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Developments in Waveform Unfolding of PMT Signals in Future IceCube DOMs

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Waveform unfolding, in which photomultiplier tube signals are expressed as a linear combination of single-photoelectron waveforms, is a useful processing method both for analysis and for data compression in the IceCube Neutrino Observatory. This processing is currently only possible with a cluster of computers on the surface, but improvements in embedded technology allow moving this analysis into the digital optical modules for planned extensions of IceCube such as IceCube Gen2. In order to meet power constraints, waveform unfolding is most efficiently implemented with field programmable gate arrays (FPGA). A non-negative least squares (NNLS) algorithm developed for use with FPGAs was modified to reproduce the results of the Lawson and Hanson algorithm that is currently used for waveform unfolding in IceCube. High Level Synthesis (HLS) tools were used to synthesize firmware directly from C code and to implement the modified algorithm on hardware. This talk will discuss the structure and performance of the modified NNLS algorithm that was developed, and demonstrate what can be accomplished with new FPGA synthesis tools.

Affiliation

University of Wisconsin - Madison

Primary author(s) : PETERSON, J. H. (University of Wisconsin - Madison)

Co-author(s) : KELLEY, J. L. (Univ. of Wisconsin - Madison); HANSON, K. (University of Wisconsin - Madison); THE ICECUBE COLLABORATION

Presenter(s) : PETERSON, J. H. (University of Wisconsin - Madison)

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