Fault Diagnosis and RF Detection



Alun Watkins Diamond RF Group



Current diagnostic tools

Data Archiver and EPICS Strip tool

- Good for slow (10 S/s) data and trends
- Also require much smaller time steps →



Multiple oscilloscopes

- Fast sample rates
- Crude sync via trigger
 IN/OUT





EBPM electronics

- Used to sample RF signals on MPS trigger
- Turn-by-turn sample rate (500 kHz) limits resolution



New data acquisition: main contenders

VME64X/EPICS

pros

- Easy integration with existing Diamond hardware and software
- Data archived

cons

- No high speed data acquisition cards currently in use at Diamond
- Suitable boards (e.g. CAEN 100 MS/s) need EPICS drivers
- High cost/channel





National Instruments PXI

pros

- Large range of cards available high speed DAQ & RF
- Good range of triggering and synchronisation functions (10 MHz ref)
- Flexible and expandable
- Widely used LabVIEW software

cons

- Not easily integrated into DLS control system: stand alone
- Unfamiliarity with PXI capabilities



Proposed system block diagram



diamond

RF signal detection

- **Diode Detectors** (initially)
 - Slow rise/fall times into 1 M Ω , low output level into 50 Ω
 - Simple and low cost, but only give amplitude information

Then, options are:

- Mix down to baseband
 - IQ demodulator, I and Q into separate channels. Noise and offsets
- Direct RF Sampling
 - Few off-the-shelf 500 MHz BW digitisers with multiple inputs
- Intermediate Frequency
 - Hardware will be built to down convert RF signals to 15 or possibly 20 MHz (1.5x or 2x 10 MHz reference)
- IQ sampling
 - Sample IF at x4 sample rate to give I, Q, -I, -Q
 - e.g.15 MHz sampled at 60 MS/s



Obtaining phase information

• Phase measurement has been accomplished in several ways:

- 1. Spectrum analyser (or 'scope) with vector analysis software high dynamic range but only single (or dual) channel
- 2. Mixers used as phase detectors amplitude sensitive and calibration required
- 3. 4-port VNA used to measure amplitude and phase slow sampling rate

Obtaining phase information

- Until the new DAQ system and RF down conversion is complete, how do we obtain phase information?
- Phase can be recovered from 'scope data in the following way:
 - Capture RF signals at suitable sample rates (2 GS/s)
 - Save sampled data to file with time information
 - Calculate complex LO signal for each time point
 - Multiply sampled data and LO signal, then low pass filter
 - Extracted and plot amplitude and phase



Numerical down conversion





Problems encountered

• Large files

- 16 MB/trace for 2 ms (.bin format helps)
- Can 'decimate' (remember Nyquist needs to be obeyed)
- Can we under sample to down convert RF?
 - $f_k(k) = f_{rf} k \times f_{samp}$
 - Requires sample rates not selectable on the scope (e.g. f_{samp}=70 MS/s, k=7)
- RF frequency determination
 - Adjust phase slope by eye, takes time
 - Requires period of constant frequency
- Oscilloscope noise and trigger jitter
 - Affects phase measurement most
 - e.g. 2° p-p, 0.24° rms (20 MHz BW) measuring MO signal
 - Maximise scope signal amplitude
 - Apply filtering and smoothing



Example results – conditioning pulse





Example results - cavity pickup 'blip'





Next steps

- Install NI PXI hardware
 - Located in new patch panel rack in RF Hall
- Labview software to be written by NI Alliance partner
 - Acquisition on selectable trigger
 - Data logging to file
 - Data display with search and zoom
- Labview training for RF staff
- Gain experience with the system
 - Hardware and software changes as required
- Diagnose faults!



Cavity 2 trip



