

# PI Controllers, Lock-ins and PLLs

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nc-AFM Summer School, Osnabrück, Sept. 14th, 2016

# RHK nc-AFM at a Glance



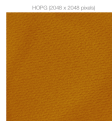
**Beetle VT UHV STM/AFM**

- Low drift, low noise, high resolution imaging across broad range of environments and condition and applications
- Extremely flexible and expandable system for broadest experimental flexibility
- Cantilever and qPlus nc-AFM



**R9.5 SPM Controller**

- Fully Integrated One Box Solution
- Ultra Low Noise HV Outputs
- 2 PLLs can be linked or independent
- PLL LockGuard
- Time Based Data Acquisition (TBDA)
- Full Diagnostics Suite



AFM-qPlus image<sup>1</sup>  
HOPG (2540 x 2045 pixels)  
1000 x 1000  
qPlus cantilever, 1000 Hz, 10 nN  
1000 Hz  
1000 Hz  
1000 Hz  
1000 Hz



**PanScan Freedom  
LT UHV STM/AFM**

- LHe-Free
- Cryogen Cost-Free
- Interruption-Free
- Hassle-Free
- Atomic Resolution 9-400 K
- qPlus nc-AFM

# Why do I talk about control electronics

For best results the operator needs to:

- know his microscope and electronics well
- be confident in operating it
- able to interpret symptoms for diagnose

## 1 Introduction

## 2 PI Controllers

- Gains
- Step Response
- Forcing the Output

## 3 Microscope and Signals

- Signals in and out of the Microscope
- Phasors and Instantaneous Frequency
- Cantilever Resonance Plot

## 4 Mixing

## 5 Lock-in Amplifiers [2]

- Mixing and Filtering
- Decimation

## 6 Phase Locked Loops (PLLs)

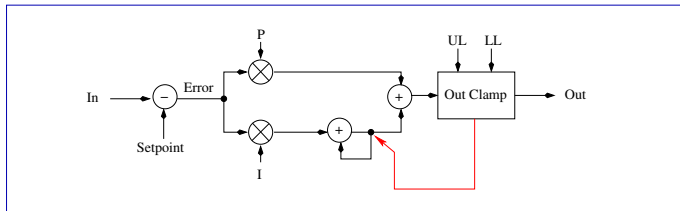
- Adding an Amplitude Control loop
- PLL Block
- Tuning the PLL



# Feedback Control Systems

A lesson about Control Systems,  
learned in the shower

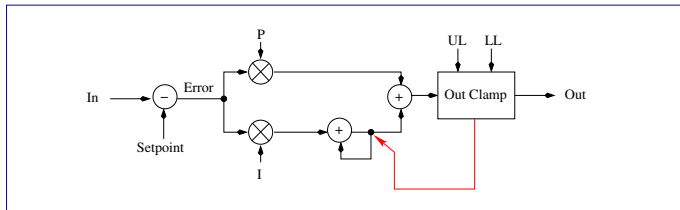
# Proportional and Integral gain



Gains: P and I

$$O = Pe + I \int e \, dt, \quad e = \text{error}$$

# Proportional and Integral gain



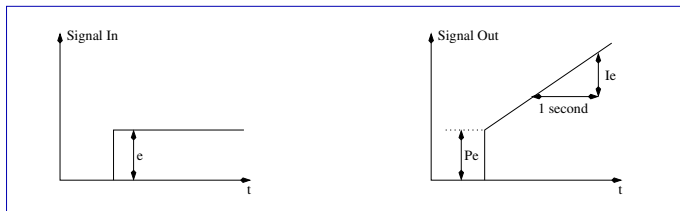
Gains: P and I

$$O = Pe + I \int e dt, e = \text{error}$$

Gain K and cutoff  $f_c$

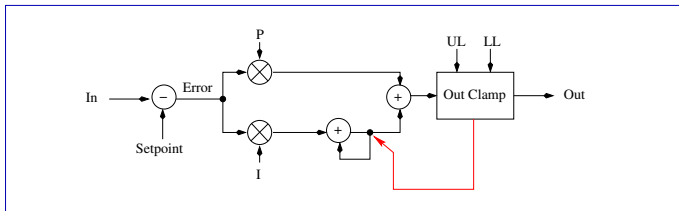
$$\text{Out} = K(e + \pi f_c \int e dt), K = P, f_c = \frac{I}{\pi P}$$

# Open loop step response



An error signal at the input creates a ramp at the output

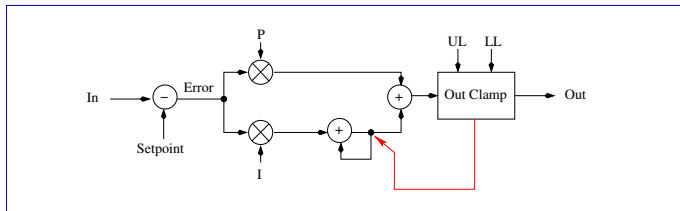
# Output Limits



lower and upper output limit

sweepable limits squeeze the output and force it to any value

# Output Limits



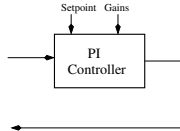
lower and upper output limit

sweepable limits squeeze the output and force it to any value

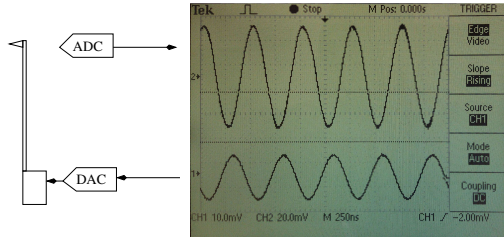
output limits affect the integrator

Output stays until integrator starts running

# PI Controller Block



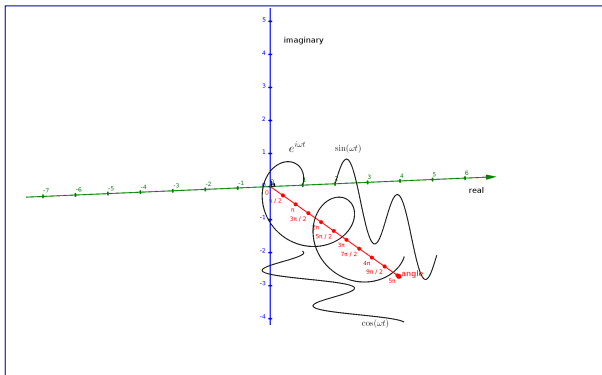
# Signals in and out of the Microscope



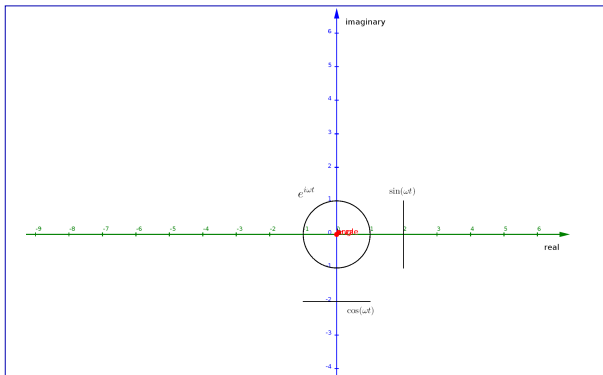


# Another View on Oscillations

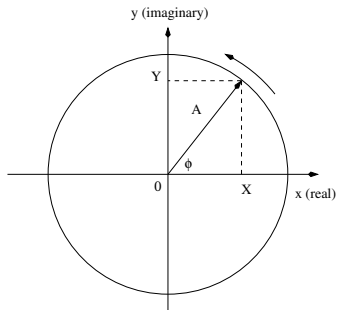
# Phasors: Welcome to Complex Signal Processing



# Phasors: Welcome to Complex Signal Processing



# Phasors



$$X = A \cos(\phi)$$

$$Y = A \sin(\phi)$$

$$\phi = 2\pi ft$$

# It's like in the Velodrome



# Instantaneous Frequency

## Instantaneous Frequency [1]

- speed of change on the phase  $f = \frac{d\phi}{dt}$
- Unit: deg/s, divide by 360 deg/cycle and get Hz
- can change within a cycle (non-sinusoidal oscillation)

# Instantaneous Frequency

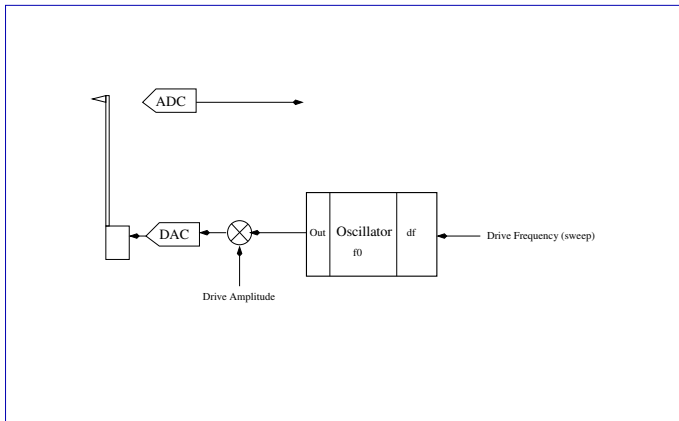
## Instantaneous Frequency [1]

- speed of change on the phase  $f = \frac{d\phi}{dt}$
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## Fourier Transform Frequency

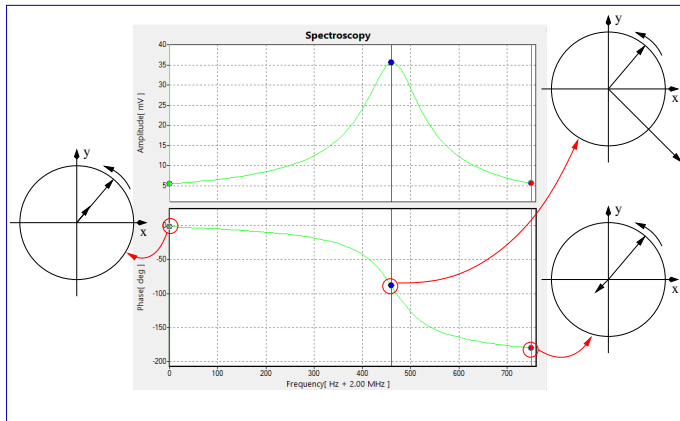
- frequency  $f = \frac{1}{T}$
- does not change over oscillation cycle
- Frequency changes show as sidebands in spectra

# Driving a Cantilever with a Sine Wave

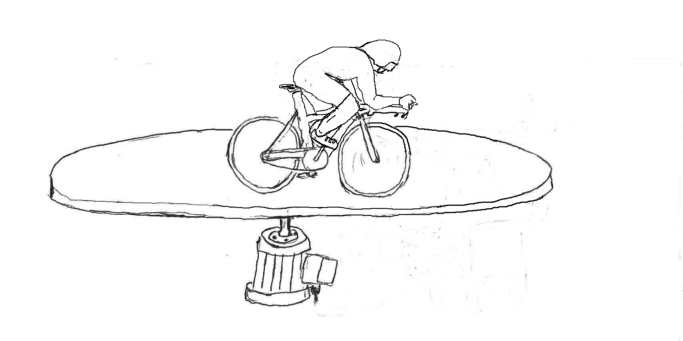




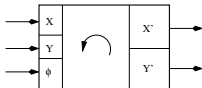
# Cantilever Resonance Plot



# Mixing is Spinning Around the Velodrome's Track



# Rotator Logic



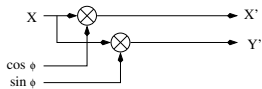
$$X' = X \cos \phi - Y \sin \phi$$

$$Y' = X \sin \phi + Y \cos \phi$$

or

$$X' + i Y' = (X + i Y) e^{i\phi}$$

# Y Input is set to zero

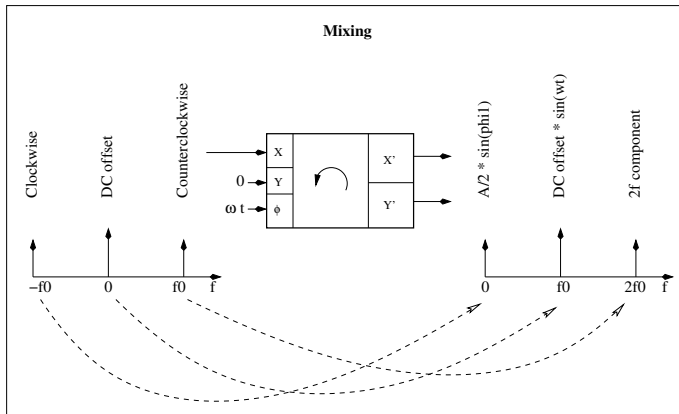


$$X' = X \cos \phi$$

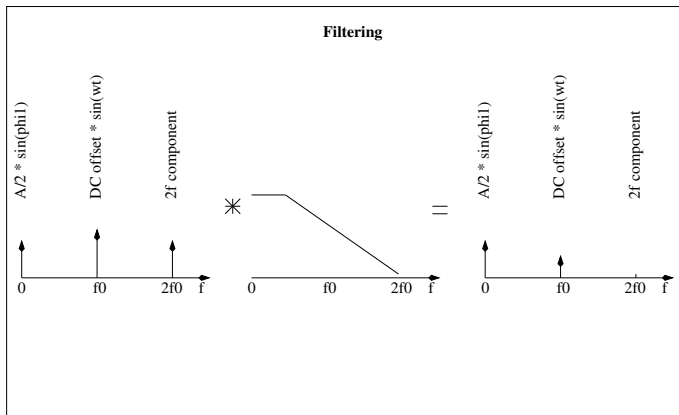
$$Y' = X \sin \phi$$

# The Mixer's Misinterpretation

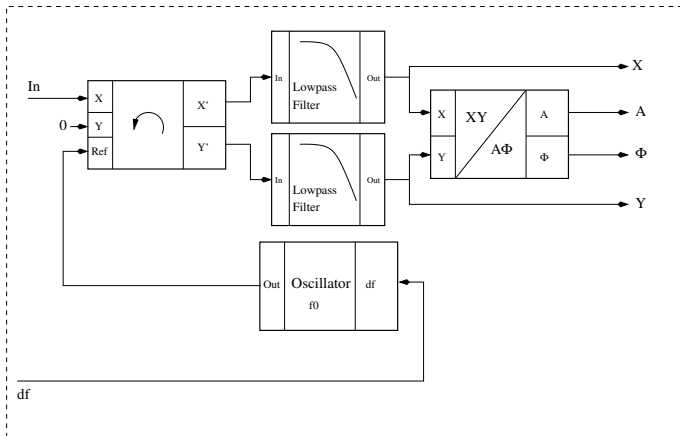
# Mixing shifts frequencies



# Mixing and Filtering

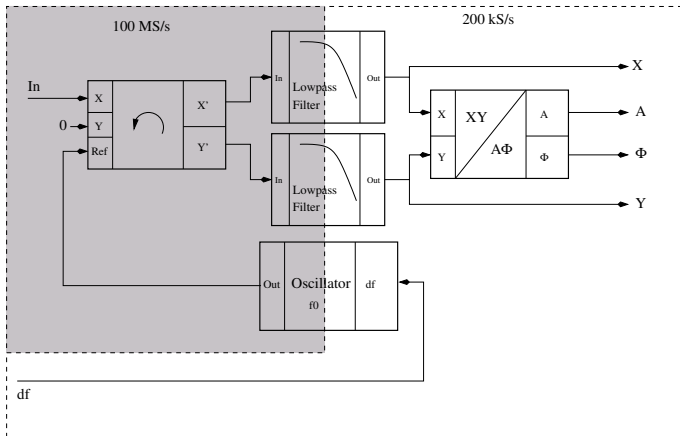


# The AFM Lock-in

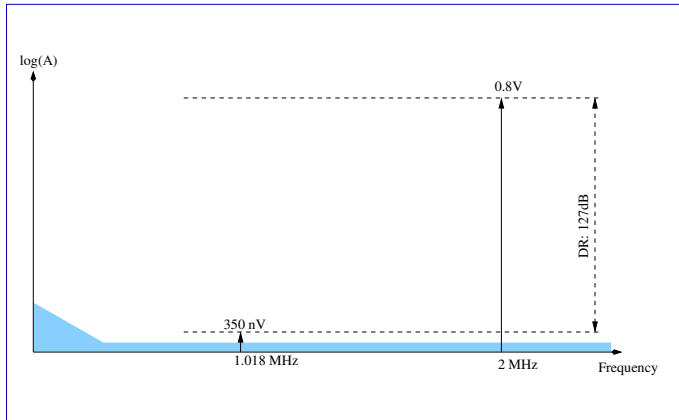




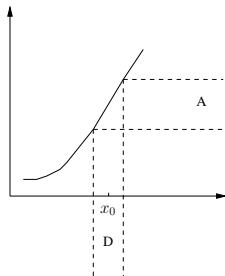
# Decimation



# Dynamic Reserve: Measuring 350nV next to a 0.8V Distortion



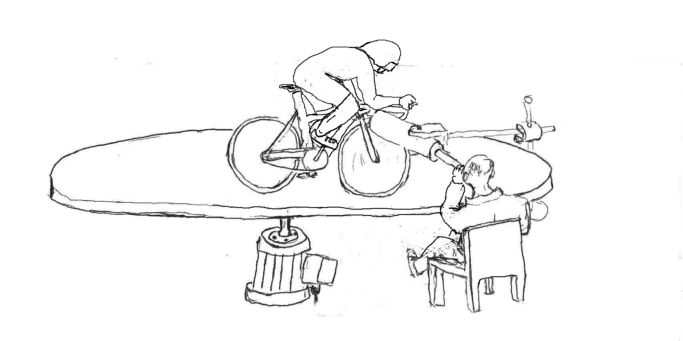
# A lockin can measure slopes



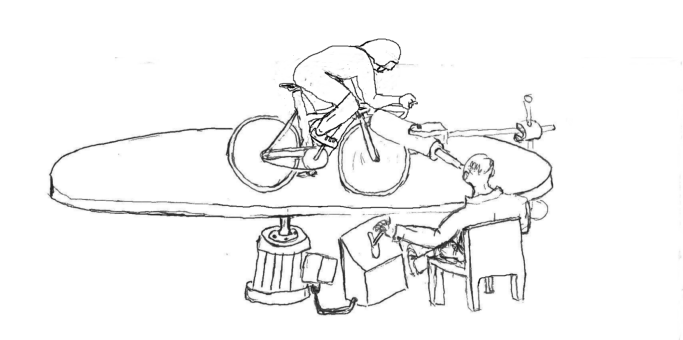
$$f'(x_0) \approx \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x}$$

$$f'(x_0) \approx \frac{A}{D}$$

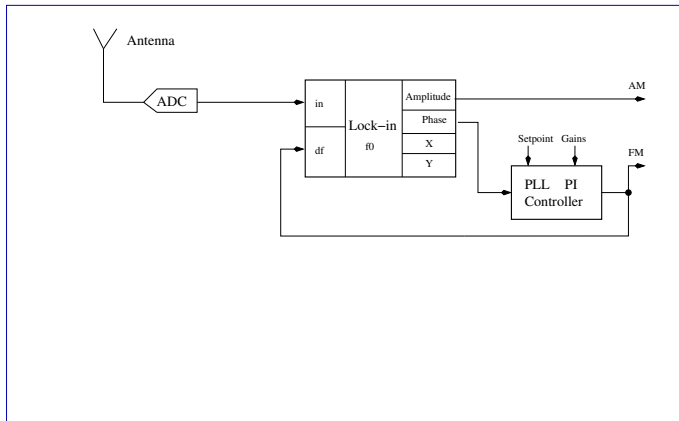
# Cartoon Lock-In



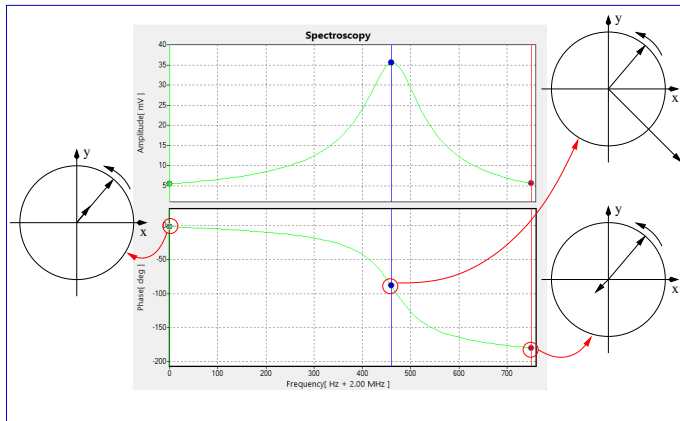
# Cartoon PLL



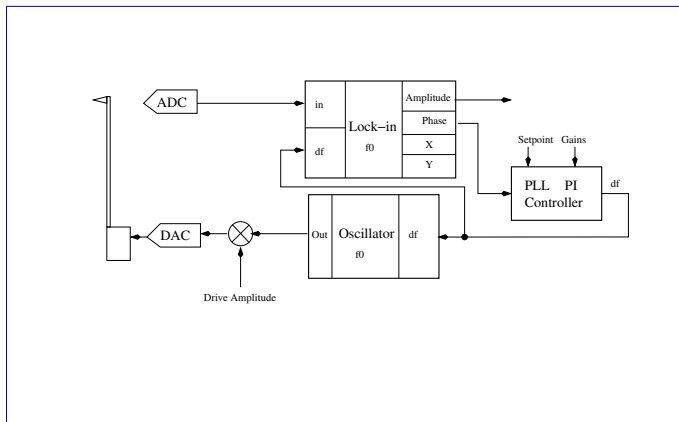
# PLL in FM Radio Receiver



# Cantilever Resonance Plot Again

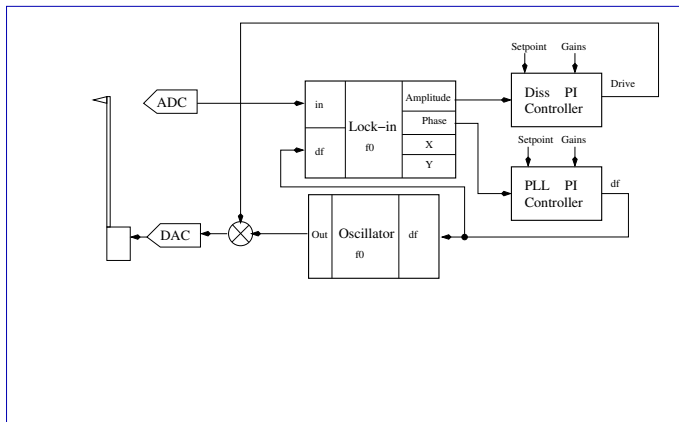


# PLL in Constant Drive (CD) Mode

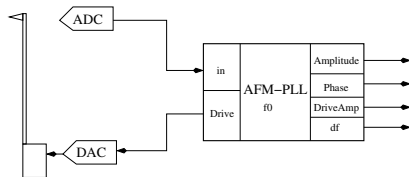




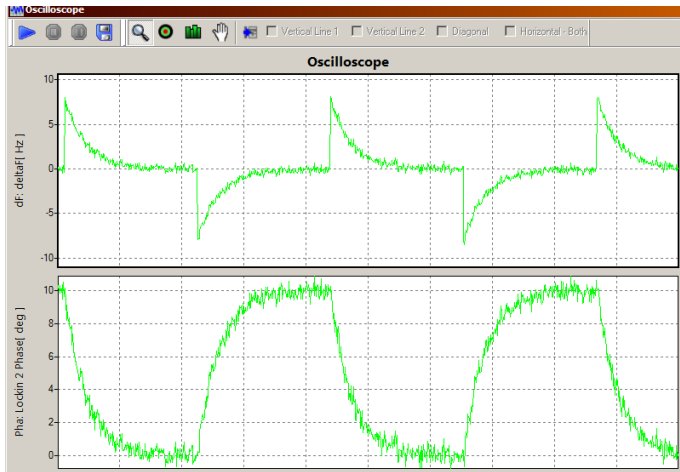
# PLL in Constant Signal (CS) mode



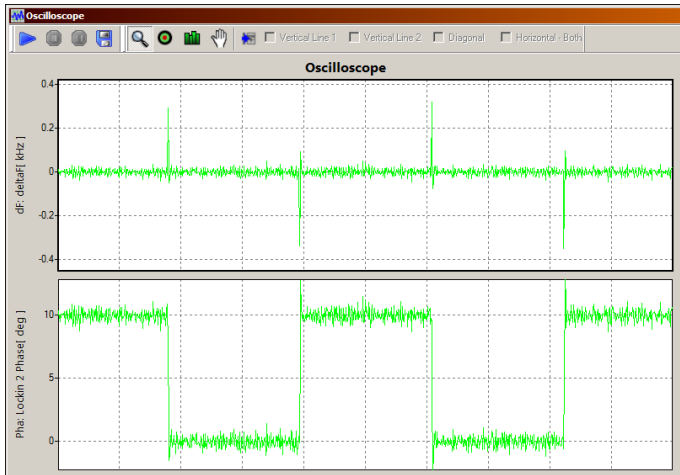
# PLL Block



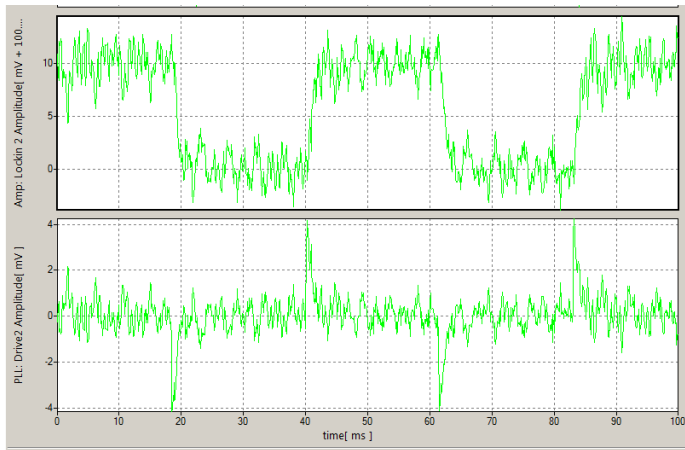
# Tuning the PLL



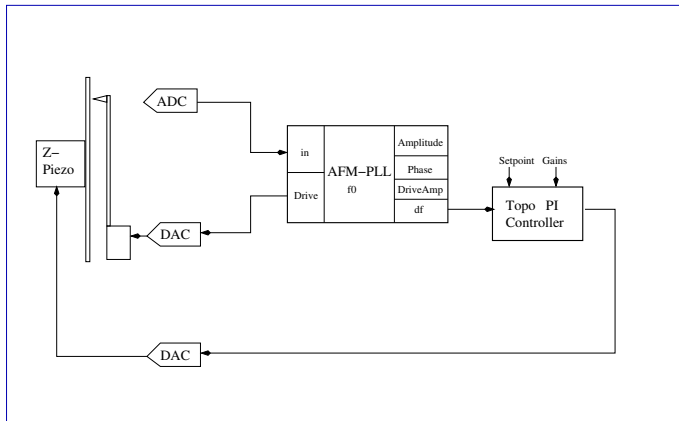
# Tuning the PLL



# Tuning the Amplitude Controller

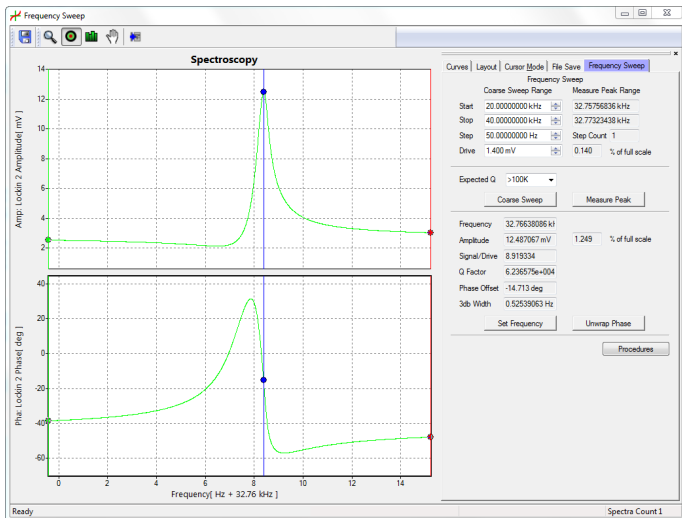


# PLL Block and Z Control loop



# Pitfalls

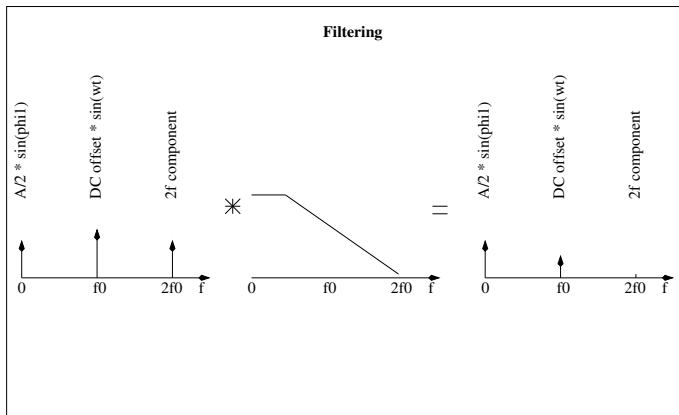
# Cross Talk



more examples in the R9 webinar on [3]



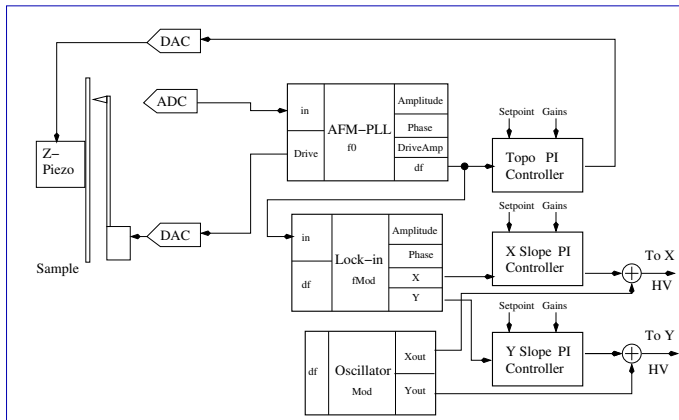
# Input Offsets



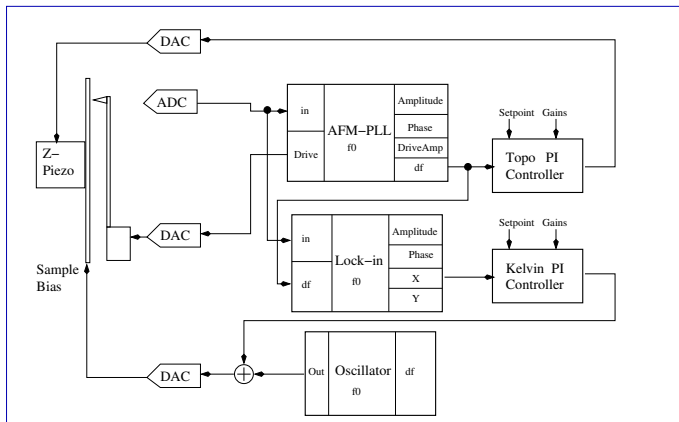
# Examples of more complex systems

Feature Tracking  
Sideband Kelvin

# Feature Tracking



## Sideband Kelvin





### Instantaneous Frequency: Boualem Bouashash

Estimating and interpreting the instantaneous frequency of a signal. I. Fundamentals and II. Algorithms and Applications  
*PROCEEDINGS OF THE IEEE*, 80, (4), 1992.



### Lockin Amplifiers: Mike. L. Meade

Lockin Amplifiers: Principles and Applications

<https://sites.google.com/site/lockinamplifiers/home>



RHK Webinars: <http://www.rhk-tech.com/support/tutorials/>

Thank you for your attention