Flexible Multi-Channel Phase-Coherent RF Source

**FlexDDS-NG DUAL**
- Two independent output channels for up to 400 MHz (1 GS/s sampling rate)
- Excellent signal quality
- Dual-channel operation with precisely known and adjustable phase relationship between channels
- Real-time control of all signal parameters
- Dual analog inputs for analog modulation with digitally controlled gain and intercept
- Phase-continuous frequency, phase and amplitude tuning
- Per-channel high speed command processor with 8 ns timing resolution
- External 10 MHz input

**FlexDDS-NG Rack**
- Up to 6 slots, each one can be fitted with a dual channel RF generator (functionally equivalent to the FlexDDS-NG DUAL above)
- Up to 12 channels in total, all synchronized with precisely known and adjustable phase relationship between channels
- GBit Ethernet interface with high speed data streaming capability (> 30 MBytes/s)
- GBit Ethernet: Connect anywhere in the lab, no USB cables, no special OS drivers
- Global trigger inputs that affect all slots simultaneously

**General Description**

FlexDDS-NG is a multi-channel phase-coherent RF source. The design deliberately targets the needs of experimental physicists who want to control all signal parameters in real-time from a computer. Initially, a series of actions (like changes in amplitude or frequency, start of frequency sweeps,. . . ) is compiled into commands which are then transferred to the FlexDDS-NG. Each time a (real-time asynchronous) trigger input is activated, FlexDDS-Rack executes one or several commands and waits for the next trigger event. There is no limit on the number of successive commands as they can be streamed continuously from the host computer.

One outstanding feature of FlexDDS is its defined and known phase relationship between channels. For example, two channels can easily be set up to produce an RF output at the same frequency and with
equal phase. Slightly detuning the frequency of one channel will then linearly increase the phase difference between the two channels.
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Chapter 1

Basic Operation of the Dual Channel AD9910 RF Generator

This description applies to both the FlexDDS-NG DUAL as well as each individual dual channel AD9910 RF generator slot of a FlexDDS-NG Rack.

The dual channel AD9910 RF generator employs 2 independent phase coherent RF synthesizers attached to a single FPGA. The actual RF signal synthesis is performed via 2 Analog Devices AD9910 DDS synthesizer chips clocked at 1 GHz.

![Image of FlexDDS-NG DUAL and dual-channel AD9910 RF generator slots]

Figure 1.1: The FlexDDS-NG DUAL (left) and the dual-channel AD9910 RF generator slots (right) of the FlexDDS-NG Rack are functionally equivalent.

Inside the FPGA, each RF channel has one DDS command processor (DCP). The DCP is responsible for controlling the AD9910 DDS synthesizer as well as performing time delays, waiting for events, triggers and generating digital outputs.

DCP instructions can be queued from the USB serial interface via the dcp command. Typically, a small “program” made of DCP instructions for each RF output channel is downloaded to the FlexDDS-NG and then executed in real time. The program can synchronize the FlexDDS-NG waveform generation with the outside world via events and triggers.
Figure 1.2: FlexDDS-NG overview schematic: Dual-channel AD9910 RF generator.
Chapter 2

The USB Serial Interface

The FlexDDS-NG DUAL as well as each slot of a FlexDDS-NG Rack have a USB interface. For the FlexDDS-NG DUAL, this is the only way of controlling the waveform generator. For the FlexDDS-NG Rack, it is usually not used and commands are issued via the GBit Ethernet interface (see chapter 6 on page 38). Yet, you can mix Ethernet and USB with the Rack version if you like.

Once connected to a computer, it appears as a virtual COM port (VCP; COMx in Windows, /dev/ttyACMx in Linux). No drivers are required on Linux. Windows users may need to install the STM32 VCP drivers.

2.1 Connecting to the USB Serial Interface

Windows users can use the Putty program to connect to the virtual COM port. You need to select “Serial” and enter the correct COM port as shown in Figure 2.1 (page 8). No further settings are required, the baud rate and flow control are irrelevant and can be set to anything. A sample session is shown in Figure 2.2 (page 8).

Linux users can use the program minicom. You need to open a terminal (e.g. xterm), make the window sufficiently large and start minicom via:

```
minicom -w -c on -D /dev/ttyACMx
```

Again, baud rate and other serial settings are irrelevant and can be set to anything.

Note: When resetting the FlexDDS-NG, it will close and re-open the virtual COM port. Windows users then need to re-start Putty and re-connect. Linux users can just wait for minicom to re-connect automatically. In some cases, a different /dev/ttyACMx will be assigned and minicom will not re-connect. A simple way out is by generating an UDEV rule:

Create a file /etc/udev/rules.d/60_flexdds_acm.rules with the following content (all in one line, you need root permissions to do this):

```
ATTRS{idVendor}=="0483", ATTRS{idProduct}=="7270", 
ATTRS{serial}=="00240043:51123533:35313135", SYMLINK+="ttyFlexDDS"
```

The serial number has to be replaced with the actual one (will be displayed in dmesg after connecting the FlexDDS-NG via USB). Then call (as root):

```
udevadm control -reload
```

and re-plug the USB to the FlexDDS-NG. The FlexDDS-NG will now consistently show up as /dev/ttyFlexDDS.
2.1 Connecting to the USB Serial Interface

Figure 2.1: Putty connect dialog.

Figure 2.2: Example session in Putty.
2.2 USB Command Line Commands

The FlexDDS-NG accepts text commands. The most important ones are dcp and dds. Just typing the command name (without any arguments) will print out a short usage description.

```
interactive [on|off]
```

Switch interactive mode on or off.

**Note:** The FlexDDS-NG boots in *interactive mode*. This mode is intended for terminal sessions at the COM port interface. It displays verbose messages and echoes back all typed characters. For remote control software (e.g. via LabView VIs), it is recommended to switch the USB console into non-interactive mode using the command `interactive off`. In non-interactive mode, input is not echoed back and only error messages and query responses are transmitted back.

```
dcp ...
```

The main command to control the DDS command processor. See chapter 3.

```
dds ...
```

Perform certain actions on the AD9910 DDS chip.

```
help
```

Print short list of commands.

```
reset
```

Hard reset the device and perform a reboot. It is not recommended to do this frequently, especially on Windows operating systems, because it will disconnect and reconnect the USB port.

```
poweroff
```

Switch the power off. Same as pressing the power switch on the frontpanel while running.

```
version
```

Print version information.

```
freq2ftw [FREQ]
```

Convert the frequency `FREQ` in Hz in a frequency tuning word (FTW). Will print both the normal as well as the mirror frequency. Result is given in decimal and in hex.

```
set [NAME=VALUE]...
```

Set certain variables which control some behavior. Just typing `set` lists all variables and their current values.
Chapter 3

The DDS Command Processor (DCP)

The FlexDDS-NG contains one DDS Command Processor (DCP) per output channel.

The DCP is implemented in the FPGA and is responsible for controlling the AD9910 DDS synthesizer as well as performing time delays, waiting for events, triggers and generating digital outputs.

The DCP executes DCP instructions at a rate of (currently) 62.5 MHz (1 GHz/16) with deterministic timing for precise real-time control. Each DCP has a FIFO buffer holding 2048 instructions.

3.1 DCP Instruction Description

DCP instructions are 48 bits wide. The following table summarizes the instruction format. Bits denoted with '.' are “don’t care” bits and should be set to 0 to ensure future compatibility. The first 4 bits encode the main instruction selector.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>47 ... 40 39 ... 32 31 ... 16 15 ... 0</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0000 . .......... . .......... . .......... . ........</td>
<td>NOP</td>
<td>No-op (does nothing)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0001 00W0 FE0AAAAA DDDDDDDD DDDDDDDD dddddddd dddddddd</td>
<td>SPI_WRITE</td>
<td>SPI write to AD9910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0001 00W1 DDDDDDDD DDDDDDDD DDDDDDDD DDDDDDDD ........</td>
<td>SPI_WRITE</td>
<td>SPI long write to AD9910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0010 AAAA AAAAAAAA Dddddddd dddddddd dddddddd dddddddd</td>
<td>REG_WRITE</td>
<td>Write to DCP register</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0011 0URH xXXARRRR RRSSSSSS TTTTTTTT TTTTTTTT TTTTTTTT</td>
<td>WAIT</td>
<td>Wait for event or timeout</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0100 0000 ........ ........ ........ ........ ........</td>
<td>UPDATE</td>
<td>Update</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The bit format is described here for completeness and to enable the user to implement his own DCP instruction compiler. It is, however, not necessary to understand the raw instruction format when using the dcp command on the USB command line interface as described below.

NOP: Instructions starting with 4 zero bits are no-operation instructions. They consume one instruction cycle of execution time and can be used for nanosecond delay purposes. The wait instruction should be used for longer delays.

SPI_WRITE: Queue a write to the AD9910 DDS chip via the SPI interface. The AAAAA bits specify the 5 bit register address in the AD9910. For a 16 bit register, the data is encoded in the following 16 DDD... bits. For a 32 bit register, the data is encoded in the 32 bits DDD...ddddd... If the W bit is set, the instruction waits until the SPI FIFO is empty and all SPI writes have been carried out. The bits F and E are completion event bits associated with the SPI completion event 1 and 0. If set, the respective event is generated at the time when the register write has been completed.

In order to write a 64 bit register in the AD9910, two successive SPI_WRITE instructions have to be carried...
\textbf{3. The DDS Command Processor (DCP)}

out: The first one must have bit 40 set to 1 ("long write") and latches the 32 less significant register value bits (DDD...). The second SPI\textunderscore WRITE must have the bit 40 cleared and contains the most significant 32 bits and the register address as for a 32 bit write.

\textbf{REG\_WRITE}: Write to FPGA-internal DCP register. AAA... is the 12 bit register address. DDddd... encodes the register content which can be up to 32 bits large. Certain registers not only allow to overwrite the old content but also allow to set bits, clear bits or toggle bits. For these registers, the data can be up to 30 bits (ddd...) and the first 2 data bits, denoted DD, describe the access mode: 11 for toggle, 10 for clear and 01 to set bits.

\textbf{WAIT}: Instruction to wait a certain time or for up to 2 events. The 2 events are encoded as 6 bit values RRRRRR and SSSSSS. If the A bit is set ("and"), both events must be present simultaneously to finish the wait, otherwise one of them is sufficient. The timeout is a 24 bit value TTT... The bits RH specify the timeout mode: If 00, no timeout (infinite wait, irrespective of the TTT... bits), if 11, high resolution mode (8 ns per tick), if 10, normal mode (1.024 µs per tick), if 11, extended mode (FIXME: Details to come). The xxx bits are not used at the moment and must be set to 0.

\textbf{UPDATE}: Simultaneously modify the state of several pins. All the bits only perform an action when non-zero. The U bit pulses the IO\_UPDATE pin to the AD9910. The 00, RR, HH bits modify the OSK, DRCTL and DRHOLD pins into the AD9910. The meaning of the bit pair is as follows: 11 to set HIGH, 10 to set LOW, 01 toggle (and 00 to not change the pin). The PPPP bits modify the three PROFILE pins. If set to 1xyz, PROFILE2 is set to x, PROFILE1 is set to y and PROFILE0 is set to z. If specified as 0011 or 0010, the profile value is incremented or decremented, respectively. Increment/decrement roll over from 7 to 0 and 0 to 7. The CCBBAA pins modify the BNC C, B, and A output from the DCP.

\section{3.2 DCP Command Line Interface}

The command \texttt{dcp} on the USB command line interface (virtual COM port) controls the DCP. There are several sub-commands described below. Simply entering \texttt{dcp} will print out a short usage text.
3.2 DCP Command Line Interface

\texttt{dcp [CHAN] #INST[!]}\hfill

\textbf{Enters a raw 48-bit DCP instruction.} This is intended for higher level software which compiles the desired actions into DCP instructions.

\textit{CHAN} is the DDS channel (0 or 1, both if omitted) and \textit{INST} is the 48 bit instruction in hex notation.

For example:

\begin{center}
\begin{tabular}{ll}
\texttt{dcp 0 #0} & channel 0, no operation, just wait one instruction cycle \\
\texttt{dcp 1 #100712345678} & write 0x12345678 into FTW register of channel 1’s AD9910 \\
\texttt{dcp #400000000001!} & perform IO\_UPDATE on both AD9910, flush \\
\end{tabular}
\end{center}

Instructions are queued locally on the microcontroller and are not immediately accessible by the DCP. To have them transmitted to the DCP, you need to add the exclamation mark \texttt{!} at the end in order to flush the local queue to the DCP FIFO (and no space before it!). It is inefficient to flush each individual instruction, hence when queuing several instructions, it is recommended to flush only on the last one. Flushing occurs automatically when the internal FIFO fills up. Instead of using the exclamation mark \texttt{!} you can use the command \texttt{dcp flush}.

Instead of entering raw DCP instructions, the most important operations are also available as more convenient commands:
### Table 3.2: AD9910 register names and addresses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Symbol</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Access</th>
<th>Reset Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0x00</td>
<td>CFR1</td>
<td>Control Function Register 1</td>
<td>restricted</td>
<td>0x0410002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x01</td>
<td>CFR2</td>
<td>Control Function Register 2</td>
<td>restricted</td>
<td>0x040008C0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x02</td>
<td>CFR3</td>
<td>Control Function Register 3</td>
<td>denied</td>
<td>...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x03</td>
<td>ADAC</td>
<td>Auxiliary DAC Control</td>
<td>full</td>
<td>0x0000007F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x04</td>
<td>IOUR</td>
<td>I/O Update Rate</td>
<td>full</td>
<td>0xFFFFFFFFF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x07</td>
<td>FTW</td>
<td>Frequency Tuning Word</td>
<td>full</td>
<td>0x0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x08</td>
<td>POW</td>
<td>Phase Offset Word</td>
<td>full</td>
<td>0x0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x09</td>
<td>ASF</td>
<td>Amplitude Scale Factor</td>
<td>full</td>
<td>0x0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x0A</td>
<td>MCS</td>
<td>Multichip Sync</td>
<td>denied</td>
<td>...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x0B</td>
<td>DRL</td>
<td>Digital Ramp Limit</td>
<td>full</td>
<td>0x0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x0C</td>
<td>DSS</td>
<td>Digital Ramp Step Size</td>
<td>full</td>
<td>0x0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x0D</td>
<td>DRR</td>
<td>Digital Ramp Rate</td>
<td>full</td>
<td>0x0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x0E</td>
<td>STP0</td>
<td>Single Tone Profile 0</td>
<td>full</td>
<td>0x0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x0F</td>
<td>STP1</td>
<td>Single Tone Profile 1</td>
<td>full</td>
<td>0x0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x10</td>
<td>STP2</td>
<td>Single Tone Profile 2</td>
<td>full</td>
<td>0x0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x11</td>
<td>STP3</td>
<td>Single Tone Profile 3</td>
<td>full</td>
<td>0x0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x12</td>
<td>STP4</td>
<td>Single Tone Profile 4</td>
<td>full</td>
<td>0x0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x13</td>
<td>STP5</td>
<td>Single Tone Profile 5</td>
<td>full</td>
<td>0x0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x14</td>
<td>STP6</td>
<td>Single Tone Profile 6</td>
<td>full</td>
<td>0x0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x15</td>
<td>STP7</td>
<td>Single Tone Profile 7</td>
<td>full</td>
<td>0x0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x16</td>
<td>RAMB</td>
<td>RAM Begin (no data)</td>
<td>full</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x17</td>
<td>RAM32E</td>
<td>RAM 1 Word, End</td>
<td>full</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x18</td>
<td>RAM64C</td>
<td>RAM 2 Words, Continue</td>
<td>full</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x19</td>
<td>RAM64E</td>
<td>RAM 2 Words, End</td>
<td>full</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3.2: AD9910 register names and addresses. Note that the 4 RAM registers are needed to split the RAM access and only the first of these is physically present in the AD9910, the others are pseudo-registers used inside the software. The last column lists the initial values after a **dds reset** command.

**dcp [CHAN] spi:REG=VAL[:c|w][!]**

**Write to a register in the AD9910 chip.** (Electronically, this is sent over the 4-wire SPI interface at a rate of 62.5 MBaud, hence the name.)

*REG* denotes the AD9910 register and can be specified either as symbolic name or as register address (0 to 0x16), see Table 3.2 on page 13. Register names are case-insensitive.

*VAL* is the value to be written into the register. Depending on the register type, this is a 16, 32 or 64 bit value. It can be specified in hex with 0x prefix or in decimal or in binary with a 0b prefix.

The register write is put into a dedicated 256-entry SPI FIFO and transferred to the AD9910 from that FIFO. By default, the DCP waits until the register write has been performed and the FIFO is empty before continuing with the next instruction. This can be explicitly stated with the :w ("wait") suffix (without space) but is also the default if no suffix is specified.

In some cases it is desirable to have the DCP continue executing instructions while the SPI transfer from the SPI FIFO is performed in the background. This can be achieved by adding the :c ("continue") suffix (without space). This way, up to 256 register writes can be queued in the SPI FIFO and other re-configuration tasks (e.g. configuring BNC inputs) can be performed by DCP instructions while the
SPI writes are carried out in the background. A \texttt{wait} instruction or an \texttt{spi} instruction with :\texttt{c} suffix has to be performed before attempting an \texttt{IO\_UPDATE} (update) to ensure that the registers have been completely written.

The SPI FIFO can hold up to 256 register writes of any size. With the :\texttt{c} suffix, the DCP executes instructions much faster than a SPI register write into the AD9910 (up to 70 times).

\textbf{Note:} Not all bits and not all registers are writable, see the access column in Table 3.2. This is necessary to ensure proper operation of the RF generator. Registers CFR3 and MCS cannot be written to from the DCP. From the registers CFR1 and CFR2, certain bits cannot be written:

- CFR1 bits 7 to 0 are forced to binary 00000010 (all power-up and correct endianness).
- CFR2 bits 23–22, 11–9 and bit 5 cannot be modified.

Examples:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>\texttt{dcp 0 spi:FTW=0x12345678}</td>
<td>write 0x12345678 into FTW register of channel 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\texttt{dcp 0 spi:7=0x12345678}</td>
<td>same, register as decimal numeric</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\texttt{dcp 0 spi:0x7=305419896}</td>
<td>same, register as hex, value in decimal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\texttt{dcp 1 spi:cfr2=0x01000080}</td>
<td>set CFR2 to enable single tone profile ASF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\texttt{dcp 1 spi:stp0=0x17ff00002147ae14}</td>
<td>set STP0 of channel 1 to amplitude 0x17ff=6143 (\ldots) and frequency 0x2147ae14 = 130 MHz</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\textbf{Writing to the SRAM in the AD9910.} A special procedure must be followed when writing to the 1024 word SRAM in the AD9910:

- First, a write to the \texttt{RAMB} register must be performed (without data). \texttt{RAMB} stands for “RAM Begin”. This instructs the DCP to begin streaming data to the SRAM in the AD9910. When entering the command, a dummy register value of 0 must be supplied which is not stored in SRAM.
- The actual data is stored in the SRAM by writing to pseudo-registers \texttt{RAM32E}, \texttt{RAM64C} and \texttt{RAM64E}. As long as at least 2 words of data remain to be written, \texttt{RAM64C} must be used (\texttt{C} for “continue”). The 32 bit word in the more significant half of the data is written first, so a DCP SPI write value of 0x11111111122222222 first stores 0x11111111 in SRAM and then 0x22222222.
- The last 1 or 2 words must be stored using a write to \texttt{RAM32E} or \texttt{RAM64E}, respectively (\texttt{E} for “end”). This instructs the DCP to end streaming data to the SRAM in the AD9910.
- No other registers may be accessed between \texttt{RAMB} and \texttt{RAM\_E}.

Example for storing 6 bytes in SRAM: Please not the AD9910 datasheet how to set up the profile registers before accessing the SRAM.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>\texttt{dcp 0 spi:RAMB=0:c}</td>
<td>begin writing to the SRAM; dummy value 0 not stored</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\texttt{dcp 0 spi:RAM64C=0x00000000_0009de7d:c}</td>
<td>write 2 words, 0 and then 0x9de7d, continue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\texttt{dcp 0 spi:RAM64C=0x00277872_0058c94b:c}</td>
<td>write 2 more words, continue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\texttt{dcp 0 spi:RAM64E=0x009dc970_00f66e3c}</td>
<td>write the last 2 words, end writing to SRAM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Using the underscore ‘_’ in figures can be used to improve legibility; the underscores have no meaning and are ignored by FlexDDS-NG.

Example for storing 1 word in SRAM:

\[ \text{continued} \ldots \]
3. The DDS Command Processor (DCP) 3.2 DCP Command Line Interface

Example for storing 3 words in SRAM:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>dcp 0 spi:RAMB=0:c</code></td>
<td>begin writing to the SRAM; dummy value 0 not stored</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>dcp 0 spi:RAM324E=0x009dc970</code></td>
<td>write the word and end writing to SRAM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: In this example, the :c suffix is used in the DCP commands to slightly improve write speed (and also allows to free up the DCP for other operations). The :c suffix can also be left away. It is however important to be sure that the SPI queue is flushed before performing an update, so it is highly recommended to not use :c for the last command. This makes the DCP wait for the transfer of all the SPI commands into the AD9910.
### 3.2 DCP Command Line Interface

#### 3. The DDS Command Processor (DCP)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Addr Hex</th>
<th>Symbolic Name</th>
<th>Register Description</th>
<th>Access Mode</th>
<th>Chan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0x080</td>
<td>CFG_BNC_A</td>
<td>Configure BNC A IO on frontpanel</td>
<td>+=¬¬</td>
<td>0 only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x081</td>
<td>CFG_BNC_B</td>
<td>Configure BNC B IO on frontpanel</td>
<td>+=¬¬</td>
<td>0 only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x082</td>
<td>CFG_BNC_C</td>
<td>Configure BNC C IO on frontpanel</td>
<td>+=¬¬</td>
<td>0 only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x100</td>
<td>AM_S0</td>
<td>Analog Modulation, Scale Factor 0</td>
<td>=</td>
<td>PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x101</td>
<td>AM_S1</td>
<td>Analog Modulation, Scale Factor 1</td>
<td>=</td>
<td>PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x102</td>
<td>AM_0</td>
<td>Analog Modulation, Offset</td>
<td>=</td>
<td>PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x103</td>
<td>AM_D0</td>
<td>Analog Modulation, Offset Input Channel 0</td>
<td>=</td>
<td>PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x104</td>
<td>AM_D1</td>
<td>Analog Modulation, Offset Input Channel 1</td>
<td>=</td>
<td>PC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0x105</td>
<td>AM_CFG</td>
<td>Analog Modulation Configuration</td>
<td>=</td>
<td>PC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3.7: DCP registers inside the FPGA. Only DCP channel 0 can configure shared hardware (such as configuring the BNC outputs). For a detailed register description, see page 26. The access column describes register access modes: '=' for write, '+' , '-' , ‘¬¬’ to set, clear, toggle bits. ‘PC’ means one dedicated register per DCP channel.

```bash
dcp [CHAN] wr: REG=[+¬¬] VAL=[t]
```

**Write to a DCP register inside the FPGA.**

*REG* denotes the DCP register address and can be specified either as symbolic name or as register address, see Table 3.7 on page 16. Symbolic names are case-insensitive. A detailed register description is given in a separate chapter on page 26.

*VAL* is the value to be written into the register. Depending on the register type, this value can have up to 32 bits. It can be specified in hex with 0x prefix or in decimal.

Note: There is one DCP per RF output channel. Each DCP has full write access to its own set of registers and no access to those of the other channel. Registers configuring shared hardware (such as the BNC output configuration) are only accessible from the DCP at channel 0.

A DCP register write takes just a single DCP instruction cycle. Hence, there is no need to wait for a register write to complete.
### 3. The DDS Command Processor (DCP) 3.2 DCP Command Line Interface

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Num</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>NONE</td>
<td>No event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>ALL_SPI_FIFOS_FLUSHED</td>
<td>SPI FIFO into AD9910 empty on both channels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>BNC_IN_A_RISING</td>
<td>Rising edge seen on BNC input A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>BNC_IN_A_FALLING</td>
<td>Falling edge seen on BNC input A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>BNC_IN_A_LEVEL</td>
<td>Level (low/high) seen on BNC input A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6,7,8</td>
<td>BNC_IN_B_...</td>
<td>Same as 3,4,5 (rising, falling, level) for BNC B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9,10,11</td>
<td>BNC_IN_C_...</td>
<td>Same as 3,4,5 (rising, falling, level) for BNC C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>BP_TRIG_A</td>
<td>Backplane trigger A (available only in rack version)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>BP_TRIG_B</td>
<td>Backplane trigger B (available only in rack version)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following refers to the same channel (numbers in brackets to the other channel):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Num</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>32 (48)</td>
<td>(O_)SPI_FIFO_FLUSHED</td>
<td>SPI FIFO into AD9910 empty; all SPI writes finished</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33 (49)</td>
<td>(O_)SPI_FIFO_EV0</td>
<td>SPI FIFO write event 0 [not yet documented]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34 (50)</td>
<td>(O_)SPI_FIFO_EV1</td>
<td>SPI FIFO write event 1 [not yet documented]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 (51)</td>
<td>(O_)DROVER</td>
<td>AD9910 ramp complete (DROVER pin)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36 (52)</td>
<td>(O_)RAM_SWP_OVR</td>
<td>AD9910 RAM sweep over (RAM_SWP_OVR pin)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3.8: DCP events. The top half shows global event numbers. The bottom half are per-channel event numbers. For per-channel events, the event numbers in brackets refer to events from the other channel while those not in brackets refer to the same channel. Names for the other channel must be prefixed with O_.

```plaintext
dcp [CHAN] wait:[TIME[|h|]]|[EV0|&|EV1]][:u]|[]
```

Wait for a specified amount of time and/or up to 2 events.

**TIME** is the wait timeout in units of 1.024µs. Valid range is 0 to $2^{24} - 1 = 16777215$, giving up to ≈ 16 seconds with about 1 µs resolution. With suffix **h**, the delay timer is in high-resolution mode and the time unit is 8 ns. The valid range 0 to $2^{24} - 1$ then results in up to 134 ms delay with a resolution of 8 ns. If **TIME** is omitted, the timeout is infinite and only events will terminate the wait.

**EV0** and **EV1** are up to 2 events to wait for. They can be specified numerically or with their symbolic name (e.g. **BNC_IN_A_RISING**). See Table 3.8 (page 17) for a list of events. If no event is given, only the timeout is active. If one event is given, the wait is terminated as soon as the event occurs. If two events are given, they are separated by either & or ,. If separated by & both events have to occur simultaneously to terminate the wait. Otherwise, any of the events terminates the wait.

If the :u flag is set at the end, then an IO_UPDATE of the AD9910 will be generated when the wait instruction is over. This is particularly useful for triggering an update from an external BNC input.

Examples:

```plaintext
dcp 0 wait:1000:          wait for about 1024 us (on channel 0)
dcp 0 wait:1000h:          wait for about 8000 ns
```
### 3.2 DCP Command Line Interface

**DCP Command Line Interface**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>dcp [CHAN] update:[+-^]SPEC[!]</td>
<td>Command to update basic settings and pins.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SPEC** specifies what to update or change. Multiple settings can be concatenated and will all be carried out simultaneously. The prefix symbol specifies whether to set/increment (+), or to clear/decrement (-) or to toggle (^).

- **u**  
  - Pulse the IO_UPDATE pin to the AD9910 which makes most of the register writes come into effect.

- **+**  
  - Set the OSK pin of the AD9910 (drive HIGH).

- **-**  
  - Clear the OSK pin of the AD9910 (drive LOW).

- **^**  
  - Toggle the OSK pin of the AD9910.

- **+/^-d**  
  - Set/clear/toggle the DRCTL pin of the AD9910.

- **+/^-h**  
  - Set/clear/toggle the DRHOLD pin of the AD9910.

- **+p**  
  - Increment the value at the PROFILE2:0 pins of the AD9910.

- **-p**  
  - Increment the value at the PROFILE2:0 pins of the AD9910.

- **=Np**  
  - Set the value at the PROFILE2:0 pins of the N (0...7).

- **+/^-a**  
  - Set/clear/toggle the BNC A pin of the DCP channel. (*)

- **+/^-b**  
  - Set/clear/toggle the BNC B pin of the DCP channel. (*)

- **+/^-c**  
  - Set/clear/toggle the BNC C pin of the DCP channel. (*)

(*) Note: Each channel has a BNC A,B,C output. However, the physical BNC plug will only output that signal when first configured as output and when the appropriate signal is selected in the BNC output mux. See chapter 4, registers **CFG_BNC_A**, etc.

**Examples:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>dcp 0 update:u!</td>
<td>update the AD9910 on channel 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dcp 0 update:+o-dh!</td>
<td>set the OSK pin HIGH and clear the DRHOLD and DRCTL pins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dcp 0 update:^o=3p</td>
<td>toggle OSK and select profile 3 (no flush)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. The DDS Command Processor (DCP)  

3.2 DCP Command Line Interface

**dcp status**

Print current status information related to the DCPs.

The output looks similar to the following:

```
DCP : INST  DCP_FIFO  SPI_FIFO  LOCAL
      :  4096     256      128
DCP[0]: wait  324  ---x  0   E--x  0
DCP[1]: idle   0   E--x  0   E--x  0
```

This means that there are 324 instructions in the instruction FIFO of the DCP on channel 0 and none in channel 1. The SPI and local FIFOs are empty in both cases. The second line gives the total size of the FIFOs (in number of entries).

There are a couple of single-letter flags which are either cleared (dash ‘-’) or set (letter). A flag ‘E’ denotes empty, a flag ‘F’ means full, ‘x’ stands for enabled (“executing/transferring”) and ‘r’ for “held in reset”.

The inst column specifies the instruction currently executed by the DCP.
3.3 USB Session Examples

Typically, instructions are fed into the DCPs (DDS Command Processors) and then executed by starting the DCP. DCP execution follows a deterministic timing.

The following example configures both outputs for roughly 130 MHz. One output frequency is 0.23 Hz higher giving 2 RF waveforms that “move” with respect to each other.

```
dds reset
reset and initialize the DDS and also the DCP

dcp 0 spi:stp0=0x3fff00002147ae14
set freq (FTW in STP0) to 130 MHz for ch 0

dcp 1 spi:stp0=0x3fff00002147ae15
set freq (FTW in STP0) to 130 MHz + 0.23 Hz for ch 1

dcp update:u
update AD9910 (both channels)
(all these DCP instructions are still queued locally; you can flush them to the FPGA via "!" at the last dcp instruction or "dcp flush". "dcp start" also flushes.)

dcp start
flush locally buffered instructions and start DCP
```

The next example sets both outputs to 200 MHz, then waits 2 seconds and then changes the phase of one output by $\pi$.

```
dds reset

dcp 0 spi:stp0=0x3fff000033333333
ch 0, set freq. to 200 MHz, phase to 0 deg.

dcp 1 spi:stp0=0x3fff000033333333
ch 1, set freq. to 200 MHz, phase to 0 deg.

dcp update:u
update both AD9910 to make the STPs effective

dcp 0 spi:stp0=0x3fff7fff33333333
ch 0, set freq. to 200 MHz, phase to 180 deg.

dcp 1 spi:stp0=0x3fff000033333333
ch 1, set freq. to 200 MHz, phase to 0 deg.
(Note: The new STP0 has now been loaded into the AD9910 already but is not yet effective, because the IO_UPDATE has not yet been triggered.)

dcp wait:2000000:
wait about 2 seconds

dcp update:u
finally, update both channels to flip the phase
(Note: Our small program of DCP instructions is now complete. We can now start the DDS Command Processor (DCP). Nothing will happen at the RF outputs before we start the DCP.)

dcp start
```

The next example sets both outputs to 200 MHz by using the direct frequency for the channel 0 and the mirror frequency for channel 1.

```
dds reset

dcp 0 spi:stp0=0x3fff000033333333
normal frequency (200 MHz)

dcp 1 spi:stp0=0x3fff0000cccccccc
mirror frequency (800 MHz)

dcp update:u

dcp start
```

The next example shows how to use the `wait` instruction to trigger actions from a BNC input. For demonstration, it is required to send a signal into the the BNC input A. This can be done by by hooking up a signal generator set to square wave output at TTL levels and 1 Hz frequency. The below example will start at 10 MHz and then switch to 20 MHz after the first rising edge of the BNC A input, and then switch to 30 MHz with half amplitude after the second rising edge of the BNC A input. For a list of events, see Table 3.8 (page 17).

```
dds reset

```
All this is only done on channel 0.

continued ...
3. The DDS Command Processor (DCP) 3.3 USB Session Examples

dcp 0 spi:CFR2=0x1000080  set CFR2 to matched latency and ASF from STP
dcp 0 spi:stp0=0x3ff0000028f5c29  set STP0 to 10 MHz, full amplitude
dcp 0 update:u  flush settings to AD9910, 10 MHz now at RF output
dcp 0 spi:stp0=0x3ff000051eb852  set STP0 to 20 MHz, full amplitude
dcp 0 wait::3  wait for rising edge on BNC A input (event 3)
dcp 0 update:u  IO_UPDATE the AD9910, 20 MHz now at RF output
dcp 0 spi:stp0=0x1fff000007ae147b  set STP0 to 30 MHz, half amplitude
dcp 0 wait::BNC_IN_A_RISING  wait for rising edge on BNC A input (same as wait::3)
dcp 0 update:u  IO_UPDATE the AD9910, 30 MHz, half ampl. at RF out
dcp start

The following example code performs the same frequency ramps on both channels. It starts at 20 MHz, ramps up to 30 MHz in about 2 seconds and stays there for about 1 second before ramping down to 20 MHz twice as fast and then, after 2 seconds sweeps upwards to 100 MHz.

dds reset

dcp 0 spi:CFR2=0x80  set matched latency (not needed) and ramp destination frequency
      spi:DRL=0x07ae147b051eb852  ramp limits 20 MHz (low) and 30 MHz (high)
      spi:DRSS=0x0000001a0000000d  ramp step size to about 6 Hz down and 3 Hz up
      spi:DRR=0x00960096  ramp rate 150 (up and down)
      update:u  enable the ramp generator
      dcp 0 spi:CFR2=0x80080  do IO_UPDATE, set DRCTL HIGH to start upwards ramp
      dcp wait:300000:  wait for about 3 seconds for ramp to complete
      dcp update:-d  set DRCTL LOW to start downwards ramp
      dcp 0 spi:DRSS=0x000000081  set upper ramp limit to 100 MHz (effective at next IO_UPDATE)
      dcp 0 spi:DRR=0x00080008  ramp step size to about 30 Hz up
      dcp wait:2000000:  wait 2 seconds for ramp to complete
      dcp update:u+d  set DRCTL HIGH again to sweep up to 100 MHz
      dcp start

Below is a modified example from the above one. Both channels to a sweep from 20 MHz to 100 MHz. The waveform has the amplitude; this is set in the single tone profile (requiring bit 24 in CFR2). Both DCPs then wait until the ramp is complete by monitoring the DROVER signal from the AD9910 (event 4). Once the ramp is over, channel 0 switches to the single tone profile with full amplitude while channel 1 stays in ramp mode with half amplitude. One can see that both channels are still phase aligned.

.dds reset

dcp 0 spi:STP0=0x1fff000051eb852  set 30 MHz, HALF amplitude
      spi:CFR2=0x1000080  set single tone ASF bit and matched latency
      update:u  update AD9910
      wait:500000:  wait half a second
      dcp 0 spi:DRSS=0x00000008a00000008  prepare ramp limits to 30 MHz and 100 MHz
      dcp 0 spi:DRR=0x00080008  prepare ramp step sizes
      dcp 0 spi:CFR2=0x1080080  enable ramp
      update:u+d  IO_UPDATE to start upwards ramp (DRCTL HIGH)
      dcp 0 spi:STP0=0x3ff00001999999a  channel 0: set STP at 100 MHz, full amplitude
      dcp 0 update:u  channel 0: disable ramp
      wait::35  wait indefinitely for ramp to complete (event 35)
      dcp start


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The following example will drive a **phase ramp**. Both outputs start with a 30 MHz sine wave signal that is completely *in* phase (i.e. no phase difference). After half a second, the channel 0 makes a smooth phase sweep by 180 degrees.

```plaintext
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>dds reset</td>
<td>Both channels: set STP0 to 30 MHz, full amplitude</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dcp spi:STP0=0x3fff0000051eb852</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dcp spi:CFR2=0x1000080</td>
<td>Set CFR2 to matched latency and ASF from STP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dcp update:u</td>
<td>Update; this makes the above appear at the RF outputs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dcp wait:500000:</td>
<td>Wait half a second</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dcp 0 spi:DRR=0x00960096</td>
<td>Channel 0: prepare phase ramp: ramp rate...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dcp 0 spi:DRSS=0x0000020000000200</td>
<td>Channel 0: ...ramp step size and...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dcp 0 spi:drl=0x7fffffff00000000</td>
<td>Channel 0: ...ramp limits 0 to 180 degrees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dcp 0 spi:CFR2=0x1180080</td>
<td>Channel 0: enable ramp generator (destination: phase)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dcp 0 update:u+d</td>
<td>Update channel 0, DRCTL HIGH (upwards ramp)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dcp start</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
```
Here are a couple of frequency ramp examples.

**Ramp up-then-down: Normal frequency.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>dds reset</code></td>
<td>Set up DDS processor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>dcp spi:DRL=0x07ae147b051eb852</code></td>
<td>Set ramp limits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>dcp spi:DRSS=0x0000001a0000001a</code></td>
<td>Set ramp step size</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>dcp spi:DRR=0x009600096</code></td>
<td>Set ramp rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>dcp spi:CFR2=0x80080</code></td>
<td>Enable ramp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>dcp update:u+d</code></td>
<td>Do IO_UPDATE, set DRCTL HIGH to start upwards ramp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>dcp wait:2000000:</code></td>
<td>Wait for the ramp to sweep the frequency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>dcp update:-d</code></td>
<td>Change direction to downwards, DRCTL LOW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>dcp start</code></td>
<td>Start ramp</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Ramp down-then-up: Mirror frequency.** This is basically the same but with the mirror frequencies, an 'upwards' ramp actually goes downwards in frequency.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>dds reset</code></td>
<td>Set up DDS processor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>dcp spi:DRL=0xfae147aef851eb85</code></td>
<td>Set ramp limits (mirror frequency)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>dcp spi:DRSS=0x0000001a0000001a</code></td>
<td>Set ramp step size</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>dcp spi:DRR=0x009600096</code></td>
<td>Set ramp rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>dcp spi:CFR2=0x80080</code></td>
<td>Enable ramp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>dcp update:u+d</code></td>
<td>Do IO_UPDATE, set DRCTL HIGH to start ramp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>dcp wait:2000000:</code></td>
<td>Wait for the ramp to sweep the frequency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>dcp update:-d</code></td>
<td>Change direction, DRCTL LOW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>dcp start</code></td>
<td>Start ramp</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Ramp down, normal frequency**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>dds reset</code></td>
<td>Set up DDS processor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>dcp spi:DRL=0x07ae147b051eb852</code></td>
<td>Set ramp limits (normal frequency)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>dcp spi:DRSS=0x0000001a7fffffff</code></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>dcp spi:DRR=0x00960000</code></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>dcp spi:CFR2=0x80080</code></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>dcp update:u+d</code></td>
<td>We start with taking DRCTL HIGH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>dcp wait:2000000:</code></td>
<td>This delay can be left out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>dcp update:-d</code></td>
<td>Take DRCTL LOW for downwards ramp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>dcp start</code></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Example of a Hann shaped chirped pulse. This makes use of the SRAM modulation to shape the amplitude and the ramp generator to linearly sweep the frequency. This makes use of only 128 words (amplitude samples) of the total of 1024 available just to keep the code listing short (see (**)) below. To use more samples within the same time, the step rate has to be reduced accordingly.

```plaintext
dds reset

dcp 0 spi:ASF=0

set zero amplitude (needed for OSK)

dcp 0 spi:CFR1=0x00412202

enable OSK, inverse SINC filter, sine output, autoclear phase

dcp 0 spi:drss=0x000f4240000f4240

program the ramp into the DDS ramp generator
0 to 15 MHz

dcp 0 spi:drl=0x03d70a3d00000000

15 MHz to 0

dcp 0 spi:drr=50

(15 MHz correspond to 0 in the SPI register)

dcp 0 spi:stp0=0x141fc0000001

set up the RAM profile 0 (i.e. STP0):
step rate: 20 (65535 max), start adr: 0, end adr: 127 (**): no dwell high: 0, zero crossing: 0, mode control: 1 (UP)

NOTE: We can use a different profile than profile 0 but if we do, we need to select the particular profile (using the FPGA) in order to upload the SRAM content.

dcp 0 update:=1p

switch profile forth and back; probably not needed for...

...profile 0; done before updating CFR1 as changing the profile also acts as a trigger and would otherwise enable RAM playback too early.

dcp 0 update:=0p

disable OSK and enable RAM; we do this before storing the RAM content but will not take effect until UPDATE enable ramp generator (no-dwell low and high)

begin storing the amplitude shape in SRAM

first 2 words of the Hann shape

next 2 words of the Hann shape...

Note that the way the profile is set up, the playback in the AD9910 will be bottom-to-top and not top-to-bottom, so the listing is “reversed”. For the Hann shape it does not make a difference because it’s symmetric.
```

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3. The DDS Command Processor (DCP)  3.3 USB Session Examples

dcp 0 spi:RAM64C=0xfd8a5f3d_fe9d55fa:c

dcp 0 spi:RAM64C=0xff62368d_ffd8878b:c

dcp 0 spi:RAM64C=0xfffffffe_ffd8878b:c

dcp 0 spi:RAM64C=0xff62368d_fe9d55fa:c

dcp 0 spi:RAM64C=0xfd8a5f3d_fc29fbec:c

dcp 0 spi:RAM64C=0xfa7d0559_f8848411:c

dcp 0 spi:RAM64C=0xf641af3a_f3b5ebcf:c

dcp 0 spi:RAM64C=0xf0e2cbc4_edca0d12:c

dcp 0 spi:RAM64C=0xea6d98a2_e6cf811e:c

dcp 0 spi:RAM64C=0xe2f201aa_ded77c87:c

dcp 0 spi:RAM64C=0xda827998_d5f5a4d0:c

dcp 0 spi:RAM64C=0xd133cc92_cc3f0ff1:c

dcp 0 spi:RAM64C=0xc71cece5_c1ce1e63:c

dcp 0 spi:RAM64C=0xbc56ba6e_b6ba2012:c

dcp 0 spi:RAM64C=0x9f19f979:c

dcp 0 spi:RAM64C=0x8c8bd35c_8647d97b:c

dcp 0 spi:RAM64C=0x79b82682:c

dcp 0 spi:RAM64C=0x60e60684:c

dcp 0 spi:RAM64C=0x54e0cb13:c

dcp 0 spi:RAM64C=0x4945dfeb:c

dcp 0 spi:RAM64C=0x33c0200c:c

dcp 0 spi:RAM64C=0x2a0a5b2d:c

dcp 0 spi:RAM64C=0x1235f2eb:c

dcp 0 spi:RAM64C=0x009dc970_00277872

The final waveform looks like this:

![Waveform Image]

last 2 words to store in SRAM (END); no ":c" at the end
UPDATE to start ramp and SRAM playback
Chapter 4

DCP Register Description

This chapter describes the registes in the DCP.

Registers are up to 32 bit in size although often not all bits are used. Unused bits are denoted with ‘-’ and must be written as zero.

Many registers support not only writing new values but also setting/clearing/toggling bits. These registers are limited to 30 bits. The topmost 2 bits are the write access mode WSCT: 00 to write, 01 to set, 10 to clear, 11 to toggle bits.

4.1 CFG_BNC_A: Configure BNC A

Address: 0x080
Access: Write, Set, Clear, Toggle; DCP 0 only

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bit</th>
<th>31</th>
<th>30</th>
<th>29</th>
<th>28</th>
<th>27</th>
<th>26</th>
<th>25</th>
<th>24</th>
<th>23</th>
<th>22</th>
<th>21</th>
<th>20</th>
<th>19</th>
<th>18</th>
<th>17</th>
<th>16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desc.</td>
<td>WSC</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defl.</td>
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<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bit</th>
<th>15</th>
<th>14</th>
<th>13</th>
<th>12</th>
<th>11</th>
<th>10</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desc.</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>DIR</td>
<td>INV</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>OUT_MUX</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defl.</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This register configures the BNC input/output on the frontpanel.

Register content description:

WSCT Access mode: 00 to write, 01 to set, 10 to clear, 11 to toggle bits.

DIR BNC port direction: 1 for output, 0 for input (default).

INV When set, invert the port. Inversion will affect input and output equally. Note that inversion does not alter the logic behind rising/falling edge detection, i.e. a low to high transition of the input will always generate a rising event even if INV is set.

OUT_MUX When configured as output (DIR=1), choose the signal routed to the BNC output port. See Table 4.1.

Example: Note that only DCP channel 0 can access this register. Writes to this register from channel 1 will be silently ignored.

```
dds reset
dcp 0 wr:CFG_BNC_A=0x200  configure BNC A port as output (DIR=1), LOW (OUT_MUX=0)  
```

continued ...
4.2 CFG_BNC_B: Configure BNC B

Address: 0x081
Access: Write, Set, Clear, Toggle; DCP 0 only
See the description for CFG_BNC_A above.

4.3 CFG_BNC_C: Configure BNC C

Address: 0x082
Access: Write, Set, Clear, Toggle; DCP 0 only
See the description for CFG_BNC_A above.

Example: Wait for trigger on BNC B before switching frequencies.

dds_reset
dcp 0 wr:CFG_BNC_A=0
  (not needed as 0 is the initial value)
dcp 0 spi:stp0=0x3fff000010000000
  configure single tone profile
dcp 0 wait::BNC_IN_B_RISING
  wait for BNC B input rising edge
dcp 0 update:u
  update the AD9910, makes waveform appear at RF output
dcp 0 spi:stp0=0x3fff000020000000
  immediately pre-configure the next frequency
dcp 0 wait::BNC_IN_B_RISING
  wait for BNC B input rising edge
dcp 0 update:u
  after rising edge, update the AD9910 again (next frequency at output)
dcp start

4.4 AM_S0: Analog Modulation, Scale Factor 0

Address: 0x100
Access: Write; one dedicated register for each DCP
4.5 AM_S1: Analog Modulation, Scale Factor 1

Address: 0x101
Access: Write; one dedicated register for each DCP

Sets the scaling factor $S_1$ for the respective DCP associated with analog input channel 1. For details, see AM_S0.

4.6 AM_O: Analog Modulation, Offset

Address: 0x102
Access: Write; one dedicated register for each DCP
4.7 AM_P: Analog Modulation, Offset for Polar Modulation

Address: 0x106
Access: Write; one dedicated register for each DCP

Sets the offset value \( O \) for the analog modulation math of the respective DCP. The offset is a signed 24 bit value (two’s complement).

Note that all the writes to AM_* registers target shadow registers. All the shadow registers are copied to the effective registers at the same time if the UPD bit is set during writing.

4.8 AM_00: Analog Modulation, Offset for Input Channel 0

Address: 0x103
Access: Write; one dedicated register for each DCP

Sets the offset value \( O_0 \) for the respective DCP associated with analog input channel 0. The channel offset is a signed 18 bit value (two’s complement).

Note that all the writes to AM_* registers target shadow registers. All the shadow registers are copied to the effective registers at the same time if the UPD bit is set during writing.
4.9  **AM_O1: Analog Modulation, Offset for Input Channel 1**

Address: 0x104  
Access: Write; one dedicated register for each DCP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bit</th>
<th>31</th>
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<th>29</th>
<th>28</th>
<th>27</th>
<th>26</th>
<th>25</th>
<th>24</th>
<th>23</th>
<th>22</th>
<th>21</th>
<th>20</th>
<th>19</th>
<th>18</th>
<th>17</th>
<th>16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desc.</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>UPD</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defl.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bit</th>
<th>15</th>
<th>14</th>
<th>13</th>
<th>12</th>
<th>11</th>
<th>10</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desc.</td>
<td>←</td>
<td>AM_01</td>
<td>←</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Defl.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Sets the offset value $O_1$ for the respective DCP associated with analog input channel 1. For details, see AM_00.

4.10  **AM_CFG: Analog Modulation Configuration Register**

Address: 0x105  
Access: Write; one dedicated register for each DCP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bit</th>
<th>31</th>
<th>30</th>
<th>29</th>
<th>28</th>
<th>27</th>
<th>26</th>
<th>25</th>
<th>24</th>
<th>23</th>
<th>22</th>
<th>21</th>
<th>20</th>
<th>19</th>
<th>18</th>
<th>17</th>
<th>16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desc.</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>UPD</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>-</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defl.</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bit</th>
<th>15</th>
<th>14</th>
<th>13</th>
<th>12</th>
<th>11</th>
<th>10</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>0</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Desc.</td>
<td>←</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>MODF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defl.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Analog modulation configuration register for the respective DCP.

Register content description:

| UPD | Update. All the writes to AM_* registers target shadow registers. All the shadow registers are copied to the effective registers at the same time if the UPD bit is set during writing. |
| MODF | Set the analog modulation format, i.e. the F bits of the parallel data bus into the AD9910: |

- **MODF**: Analog modulation format
  - 00: Amplitude modulation (upper 14 bits used)
  - 01: 16 bit phase modulation
  - 10: Frequency modulation (16 bit used, see FM gain setting of AD9910)
  - 11: Polar modulation (8 bit phase, 8 bit amplitude)
Chapter 5

Analog Modulation

The FlexDDS-NG supports analog modulation of the RF outputs using signals applied to the RF In ports. The analog signal at each of the RF In ports is digitized with a dedicated ADC operating at 62.5 MS/s (i.e. 1 GHz divided by 16). The ADC has a resolution of 12 or 14 bit depending on the hardware configuration and an analog input range of ±0.5 V = 1 Vpp.

The digital samples out of the ADCs are processed by a linear math unit and can then be fed into the 16 bit parallel data port of the AD9910 RF generator. This allows amplitude, frequency, phase and even polar modulation.

Each DCP has one dedicated linear math unit. These two math units (one per RF output channel) are completely independent of each other. Each linear math unit has access to the sample data stream of both analog inputs. This means, any of the 2 RF output channels can be modulated by any of the two analog input channels or even by a weighted sum/difference of both the analog input signals. Also, the same analog input channel can be used to modulate both RF outputs simultaneously with the same or different math coefficients. You could even use e.g. analog input 0 to frequency modulate RF channel 0 while using the weighted sum of the input channels 0 and 1 to amplitude modulate the RF channel 1.

For polar modulation, analog input channel 0 provides the phase information while channel 1 provides the amplitude information.

5.1 Amplitude, Phase and Frequency Modulation

The 16 bit modulation data \( D \) fed into the AD9910 is computed by the linear math unit in the following way:

\[
D = \text{coerce}_{16} \left( \frac{(A_0 - O_0) \cdot S_0 + (A_1 - O_1) \cdot S_1}{2^{12}} + O \right)
\]  

(5.1)

Here, \( A_0 \) and \( A_1 \) are the analog samples generated by the ADC attached to analog input channels 0 and 1, respectively. These are 16 bits wide and MSB aligned (i.e. for a 12 or 14 bit ADC, the last 4 or 2 bits are zero).

\( O_0 \) and \( O_1 \) are user configurable offsets with a width of 18 bits. These can be used e.g. to compensate offset errors in the ADC. The result of the difference operation is also 18 bits wide.

\( S_0 \) and \( S_1 \) are user configurable scaling factors and are 18 bits wide. These can be used to control the slope of the two linear transfer functions. The result of the multiplication is 36 bits wide.
5.1 Amplitude, Phase and Frequency Modulation

The result of the math operations is scaled down by $2^{12}$ by cutting off least significant 12 bits.

A global offset $O$ (24 bits wide) is then added and can be used to configure the intercept of the bilinear transfer function.

The resulting figure is finally coerced to a 16 bit value, i.e. values below zero are clipped to zero while values above $2^{16} - 1$ are clipped to $2^{16} - 1 = 65535$.

\[
\text{coerce}_{16}(x) := \begin{cases} 
0, & \text{if } x < 0 \\
x, & \text{if } 0 \leq x < 2^{16} \\
2^{16} - 1, & \text{if } x \geq 2^{16}
\end{cases}
\]  

The 5 coefficients $O_0$, $O_1$, $S_0$, $S_1$ and $O$ are user configurable by writing to the corresponding analog modulation coefficient registers AM_O0, AM_O1, AM_S0, AM_S1 and AM_OFF. Note that these registers have shadow registers and only the shadow registers are accessible from the DCP. Hence, a write to any of these registers will not immediately take effect. A write with the update bit UPD set to 1 is required to transfer all the shadow register contents at once to the effective registers. So, after setting up all the coefficients, by setting the update bit UPD during the last register write, the new set of coefficients instantly replaces the previous set. This is much like the configuration of the AD9910 and the IO_UPDATE pin.

**Binary representation:** All the coefficients are represented as 18 or 24 bit two’s complement figures. This is the same representation as internally used by most computers. Here are examples of figures represented in two’s complement:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>value</th>
<th>18-bit</th>
<th>24 bit</th>
<th>comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>0x00000</td>
<td>0x000000</td>
<td>positive numbers are just like...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>0x00001</td>
<td>0x000001</td>
<td>...regular binary representation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>0x00002</td>
<td>0x000002</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>256</td>
<td>0x00100</td>
<td>0x000100</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>131071</td>
<td>0xffff</td>
<td>0x01ffff</td>
<td>largest 18 bit signed number ($2^{17} - 1$)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8388607</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0x7fffff</td>
<td>largest 24 bit signed number ($2^{23} - 1$)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-1</td>
<td>0x3ffff</td>
<td>0xffffffff</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-2</td>
<td>0x3ffe</td>
<td>0xffffffff</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-256</td>
<td>0x3ff00</td>
<td>0xffffffff</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-131072</td>
<td>0x20000</td>
<td>0xfee0000</td>
<td>smallest 18 bit signed number ($-2^{17}$)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-8388608</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0x800000</td>
<td>smallest 24 bit signed number ($-2^{23}$)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

So, if you keep adding 1 to an $n$-bit two’s complement number, it will eventually roll over from $2^{n-1} - 1$ to $-2^{n-1}$. All negative values have their most significant bit set, all positive values have it cleared. To extend an $n$-bit two’s complement number to $m > n$ bits, you have to fill up all the $m - n$ new most significant bits with the value of the most significant bit of the original figure. (E.g. to extend a 4 bit value to a 8 bit value: 0b0101 → 0b000000101 (positive value), 0b1101 → 0b11111101 (negative value))

The 16 bit analog sample values $A_n$ are sign-extended to 18 bits before performing the subtraction with offset $O_n$.

**Configuration of the AD9910:** To use the analog modulation feature, the parallel data port of the AD9910 has to be enabled and the desired modulation scheme (amplitude, frequency, phase, polar) has to be selected via a write to the AM_CFG register.
5.2 Example: Amplitude Modulation

Say we’d like to configure analog output channel 0 for full scale amplitude modulation from analog input channel 0. I.e. the full analog input range of 1 V\text{pp} should be translated to a amplitude modulation from zero amplitude to full amplitude.

Since the analog samples in $A_0$ have 16 bits (full scale) and the output $D$ also has 16 bits (full scale), we need to scale the analog values with a trivial factor of 1. However, as the analog samples are signed values and the output $D$ has to cover the unsigned range $0 \ldots 65525$, we need to add $65535/2 = 2^{15}$. Hence, the desired linear transfer function must look like this:

$$D = \frac{A_0}{1} + 2^{15} = \frac{(A_0 - 0) \cdot 2^{12}}{2^{12}} + \frac{(A_1 - 0) \cdot 0}{2^{12}} + 2^{15} \quad (5.3)$$

By comparing coefficients with equation 5.1, we find that:

$O_0 = 0$
$S_0 = 2^{12} = 0x1000$
$O_1 = 0$
$S_1 = 0$

Here’s the corresponding code (remember, underscores in figures can be inserted to improve readability and are completely ignored):

```c
dds reset
dcp 0 spi:stpo=0x3fff_0000_10000000
set frequency to 62.5 MHz, full amplitude
dcp 0 spi:CFR1=0b00000000_01000001_00000000_00000000
sinc filter and sine output (not needed)
dcp 0 spi:CFR2=0b00000000_00000000_00000000_01010000
enable parallel data port
dcp 0 wr:AM_S0=0x1000
set scale factor $S_0$
dcp 0 wr:AM_O0=0
set offset $O_0$
dcp 0 wr:AM_O=0x8000
set global offset $O$
dcp 0 wr:AM_CFG=0x2000_0000
choose amplitude modulation, flush coeff.
dcp 0 update:u
update AD9910 (make CFR* effective)
dcp start
```

Here, the $AM_{S1}$ and $AM_{O1}$ registers are not written so their default value of 0 is used. To view the result, connect a 1 MHz sine wave signal with 1 V\text{pp} amplitude (into 50\,\Omega; this may require to set an amplitude of 2 V\text{pp} into high impedance on a function generator) to the analog input channel 0 and view th RF output channel 0 with an oscilloscope.

Similarly, if we would like to modulate RF channel 0 from analog channel 1, the same code as above is valid, just that writes to $AM_{S0}$ and $AM_{O0}$ have to be replaced to writes to $AM_{S1}$ and $AM_{O1}$.

To modulate RF channel 1 instead, we’d use dcp 1 rather than dcp 0 in all code lines.

You can also amplitude-modulate RF channel 0 from analog input 0 and RF channel 1 from analog input 1:

```c
dds reset
dcp 0 spi:STP0=0x3fff_0000_10000000
ch 0: frequency 62.5 MHz, full amplitude
dcp 1 spi:STP0=0x3fff_0000_08000000
ch 1: frequency to 31.25 MHz, full amplitude
dcp 0 spi:CFR1=0b01000001_00000000_00000000
sinc filter and sine output (not needed)
dcp 0 spi:CFR2=0b00000000_00000000_01010000
enable parallel data port
dcp 0 wr:AM_S0=0x1000
ch 0: set scale factor $S_0$ (dcp 0 wr:AM_O0=0
ch 0: set offset $O_0$
dcp 0 wr:AM_CFG=0x2000_0000
ch 0: set global offset $O$
dcp 0 wr:AM_O=0x8000
continued . . .
```
5.3 Example: Phase Modulation

In this example, the RF channel 1 has half the modulation depth for the same analog input voltage because the scale factor $S_1$ is half as large. To obtain full scale amplitude for the maximum analog value, the offset $O$ was increased accordingly by 50%.

If you would like to amplitude-modulate both RF output channels from the same analog input channel 0 (with possibly different scale and offset coefficients), you would replace $AM_S1$ and $AM_O1$ with $AM_S0$ and $AM_O0$ for dcp 1 in the example above.

**Negative scale factors:** We can use that example to amplitude modulate both RF outputs with opposite polarity. I.e. the higher the input voltage, the larger the amplitude on channel 0 and the smaller the amplitude on channel 1. We use analog input channel 0 for both output channels. Hence, we have to set $S_0$ for DCP channel 1 to a negative value:

```
DCP 0:  $S_0 = +2^{12} = 0x1000$  $O = 2^{15} = 0x8000$
DCP 1:  $S_0 = -2^{12} = 0x3f000$  $O = 2^{15} = 0x8000$
```

Note that we could also set $S_0$ to 0xff000 instead of 0x3f000 because the register is 18 bits wide and the most significant non-zero bits of 0xff000 would be truncated, leaving an effective register value of 0x3f000.

Here’s the corresponding instruction listing:

```
dds reset
dcp 0 spi:STP0=0x3fff_0000_10000000 ch 0: frequency 62.5 MHz, full amplitude
dcp 1 spi:STP0=0x3fff_0000_08000000 ch 1: frequency to 31.25 MHz, full amplitude
dcp spi:CFR1=0b01000001_00000000_00000000 sinc filter and sine output (not needed)
dcp spi:CFR2=0b00000000_00000000_01010000 enable parallel data port
dcp 0 wr:AM_S0=0x1000
dcp 0 wr:AM_O=0
dcp 0 wr:AM_O0=0x8000
dcp 0 wr:AM_CFG=0x2000_0000
dcp 1 wr:AM_S0=0x3f000
dcp 1 wr:AM_O0=0
dcp 1 wr:AM_CFG=0x2000_0000
dcp update:u update AD9910 (make CFR* effective)
dcp start
```

If the figures look too “easy”, here’s another example with a slightly smaller scale factor:

```
DCP 0:  $S_0 = +4000 = 0xfa0$  $O = 2^{15} = 0x8000$
DCP 1:  $S_0 = -4000 = 0x3f060$  $O = 2^{15} = 0x8000$
```

5.3 Example: Phase Modulation

Next is an example for phase modulation. The frequency is set quite low to 11.7 MHz to make the effect easily visible. Both channels are configured for the same frequency but only one RF output channel
is phase modulated.

```plaintext
dds reset
dcp spi:STP0=0x3fff_0000_03000000 set frequency to 11.7 MHz, full amplitude
dcp spi:CFR1=0b01000001_00000000_00000000 sinc filter and sine output (not needed)
dcp 0 spi:CFR2=0b00000000_00000000_01010000 enable parallel data port
dcp 0 wr:AM_S0=0x1000 same full-scale modulation parameters...
dcp 0 wr:AM_00=0 ...as in the example above
dcp 0 wr:AM_O0=0x8000 choose phase modulation, flush coefficients
dcp 0 wr:AM_CFG=0x2000_0001 update AD9910 (make CFR* effective)
dcp update:u
dcp start
```

Set up a function generator to a 1 MHz sine wave with 1 V
pp and connect it to the analog input channel 0. To observe the phase
modulation, connect both RF outputs to an oscilloscope and compare
the normal un-modulated output from RF channel 1 with the modulated output from RF channel 0. Play around with amplitude and frequency of the analog input.

Of course, you can phase-modulate the channel 0 while simultaneously amplitude modulating the channel 1, either from the same analog signal or from different analog input signals.

### 5.4 Example: Frequency Modulation

**Frequency modulation** works just like amplitude and phase modulation with the only caveat that the frequency tuning word is fundamentally 32 bits wide while the parallel modulation data input into the AD9910 only allows 16 bits of precision. Hence, the FM gain setting in the CFR2 register has to be set accordingly.

Say we want to modulate the frequency in the following way: Negative full scale input (i.e. $-0.5$ V) should result in 10 MHz ($\text{FTW} = 0x028f5c29$) while positive full scale input ($+0.5$ V) should yield 30 MHz ($\text{FTW} = 0x07ae147b$).

To cover the required frequency range, we need an FM gain setting of at least 11 (see AD9910 datasheet). We choose 12, although 11 would work just as fine.

In the presence of an FM gain of 12, the 16-bit digital modulation values are shifted by 12 bits (i.e. multiplied by $2^{12}$). Hence, the required 16-bit $D$ values from equation 5.1 need to cover the range from $0x028f5c29/2^{12} = 0x28f5$ to $0x07ae147b/2^{12} = 0x7ae1$.

We can now compute the scale and offset coefficients for an analog input on channel 0. We know that input channel 1 is not used (i.e. $S_1 = 0$) and set offset $O_0 = 0$ (or to whatever small value is required to cancel the analog input offset error). Equation 5.1 then simplifies to

\[
D = \text{coerce}_{16} \left( \frac{A_0 \cdot S_0}{2^{12}} + O \right) \tag{5.4}
\]

(Here, the $2^{12}$ in the denominator comes from equation 5.1 and is completely unrelated to the FM gain setting). A $-0.5$ V analog input correspond to an analog ADC value of $A_0 = -2^{15}$ while a positive full scale input of $+0.5$ V correspond to $A_0 = +2^{15} - 1$.

With that information we can now solve the following two linear equations to find $S_0$ and $O$:

\[
D(A_0 = -2^{15}) = 0x28f5 = 10485
\]

\[
D(A_0 = +2^{15} - 1) = 0x7ae1 = 31457 \tag{5.5}
\]
5.5 Polar Modulation

\[ S_0 = \frac{(31457 - 10485) \cdot 2^{12}}{2^{15} - 1 + 2^{15}} = 1310.77 = 0x51f \]

\[ O = \frac{10485 \cdot (2^{15} - 1) - 31457 \cdot (-2^{15})}{2^{15} - 1 + 2^{15}} = 20971.16 = 0x51eb \]

(5.6)

Hence, we can instruct the FlexDDS-NG to perform the requested frequency modulation by executing:

```plaintext
dds reset
dcp 0 spi:STP0=0x3fff000000000000 choose max amplitude and set FTW to zero
dcp 0 spi:CFR1=0b01000001_00000000_00000000 enable parallel data port, set FM gain to 12
dcp 0 wr:AM_S0=0x51f S0 as computed above
dcp 0 wr:AM_D0=0x51eb O as computed above
dcp 0 wr:AM_CFG=0x2000_0002 choose frequency modulation, flush coefficients
dcp 0 update:u update AD9910 (make CFR* effective)
dcp start
```

The result can be observed by hooking up an oscilloscope to RF output channel 0 and a function generator to the analog input channel 0. By setting a 1 Vpp square wave or a DC value, the frequencies can be measured easily with the oscilloscope.

5.5 Polar Modulation

Polar modulation is enabled by writing the MODF bits in the AM_CFG register to 0b11.

By doing so, the linear math kernel is altered and it no longer follows equation 5.1 but instead performs the following computation:

\[ D_{7...0} = \text{coerce}_{16} \left( \frac{(A_0 - O_0) \cdot S_0 + O}{2^{12}} \right) / 2^8 \] phase bits

\[ D_{15...8} = \text{coerce}_{16} \left( \frac{(A_1 - O_1) \cdot S_1 + P}{2^{12}} \right) / 2^8 \] amplitude bits

(5.7)

The linear transfer function is similar to the other modulation schemes except that (1) a second offset \( P \) is now present, which can be configured via the register AM_P and (2) only the 8 most significant bits of the 16 bit result are used (hence the division by \( 2^8 \) after coercion). This way, the same values for the coefficients from amplitude and phase modulation can be used in polar mode with the same effect on the output signal.

Note that for polar modulation, analog input channel 0 is hard wired to phase modulation while analog input channel 1 is hard wired for amplitude modulation.

The following example performs a polar modulation similar to a combination to the phase and amplitude modulations at the beginning of the section. Notice how all the scale and offset parameters are identical.

```plaintext
dds reset
dcp 0 spi:stp0=0x0000000000000000 frequency 11.7 MHz; phase and amplitude zero
dcp 0 spi:CFR1=0b01000001_00000000_00000000 enable parallel data port
dcp 0 spi:CFR2=0b00000000_00000000_01010000_01010000 continued ...
```
5. Analog Modulation

5.5 Polar Modulation

dcp 0 wr:AM_S0=0x1000  \hspace{1cm} scale factor for phase modulation
dcp 0 wr:AM_D0=0 \hspace{1cm} (analog offset on input channel 0)
dcp 0 wr:AM_B=0x8000 \hspace{1cm} offset value for phase modulation
dcp 0 wr:AM_S1=0x1000 \hspace{1cm} scale factor for amplitude modulation
dcp 0 wr:AM_D1=0 \hspace{1cm} (analog offset on input channel 1)
dcp 0 wr:AM_P=0x8000 \hspace{1cm} offset value for amplitude modulation
dcp 0 wr:AM_CFG=0x2000_0003 \hspace{1cm} choose polar modulation, flush coefficients
dcp 0 update:u \hspace{1cm} update AD9910 (make CFR* effective)
dcp start
Chapter 6

FlexDDS-NG Rack

The FlexDDS-NG Rack is a 19" enclosure that can hold up to 6 slots.

Each of the slots can be the heart of an FlexDDS-NG DUAL with the same frontpanel elements except the 10 MHz input/output and the power and reset pushbuttons because these elements are on the rack controller rather than on individual slots.

The FlexDDS-NG Rack provides a GBit network interface that can be used to control all the slots using a single and easy to use high speed connection. No specific drivers are needed and the GBit network allows access from multiple computers over greater distance than USB.

For each slot, the FlexDDS-NG Rack provides a FIFO buffer capable of holding up to 1 million DCP instructions. An unlimited amount of instructions can be streamed in real time.

Even though the network on the rack is the recommended way to communicate, you can still plug a USB cable into any individual slot to obtain information of the slot and to feed it with DCP commands.

6.1 The GBit Network Interface on the FlexDDS-NG Rack

The FlexDDS-NG Rack provided a GBit Ethernet port on the control slot (leftmost slot) labeled “Ethernet”. When a network cable is plugged in, the yellow LED indicates carrier detection. The green LED blinks upon network activity.

Note: Do not plug any network cables into the receptable labeled “LVDS”. This may harm your router and/or the FlexDDS-NG Rack. Network has to be connected to the receptable labeled “Ethernet”.

Configuring the IP address:

By default, the FlexDDS-NG Rack expects to receive an IPv4 network address via DHCP. As soon as a network cable is connected, it will automatically broadcast DHCP queries to configure its network address. It is recommended to configure the DHCP server in the network to hand out the appropriate IPv4 address based on the MAC address of the FlexDDS-NG Rack. See chapter 6.2 on how to obtain the MAC and network addresses.

You can also set a static IP address. In order to do so, you need to edit a configuration file which is stored on the micro-SD card installed on the main slot. Here is a step-by-step instruction on how to do
6. FlexDDS-NG Rack

6.2 The USB Console on the FlexDDS-NG Rack

this:

1. Power down the FlexDDS-NG.

2. Remove the micro-SD card. It is accessible from the main slot and labeled "Micro SD". Gently press in the card (e.g. with a coin) until you hear a quiet “click” sound. The card then comes back out and you can remove the card.

3. Put the card in a card reader. It has a FAT (VFAT) file system on it which can be read by any current Windows, Linux and Mac OS.

4. Edit the file called `flexdds_ethernet.txt` with a standard text editor such as Notepad on Windows. Do not use Office or Word as editor.

5. Eject the micro-SD card from the card reader and put it back into the FlexDDS-NG. Again, press gently until you hear a “click” sound. The card is now again locked and cannot be removed simply by pulling it.

6. Power up the FlexDDS-NG again. The network address is now configured.

The sample content of the `flexdds_ethernet.txt` file looks like this:

```
# Comment out all lines for DHCP.
# Enter all of the following (address, netmask, broadcast) to configure
# a static IP address.
#address 192.168.11.99
#netmask 255.255.255.0
#broadcast 192.168.11.255
#gateway 192.168.11.2

# You can also configure a MAC address if needed.
hwaddr 00:0A:35:00:01:23

# If gigabit speed or auto-negotiation do not work, you can set the speed
# manually (e.g. 100 MBit):
# speed 100
```

Note: The FlexDDS-NG Rack is not meant to be operated in public networks. Do not allow the FlexDDS-NG Rack to be world-accessible over the internet. Always operate in local networks behind routers or firewalls that provide protection.

6.2 The USB Console on the FlexDDS-NG Rack

See instructions about the USB console in the firmware update instructions. This also explains how to obtain the IP network and the MAC addresses.

6.3 FlexDDS-NG Rack Network Interface and FIFO Operation

The FlexDDS-NG Rack opens a TCP port for each slot and each protocol. E.g. for the text based protocol, slots 0...5 correspond to ports 26000...26005, respectively.
You need to open a dedicated (independent) network TCP connection to the FlexDDS-NG Rack for each slot. Over this network connection, the FlexDDS-NG Rack is fed with DCP instructions and other commands.

The DCP instructions are queued into a large per-slot FIFO holding, by default, up to 1 million DCP instructions (per slot). The FIFO content is streamed to the slots over the backplane. Each slot has a smaller DCP instruction FIFO (typically 4096 instructions per channel) to avoid effects caused by transmission latency within the rack (see Figure 6.1).

The per-slot FIFO sizes can be configured and made much larger. In order to do this, you need to edit the file called `flexdds.cfg` on the micro-SD of the FlexDDS-NG Rack. Follow the same 6 steps as explained on page 38 for changing the IP address. However, this time, edit the file `flexdds.cfg`.

This is the sample content of the file.

```plaintext
# ** FlexDDS-NG Config File **

# Memory allocation
# ================

# FIFO size in kilo bytes for each slot.
# Each FIFO entry consumes 8 bytes (64 bit network frame).
# Minimum is 64 kBytes.
# Total sum must not exceed 786432 kBytes (768 Mbytes)
# Examples:
# 64 10000 64 64 64 64
# -> Slot 1 has 10000 kBytes, all others have 64 kBytes
# 131072 131072 131072 131072 131072 131072
# -> All slots have 131 MBytes which is 16 million DCP insns
# 655360 16384 16384 16384 16384 16384
# -> Slot 0 has 81.92 million DCP insns, all others only about 2 million.
fifo_buf_size_kb = 8192 8192 8192 8192 8192 8192

# EOF
```

The total available memory is 768 MBytes, i.e. 786432 kBytes. This allows for 16 million DCP instructions per slot for each slot or asymmetric distributions like 80 million for one slot and “just” 2 million for other slots.

All FIFOs implement flow control which propagates back to the network TCP connection: Once the FIFOs are full, the network transfer is stalled, so the TCP connection will simply not take more data. As soon as instructions are executed by the slots and there is available space in the FIFO, the TCP connection accepts more data. This way you can open a connection, keep it open and stream an infinite amount of data over the connection.

Each port can accept up to 1 connection at the same time. If a connection is active and a second connection is made, then the old connection is closed and the new one takes over. This helps dealing with certain environments (e.g. LabView) which do not always properly close connections.

If a connection is closed and opened again or if a new connection replaces an old one, the content of the large DCP FIFO is preserved.

If you press the red “Reset” pushbutton on the FlexDDS-NG Rack or supply a HIGH pulse (at least 50 ms) into the Reset BNC input, a full reset is performed: All network connections are closed, all FIFO contents are discarded and all slots are reset.
Figure 6.1: Data streams and FIFOs in the FlexDDS-NG Rack. Each slot has its own TCP port, TCP data stream and large slot FIFO within the rack controller. Each slot has its own smaller FIFO per channel. There is one data stream per slot which is divided into multiple channels on the slot. Hence, if on a slot, one 4k FIFO runs full, both FIFOs on the slot can no longer be supplied with instructions.

Note: It is important to understand that each slot (0...5) is associated with a specific TCP port and has a dedicated FIFO buffer in the rack. Hence, each slot is fed with its own independent data stream. However, each slot can have multiple channels and the instructions for these channels are in the same FIFO in the rack. See Figure 6.1.

This has one important consequence: Each slot has a DCP instruction FIFO per channel (usually 4096 instructions per channel). As soon as one of these per-channel FIFOs is full, the data stream from the rack FIFO corresponding for that particular slot is stalled. Now, if e.g. channel 0 executes instructions much faster than channel 1, then the DCP FIFO in the slot FPGA for channel 0 may run empty while the FIFO for channel 1 is still full. (E.g. channel 1 is blocked at a long wait instruction.) The DCP for channel 0 will then not be able to execute instructions in time because the slot is considered “full” by the rack. The rack has a single FIFO per slot and cannot re-order instructions.

Solution: Ensure that DCP instructions for different channels of the same slot are queued in approximately the order in which they will be executed. You can deviate from the true order by up to the size of the per-channel slot FIFOs. If timing is unclear, consider re-arranging the setup so that different slots are being used.

(For users familiar with the “old” 8-channel FlexDDS Rack this is a relaxation of the requirements. The old 8-channel rack required that instructions are strictly ordered by time and then combined into a single data stream. This was not always easy to ensure.)
6.4 FlexDDS-NG Rack Text Network Protocol (port 2600x)

After opening a TCP connection, the first 16 bytes to be sent are the ASCII representation of the authentication token. This is sort of a “fixed password” as the most basic means to prevent unauthorized access. The authentication token is `75f4a4e10dd4b6bx` where the last digit, `x`, has to be replaced by the slot number (0 to 5).

After this authentication step, text based commands are read much like the USB interface of the individual slots (or like the USB interface of the FlexDDS-NG DUAL).

Each command is terminated by a CR (`\r`) or LF (`\n`) character (or both). From a Linux shell, you can use `telnet` or `netcat` to access the FlexDDS-NG Rack. On a Windows host, Putty can be used when choosing the connection type “Telnet”.

The following network commands are supported in text mode:

- `dcp [0|1] ...` Feed DCP instructions into the FIFO buffer of the slot.
- `dcp flush` Flush DCP commands; done automatically after about 1 second.
- `set VAR=VALUE` Configure certain properties; see below.
- `quit` Close the current network connection.
- `reset` Like red pushbutton: Reset all slots, FIFO buffers and close all TCP connections.

All commands refer only to the associated slot with the exception of the “reset” command which performs a global reset.

The `dcp` command works as described in section 3.2 but does not implement `start`, `stop` and `reset`.

**Note:** DCP start/stop is currently not implemented on the rack. Each slot DCP starts in “running” state and executes the commands as they are fed by the rack controller. To synchronize, it is recommended to start with a wait-for-trigger instruction for all slots.

The `set` command supports the following variables:

- `set dcp_dump_isn=[0|1]` If set to 1, the raw DCP instructions are echoed back.
- `set resp_suppress_ok=[0|1]` If set to 1, an “OK” response is not sent.

Here is an example network session with text commands over TCP port 26001 corresponding to slot 1 (i.e. the second RF generator slot from left):

```
75f4a4e10dd4b6b0
Auth OK
set resp_suppress_ok=1
dcp 0 spi:stp0=0x3fff00005c54943a
OK
dcp update:u!
dcp 0 wr:cfg_bnc_b=0x300
DCP: 0x0031208100000300
```

sent auth token for slot 1 ("password")
response that auth is OK
queue a DCP instruction for channel 0 (slot 1)
response from rack
suppress “OK” responses
queue a DCP instruction for channel 1 (slot 1)
queue DCP update insn for channels 0 and 1 (slot 1)
request that DCP instructions are echoed back
set BNC B output HIGH on slot 1
response: corresponding 64 bit rack DCP instruction
6.5 FlexDDS-NG Rack Binary Network Protocol (port 2601x)

The text based network protocol has the disadvantage of imposing significant network and processing overhead. This limits the throughput to about 250 000 DCP instructions per second or about 9 MBytes/s. (if `resp_suppress_ok` is set to 1).

The binary protocol allows faster instruction streaming with less overhead. It allows to stream 2.5 million network frames (or DCP instructions) per second (20 MBytes/s). However, it requires that DCP instructions are converted to binary form on the controlling host computer.

The binary protocol operates on a separate set of TCP ports, namely 26010...26015 corresponding to slots 0...5.

The binary protocol consists of a series of *network frames*. Each network frame has a size of 8 bytes (64 bits) and they are transferred in little endian manner (i.e. native byte order on x86 host computers and ARM processors).

The format of a network frame looks like this:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>63 ... 56 55 ... 48 47 ... 0</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000</td>
<td>NULL frame; ignored</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0001 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000</td>
<td>DCP instruction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0001 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000</td>
<td>NOP (ignored)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0001 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0000</td>
<td>Write slot FPGA reg</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The first 4 bits (blue) specify the network frame type:

- **0000**: NULL frames: These are ignored or can be used for network benchmarking.
- **0001**: SLOT frames: These are transferred to a slot as specified via the SSS bits.
- **0010**: RACK frames: These are interpreted by the rack.
- **0011**: AUTH frames: Used for the authentication token.

**Description of the AUTH frame:**

After opening a TCP connection, the first 8 bytes to be sent are the binary authentication token. This is sort of a “fixed password” as the most basic means to prevent unauthorized access. The authentication token is `0x75f4a4e10dd4b6b` where the last digit, x, has to be replaced by the slot number (0 to 5). The AUTH token has to be sent LSB first (little endian) just as any other network frame.

If the FlexDDS-NG Rack closes the network connection after the AUTH frame, then the authentication failed, i.e. the auth frame was incorrect. (Check port, slot ID and byte order and be sure to transfer 8 binary bytes and not 16 text letters!)

**Description of SLOT frames:**

The destination slot address is specified via the three SSS bits; valid values are 000 for slot 0 to 101 for slot 5.

The 4 CCCC bits specify a channel bit mask inside the slot. To address DCP channel 1, use 0001, for channel 2 use 0010, for channel 3 (if available) use 0100 and so on. To address multiple channels, set multiple bits. E.g. to address channels 0 and 1 with the same instruction, use 0011.

The 48 D bits represent the DCP instruction as explained in chapter 3.1 on page 10.