



Assisted Discovery of On-Chip Debug Interfaces

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Introduction

- On-chip debug interfaces are a well-known attack vector
 - Can provide chip-level control of a target device
 - Extract program code or data
 - Modify memory contents
 - Affect device operation on-the-fly
 - Gain insight into system operation
- Inconvenient for vendor to remove functionality
 - Would prevent capability for legitimate personnel
 - Weak obfuscation instead (hidden or unmarked signals/connectors)
 - May be password protected (if supported by device)



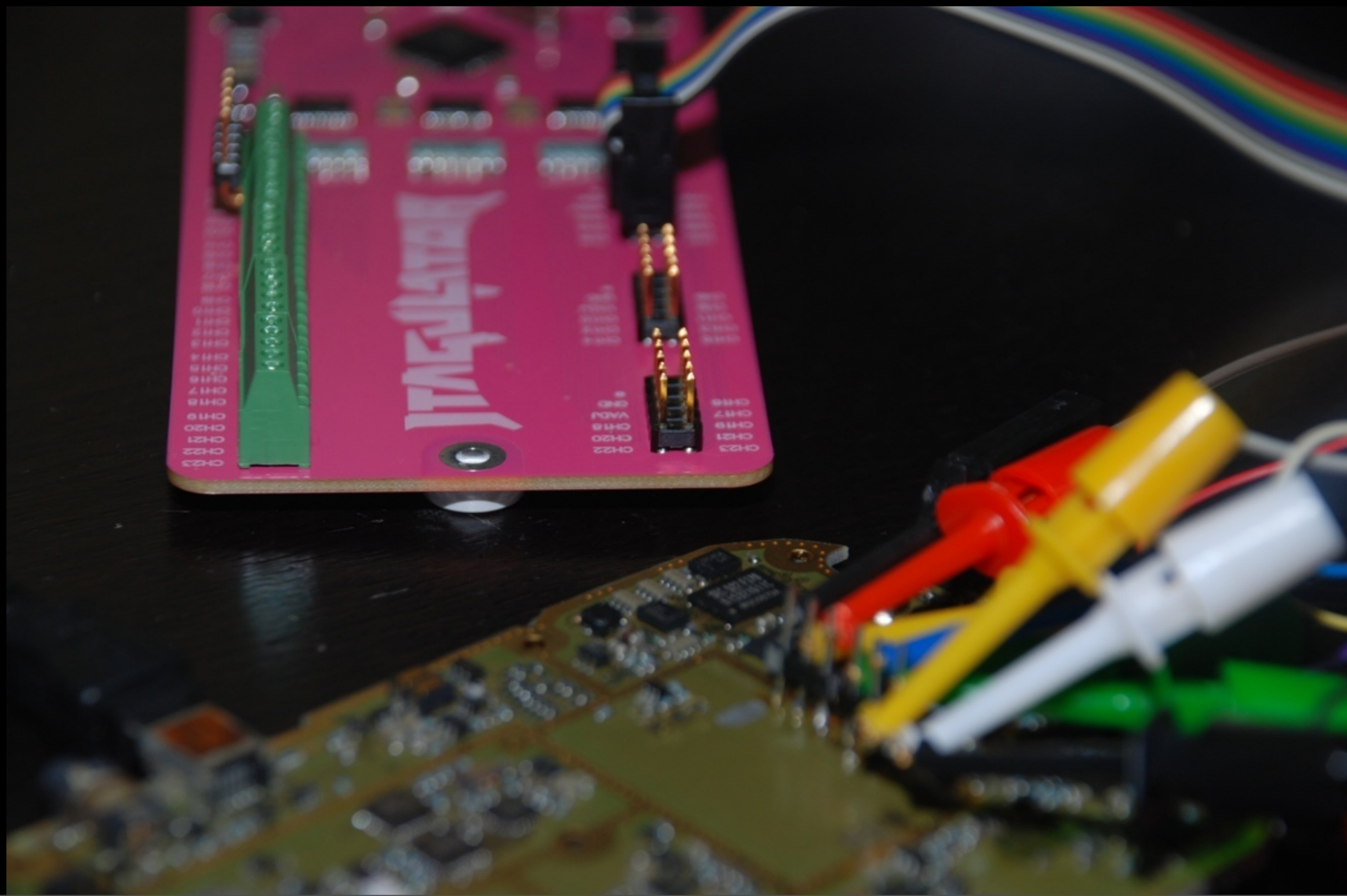
Introduction 2

- Identifying OCD interfaces can sometimes be difficult and/or time consuming



Goals

- Create an easy-to-use tool to simplify the process
- Attract non-HW folks to HW hacking



Inspiration

- Hunz's JTAG Finder
 - http://elinux.org/JTAG_Finder
- JTAGenum & RS232enum
 - <http://deadhacker.com/tools/>
- Cyber Fast Track
 - www.cft.usma.edu



Other Art

- **An Open JTAG Debugger (GoodFET), Travis Goodspeed, DEFCON 17**
 - <http://defcon.org/html/links/dc-archives/dc-17-archive.html#Goodspeed2>
- **Blackbox JTAG Reverse Engineering, Felix Domke, 26C3**
 - http://events.ccc.de/congress/2009/Fahrplan/attachments/1435_JTAG.pdf



Other Art 2

- Forensic Imaging of Embedded Systems using JTAG, Marcel Breeuwsma (NFI), Digital Investigation Journal, March 2006
 - <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S174228760600003X>



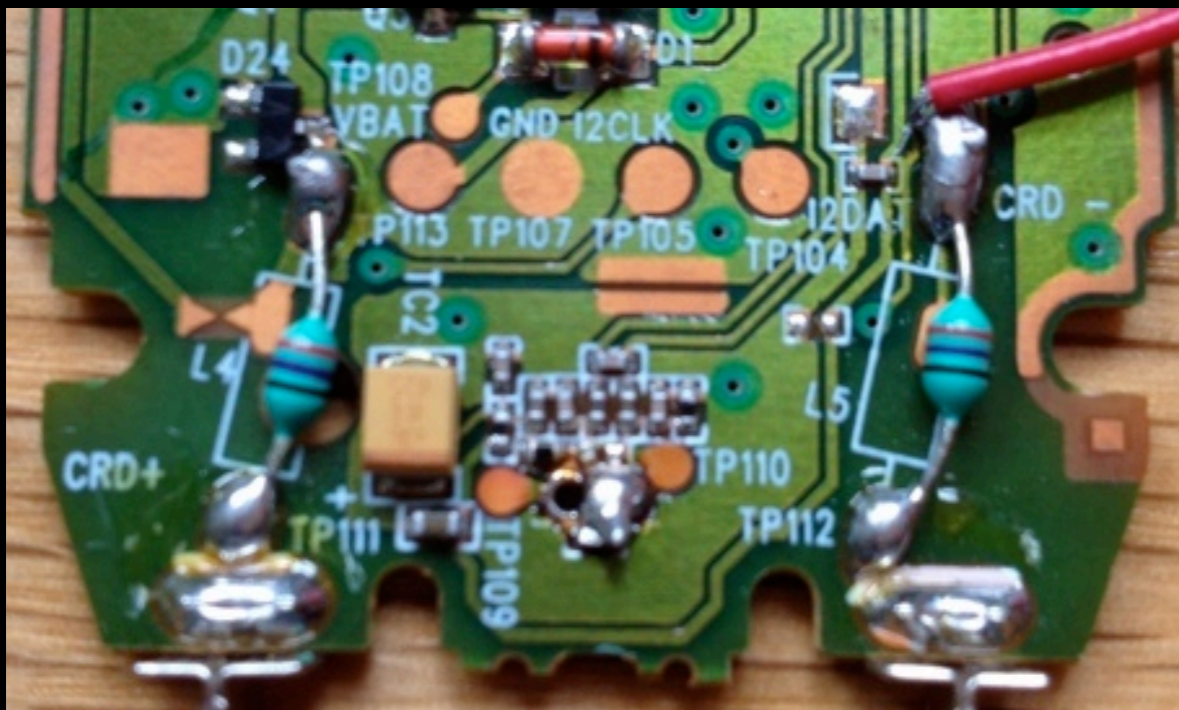
Identifying Interfaces: External

- Accessible to the outside world
 - Intended for engineers or manufacturers
 - Device programming or final system test
- Usually hidden or protected
 - Underneath batteries
 - Behind stickers/covers
- May be a proprietary/non-standard connector



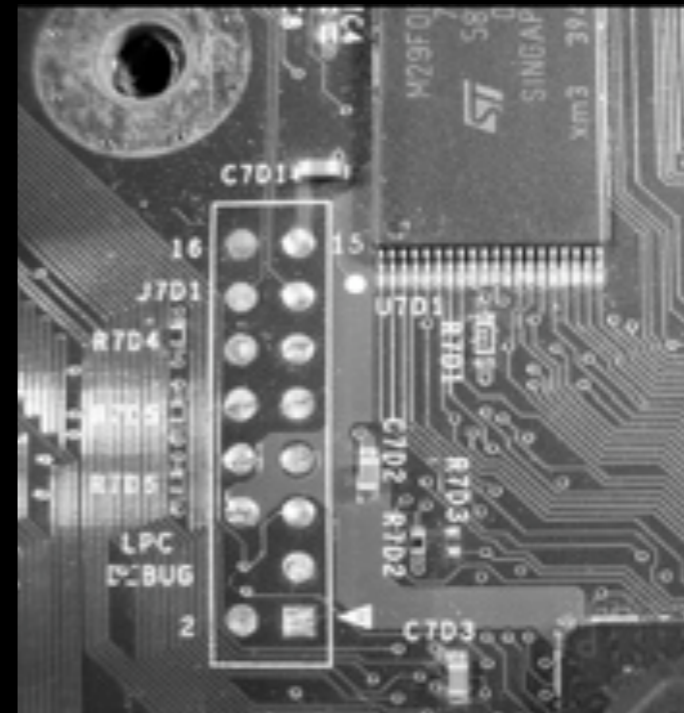
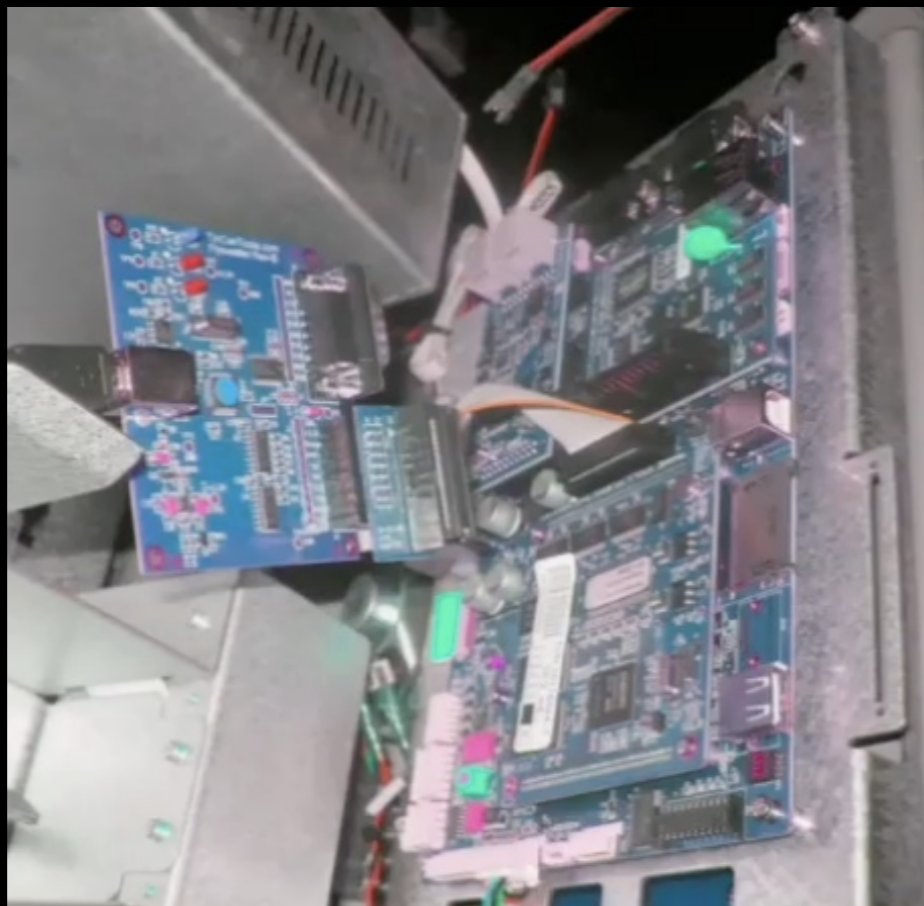
Identifying Interfaces: Internal

- Test points or unpopulated pads
- Silkscreen markings or notation
- Easy-to-access locations



Identifying Interfaces: Internal 2

- Familiar target or based on common pinouts
 - Often single- or double-row footprint
 - JTAG: www.jtagtest.com/pinouts/

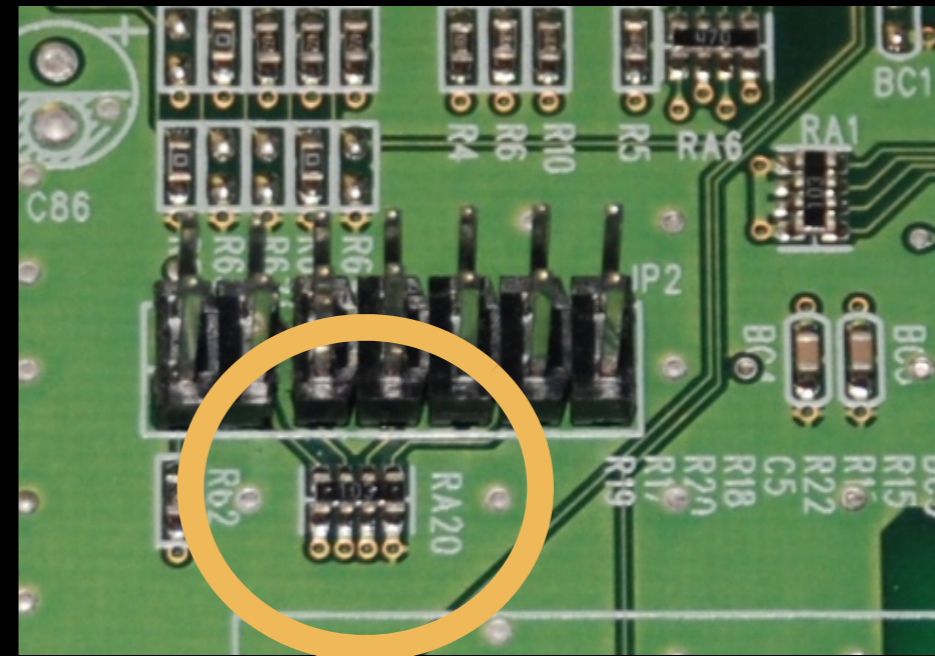
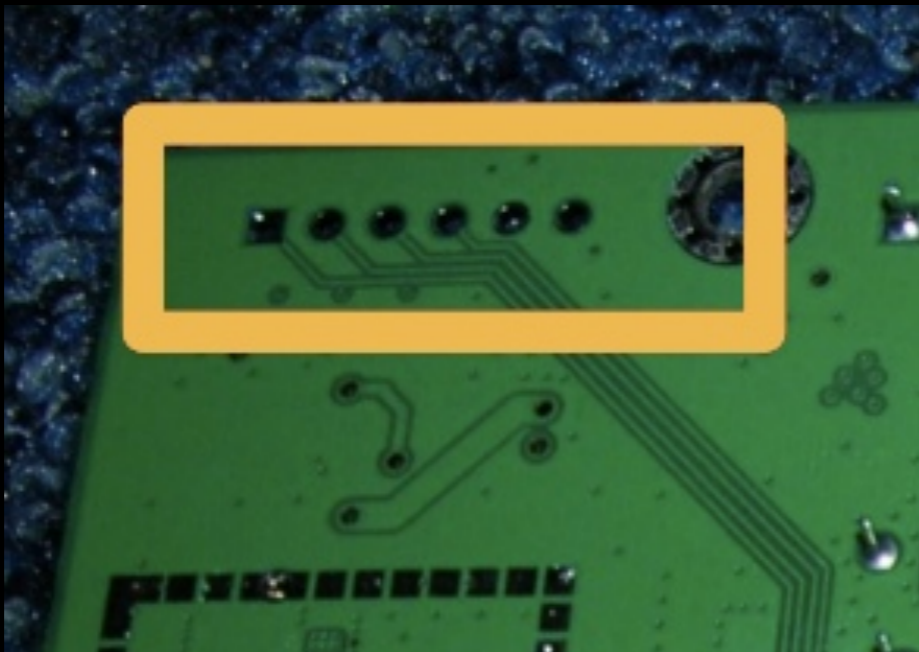


- ← www.blackhat.com/html/bh-us-10/bh-us-10-archives.html#jack
- www.nostarch.com/xboxfree



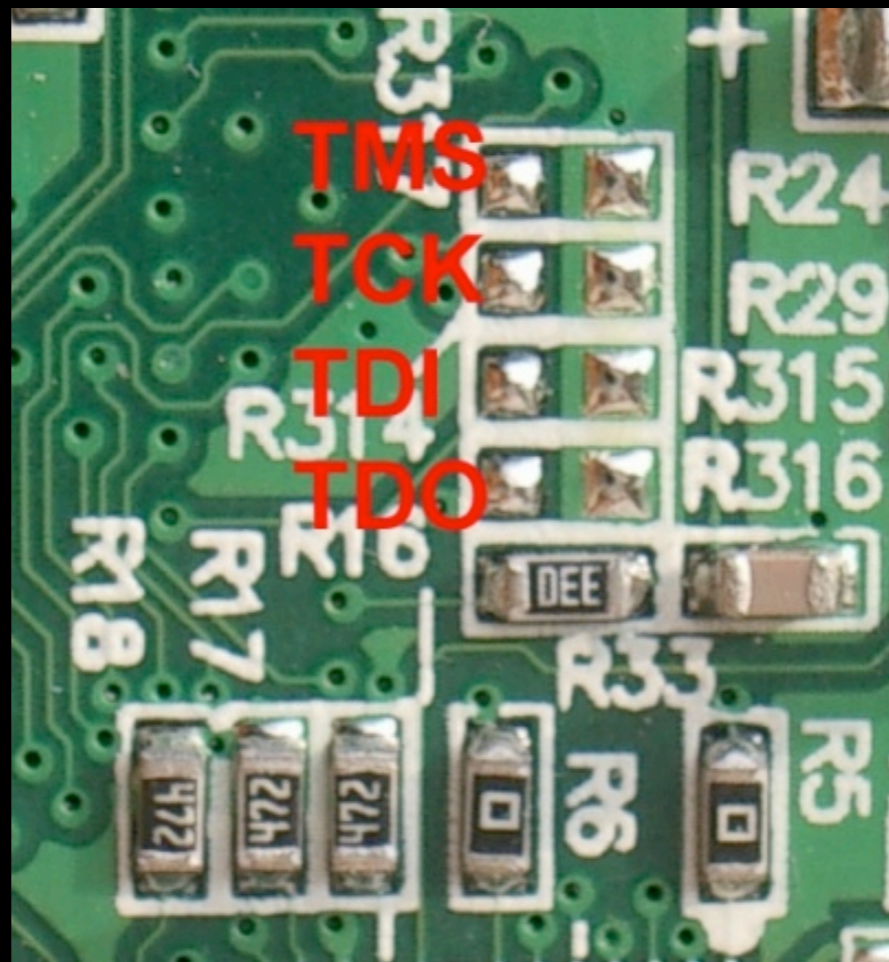
Identifying Interfaces: Internal 3

- Can use PCB/design heuristics
 - Traces of similar function are grouped together (bus)
 - Array of pull-up/pull-down resistors (to set static state of pins)
 - Test points usually placed on important/interesting signals



Identifying Interfaces: Internal 4

- More difficult to locate when available only on component pads or tented vias



Determining Pin Function

- Identify test points/connector & target device
- Trace connections
 - Visually or w/ multimeter in continuity mode
 - For devices where pins aren't accessible (BGA), remove device or use X-ray
 - Use data sheet to match pin number to function
- Probe connections
 - Use oscilloscope or logic analyzer
 - Pull pins high or low, observe results, repeat
 - Logic state or number of pins can help to make educated guesses



On-Chip Debug Interfaces

- JTAG
- UART



JTAG

- **Industry-standard interface (IEEE 1149.1)**
 - Created for chip- and system-level testing
 - Defines low-level functionality of finite state machine/ Test Access Port (TAP)
 - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joint_Test_Action_Group
- **Provides a direct interface to hardware**
 - Can "hijack" all pins on the device (Boundary scan/test)
 - Can access other devices connected to target chip
 - Programming/debug interface (access to Flash, RAM)
 - Vendor-defined functions/test modes might be available



JTAG 2

- Multiple devices can be "chained" together for communication to all via a single JTAG port
 - Even multiple dies within the same chip package
 - Different vendors may not play well together
- Development environments abstract low-level functionality from the user
 - Implementations are device- or family-specific
 - As long as we can locate the interface/pinout, let other tools do the rest

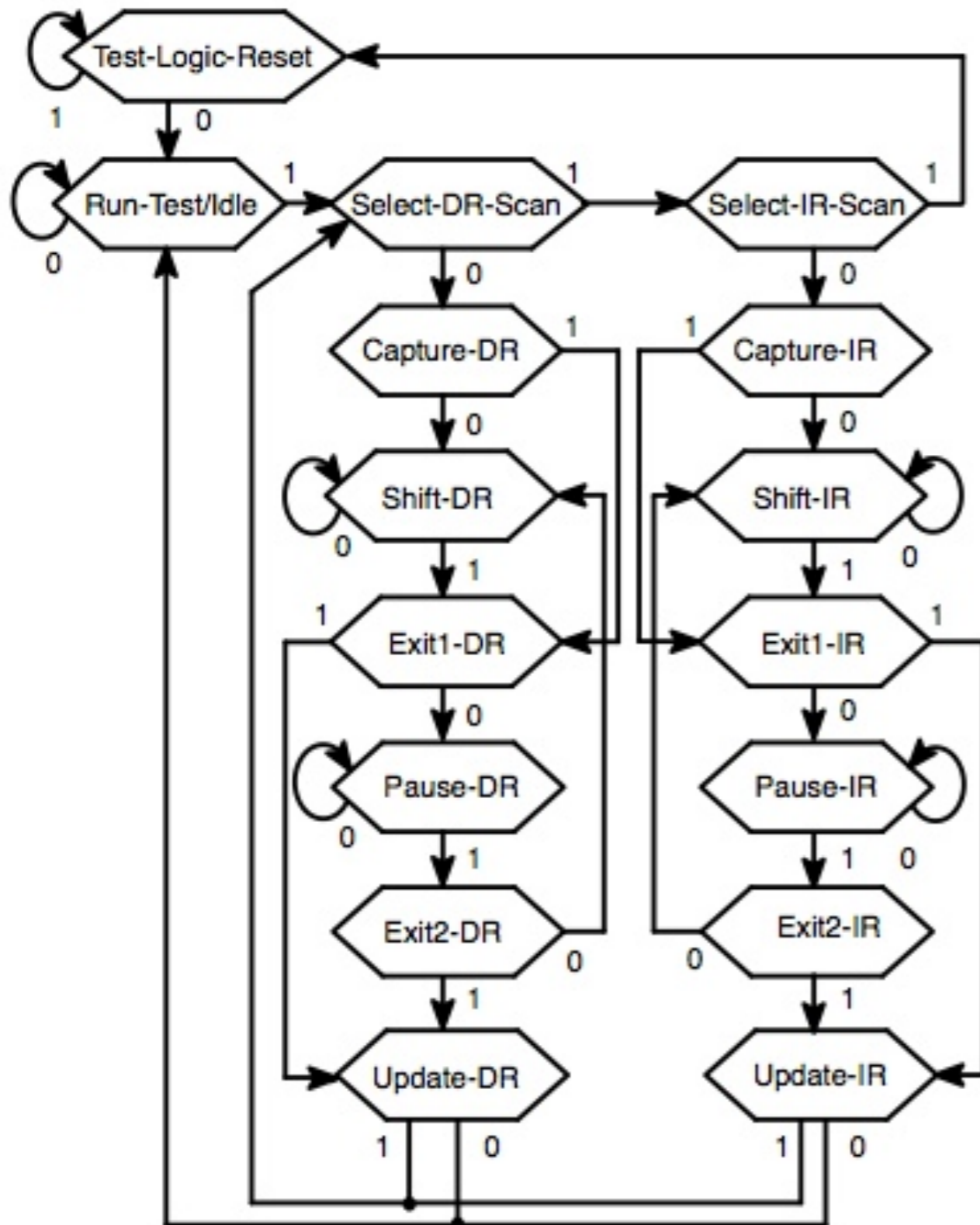


JTAG: Architecture

- Synchronous serial interface
 - TDI = Data In (to target device)
 - ← TDO = Data Out (from target device)
 - TMS = Test Mode Select
 - TCK = Test Clock
 - /TRST = Test Reset (optional for async reset)
- Test Access Port (TAP) w/ Shift Registers
 - Instruction (≥ 2 bit wide)
 - Data
 - Bypass (1 bit)
 - Boundary Scan (variable)
 - Device ID (32 bit) (optional)



JTAG:TAP Controller



*** State transitions occur on rising edge of TCK based on current state and value of TMS

*** TAP provides 4 major operations: Reset, Run-Test, Scan DR, Scan IR

*** Can move to Reset state from any other state w/ TMS high for 5x TCK

*** 3 primary steps in Scan: Capture, Shift, Update

*** Data held in "shadow" latch until Update state



JTAG: Instructions

Name	Required?	Opcode	Description
BYPASS	Y	All 1s	Bypass on-chip system logic. Allows serial data to be transferred from TDI to TDO without affecting operation of the IC.
SAMPRE	Y	Varies	Used for controlling (preload) or observing (sample) the signals at device pins. Enables the boundary scan register.
EXTEST	Y	All 0s	Places the IC in external boundary test mode. Used to test device interconnections. Enables the boundary scan register.
INTEST	N	Varies	Used for static testing of internal device logic in a single-step mode. Enables the boundary scan register.
RUNBIST	N	Varies	Places the IC in a self-test mode and selects a user-specified data register to be enabled.
CLAMP	N	Varies	Sets the IC outputs to logic levels as defined in the boundary scan register. Enables the bypass register.
HIGHZ	N	Varies	Sets all IC outputs to a disabled (high impedance) state. Enables the bypass register.
IDCODE	N	Varies	Enables the 32-bit device identification register. Does not affect operation of the IC.
USERCODE	N	Varies	Places user-defined information into the 32-bit device identification register. Does not affect operation of the IC.



JTAG: Protection

- Implementation specific
- Security fuse physically blown prior to release
 - Could be repaired w/ silicon die attack
- Password required to enable functionality
 - Ex.: Flash erased after n attempts (so perform $n-1$), then reset and continue
- May allow BYPASS, but prevent higher level functionality
 - Ex.: TI MSP430



JTAG: HW Tools

- **RIFF Box**
 - www.jtagbox.com
- **H-JTAG**
 - www.hjtag.com/en/
- **Bus Blaster (open source)**
 - http://dangerousprototypes.com/docs/Bus_Blaster
- **Wiggler or compatible (parallel port)**
 - ftp://www.keith-koep.com/pub/arm-tools/jtag/jtag05_sch.pdf



JTAG: SW Tools

- OpenOCD (Open On-Chip Debugger)
 - <http://openocd.sourceforge.net>
- UrJTAG (Universal JTAG Library)
 - www.urjtag.org



UART

- Universal Asynchronous Receiver/Transmitter
 - No external clock needed
 - Data bits sent LSB first (D0)
 - NRZ (Non-Return-To-Zero) coding
 - Transfer speed (bits/second) = 1 / bit width
 - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asynchronous_serial_communication

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Start bit	5-8 data bits							Stop bit(s)		
Start	Data 0	Data 1	Data 2	Data 3	Data 4	Data 5	Data 6	Data 7	Stop	

*** Start bit + Data bits + Parity (optional) + Stop bit(s)

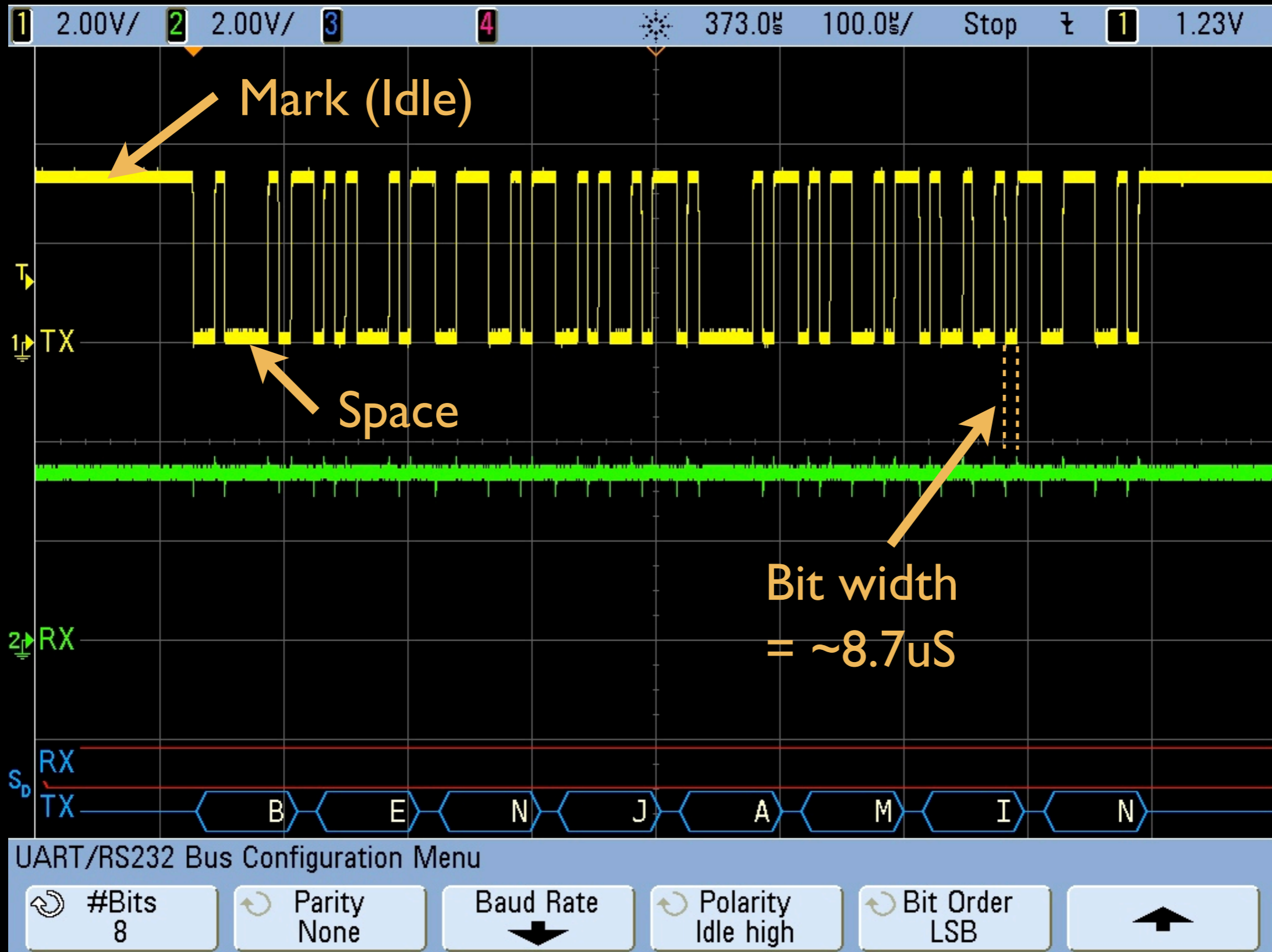


UART 2

- **Asynchronous serial interface**
 - TXD = Transmit data (to target device)
 - ← RXD = Receive data (from target device)
 - ↔ DTR, DSR, RTS, CTS, RI, DCD = Control signals
(uncommon for modern implementations)
- **Many embedded systems use UART as debug output/console**



UART 3



Hardware

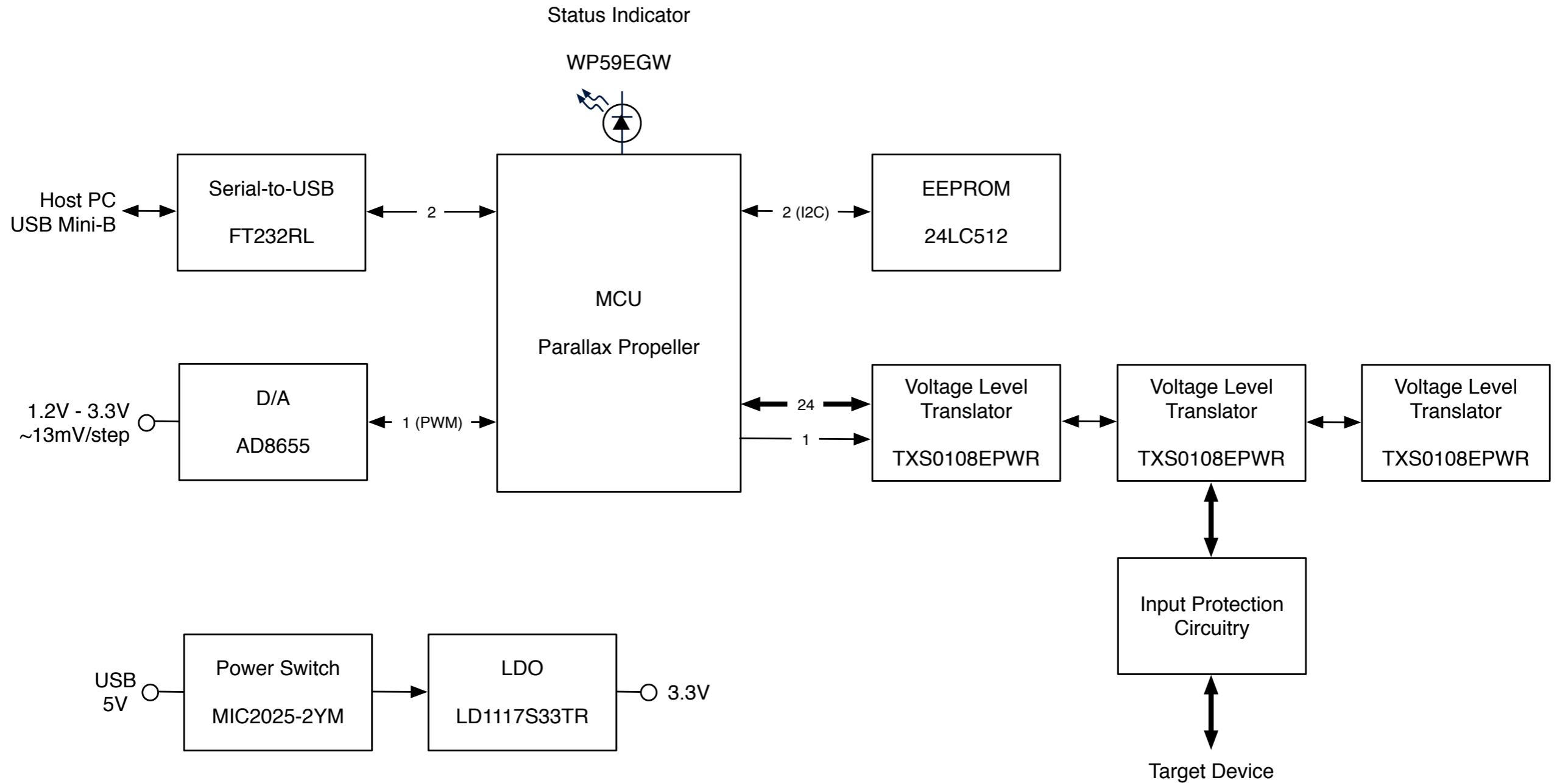


Design Requirements

- Open source/hackable/expandable
- Simple command-based interface
- Proper input protection
- Adjustable target voltage
- Off-the-shelf components
- Hand solderable (if desired)



Block Diagram



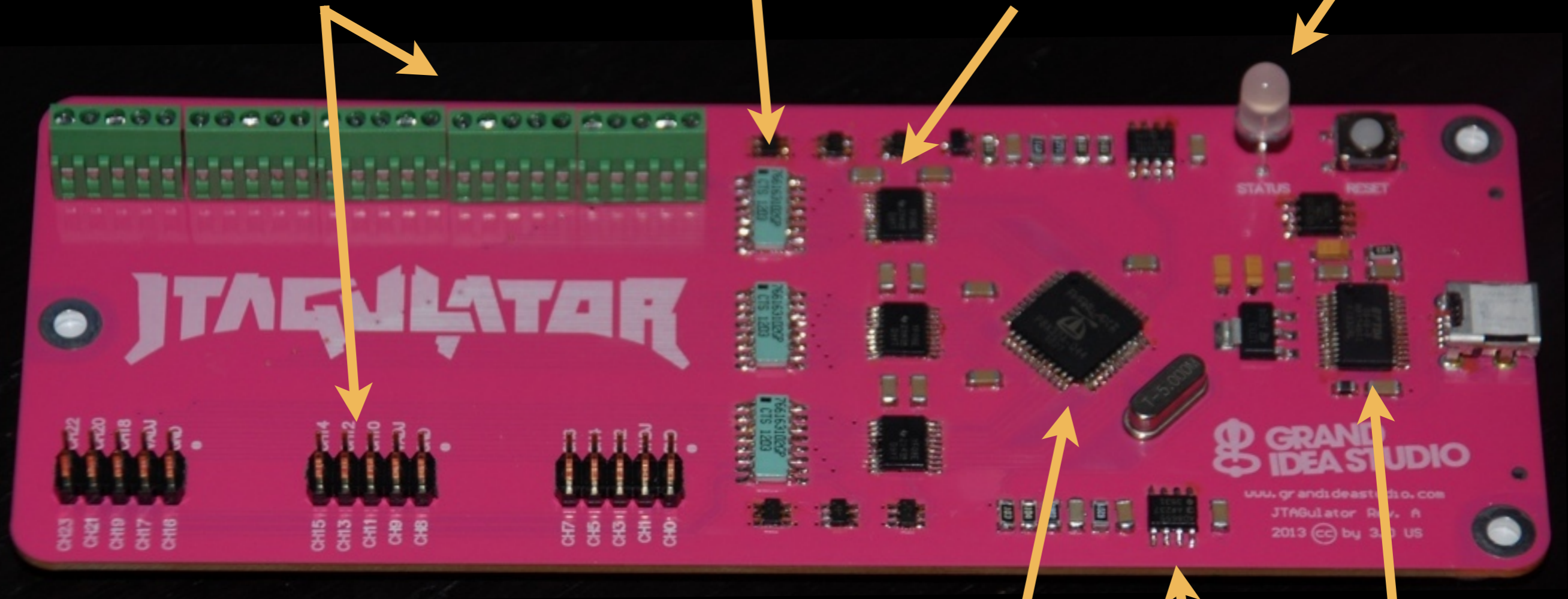
PCB

Input protection

Target I/F (24 channels)

Level translation

Status



*** 2x5 headers compatible w/ Bus Pirate probes,
http://dangerousprototypes.com/docs/Bus_Pirate

Propeller

Op-Amp/DAC

USB



Propeller/Core



- Completely custom, ground up design
- 8 independent cogs @ 20 MIPS each
- Code in Spin, ASM, or C
- Used in DEFCON XX Badge



*** INFORMATION: www.parallax.com/propeller/

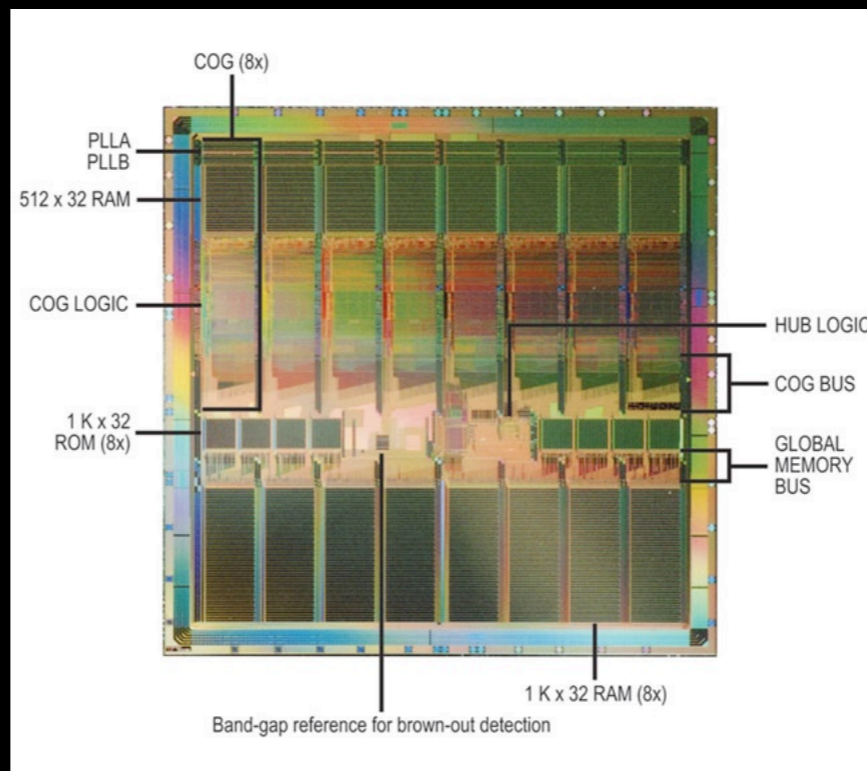
*** DISCUSSION FORUMS: <http://forums.parallax.com>

*** OBJECT EXCHANGE: <http://obex.parallax.com>

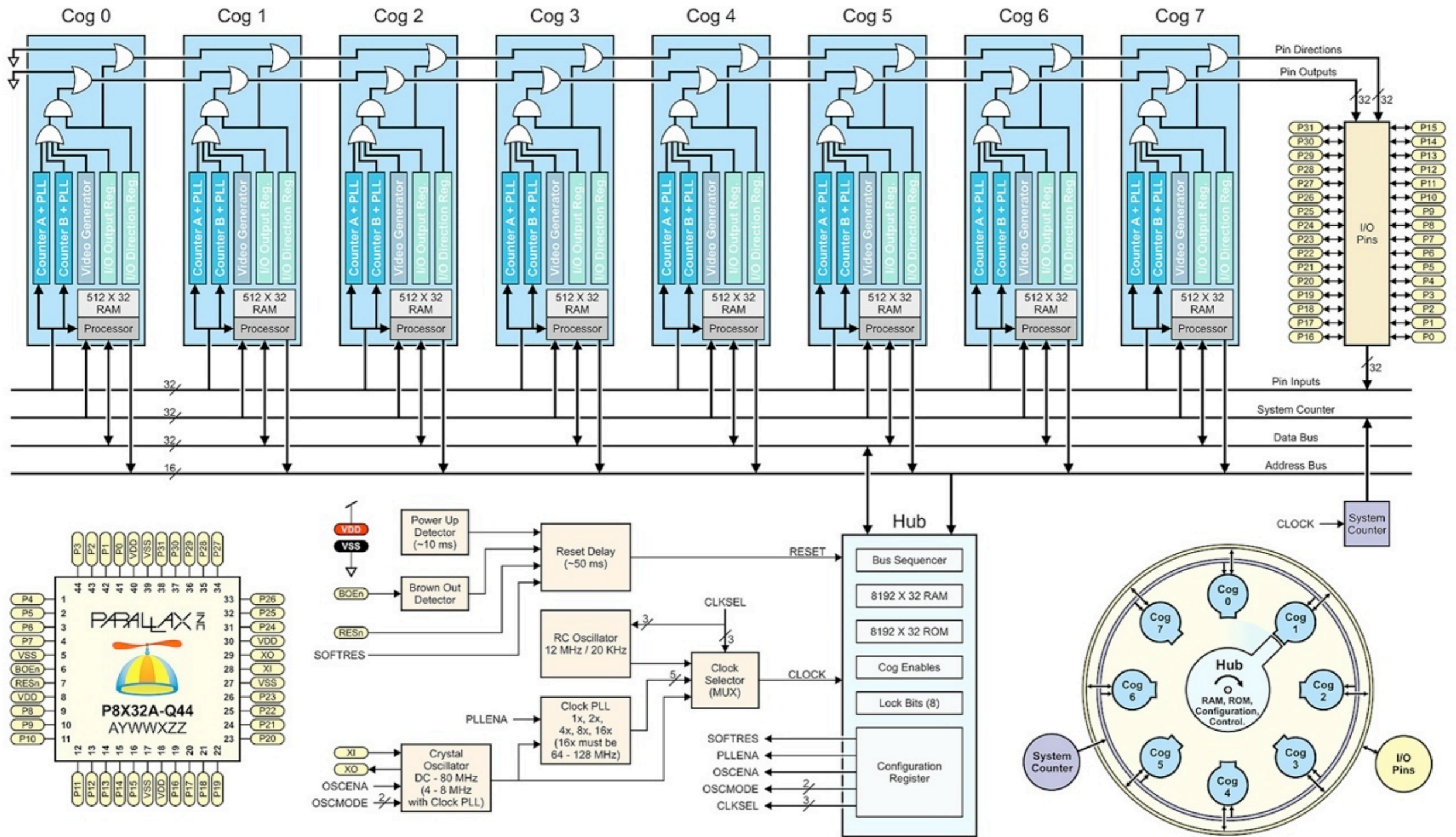


Propeller/Core 2

- Clock: DC to 128MHz (80MHz recommended)
- Global (hub) memory: 32KB RAM, 32KB ROM
- Cog memory: 2KB RAM each
- GPIO: 32 @ 40mA sink/source per pin
- Program code loaded from external EEPROM on power-up

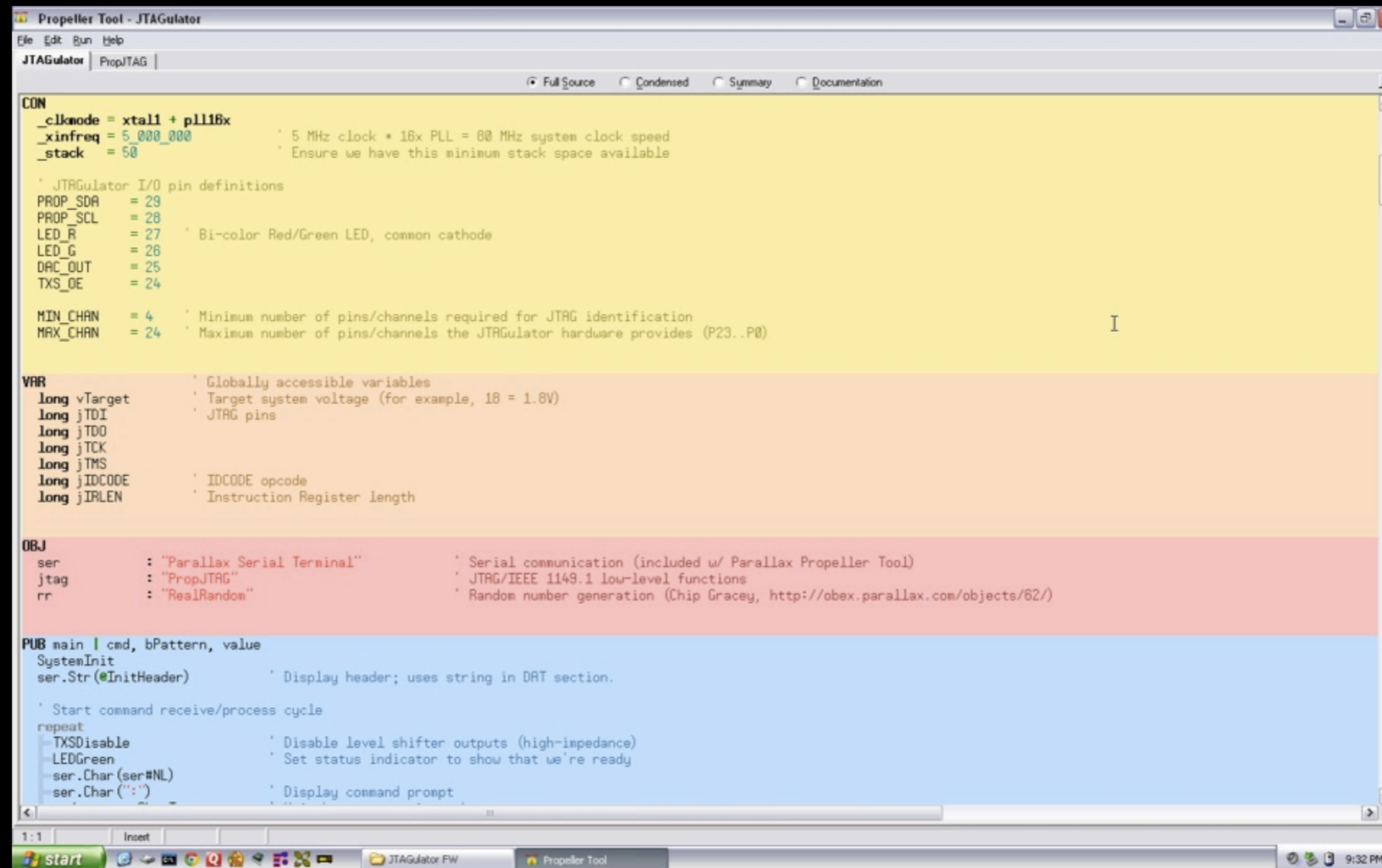


Propeller/Core 3



Propeller/Core 4

- Standard development using Propeller Tool & Parallax Serial Terminal (Windows)
- Programmable via serial interface (usually in conjunction w/ USB-to-serial IC)



```
Propeller Tool - JTAGulator
File Edit Run Help
JTAGulator PropJTAG
Full Source Condensed Summary Documentation

CON
_clknode = xtall + pll18x
_xinfreq = 5_000_000      * 5 MHz clock * 18x PLL = 90 MHz system clock speed
_stack = 50              * Ensure we have this minimum stack space available

* JTAGulator I/O pin definitions
PROP_SDA = 29
PROP_SCL = 28
LED_R = 27 * Bi-color Red/Green LED, common cathode
LED_G = 26
DAC_OUT = 25
TXS_OE = 24

MIN_CHAN = 4 * Minimum number of pins/channels required for JTAG identification
MAX_CHAN = 24 * Maximum number of pins/channels the JTAGulator hardware provides (P23..P0)

VAR
* Globally accessible variables
long vTarget * Target system voltage (for example, 1.8 = 1.8V)
long jTDI * JTAG pins
long jTDO
long jTCK
long jTMS
long jIDCODE * IDCODE opcode
long jIRLEN * Instruction Register length

OBJ
ser : "Parallax Serial Terminal" * Serial communication (included w/ Parallax Propeller Tool)
jtag : "PropJTAG" * JTAG/IEEE 1149.1 low-level functions
rr : "RealRandom" * Random number generation (Chip Gracey, http://obex.parallax.com/objects/62/)

PUB main | cmd, bPattern, value
SystemInit
ser.Str(@InitHeader) * Display header; uses string in DAT section.

* Start command receive/process cycle
repeat
TXSDisable * Disable level shifter outputs (high-impedance)
LEDGreen * Set status indicator to show that we're ready
ser.Char(ser#NL)
ser.Char(":") * Display command prompt
```



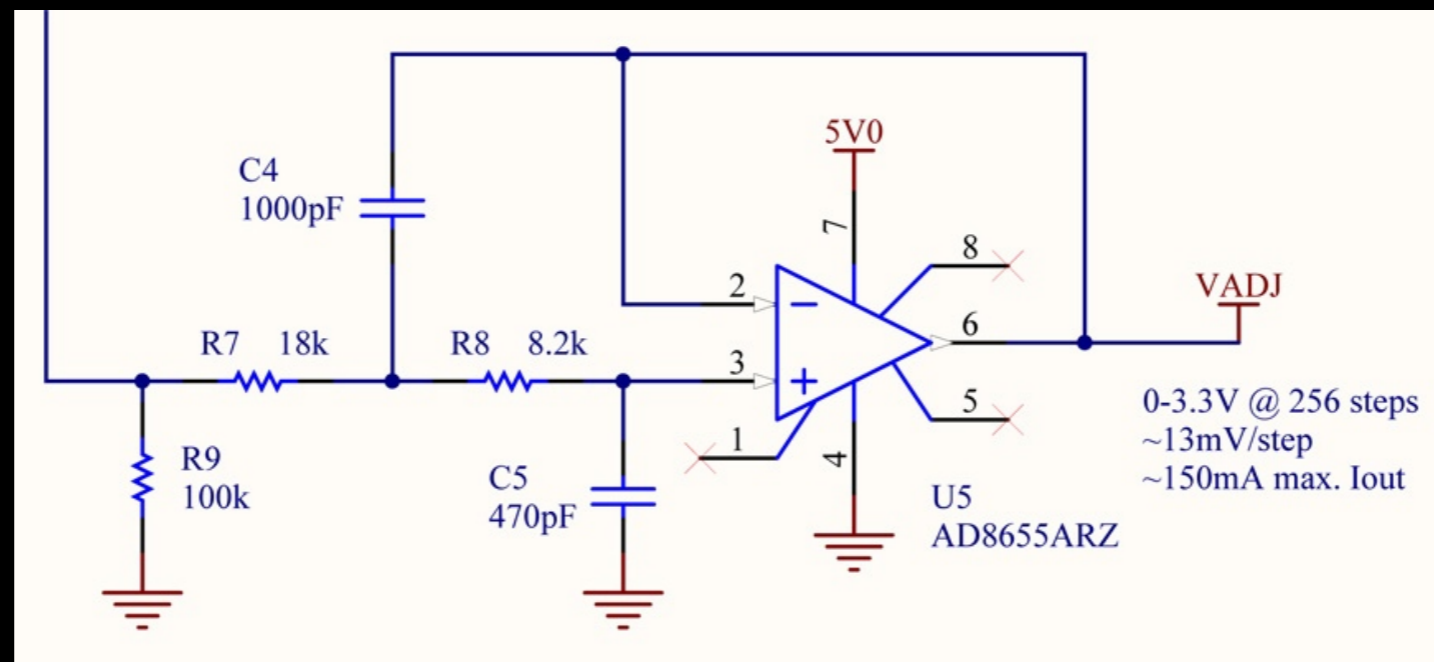
USB Interface

- Allows for Propeller programming & UI
- Powers JTAGulator from bus (5V)
- FT232RL USB-to-Serial UART
 - Entire USB protocol handled on-chip
 - Host will recognize as a virtual serial port (Windows, OS X, Linux)
- MIC2025 Power Distribution Switch
 - Internal current limiting, thermal shutdown
 - Let the FT232 enumerate first (@ < 100mA), then enable system load



Adjustable Target Voltage

- PWM from Propeller
 - Duty cycle corresponds to output voltage (VADJ)
 - Look-up table for values in 0.1V increments
- AD8655 Low Noise, Precision CMOS Amplifier
 - Single supply, rail-to-rail
 - 220mA output current ($\sim 150\text{mA}$ @ $V_o = 1.2\text{V} - 3.3\text{V}$)
 - Voltage follower configuration to serve as DAC buffer



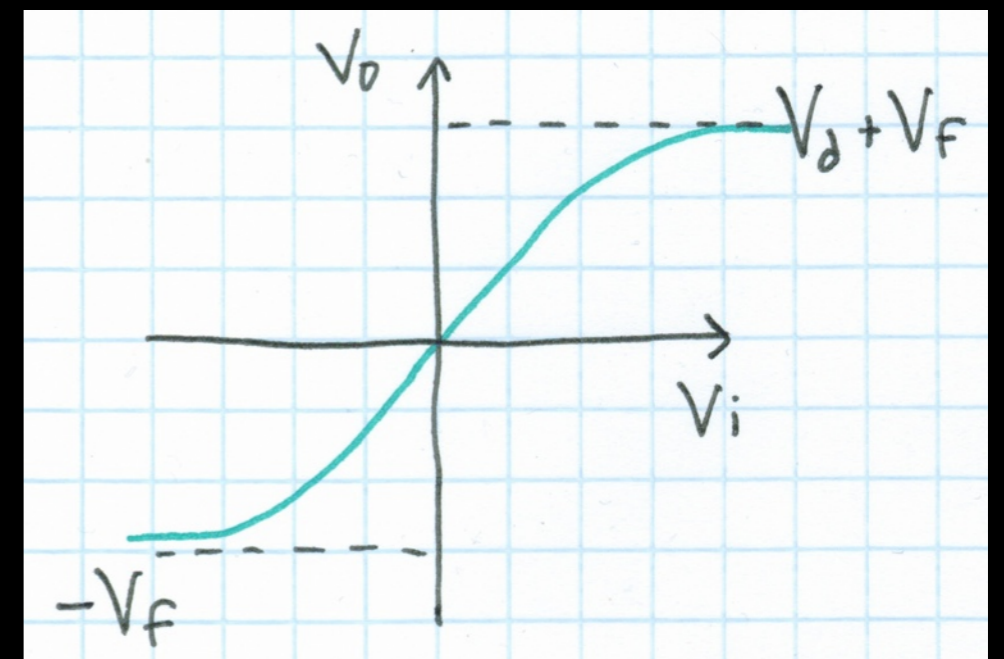
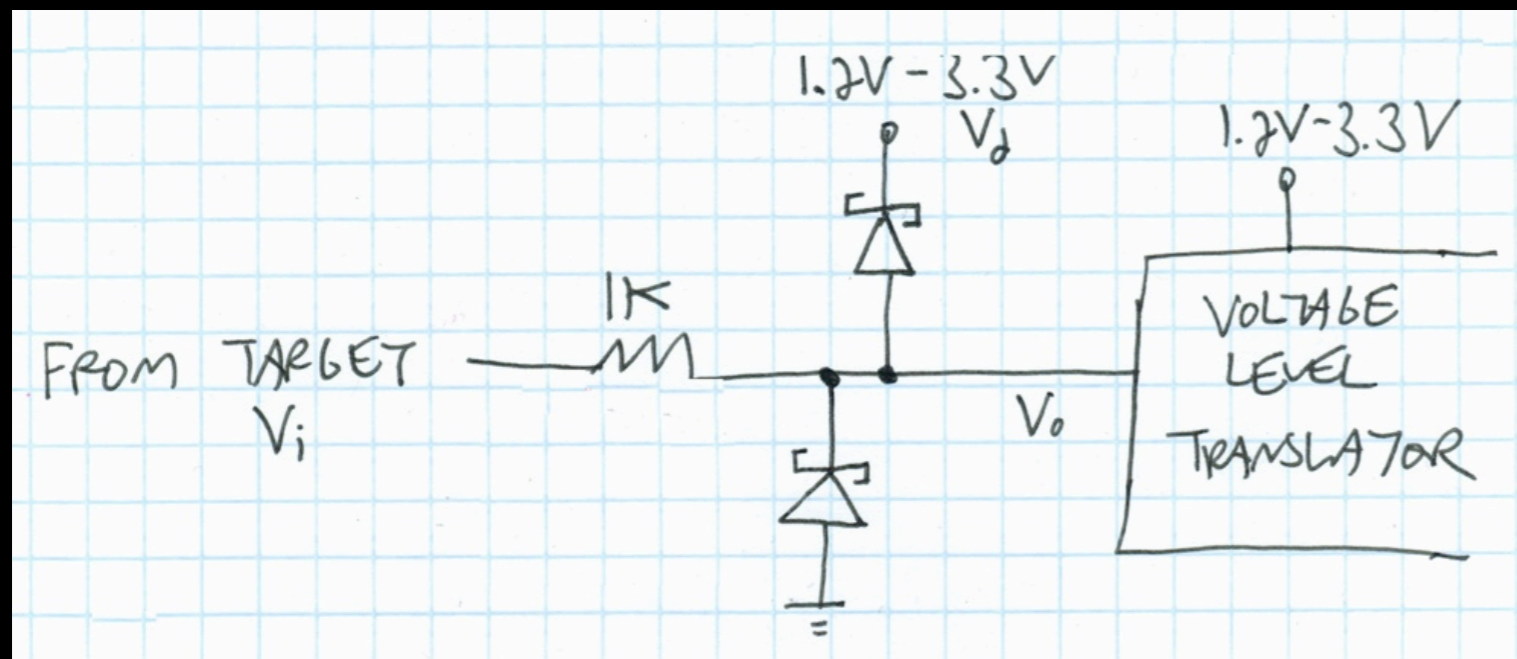
Level Translation

- Allows 3.3V signals from Propeller to be converted to VADJ (1.2V-3.3V)
- Prevents potential damage due to over-voltage on target device's unknown connections
- TXS0108E Bidirectional Voltage-Level Translator
 - Designed for both open drain and push-pull interfaces
 - Internal pull-up resistors (40k Ω when driving low, 4k Ω when high)
 - Automatic signal direction detection
 - High-Z outputs when OE low \rightarrow will not interfere with target when not in use



Input Protection

- Prevent high voltages/spikes on unknown pins from damaging JTAGulator
- Diode limiter clamps input if needed
- V_f must be $< 0.5V$ to protect TXS0108Es



Bill-of-Materials

Item	Quantity	Reference	Manufacturer	Manuf. Part #	Distributor	Distrib. Part #	Description
1	2	C1, C2	Kemet	C1206C103K5RACTU	Digi-Key	399-1234-1-ND	Capacitor, 0.01uF ceramic, 10%, 50V, X7R, 1206
2	14	C3, C6, C9, C11, C12, C13, C14, C15, C17, C18, C19, C20, C21, C22	Kemet	C1206C104K5RACTU	Digi-Key	399-1249-1-ND	Capacitor, 0.1uF ceramic, 10%, 50V, X7R, 1206
3	1	C4	Yageo	CC1206KRX7R9BB102	Digi-Key	311-1170-1-ND	Capacitor, 1000pF ceramic, 10%, 50V, X7R, 1206
4	1	C5	Yageo	CC1206KRX7R9BB471	Digi-Key	311-1167-1-ND	Capacitor, 470pF ceramic, 10%, 50V, X7R, 1206
5	1	C7	Kemet	T491A106M016AS	Digi-Key	399-3687-1-ND	Capacitor, 10uF tantalum, 20%, 16V, size A
6	2	C8, C10	Kemet	T491A475K016AT	Digi-Key	399-3697-1-ND	Capacitor, 4.7uF tantalum, 10%, 16V, size A
7	1	D1	Kingbright	WP59EGW	Digi-Key	754-1232-ND	LED, Red/Green Bi-Color, T-1 3/4 (5mm)
8	1	L1	TDK	MPZ2012S221A	Digi-Key	445-1568-1-ND	Inductor, Ferrite Bead, 220R@100MHz, 3A, 0805
9	1	P1	Hirose Electric	UX60-MB-5S8	Digi-Key	H2960CT-ND	Connector, Mini-USB, 5-pin, SMT w/ PCB mount
10	5	P2, P3, P4, P5, P6	TE Connectivity	282834-5	Digi-Key	A98336-ND	Connector, Terminal Block, 5-pin, side entry, 0.1" P
11	3	P7, P8, P9	3M	961210-6404-AR	Digi-Key	3M9460-ND	Header, Dual row, Vertical header, 2x5-pin, 0.1" P
12	1	Q1	Fairchild	MMBT3904	Digi-Key	MMBT3904FSCT-ND	Transistor, NPN, 40V, 200mA, SOT23-3
13	5	R1, R2, R3, R4, R10	Any	Any	Digi-Key	P10KECT-ND	Resistor, 10k, 5%, 1/4W, 1206
14	1	R5	Any	Any	Digi-Key	P470ECT-ND	Resistor, 470 ohm, 5%, 1/4W, 1206
15	1	R6	Any	Any	Digi-Key	P270ECT-ND	Resistor, 270 ohm, 5%, 1/4W, 1206
16	1	R7	Any	Any	Digi-Key	P18.0KFCT-ND	Resistor, 18k, 1%, 1/4W, 1206
17	1	R8	Any	Any	Digi-Key	P8.20KFCT-ND	Resistor, 8.2k, 1%, 1/4W, 1206
18	1	R9	Any	Any	Digi-Key	P100KECT-ND	Resistor, 100k, 5%, 1/4W, 1206
19	3	R11, R12, R13	Bourns	4816P-1-102LF	Digi-Key	4816P-1-102LFCT-ND	Resistor, Array, 8 isolated, 1k, 2%, 1/6W, SOIC16
20	1	SW1	C&K	KSC201JLFS	Digi-Key	401-1756-1-ND	Switch, SPST, Momentary, 120gf, 6.2 x 6.2mm, J-Lead
21	1	U1	FTDI	FT232RL-REEL	Digi-Key	768-1007-1-ND	IC, USB-to-UART Bridge, SSOP28
22	1	U2	Parallax	P8X32A-Q44	Digi-Key	P8X32A-Q44-ND	IC, Microcontroller, Propeller, LQFP44
23	1	U3	Micrel	MIC2025-2YM	Digi-Key	576-1058-ND	IC, Power Distribution Switch, Single-channel, SOIC8
24	1	U4	Microchip	24LC512-I/SN	Digi-Key	24LC512-I/SN-ND	IC, Memory, Serial EEPROM, 64KB, SOIC8
25	1	U5	Analog Devices	AD8655ARZ	Digi-Key	AD8655ARZ-ND	IC, Op. Amp., CMOS, Rail-to-rail, 220mA Iout, SOIC8
26	1	U6	ST Microelectronics	LD1117S33CTR	Digi-Key	497-1241-1-ND	IC, Voltage Regulator, LDO, 3.3V@800mA, SOT223
27	6	U7, U8, U10, U11, U13, U14	ON Semiconductor	NUP4302MR6T1G	Digi-Key	NUP4302MR6T1GOSCT-ND	IC, Schottky Diode Array, 4 channel, TSOP6
28	3	U9, U12, U15	Texas Instruments	TXS0108EPWR	Digi-Key	296-23011-1-ND	IC, Level Translator, Bi-directional, TSSOP20
29	1	Y1	ECS	ECS-50-18-4XEN	Digi-Key	XC1738-ND	Crystal, 5.0MHz, 18pF, HC49/US
30	1	PCB	Any	JTAG B	N/A	N/A	PCB, Fabrication

- All components from Digi-Key
- Total cost per unit = \$50.73



Firmware



Source Tree

```
JTAGulator.spin
├── ParallaxSerialTerminal.spin
├── RealRandom.spin
├── PropJTAG.spin
└── JDCogSerial.spin
```



General Commands

- Set target system voltage (V) (1.2V-3.3V)
- Read all channels (R)
- Write all channels (W)
- Print available commands (H)



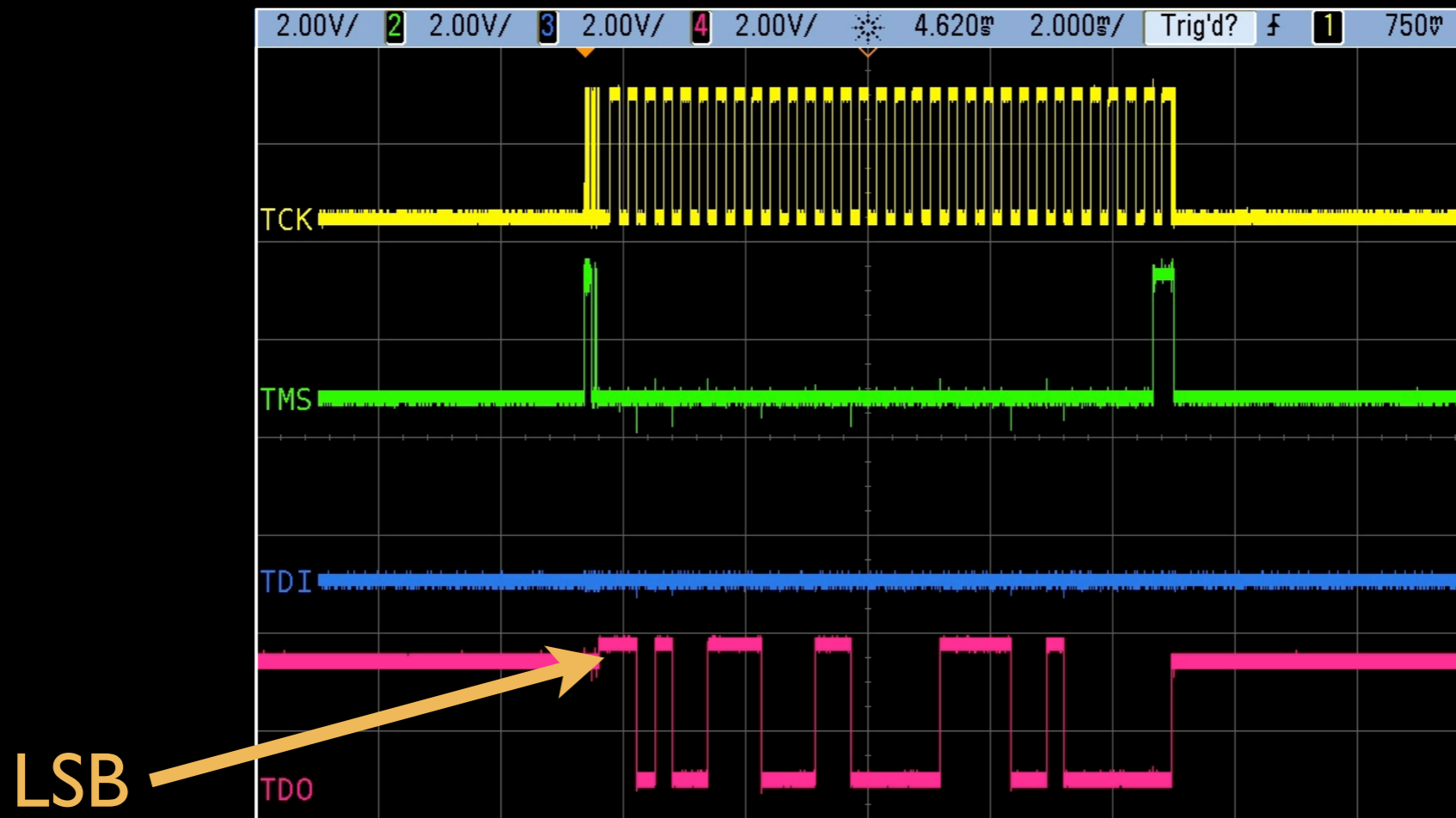
JTAG Commands

- Identify JTAG pinout via IDCODE scan (I)
- Identify JTAG pinout via BYPASS scan (B)
- Get Device IDs (D) (w/ known pinout)
- Test BYPASS (T) (w/ known pinout)



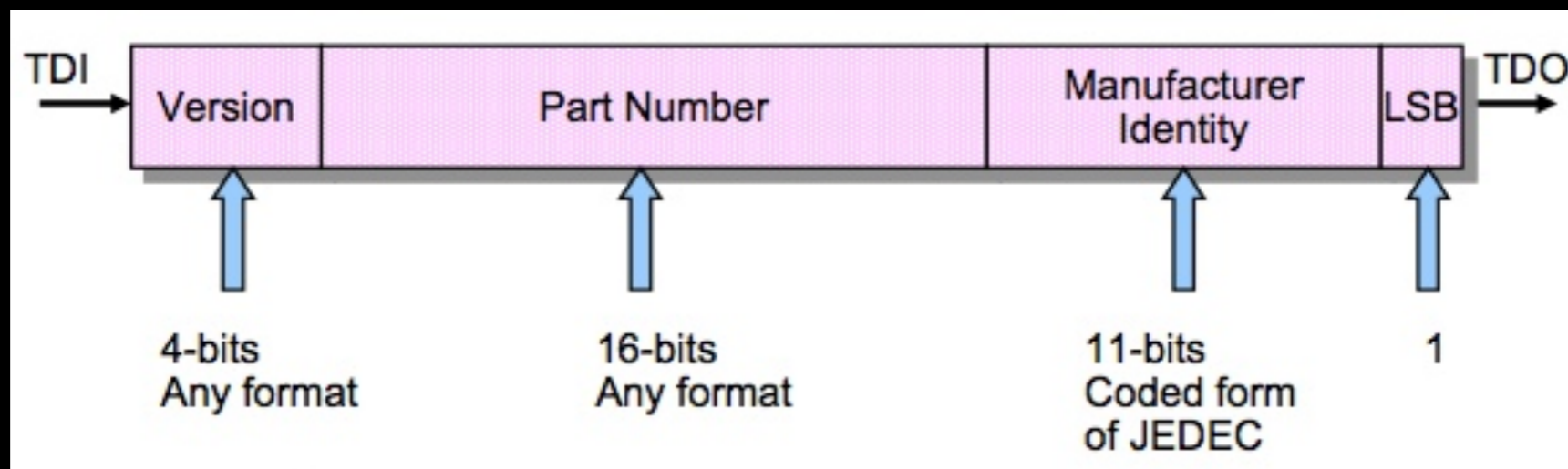
IDCODE Scan

- 32-bit Device ID (if available) is in the DR on TAP reset or IC power-up
 - Otherwise, TAP will reset to BYPASS (LSB = 0)
 - Can simply enter Shift-DR state and clock out on TDO
 - TDI not required/used during IDCODE acquisition



IDCODE Scan 2

- Device ID values vary with part/family/vendor
 - Locate in data sheets, BSDL files, reference code, etc.
- Manufacturer ID provided by JEDEC
 - Each manufacturer assigned a unique identifier
 - Can use to help validate that proper IDCODE was retrieved
 - <http://www.jedec.org/standards-documents/results/jep106>



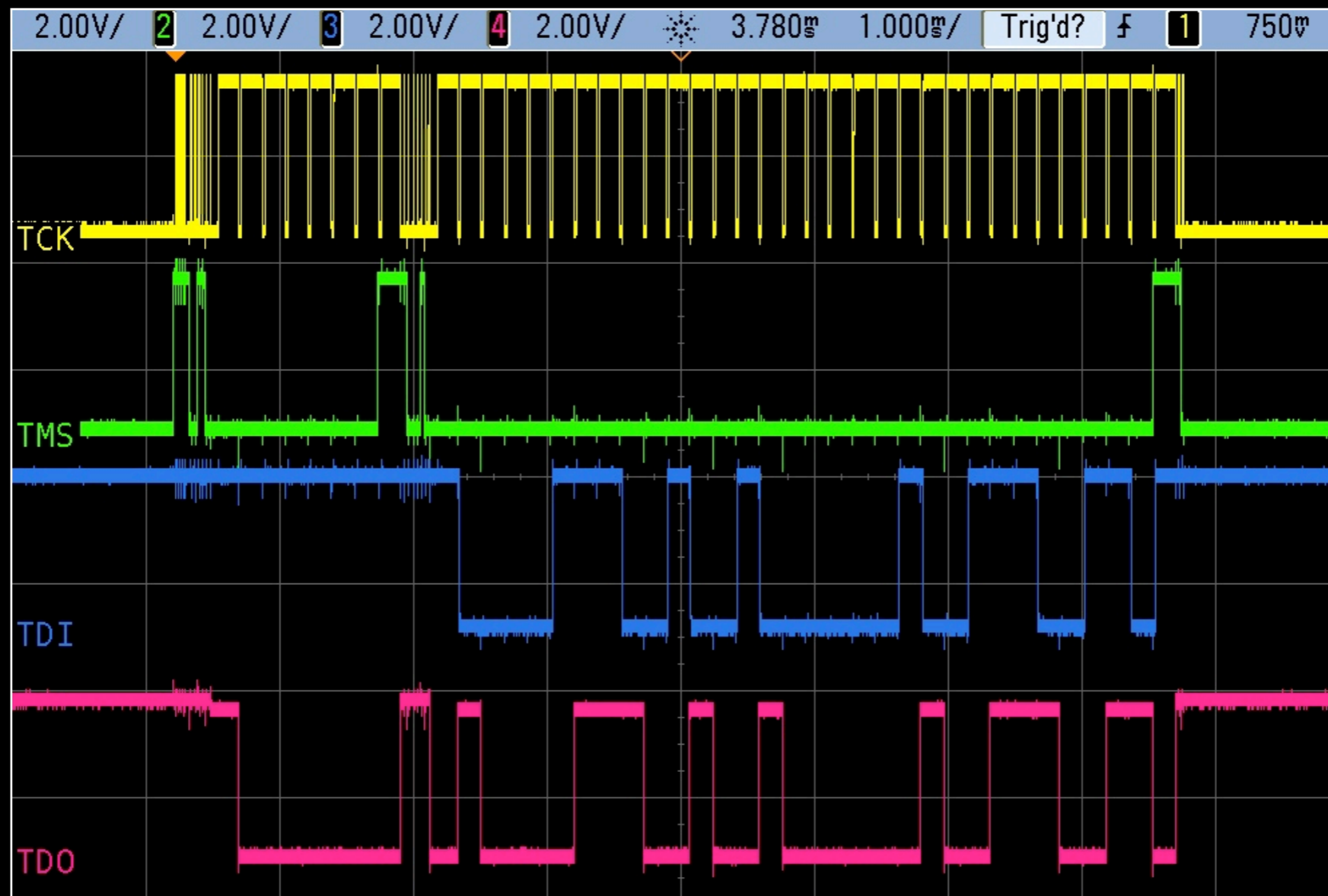
IDCODE Scan 3

- Ask user for number of channels to use
- For every possible pin permutation (except TDI)
 - Set unused channels to output high (in case of any active low reset pins)
 - Configure JTAG pins to use on the Propeller
 - Reset the TAP
 - Try to get the Device ID by reading the DR
 - If Device ID is 0xFFFFFFFF or if bit 0 != 1, ignore
 - Otherwise, display potentially valid JTAG pinout



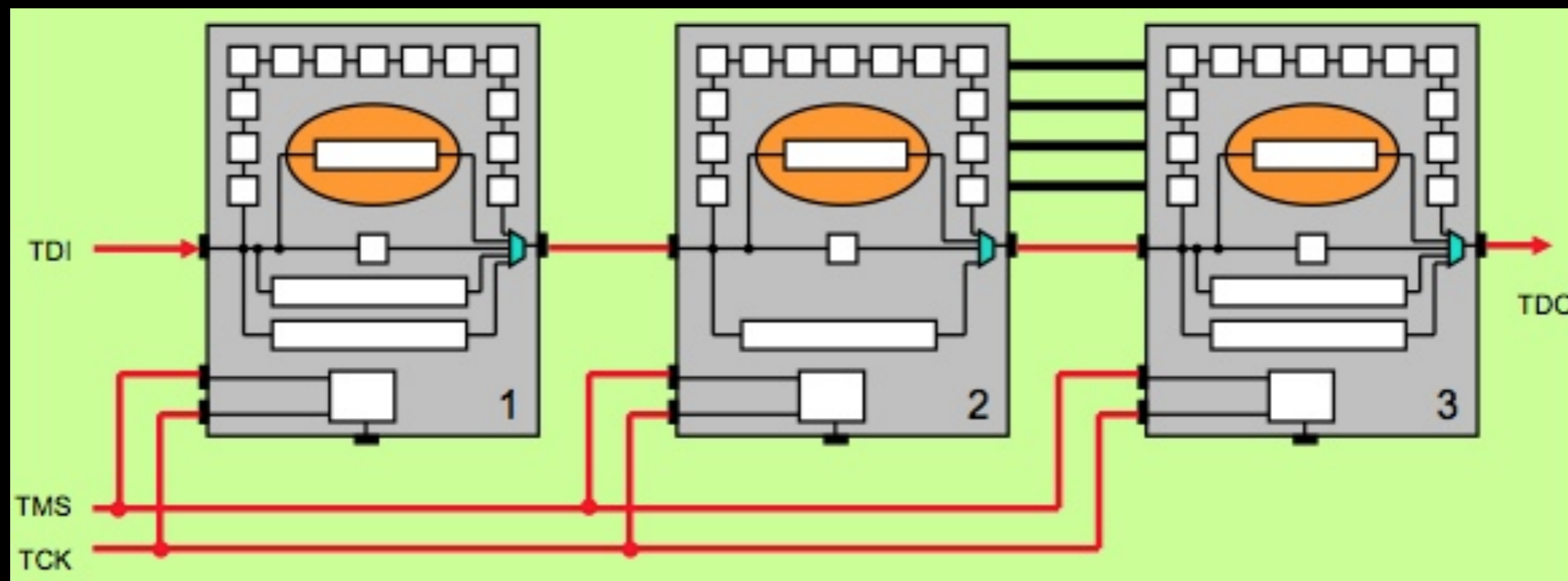
BYPASS Scan

- In BYPASS, data shifted into TDI is received on TDO delayed by one clock cycle



BYPASS Scan 2

- Can determine how many devices (if any) are in the chain via "blind interrogation"
 - Force device(s) into BYPASS (IR of all 1s)
 - Send 1s to fill DRs
 - Send a 0 and count until it is output on TDO



BYPASS Scan 3

- Ask user for number of channels to use
- For every possible pin permutation
 - Set unused channels to output high (in case of any active low reset pins)
 - Configure JTAG pins to use on the Propeller
 - Reset the TAP
 - Perform blind interrogation
 - If number of detected devices > 0 , display potentially valid JTAG pinout



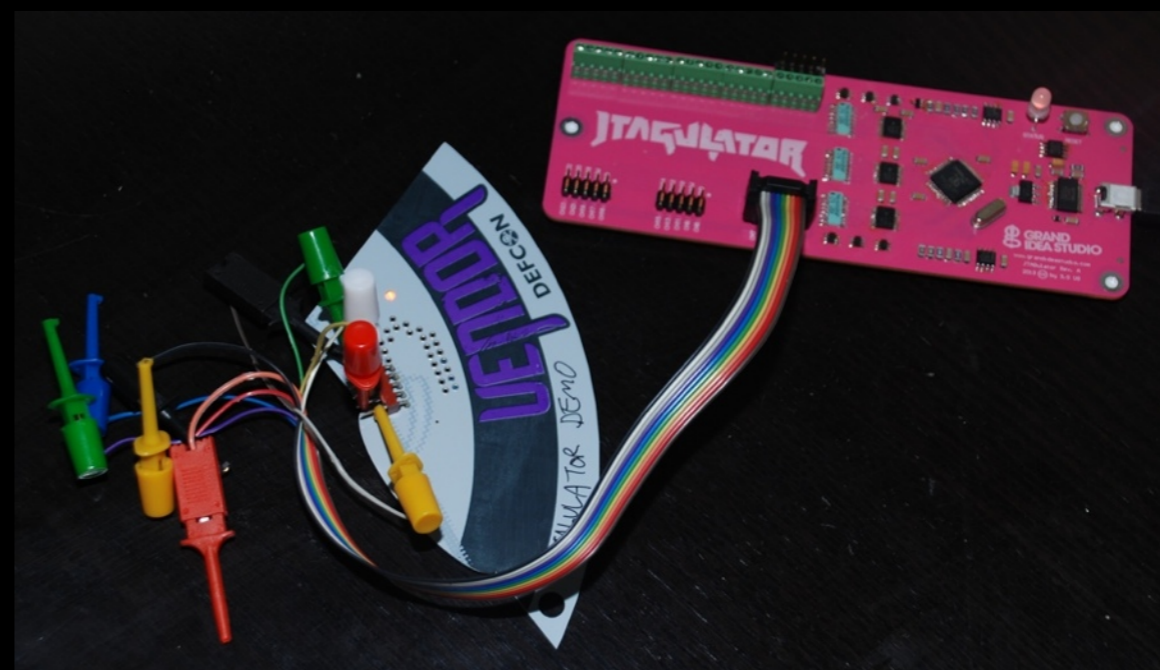
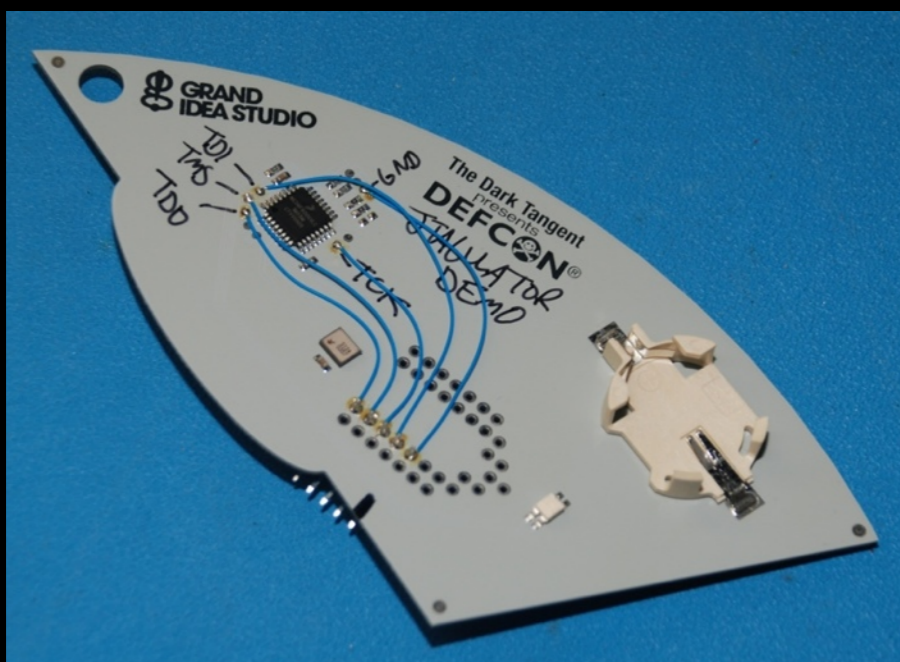
DEFCON 17 Badge

- Freescale MC56F8006 Digital Signal Controller
 - ID = 0x01C0601D
 - www.bsdl.info/details.htm?sid=e82c74686c7522e888ca59b002289d77

MSB

LSB

Ver.	Design Center	Core Number	Chip Derivative	Manufacturer ID	Fixed
31...28	27...22	21...17	16...12	11...1	0
0000	000111	00000 (DSP56300)	00110	00000001110 (0x0E)	1



UART Commands

- Identify UART pinout (U)
- UART pass through (P) (w/ known pinout)



UART Scan

- Ask user for desired output string (up to 16 bytes)
- Ask user for number of channels to use
- For every possible pin permutation
 - Configure UART pins to use on the Propeller
 - Set baud rate
 - Send user string
 - Wait to receive data (20ms maximum per byte)
 - If any bytes received, display potentially valid UART pinout and data (up to 16 bytes)



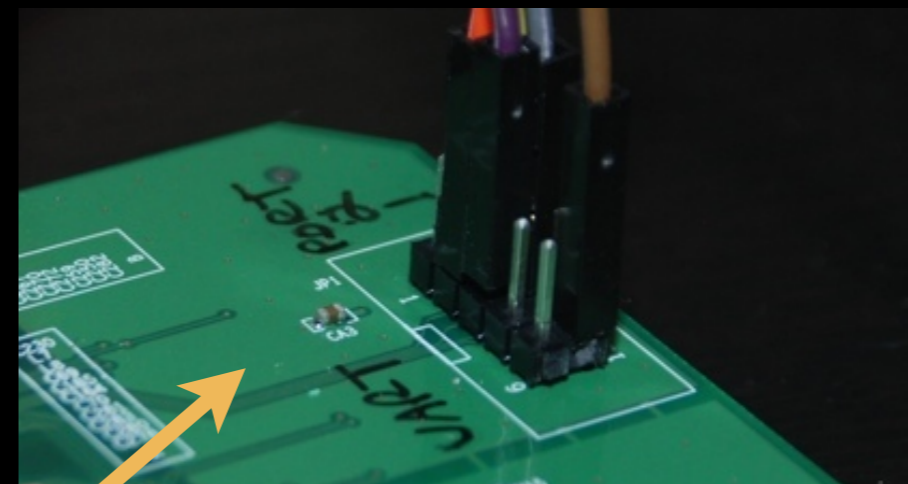
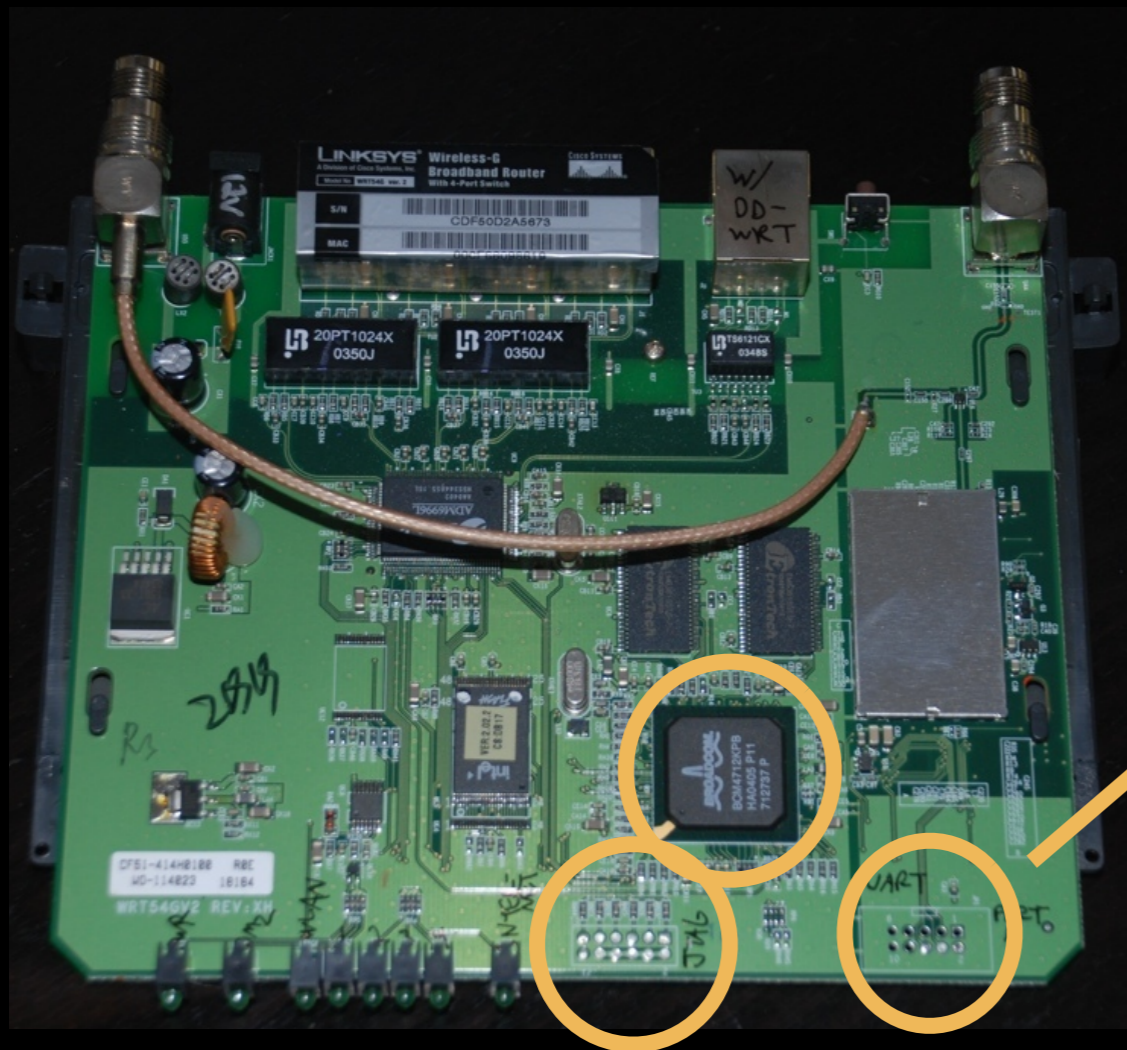
UART Scan 2

- 8 data bits, no parity, 1 stop bit (8N1)
- Baud rates stored in look-up table
 - 75, 110, 150, 300, 900, 1200, 1800, 2400, 3600, 4800, 7200, 9600, 14400, 19200, 28800, 31250, 38400, 57600, 76800, 115200, 153600, 230400, 250000, 307200



Linksys WRT54G v2 rXH (w/ DD-WRT)

- Broadcom BCM4712
 - ID = 0x1471217F
 - <https://github.com/notch/tjtag/blob/master/tjtag.c>
 - UART: JP1 (TXD = 4, RXD = 6) @ 115200, 8N1



1	nTRST	■	■	GND	2
3	TDI	■	■	GND	4
5	TDO	■	■	GND	6
7	TMS	■	■	GND	8
9	TCK	■	■	GND	10
11	nSRST	■	■	GND	12

*** www.jtagtest.com/pinouts/wrt54



Scan Timing

- **IDCODE**
 - TDI ignored since we're only shifting data out of DR
 - ~264 permutations/second
- **BYPASS**
 - Many bits/permutation needed to account for multiple devices in chain and varying IR lengths
 - ~13.37 permutations/second

# of Channels	IDCODE Permutations	IDCODE (mm:ss)	BYPASS Permutations	BYPASS (mm:ss)
4	24	< 00:01	24	00:02
8	336	00:02	1680	02:05
16	3360	00:13	43680	54:27
24	12144	00:46	255024	317:54



Scan Timing 2

- UART
 - Only need to locate two pins (TXD/RXD)
 - 24 baud rates/permutation
 - ~1 permutation/second

# of Channels	UART Permutations	Time (mm:ss)
4	12	00:12
8	56	00:57
16	240	4:04
24	552	9:22



Demonstration



Possible Limitations

- Could cause target to behave abnormally due to "fuzzing" unknown pins
- OCD interface isn't being properly enabled
 - Non-standard configuration
 - Password protected
 - System expects defined reset sequence or pin setting
- OCD interface is physically disconnected
 - Cut traces, missing jumpers/0 ohm resistors
- No OCD interface exists

*** Additional reverse engineering will be necessary to determine the problem or discover pinout



Future Work

- Add support for other interfaces
 - TI Spy-Bi-Wire, ARM Serial Wire Debug, Microchip ICSP, Atmel AVR ISP



Other Uses

- Propeller development board
- Logic analyzer
- Inter-chip communication/probing ala Bus Pirate or GoodFET
- ???



Get It

- www.jtagulator.com

*** Schematics, firmware, BOM, block diagram, Gerber plots, photos, other engineering documentation

- www.parallax.com

*** Assembled units, bare boards, accessories



A Poem



to take an object
from made to modified
customize interfaces
between past and few
truths can maintain
their veneer in the face
of signal feedbacks size
of diamond screwdriver
doesn't fit circuit exit
enter the dragnet on all
sides caught with tools
debugging as form of how
to gain access to what
you have but can't quite
double blind verify
ascertain make salient
discoveries about how
electricity keeps
its secrets from
anything that's
not luckily
everything
electric

is jtagulator
take apart
a ball of
and find

particles that can't be
broken in
too

poems@zachhouston.com

Zach



The End.

