

PDN – Product Discontinuance Notice

Product Affected	M3i.32xx Series M3i.32xx-exp Series	Issue Date	1 st January 2019
Reasons for Discontinuance	The complete series are replaced by newer and advanced product series. Some electronic parts used on the series are discontinued by the manufacturers.	Last Time Buy Date	There is no fixed last time buy date as the availability depends on the number of purchases issued. We estimate that the products will be available until 2020 or longer.

The M4i.44xx series is a replacement for the M3i.32xx-exp and the M3i.32xx series with better specifications. It offers many more versions with higher bandwidth, higher resolution and a faster sampling rate while having a shorter board size. Besides the main differences there are many small improvements that allow easier interfacing with different application areas. Although the replacement series has an improved interface the API is still the same making a migration from existing software an easy step.

The full M4i.44xx-8 series offers 10 different models ranging from 2 channel to 4 channels and 130 MS/s to 500 MS/s. A full list of products is found on Spectrum's website: <https://spectrum-instrumentation.com/en/m4i44xx-x8-pci-express-pcie-x8>

Product Series Replacement Table

Please note that the legacy PCI version M3i.32xx has no direct replacement. Instead the PCIe version needs to be used.

Discontinued Product					Replacement Product				
Name	Resolution	Channels	Speed	Bandwidth	Name	Resolution	Channels	Speed	Bandwidth
M3i.3220-exp	12 Bit	1	250 MS/s	125 MHz	M4i.4420-x8	16 Bit	2	250 MS/s	125 MHz
M3i.3221-exp	12 Bit	2	250 MS/s	125 MHz	M4i.4420-x8	16 Bit	2	250 MS/s	125 MHz
M3i.3240-exp	12 Bit	1	500 MS/s	250 MHz	M4i.4450-x8	14 Bit	2	250 MS/s	125 MHz
M3i.3242-exp	12 Bit	1 2	500 MS/s 250 MS/s	250 MHz	M4i.4450-x8	14 Bit	2	250 MS/s	125 MHz

Feature Comparison

Feature	M3i.xxxx-exp PCIe Card	M3i.xxxx PCI Card	M4i.xxxx-x8 PCIe Card	Remarks
Size	312 mm x 107 mm full length, full height		241 mm x 107 mm 3/4 length, full height	3/4 PCIe size fits into many more systems
Power Consumption	Max 32 Watts	Max 25 Watts	Max 27 Watts	Comapring 2 channel versions
On-board memory	Standard 512 MByte, Option 2 GByte		Standard 4 GByte	4 GByte as standard
Interface	PCIe x1 Gen1	PCI 32 Bit 66 MHz	PCIe x8 Gen2	Legacy PCI interface discontinued
Data Transfer Speed	160 MByte/s	200 MByte/s	3.4 GByte/s	20 times faster transfer speed allows more streaming applications
SCAPP GPU Interface	Not available		Available	Data can be transferred directly to a CUDA-based GPU for fast data processing
I/O lines	1 x Trigger In 1 x Clock In 1 x Clock Out 2 x Multi-Purpose I/O		1 x Trigger-In 1 x Trigger-Out 1 x Clock-In 1 x Clock-Out 3 x Multi-Purpose-I/O	The 3 x Multi-Purpose I/O of M4i.xxxx series can also be used for synchronous digital-in (digitizer) or synchronous marker outputs (AWG)
Clock Modes	Internal External Reference		Internal External Reference	
Clock Accuracy	20 ppm		20 ppm	
Clock Setup Granularity	1 Hz with clock gaps		1 Hz with clock gaps	M4i.44xx needs to be set to special clock mode for 1 Hz resolution
External trigger	Window comparator ±5V		Window comp. ±5V	
External trigger sources	3 as standard		4 as standard	
Trigger hold-off	Not available		Not available	
Timestamp Ref Clock	Needed option BaseXIO		Standard	
Trigger Source Mark	Not available		Standard	Trigger source is automatically stored with timestamp and can be examined for each trigger event.
API Interface	SPCM		SPCM	Same API Interface

Option Replacement Table

Option	M2i Card	M4i Card	Remarks
Synchronization Star-Hub Small	M3i.xxxx-SH4	M4i.xxxx-SH8ex M4i.xxxx-SH8tm	Two mounting options allow to match the system restrictions. Ex = extension, card is extended to full PCIe length but still only 1 slot width Tm = top-mount, star-hub is mounted on top, card length stays at 3/4 PCIe length but occupies two slots
Synchronization Star-Hub Large	M3i.xxxx-SH8		
BaseXIO lines	M2i.xxxx-bxio	3 lines standard	The standard card already contains three Multi-Purpose I/O lines which replace the BaseXIO option.

Feature Comparison – Analog Module

Feature	32xx	44xx	Remarks
Connectors Analog Trigger Clock Multi-Purpose	SMB MMCX MMCX MMCX	SMA SMA SMA MMCX	The SMA connection is a better fit for higher signal frequencies.
Resolution	12 Bit	14/16 Bit	
Input Mode	Single-ended	Single-ended	
Sampling Speed	250 MS/s to 500 MS/s	130 MS/s to 500 MS/s	
Bandwidth	125 MHz to 205 MHz	65 MHz to 250 MHz	
Input Ranges	±200 mV to ±10 V	±200 mV to ±10 V	
Input Offset	±200%	-100% to 0%	
Trigger Level Resolution	10 bit	14 bit	
Re-Arming Time	32 samples	40 samples	+ programmed pre-trigger + programmed hold-off
Digital Inputs	n.a.	3 channels as standard	Digital inputs are synchronously with the analog inputs sampled and stored in the memory.
Special Modes	n.a.	Boxcar Average Block Average (option) Block Statistics (option)	Additional acquisitions modes that are available as firmware feature

Obsolescence Policy

With release of the PDN the complete product series is no longer available for new projects. The complete stock is reserved for existing projects and for customers who are not able to change to the new series due to certification, hardware or software limitations.

In case that the only limitation that prevents you from ordering the new product series is the missing legacy PCI interface we strongly recommend switching to the newer PCI Express interface. The legacy PCI has been obsolete for years now and you will most likely face problems in the future when you need to replace the PC system.

More detailed information on the obsolescence policy is found online: <https://spectrum-instrumentation.com/en/obsolescence-policy>

If you have any questions or concerns about switching from the obsolete M3i.32xx series products to the replacement M4i.44xx series please contact Spectrum directly at request@spec.de

Please find additional information on our website:

- Data sheet of M4i.44xx series:
https://spectrum-instrumentation.com/sites/default/files/download/m4i44_datasheet_english.pdf
- Manual of M4i.44xx series:
https://spectrum-instrumentation.com/sites/default/files/download/m4i_m4x_44xx_manual_english.pdf
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