

Array Calibration Unit Status

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Timescale & Goals

05-06: 1. Demonstrate survivability of OF, 2. check timing resolution of Rx, 3. establish procedures for wet-hole deployment, 4. 1st steps in slow control software

06-07: Implementation of full system, incl. L0/L1/L2 trigger hardware in 3 full Rx "clusters"

07-10: Buy as many modules as we can afford, populate as many IceCube holes as possible. Substantial improvement in ice/environmental characterization (if not effective volume)

>2010: Full X-RICE





RICE-II 2005-2006 Wet-Hole Plan



2005-6 ACU Controller





Hoped to detect the triplet; now know it was much too weak.

Removed from rack last season.

In ICL, 1/2007





2006-2007:

ACU direct drive from DRM









Rep. rate: typically 40MHz with 50% duty cycle. The rep rate allowed high probability of untriggered capture.

Observed in local cluster

Waveform at TRACR Output





2007- Plan

- Wish-List Goals based on what we thought we might deliver that might be useful:
- Pulses
 - frequency content to a GHz to trigger all 4 bands.
 - Rep Rate MHz or more (for untriggered capture)
 - Pulse amplitude about 5V (originally); later, a higher amplitude requested.
- CW (sine wave) output from about 300 MHz to GHz
 - For calibration.
 - For clear observation in the FT





ACU Control Location

ACU comms and power must be on a single coax from the DRM.

Comms by modulating the +12V output.



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Controller (in PV) with CW

- Programmable pulse frequency, but original amplitude target was found inadequate.
- CW: a pair of VCOs covered most of 200-800 MHz range.
- Higher CW power would require too large of a power amp for the DRM.







Pulser circuit

- Avtec unit
- +15V, 200 ma
- 50 ohm output
- Small enough for pressure vessel.







Cutback in number of clusters but desire to keep the number of ACUs led to: Plan B (not implemented in 2007-08)



CDX Hardware



- 1U, half depth.
- Provides power and comms TO ACU. (No return comms.)
- Provides for control from the North via Telnet.
- Functionally ready for 2007-2008. [Deployed in 2009-2010, using 1 circuit.]





2009-2010 Goals

- Higher voltage required goal was 1000V.
- Double antenna output added.
- Limits:
 - RG-316 with SMA has 300V limit;
 - Penetrator? Unknown.
 - Limited time for development and testing
- Consequent pulse amplitude ~ 100V





2009-'10 Device Block Diagram



Controller, integration: KU; Pulser: UMd







2009-2010 Deployed Configuration

The Deep ACU uses the top breakout on the IceCube cable.

The pressure vessel: same as those used with DRMs in previous AURA deployments except for the penetrator configurations.

Two outputs to antennas; the antennas were taped to the cable on opposite sides using similar standoffs to those used in DRM deployments.

Field change made to place antennas at slightly different depths.





2010-2011 Plan Present status: Steve

- Delivery of power and commands to the pressure vessel by the CDX appears reliable.
- Control board appears reliable.
- One antenna failed after deployment; powerdraw measurements point to pulser board.
- PV with re-designed endcaps appears adequate.
- Deployment procedure has minimal impact.
- Seen by deep AURA clusters (shortest distance and best angle.)
- RG-316 (w/o connector) is spec'd at 1.6KV.
- Penetrator HV rating unknown.





Coax Penetrator







Active Deep ACU Options

- Pulser circuit options (all compatible with pressure vessel and ACU controller) – one or more could be deployed.
 - New UMd circuit. (Rob Bard)
 - FID pulser: 0.2-1kV or 1-5kV (programmable),
 FWHM=1.5-2ns, 100Hz rep rate. (\$15K)
 - Pulstek: 1.6kV, FWHM=3ns, 1MHz rep rate (£760)
- Higher voltage CW could be back in play (could require PV re-design.)
- More than 1.2kV requires penetrator design review.



