

Little-Experience with Leach Controller

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- We got the controller over the holidays and started using it box the 2nd week on January 3rd.
- It really worked out of the box, took me less than a day to install the software (PCI driver for the fiber communication with the PC and Voodoo).
- I installed the controller in a Windows-XP box. (Seems like we have a windows programmer that will be available to help with this.)
- We got the timing file for the LBNL CCD from Mike on Jan-18 and we were able to look at the clocks in the scope on Jan-19. Really easy to do this by simply pointing the gui to the write file.

Voodoo

- Voodoo is simple and robust, and has some nice features:
 - Data path check that allows you to download data to any of your boards, and read it back. This includes the PCI board in the computer. Saves a lot of time when looking for a problem.
 - You can produce a fake image in the controller and read it back into the PC. Again, a nice check that things are working.

Voodoo is not a EC

- Even though is very robust and easy to use, Voodoo does not have the functionality of Mec. In Mec's GUI you can change any of the parameters in the focal plane definition and monitor its value (after a lot of work telemetry is now functional). From Voodoo you do not have access to everything from the GUI.
- Mec also is almost trivially expanded. For example, when you change a voltage using the GUI, you can look at the Mec console window and learn what tcl command you need to write to do the same change with a tcl script. This makes it very easy to expand and convenient work work with for non tcl experts.