



# APx Programmable Serial I/O Option

Next generation multichannel chip-level interface for audio



## KEY FEATURES

- ◆ Ideal for testing HDMI receivers, HDMI Transmitters, A-to-D Converters, D-to-A Converters, Sample Rate Converters, and Digital Processors
- ◆ 16 channels of simultaneous audio data
- ◆ Acoustically silent remote pod with up to 10 m cable
- ◆ Dedicated, buffered oscilloscope monitors
- ◆ Built-in support for left or right justified, I<sup>2</sup>S and TDM formats
- ◆ Automatic rate calculators and active timing diagrams
- ◆ Independent input and output clocks
- ◆ Automatically synchronize receiver clocks to transmitter clocks



Programmable Serial I/O module

The Programmable Serial I/O (PSIO) module is a next-generation multichannel digital serial interface for the APx platform. This provides a direct connection to chip level interfaces such as I<sup>2</sup>S and supports all popular serial interface formats including left justified, right justified, and DSP. In addition the option supports TDM and multiple data line configurations for up to 16 channels of audio data.

The digital serial capability is essential in R&D for evaluating designs at the circuit board level. It allows direct connectivity to CODECs, DSPs, analog-to-digital and digital-to-analog converters, sample rate converters, and all types of audio processing and interface chips. Users can access and test board-side inputs and outputs to HDMI (when used in conjunction with the APx HDMI2+eARC option), SPDIF, and other digital interface transmitters and receivers.

With enhanced capabilities compared to the Digital Serial I/O (DSIO) module it replaces, the highly configurable pulse voltage, sample rate, word length, data length and time relationship between clock and data accommodates a wide range of devices and applications.

## Hardware Connectivity

The transmitter and receiver are interfaced via the 14-pin IDC connectors on the front of remote PSIO pod. The connectors break out to master clock, frame clock, channel clock, bit clock, and four data lines. Up to sixteen channels of audio data can be carried across the four data lines.

In addition, both the transmitter and receiver signals can be monitored via dedicated, buffered monitor ports. These duplicate the signals at the transmitter or receiver and allow direct monitoring via an external oscilloscope or logic analyzer.

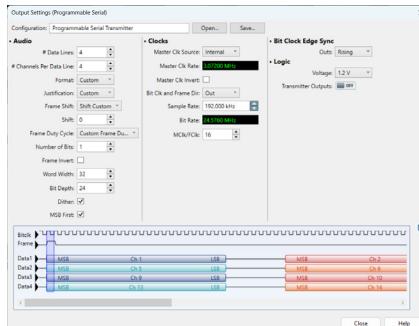
The APx Programmable Serial I/O option includes independent, programmable master clocks for both the transmitter and receiver. This allows the use of two different clocks simultaneously, an important advantage in SRC testing when compared to single-clock serial interface.

## Programmable Serial and HDMI

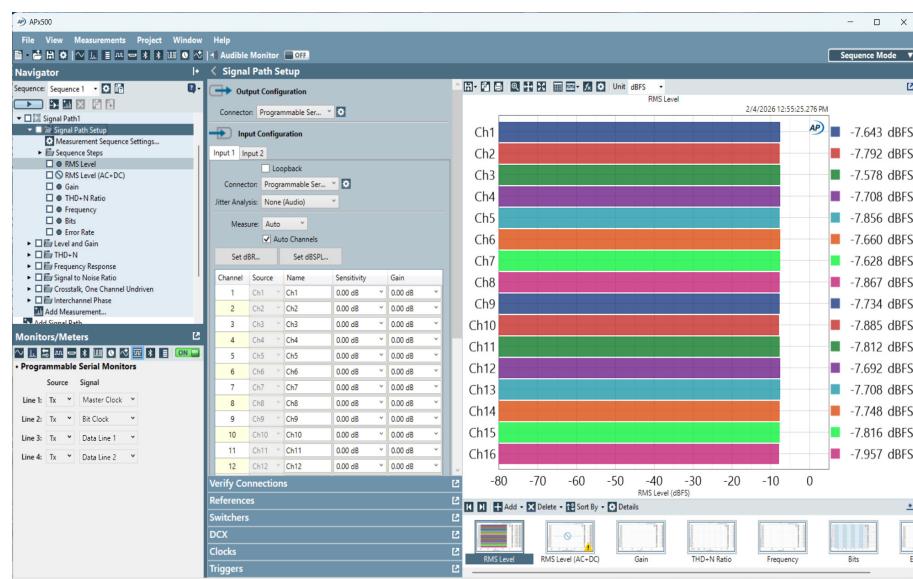
The Digital Serial option by itself has many applications, but when used in conjunction with the APx HDMI2+eARC option, truly unique audio test solutions become available.

The connectivity between the two options creates a fast and simple solution for HDMI chip developers who need the ability to debug at the circuit board level.

It is also the only analyzer in the world that can interface directly to HDMI receiver and transmitter chips, and the only analyzer that can stream high bit rate audio signals such as dts-HD over a multichannel serial interface.



Programmable Serial I/O Timing Diagram



APx500 UI with Programmable Serial I/O configuration options

## Useful presets & simplified setup

The Programmable Serial option meets the high standard set by APx for ease-of-use. Setup panels include automatic rate calculators and active timing diagrams, and there is built-in support for left justified, right justified, I<sup>2</sup>S and TDM formats. Presets for testing popular audio devices are also included. Programmable Serial configurations can be saved within a project file or saved independently for reuse in multiple projects.

All APx500 measurements are available when using the Programmable Serial interface. Features are available for diagnostics, including digital-only generator functions such as Walking Ones, Walking Zeros and Constant Value, and analyzer functions such as Bit Test, which allows APx to verify that the digital output of any device is bit-for-bit accurate.

No digital serial interface is easier to use.



Programmable Serial I/O Pod front and rear connectors

## PROGRAMMABLE SERIAL I/O SPECIFICATIONS

### Pulse Voltage

1.2, V1.8 V, 2.5 V, 3.3 V

### Formats

Left Justified, Right Justified, I<sup>2</sup>S, DSP, Zero Padding

### MAster Clock Rates

4 kHz to 56 MHz

### Sample Rates

4 kHz to 768 kHz

### Master Clock Inversion

Yes

### Bit Clock Edge Synchronization

Rising or Falling

### Bit Depth

8 to 32 bits

### Word Width

8 to 256 bits

### Data Length

8 to 32 bits

### Dither

Selectable ON or OFF

### Master Clock Source

Transmitter: INTERNAL (ON or OFF)  
Receiver: INTERNAL or EXTERNAL

### Bit/Frame Clock Direction

Transmitter: OUT  
Receiver: IN or OUT

### Multichannel Configuration

1-16 channels

## PROGRAMMABLE SERIAL I/O ACCESSORIES

### Included Accessories

#### CAB-PSIO-2P

APx PSIO acoustically silent remote interface pod

#### CAB-POD-2/5/10M

PSIO/PDM16 pod interface cable.  
Available in 2 m, 5 m, or 10 m length based on selected configuration.

### Optional Accessories

#### CAB-PSIO-2P

IDC16F to 4 2-pin breakout cable for PSIO, 25 cm.  
One cable is required for a single data line (transmitter or receiver).

Two cables are required for 2-4 data lines (transmitter or receiver)

#### CAB-BNC-3

91.4 cm BNC-M to BNC-M cable to connect up to 4 signal monitors to an oscilloscope or logic analyzer.



PSIO Pod in Acoustic Chamber with DUT

© 2026 Audio Precision. All rights reserved. XXVI0210143759

### Audio Precision

9290 SW Nimbus Ave.  
Beaverton, OR 97008 USA

ap.com

800.231.7350

sales@ap.com



An Axiometrix Solutions Brand