University of Hawaii Instrumentation Development Laboratory





IDL Oveview (last picture/lab party before the pandemic) 24-JAN-2023



1

A world-wide impact



ASICs as enabling tools to the Big Questions

- 1. CP violation (how get more matter than antimatter, but not too much)
- 2. Does CP violation also occur in leptons (and 3generation problem) ?
- 3. Origin of highest energy cosmic rays and their neutrino fingerprint?
- 4. What is the nature and origin of Dark Matter ?







Enabling technology: GigaSample/s, low power

Transient events, high channel density



A Very Challenging Design

A radio "feedhorn array" for the Antarctica Continent







- Quad-ridged horn antennas provide superb impulse response & bandwidth (200-1200 MHz)
- Interferometry & beam gradiometry from multiple overlapped antenna measurements

ANITA: LABRADOR3

• Flown all 4 ANITA flights. LAB4D developed for ANITA5





ARA: IceRadio Sampler

- Explore how deep (reasonably) can go with SCA architecture
- Force single-station trigger and coherently phase stations offline

 Sampling: 128 (2x
 64) separate transfer lanes

Recording in one set 64, transferring other ("ping-pong")

- Storage: 64 x 512 (32k per ch.)
 - Wilkinson ADC (64 at once)
- 64 conv/channel (512 in parallel)



Detection of ultrahigh-energy neutrinos in ARA



Looking back on >10 year development

• ASIC costing well understood, very competitive!

NIM A591 (2008) 534-345.





Deep Underground Neutrino Experiment



APT: ALPHA

• Lower power, higher density readout (ganging readout/FPGA)





Baseline design: 380,000 channels (needs to be low power – happy with TARGETC + T5TEA functionality)



- Triggering seems fine
- "hang" more digitizers from a single FPGA (data is sparse)
- No central front-end trigger

Discussion

- Gap between bleeding-edge technology nodes used in particle and astroparticle physics is increasing
- There are strong economic reasons for this
- One impact is that it is increasingly difficult to attract students that want to work in the hottest/newest technology nodes
- Beyond affording fabrication costs, in recent years mere access to these processes has been increasing difficult/impossible due to breakdown of the NDA process



Backup Slides



Further exploration directions?

- Limits of timing resolution (RF-Pix -> <1ps time resolution)
- Channel density
- Processing/feature extraction on chip (digital synthesis)
- Timing calibration





CTA: CT5TEA

• Low threshold, analog sum triggering (companion ASIC)



- Sum of 4 inputs achieves this
- Provides DC offset to TARGET sampler

ALPHA Readout Concept

Use existing Cherenkov Telescope Array trigger ASIC (tweaked to have an analog sum-of-16 trigger) and operate digitization of each ALPHA independently.

Maximize the number of ALPHA served by a single FPGA (power, I/O limits) In theory, 64 chains * 32 ALPHA * 16 channels ~ 2^15 channels/FPGA





GULFstream Overview (iTOP motivation)

- Much more compact, lower power
- No long storage depth digitize and ship all hits
- GULFstream Features
 - > 32 channels
 - 4x deep, 64 sample SCA
 - 4x Gbps data links (8ch/link)
 - 32 bit words (3 chan, coarse/fine time)
 - Hit streaming: 3.2 Mhits/s/chan
 - Each channel operates independently
 - ~100ns/6-bit conversion
 - Direct feature extraction
 - No pedestal acquisition
 - To user, looks like a TDC
 - Low power/channel (exact savings to be confirmed)





Operating *@* thermal redline

Projection of QE degradation



-30C SiPM operation

19

GULFstream Operating Principle

- For MCPs, charge distribution goes all the way to zero
- For SiPMs, quantized; Time to Digital Converter methodology makes sense
- SCA sampling at ~ 4GSa/s; trigger on stored samples; priority encoder time bin
- Target interpolation: 1ns risetime, 0.5V, 64 bit sampling



Overvoltage (V)

Laser on -- no trigger

BMS

10³

10²

10

χ² / nd

Constan

0.03772

234.8 / 13

MCP-PMT

Gain [x10^5]

632e+004 + 1 219e+003

-0.01024 ± 0.00044 0.1631 ± 0.0003

0.475

A summary of ASIC design @ UH

- High impact from a tiny group; physically the most isolated in the world
- Didn't mention all of the endeavors (such as Q-Pix, GRAPH, ...)
 (nor any CAP (MAPS) pixel activities)
- Students and Postdocs have made a huge impact
- The latter also realized the goal of commercializing the technology (Nalu Scientific)
- Opportunities: we expect to be recruiting for an Instrumentation Frontier faculty position soon

Belle II iTOP and KLM: IRSX, TARGETX

Leveraged decade of development for PID and Muon readout



- IRSX 8-channels, 32k samples/channel
 8k channels of MCP-PMT readout
 30kHz L1 trigger rate (5.2us L1 delay)
- TARGETX 16-channels, 16k samples/channel
 23k channels of Si-PMT readout
 \$1.40/channel