Tests in Pittsburgh With Cylinder prototype

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Outline

- > June tests
- > Future tests in November

21cm BAO Electronics Meeting, September 29th 2009

Tests in Pittsburgh

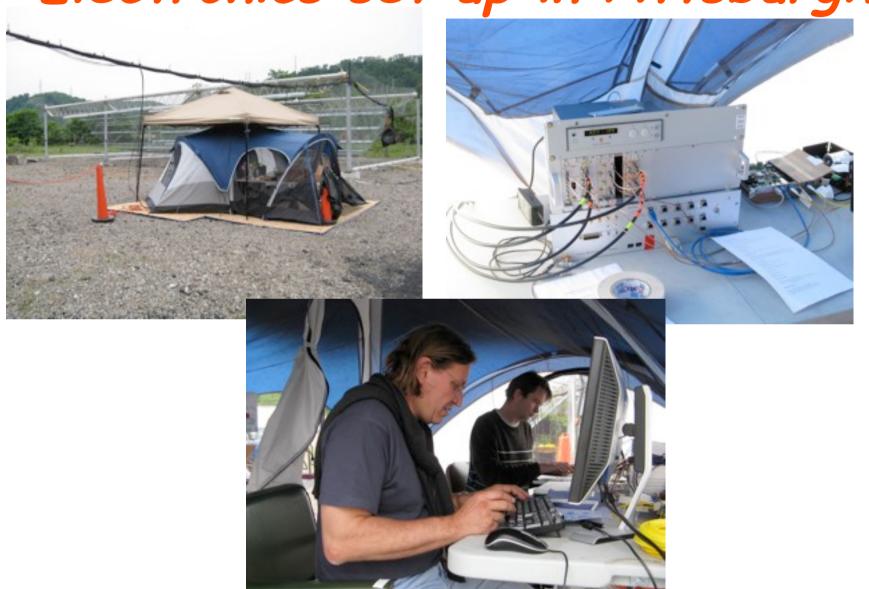
Several test campaigns foreseen:

- > June 2009: Correlations between 2 cylinders (4 channels)
- > Fall 2009: North-South beam forming (16 channels)
- > Spring 2010: 32 channels with FPGA correlators

Strategy

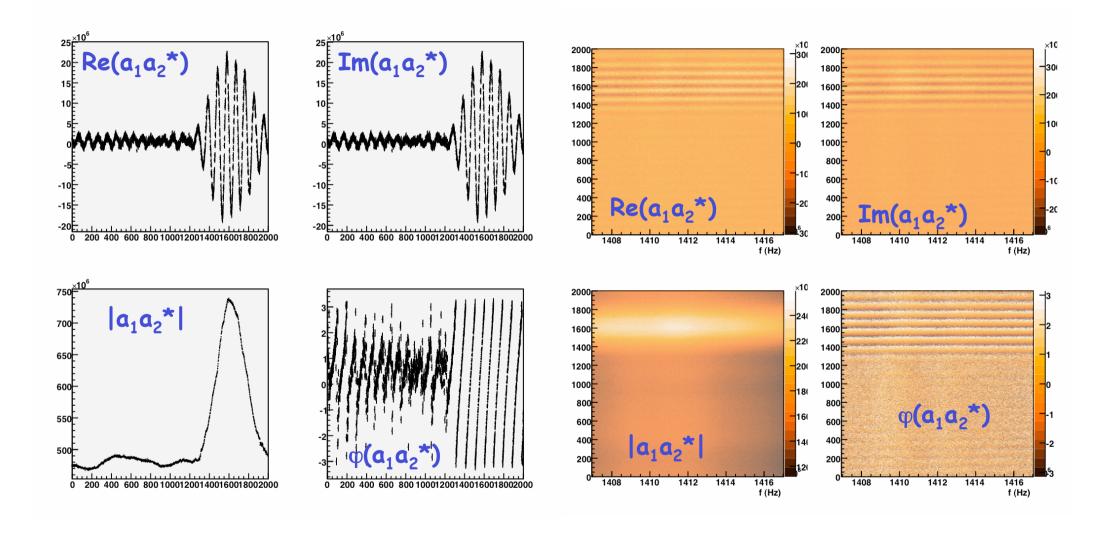
- \triangleright Measurements of the visibility between cylinders ($a_1a_2^*$)
- > Tests different firmware (with simple sampling and with FFT on board FPGA)
- > Compare with or without down-conversion.

Electronics set up in Pittsburgh

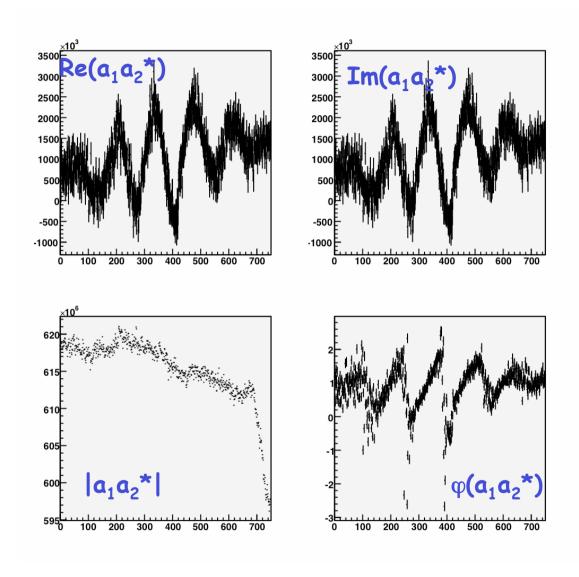


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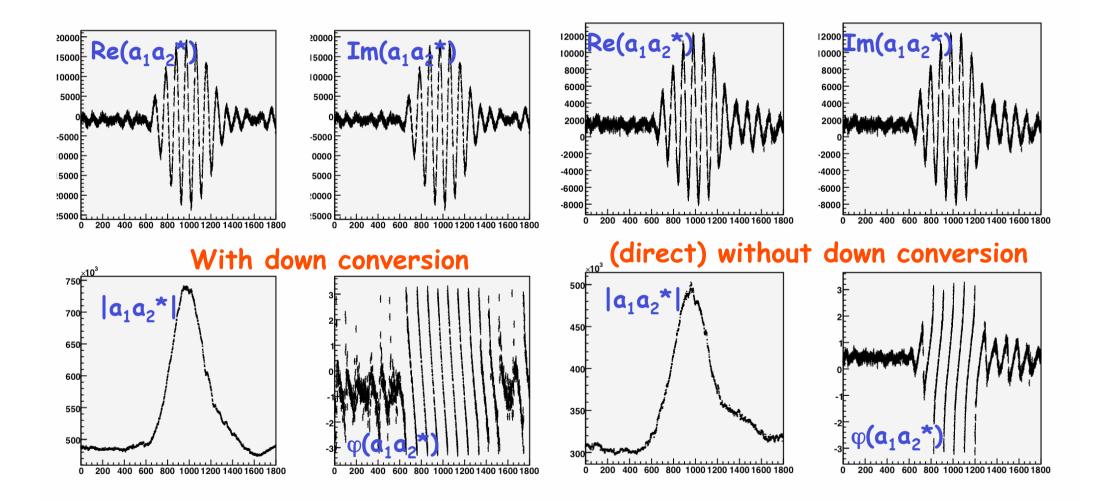
Sun Transit with "down conversion"



Cas-A Transit



Sun Transit with on-the-fly FFT



Tests in November

Goal:

- > North-South beam forming (8 channels for each cylinder)
- > Off-line beam forming
- > On-line phase array (if correlator ready)

Hardware:

- > 16 amplifiers (25-30 db) close to feeds and dipoles
- > 4 ADC boards (4 channels per board)
- > 8 fibers 4 PCI-Express (2 fibers per PCI-Express)
- > 2 Servers (2 PCI-Express board per server)

Tests in November

Lab tests:

- > 8 channels + 1 server
- > Successful tests
- > Reasonable read out: trigger 2KHz, useful bunches (not lost + overlap) ~ 70-80%
- > Observed band in Pittsburgh: 20MHz
- ⇒Possible to improve the read out (at least to reduce data size stored on disk)
- > Remaining problems with 2nd FIFO

Next steps:

- > If everybody agrees, inform Jeff that want to perform tests by the end of November
- > Full test in lab, Mid-October (16 channels)

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Schedule

- > Nov. 22-27: Tests in Pittsburgh
- ➤ Nov. 1-6 : Shipping
- Mid-October: Lab tests with 16 channels (4 ADC boards and 2 servers)

Whole electronic chain (analog electronic+ADC boards (FFT)+PCI-express)

- > Finalize hardware before end of October
- > Development of software (firmware and acquisition) can be made till mid-November (not mandatory)

Electronics meeting

- > Improve read out speed
- > Fix jitter problem with 2nd FIFO
- > Fix "comb" problem