

SDR comparison

		KiwiSDR	SDRPlay RSP2	HackRF One	
Architecture	SDR type	ADC samples antenna input directly. Digital downconversion (DDC) in FPGA	ADC in the baseband IC samples analog IF down-mixed by tuner IC. Bypass modes exist	ADC in the baseband IC samples analog IF down-mixed by tuner IC. Bypass modes exist	
	open source HW	yes	no	yes	
	open source SW	yes	host software dependent	host software dependent	
	sync multi-units	no	yes	yes (5)	
	TX output	no	no	yes, half-duplex	
Front end	freq range	0 – 30 MHz (6)	1 kHz – 2 GHz	100 kHz – 6 GHz	
	inputs	1x SMA, 1x header block	2x SMA, 1x header block (hi-Z)	1x SMA	
	features	TVS protection, all inputs	2 nd SMA switchable bias tee	switchable bias tee	
	filtering	30 MHz LPF	2x LPF, 1x HPF, 8x BPF, MW/FM notch	1x LPF, 1x HPF	
	attenuator	no	yes	no	
	preamp device	+20 dB, fixed LTC6401-20	variable gain, 40 dB range MSI001	yes RFFC5072	
	ADC	# bits	14	12	8
SFDR (1)		90 dB	67 dB	48 dB	
device		LTC2248	MSI2500	MAX5864	
MSPS		66.7, fixed	variable up to 10.66	variable 8 – 20	
clock oscillator		XO, 50 ppm, trimmed via GPS	TCXO, 0.5 ppm, software trimmed	XO, 30 ppm	
ext ref in		66.7 MHz, JST (2)	24 MHz, MCX	SMA	
ext ref out		no	24 MHz, MCX	SMA	
DSP	type	FPGA + software	software	software	
	FPGA	Xilinx Artix-7 A35, user programmable	no	no	
GPS		yes, integrated	no	no	
	type	software defined			
	use	ADC clock cal, time sync			
	GPSDO	no			
	antenna input	SMA, 3.3V bias tee			
	# channels	12			
	front end part	SE4150L			
	clock oscillator	16.368 MHz, TCXO, 0.5 ppm			
	ext clock in	16.368 MHz, JST (2)			
	Specs	power	5V 1.5A, 5.5/2.1mm DC jack	5V 0.17A, via USB	5V, via USB
H W D (mm)		35 x 90 x 140	32 x 86 x 98	?, PCB is 120 x 75	
Output		wide-band IF output	No, currently panadapter and audio only. Wide-band output mode suitable for use with traditional, external software under consideration	Yes, 8 bandwidths (200k – 8M) and zero IF. Panadapter and audio done in host software	Yes. Panadapter and audio done in host software
	un-demodulated IQ samples	yes, at audio bandwidth	yes	yes	
	# panadapters (7)	4, full 30 MHz, 14 level zoom	host software dependent	host software dependent	
	# receivers	4, 12 kHz audio bandwidth	host software dependent	host software dependent	
	PHY	1x 10/100 Ethernet	1x USB 2.0 type B	1x micro USB 2.0	
	protocol	web sockets, HTML5	widely supported	widely supported	
	UI Software (3)	Windows	all browsers except IE	SDRUno, HDSDR, SDR-Console, SDR#	HDSDR, SDR-Console, SDR#
		Linux	all browsers	CubicSDR	GQRX (GNU Radio)
		Mac	all browsers	CubicSDR	GQRX (GNU Radio)
		iOS, Android	All browsers, but marginally useful. Mobile features are in development	apps exist	apps exist
other APIs		in development	ExtIO support	GNU Radio support	
use with other audio processing software? e.g. Fldigi, Multipsk (4)		yes	yes	yes	
Prices (US\$)	Extensions / plug-ins?	Yes. Currently built-in to the web interface: WSPR, FAX, time station decoder, Loran-C, IQ display, S-meter graph, signal integrator, antenna switch controller	SDR# has a set of plug-ins.	SDR# has a set of plug-ins.	
		\$299, \$199 board only KiwiSDR	\$169 RSP2, \$129 RSP1 SDRPlay RSP2	\$299 HackRF One	

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Notes		Version 1.1, June 2017, comments/corrections to support@kiwisdr.com
	(1)	SFDR depends on many factors. Consult the ADC data sheets for the full story. Fewer bits means less dynamic range, but not necessarily less sensitivity.
	(2)	There are pads for an (uninstalled) JST connector on the PCB.
	(3)	New software packages and interfaces are always being added.
	(4)	Usually via "virtual audio cable" (VAC) software.
	(5)	See: Synchronizing multiple HackRFs [RTL-SDR.com]
	(6)	32 MHz with degraded performance.
	(7)	On the KiwiSDR "panadapter" means the waterfall display.
Sources	KiwiSDR	http://www.kiwisdr.com https://github.com/jks-prv/Beagle_SDR_GPS
	SDRPlay	http://www.sdrplay.com/docs/RSP2_Datasheet.pdf http://www.sdrplay.com/downloads/
	HackRF One	https://greatscottgadgets.com/hackrf/ https://github.com/mossmann/hackrf/wiki
	Other	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_software-defined_radios http://www.rtl-sdr.com/review-airspy-vs-sdrplay-rsp-vs-hackrf/

