

SPECIFICATIONS

USB-6212

16 AI (16-Bit, 400 kS/s), 2 AO (250 kS/s), Up to 32 DIO USB  
Multifunction I/O Device

These specifications apply to the USB-6212 BNC, USB-6212 Mass Termination, and USB-6212 Spring Terminal.

Definitions

*Warranted* specifications describe the performance of a model under stated operating conditions and are covered by the model warranty.

The following characteristic specifications describe values that are relevant to the use of the model under stated operating conditions but are not covered by the model warranty.

- *Typical* specifications describe the performance met by a majority of models.
- *Nominal* specifications describe an attribute that is based on design, conformance testing, or supplemental testing.

Specifications are *Typical* unless otherwise noted.

Conditions

Specifications are valid at 25 °C unless otherwise noted.

Analog Input

Number of channels	8 differential or 16 single ended
ADC resolution	16 bits
DNL	No missing codes guaranteed
INL	Refer to the <i>AI Absolute Accuracy</i> section
Sample rate	
Single channel maximum	400 kS/s
Multichannel maximum (aggregate)	400 kS/s
Minimum	0 S/s

Timing resolution	50 ns
Timing accuracy	50 ppm of sample rate
Input coupling	DC
Input range	±0.2 V, ±1 V, ±5 V, ±10 V
Maximum working voltage for analog inputs (signal + common mode)	±10.4 V of AI GND
CMRR (DC to 60 Hz)	100 dB
Input impedance	
Device on	
AI+ to AI GND	>10 GΩ in parallel with 100 pF
AI- to AI GND	>10 GΩ in parallel with 100 pF
Device off	
AI+ to AI GND	1,200 Ω
AI- to AI GND	1,200 Ω
Input bias current	±100 pA
Crosstalk (at 100 kHz)	
Adjacent channels	-75 dB
Non-adjacent channels	-90 dB
Small signal bandwidth (-3 dB)	1.5 MHz
Input FIFO size	4,095 samples
Scan list memory	4,095 entries
Data transfers	USB Signal Stream, programmed I/O
Overvoltage protection for all analog input and sense channels	
Device on	±30 V for up to two AI pins
Device off	±20 V for up to two AI pins
Input current during overvoltage condition	±20 mA maximum/AI pin

Settling Time for Multichannel Measurements

Accuracy, full-scale step, all ranges	
±90 ppm of step (±6 LSB)	2.5 μs convert interval
±30 ppm of step (±2 LSB)	3.5 μs convert interval
±15 ppm of step (±1 LSB)	5.5 μs convert interval

## Typical Performance Graphs

Figure 1. Settling Error versus Time for Different Source Impedances

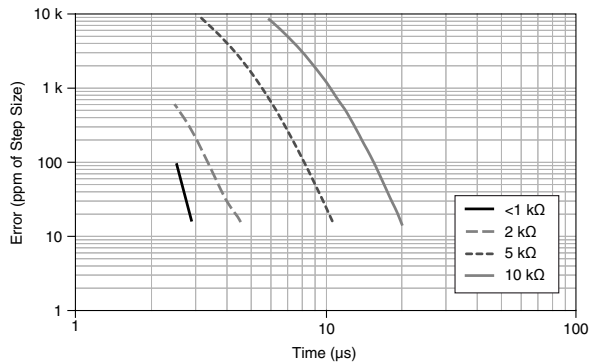
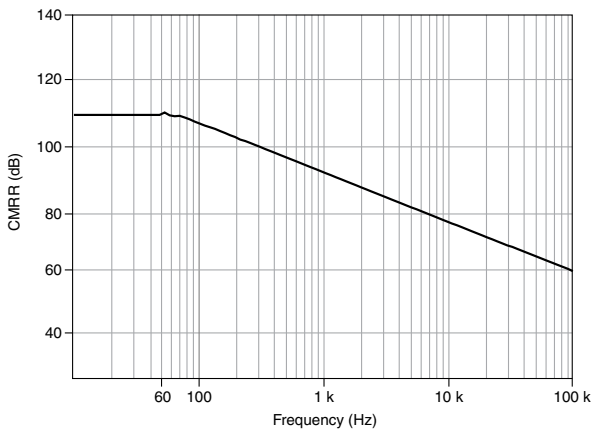


Figure 2. AI CMRR



## AI Absolute Accuracy (Warranted)



**Note** Accuracies listed are valid for up to one year from the device external calibration.



**Note** The input/output channels of this device are not protected for electromagnetic interference due to functional reasons. As a result, this device may experience

reduced measurement accuracy or other temporary performance degradation when connected cables are routed in an environment with radiated or conducted radio frequency electromagnetic interference. To ensure that this device functions within specifications in its operational electromagnetic environment and to limit radiated emissions, care should be taken in the selection, design, and installation of measurement probes and cables.

Table 1. AI Absolute Accuracy

Nominal Range Positive Full Scale	Nominal Range Negative Full Scale	Residual Gain Error (ppm of Reading)	Residual Offset Error (ppm of Range)	Offset Tempco (ppm of Range/°C)	Random Noise, σ (μVrms)	Absolute Accuracy at Full Scale (μV)	Sensitivity (μV)
10	-10	75	20	34	295	2,710	118.0
5	-5	85	20	36	149	1,420	59.6
1	-1	95	25	49	32	310	12.8
0.2	-0.2	135	40	116	13	89	5.2



**Note** Sensitivity is the smallest voltage change that can be detected. It is a function of noise.

Gain tempco	7.3 ppm/°C
Reference tempco	5 ppm/°C
INL error	76 ppm of range

AI Absolute Accuracy Equation

$AbsoluteAccuracy = Reading \cdot (GainError) + Range \cdot (OffsetError) + NoiseUncertainty$

$GainError = ResidualAIGainError + GainTempco \cdot (TempChangeFromLastInternalCal) + ReferenceTempco \cdot (TempChangeFromLastExternalCal)$

$OffsetError = ResidualAIOffsetError + OffsetTempco \cdot (TempChangeFromLastInternalCal) + INLError$

$NoiseUncertainty = \frac{Random\ Noise \cdot 3}{\sqrt{100}}$  for a coverage factor of 3 σ and averaging 100 points.

AI Absolute Accuracy Example

Absolute accuracy at full scale on the analog input channels is determined using the following assumptions:

- TempChangeFromLastExternalCal = 10 °C
- TempChangeFromLastInternalCal = 1 °C

- number\_of\_readings = 100
- CoverageFactor = 3  $\sigma$

For example, on the 10 V range, the absolute accuracy at full scale is as follows:

$\text{GainError} = 75 \text{ ppm} + 7.3 \text{ ppm} \cdot 1 + 5 \text{ ppm} \cdot 10 = 132 \text{ ppm}$

$\text{OffsetError} = 20 \text{ ppm} + 34 \text{ ppm} \cdot 1 + 76 \text{ ppm} = 130 \text{ ppm}$

$\text{NoiseUncertainty} = \frac{295 \text{ } \mu\text{V} \cdot 3}{\sqrt{100}} = 88.5 \text{ } \mu\text{V}$

$\text{AbsoluteAccuracy} = 10 \text{ V} \cdot (\text{GainError}) + 10 \text{ V} \cdot (\text{OffsetError}) + \text{NoiseUncertainty} = 2,710 \text{ } \mu\text{V}$


Analog Output


Number of channels	2
DAC resolution	16 bits
DNL	±1 LSB
Monotonicity	16 bit guaranteed
Maximum update rate	
1 channel	250 kS/s
2 channels	250 kS/s per channel
Timing accuracy	50 ppm of sample rate
Timing resolution	50 ns
Output range	±10 V
Output coupling	DC
Output impedance	0.2 $\Omega$
Output current drive	±2 mA
Overdrive protection	±30 V
Overdrive current	2.4 mA
Power-on state	±20 mV
Power-on glitch	±1 V for 200 ms
Output FIFO size	8,191 samples shared among channels used
Data transfers	USB Signal Stream, programmed I/O
AO waveform modes	Non-periodic waveform, periodic waveform regeneration mode from onboard FIFO, periodic waveform regeneration from host buffer including dynamic update

Settling time, full-scale step, 15 ppm (1 LSB)	32 μs
Slew rate	5 V/μs
Glitch energy	
Magnitude	100 mV
Duration	2.6 μs

AO Absolute Accuracy (Warranted)

Absolute accuracy at full-scale numbers is valid immediately following internal calibration and assumes the device is operating within 10 °C of the last external calibration.

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**Note** Accuracies listed are valid for up to one year from the device external calibration.
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**Note** The input/output channels of this device are not protected for electromagnetic interference due to functional reasons. As a result, this device may experience reduced measurement accuracy or other temporary performance degradation when connected cables are routed in an environment with radiated or conducted radio frequency electromagnetic interference. To ensure that this device functions within specifications in its operational electromagnetic environment and to limit radiated emissions, care should be taken in the selection, design, and installation of measurement probes and cables.

Table 2. AO Absolute Accuracy

Nominal Range Positive Full Scale (V)	Nominal Range Negative Full Scale (V)	Residual Gain Error (ppm of Reading)	Gain Tempco (ppm/°C)	Residual Offset Error (ppm of Range)	Offset Tempco (ppm of Range/°C)	Absolute Accuracy at Full Scale (μV)
10	-10	90	11	60	12	3,512

Reference tempco	5 ppm/°C
INL error	128 ppm of range

AO Absolute Accuracy Equation

*AbsoluteAccuracy* = *OutputValue* · (*GainError*) + *Range* · (*OffsetError*)

*GainError* = *ResidualGainError* + *GainTempco* · (*TempChangeFromLastInternalCal*) + *ReferenceTempco* · (*TempChangeFromLastExternalCal*)

*OffsetError* = *ResidualOffsetError* + *AOOffsetTempco* · (*TempChangeFromLastInternalCal*) + *INLError*

# Digital I/O and PFI

## Static Digital I/O Characteristics

Digital input or output	
BNC/Mass Termination	24 total, 8 (P0.<0..7>), 16 (PFI <0..7>/P1.<0..7>, PFI <8..15>/P2.<0..7>)
Screw Terminal	32 total, 16 (P0.<0..15>), 16 (PFI <0..7>/P1.<0..7>, PFI <8..15>/P2.<0..7>)
Ground reference	D GND
Pull-down resistor	50 kΩ typical, 20 kΩ minimum
Input voltage protection	±20 V on up to 8 pins <sup>1</sup>

## PFI Functionality

Functionality	Static digital input, static digital output, timing input, timing output
Timing output sources	Many AI, AO, counter timing signals
Debounce filter settings	125 ns, 6.425 μs, 2.56 ms, disable; high and low transitions; selectable per input

## Maximum Operating Conditions

I <sub>OL</sub> output low current	16 mA maximum
I <sub>OH</sub> output high current	-16 mA maximum

## Digital Input Characteristics

Level	Minimum	Maximum
V <sub>IL</sub> input low voltage	0 V	0.8 V
V <sub>IH</sub> input high voltage	2.2 V	5.25 V
I <sub>IL</sub> input low current (V <sub>in</sub> = 0 V)	-	-10 μA
I <sub>IH</sub> input high current (V <sub>in</sub> = 5 V)	-	250 μA

<sup>1</sup> Stresses beyond those listed under *Input voltage protection* may cause permanent damage to the device.

Level	Minimum	Maximum
Positive-going threshold (VT+)	-	2.2 V
Negative-going threshold (VT-)	0.8 V	-
Delta VT hysteresis (VT+ - VT-)	0.2 V	-

Digital Output Characteristics

Figure 3. PFI <0..15>/P0.<0..15>: I<sub>oh</sub> versus V<sub>oh</sub>

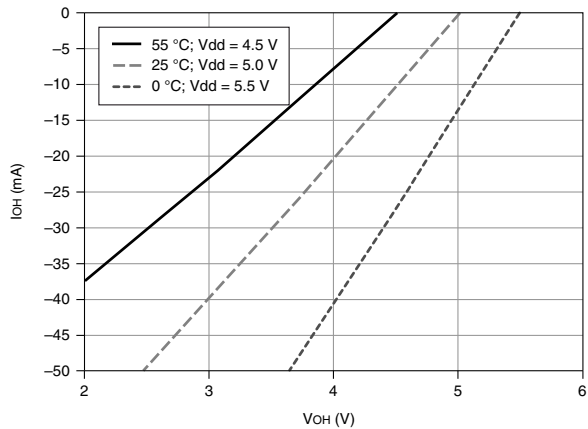
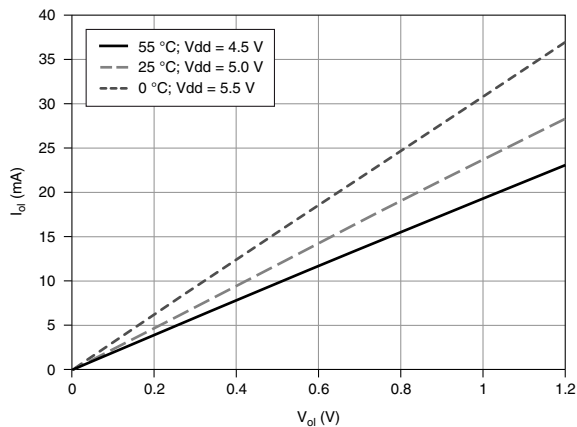




Figure 4.  $PFI <0..15>/P0.<0..15>$ :  $I_{OI}$  versus  $V_{OI}$



## General-Purpose Counters/Timers

Number of counter/timers	2
Resolution	32 bits
Counter measurements	Edge counting, pulse, semi-period, period, two-edge separation
Position measurements	X1, X2, X4 quadrature encoding with Channel Z reloading; two-pulse encoding
Output applications	Pulse, pulse train with dynamic updates, frequency division, equivalent time sampling
Internal base clocks	80 MHz, 20 MHz, 0.1 MHz
External base clock frequency	0 MHz to 20 MHz
Base clock accuracy	50 ppm
Inputs	Gate, Source, HW_Arm, Aux, A, B, Z, Up_Down
Routing options for inputs	PFI <0..15>, many internal signals
FIFO	1,023 samples
Data transfers	USB Signal Stream, programmed I/O

## Frequency Generator

Number of channels	1
Base clocks	10 MHz, 100 kHz
Divisors	1 to 16
Base clock accuracy	50 ppm

Output can be available on any output PFI terminal.

## External Digital Triggers

Source	PFI <0..15>
Polarity	Software-selectable for most signals
Analog input function	Start Trigger, Reference Trigger, Pause Trigger, Sample Clock, Convert Clock, Sample Clock Timebase
Analog output function	Start Trigger, Pause Trigger, Sample Clock, Sample Clock Timebase
Counter/timer function	Gate, Source, HW_Arm, Aux, A, B, Z, Up_Down

## Bus Interface

USB	USB 2.0 Hi-Speed or full-speed <sup>2</sup>
USB Signal Stream	4, can be used for analog input, analog output, counter/timer 0, counter/timer 1

## Current Limits

+5 V terminal as output <sup>3</sup>	
Voltage	4.6 V to 5.2 V
Current (internally limited)	50 mA maximum, shared with digital outputs

<sup>2</sup> If you are using a USB M Series device in full-speed mode, device performance will be lower and you will not be able to achieve maximum sample/update rates.

<sup>3</sup> USB Screw Terminal/BNC devices have a self-resetting fuse that opens when current exceeds this specification. USB Mass Termination devices have a user-replaceable socketed fuse that opens when current exceeds this specification. Refer to the *NI USB-621x User Manual* for information about fuse replacement.

+5 V terminal as input <sup>3</sup>	
Voltage	4.75 V to 5.35 V
Current	350 mA maximum, self-resetting fuse



**Caution** Do *not* exceed 16 mA per DIO pin.

Protection	±10 V
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Power Requirements

Input voltage on USB port	4.5 V to 5.25 V in configured state
Maximum inrush current	500 mA
No load typical current	320 mA at 4.5 V
Maximum load	
Typical current	400 mA at 4.5 V
Suspend current	260 µA typical

Physical Characteristics

Dimensions (includes connectors)	
BNC	23.5 cm × 11.2 cm × 6.4 cm (9.25 in. × 4.40 in. × 2.50 in.)
Mass Termination	19.3 cm × 9.4 cm × 3.1 cm (7.61 in. × 3.68 in. × 1.20 in.)
Screw Terminal	16.9 cm × 9.4 cm × 3.1 cm (6.65 in. × 3.70 in. × 1.20 in.)
Weight	
BNC	950 g (33.5 oz)
Mass Termination	227 g (8.0 oz)
Screw Terminal	206 g (7.2 oz)
I/O connectors	
BNC	19 BNCs and 26 screw terminals
Mass Termination	1 68-pin SCSI
Screw Terminal	4 16-position combicon

Screw terminal wiring	16 AWG to 28 AWG
Torque for screw terminals	0.22 N · m to 0.25 N · m (2.0 lb · in. to 2.2 lb · in.)
USB connector	Series B receptacle

To clean the device, wipe with a dry towel.

Calibration

Recommended warm-up time	15 minutes
Calibration interval	1 year

Environmental

Operating temperature	0 °C to 45 °C
Storage temperature	-20 °C to 70 °C
Humidity	10% RH to 90% RH, noncondensing
Maximum altitude	2,000 m
Pollution Degree	2

Indoor use only.

Safety Voltages

Connect only voltages that are below these limits.

Channel-to-earth ground	11 V, Measurement Category I
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Measurement Category I is for measurements performed on circuits not directly connected to the electrical distribution system referred to as MAINS voltage. MAINS is a hazardous live electrical supply system that powers equipment. This category is for measurements of voltages from specially protected secondary circuits. Such voltage measurements include signal levels, special equipment, limited-energy parts of equipment, circuits powered by regulated low-voltage sources, and electronics.



**Caution** Do not use for measurements within Categories II, III, or IV.



**Note** Measurement Categories CAT I and CAT O (Other) are equivalent. These test and measurement circuits are not intended for direct connection to the MAINS building installations of Measurement Categories CAT II, CAT III, or CAT IV.

## Safety

This product is designed to meet the requirements of the following electrical equipment safety standards for measurement, control, and laboratory use:

- IEC 61010-1, EN 61010-1
- UL 61010-1, CSA C22.2 No. 61010-1



**Note** For UL and other safety certifications, refer to the product label or the [Online Product Certification](#) section.

## Electromagnetic Compatibility

This product meets the requirements of the following EMC standards for electrical equipment for measurement, control, and laboratory use; for radio equipment; and for telecommunication terminal equipment:

- EN 61326-1 (IEC 61326-1): Class A emissions; Basic immunity
- EN 55011 (CISPR 11): Group 1, Class A emissions
- EN 55022 (CISPR 22): Class A emissions
- EN 55024 (CISPR 24): Immunity
- AS/NZS CISPR 11: Group 1, Class A emissions
- AS/NZS CISPR 22: Class A emissions
- FCC 47 CFR Part 15B: Class A emissions
- ICES-001: Class A emissions



**Note** In the United States (per FCC 47 CFR), Class A equipment is intended for use in commercial, light-industrial, and heavy-industrial locations. In Europe, Canada, Australia and New Zealand (per CISPR 11) Class A equipment is intended for use only in heavy-industrial locations.



**Note** Group 1 equipment (per CISPR 11) is any industrial, scientific, or medical equipment that does not intentionally generate radio frequency energy for the treatment of material or inspection/analysis purposes.



**Note** For EMC declarations and certifications, and additional information, refer to the [Online Product Certification](#) section.

## CE Compliance

This product meets the essential requirements of applicable European Directives, as follows:

- 2014/35/EU; Low-Voltage Directive (safety)
- 2014/30/EU; Electromagnetic Compatibility Directive (EMC)
- 2011/65/EU; Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS)

## Online Product Certification

Refer to the product Declaration of Conformity (DoC) for additional regulatory compliance information. To obtain product certifications and the DoC for this product, visit [ni.com/certification](http://ni.com/certification), search by model number or product line, and click the appropriate link in the Certification column.

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375196D-01 September 25, 2017