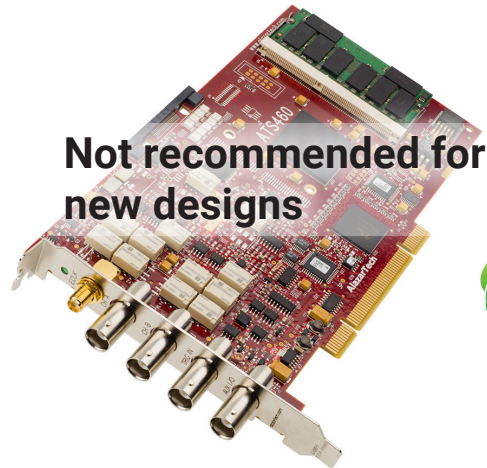# ATS460
125 MS/s 14-Bit PCI Digitizer

- 2 channels sampled at 14-bit resolution
- 125 MS/s simultaneous real-time sampling rate on each input
- ±20 mV to ±10 V input range
- Up to 128 million samples of on-board acquisition memory per channel
- Optional dual-port memory for data streaming
- AlazarDSO® oscilloscope software
- Software Development Kit supports C/C++, C#, Python, MATLAB®, LabVIEW®
- Support for Windows® & Linux®

Not recommended for new designs

RoHS 3 COMPLIANT
2015/863/EU

CE

For new designs, please use ATS9146

Product	Bus	Operating System	Channels	Max. Sample Rate	Bandwidth	Memory Per Channel	Resolution
ATS460	PCI 32 bit 33 MHz	64-bit Windows & 64-bit Linux	2	125 MS/s	65 MHz	Up to 128 Msamples	14 bits

Overview

AlazarTech ATS®460 is a state of the art, dual-channel, high-resolution, 14 bit, 125 MS/s waveform digitizer card for PCI bus, capable of storing up to 128 Million samples per channel of acquired data in its on-board memory.

With optional dual-port memory and fully asynchronous DMA, ATS460 allows users to build Windows or Linux based real-time data acquisition systems. Users are allowed to read acquired data even while the acquisition is in progress, including the ability to stream data to disk at rates up to 50 MS/s on one channel and 25 MS/s on 2 channels, simultaneously.

For scientific customers who want to record multiple analog inputs simultaneously, ATS460 offers multi-channel data acquisition systems of up to 8 channels.

ATS460 is supplied with AlazarDSO oscilloscope software that lets the user get started immediately without having to write any software.

Users who need to integrate the ATS460 in their own program can purchase a software development kit, ATS-SDK, for C/C++, C#, Python, MATLAB, and LabVIEW for both Windows and Linux operating systems.

All of this advanced functionality is packaged in a low-power, half-length PCI card.

Not Recommended for New Designs

Motherboards with PCI slots are becoming increasingly difficult to source. Customers should, therefore, consider using the ATS9146 PCIe waveform digitizer, which provides 14-bit, 125 MS/s dual-channel sampling, and dual-port memory, for a lower price than ATS460.

Applications

Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT)

Ultrasonic & Eddy Current NDT/NDE

Radar/RF Signal Recording

Terabyte Storage Oscilloscope

High-Resolution Oscilloscope

Lidar

Spectroscopy

Multi-Channel Transient Recording
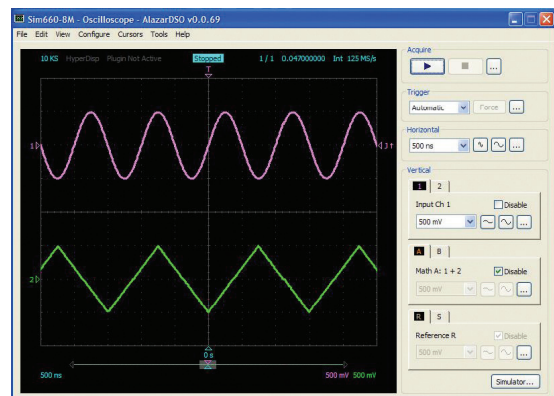
Analog Input

An ATS460 features two analog input channels with extensive functionality. Each channel has 65 MHz of full power analog input bandwidth. With software-selectable attenuation, you can achieve an input voltage range of ±20 mV to ±10 V. Attenuating probes (sold separately) can extend the voltage range even higher.

Software-selectable AC or DC coupling further increases the signal measurement capability. Software-selectable 50 Ω input impedance makes it easy to interface to high-speed RF signals.

For applications that require the best signal integrity, an Amplifier Bypass Mode is available as a standard feature in V1.2 boards. This feature increases the SNR to 71 dB, increases input bandwidth to 85 MHz while leaving the input range fixed at a nominal value of ±575 mV.

Acquisition System

ATS460 PCI digitizers use a pair of state of the art 125 MS/s, 14-bit ADCs to digitize the input signals. The real-time sampling rate ranges from 125 MS/s down to 1 KS/s. The two channels are guaranteed to be simultaneous, as they share the exact same clock.

An acquisition can consist of multiple records, with each record being captured as a result of one trigger event. A record may contain both pre-trigger and post-trigger data.

Up to 256,000 triggers can be captured into on-board memory. There is no limit on number of triggers if dual-port memory is used to acquire data.

In between the multiple triggers being captured, the acquisition system is re-armed by the hardware within 32 sampling clock cycles.

This mode of capture, sometimes referred to as Multiple Record, is very useful for capturing data in applications with a very rapid or unpredictable trigger rate. Examples of such applications include medical imaging, ultrasonic testing, OCT, NMR spectroscopy and lightning test.
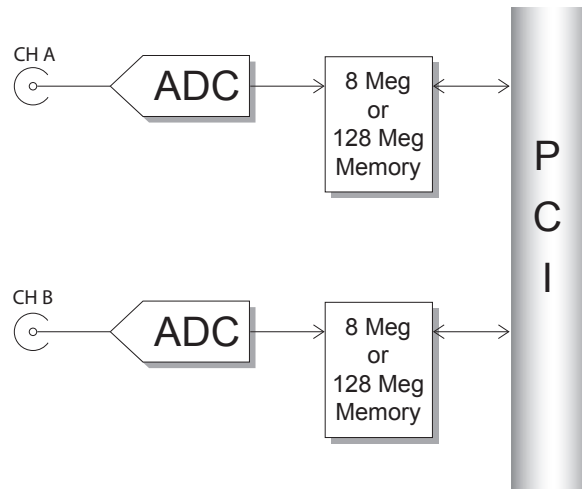
On-Board Acquisition Memory

The standard ATS460 PCI digitizer features 8 Million points of acquisition memory for each channel.

Acquisition memory can optionally be upgraded to provide 128 Million samples per channel of signal storage.

Data is acquired into the onboard memory before being transferred to the host PC memory. This transfer is performed using Direct Memory Access (DMA), which uses scatter-gather bus mastering technology.

By default, on-board memory is single-ported. If dual-port memory is needed, it must be purchased as a separate line item.

Optional Dual-Port Memory

Optionally, ATS460 can be equipped with dual-port acquisition memory (order number ATS460-002). This means that data can be transferred to host PC memory even if an acquisition is in progress.

Other digitizers on the market do not provide dual-port memory, thus prolonging the re-arm time of the digitizer. This limits the maximum trigger repeat rate they can handle in applications involving fast triggers, such as OCT, medical imaging, ultrasonic testing, NMR spectroscopy and other pulse-echo testing methodologies.

ATS460, equipped with dual-port memory option, does not suffer from such drawbacks and provides the best solution for these applications. Note: the recommended replacement, ATS9146, comes standard with dual-port memory.

AlazarTech® has designed custom memory management circuitry to interface this dual-port memory to PCI bus. This circuitry is called AutoDMA, which can work in many different modes.

Traditional AutoDMA

In order to acquire both pre-trigger and post-trigger data in a dual-ported memory environment, users can use Traditional AutoDMA.
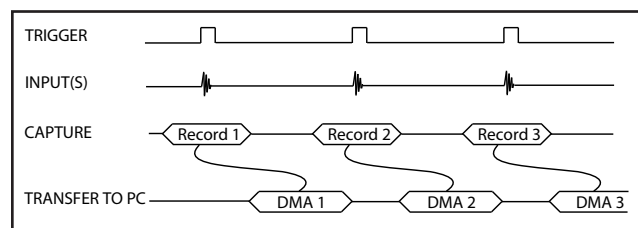
Data is returned to the user in buffers, where each buffer can contain from 1 to 8192 records (triggers). This number is called RecordsPerBuffer.

Users can also specify that each record should come with its own header that contains a 40-bit trigger timestamp.

A BUFFER_OVERFLOW flag is asserted if more than 512 buffers have been acquired by the acquisition system, but not transferred to host PC memory by the AutoDMA engine.

While Traditional AutoDMA can acquire data to PC host memory at sustained rates in excess of 100 MB/s, an overflow can occur if more than 512 triggers occur in very rapid succession, even if all the on-board memory has not been used up.

No Pre-Trigger (NPT) AutoDMA
Many ultrasonic scanning and medical imaging applications do not need any pre-trigger data: only post-trigger data is sufficient.

NPT AutoDMA is designed specifically for these applications. By only storing post-trigger data, the memory bandwidth is optimized and the entire on-board memory acts like a very deep FIFO.
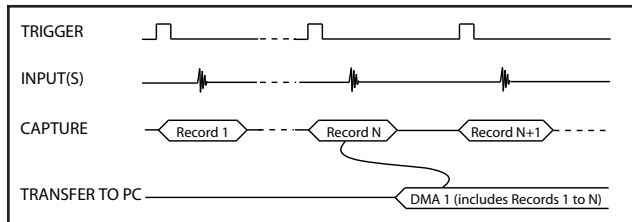
Note that a DMA is not started until RecordsPerBuffer number of records (triggers) have been acquired.

NPT AutoDMA buffers do not include headers. However, users can specify that each record should come with its own footer that contains a 40-bit trigger timestamp. The footer is called NPT Footer.

More importantly, a BUFFER_OVERFLOW flag is asserted only if the entire on-board memory is used up. This provides a very substantial improvement over Traditional AutoDMA.

NPT AutoDMA can easily acquire data to PC host memory at sustained rates in excess of 100 MB/s without causing an overflow.

This is the recommended mode of operation for most ultrasonic scanning, OCT and medical imaging applications.
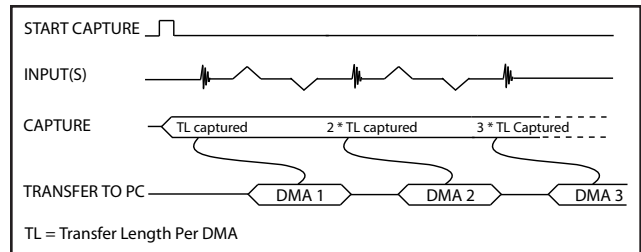
Continuous AutoDMA
Continuous AutoDMA is also known as the data streaming mode.

In this mode, data starts streaming across the PCI bus as soon as the ATS460 is armed for acquisition. It is important to note that triggering is disabled in this mode.

Continuous AutoDMA buffers do not include headers, so it is not possible to get trigger time-stamps.

A BUFFER_OVERFLOW flag is asserted only if the entire on-board memory is used up.

The amount of data to be captured is controlled by counting the number of buffers acquired. Acquisition is stopped by an AbortCapture command.

Continuous AutoDMA can easily acquire data to PC host memory at sustained rates in excess of 100 MB/s without causing an overflow. This is the recommended mode for very long signal recording.

Triggered Streaming AutoDMA
Triggered Streaming AutoDMA is virtually the same as Continuous mode, except the data transfer across the bus is held off until a trigger event has been detected.

Triggered Streaming AutoDMA buffers do not include headers, so it is not possible to get trigger time-stamps.

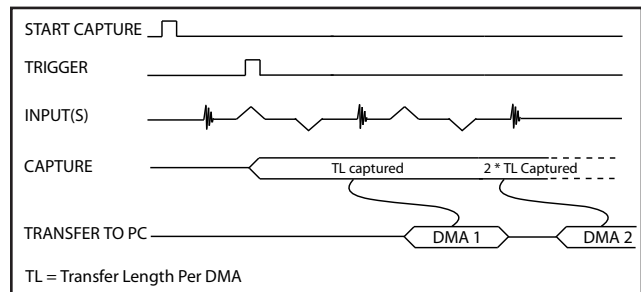A BUFFER_OVERFLOW flag is asserted only if the entire on-board memory is used up.

As in Continuous mode, the amount of data to be captured is controlled by counting the number of buffers acquired. Acquisition is stopped by an AbortCapture command.

Triggered Streaming AutoDMA can easily acquire data to PC host memory at sustained rates in excess of 100 MB/s without causing an overflow. This is the recommended mode for RF signal recording that has to be started at a specific time, e.g. based on a GPS pulse.

Asynchronous DMA
AlazarTech's dual-port memory and AutoDMA circuit maximize throughput at the hardware level. An equally sophisticated software architecture is required to allow a Windows or Linux based application program to take advantage of this throughput despite all the bottlenecks created by the operating system.

AlazarTech calls this architecture *Asynchronous DMA* or AsyncDMA.

AsyncDMA uses overlapped IO to re-start DMAs and consume data, thereby minimizing CPU usage to almost 0%, reducing re-arm time of DMAs and allowing the full bus bandwidth to be realized.

Another advantage of AsyncDMA is that it can provide the full bus bandwidth to a multi-card Leader/Follower system.

Some helper routines are provided for programming languages that cannot directly use overlapped IO. Examples of such languages include Visual BASIC and LabVIEW.

It is important to note that AsyncDMA is a software construct and it can be used with any of the AutoDMA modes mentioned before.

Output Data Format
By default, ATS460 data comes out as unsigned binary, where code 0 represents the negative full scale, code (2^n-1) represents the positive full scale with zero being 2^{n-1}.

It is possible to change the data format to signed binary using an API call. In signed binary format, zero is represented by code 0, positive full scale is represented by $(2^{n-1}-1)$ and negative full scale is represented by (2^{n-1}).

Software-Selectable Bandwidth Limit
A majority of applications for PCI digitizers require oversampling of input signal, i.e. the frequency of the analog signal being digitized is a factor of 5 or 6 lower than the sample rate or even the Nyquist rate.

ATS460 features a software-controlled bandwidth limit switch, which reduces high-frequency noise and improves signal to noise ratio. This switch is independently selectable for each input channel.

When selected, bandwidth limit switch can reduce the input bandwidth of a particular input to be approximately 20 MHz.

Amplifier Bypass Mode
To obtain optimum dynamic performance, choose the Amplifier Bypass Mode. Starting with v1.2 hardware, this mode comes standard with the ATS460.

Each channel can be independently bypassed using on-board DIP-switches.

Once the amplifier has been bypassed, the input for that channel has 50 Ω impedance, DC coupling and a 575 mV full scale input range. Diode protection is still included, but users should avoid saturation of the input beyond 120% of full scale.

Triggering
The ATS460 is equipped with sophisticated digital triggering options, such as programmable trigger thresholds and slope on any of the input channels or the External Trigger input.

While most oscilloscopes offer only one trigger engine, ATS460 offers two trigger engines (called Engines J and K). This allows the user to combine the two engines using a logical OR, AND or XOR operand.

The user can specify the number of records to capture in an acquisition, the length of each record and the amount of pre-trigger data.

A programmable trigger delay can also be set by the user. This is very useful for capturing the signal of interest in a pulse-echo application, such as ultrasound, radar, lidar etc.

Trigger Time Stamp
A 40-bit time stamp counter comes standard with the ATS460. By default, this counter is initialized to a zero value when an acquisition session is started and increments once for every two samples captured, thus providing a 2-clock timing accuracy. At 125 MS/s sample rate, this counter will not roll over for well over 2 hours.

The value of this counter is latched into trigger memory for each trigger, i.e. once per record, for up to specified number of records.

This allows the user to find out the timing of each trigger in a multiple record acquisition relative to the start of the acquisition.

It is also possible to configure the timestamp counter to reset for the first acquisition only and never again, until a software reset is issued. This feature enables users to obtain precise timing information about multiple acquisitions.

Multiple-Digitizer Synchronization
ATS460 features a Leader/Follower connector that allows synchronization of multiple digitizers to allow truly synchronous sampling across as many as 8 channels.

A SyncBoard 460 (sold separately) is required to connect the Leader/Follower connectors on multiple digitizers in the system together. Such a system is called a Leader/Follower system.

SyncBoard 460 is available for 2 board synchronization, or 4 board synchronization.

SyncBoard 460 is a board-level product that features clock buffering, clock distribution, trigger resynchronization and controlled impedance, equal length traces to deliver Positive Emitter Coupled Logic (PECL) level clock, trigger, and initialization signals to each ATS460 in the system.
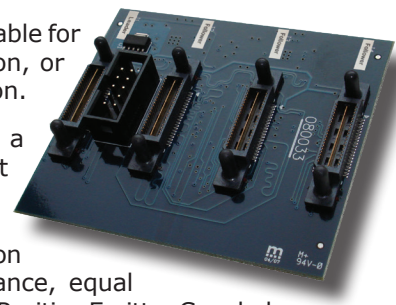
A Leader/Follower system is guaranteed to sample simultaneously across all channels in that system. Triggering is also guaranteed to be simultaneous across all digitizers in the system, i.e. all boards will trigger on the same clock edge.

Optional External Clock

While the ATS460 features low-jitter, high-reliability 125 MHz and 100 MHz oscillators as sources of the timebase system, there are occasions when ATS460 has to be synchronized to an external clock source.

ATS460 External Clock option provides an SMA input for an external clock signal, which should be a high slew rate signal or LVTTL signal.

User can set the input impedance and coupling for the external clock input by setting the appropriate DIP switches located in the top-left corner of the ATS460 V1.2 printed circuit board.

In order to operate the ADC under optimal conditions, the user must set the appropriate frequency range for the external clock being supplied. The following ranges are supported:

Fast External Clock: 80 MHz < f_{EXT} < 125 MHz

Medium External Clock: 10 MHz < f_{EXT} < 80 MHz

Slow External Clock: f_{EXT} < 10 MHz

The active edge of the external clock is software-selectable between the rising or falling edge.

Slow External Clock

ATS460 uses ADC converters that cannot operate below 10 MHz clock frequency. For customers who have clocks that are slower than 10 MHz, AlazarTech has designed the powerful Slow External Clock.

Slow External Clock must be a 3.3 Volt LVTTL signal. Sine wave or other types of signals are not allowed.

In this mode, the ADCs run at 125 MHz internal frequency, but the hardware detects a rising (or falling) edge of the incoming Slow External Clock and latches one sample point for each edge. This results in a sampling jitter of ±8 ns, which may or may not be acceptable in a particular application.

AUX Connector

Starting with v1.3 hardware, ATS460 provides an AUX (Auxiliary) BNC connector that is configured as a Trigger Output connector by default.

When configured as a Trigger Output, AUX I/O BNC connector outputs a 5 Volt TTL signal synchronous to the ATS460 sampling clock, allowing users to synchronize their test systems to the ATS460 Trigger and clock.

When combined with the Trigger Delay feature of the ATS460, this option is ideal for ultrasonic and other pulse-echo imaging applications.

Other uses of AUX I/O connector include its use as a Trigger Enable input and Clock output.

Older ATS460 hardware versions have a TRIG OUT BNC connector that provides Trigger Output capability.

Calibration

Every ATS460 digitizer is factory calibrated for gain and offset accuracy to NIST- or CNRC-traceable standards. To recalibrate an ATS460, the digitizer must be shipped back to the factory.

AlazarDSO Software

ATS460 is supplied with the powerful AlazarDSO software that allows the user to setup the acquisition hardware and capture, display and archive the signals.

The Stream-To-Memory command in AlazarDSO allows users to stream a large dataset to motherboard memory.

AlazarDSO software also includes powerful tools for benchmarking the computer bus and disk drive.

Software Development Kits

AlazarTech provides easy-to-use software development kits for customers who want to integrate the ATS460 into their own software.

A Windows-compatible software development kit, called ATS-SDK, includes headers, libraries and source code sample programs written in C/C++, C#, Python, MATLAB, and LabVIEW.

A Linux-compatible software development kit, called ATS-devel, includes headers, libraries and source code sample programs written in C++ and Python.

These programs can fully control the ATS460 and acquire data in user buffers.

The purchase of an ATS-SDK license includes a subscription that allows users to download ATS-SDK updates from the AlazarTech website for period of 12 months from the date of purchase.

Customers who want to download new releases beyond this 12 month period should purchase extended maintenance (order number ATS-SDK-1YR).

Support for Windows

Windows support for ATS460 includes Windows 11, Windows 10, Windows Server® 2019, and Windows Server 2016. As Windows Server 2019 and 2016 are seldom used by our customers, they are expected to work but are not regularly tested with each software release. If there are issues related to Windows Server 2016 or 2019, tech support may not be as rapid as for other operating systems.

Only 64-bit Windows operating systems are supported. The last 32-bit Windows driver is version 5.10.24, which supports Windows 7.

Microsoft mainstream support ended in 2018 for Windows 8.1 and Windows Server 2012 R2. As such, AlazarTech has ceased development on these operating systems. Current software and driver releases may work with these operating systems but they are not officially supported.

Due to lack of demand and due to the fact that Microsoft no longer supports these operating systems, AlazarTech no longer supports Windows 8, Windows 7, Windows XP, Windows Vista, Windows Server 2012, Windows Server 2008 R2, and Windows Server 2008.

Linux Support
AlazarTech offers Dynamic Kernel Module Support (DKMS) drivers for the following Linux distributions: Ubuntu, Debian, and RHEL®.

AlazarTech DKMS drivers may work for other Linux distributions but they have not been tested and technical support may be limited.

Users can download the DKMS driver and associated library for their specific distribution here:

www.alazartech.com/en/linux-drivers/ats460/21/

Only 64-bit Linux operating systems are supported.

A GUI application called AlazarFrontPanel that allows simple data acquisition and display is also provided.

ATS-SDK includes source code example programs for Linux, which demonstrate how to acquire data programmatically using a C compiler. Note that example programs are only provided for Python and C++.

Based on a minimum annual business commitment, the Linux driver source code license (order number ATS460-LINUX) may be granted to qualified OEM customers for a fee. For release of driver source code, a Non-Disclosure Agreement must be executed between the customer's organization and AlazarTech.

All such source code disclosures are made on an as-is basis with limited support from the factory.

Technical Support
AlazarTech is known for its world-class technical support. Customers receive free technical support on hardware products that are under warranty.

AlazarTech digitizers come with a standard one (1) year parts and labor warranty. This warranty can be extended for a fee (more information can be found in the next section: Extended Warranty).

If your waveform digitizer is out of warranty, you will not be eligible for free technical support on AlazarTech hardware or software products and you will need to purchase technical support hours (order number SUPPORT-HR5) to obtain assistance.

In addition, any necessary repairs to your out-of-warranty hardware products will carry a minimum bench charge.

Accessories for Out-of-Warranty Products
Accessories, such as SyncBoards, purchased for use with in-warranty digitizer cards will be covered by a 1-year warranty.

Accessories purchased for use with out-of-warranty digitizers will not be warranted against defects in materials and workmanship. As AlazarTech cannot verify with certainty that the cause of any malfunction is not due to the non-warranted digitizer, accessories purchased for out-of-warranty digitizers will require a warranty waiver.

Upgrading Your Digitizer in The Field
It is always recommended to get upgrades installed at the factory with the initial digitizer purchase.

If the digitizer is still under warranty, it may be possible to add certain upgrades in the field, but there is a small chance that the upgrade will not work, in which case the digitizer would need to be returned to the factory to complete the upgrade.

If the digitizer is no longer under warranty, the upgrade must be done at the factory and there will be a minimum service charge in addition to the cost of the upgrade. This is so that AlazarTech can verify that the digitizer meets basic performance levels prior to any upgrade.

Technical Support
AlazarTech is known for its world-class technical support. Customers receive free technical support on hardware products that are under warranty.

AlazarTech digitizers come with a standard one (1) year parts and labor warranty. This warranty can be extended for a fee (more information can be found in the next section: Extended Warranty).

If your waveform digitizer is out of warranty, you will not be eligible for free technical support on AlazarTech hardware or software products and you will need to purchase technical support hours (order number SUPPORT-HR5) to obtain assistance.

In addition, any necessary repairs to your out-of-warranty hardware products will carry a minimum bench charge.

Extended Warranty
The purchase of an ATS460 includes a standard one (1) year parts and labor warranty. AlazarTech hardware parts and labor warranty should be maintained to ensure uninterrupted access to technical support and warranty repair services.

Customers may extend their warranty by ordering the appropriate Extended Warranty:

ATS460-061 for ATS460-8M
ATS460-062 for ATS460-128M

This should be purchased before expiration of the standard warranty (or before expiration of an Extended Warranty).

If the warranty lapses, renewal at a later date will be subject to a reinstatement fee, to cover the administrative costs of warranty reinstatement, and a 6-month waiting period for repair claims. Furthermore, warranty must be extended at least 6 months past the current date.

Users can purchase up to 4 (four) additional years of warranty extensions for a maximum total of 5 years of warranty.

Get your warranty end date by registering your product at: www.alazartech.com/en/my-account/my-products/.

Export Control Classification

According to the Export Controls Division of Government of Canada, ATS460 is currently not controlled for export from Canada. Its export control classification is N8, which is equivalent to ECCN EAR99. ATS460 can be shipped freely outside of Canada, with the exception of countries listed on the _Area Control List_ and _Sanctions List_. Furthermore, if the end-use of ATS460, in part or in its entirety, is related to the development or deployment of weapons of mass destruction, AlazarTech is obliged to apply for an export permit.

RoHS Compliance

ATS460 units built after June 2007 are fully RoHS compliant, as defined by Directive 2015/863/EU (RoHS 3) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 31 March 2015 on the restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment.

All manufacturing is done using RoHS-compliant components and lead-free soldering.

REACH Compliance

AlazarTech verifies its supply chain against the latest REACH requirements. A compliance statement is usually available within 6 months of release of the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) updated substance of very high concern (SVHC), Authorizations, and Restrictions lists.

EC Conformity

ATS460 conforms to the following standards:

Electromagnetic Emissions:
CISPR 22:2006/EN 55022:2006 (Class A): Information Technology Equipment (ITE). Radio disturbance characteristics. Limits and method of measurement.

Electromagnetic Immunity:
CISPR 24:1997/EN 55024:1998 (+A1 +A2): Information Technology Equipment Immunity characteristics — Limits and methods of measurement.

Safety:
IEC 60950-1:2005: Information technology equipment — Safety — Part 1: General requirements.

IEC 60950-1:2006: Information technology equipment — Safety — Part 1: General requirements.

ATS460 also follows the provisions of the following directives: 2006/95/EC (Low Voltage Equipment); 2004/108/EC (Electromagnetic Compatibility).

FCC & ICES-003 Compliance

ATS460 has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class A digital device, pursuant to part 15, subpart B of the FCC Rules, and the Canadian Interference-Causing Equipment Standard ICES-003:2004.

System Requirements

Personal computer with at least one free PCI slot, 512 MB RAM, 100 MB of free hard disk space

Power Requirements

+5V	2.2 A, typical for ATS460-8M 2.6 A, typical for ATS460-128M
	+5V voltage level must remain between the range of 4.75 V to 5.20 V at all times after power-on

Physical

Size	Single slot, half length PCI card (4.225 inches x 7.5 inches excluding the connectors protruding from the front panel)
Weight	500 g

I/O Connectors

CH A, CH B, TRIG IN, AUX I/O	BNC female connectors
ECLK	SMA female connector

Environmental

Operating temperature	0 to 55 degrees Celsius, ambient
Storage temperature	-20 to 70 degrees Celsius
Relative humidity	5 to 95%, non-condensing

Acquisition System

Resolution	14 bits Data is returned as MSB-justified 16-bit unsigned integers
Bandwidth (-3 dB)	
DC-coupled, 1 MΩ	DC - 65 MHz
DC-coupled, 50 Ω	DC - 65 MHz
AC-coupled, 1 MΩ	10 Hz - 65 MHz
AC-coupled, 50 Ω	100 kHz - 65 MHz
Bandwidth flatness:	± 1 dB
Number of channels	2, simultaneously sampled
Maximum Sample Rate	125 MS/s single shot
Minimum Sample Rate	1 KS/s single shot for internal clocking
Full Scale Input ranges	
1 MΩ input impedance:	±20 mV, ±40 mV, ±50 mV, ±80 mV, ±100 mV, ±200 mV, ±400 mV, ±500 mV, ±800 mV, ±1 V, ±2 V, ±4 V, ±5 V, ±8 V, and ±10 V, software-selectable
50 Ω input impedance:	±20 mV, ±40 mV, ±50 mV, ±80 mV, ±100 mV, ±200 mV, ±400 mV, ±500 mV, ±800 mV, ±1 V, ±2 V, and ±4 V, software-selectable
DC accuracy	±2% of full scale in all input ranges
Input coupling	AC or DC, software-selectable
Input impedance	50 Ω or 1 MΩ ±1% in parallel with 30 pF ±10 pF, software-selectable

Absolute maximum input

1 MΩ	±28 V (DC + peak AC for CH A, CH B and EXT only without external attenuation)
50 Ω	±4 V (DC + peak AC for CH A, CH B and EXT only without external attenuation)

Amplifier Bypass Mode

Standard Feature	On V1.2 and higher boards
DIP Switch selectable	Yes, independently for each channel on V1.2 and higher boards
Input Range	Approx. 525 mV rms (+7.5 dBm)
Input Coupling	DC, irrespective of the input coupling setting for the channel
Input Impedance	50 Ω, irrespective of the input impedance setting for the channel
Input bandwidth (-3 dB)	85 MHz

On-Board Acquisition Memory System

Onboard acq memory	32 MB for ATS460-8M 512 MB for ATS460-128M
Acquisition Memory/ch	Up to 8 Million samples per channel for ATS460-8M Up to 128 Million samples per channel for ATS460-128M
Record Length	Software-selectable with 16-point resolution. Record length must be a minimum of 128 points. Maximum record length is limited by the acquisition memory per channel.
Number of Records	Software-selectable from a minimum of 1 to a maximum of 256,000 or (Acquisition Memory Per Channel / (Record Length+16)), whichever is lower
Pre-trigger depth	0 to (Record Length-64), software-selectable with 16-point resolution
Post-trigger depth	Record Length - Pre-trigger depth

Timebase System

Timebase options	Internal Clock or External Clock (Optional)
Internal Sample Rates	125 MS/s, 100 MS/s, 50 MS/s, 20 MS/s, 10 MS/s, 5 MS/s, 2 MS/s, 1 MS/s, 500 KS/s, 200 KS/s, 100 KS/s, 50 KS/s, 20 KS/s, 10 KS/s, 5 KS/s, 2 KS/s, 1 KS/s
Internal Clock accuracy	±25 ppm

Dynamic Parameters

Typical values measured using a randomly selected ATS460 with Amplifier Bypass Mode. Input was provided by a HP8656A signal generator, followed by a 9-pole, 1 MHz band-pass filter (TTE Q36T-1M-100K-50-720B). Input frequency was set at 1 MHz and output amplitude was 500 mV rms, which is approximately 95% of the 525 mV rms full scale input in Amplifier Bypass Mode.

SNR	70.8 dB
SINAD	67.99 dB
THD	-71.13 dB
SFDR	-71.56 dB

Note that these dynamic parameters may vary from one unit to another, with input frequency and with the full scale input range selected.

Optional ECLK (External Clock) Input

Signal Level	±500 mV Sine wave or 3.3 V LVTTL
Input impedance	50 Ω or 1 kΩ, DIP switch selectable
Input coupling	AC or DC, DIP switch selectable
Maximum frequency	
Fast External Clock	125 MHz with 50% ±5% duty cycle
Medium External Clock	80 MHz with 50% ±5% duty cycle
Slow External Clock	10 MHz with minimum positive or negative pulse width of 8 ns
Minimum frequency	
Fast External Clock	80 MHz with 50% ±5% duty cycle
Medium External Clock	10 MHz with 50% ±5% duty cycle
Slow External Clock	DC
Decimation factor	Software-selectable from 1 to 100,000 Fixed to 1 for Slow External Clock
Sampling Edge	Rising or Falling, software-selectable
Maximum amplitude	2 Vp-p

Triggering System

Mode	Edge triggering with hysteresis
Comparator Type	Digital comparators for internal (CH A, CH B) triggering and analog comparators for TRIG IN (External) triggering
Number of Trigger Engines	2
Trigger Engine Combination	Engine J, engine K, J OR K, software-selectable
Trigger Engine Source	CH A, CH B, EXT, Software or None, independently software-selectable for each of the two Trigger Engines
Hysteresis	±5% of full scale input, typical
Trigger sensitivity	±10% of full scale input range. This implies that the trigger system may not trigger reliably if the input has an amplitude less than ±10% of full scale input range selected
Trigger level accuracy	±10%, typical, of full scale input range of the selected trigger source
Bandwidth	65 MHz

Trigger Delay	Software-selectable from 0 to 9,999,999 sampling clock cycles
Trigger Timeout	Software-selectable with a 10 µs resolution. Maximum settable value is 3,600 seconds. Can also be disabled to wait indefinitely for a trigger event

TRIG IN (External Trigger) Input

Input impedance	1.01 MΩ ±10% in parallel with 30 pF ±10 pF
Bandwidth (-3 dB)	
DC-coupled	DC - 25 MHz
AC-coupled	10 Hz - 25 MHz
Input range	±5 V or ±1 V, software-selectable
DC accuracy	±10% of full scale input
Absolute maximum input	±28 V (DC + peak AC without external attenuation)
Coupling	AC or DC, software-selectable

Auxiliary I/O (AUX I/O)[†]

Signal direction	Input or Output, software-selectable. Trigger Output by default
Output types:	Trigger Output, Pacer (programmable clock) Output, Software-controlled Digital Output
Input types:	Trigger Enable Software-readable Digital Input
Output	
Amplitude:	5 Volt TTL
Synchronization:	Synchronized to rising edge of sampling clock
Input	
Amplitude:	3.3 Volt TTL (5 Volt compliant)

Materials Supplied

ATS460 PCI Card

ATS460 Installation Disk (on USB Flash Drive)

Certification and Compliances

RoHS 3 (Directive 2015/863/EU) Compliance

REACH Compliance

CE Marking — EC Conformity

FCC Part 15 Class A / ICES-003 Class A Compliance

[†]*AUX I/O is available with hardware version 1.3 and higher. Older hardware versions have a TRIG OUT BNC connector that provides Trigger Output capability.*

All specifications are subject to change without notice

ORDERING INFORMATION

ATS460-8M	ATS460-001
ATS460-128M	ATS460-010
ATS460: Dual Port Memory Upgrade	ATS460-002
ATS460: 8 Meg to 128 Meg Upgrade	ATS460-011
ATS460: External Clock Upgrade	ATS460-004
SyncBoard 460 2X	ATS460-006
SyncBoard 460 4X	ATS460-007
ATS460-8M: One Year Extended Warranty	ATS460-061
ATS460-128M: One Year Extended Warranty	ATS460-062
ATS-SDK purchased with a digitizer board or ATS-GPU: License + 1 Year Subscription (Supports C/C++, Python, MATLAB, and LabVIEW)	ATS-SDK
ATS-SDK purchased separately: License + 1 Year Subscription + 5 hours of technical support (Supports C/C++, Python, MATLAB, and LabVIEW)	ATS-SDK-WOD
5 Hours of technical support	SUPPORT-HR5

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DATASHEET REVISION HISTORY

Changes from version 1.2F (Aug 2022) to version 1.2G — Section, Page

Removed 32-bit Windows — Feature Table, pg. 1

Added new section to specify default output data format is unsigned binary and that it can be changed to signed binary via an API call. — Output Data Format, pg. 5

Separate description for Linux SDK to detail supported programming languages — Software Development Kits, pg. 5

Noted that only 64-bit Windows is supported and that the last driver version that supports 32-bit Windows is 5.10.24. — Support for Windows, pg. 5

Updated download link for the Linux driver and associated library, and added note: ATS-SDK example programs are only provided for Python and C++ — Linux Support, pg. 6

Added new section to detail AlazarTech's accessory policy — Accessories for Out-of-Warranty Products, pg. 6

Added new section to detail AlazarTech's upgrade policy — Upgrading Your Digitizer in The Field, pg. 6

Modified to include new warranty reinstatement policy — Extended Warranty, pg. 6

Added section for REACH Compliance — REACH Compliance, pg. 7

Specified that Operating temperature is ambient — Environmental, pg. 8

Added REACH Compliance to list of Certification and Compliances — Certification and Compliances, pg. 9

Changes from version 1.2E (Nov 2021) to version 1.2F — Section, Page

Changes to maintenance subscription inclusions: removed technical support — Software Development Kits, pg. 5

Added Windows 11 — Support for Windows, pg. 5

Added new section to specify how AlazarTech handles technical support: Customers receive free technical support on hardware products that are under warranty. Out-of-warranty support requires the purchase of support hours. — Technical Support, pg. 6

Updated specification name from *Input protection* to *Absolute maximum input* Actual value did not change. — Acquisition System, pg. 7

Updated specification name from *Input protection* to *Absolute maximum input* Actual value did not change. — TRIG IN (External Trigger) Input, pg. 8

Updated name for product *Software Development Kit* Now called: *ATS-SDK purchased with a digitizer board or ATS-GPU* — Ordering Information, pg. 9

Added products ATS-SDK-WOD and SUPPORT-HR5 — Ordering Information, pg. 9

Changes from version 1.2D (Jan 2020) to version 1.2E — Section, Page

Added note to advise that ATS460 is not recommended for new designs Suggested replacement is ATS9146 — pg. 1

Added section to recommend ATS9146 PCIe digitizer card — Not Recommended for New Designs, pg. 1

Added note that recommended replacement, ATS9146, includes dual-port memory — Optional Dual-Port Memory, pg. 2

Changed term for multi-board system to Leader/Follower — Multiple-Digitizer Synchronization, pg. 4

Updated support status for Windows 8.x and Windows Server versions 2012 R2, 2016, 2019 — Support for Windows, pg. 6

Updated Linux Support (RHEL) and added new DKMS drivers — Linux Support, pg. 6

Added section: Extended Warranty — Extended Warranty, pg. 6

Changes from version 1.2C (Jan 2019) to version 1.2D — Section, Page

Changed *Sampling Rate* column to *Max. Sample Rate* — Feature Table, pg. 1

Replaced signal sine or square wave requirement with high slew rate — Optional External Clock, pg. 5

Removed qualified metrology lab as option for recalibrating ATS460 — Calibration, pg. 5

Specified Windows 7 version support, re-ordered list of operating systems, and added end-of-support notice for Windows 7 and Windows Server 2008 R2 — Support for Windows, pg. 5

Specified Linux distributions: CentOS, Debian, and Ubuntu — Linux Support, pg. 6

Corrected Output types (removed Busy Output and added Pacer Output) — Auxiliary I/O (AUX I/O), pg. 8

Changes from version 1.3B (Oct 2018) to version 1.3C — Section, Page

Updated *Sanctions List* URL — Export Control Classification, pg. 6

Updated Trademark information — pg. 9

DATASHEET REVISION HISTORY

Changes from version 1.3A (Jan 2018) to version 1.3B | Section, Page

Updated RoHS Compliance to RoHS 3	Global change
Updated product image	pg. 1
Clarified Operating System Support	Feature Table, pg. 1
Corrected trigger engines: changed to J and K (instead of X and Y)	Triggering, pg. 4
Replaced *Trigger Output* section with *AUX Connector*	AUX Connector, pg. 5
Removed oscilloscope calibrator model	Calibration, pg. 5
Added information on ATS-SDK license	Software Development Kits, pg. 5
Added list of supported Microsoft Windows versions	Support for Windows, pg. 6
Added Trademark information	pg. 6
Updated BNC connector: as of hardware v1.3, TRIG OUT is replaced by AUX I/O	I/O Connectors, pg. 7
Corrected Minimum Record Length from 256 to 128	On-Board Acquisition Memory System, pg. 7
Added Input impedance selection method and Input Coupling Updated Maximum frequency and Minimum frequency	Optional ECLK (External Clock) Input, pg. 8
Corrected Trigger Engine Combination and Trigger level accuracy	Triggering System, pg. 8
Replaced TRIG OUT Output section with Auxiliary I/O (AUX I/O)	Auxiliary I/O (AUX I/O), pg. 8
Added subscription length for ATS-SDK	Ordering Information, pg. 8

Changes from version 1.3 (Sept 2017) to version 1.3A | Section, Page

Added note about NPT Footers	No Pre-Trigger (NPT) AutoDMA, pg. 3
Added CNRC as calibration standard	Calibration, pg. 5
Corrected size of card	Physical, pg. 7
Updated email address	Manufactured By, pg. 8

Changes from version 1.2G (Oct 2013) to version 1.3 | Section, Page

Added Python to list of SDK supported languages, and Support for Windows & Linux	Features, pg. 1
Removed deprecated *Optional Data Streaming To Hard Disk*	Features, pg. 1
Changed maximum number of channels for multi-channel data acquisition systems to 8	Overview, pg. 1
Removed note on availability of special order item for higher channel counts	Overview, pg. 1
Added Python & LabVIEW to list of supported languages for ATS-SDK, removed ATS-VI	Overview, pg. 1
Removed *Stream To Disk*, product deprecated	Stream To Disk, pg. 4
8 board synchronization deprecated: corrected maximum number of channels, and removed related SyncBoard	Multiple-Digitizer Synchronization, pg. 4
Updated section on RoHS compliance	RoHS Compliance, pg. 5
Modified AlazarDSO description	AlazarDSO Software, pg. 5
Removed section *AlazarDSO Plug-Ins*; product deprecated	AlazarDSO Plug-Ins, pg. 5
New section *Software Development Kits* to replace sections: *ATS-SDK Software Development Kit* and *ATS-VI Software Development Kit*	Software Development Kits, pg. 5
Replaced section *ATS-Linux* with new *Linux Support* section	Linux Support, pg. 5
Added Export Control Classification information	Export Control Classification, pg. 6
Added section on EC Conformity	EC Conformity, pg. 6
Added section on FCC & ICES-003 Compliance	FCC & ICES-003 Compliance, pg. 6
Updated External Trigger Input Impedance to 1.01 MΩ ±10%	TRIG IN (External Trigger) Input, pg. 8
Updated list of Certification and Compliances	Certification and Compliances, pg. 8
Added products ATS460-061, ATS460-062	Ordering Information, pg. 8
Replaced product ATS460-SDK with ATS-SDK	Ordering Information, pg. 8
Removed product ATS460-VI (ATS-SDK now supports LabVIEW)	Ordering Information, pg. 8
Removed products ATS460-008, ATS460-Linux, ATS-STR, ATS-DSO-PDK	Ordering Information, pg. 8