

The MicroTCA.4 based LLRF system for CW operation at ELBE

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ELBE – Center for high power radiation sources

e⁻ flow since almost 20 years



Characteristic:

- Multi-source facility
- Pulsed and CW mode operation

Example beam parameter:

- \blacksquare Beam energy: $8\,{\rm MeV}$ to $40\,{\rm MeV}$
- Max. average beam current:





Accelerator



Cavity powering at ELBE

Individual SSPAs allow single cavity control in cw mode!



LLRF controller



- Per cavity/buncher: forward, reflected, cavity pickup, reference are sampled
- Control loop is based on vector sum signal \equiv probe signal
- Remote control and DAQ via ChimeraTK LLRF server (developed at DESY)



Components of the digital LLRF at ELBE

Hardware:





Rear Transition Module (RTM)



Advanced Mezzanine Card (AMC)

- Master oscillator: 1.3 GHz (REF), 260 MHz (REF), 78 MHz (CLK)
- UniLOGM: 8×LO (1.3 GHz+54¹/₆ MHz), 8×CLK (65 MHz), 8×REF (1.3 GHz))

Software:

- Firmware for struck boards ⇒ LLRF controller (adapted for cw operation in collaboration with DESY)
- Control software for the LLRF ⇒ ChimeraTK (together with DESY)
- Adapter for ChimeraTK that is compatible with WinCC ⇒ OPC-UA Adapter (TU Dresden and IOSB Karlsruhe)

Integration into ELBE infrastructure



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User operation



Overview:

- Since August 2020 all ELBE beam paths/experiments are operated using the dLLRF
- Switching to the old aLLRF system is possible at any time

Performance:

- Phase stability of about 0.01° RMS (23 fs) (additive noise)
- Amplitude stability of 0.004% RMS (additive noise)
- Long term beam energy variations of 0.05 % peak-peak (caused by temperature variations)

Future features

- **1** Measure the cavity detuning and bandwidth in CW mode
 - Andrea Bellandi (DESY) implemented a dedicated algorithm in the LLRF firmware
 - Algorithm was successfully tested at ELBE
- 2 Advanced Beam Based Feedback
 - Control the beam arrival time measured with a beam arrival monitor
 - Feedback via the LLRF controller
- Improve long term stability
 - Improve temperature stability
 - Possibly use second tone based drift compensation
- Improve ramp up procedure
 - Use firmware table rather than changing the set point in software
 - Possibly compensate detuning during ramp up via phase rotation $A\sin(\omega t) \rightarrow A\sin(\omega t + \phi(t))$



Summary

Digital LLRF at ELBE:

- In user operation since August without major problems
- First CW machine using the MicroTCA based digital LLRF system in user operation
- Huge improvement in terms of system flexible compared to the previous analogue system
- Performance of the dLLRF is good and meets requirements of future cw machines like MESA and TARLA

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