

GNU Radio as a FOSS Project

Tom Rondeau
University of Pennsylvania, Rondeau Research

(tom@trondeau.com)

2015-05-28

Objectives

- Exposing free and open source software (FOSS) projects in SDR.
- Learning both tech and FOSS world concepts.
- Understanding the scope and purpose of FOSS projects.
- Thinking about the role FOSS (more than just technology).

Outline

- Presentations**
 - Tom Rondeau: The GNU Radio Ecosystem
 - Philip Balister: Embedded systems support
 - Tim O'Shea: Leveraging GNU Radio and FOSS for Academic Research
 - Rick Mellendick: FOSS in RF Penetration Testing
 - Ben Hilburn: FOSS & Industry
- Q&A

** WANL: We Are Not Lawyers

Tom Rondeau

- Maintainer and lead developer for GNURadio
- Consults through Rondeau Research
- Visiting Researcher at UPenn with Prof. Jonathan Smith
- www.trondeau.com
- gnuradio.org

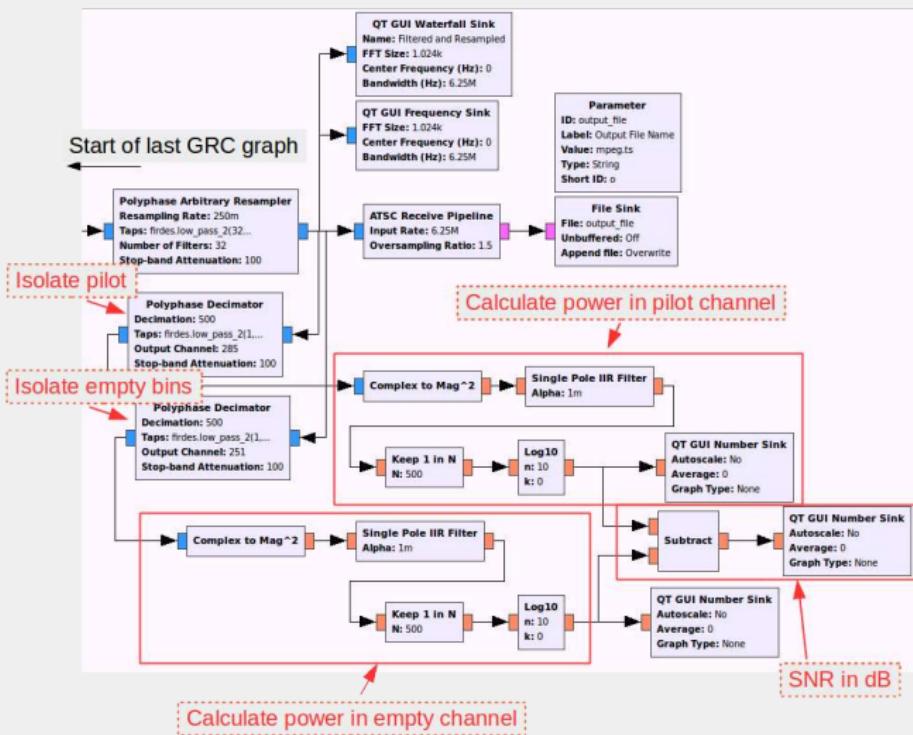


GNU Radio: Library of DSP Blocks

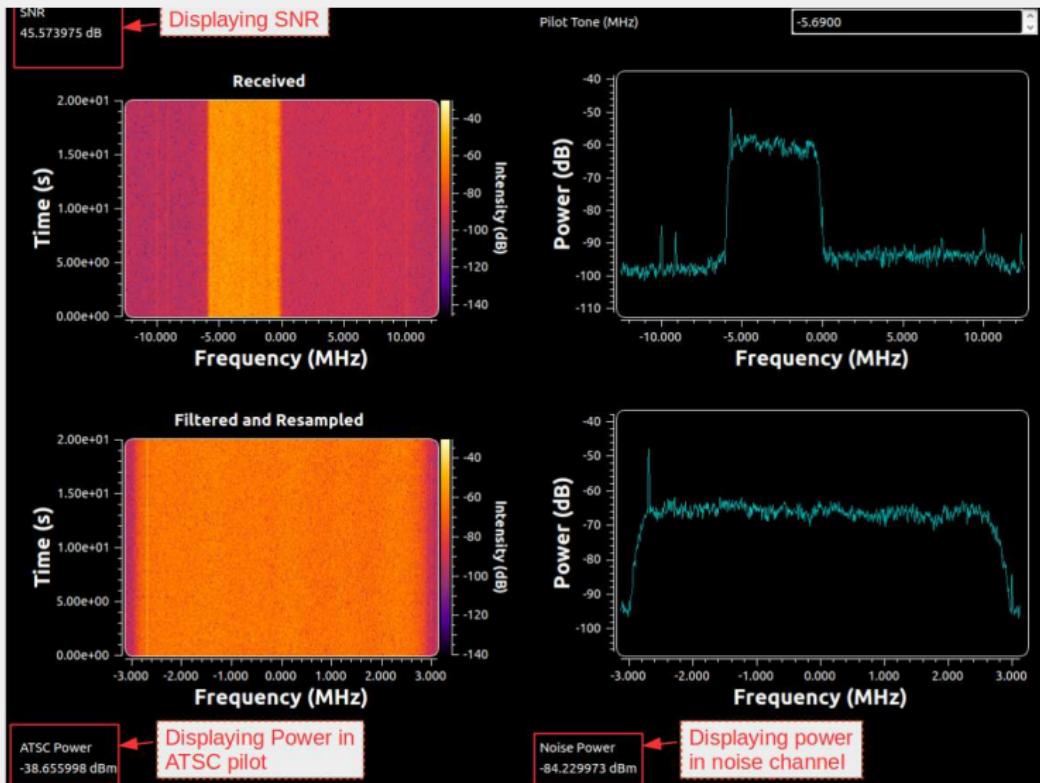
- Many blocks for fundamental signal processing algorithms.
- Tuned performance.
 - Vector-Optimized Library of Kernels (VOLK)
 - <http://libvulk.org>
- Still, not all algorithms available.
- Out-of-Tree (OOT) project model is very important.

⊕ [Audio]	⊕ [Measurement Tools]
⊕ [Boolean Operators]	⊕ [Message Tools]
⊕ [Byte Operators]	⊕ [Misc]
⊕ [Channelizers]	⊕ [Modulators]
⊕ [Channel Models]	⊕ [Networking Tools]
⊕ [Coding]	⊕ [NOAA]
⊕ [Control Port]	⊕ [OFDM]
⊕ [Debug Tools]	⊕ [Packet Operators]
⊕ [Deprecated]	⊕ [Pager]
⊕ [Digital Television]	⊕ [Peak Detectors]
⊕ [Equalizers]	⊕ [Resamplers]
⊕ [Error Coding]	⊕ [Sinks]
⊕ [FCD]	⊕ [Sources]
⊕ [File Operators]	⊕ [Stream Operators]
⊕ [Filters]	⊕ [Stream Tag Tools]
⊕ [Fourier Analysis]	⊕ [Symbol Coding]
⊕ [GUI Widgets]	⊕ [Synchronizers]
⊕ [Impairment Models]	⊕ [Trellis Coding]
⊕ [Instrumentation]	⊕ [Type Converters]
⊕ [IQ Balance]	⊕ [UHD]
⊕ [Level Controllers]	⊕ [Variables]
⊕ [Math Operators]	⊕ [Waveform Generators]

GNU Radio: Framework to Connect Blocks

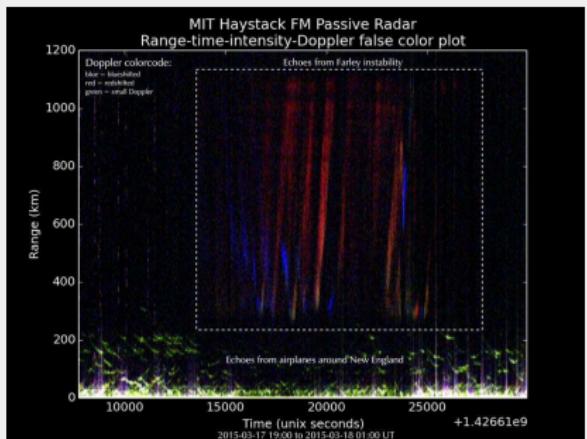


GNU Radio: Visualizing Signals



Science

- Discussion and debate.
- Easy to get things wrong.
- Prevent duplication.



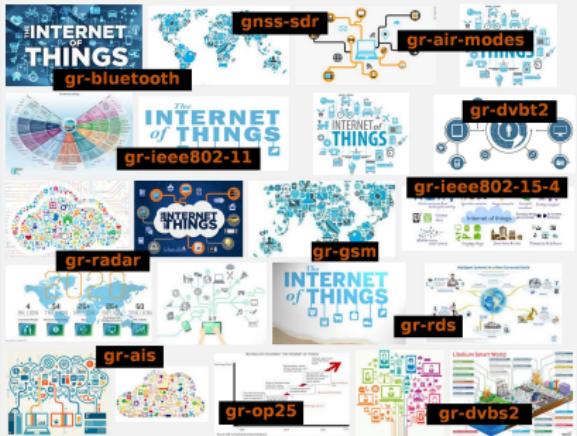
Engineering

- Implementation details.
- Discovery through experimentation (playing).
- Evolving tools and platforms



Industry

- New signals, new challenges.
- Rapid response.
- Spectrum as a Service.



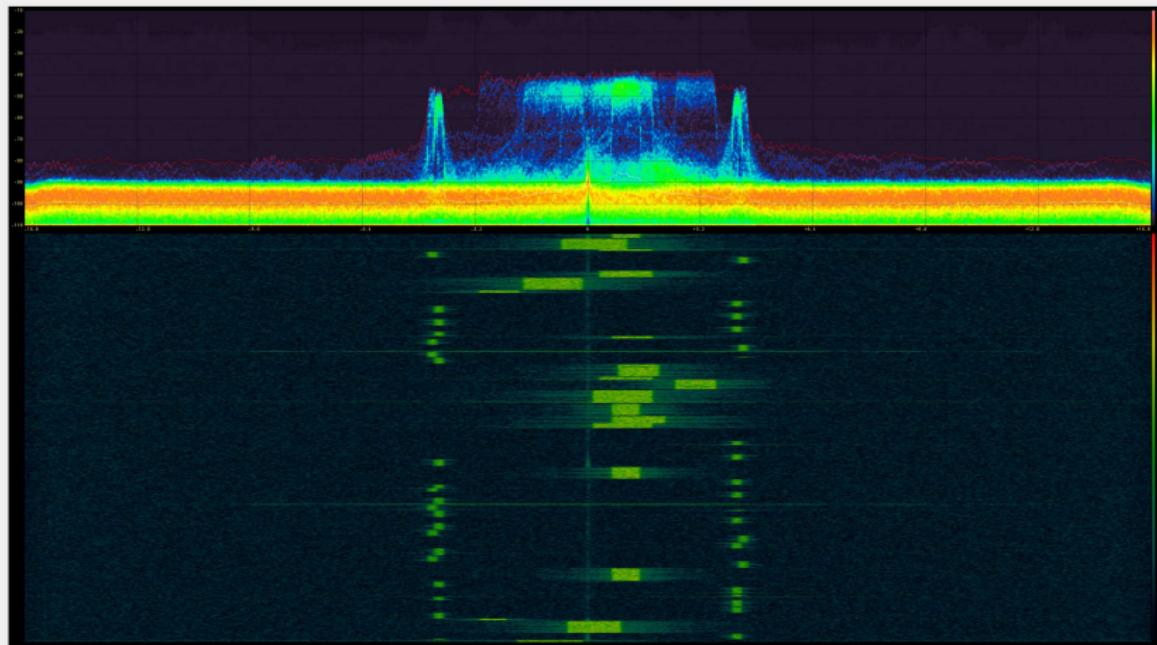
CGRAN: Collecting Second-Party Projects

- Comprehensive GNU Radio Archive Network
 - <http://cgran.org>
- Develop your own set of blocks.
- We provide a standard model for OOT projects.
- PyBOMBS to simplify installation.
 - <http://gnuradio.org/pybombs>

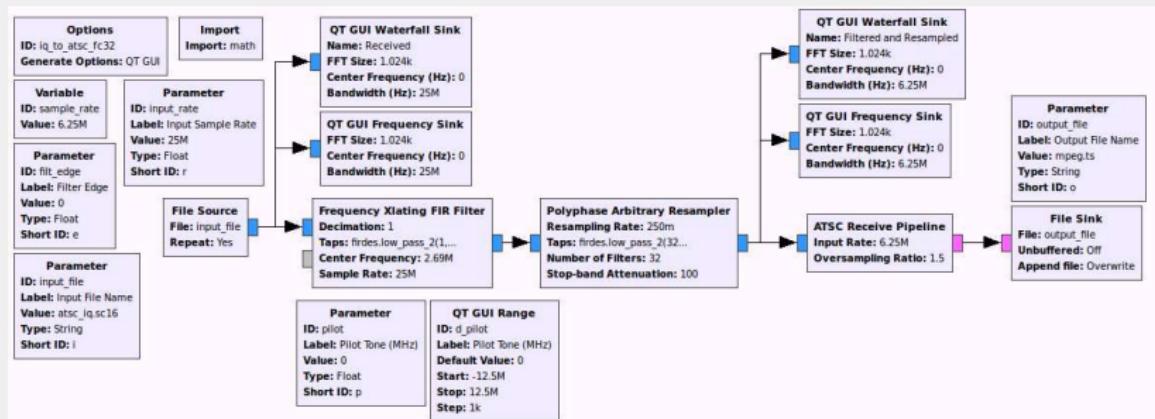
Selection from CGRAN:

Name	Description
gr-eventstream	The event stream scheduler
gr-pcap	PCAP recording and playback
gr-lte	LTE downlink receiver blocks
gr-ieee802-11	IEEE 802.11 a/g/p Transceiver
An IEEE 802.15.4 (ZigBee) Transceiver	gr-ieee802-15-4
gr-radar	GNU Radio Radar Toolbox
GR fosphor	GNU Radio block for RTSA-like spectrum visualization using OpenCL and OpenGL acceleration
gr-rds	FM RDS/TMC Transceiver
gr-drm	DRM/DRM+ transmitter
gr-theano	blocks leveraging the theano library to run code in graphics cards
gr-ieee802-15-4	An IEEE 802.15.4 (ZigBee) Transceiver
GR Benchmark	a performance measurement tool for GNU Radio
gr-dvbt2	A DVB-T2 transmitter.
gr-dvbs2	A DVB-S2 and DVB-S2X transmitter.

gr-fosphor

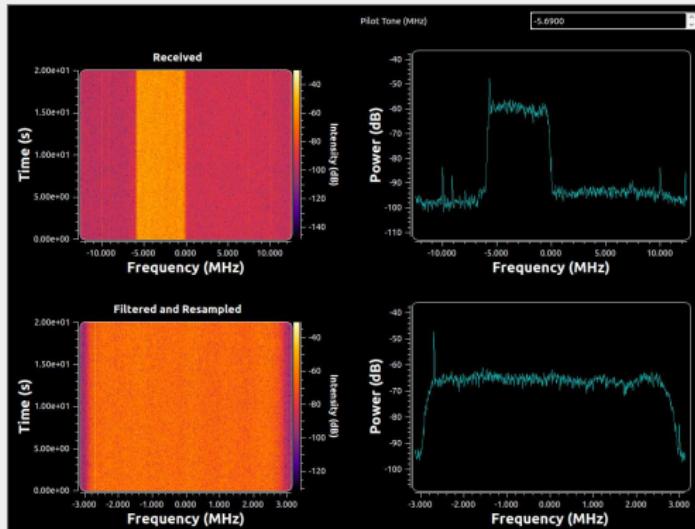


ATSC (in gr-dtv)



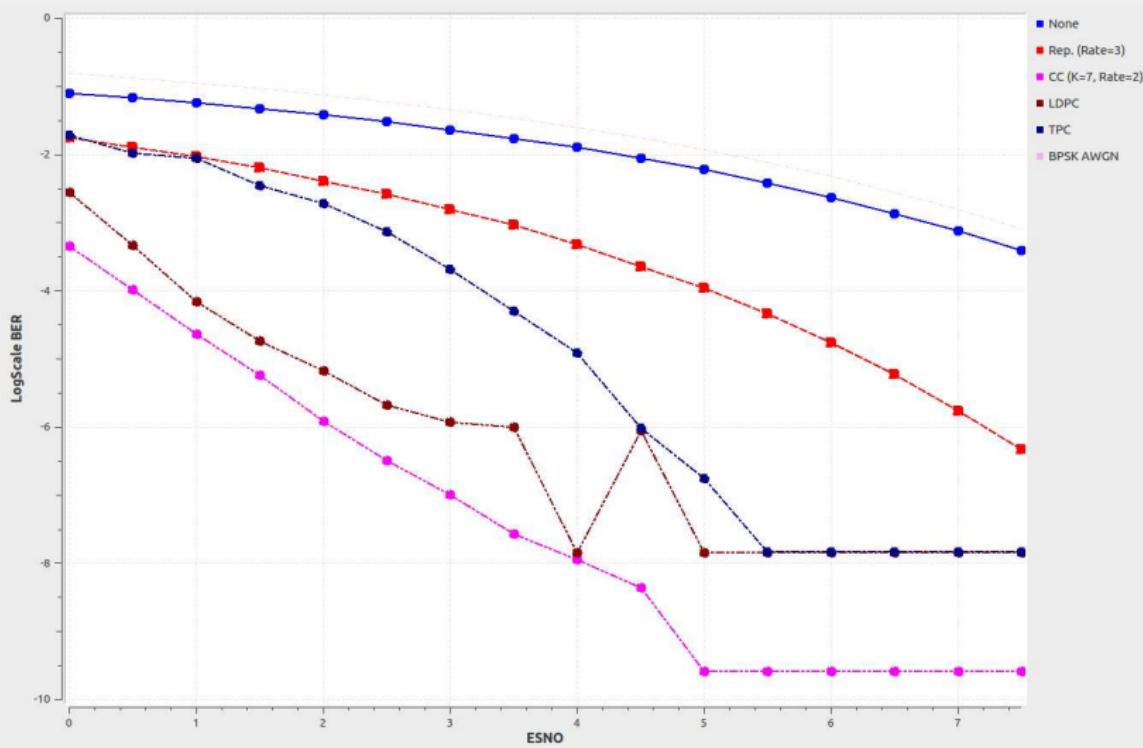
- Frequency shifts, filters, and resamples to isolate the ATSC channel.
- Outputs an MPEG transport stream after ATSC decoding.
- Part of DTV developed by others for us.

Running ATSC Receiver

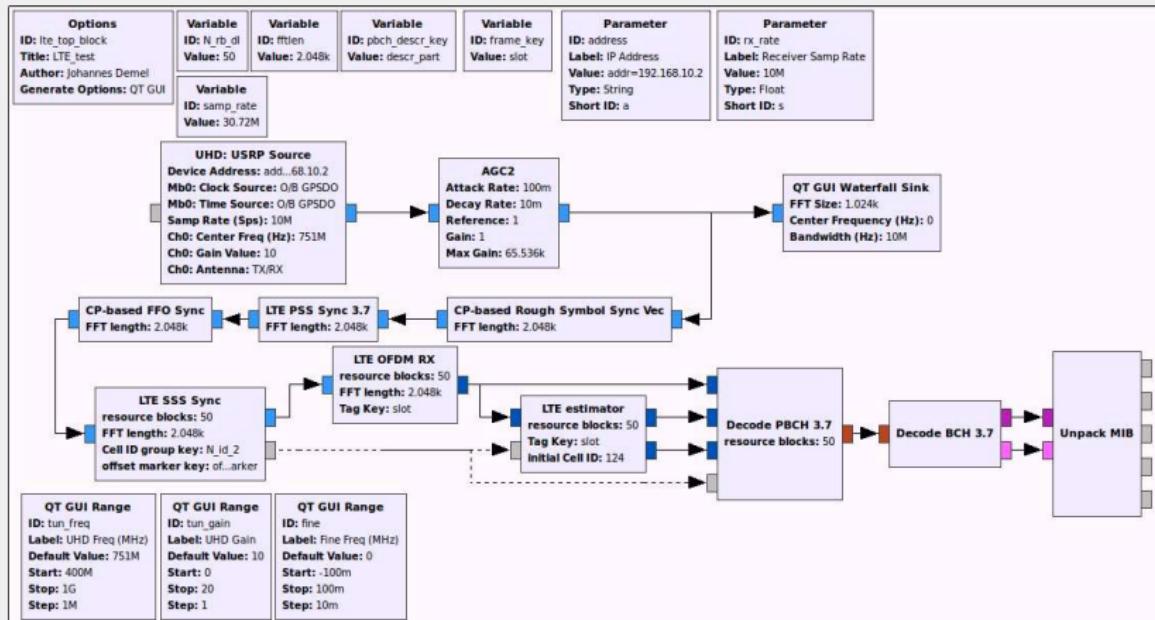


- Top plots are the input showing the pilot at -5.69 MHz.
- Bottom is centered, filtered, and resampled.

FEC API: General support for FEC



gr-lte: Simple info from downlink



GNU Radio Community

- gnuradio.org
- Manual and documentation:
 - gnuradio.org/docs/doxygen
- Mailing list:
 - gnuradio.org/redmine/projects/gnuradio/wiki/MailingLists
- My blog/announcements:
 - www.trondeau.com
- GRCon Conferences:
 - www.trondeau.com/grcon15
- IRC: #gnuradio on chat.freenode.net
- Three to Four hackfests a year.

GRCon15



The slide features the GNURadio logo at the top left, followed by the text "GNURadio CONFERENCE 2015". To the right, the dates "August 24-28" and location "Washington, DC" are listed. Below this, a bulleted list details conference highlights: "➤ GNU Radio Intro Day", "➤ Hacker Space Filled with the Latest Hardware", "➤ Tutorials for New and Experienced Users", "➤ Presentations on Advanced Research", "➤ Poster and Demo Lounge", and "➤ Working Groups". A small video frame in the bottom right shows a speaker presenting to an audience. At the bottom, the website "WWW.TRONDEAU.COM/GRCON15" is displayed.

- GNU Radio Intro Day
- Hacker Space Filled with the Latest Hardware
- Tutorials for New and Experienced Users
- Presentations on Advanced Research
- Poster and Demo Lounge
- Working Groups

August 24-28

Washington, DC

WWW.TRONDEAU.COM/GRCON15

Issues working with FOSS

- Understand licenses and what they mean.
 - They probably don't mean what you've been told they mean.
- Understand copyright issues.
 - And how this differs from licenses.
- Versions
 - Source revision control!
 - Released versions.
 - Accessibility of source and versions.
- Community is key
 - If you build it... they won't necessarily come.
 - This takes work and time.
 - Give and take – the more of one, the more of both.

We also have a bit of fun

