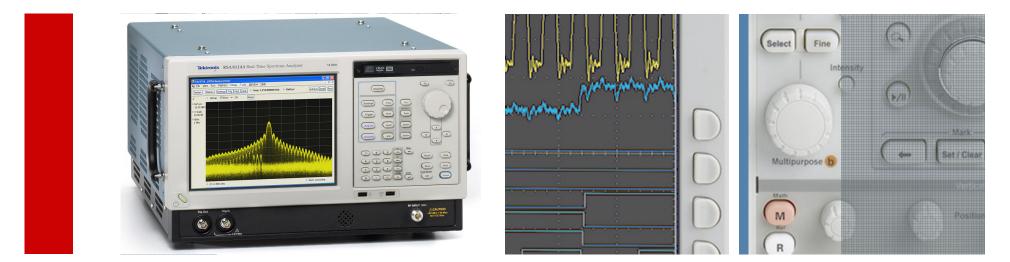
# **Real-Time Spectrum Analysis**

Applied to Complex RF Modulation Analysis – from Software Defined Radio to RFID...



Presented by: Alan Wolke, W2AEW RF Application Engineer



### Agenda

#### Introduction to Real-Time Spectrum Analysis

- Understand Spectrum Analyzer architectures
- Discover
  - Learn how to see what you've been missing!

#### Trigger

Multiple Trigger modes to capture the most elusive events!

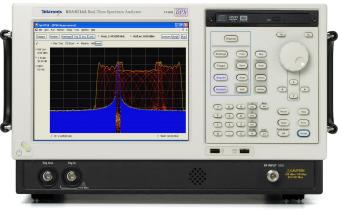
#### Capture

 Seamless signal capture into deep memory – nothing is missed!

#### Analyze

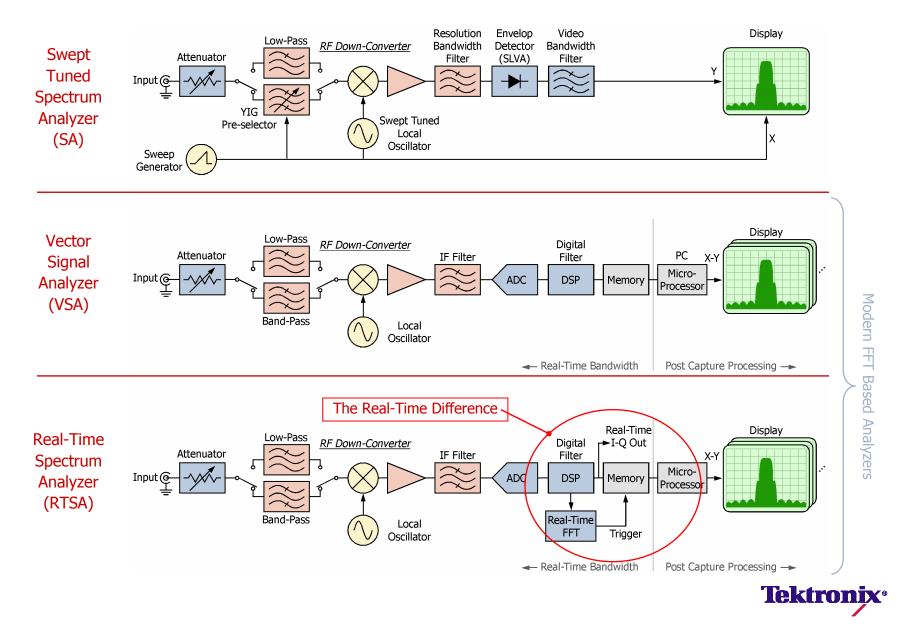
- Time Correlated, Multidomain displays:
  - Spectral Measurements
  - Analog and Digital Demodulation
  - RF Measurements
  - Pulsed Measurements

...all time correlated!



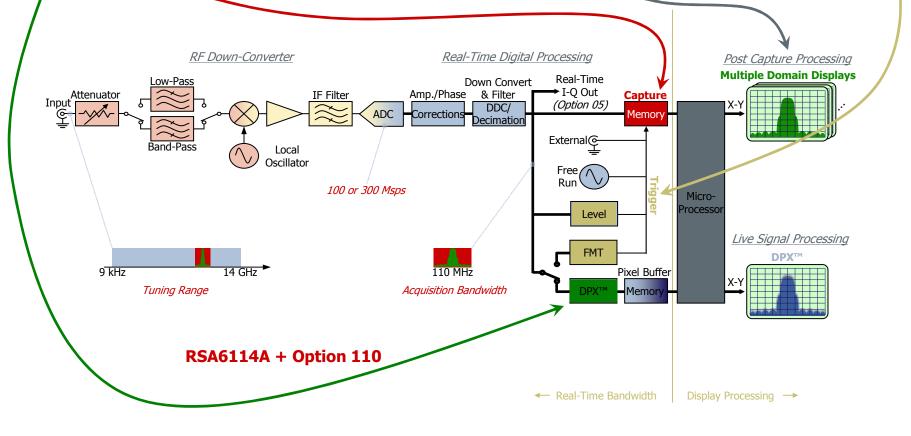


#### Simplified Analyzer Block Diagrams



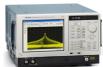
#### **RSA6100A Simplified Block Diagram**

- Discover with DPX™, Trigger in powerful ways
- /Capture signals into memory, Analyze in Multiple Domains

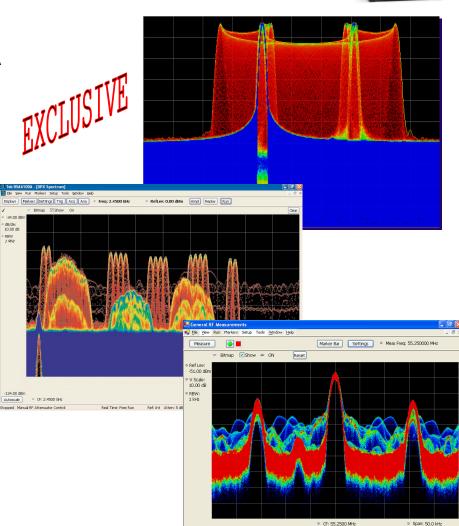




### Discovering with DPX<sup>™</sup> Spectrum



- Oscilloscope DPX<sup>™</sup> Now on RTSA
- 48,828 vs. 40 Spectrums/Second
- 100% POI for Transients  $\geq$  24  $\mu$ s
- See signals under signals...
- 'Live' Signal Viewing...
- No Trigger or Capture Issues

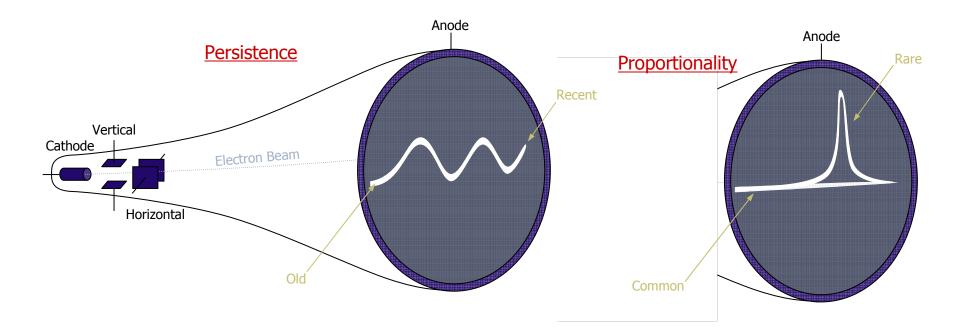




### Digital Phosphor & Cathode Ray Tubes



- 'Digital Phosphor' gets its name from the phosphor coating in CRTs.
- The phosphor coating in CRTs has desirable qualities:

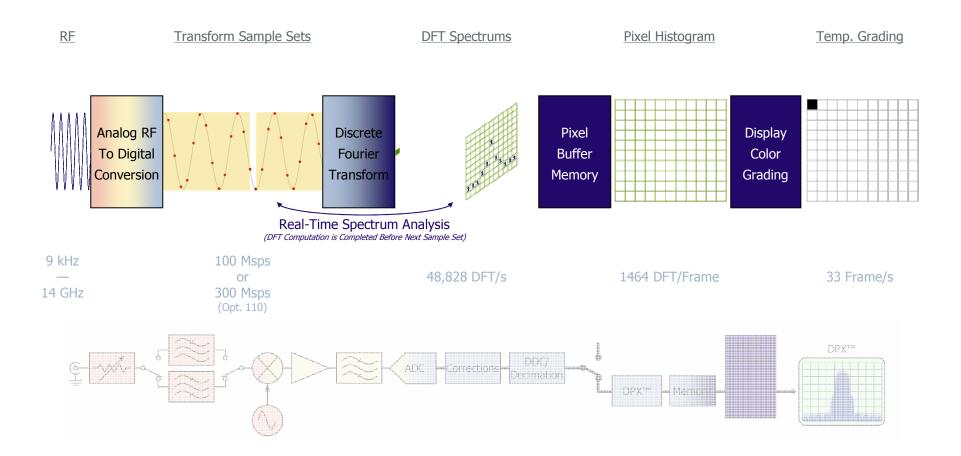


Liquid Crystal Displays (LCDs) do not have these properties.



### The DPX<sup>™</sup> Transform Engine







#### Demonstration of DPX<sup>™</sup> on the RSA6114A

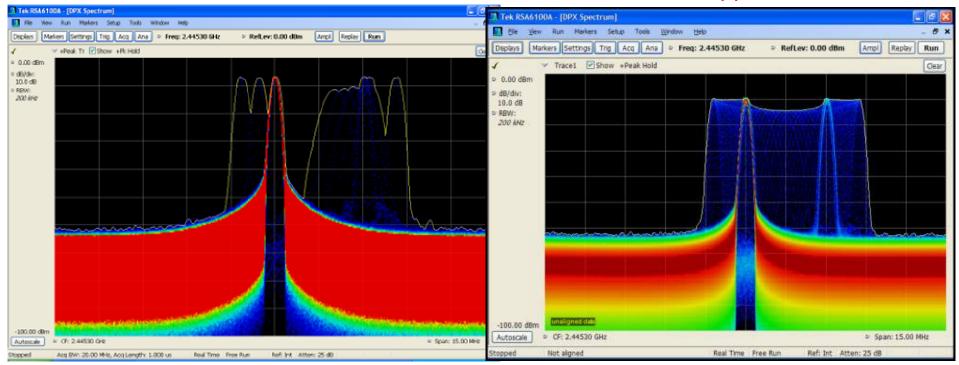
- Live RF signal observation
  - See RF signals in a way that you've never seen before
  - See signals "under" other signals, signals in the noise floor
  - Observe interaction of multiple RF sources
- Unmatched infrequent event POI
  - DPX<sup>™</sup> shows you the infrequent glitches that drive you crazy
  - Arms you with the knowledge to debug...



#### Option 200 – Advanced DPX 292,000 Spectrums/Sec! Old DPX – approx 5 seconds



#### New DPX – approx 5 seconds



- Faster update rate = better POI for shorter signal
- More time-domain dynamic range
  - Ionger to 'saturate' reds
- 2000X Span/RWB improvement



#### Option 200 – Advanced DPX 292,000 Spectrums/Sec!

ratio

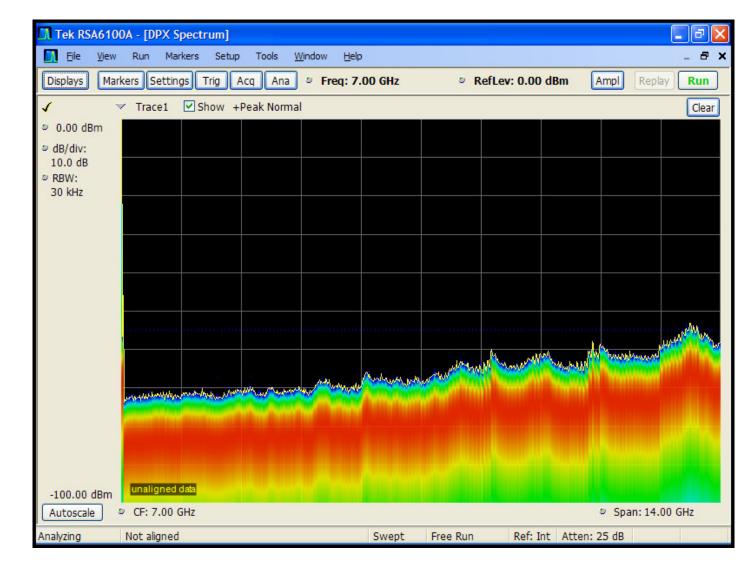


Tek RSA6100A - [DPX Spectrum] File View Run Markers Setup Tools Window Help a x Markers Settings Trig Acq Ana SFreq: 2.4500 GHz RefLev: -50.00 dBm Ampl Replay Run Displays Trace1 Show +Peak Normal Clear -50.00 dBm 3 MR: 489.463 m% 2.4146625 GHz dB/div: -101.00 dBm Improved 10.0 dE RBW: Span/RBW 30 kHz (was 1 MHz **RBW** in 110 MHz Span) \*See further into noise floor and resolve more **NB** signals unaligned data -150.00 dBm CF: 2.4500 GHz Span: 110.0 MHz Autoscale Real Time Free Run Analyzing Not aligned Ref: Int Atten: 10 dB Preamp





### Option 200 - Swept DPX! 9 kHz – 14 GHz DPX





#### Demonstration of Advanced DPX<sup>™</sup> on the RSA6114A

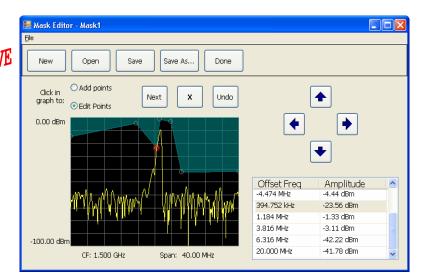
- Signal Density Representation
  - Scale and Colors...
  - Density Measurement
- Narrow Resolution BW
  - See much "deeper" into the noise
- Swept DPX<sup>™</sup>
  - Redefining swept spectrum analysis!

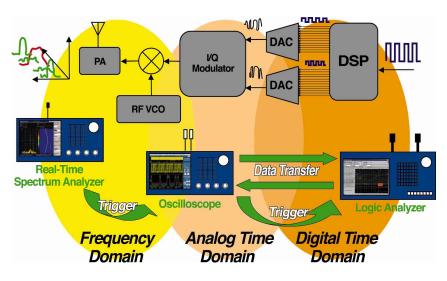




### Powerful *Triggering* Features

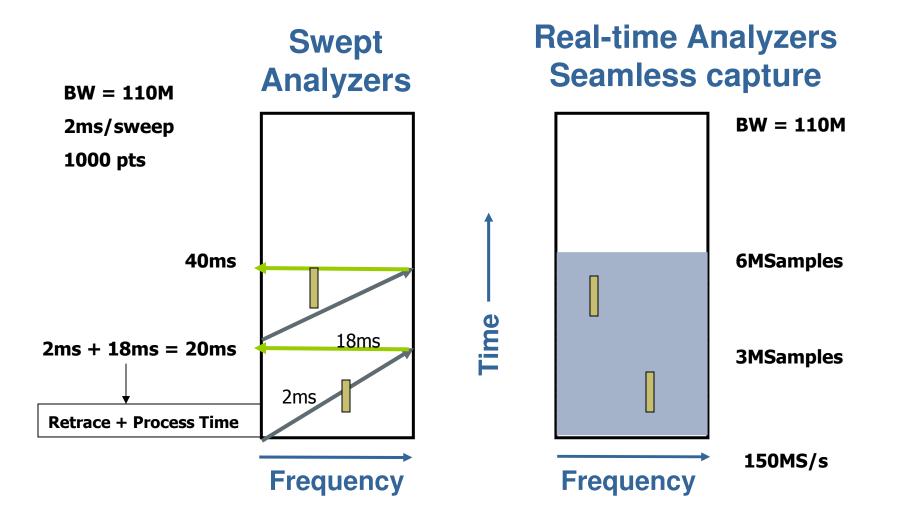
- Frequency Mask Trigger (FMT)
  - Flexible Amplitude/Frequency discriminating trigger
  - Simple mask creation on Spectrum, up to 500 points across SPAN
- Power/Amplitude Trigger
  - Full SPAN or band-pass filtered
  - Adjustable threshold/polarity
- External Electrical Trigger
  - Two electrical trigger inputs
- Cross-Trigger Capabilities
  - Trigger RSA from Scope or LA
  - Scope or LA triggered from RSA
  - RSA Triggers Arbitrary Waveform Generator







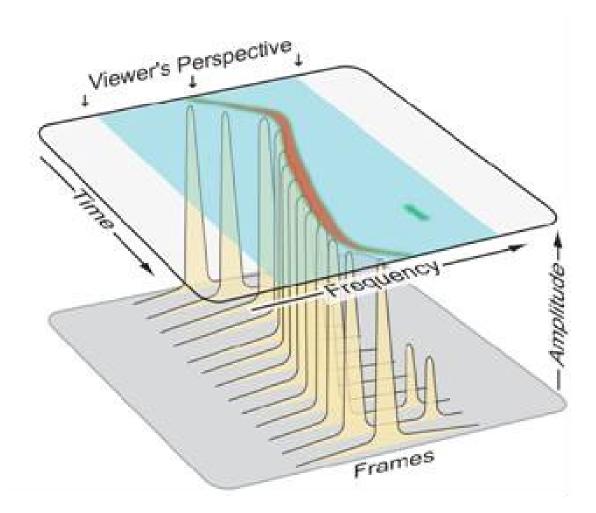
#### Swept vs. Real-time Seamless Capture



**Tektronix**<sup>•</sup>

#### Seamless Capture and Spectrogram

- The spectrogram shows how an RF signal changes over time in the frequency domain
- Frequency is the horizontal axis, time is the vertical axis, and power is represented by the color of the trace





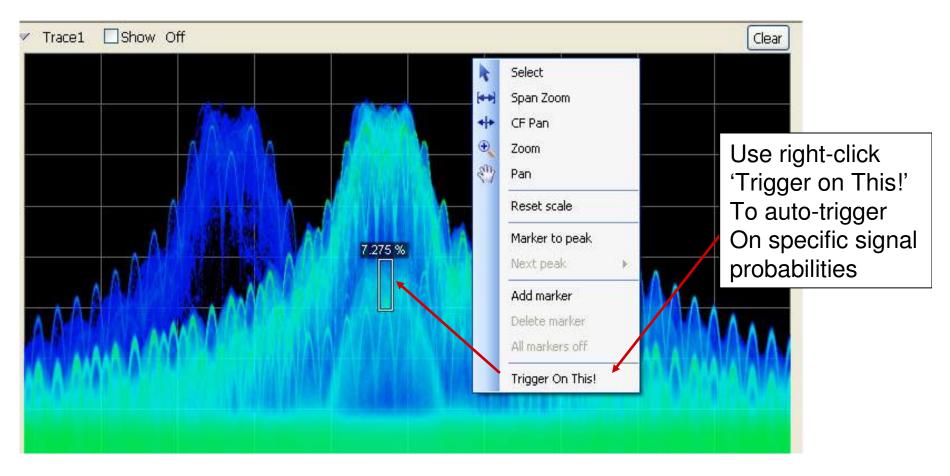
#### Demonstration: Trigger & Capture Transient Events

- See how FMT triggers on spectral events
- Seamless capture of the RF event into memory
- Analyze the captured signal in multiple domains
- Trigger, Capture and Analyze Key-Fob transmitters



### Option 200 - DPX Density ® Trigger!!!! Trigger on signal's actual probability anywhere in display

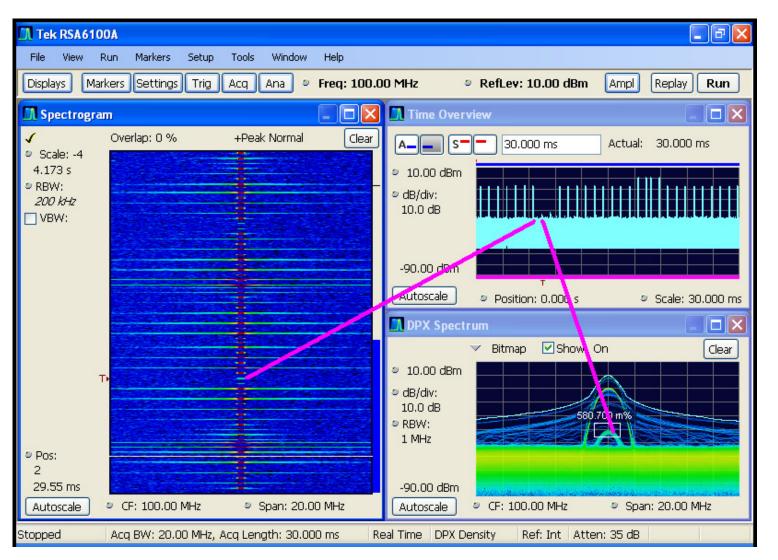






### Option 200 - DPX Density ® Trigger Trigger on signal's actual probability anywhere in display





Note "T" – Trigger pos In Time Overview





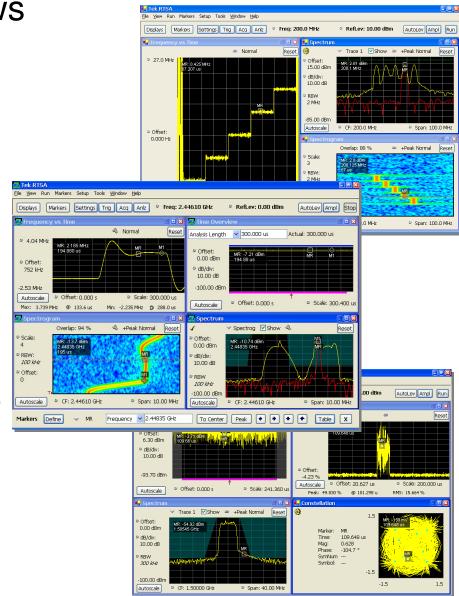
### NEW DPX<sup>™</sup> Density Trigger Demonstration

- Trigger on Specific DPX Signal Features
  - Pick a feature Trigger on This!
- Trigger on Specific DPX Density Changes
  - Trigger on signals under signals!



#### Multi-Domain Analysis Views

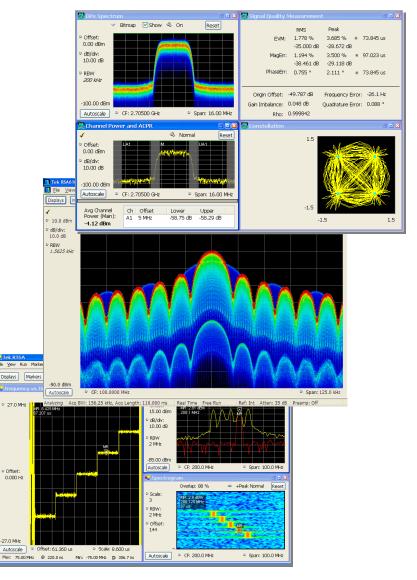
- General Analysis
  - DPX<sup>™</sup> Spectrum
  - Spectrum, Spectrogram
  - Amplitude, Frequency, Phase, IQ vs. Time
- Digital Demodulation
  - Constellation
  - EVM, Mag/Phase Error vs. Time
  - Symbol Table
- RF Measurements
  - ACLR, MCPR, CCDF, OBW, xDB
  - Multi-Range Spurious, Phase Noise
- Pulsed RF Measurements
  - Power, Rise/Fall, PW, PRI, Freq & Phase, Deviation, Accuracy, etc.
- All available at any time...





#### Flexible Display and Analysis Configuration

- Full flexibility in choosing displays
  - Displays from any domain can be open simultaneously
  - All real-time displays are fully timecorrelated
- Captured data can be analyzed many ways
  - Add a new display and "replay"
  - Adjust analysis window and "replay"
  - Even adjust Center Frequency, SPAN and RBW and "replay"
- Many Data Export options
  - Save IQ in Internal, CSV and MATLAB formats
  - Save results to CSV or trace files
  - Save images to PNG, JPG, BMP





#### **Application Examples**

• Applications of both the RSA6100A and RSA3000B Series Analyzers

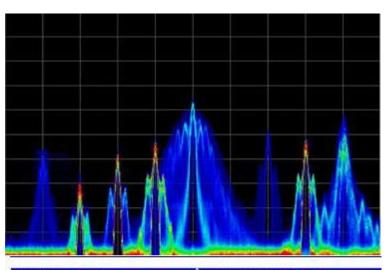


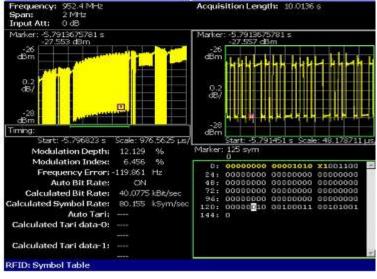


#### Application: RFID -

Beyond The Conventional Compliance Tester

- Industry's only field interoperability tester and real time interference troubleshooting tool
  - Unique DPX Sees and measures Interrogator-Tag transactions LIVE to debug problems such as:
    - Tag confusion under adjacent interrogators set up
    - High power tags interference with low power tags
    - Listen-before-talk bugs
- Most comprehensive set of standards-based analysis for compliance test
  - First with ISO18000-7 and ISO 15693
  - ISO 18000-4, 18000-6 Type A/B/C, 18092, 14443-2 Type A/B, EPC Global Generation 1 Class 0, Class 1
- Complete transaction capture with exclusive frequency mask trigger, wide bandwidth, and deep memory
  - Real time analysis on ISO 18000-6C US 26 MHz hopping operation BW
  - Leading 1.28 seconds capture @ 36 MHz RTBW
  - Industry-leading 73dB dynamic range @ 36MHz capture BW







#### Application: WLAN

Cost Effective Solution for Your 802.11a/b/g/n inc. MIMO Tests

#### DPX provides Live RF

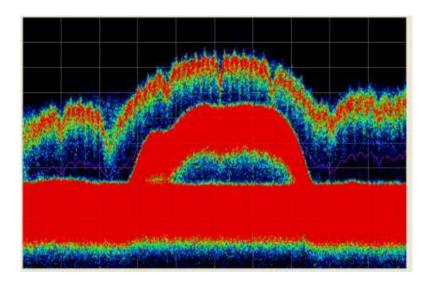
Discover turn-on transients, frequency hopping faults and interference

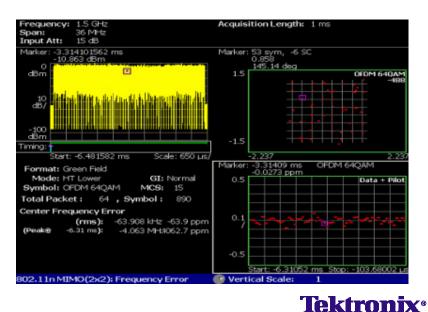
► The only mid-range spectrum analyzer capable of 802.11n measurements

–Full suite of 802.11a/b/g/n with MIMO measurements

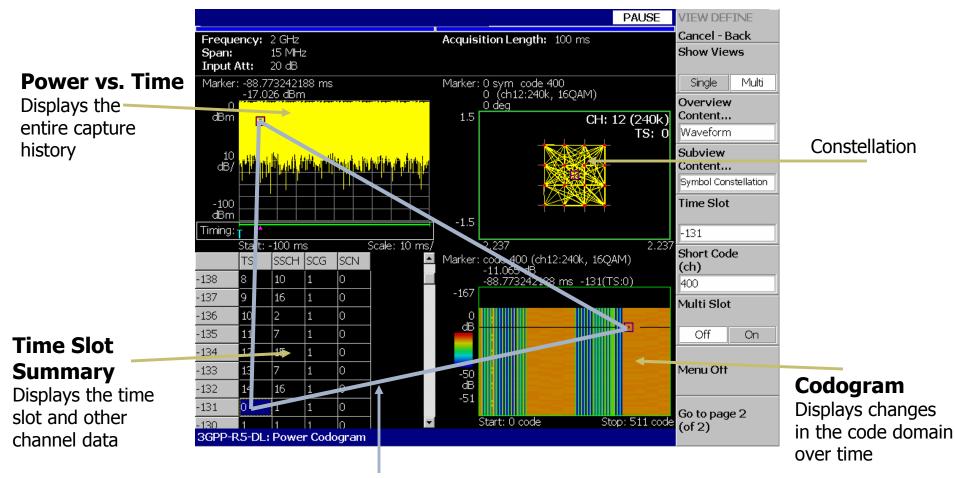
Tektronix Exclusive Tools for 802.11n
 Designers – Transfer Efficiency and
 Transfogram

- Characterize MIMO EVM
- Characterize transmission environment
- Root cause analysis simplified by unique frequency mask trigger
  - Cross triggering to other debug tools available





#### Application: Cellular Standards based analysis (3GPP shown)



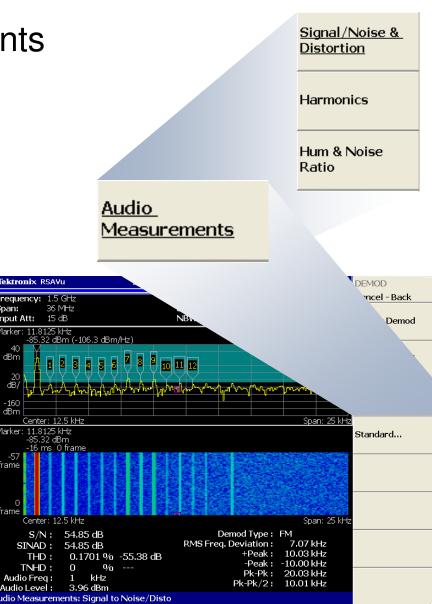
#### **Time-correlated views**

All of the markers are time-synchronized



#### Application: Radio/Audio Audio Distortion Measurements

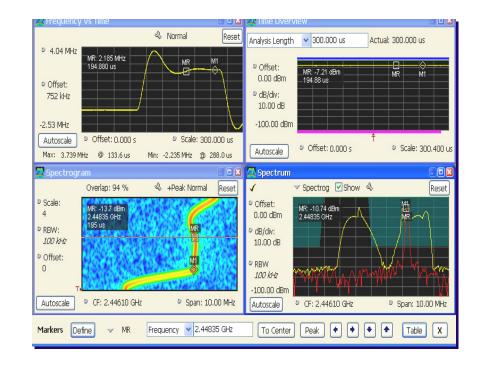
- Distortion analysis for AM, FM and Baseband signals
- Automatic calculation of key distortion parameters
- Tabulated results of harmonic and non-harmonic components
- Automatic calculation of Hum and Noise
- Display of Audio Spectrum
- Display of Audio Spectrogram





#### Application: Phase Lock Loop Settling Time

- Step Change in Frequency
  - How long does the change take
  - How much does it overshoot
- Spectrogram display
  - Shows entire SPAN range of frequencies over time
- Frequency vs Time display
  - Allows easy measurement of overshoot/undershoot
- Phase vs. Time Display
  - How long to reach final phase
  - Evaluation performance of DPLL
- Time Overview display
  - Shows signal power during transition
- Frequency Mask Trigger
  - Allows triggering on only the frequency transition of interest





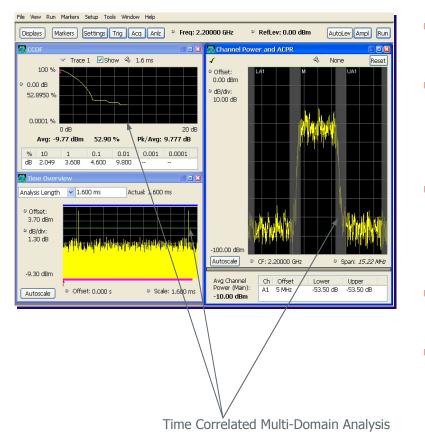
#### Demonstration of PLL/Synthesizer Tuning & Settling

- Observe, Trigger and Capture PLL Setting behavior
- Analyze Settling time, Stability, etc.
- Show how "Replay" of acquisition data can give new results
  - PLL tuning example
  - Change analysis position and parameters and calculate new results
  - Change/Add/Remove different analysis on same acquisition
  - Examine signal in new ways



### Application: SDR and Amplifiers Non-Linear Effects & Digital Glitches

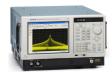




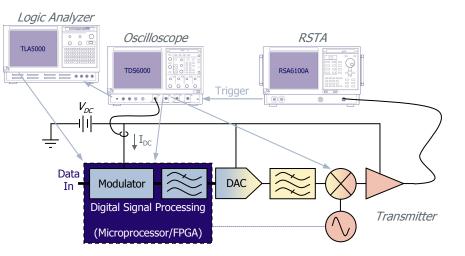
- Complex Digital Pre-Distortion
- Glitches Maybe Data Dependent
- Challenge: Trace Source of Glitches
  - Misaligned Modulated Bias Techniques
- Challenge: Finding Algorithm Problems
  - i.e. Sources of "Memory," Overflow, etc..
- Benefit: Correlated CCDF, ACPR, etc...
- Benefit: RTSA Finds the Problems Fast

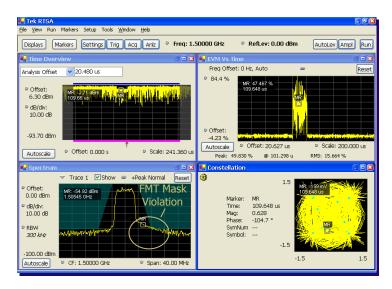


#### Application: SDR and Amplifiers Transient RF Distortion



- RTSA Supplies Trigger to Oscilloscope & TLA
  - Trigger Source Based on Frequency
    Domain Change, Initiates Data Capture
- Efficient RTSA FMT Triggering
  - Mask Set to Detect Only RF Problems
- Time Correlated Multiple Domains
  - Droop, Re-Growth & EVM Jump can be
    Correlated to Frequency Domain Event
- **RTSA Benefits:** Avoid False Triggers
  - Correlate Spectrum, EVM &
    Constellation as well as Current on
    External Oscilloscope and code on TLA







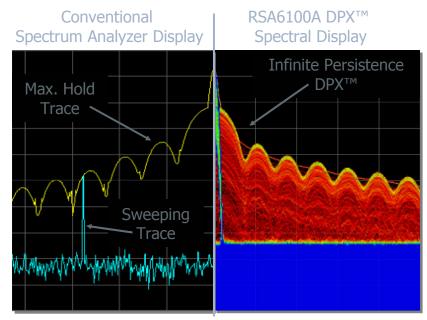
#### Demonstration of Transient RF Distortion: *Discover, Trigger, Capture and Analyze...*

- Use of DPX<sup>TM</sup> to *Discover* the problem
- Use of FMT to trigger on the problem
- Seamlessly capture the event into the RSA
- Analyze the signal in multiple-domains
  - VSA-type and SA-type measurements
  - Time correlated, multiple domain analysis



#### Application: RADAR and Pulsed RF Signals

- Use DPX<sup>™</sup> to examine pulsed signals
  - ...and between the pulses!
- Trigger in various ways
- Seamlessly capture pulses into memory
  - …or even into segmented memory
- Pulse Measurement Suite gives you
  - Automatic detection of pulses
  - 21 pulse parameter measurements
  - Tabular and Graphical Results
  - Analyze up to 10,000 pulses





#### **Pulse Parameter Analysis**

- Pulse Table Measurements
- View Graphical the Pulse Trace
- View Trend for Parameters
- Analyze Parameter Trends

Mew Run Markers Setup Tools <u>Wi</u>ndow <u>H</u>elp

≅ 0.00 dB

-100.00 dB

topped Not algred

Autoscale = 0.000 Hz

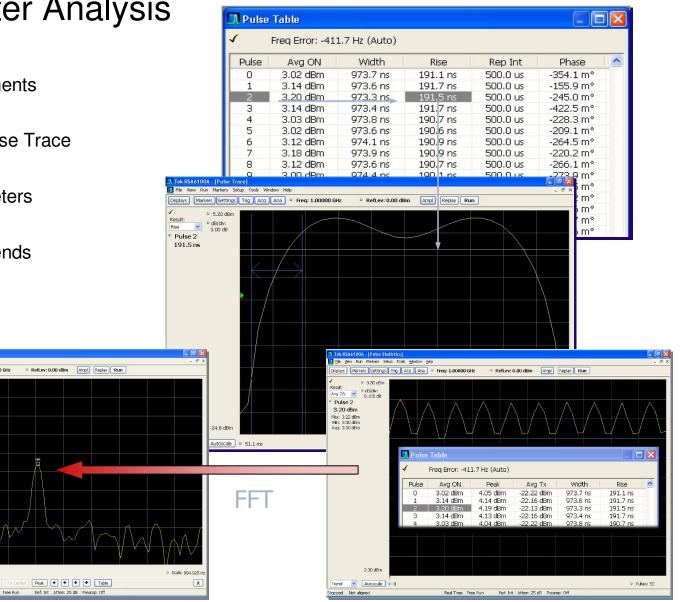
Markers Define V MR Frequency V 402.010 Hz

Real Time Free Run

Result: Avg ON V 0B/div: 10.00 dB

Result:

Displays Markers Settings Trig Acq Ana C Freq: 1.00000 GHz





### Other Enhanced Trigger Features

- Runt Trigger
  - Trigger on pulses that don't reach full amplitude, or don't fully extinguish
- Time Qualification of Triggering
  - Trigger on Events that
    - Are shorter than defined interval
    - Are longer than defined interval
    - Are outside of a defined time window
    - Are inside of a defined time window
  - Trigger Holdoff Control
  - Applies to ALL trigger modes

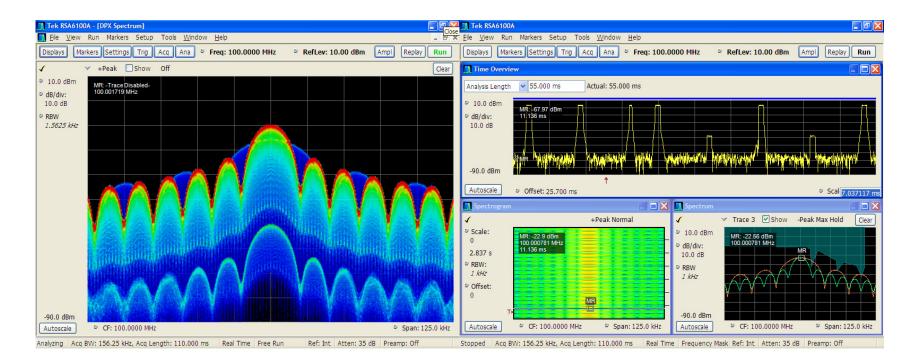


#### Demonstration: Pulsed RF Signal Characterization

- Use DPX<sup>™</sup> to examine Pulsed RF signals
  - See characteristics invisible to conventional analyzers
- Trigger on Pulsed Signals
- Capture into memory
- Analyze with the Pulse Measurement Suite
- Examine:
  - Simple pulsed RF signals
  - Pulsed RF signals with parameter variations
  - Pulsed RF signals with modulation



### Summary

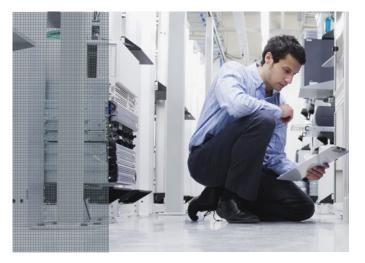


- Use DPX<sup>TM</sup> to *Discover* the anomalies
- Use Frequency Mask Trigger to Trigger on the anomaly
- Seamlessly Capture the event into memory
- *Analyze* before, during and after the anomaly in multiple domains

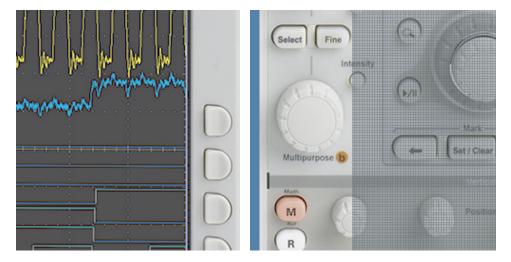


## Thank You!

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RTSA – Discover... Trigger... Capture... Analyze

