduct complex tasks, such as parallel testing
- Create customer operator interfaces and robust tools for deployment and debugging

## G Web



Development software that helps engineers create web-based user interfaces wihtout the need for traditional web development skills.

- Data transfer APIs for connecting to systems written in LabVIEW, Python, or C#
- Pre-built objects for data display and user input
- Included hosting on SystemLink™ Cloud

## FlexLogger™
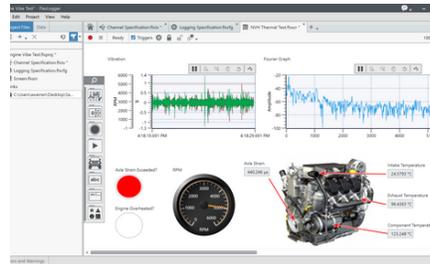


No-code data acquisition software engineers use to build validation and verification test applications.

- Interactive visualization tools for monitoring tests with drag-and-drop charts, graphs, and controls
- Ability to set alarms that monitor single channels or groups for unexpected behavior

## InstrumentStudio™
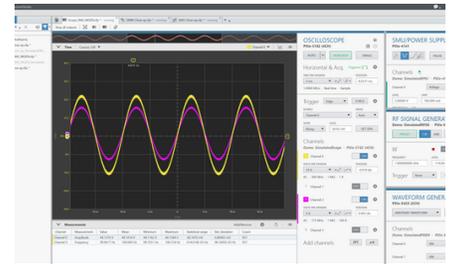


Application software that simplifies setup and configuration of NI PXI hardware

- Customizable layouts for monitoring multiple instruments at once
- Interactively debug in tandem with code
- TDMS file export containing instrument settings, measurements, and raw data

# What Is PXI?
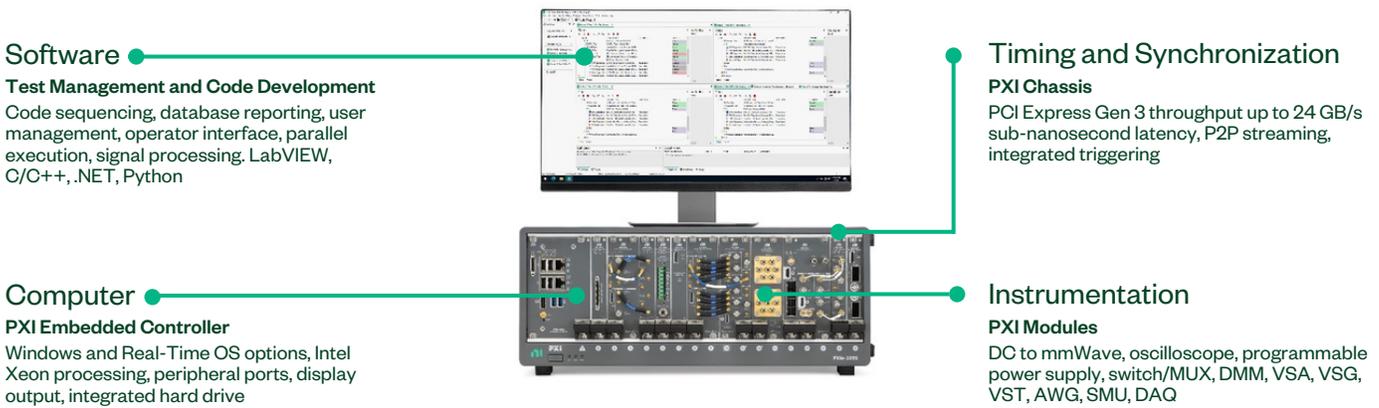
## A Platform Approach to Test and Measurement

Powered by software, PXI is a rugged PC-based platform for measurement and automation systems. PXI combines PCI electrical-bus features with the modular, Eurocard packaging of CompactPCI and then adds specialized synchronization buses and key software features. PXI is both a high-performance and low-cost deployment platform for applications such as manufacturing test, military and aerospace, machine monitoring, automotive, and industrial test. Developed in 1997 and launched in 1998, PXI is an open industry standard governed by the PXI Systems Alliance (PXISA), a group of more than 70 companies chartered to promote the PXI standard, ensure interoperability, and maintain the PXI specification.

### Software

**Test Management and Code Development**
Code sequencing, database reporting, user management, operator interface, parallel execution, signal processing. LabVIEW, C/C++, .NET, Python

### Timing and Synchronization

**PXI Chassis**
PCI Express Gen 3 throughput up to 24 GB/s sub-nanosecond latency, P2P streaming, integrated triggering

### Computer

**PXI Embedded Controller**
Windows and Real-Time OS options, Intel Xeon processing, peripheral ports, display output, integrated hard drive

### Instrumentation

**PXI Modules**
DC to mmWave, oscilloscope, programmable power supply, switch/MUX, DMM, VSA, VSG, VST, AWG, SMU, DAQ

## Integrated with the Latest Commercial Technology

By leveraging the latest commercial technology for our products, we can continually deliver high performance and high-quality products to our users at a competitive price. The latest PCI Express Gen 3 switches deliver higher data throughput, the latest Intel multicore processors facilitate faster and more efficient parallel (multisite) testing, the latest FPGAs from Xilinx help to push signal processing algorithms to the edge to accelerate measurements, and the latest data converters from TI and ADI continually increase the measurement range and performance of our instrumentation.

| HIGHER DATA THROUGHPUT | PARALLEL TEST EXECUTION | MEASUREMENT ACCELERATION | INCREASED MEASUREMENT RANGE |
|---|---|---|---|
| PCI Express Gen 3 | Multicore Processors | FPGAs | Data Converters |

# PXI Instrumentation

NI offers more than 600 different PXI modules ranging from DC to mmWave. Because PXI is an open industry standard, nearly 1,500 products are available from more than 70 different instrument vendors. With standard processing and control functions designated to a controller, PXI instruments need to contain only the actual instrumentation circuitry, which provides effective performance in a small footprint. Combined with a chassis and controller, PXI systems feature high-throughput data movement using PCI Express bus interfaces and sub-nanosecond synchronization with integrated timing and triggering.

### Oscilloscopes
Sample at speeds up to 12.5 GS/s with 5 GHz of analog bandwidth, featuring numerous triggering modes and deep onboard memory

### Digital Instruments
Perform characterization and production test of semiconductor devices with timing sets and per channel pin parametric measurement unit (PPMU)

### Frequency Counters
Perform counter timer tasks such as event counting and encoder position, period, pulse, and frequency measurements

### Power Supplies & Loads
Supply programmable DC power, with some modules including isolated channels, output disconnect functionality, and remote sense

### Switches (Matrix & MUX)
Feature a variety of relay types and row/column configurations to simplify wiring in automated test systems

### GPIB, Serial, & Ethernet
Integrate non-PXI instruments into a PXI system through various instrument control interfaces

### Digital Multimeters
Perform voltage (up to 1000 V), current (up to 3A), resistance, inductance, capacitance, and frequency/period measurements, as well as diode tests

### Waveform Generators
Generate standard functions including sine, square, triangle, and ramp as well as user-defined, arbitrary waveforms

### Source Measure Units
Combine high-precision source and measure capability with high channel density, deterministic hardware sequencing, and SourceAdapt transient optimization

### FlexRIO Custom Instruments & Processing
Provide high-performance I/O and powerful FPGAs for applications that require more than standard instruments can offer

### Vector Signal Transceivers
Combine a vector signal generator and vector signal analyzer with FPGA-based, real-time signal processing and control

### Data Acquisition Modules
Provide a mix of analog I/O, digital I/O, counter/timer, and trigger functionality for measuring electrical or physical phenomena

# Supporting Documentation

Table 2. PXI Digital Pattern Instruments Supporting Documentation

| Document Type | Model |
|---|---|
| Getting Started Guide | PXIe-6570, PXIe-6571 |
| Specifications | PXIe-6570, PXIe-6571 |

# Configure a Custom NI System

NI's online system advisors help you create a custom system based on your specific requirements. Use the advisor to choose compatible hardware, software, accessories, and services and then save your selections as configurations for easy quoting and purchasing later. Visit ni.com/advisor to learn more.

# NI Hardware Services

All NI hardware includes a one-year warranty for basic repair coverage and calibration in adherence to NI specifications prior to shipment. PXI systems also include basic assembly and a functional test. NI offers additional entitlements to improve uptime and lower maintenance costs with service programs for hardware. Learn more at ni.com/services/hardware.

| | Hardware | Standard | Premium | Description |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Duration at Point of Sale | 1 year; included | 3 years; optional | 3 years; optional | NI enhances warranty coverage with additional service benefits provided with a hardware service program. |
| Maximum Duration with Renewal | $\leq$ 3 years with service program | $\leq$ 3 years | $\leq$ 3 years | NI maintains the high performance and availability of your hardware for up to three years with a hardware service program. |
| Extended Repair Coverage | • | • | • | NI restores your device's functionality and includes firmware updates and factory calibration; < 10 working days[4] + standard shipping. |
| System Configuration, Assembly, and Test[1] | | • | • | NI technicians assemble, install software in, and test your system per your custom configuration prior to shipment. |
| Advanced Replacement [2] | | | • | NI stocks replacement hardware that can be shipped immediately if a repair is needed. |
| System Return Material Authorization (RMA)[1] | | | • | NI accepts the delivery of fully assembled systems when performing repair services. |
| Technical Support | • | • | • | NI provides access to support resources for your hardware. |
| Calibration Plan (Optional) | | Standard | Expedited[3] | NI performs the requested level of calibration at the specified calibration interval for the duration of the service program. |

1 This option is only available for PXI, CompactRIO, and CompactDAQ systems.
2 This option is not available for all products in all countries. Contact your local NI sales engineer to confirm availability.
3 Expedited calibration is only available for the Traceable calibration level.
4 This applies to non-RF products only. Standard extended repair coverage for RF products is <15 working days + standard shipping.

## PremiumPlus Service Program

NI can customize the offerings listed above or offer additional entitlements such as on-site calibration, custom sparing, and lifecycle services through a PremiumPlus Service Program. Contact your NI sales representative to learn more.

## Technical Support

NI hardware service programs and warranty include access to technical support provided by NI support agents during local business hours. Service requests can be managed online. Additionally, take advantage of NI's award-winning online resources and communities.