ZAnalyzer, Inc – ZX500 Frequently Asked Questions

What speed is the ASI Input rated?

Our single port ASI option board can handle up to 214mbps ASI input rate. We can support a maximum of 2 of these boards running full rate in our 2U and 3U products.

Our quad port ASI option board can handle a max of 100mbps ASI input per port. We can support one of these boards per system (1, 2 & 3U).

Do your demodulator options show the constellation or provide RF or modulation analysis?

No, unfortunately all we can report is a simple SNR reading reported from the tuner. Our tuners do not support displaying constellations, spectrum analysis, etc.

Do you need special mounting hardware:

The 1U and 3U boxes can be mounted on their 'rack ears'. But I don't suggest that for mobile operation. The 2U box should have rails, but may be able to get away with ear only mounting if something's below it to help support it. But in any case, when mounting in a truck I highly suggest using rails attached to all 4 posts.

How deep are the analyzers?

The 1U is 14" deep, 2U is 17" and 3U is 16".

I heard these run Windows? What happens if the power suddenly drops?

Shouldn't be a problem. We've thought of power issues ahead of time and have the system configured to not cache data written to the hard disk inside. You should be able to 'crash' the analyzer and just power back up without issues. We've tested this feature extensively.

Doesn't Windows have massive stability problems? Will it blue screen while we're running?

Our version of Windows has been specifically stripped down and configured to be as reliable as possible. Also most 'blue screen' issues are a result of slight hardware issues (usually power supply or memory problems). All of our analyzers use high quality components to ensure reliability.

What happens when someone loads games or other software on our ZAnalyzer?

Should anyone load up any other software on the system and cause problems, all of our boxes can be reset to factory default thru our recovery menu. Running the recovery will not delete any data that exists on the Transport Stream storage partition. It'll wipe the main partition and reset the box to the way it was shipped originally.

Does your DVB-S2 demod support 8PSK?

Yes, but with LDPC FEC coding only (the standard for DVB-S2). It does not support Trellis (ala DVB-DSNG) coding. It also supports QPSK with DVB-S and S2.

Can you watch live video?

Yes, but the video quality is quite poor unless you add our enhanced video card. The ZAnalyzer is not really meant to be an IRD, but can be used to verify motion video if needed. With the on board VGA interface you are fairly limited in video quality. An add-on board can be used to provide dual VGA (or Dual DVI) outputs with good quality full-motion video, but this is still not 'broadcast quality'. Our product is designed to be more of a service monitor then an IRD.   We also have a fairly high quality video output module available which can provide DVI, YPrPb, SDI or HD-SDI output. That option can decode 4:2:0 and 4:2:2 SD as well as 4:2:0 HD. It requires an option slot and will only work with one program at a time. Both the Dual Video option and the high quality option require 1 option slot each.

How many inputs can we have in a single ZAnalyzer TSA?

Depends on the option boards you select. Our 1U form factor can support 1 option board. The 2U can support 2, and the 3U can support 4.   Various option board are available including but not limited to: ASI Input (single port, quad port), ASI Full Duplex (single in, single out), SMPTE 310m Input, L-Band Demodulators (DVB-S, DVB-S2), Dual VGA/DVI video output, SDI Video output.

How long can you record a transport stream?

Varies based on the datarate of the stream you're trying to record and the drive options you choose. In general our 1U TSA contains a 300gb drive and about 200gb of that is available for recording transport streams. The 2U and 3U TSA's by default contain 500gb drives, about 400gb of which is available for storing transport streams.

Can recorded streams be played back outside of the TSA?

If you purchase a full-duplex ASI or 310M option cards you can play back recorded transport streams via ASI. All ZAnalyzer TSA's also support playback over Ethernet via IP encapsulation. One limitation however is that you cannot modify the stream (no adding/dropping PIDs, etc).

How many different streams can be monitored at once?

While our TSA's can support up to 12 streams at once (2/3U, 1U only 6), keeping track of all those streams may be difficult for the user. Depending on what information you want to see you can place several different graphs/monitors on each screen. Many customers only monitor 1 stream per connected VGA display, others have done up to 4 at once.

How much do other configurations cost?

Basic Pricing (not including any discounts or special offers):
1U DVB-S2 input: $3295
1U Single ASI Input : $4295
2U/3U Single ASI Input: $4495
2U/3U DVB-S2 & Single ASI Input: $4870
2U/3U Quad ASI Input (quad board, 100mbps max/port): $5595
(more configuration options are available as well as volume discounts)