DNA/DNR-AI-224

4-Channel High Speed Strain Gage Input Board

- DNA-AI-224 for use with "Cube" chassis
- DNR-AI-224 for use with RACKtangle[™] I/O chassis
- 4 Strain Gage input channels
- 18-bit resolution, 100 kilosample/second
- Simultaneous sampling on all channels
- Built-in anti-aliasing filters
- Full, Half and Quarter Bridge inputs
- 120, 350 and 1000 ohm bridge completion
- Built-in tension/compression shunt calibration resistors

General Description

The DNA-AI-224 and DNR-AI-224 are high speed, four channel strain gage input boards for UEI's data acquisition and control Cubes and RACKtangle I/O racks respectively. The boards provide an ideal combination of high speed, accuracy and connection flexibility and are suitable for use in a wide variety of applications.

The analog inputs offer 18-bit resolution at sample rates up to 100 kilosamples per second. Each channel has an A/D converter and all four channels are sampled simultaneously. The combination of the 18-bit resolution with the board's automatic offset zeroing and automatic gain calibration ensure the measurements are extremely accurate. Each channel also includes an anti-aliasing filter that automatically is configured to match the sample rate (**Please see the note on the following page for details*)

The DNx-Al-224 accepts inputs from full, half or quarter bridge gages and load cells. Bridge completion resistors are built in for use with 120, 350 and 1000 ohm gages. Of course full bridge gages of any resistance value may also be measured. Each channel offers an independent excitation output, programmable from 0 to \pm 10 Vdc, in 65535 steps. The excitation outputs can drive up to 50 mA each, allowing 1k bridges to be driven at \pm 10 Vdc, 350 ohm bridges at \pm 8.75 V and 120 ohm bridges at up to \pm 3 Vdc.

The board provides on-board compression and tension shunt calibration with shunt-calibration values selectable between 5.5 k and 200 k ohm, in 256 steps. Connections for external, user supplied shunt resistors are also provided. An automatic input nulling/ balancing capability has also been built in allowing most bridges to be quickly and easily balanced before testing actually begins.

The DNx-AI-224 offers 350 Vrms of isolation between the I/O connections and the Cube or RACKtangle. Like all UEI "Cube" and RACKtangle I/O boards, the DNA offers operation in harsh environments. Cube systems have been tested to 5g vibration, 50g shock, -40 to +85 °C and altitudes up to 70,000 feet.

Software for the DNA/DNR-AI-224 is provided as part of the UEI Framework. The framework provides a comprehensive yet easy to use API that supports all popular Windows programming languages as well as supporting programmers using Linux and most real-time operating systems including QNX, RTX, RT Linux and more. Finally, the framework supplies complete support for those creating applications in LabVIEW, MATLAB/Simulink, DASYLab or any application supporting ActiveX or OPC servers.



Technical Specifications:

Number of channels4, simultaneously sampledConfigurationFull, Half, or Quarter bridgeResolution18-bitInput ranges <i>f See table below.</i> Sample rate100 kilosamples per second, maxAccuracyIntegral non-linearity±0.0015%Offset error @ 25 °C, G=20.0005% typicalGain error @ 25 °C, G=20.003% typicalOffset drift per °C2ppm typical / 10ppm maxGain drift per °C2ppm typical / 10ppm maxOverall error< 250 µVBridge resistance120, 350 or 1000 OhmAnti-aliasing filter*Automatic, 72 dB minimum rejectionInput impedance10 megohm, min Excitation Outputs Two (P+, P-) per channel, independently programmableOutput voltage0 to ±10 Vdc (each output); 20Vdc diff spanResolution16-bitOutput drive current50 mA, maxOutput drive current50 mA, maxOutput error± 5.5 k to 170k ohm (tension or compression) internal. Also provides two connections for user supplied shunt resistors.Shunt range5.5 k to 170k ohm (tension or compression) internal. Also provides two connections for user supplied shunt resistors.Shunt resolution256 stepsAutomatic Bridge Nulling / BalancingNull/balance range19-bit resolution @ ±10V (auto-null 1 mV max)General Specifications50 Vrms, chan-chan and chan-chassisOperating temperatureTested -40 °C to +85 °CVibration <i>IEC 60068-2-62</i> 5 g (10-500 Hz, broad-band randomShock <i>IE</i>	Inputs	
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Power consumption 6.0 Watts + 1.5 X excitation power supplied	Altitude	0 to 70,000 feet
	Power consumption	6.0 Watts + 1.5 X excitation power supplied

*Please see the note on the following page for details

[†]Input Ranges:

mpac	nungesi									
Input	Range (Vdc)	±20*	±10	±5	±2.5	±1.25	±0.625	±0.3125	±0.15625	±0.078125
	Gain	1	2	4	8	16	32	64	128	256

*Full differential span, both S + & S- should be within common mode range of ±12V; Input voltage should not exceed +12V or -12V relative to AGND.

Connector Pinout

(DB-62, female)



*Note on filtering

The DNx-AI-224 provides automatic anti-aliasing filtering. The filter response is automatically set to match the selected sampler rate. Though these filters are not programmable analog filters, their performance will exceed the capabilities of an analog filter implementation. The following provides the details on how the filtering is done.

Though the board's maximum sample rate is specified at 100 kHz, the actual A/D converters (one per channel) in the DNx-AI-224 sample at 1 MHz. The data is then "filtered" and averaged by a programmable FIR filter in the board's FPGA. This is done in real time. This configuration has a number of advantages relative to more standard programmable analog filters. These include:

- 1. VERY sharp (256-tap) filters, with much more "drop" off than would be possible using analog filters
- 2. Perfectly uniform group delay / phase shift between channels.

- 3. Automatic signal averaging, thus reducing effective noise
- 4. Higher overall DC and gain accuracy as there is no gain/offset error induced by changing analog filter frequencies on the fly.

There is one question left to answer. How do we keep Aliases from 50 kHz and above from impacting the input waveform, as there is no way to remove alias errors in post A/D converter digital filtering? The answer is a 4 pole, fixed analog filter in front of the A/D converter, set at 62.5 KHz. The 4-pole filter has a 24 dB per octave roll-off. Thus there are 3 octaves between the 62.5 kHz and the 300 kHz non-aliasing limit of the 600 Hz A/D converter. This means at the board's maximum sample rate of 100 kHz, the contribution from any alias error is reduced by at least 52 dB. Of course at lower sample rates, the digital filters will be able to further filter the input signals.

Ordering Guide

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Part Number	Description	
DNx-AI-224	High Speed Four Channel Strain Gate Input board (order DNA-AI-224 for Cube chassis, DNR-AI-224 for RACKtangle chassis)	
DNA-STP-62	62 conductor screw terminal panel	
DNA-CBL-62	62 conductor shielded cable	
United Electropic Inductri		http://www.upidag.com