Cable Adapters for Signal Conditioning

NI SC-205x

- Adapts I/O connector of DAQ devices to signal conditioning accessories
- Works with:
  - 5B Series
  - ER-8/16
  - SC-204x
  - SC-206x
  - SSR Series
- Optional rack-mount kits available

Ordering Information

SC-2050	776335-90
SC-2051	776335-91
SC-2052	776335-92
SC-2054	776515-00
SC-2056	776335-96

50-Pin I/O Connector Block

CB-50	776164-90

Cables

NB1	180524-10
NB5	181304-10
NB7	180924-04
NB8	180913-01
SH6850	776784-01
SH100100	182853-01
PSHR68-50	777327-01
SHC6868-EP	186838-01
PSH27-50F-D1	776989-01
R1005050	182762-01
R6850-D1	777419-01
PSHR68-68M	183569-01
68M-50F	184670-01

Overview

National Instruments SC-205x devices are cable adapters for routing DAQ device I/O lines to various signal conditioning accessories, including the SC-204x, SC-206x, 5B Series, ER-8/16, and SSR Series devices. Each SC-205x adapts the I/O signals from a class of DAQ devices to various signal conditioning accessories. Be careful not to connect two accessories requiring common I/O signals to the same SC-205x device.

INFO CODES

For more information, or to order products online visit *ni.com/info* and enter:

sc2050
sc2051
sc2052
sc2054
sc2056

BUY ONLINE!

Selection

To select the appropriate signal conditioning accessory, DAQ device, cable adapter, and cable for your application, use the tables and figures online at ***ni.com/products***

Use the ordering information section to find the part numbers for your setup.

Accuracy Specifications for Signal Conditioning

Every Measurement Counts

There is little room for error in your measurements. From sensor to software, your system must deliver accurate results. NI provides detailed specifications for our products so that you do not have to guess how they perform. Along with traditional specifications, our signal conditioning products include accuracy tables to assist you in selecting the appropriate hardware for your application. These tables are found on the specification pages for each product.

Absolute Accuracy

Absolute accuracy is the specification you must use to determine the overall maximum possible error of your measurement. Absolute accuracy does assume your signal conditioning equipment has been calibrated within the last year. There are four main components of an absolute accuracy specification:

- % of Reading is an uncertainty factor that is multiplied by the actual imput voltage for the measurement
- Offset is a constant value applied to all measurements
- System Noise is based on noise and depends on the number of points averaged for each measurement
- Temperature Drift is based on variations in your ambient temperature.

Absolute Acuracy RTI stands for relative to the input

Based on these components, the formula for calculating absolute accuracy for a given module is:

Absolute Accuracy = (Actual Input Voltage x % of Reading)
+ Offset + System Noise + Temperature Drift

Absolute Accuracy RTI = ±(Absolute Accuracy/Actual Input Voltage)

Temperature effects are already taken into account unless your ambient temperature is outside of the 15 to 35 °C range. For instance, if your ambient temperature is at 45 °C, you must account for 10 °C of drift. This is calculated by:

Temperature Drift = ± (Actual Input Voltage x % of Reading/°C + Offset/°C)
x Temperature Difference

Below is an example for calculating the absolute accuracy for the SCXI-1102 using the ±100 mV input range while averaging 100 samples of a 14 mV input signal. In this calculation, we assume the ambient temperature is between 15 and 35 °C, so Temperature Drift = 0. Using the accuracy table on pge 262, you find the following numbers for the calculation:

Actual Input Voltage = 0.014
Percent of Reading Max = 0.02% = 0.0002
Offset = 0.000025 V
System Noise = 0.000005 V

Absolute Accuracy = ±[(0.014 x 0.0002) + 0.000025 + 0.000005] V = ±32.8 µV

Absolute Accuracy RTI = ±(0.0000328 / 0.014) = ±0.234 %

The following example assumes the same conditions, except the ambient temperature is 40 °C. You can begin with the Absolute Accuracy calculation above and add in the Temperature Drift.

Absolute Accuracy = 32.8 µV + (0.014 x 0.000005 + 0.000001) x 5 = ±38.15 µV

Accuracy Specifications for Signal Conditioning

In many cases, it is helpful to calculate this value relative to the input (RTI). Therefore, you do not have to account for different input ranges at different stages of your system.

Absolute Accuracy RTI = ±(0.00003815 / 0.014) = ±0.273 %

If you are making single-point measurements, use the Single-Point System Noise specification from the accuracy table. If you are averaging multiple points for each measurement, the value for System Noise changes. The Average System Noise provided in the accuracy table assumes that you average 100 points per measurement. If you are averaging a different number of points, use the following equation to determine your system noise:

System Noise = Average System Noise from table x
SQRT(100/number of points)

For example, if you are averaging 1,000 points per measurement with the SCXI-1102 in the ±100 mV range, the system noise is determined by:

System Noise = 5 μV x SQRT (100/1000) = 1.58 μV

Absolute System Accuracy

Absolute System Accuracy represents the end-to-end accuracy including the signal conditioning and DAQ device. Because absolute system accuracy includes components set for different input ranges, it is important to use Absolute Accuracy RTI numbers for each component. See page 194 for information on how to calculate the Absolute Accuracy RTI for your particular DAQ device.

Total System Accuracy RTI = ±SQRT [(Module Absolute Accuracy RTI)^2
+ (DAQ Device Absolute Accuracy RTI)^2]

The following example calculates the Absolute System Accuracy for the SCXI-1102 described in the first example, and a PCI-MIO-16XE-50 with an Absolute Accuracy RTI of 0.00368%.

Total System Accuracy RTI = ±SQRT [(0.00273)2 + (0.00003682)] = ±0.273%

Units of Measure

In many applications, you are measuring some physical phenomenon, such as temperature. To determine the absolute accuracy in terms of your unit of measure, you must perform three steps:

(1) Convert a typical expected value from the unit of measure to voltage
(2) Calculate absolute accuracy for that voltage
(3) Convert absolute accuracy from voltage to the unit of measure

Note, it is important to use a typical measurement value in this process, because many conversion algorithms are not linearized. You may want to perform conversions for several different values in your probable range of inputs.

For an example calculation, we want to determine the absolute system accuracy of an SCXI-1102 system with a PCI-MIO-16XE-50, measuring a J-type thermocouple at 100 °C.

(1) A J-type thermocouple at 100 °C generates 5.268 mV (from a standard conversion table or formula)
(2) The absolute accuracy for the system at 5.268 mV is ±0.59%. This means the possible voltage reading is anywhere from 5.237 to 5.299 mV.
(3) Using the same thermocouple conversion table, these values represent a temperature spread of 99.4 to 100.6 °C.

Therefore, the absolute system accuracy is ±0.6 °C at 100 °C.

Benchmarks

The calculations described above represent the maximum error you should receive from any given component in your system, and a method for determining the overall system error. However, you typically have much better accuracy values than what you obtain from these tables.

If you need an extremely accurate system, you can perform an end-to-end calibration of your system to reduce all system errors. However, you must calibrate this system with your particular input type over the full range of expected use. Accuracy depends on the quality and precision of your source.

We have performed some end-to-end calibrations for some typical configurations and achieved the results below:

Module	Empirical Accuracy
SCXI-1102	±0.25 °C at 250 °C ±24 mV at 9.5 V
SCXI-1112	±0.21 °C at 300 °C
SCXI-1125	±2.2 mV at 2 V

Table 1. Possible Empirical Accuracy with System Calibration

To maintain your measurement accuracy, you must calibrate your measurement device at set intervals. Calibration improves your accuracy and ensures that your end product meets its required specifications. We are continually updating the calibration services available for our products. For a current list of SCXI signal conditioning products with calibration services, please visit ***ni.com/calibration***