Technical Support
Knowledge Center Open

N8211A/N8212A Frequently Asked Questions

KEYSIGHT TECHNOLOGIES

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Notices

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1. Q. [Instrument Drivers] How do I get Instrument Drivers for the Keysight N8211A/N8212A performance upconverter?

A. Instrument drivers along with documentation are shipped on a CD with the instrument. You can also find instrument drivers on the Keysight Website under the Technical Support page for the instrument. https://www.keysight.com/find/synthetic

2. Q. [Microsoft .NET 1.1] During software installation, I get the error message, "Setup cannot install Microsoft .NET Framework because another version of the product is already installed."

A. This error message is displayed when you try to install Microsoft .NET 1.1 in Step 1 of the software and driver installation process. Microsoft .NET 1.1 is required by the module specific Keysight N82xxA User interfaces. These interfaces are installed in Step 7 of the software and driver installation process and if the Microsoft .NET 1.1 is not installed, you will not be able to use these interefaces. When you install Keysight I/O Libraries 15.0, Microsoft .NET 2.0 is installed. Microsoft .NET 2.0 is required by the Keysight N8201A Option H02 Spectrum Analyzer GUI; this is an optional GUI that can be installed in Step 8 of the software and driver installation process.

So, once the installation process is complete, the system should have both Microsoft .NET 1.1 and Microsoft .NET 2.0.

3. Q. [IO Libraries] What version of Keysight IO Libraries Suite should I use?

A. Make sure you use the appropriate version of IO Libraries Suite, based on the operating system you are using.
- IO Libraries Suite 14.0 should be used with Windows® 98 and Me.
- IO Libraries Suite 15.0 or above should be used with 32-bit versions Windows 2000, XP, and Vista

For every individual Keysight instrument, Keysight IO card (GPIB card, converters) and development copy of Keysight T&M Toolkit or VEE Pro that you own, you are entitled to one non-exclusive license of this product at no charge. Please visit our web site for other information, including how to purchase additional copies, at www.keysight.com/find/iosuite.

If you need further assistance, please visit the web site to talk to an Keysight engineer. https://www.keysight.com/find/assist

4. Q. [LAN Reset] Do all N8211A/N8212A have LAN reset capability?

A. First release versions of the N8211A/N8212A modules did not have LAN reset capability, but all currently produced modules do have LAN reset capability.

5. Q. [LAN Reset] How do I use the LAN reset capability?

A. When the LAN reset capability is invoked, the Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP) server automates the process of setting up the IP addresses on your network by default. When an N8211A/N8212A module is turned on, it searches for a DHCP server on the network and selects a “dynamic IP address”. Each time the N8211A/N8212A module is rebooted, it may get a different IP

address. The IP address can be found by using the instrument hostname as the URL in a web browser. Depending on your network, it may take from 30 to 60 minutes for the hostname to be registered.

The instrument hostname is set to A-N82XXA-NNNNN, where N82XXA is the instrument model number (for example, N8211A) and NNNNN represents the last five digits of the instrument serial number. Without DHCP, the instrument will use Auto IP and acquire a 169.254.X.X address.

If no DHCP is present, but the instrument is set to use DHCP (the default), the instrument will wait two minutes for its DHCP request to time out. In this case, there is a time delay of approximately three minutes between when the instrument is powered on and when it is usable. To set the N8211A/N8212A module to a static IP address, rather than allowing the DHCP server to select an IP address, refer to *"How do I set a static IP address?".*

6. Q. [IP Address] How do I set a static IP address?

A. Set the synthetic instrument module to a static IP address, rather than allowing the DHCP server to select an auto IP address.

If you have not done so, install the included Synthetic Instrument Finder application from the disk included with your order. Synthetic Instrument Finder is helpful in searching for synthetic instruments on a network.

The Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP) server automates the process of setting up the IP addresses on your network by default. When the synthetic instrument module is turned on, it searches for a DHCP server on the network and selects a “dynamic IP address”. Each time the synthetic instrument module is rebooted, the synthetic instrument module may get a different IP address.

To set the synthetic instrument module to a static IP address:

1. Assign the synthetic instrument module an IP address that will work with your computer.

   For a company wide network, your system administrator will have to assign an IP address that is compatible with your PC. If you have a private LAN network or a direct connection from your PC to the instrument, you can assign the IP address.
2. Connect the synthetic instrument module in one of the two following configurations.

   - Connect a LAN cable from the LAN connector on your PC to an empty connector on your internal local area network or LAN hub.

   - Or connect a cross-over LAN cable from the LAN connector on your PC to the LAN connector on the rear panel of the synthetic instrument module.
3. Power your PC on.
4. Power the synthetic instrument module on and wait until the LAN LED turns solid green. This takes about 60 seconds.
5. From the Microsoft Windows Desktop, click **Start** > **All Programs** > **Keysight SI Tools** > Synthetic Instrument Finder.

6. Click the applicable instrument listed in the Keysight Synthetic Instrument Finder dialog box to access the synthetic instrument module web page. (You can also use the right-side of the Synthetic Instrument Finder to change the settings.)
7. Click **View & Modify LAN Config** in the left-pane of the Web Page.
8. Click **Modify Configuration** to access the Password dialog.
9. Click **Submit** (accept the default password). The default password is “agilent”.

   Tip: You can change the password from the View & Modify LAN Connections. (Scroll down the Parameter column until you locate the Change Password parameter.)
10. Change the DHCP and Auto IP radio-buttons to Off. Change the IP address, Subnet Mask, and Default Gateway values to meet your network requirements.
11. Click **Save** to save the new settings. Parameters marked with an asterisk (*) also require that you click "Renew LAN settings" before changes take effect.
12. Cycle the power of the synthetic instrument module and then cycle the power of the PC to activate the new settings.

7. Q. [IP Address] Does my unit have a static IP address?

A. If you have an N8211AF Option H01, you have a static IP address.

8. Q. [10 MHz Reference] Why is the frequency out of the RF Out connector incorrect?

A. The 10 MHz EFC Reference port on the front panel must be terminated with an SMB (f) 50 ohm load (1250-0676); this 50 ohm load ships with each upconverter.

9. Q. [Battery] What is the part number of the battery on the A18 CPU board.

A. A18BT1 3 V, 0.16 A Lithium battery with p/n 1420-0314 (Panasonic BR 2325).

10. Q. [Rack Mounting] How do I rack mount my synthetic instruments?

A. Refer to the *Keysight N8200A Series Synthetic Instrument Modules, Rack Configuration Guide* (N8200-90003).

For additional solutions and rack mounting information that is not included in this rack configuration guide, which include the integration of third party instruments, contact your system integrator or refer to the Keysight Technologies Enclosures Solutions Product Catalog. https://cp.literature.Keysight.com/litweb/pdf/5980-0450E.pdf

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