

New FPGA processing code for JET gamma-ray camera upgrade

A. Fernandes^{1**}, R.C. Pereira¹, B. Santos¹, J. Bielecki^{2,3}, G. Boltruczyk⁴, A. Broslawski⁴, P.F. Carvalho¹, J. Figueiredo^{1,3}, L. Giacomelli⁶, M. Gosk⁴, V. Kiptily³, S. Korolczuk⁴, R. Kwiatkowski⁴, A. Murari³, M. Nocente^{5,6}, D. Rigamonti^{5,6}, J. Sousa¹, M. Tardocchi⁶, A. Urban⁴, I. Zychor⁴, C.M.B.A. Correia⁷, B. Gonçalves¹ and JET Contributors^{*}

EUROfusion Consortium, JET, Culham Science Centre, Abingdon, OX14 3DB, UK

¹Instituto de Plasmas e Fusão Nuclear, Instituto Superior Técnico, Universidade de Lisboa, 1049-001 Lisboa, Portugal; ² Institute of Nuclear Physics Polish Academy of Sciences, PL-31342 Krakow, Poland; ³ Culham Centre for Fusion Energy, Culham, United Kingdom; ⁴ Narodowe Centrum Badań Jądrowych (NCBJ), 05-400 Otwock, Poland;

⁵ Dipartimento di Fisica "G. Occhialini", Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca, Milano, Italy; ⁶ Istituto di Fisica del Plasma "P. Caldirola", CNR, Milano, Italy;

⁷ LibPhys-UC, Department of Physics, University of Coimbra, P-3004 516 Coimbra, Portugal

* See the author list of "Overview of the JET results in support to ITER" by X. Litaudon et al. to be published in Nuclear Fusion Special issue: overview and summary reports from the 26th Fusion Energy Conference (Kyoto, Japan, 17-22 October 2016)

** Corresponding author: anaf@ipfn.tecnico.ulisboa.pt



INTRODUCTION

- The JET Gamma-ray Camera upgrade (GCU) project aims to replace the former CsI(TI) + PiN detectors by fast LaBr₃ scintillators coupled to a Multi-Pixel Photon Counter (MPPC).
- These fast scintillators were designed to cope with the high fluxes (> 500kHz) expected during Deuterium-tritium (DT) experiments, while improving the diagnostic spectroscopic capabilities (energy resolution of 5%@1.1MeV) [1,2].
- GCU will benefit from the ATCA based Data Acquisition (DAQ) system, successfully installed and commissioned during the JET-EP2 enhancement [3]. However, to cope with the new GCU detector signals, the DAQ FPGA codes need to be rebuilt.
- Dedicated codes were designed, capable to acquire the new signals at full rate, and simultaneously processing it in real-time through suitable algorithms, fitted to the new signal shape.

JET 2D GAMMA CAMERA



ATCA Shelf @ Diagnostic cubicle



REAL-TIME PROCESSING CODES

Three algorithms selected, considering its portability to FPGA [4]:

- *Pulse Height Analysis (PHA)*: height proportional to the energy of the event → *fast results*.
- Charge Integration (CI): area proportional to the energy of the event → highest dependence on count rate / pileup → not suitable for DT.



DTS parameters modified (DTS based) to avoid pileup - pulses from filtered signal (- - -) similar to Gaussians instead of pure trapezoids.



RESULTS

Both PHA and DTS based methods were successfully implemented and tested in GCU FPGAs.

PHA – tested during C36-B experimental campaign



- GCU DAQ includes 3 digitizer modules with:
- 8 **ADCs** (13 -bit @ 250MHz);
- 500 MB of DDR2 memory/ADC;
- 2 FPGAs for data path and data reduction (pulse storage) / real-time processing.

Table: Memory requested per channel for a single discharge

	Count Rate	Samples/event	Time @ max	Memory requested	
	(kevent/s)	(1 sample =2 Byte)	count rate (s)	/channel (MB)	
Pulse	500	64	10	680 🗙	<i>Real-time</i> processing
storage	500	128	10	1320 🗙	
Real-time	500	4	10	40 🗸	<i>mandatory</i> for
processing	1000	4	30	240 🗸	

CONCLUSIONS & FUTURE WORK



- Time trace (counts/time) of detector #10 ((fist prototype version) in horizontal camera during discharge #91975. Achieved from real-time processed data at FPGA.
- As expected, the gamma counts increase during NBI and ICRH windows.

DTS based - tested during installation of detectors (final version) in horizontal camera



- Similar spectra obtained for all 10 detectors in horizontal camera.
- Real-time spectra validated with results from post-processing methods, using pulse storage data acquired in similar conditions.
- *** It was achieved an energy resolution between 4.9% and 5.7% for ¹³⁷Cs 667 keV peak, depending
- Two algorithms, based on PHA and DTS methods, successfully implemented in GCU FPGAs and tested with new LaBr₃ based detectors.
- DTS based algorithm provides improved resolution for the new LaBr₃ signals, considered so far the most adequate method to process the GCU data at FPGA.
- PHA provides fast results, very useful during test phases.
- Further tests needed, with both horizontal and vertical camera in place, as well as during plasma operation.
- Benefiting from the reconfigurable feature of the DAQ FPGAs, algorithms can be improved (e.g. advanced pileup treatment for DT [6], instead of simple rejection/discrimination).

on the detector, which is in agreement with detectors specification report [5].

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