MDO4000 Series Self Guided Tour





Self Guided Tour

With this guide, you will explore what you can do with the world's first oscilloscope with an integrated spectrum analyzer. Applications range from simple frequency / amplitude measurements of RF signals to time-correlated acquisitions of analog, digital and RF signals that provide you with a complete system view of your device under test.



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Tour of the World's First Mixed Domain Oscilloscope





How It Works

The Mixed Domain Oscilloscope

The MDO4000 is the world's first oscilloscope with an integrated spectrum analyzer. When the spectrum analyzer is off, the MDO works just like a traditional oscilloscope. When only the spectrum analyzer is on, the MDO works like a traditional spectrum analyzer. When both are on, you have the ultimate debug tool – the only instrument in the world capable of providing time correlated views of analog, digital and RF signals all in a single instrument.





Time and Frequency Domains

The real power of the MDO4000 comes from its universal trigger and acquisition system. All channels are fully integrated, so you can trigger on any of your signals and the oscilloscope will capture all channels simultaneously. As a result, all signals—analog, digital and RF—are time-correlated for accurate analysis.

Since the MDO4000 captures a long time period of your RF signal, you can choose the precise spectrum you want to see at any point in time. By simply moving Spectrum Time through your acquisition, you can see how your RF spectrum is changing over time or device state.

Checklist for the Tour

Before beginning the tour, please be sure you have the following items:



Setting up for the Tour

As with any test, one of the first steps is to connect the instrument to the device under test. For the initial exploration, a test board has been provided to output signals needed for the tour. After you've completed the tour and have gained an understanding of how the MDO4000 operates, please feel free to connect to your own system and see how the MDO can help in your day-to-day work.

Setup the Oscilloscope and the Test Board

- Plug in and power on the oscilloscope.
- Insert the (2) male B connectors of the USB cable into the (2) USB host ports on the rear panel of the oscilloscope.
- Insert the (1) male A connector of the USB cable into the USB device port on the test board. The board is on when the LEDs are lit.

Attach Probes to the Scope

- Connect TPP1000 or TPP0500 passive probes to Channel 1 and Channel 2 inputs on the oscilloscope.
- Connect the P6616 digital probe to the D15-D0 input on the oscilloscope.

Connecting the Probes to Test Board

- Connect Channel 1 probe tip to VCO-1 Enable loop, connect Channel 2 probe tip to PLL-1 loop and both probe grounds to GND on the test board.
- Connect Digital probe: D0 to SPI_CLK, D1 to SPI_SS-1, D2 to SPI_MOSI

square pins on the test board.

- Connect the N-to-BNC adapter to the RF input on the oscilloscope.
- Connect the BNC cable to the N-to-BNC adapter. Connect the other end of the cable to the RF Out BNC connector on the test board.



Insert USB cable here

Basic Spectrum Analysis

The MDO4000 is the world's first oscilloscope with an integrated spectrum analyzer. When the need arises to view RF signals, it is far simpler and faster to continue using the engineer's tool of choice – the oscilloscope – rather than finding and relearning a spectrum analyzer.

Objective: See how simple it is to perform basic spectrum analysis on an MDO4000

Setting Up

- Push the Mode button on the test board until the <u>CW</u> LED is lit.
- Press the **Default Setup** front-panel button.
- Press the Ch1 front-panel button twice to turn off Ch1
- Press **RF** front-panel button to turn on the spectrum analyzer





Spectrum Analyzer Controls

- Notice an entire section of the front panel is dedicated to spectrum analyzer controls – no buried menus!
- Most commonly performed functions have front panel keys associated with them
 - Setting center frequency/span
 - Setting reference level
 - Setting resolution bandwidth
 - Using markers
 - 10 digit keypad on front panel for precision entry of specific values

Basic Settings

- Press Freq/Span button
- Press Center Frequency (CF) bezel button
- Use keypad to set CF to 2.4 GHz
- Press Span bezel button
- Use Multipurpose b to set span to 10 MHz
- Press Ampl button
- Use Multipurpose a to set Reference Level to -10dBm
- Notice spectral peak is automatically marked

The addition of a true RF acquisition system, N-connector, dedicated spectrum analyzer controls and user interface make the MDO4000 Series the world's first oscilloscope with an integrated spectrum analyzer. Now you can continue to use your tool of choice – the oscilloscope – for all your debugging needs, regardless of time or frequency domain.

Spectral Peak Identification

Identifying peaks in your spectrum is one of the first steps to understanding the behavior of your design. Whether you are using the basic marker functions or analyzing noise density or phase noise, easy-to-use tools are critical for saving time.

<u>Objective</u>: Discover how the frequency and amplitude of peaks in the spectrum are quickly identified with automated peak markers. Learn how manual markers can be used to measure non-peak portions of the spectrum.

Setting Up

- Push the Mode button on the test board until the <u>Multiple Peaks</u> LED is lit.
- Press the **Default Setup** front-panel button.
- Press the **Utility** front panel-button.
- Press Utility Page and select Demo using Multipurpose a .
- Press Multiple Peaks.
- Press Recall Demo Setup.
- Press **Markers** front-panel button.



2 Exploring Use Multipurpose **a** to set number of

- Use Multipurpose do set number of Peak Markers to 11
- Press Threshold and use Multipurpose b to set threshold to -70.0 dBm
- Notice that peaks meeting the criteria are indicated with Absolute Frequency and Amplitude Readouts
- Press Readout to select Delta
- Notice peak readouts are now relative to the Reference Marker
- Press Manual Markers
- Notice the Ref. Marker can now be moved anywhere via manual markers

Summary

While performing spectrum analysis, markers are an invaluable tool for easily quantifying peaks in a spectrum. Simply define threshold and excursion values to automatically mark all peaks that meet your criteria. Or user manual markers to investigate any non-peak areas of the spectrum.



Viewing RF Signals Over Time

A spectrogram is a view of relative amplitudes in a spectrum as seen over time. The spectrogram display provides an intuitive color map showing how your signal varies over time. You can even go back and compare previously acquired data.

<u>Objective</u>: See how a spectrogram can be used to monitor a slowly changing RF signal and view different spectrums within the spectrogram.



- Push the Mode button on the test board until the <u>Spectrogram</u> LED is lit.
- Press the Default Setup front-panel button.
- Press the **Utility** front panel-button.
- Press Utility Page and select Demo using Multipurpose a .
- Press Spectrogram.
- Press Recall Demo Setup.
- Press Menu Off front-panel button.



Summary



- Allow spectrogram to accumulate until half of the spectrogram display area is filled.
- Press Run/Stop to stop acquiring.
- Press RF button.
- Press Spectrogram.
- Turn Multipurpose a to scroll through Spectrum Slices.
- Or, enter desired Slice using keypad (such as slice -55).

With the spectrogram view you can view how your RF signal is changing over time. You can monitor only portions of the signal (triggered) or look at a wider range of signals (free run). For many designs, spectrum analysis begins with signal visualization and spectrogram makes this task even easier.

How Spectrograms are Generated

1. Spectrum Acquired



- 2. Color the spectrum trace to indicate amplitude at each point
 - Cold colors (blue, green) indicate lower amplitude
 - Hot colors (red, yellow) indicate higher amplitude



3. Spectrum is flipped with the peaks pointing towards the viewer with the newest acquired spectrum added to the bottom of the stack

MDO4000 Series Spectrogram



MDO4000 Series Spectrogram Slice



Viewing Complete System Activity

Debugging modern wireless-enabled designs often requires investigation of more than just the RF signal. Understanding timing relationships between the RF and other analog, digital, or bus signals in the device under test is critical but incredibly difficult with multiple stand alone pieces of test equipment that weren't designed for the task..

Objective: Experience the MDO4000's unique ability to acquire and display time correlated analog, digital and RF signals.

Setting Up

- Verify that the oscilloscope and test board are setup as previously directed.
- Push the Mode button on the test board until the <u>VCO/PLL-1 Turn On</u> LED is lit.
- Press the **Default Setup** front-panel button.
- Press the **Utility** front panel-button.
- Press Utility Page and select Demo using Multipurpose
- Press VCO/PLL Turn On button.
- Press Recall Demo Setup.
- Press Menu Off front-panel button.





Summary



- Press the **Single** front-panel button to arm the scope for an acquisition.
- Press the VCO-1 Enabled button on the demo board. The LED next to the button should turn off.
- Press the VCO-1 Enabled button again.
 The LED next to the button should light and the scope should acquire data.
- Use the front-panel Wave Inspector Pan knob (outer ring) to move the Spectrum Time indicator (orange bar) through the acquisition to see how the spectrum changes during the VCO/PLL turn on.

With a Mixed Domain Oscilloscope, you can easily track down system-level issues by viewing analog, digital and RF signals time-correlated on the same display. By moving Spectrum Time throughout the waveform record, you can quickly see how your RF signal changes relative to the time-domain signals.

- The spectrum shown in the frequency domain graticule corresponds to the period of time indicated by the orange bar in the time domain graticule
- This orange bar is known as Spectrum Time.
- Spectrum Time can be moved throughout the acquisition to see how the spectrum changes over time or relative to other analog, digital, or bus signals.

What's Happening?

- The VCO (voltage controlled oscillator) is enabled when channel 1 goes high.
- Next a command on the SPI bus tells the VCO/PLL (phase-locked loop) circuit the desired frequency, which in this case is 2.4 GHz.
- Once the SPI command has been transmitted, the VCO/PLL circuit begins tuning to the desired frequency.
- In the screenshots below, we've made a single acquisition of this turn-on event by triggering on the SPI command indicating the desired 2.4 GHz freq.
- In screenshot (1), the Spectrum Time (orange bar) is positioned prior to the VCO being enabled, thus there is no activity in the spectrum yet.
- In screenshot 2, the Spectrum Time (orange bar) has been moved (via the Wave Inspector Pan knob) to view the spectrum about midway through the VCO/PLL's process of tuning to the desired frequency.
- With the MDO4000 Series, you can easily correlate frequency domain events with relevant time domain control signals, enabling you to quickly and easily make critical timing measurements such as time to stability of a VCO/PLL circuit.



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2 Spectrum After the Trigger Event

Debugging Amplitude Modulated Signals

Observing RF signal amplitude changes over time and monitoring system-level interactions of analog and RF signals can be difficult and time-consuming. Time trend views of amplitude vs. time can make spectrum analysis an easier task.

<u>Objective</u>: Discover how to quickly see the amplitude changes over time of an Amplitude Shift Key (ASK) modulated signal using the MDO4000's RF Amplitude vs. Time trace.

Setting Up

- Move Channel 1 probe tip to the ASK-MOD loop, move Channel 2 probe tip to the TRIGGER loop on the test board.
- Push the Mode button on the test board until the <u>ASK Modulation</u> LED is lit.
- Press the **Default Setup** front-panel button.
- Press the **Utility** front panel-button.
- Press Utility Page and select Demo using Multipurpose
- Press ASK Modulation button.
- Press Recall Demo Setup.
- Press Menu Off front-panel button.



Summary

Exploring

- Press the Single front-panel button to acquire a single acquisition.
- Use the front-panel Wave Inspector
 Pan knob (outer ring) to move the Spectrum Time indicator (orange bar) through the acquisition to see how the spectrum changes with the ASK modulation.
- Notice the RF Amplitude vs. Time trace in the time domain graticule (orange) allows you to quickly see how the RF signal amplitude changes over time and relative to other time domain signals

With a Mixed Domain Oscilloscope, you can quickly investigate amplitude modulated RF signals. The RF amplitude vs. time trace shows the instantaneous amplitude of the acquired spectrum and can provide insight into such problems as noise, interference issues, and transient behavior.

- The spectrum shown in the frequency domain graticule corresponds to the period of time indicated by the orange bar in the time domain graticule
- This orange bar is known as Spectrum Time.
- Spectrum Time can be moved throughout the acquisition to see how the spectrum changes over time or relative to other analog, digital, or bus signals.

What's Happening?

- The ASK (Amplitude Shift Key) Modulation signal on Channel 1 is a digital modulation control signal that is turning the RF output on and off in order to transmit a 3 bit counter progressing through the numbers 0-7.
- The Bit Reference signal on Channel 2 is shown to aid in understanding the bit pattern on the modulation signal.
- In each of the screenshots, the position of Spectrum Time (orange bar) has been moved to view the spectrum at various points in time.
 - In ① Spectrum Time is positioned where the RF output has been on and stable for a while, thus the view in the frequency domain is a stable signal at 2.4 GHz.
 - In 2 Spectrum Time is positioned at an off-to-on transition in the RF, thus we see 'smearing' in the frequency domain.
 - Similarly, in **(3)**Spectrum Time is positioned at an on-to-off transition in the RF, thus we again see 'smearing' in the frequency domain.
- Note how you can quickly see how the RF signal amplitude changes over time and relative to other analog or digital control signals.
- With the MDO4000 Series, you can easily correlate frequency domain events with changes in the time domain signals.



Debugging Frequency Modulated Signals

Characterizing and correlating time varying RF events with analog signals can be difficult and time-consuming. With the right oscilloscope, you can easily monitor system behavior with easy-to-use signal visualization tools.

<u>Objective</u>: Explore how the RF Frequency vs. Time trace allows you to quickly characterize time varying events of a frequency hopping signal (such as how long it takes to settle to a new frequency).

Setting Up

- Move Channel 1 probe tip to the TRIGGER loop on the test board.
- Push the Mode button on the test board until the <u>Frequency Hop</u> LED is lit.
- Press the Default Setup front-panel button.
- Press the **Utility** front panel-button.
- Press Utility Page and select Demo using Multipurpose
- Press Frequency Hop button.
- Press Recall Demo Setup.
- Press Menu Off front-panel button.





- Press the Single front-panel button to acquire a single acquisition.
- Use the front-panel Wave Inspector Pan knob (outer ring) to move the Spectrum Time indicator (orange bar) through the acquisition to see how the spectrum changes with the Frequency Modulation.
- Notice the RF Frequency vs. Time trace in the time domain graticule (orange) allows you to quickly see how the RF signal frequency changes over time and relative to other time domain signals.

Summary

Modern RF signals can vary significantly with time. With a Mixed Domain Oscilloscope, you can quickly characterize time varying RF events – without having to look through the spectrum in the frequency domain view.

- The spectrum shown in the frequency domain graticule corresponds to the period of time indicated by the orange bar in the time domain graticule
- This orange bar is known as Spectrum Time.
- Spectrum Time can be moved throughout the acquisition to see how the spectrum changes over time or relative to other analog, digital, or bus signals.

What's Happening?

- The Trigger signal on Channel 1 is a digital control signal that initiates the frequency hopping cycle.
- In each of the screenshots, the position of the Spectrum Time (orange bar) has been moved to view the spectrum at various points in time after the trigger event.
 - In 1 Spectrum Time is positioned in the middle of the second hop frequency, thus the frequency domain view shows a single peak at 2.4 GHz
 - In 2 Spectrum Time is positioned in the transition from the 2nd hop frequency to the 3rd, thus we see RF energy smeared across the spectrum in the frequency domain view.
 - In ③ Spectrum Time is positioned in the transition from the 3rd hop frequency back to the 1st. This is a wider transition, thus we see RF energy smeared across more of the spectrum in the frequency domain view.
- Note that you can quickly characterize time varying RF events (such as how long it takes to settle to a new frequency or how much overshoot/undershoot there is during a transition) with RF vs. time traces.
- With the MDO4000 Series, you can easily correlate frequency domain events with changes in the time domain signals.



Capturing Wideband Signals

RF standards continue to evolve to wider bandwidths. In addition, many modern wireless devices transmit and receive over multiple bands. Traditional spectrum analyzers do not have the capture bandwidth necessary to debug these systems.

<u>Objective</u>: See the power of the MDO4000's exceptionally wide capture bandwidth (up to 3 GHz) by capturing an RF device's transition from 900 MHz to 2.4 GHz in a single acquisition.

Setting Up

- Ensure the Channel 1 probe tip is on the TRIGGER loop on the test board.
- Push the Mode button on the test board until the <u>Capture BW</u> LED is lit.
- Press the Default Setup front-panel button.
- Press the **Utility** front panel-button.
- Press Utility Page and select Demo using Multipurpose
- Press Capture Bandwidth button.
- Press Recall Demo Setup.
- Press Menu Off front-panel button.



Summary



- Press the Single front-panel button to acquire a single acquisition.
- Notice the Span is set to 3 GHz. This is 3 GHz capture bandwidth.
- Use the front-panel Wave Inspector
 Pan knob (outer ring) to move the
 Spectrum Time indicator (orange bar)
 before and after the pulse on Ch 1
- Notice that before the pulse, the RF output is at 900 MHz, it then transitions to 2.4 GHz after the pulse.

With the MDO4000 Series, you can see your whole spectrum of interest at any point in time with the up to 3 GHz ultra-wide capture bandwidth (approximately 100 times wider than the 10-40 MHz capture bandwidths of traditional spectrum analyzers). Whether you're looking at multiband systems or ultra-wide bandwidth designs, you won't miss any details with the MDO4000.

- The spectrum shown in the frequency domain graticule corresponds to the period of time indicated by the orange bar in the time domain graticule
- This orange bar is known as Spectrum Time.
- Spectrum Time can be moved throughout the acquisition to see how the spectrum changes over time or relative to other analog, digital, or bus signals.

What's Happening?

- The pulse see on channel 1 is a control signal telling the device to switch the RF output from 900 MHz to 2.4 GHz.
- We are capturing this transition in a single acquisition! This ability to look across 3 GHz of spectrum and correlate the RF activity to other analog and digital signals is unique to the MDO4000.
- In screenshot 1, Spectrum Time is positioned prior to the trigger event (single pulse on channel 1). In the spectrum, the device under test is currently communicating to a device in the 900 MHz ISM (Industrial, Scientific, and Medical) radio band.
- In screenshot 2, Spectrum Time has been moved to view the spectrum after the trigger event. In the spectrum, the digital control signal (the trigger event) results in the RF output switching from communicating from one device in the 900 MHz ISM radio band to another device in the 2.4 GHz ISM radio band.
- Notice that both the 900 MHz and 2.4 GHz ISM radios bands are captured in a single acquisition. A typical spectrum analyzer with capture bandwidth of 10-40 MHz could not capture this wideband, transitory event.
- With the MDO4000 Series , you can easily correlate frequency domain events with changes in the time domain signals.



2 Spectrum After the Trigger Event



Specifications and Ordering Information

Models A	nalog Ch.	Analog Bandwidth	Analog Sample Rate	e	Digital Ch.	s Input	Spectrum Analyzer Frequency Range	
MDO4014-3	4	100 MHz	2.5 GS/s		16	1	50 kHz – 3 GHz	
MDO4034-3	4	350 MHz	2.5 GS/s		16	1	50 kHz – 3 GHz	
MDO4054-3	4	500 MHz	2.5 GS/s		16	1	50 kHz – 3 GHz	
MDO4054-6	4	500 MHz	2.5 GS/s		16	1	50 kHz – 6 GHz	
MDO4104-3	4	1 GHz	5 GS/s		16	1	50 kHz – 3 GHz	
MDO4104-6	4	1 GHz	5 GS/s		16	1	50 kHz – 6 GHz	
Standard Probes and Accessories			Recommen	Recommended Probes and Accessories				
 (1 GHz models) Passive Voltage Probes One P6616 16 Channel Logic Probe N-to-BNC Adapter (103-0045-00) OpenChoice[®] Desktop and NI LabVIEW SignalExpress[™] TE (LE version) Software Calibration Certificate, Quick Reference Manual & Documentation on CD Front Panel Cover, Power Cord 3-year Warranty 			TPA-N-PRE TPA-N-VPI 119-4146-00 119-6609-00 Passive Volta TPP0502 TPP0850	Pre N-to Nea Flez ige Pr 500	eamplifier, 1: o-TekVPI A ar Field Prol xible Monop robes:) MHz, 2X, 3) MHz, 50X,	2 dB gair dapter be Set, 1 bole Ante 300V Tel 2.5 kV 1	n, 9kHz – 6 GHz 100 kHz – 1 GHz enna kVPI Low C (12.7 pF) TekVPI, Single-ended	
Application Modules			Active Voltage Probes:					
Serial Bus Triggering and Protocol Analysis:			TAP1500 TAP2500	1.5 GHz, 10X, <u>+</u> 8V TekVPI, Single-ended 2.5 GHz, 10X, <u>+</u> 4V TekVPI, Single-ended				
DPO4AERO Aerosp	O4AERO Aerospace (MIL-STD 1553)		TAP3500	3.5 GHz, 10X, <u>+</u> xxx TekVPI, Single-ended				
DPO4AUDIO Audio (I ² S, LJ, RJ and TDM)			Voltage Probes:					
DPO4AUTO Autom	Automotive (CAN, LIN)		TDP0500	500	500 MHz, 50X/5X, <u>+</u> 42V TekVPI Differential			
PO4AUTOMAX Automotive (CAN, LIN, FlexRay)		TDP1000	1 GHz, 50X/5X, <u>+</u> 42V TekVPI Differential					
DPO4COMP Computer (RS-232/422/485)		TDP1500	1.5 GHz, 10X/1X, <u>+</u> 8V TekVPI, Differential					
DPO4EMBD Embedded (I^2C SPI)		TDP3500	3.5 GHz, 5X, +2V TekVPI, Differential					
DPO4ENET Ethern	et (10BAS	SE-T 100BASE-TX)	THDP0100	100) MHz, 1000	X/100X,	+6kV TekVPI, Differentia	
	0 (IS F9	S HS)	THDP0200	200) MHz, 500)	، \/50X, + [^]	1.5kV TekVPI, Differential	
Additional Analysis:		,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	TMDP0200	200) MHz, 250>	(/25X, <u>+</u> 7	750V TekVPI, Differential	
MDO4TRIG Adv. RE Power Level Triggering			Current Probe	es:				
			TCP0020	50	MHz, 20A A	C/DC Te	ekVPI	
	nd Mack	Tooting	TCP0030	120) MHz, 30A	AC/DC 1	ГекVPI	
	nu mask	resuriy	11					



	Key Applications	Benefits				
	System-level Troubleshooting	 See your time-correlated analog, digital and RF signals on a single display Analyze the time and frequency domains with one instrument. 				
	Troubleshooting of Embedded RF Modules	 Time-correlate events (such as timing relationship between RF module and serial control signal) to understand the root cause of improper system behavior Monitor multiple radio bands simultaneously to observe harmonic content and intra-radio interference with ≥1 GHz capture bandwidth 				
	Troubleshooting of EMI Problems	 Quickly determine amplitude and how often a signal is present with Spectrogram display Trigger on the known EMI suspects (such as power supplies, clocks, serial bus) to directly measure and correlate frequency and time domain events 				
	Troubleshooting of Power Distribution in Embedded Systems	 Isolate and correlate unintended power supply events to RF emissions Monitor variations in switching power supplies and RF emissions caused by changing load conditions 				

Summary

This concludes the MDO tour. You have just experienced the world's first oscilloscope with an integrated spectrum analyzer. This enables you to continue to use your tool of choice – the oscilloscope – to debug your designs regardless of whether you're tracking down time or frequency domain issues. In addition, the MDO4000's unique capability of acquiring and displaying time correlated analog, digital, and RF in a single instrument makes it the ultimate debug tool for the modern design engineer. Complete system visibility like this hasn't existed before now.

Are you ready to try this on your own design?

To learn more, visit <u>www.tektronix.com/mdo4000</u> for detailed application notes, videos and other materials. For further product demonstrations or to request a quote, please contact your local Tektronix authorized distributor.



