The European X-Ray Free Electron Laser And Its MicroTCA-Based Accelerator Control System

Status Report

Tim Wilksen, DESY 6th MicroTCA Workshop Hamburg, 06.12.2017



HELMHOLTZ RESEARCH FOR GRAND CHALLENGES

Overview

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- 2 The European XFEL Accelerator
- 3 The Accelerator Control System
- 4 Status And Experiences
- 5 Summary And Outlook

MicroTCA for Scientific Experiments and Photon Diagnostics at European XFEL *Patrick Gessler*

The European XFEL Accelerator

Aerial View and Beam Line Layout

The European XFEL

Aerial View Of The European XFEL



The European XFEL **Parameters: Accelerator And Photon Beamline Layout Repetition Rate 1 - 10 Hz** RF Pulse (flat top) 600 µs Bunches 27000/s Bunch Charge 0.02 – 1 nC electron tunnel electron kicker rf gun photon tunnel electron bend rf modules / linac MID undulator electron dump experiments HED SPB FXE SQS SCS **INJECTOR** LINEAR ACCELERATOR SASE1 SASE3 **EXPERIMENTS** SASE2 GUN 25 RF STATIONS w/ 96 RF CRYOGENIC MODULES SIX STATIONS IN 0.05 – 0.4 nm 0.4 – 4.7 nm + 1.3 + 3.9 GHz + COLLIMATION SECTION 0.05 – 0.4 nm **XHEXP** 10.5 / 14 / 17.5 GeV Module

The European XFEL

Accelerator Installation and Commissioning Dates

- First operation of RF-Gun started in December 2013
- First accelerated beam in injector in December 2015
- **2017** XTL main tunnel closed on January, 13th 2017
 - First beam at 2.5 GeV in accelerator dump on February, 25th 2017
 - First beam at 12 GeV in linear accelerator dump on April, 8th 2017 -
 - First beam to SASE1 dump on April, 27th 2017
 - First production of light on May, 2nd 2017
 - Photon light delivered to experiment hutches end of June 2017
 - Accelerator SASE1 beam line in production mode since September, 1st 2017



• User runs with two experiments SPB and FXE since September 2017

LLRF Commissioning

and First Operation of the European XFEL Julien Branlard

6 Weeks

12 Weeks

The Accelerator Control System

Implementation

The Accelerator Control System

Key Design Elements

Common	DOOCS as standard control system software for MicroTCA- based read-out and controls						
Framework	System Integration w/ Linux (Ubuntu 16.04 x86_46) as operating system standard and DOOCS for management						
Common Hardware	MicroTCA.4 PICMG Standard						
Platform	Common set of MicroTCA modules for all systems						

MicroTCA Common Module Set

Standard set of MicroTCA modules used in the European XFEL accelerator control system



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MicroTCA Modules Accelerator Control System

Common Module Set



MicroTCA Modules Accelerator Control System

Application Modules For Diagnostics And Control Tasks



Server Software on MicroTCA

Example Read-Out Chain w/ DOOCS Software And DAQ System



MicroTCA Server Read-Out

Example: Transmission Application Based On MicroTCA and DAQ Read-Out Chain



System Integration

Integration of MicroTCA Systems Into XFEL Control System And Management



Experiences

First User Runs

Status

Some Numbers Of The Accelerator Control System

- More than 9 million addressable DOOCS control system parameters visible in accelerator namespace
- About 600.000 local DOOCS archives plus TINE central archive
- More than 13.000 DOOCS channels from MicroTCA front-ends are sent to the DAQ producing data of up to 30 TB/day
- About 30 different kinds of MicroTCAbased software applications are in use
- Redundant server infrastructure for essential services

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- About 230 MicroTCA systems online as of November 2017
- More than 3000 MicroTCA modules (just AMC, RTM, P/S, MCH) installed at the XFEL accelerator control system
- Timing System: > 300 modules
- ADC AMC kinds: > 400 modules
- DAMC2 variants: > 500 modules

Experiences

Some Experiences With MicroTCA Components In The Accelerator Control System

- **FLASH accelerator** has been proven to be extremely useful as a testbed for deploying MicroTCA technology and testing software "in the field"
- **Virtual XFEL** instance helped implementing new software concepts and testing it
- Teething trouble with MicroTCA components and system integration mostly solved by now
- Various smaller issues likely related to operations e.g. radiation-induced failures (SSD, some electronics)
- **Remote management** of crates and modules through IPMI and **hot-swap capability** paid off well during commissioning stages already
- MicroTCA systems combine several accelerator subsystems – maintenance challenge at this scale
- Teststands (Lab, XFEL setup area) are indispensable even more so after installation and commissioning phase is done



Virtual XFEL System As Testbed



Summary

Conclusions And Outlook

Summary

The European XFEL accelerator is operating in production mode serving photon science users

The control system for the European XFEL linear accelerator has been operable from day one!

Standardization of hardware and software simplified implementation and deployment

Fast and successful commissioning of the accelerator control system

MicroTCA.4 hardware platform well established at the European XFEL





- Start parallel operations with multiple electron and photon beam lines in 2018 – will profit from FLASH experience
- Regular scheduled user runs for photon science experiments
- Long-term experience ...

Thanks for your attention!





Many Visits By TV Crews