

Project Update

Welcome!

15th Annual GNU Radio Conference

Josh Morman





PERATON LABS

President, member of the board

Long time user, contributor, developer, maintainer

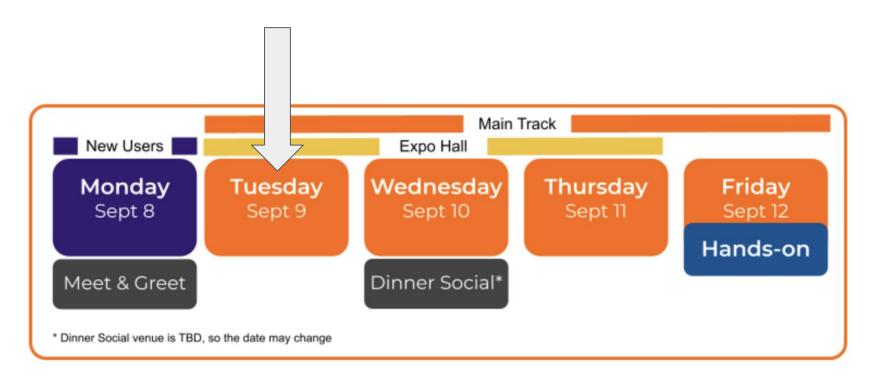
jmorman@gnuradio.org

Senior Manager, Research Science

Signal processing algorithm and code development for SDR applications

jmorman@peratonlabs.com

Week at a glance



Useful Information

SSID: AOTWA-EVENTS

Password: Events#2026!



Food and beverages

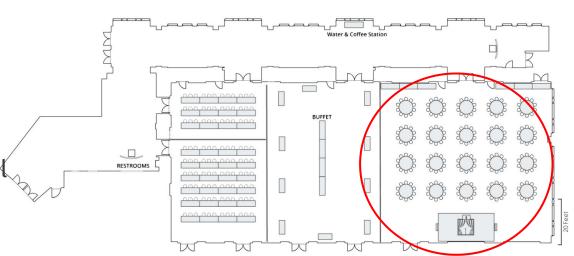
AM and PM breaks (snacks, coffee)

Lunch each day at noon

Social events - Monday and

Wednesday

Breaks and Lunch in Expo Hall (Ballroom C)



Edward D Hanson Conference Center Street Entrance from Hewitt Avenue 0000 0000 0000 **Registration Desk** PRE-FUNCTION HALLWAY Reg Desk 0900 - 1700 Tu-F 0815 - 1700 **BALLROOM 3** NORTH CTF **FOYER Ballroom 2 BALLROOM 2 Stairs** Lunch AM/PM Breaks to **GRCon** Expo Hall Tu-Th 1045 - 1700 Expo **Main Track** Hall Workshop #1 **EXECUTIVE** Capture The Flag (CTF) **BOARDROOM** Ballroom 3 North CONF. Tu-Th 1100 - 1700 RM1 RM2 MEZZANINE LEVEL Everett, Washington Workshop #2

Chat Server

Join the Matrix!

https://chat.gnuradio.org

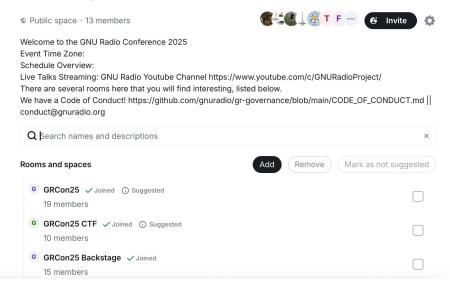
Discussions and info during the event

Chat and development year round! GRCon25 Public Space





GRCon25 Space







Keynotes and Invited Speakers

Joshua Smith



Adam Anderson



Thomas Rondeau



Bradley Kuhn



Jesse Alexander



Paul Clark



Dan Boschen



Capture the Flag

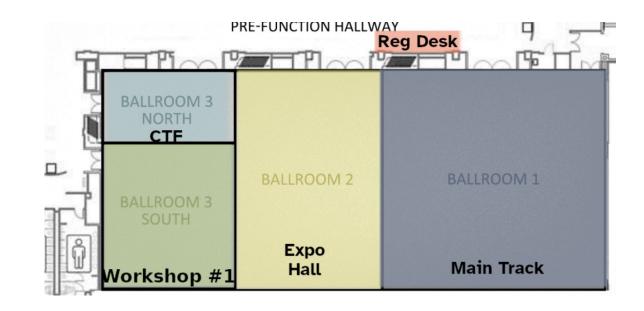
(COO)

CTF Room - Conf Room



@livethisdream

https://ctf-2025.gnuradio.org/



HAM Radio Exams



Thursday 1PM, Workshop Room

gnuradio.org/grcon25

Brought to us by Western Washington Ham Training Team

Info at the Registration Desk

Amateur Radio License Exams

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Amateur Radio License Exams (In-Person Only)

During GRCon25 we will be hosting Amateur Radio license exams for those interested in obtaining or upgrading their licenses (In-Person Only). Check out ARRL's overview for more details about Licenses.

Amateur Radio License Exams will be offered on Thursday Sept. 11 at 1:00 PM.

There are study guides and trial exam tests available for free online:

- Dan Romanchik No-Nonsense Study Guides
- ARRL trial license testing ARRL Exam Review

Details About the Exams

Exams Available

All three exam levels are available: Technician, General, and Extra. Applicants may take any exam(s) they have prepared for, in any order. A lower license class exam does not have to be passed in order to take a higher license class exam. For example, the Technician Class exam does not have to be passed to take the General Class exam. But, both would have to be passed to be eligible for a General Class license.

Exams are closed book. No books, notes, or any other materials are allowed.

Applicants who are not successful may be allowed, at the discretion of the VEs, to retest at the same session if they were very close to passing, and there is time for another exam. Many applicants have found it helpful to take any of the on-line exams that are available, more than once, to determine whether they were ready to take their license exam (see above).

FCC Registration Number (FRN)

The FCC requires you to use a Federal Registration Number (FRN). The FRN is a unique number the FCC uses to identify you. Your Social Security number is required by the FCC when you obtain an FRN, but the FRN is used after that for your transactions with the FCC.

An FRN can be obtained here. It is highly recommended that you get an FRN before coming to the exam session as this speeds up the process at the session. If you need assistance obtaining an FRN, a VE may be able to help you at your exam session (time permitting), and you will need access to your email at the session to do that.

Lightning Talks

(COO)

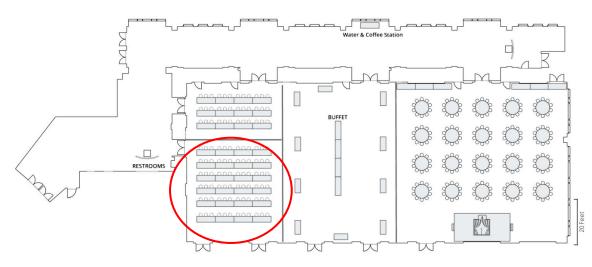
https://forms.gle/gcHiqPgM1gbhwz2K8

5 minute talks

Interesting project, or idea



Workshops



AND Conf Room 1 - DOWNSTAIRS



Dan Boschen Invited Workshop

Join us for the USRP Birthday Party!



Celebrating 20 years!

Wednesday, September 10th 6-8pm at Carleton Farm

Sponsored by:



Carleton Farm

(COO)

630 Sunnyside Blvd SE, Lake Stevens, WA 98258

Dinner + Drinks + Games + Prizes



Our Organizers

6000

Samantha Palazzolo - Lead Steve Stroh

Neil Rogers - Technical Chair Tina Stroh

Toby Flynn Marcus Müller

Seth Hitefield - A/V Neel Pandeya

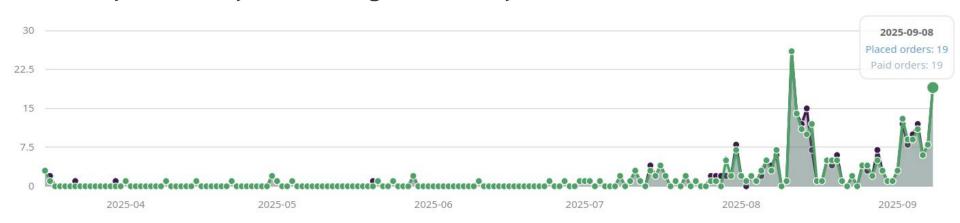
Andrej Rode Michael West

Chuck - AE4CT Josh Morman

Helping with the conference



Thank you to everyone who registered early!



GRCon26 Planning Session Friday!

Our Sponsors



DIAMOND







Our Sponsors

GOLD



Our Sponsors





















What is the GNU Radio Project?



The codebase of the core, VOLK, and SigMF

The dozens of supporting projects and infrastructure

The active contributors

The ecosystem of modules, applications, and interfaces

This conference, EU GNU Radio Days, other events

You - everyone that is interested in making open source software radio even better

Where is GNU Radio Used



Wireless Communications RADAR

4G/5G/6G Radio Astronomy Spectrum Monitoring

IOT and Sensors Space Comms Particle Accelerators

Education Amateur Radio

Physics Research

Security Research Public Safety Citizen Science

Transportation Recreation (CtF) Weather

Medical RFML ...

Packaging



Installing GNU Radio has gone from headache to trivial over the past several years

Thanks to the packagers in our community

Debian(/Ubuntu) - Maitland Bottoms

RadioConda - Ryan Volz

radiocanda





GNU Radio Maintenance



Jeff Long has officially stepped down as maintainer

Marcus Mueller officially has taken on the lead maintainer role

Looking for additional maintainers!

3 GURAGO

- Be a recognized part of the maintenance team
- Own a module or group of modules (e.g. gr-qt, gr-soapy, gr-zeromq)
- Be responsible for ensuring relevant PRs are reviewed and merged
- Help backport merges to maint-3.10

Email: info@gnuradio.org for more information

How is GNU Radio Governed?



GR BOARD

MARC LICHTMAN - VP

MARCUS MUELLER - VP







JOSH MORMAN - PRESIDENT





DEREK KOZEL - PI

General Assembly

Martin Braun - Community/Ecosystem

Andrej Rode - Infrastructure

Bastian Bloessl - Architecture

Johannes Demel - VOLK

Jeff Long - Maintenance

Seth Hitefield - GRC

Josh Morman - President

Marc Lichtman - Vice President

Derek Kozel - SETI PI

Marcus Müller - Chief Architect / Lead Maintainer

Nate Temple - Community

Philip Balister - Embedded

Samantha Palazzolo - GRCon

Jacob Gilbert - SigMF

Jean-Michel Friedt - Academic Engagement

Ben McCall - Documentation

John Sallay - GR 4.0

Cyrille Morin

Teams



GNU Radio Conference - grcon@gnuradio.org

Architecture - architecture@gnuradio.org

GRC - grc@gnuradio.org

Documentation - docs@gnuradio.org

SigMF - sigmf@gnuradio.org

VOLK - volk@gnuradio.org

Infrastructure - admin@gnuradio.org

Education and Academic Outreach - education@gnuradio.org

Remember - GNU Radio is a completely volunteer run organizations

Getting Involved

Join Chat - https://chat.gnuradio.org

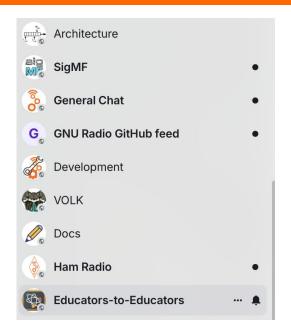
Join the Mailing List - discuss-gnuradio

File issues - https://github.com/gnuradio

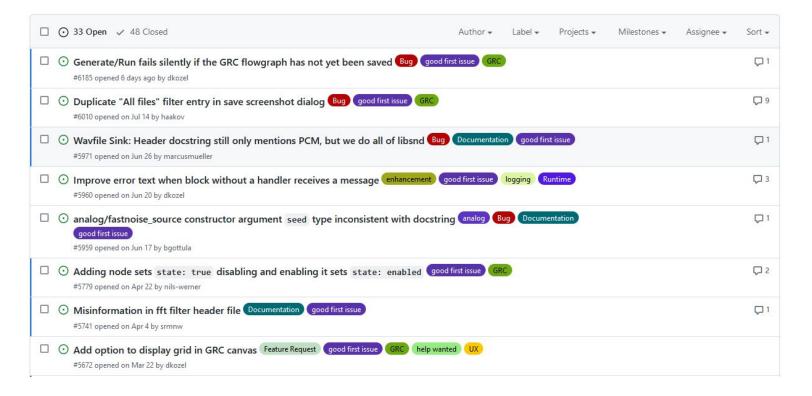
Review issues, add details, recreate ones

Improve the tutorials - https://tutorials.gnuradio.org

Give a talk about GNU Radio - ~1200 publications in 2024 mentioning GNU Radio



Getting Involved



Latest GNU Radio Project Releases









GNU Radio 3.10.12

- GRC-QT Parity
- UHD/RFNoC
- Other tooling updates

VOLK 3.2.0

- New/improved kernels
- Modernized CI
- Improved tests

SigMF v1.2.5

Spec fixes and updates

SigMF

Standardized Data Format

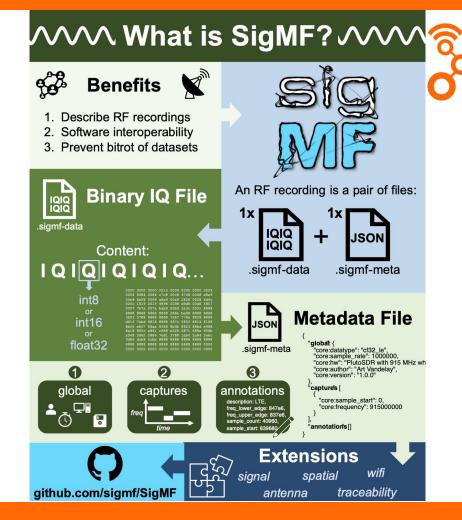
- Common way to describe IQ Data captures with metadata
- Portable format widely adopted

Training and Evaluation Pipeline

- Unified input format for ML training, validation, testing
- Simplified integration with frameworks like PyTorch

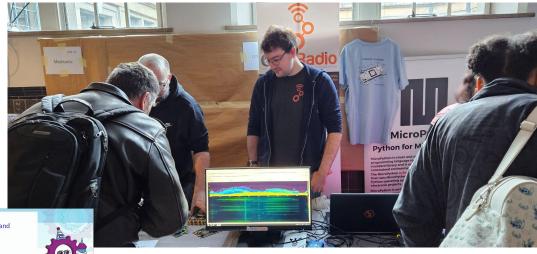
Applications

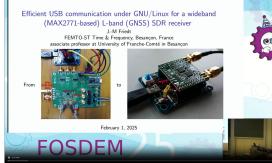
- RFML, Spectrum Sensing, signal identification, ...



FOSDEM 2025









EU GR Days 2025









Australian GR Days

	Tuesday 23rd	Wednesday 24th	Thursday 25th	Friday 26th
9:00	Registration	Radar Basics S. Drake – Flinders University	Keynote Future Gen. Wireless Technologies	
9:30	Keynote GNU Radio Community D. Kozel – GNU Radio	TBD M. Piyaratna – Solinnov Wireless	T. Rondeau - FutureG	
10:00		Network Security S. Rehman – Flinders University	TtW Detection w CSI Capt. via SDR D. Naotunna - Solinnov Wireless	
10:30	Coffee Break			
11:00	Introduction GNU Radio Companion A. Lammas – Flinders University	ADSB Doppler Detection on a FPGA D. Bezborodow – Flinders University	Allan on SDR A. Wiegelmann – Flinders University	Classified Sessions Software Defined Radio: Threats and Opportunities
11:30	Antenna Fundamentals S. Chen – Flinders University	Al for Wireless with SDRs Y. Chen – Matlab	SDR-Based Direction Finding R. Abdullah – Adelaide University	
12:00	Geolocation Basics S. Drake – Flinders University	Lunch	Dist. One-step Passive Geolocation A. Newcome – Flinders University	
12:30	Lunch Travel Time	Travel Time	Lunch	
13:00		INUVUD		
13:30	Electromagnetic Propagation S. Chen – Flinders University	TECHNOLOGIES	Antenna Parameters S. Chen	
14:00	Enhancing Antenna Systems H. Dang – RF Shop	Travel Time		
14:30	Build Your Own RF Anechoic Chamb. N. Brown – Flinders University	Coffee Break		
15:00	Coffee Break	GNU Radio Companion: Under the Hood D. Kozel	Coffee Break	
15:30	GNU Radio Companion: The Basics A. Lammas		ADSB Spoofing Verification S. Drake	
16:00				
16:30			Closing – S. Drake	
17:00	Drinks	Travel Time		
18:00				
21:00	Cyberspectrum	Dinner		



SETI Hackathon

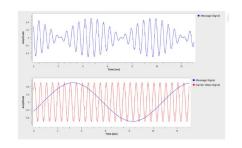
Sponsored by ARDC

Allen Telescope Array



SETI ARISE

agiseti.com



News

SETI Institute Launches ARISE Lab, Bringing SETI and Radio Astronomy to Community Colleges

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Possible Types of Extraterrestrial Intelligence Radio Transmissions

In this lab, students dive into the field of SETI (Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence) by exploring the types of radio transmissions that may be detected from extraterrestrial sources. This module covers essential concepts in signal processing, including the Nyquist sampling theorem, filtering techniques, and modulation. Students will examine various possible SETI signal types, such as beacons, leakage signals, narrowband vs. wideband signals, as well as continuous wave and pulsed transmissions. The hands-on component involves designing and implementing an AM transmitter and receiver, allowing students to apply their understanding of signal characteristics and modulation. By the end of the lab, students will gain practical experience in signal processing while considering the broader implications of detecting signals from extraterrestrial intelligence in SETI research.

Lecture Notes

Pre-Lab Reading

Teaching Resources

Communication Systems Engineering with GNU Radio: A Hands-on



Approach 1st Edition

by Jean-Michel Friedt (Author), Herve Boeglen (Author)

See all formats and editions



Pre-order Price Guarantee. Terms

An approachable guide to an invaluable radiofrequency communication toolkit

Software-defined radio (SDR), which emerged in the 1990s, has become a core development method in certain high-profile fields, including military and space communications. High cost and problems with hardware availability, however, prevented this technology from being widely disseminated. The advent of low-cost hardware beginning in the 2010s, however, has made GNU Radio—the leading open-source software toolkit for developing SDR systems—an increasingly viable and even critical tool for a new generation of radiofrequency communication engineers.

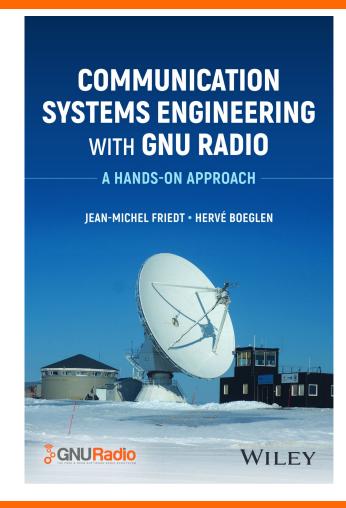
Communication Systems Engineering with GNU Radio provides an accessible overview of this toolkit and its applications. Beginning with the fundamentals of using GNU radio for digital signal processing, the volume then moves to the practicalities of decoding data and the advantages of accessing raw data normally unavailable in hardware-defined radiofrequency receivers. The result is a potentially crucial tool for engineers looking to adopt this cost-effective and flexible standard for transmitting and processing radiofrequency signals.

Readers will also find:

- A careful balance of radio communications theory with GNU Radio practicalities
- · Practical implementation examples employing well-developed open-source GNU Radio platforms
- Extensive accompanying documentation and explanation

Communication Systems Engineering with GNU Radio is ideal for graduate and undergraduate students in communications systems courses, as well as professionals working in SDR.

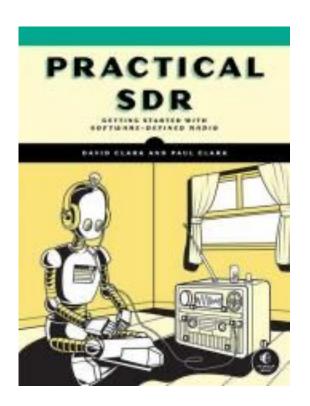
Available now! https://a.co/d/cXoltKi



Practical SDR - No Starch Press

https://a.co/d/9QlvQMv





Introduction

Part I: Building a Basic Receiver

Chapter 1: What Is a Radio?

Chapter 2: Computers and Signals

Chapter 3: Getting Started with GNU Radio

Chapter 4: Creating an AM Receiver

Part II: Inside the Receiver

Chapter 5: Signal Processing Fundamentals

Chapter 6: How an AM Receiver Works

Chapter 7: Building an FM Radio

Part III: Working with SDR Hardware

Chapter 8: The Physics of Radio Signals

Chapter 9: GNU Radio Flowgraphs with SDR Hardware

Chapter 10: Modulation

Chapter 11: SDR Hardware Under the Hood

Chapter 12: Peripheral Hardware

Chapter 13: Transmitting

Matrix Chat room for Educators

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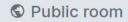
chat.gnuradio.org

education@gnuradio.org



Educators-to-Educators

#edu:gnuradio.org





Discussing how to use GNU Radio in education

Project Vision



GNU Radio Funding

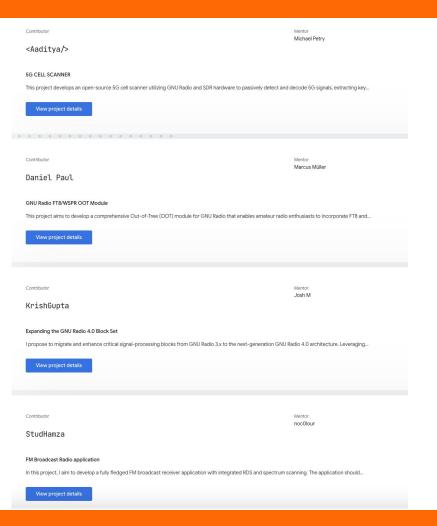


- → GNU Radio Conference
- → Grants
- → Donations
- **→**
- → Sustainability

Google Summer of Code

This year we had 4 sponsored projects!

Thanks to Google, the students, and the mentors





Fund your projects/ideas through grants

Small Grants through GNU Radio - \$5-\$15k Nov. 15 Deadline - info@gnuradio.org

Grant Ideas

Similar to the GSoC Ideas page, this is a list of things we could potentially ask for grant money to accomplish, or even just volunteers who want something specific to dive into:





The NumFOCUS Small Development Grants program is a community collaboration which addresses project needs while also engaging dedicated volunteers. See the process below:



How to Support GNU Radio

(0°0

Get Involved

Advertise that you use GNU Radio

Write a letter of support

Publish a whitepaper

Join a team



Technical vision remains unchanged



... but is starting to become reality



GNU Radio in the development workflow



Through the 4.0 architecture, expand feasible usage from simulation through to deployment

Technical Vision for GNU Radio 4.0



Modular CPU Runtime

- Scheduler as plugin
- Application-specific schedulers

Heterogeneous Architectures

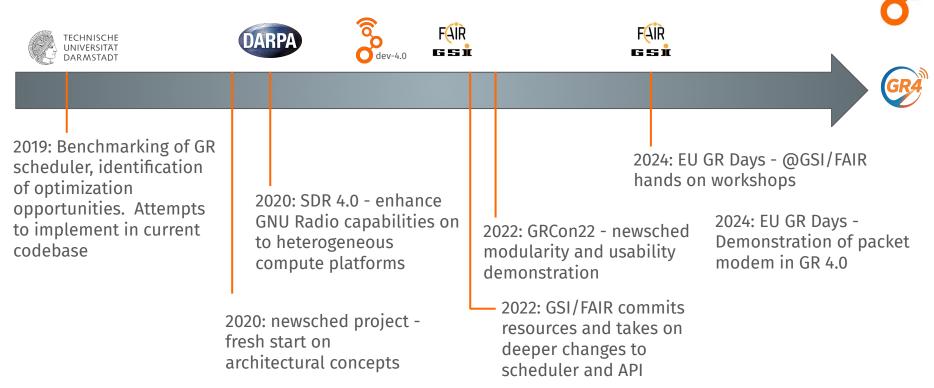
 Seamless integration of accelerators (e.g., FPGAs, GPUs, DSPs, SoCs)

Distributed DSP

 Setup and manage flowgraphs that span multiple nodes

Straightforward implementation of (distributed)
SDR systems that make efficient use of the platform
and its accelerators

GR 4.0 Timeline



Permissive Licensing





Our goal is for free and open software defined radio to get into the hands of as many people as possible.

GNU Radio is boxed out of many ecosystems because of (often misunderstood) GPL constraints

GR4 will have a permissive MIT licensed core and minimal blockset

Allows derived works to be licensed at the discretion of the author

- We envision a healthy GPLv3 ecosystem of OOT modules

Gain access to new applications / markets / ecosystems

Note: no relicensing of GR3 - ported code will remain GPLv3







The future of the GNU Radio framework





Imagine ...

GNU Radio that is suitable for mission critical and enterprise grade applications

GNU Radio flowgraphs that can be designed as prototypes and be deployed as products with minimal additional effort

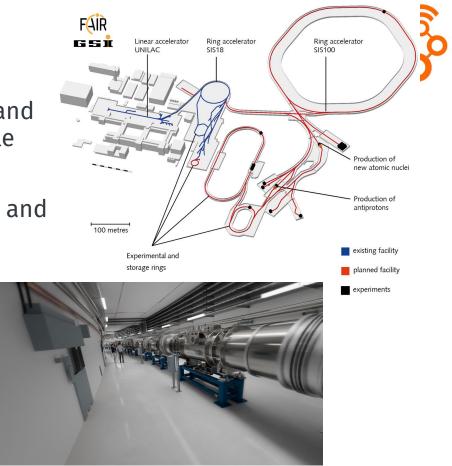
GNU Radio development workflows and data pipelines that better enable AI tools and AI/ML applications

Mission Critical

GR4 was developed as the measurement and sample processing solution for the particle accelerators at FAIR

Designed to run on **critical infrastructure**, and thus meet higher standards for **safety**, **cybersecurity**, and **product liability**.

- Redesigned from the ground up
- Modern C++ and Best Practices
- Lean, clean codebase
- High throughput and low latency demands



From prototype to deployed product



Block based development is a powerful concept - rapid application development based on modularity, reuse - but how well can a general purpose framework allow this to become a "product"

How these blocks get executed is highly dependent on the runtime framework

- Optimal scheduling across available compute resources
 - Custom scheduler to meet application needs
- Heterogeneous compute
 - Custom buffers to suit specific compute resources
- Maximize CPU performance
 - Lock Free buffers, constexpr optimization, std::simd standardization, Block Merging

GR4 Killer Features

Lean on compiler for efficient optimizations

Type strictness and constraints

Code is single source of truth

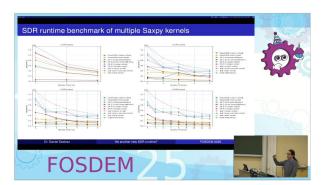
SIMD and Merge API

Direct testing of blocks without flowgraph

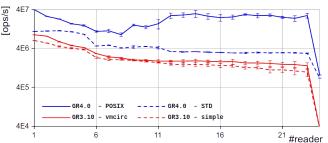
Lock free circular buffers

Modular Scheduling

Ease of Development







2 ns	16.4G
1 us	
	10.7G
1 us	10.7G
4 us	3.0G
2 us	248M
6 us	241M
1 ms	81.7M
2 us	97.5M
1 ms	67.3M
8 us	80.6M
10	16 us 1 ms 12 us 1 ms 18 us

GR4 in practice



This is a completely functional GR4 block

```
struct Square : Block<Square> {
    using Description = Doc<"@brief Squares the input value">;
    PortIn<float> in;
    PortOut<float> out;
    GR_MAKE_REFLECTABLE(Square, in, out);
    [[nodiscard]] constexpr float processOne(float input) const noexcept { return input*input; }
};
```

Join the GR4 Block Tutorial to learn more hands-on

GR4 as a low barrier entrypoint for AI enabled SDR

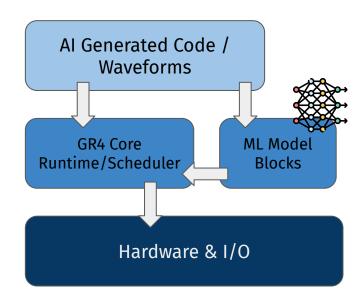


AI-enabled SDR starts with an easy to use, high-performance framework.

Without a stable, performant core, developers waste time reinventing DSP chains, schedulers, and I/O handling.

GR4 provides a production-grade signal processing engine so AI-generated code and AI-driven waveforms can focus on innovation, not reimplementation.

A shared foundation means AI models and outputs are immediately deployable and interoperable with other SDR components.



Al Ready Data Model

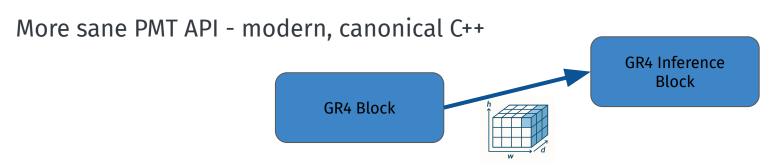


PMT Tensors: superset of vectors with shape, dtype, rank.

Fits naturally with PyTorch, TensorFlow, ONNX workflows.

Rich metadata (time/frequency/antenna) travels with data → training & inference ready.

PMT typed ports: simplify sending structured data between blocks



Data Movement and Compute Placement



Custom buffers and zero-copy GPU/accelerator paths.

- Custom Buffer architecture in place
- SYCL as one prototyped option for compute abstraction

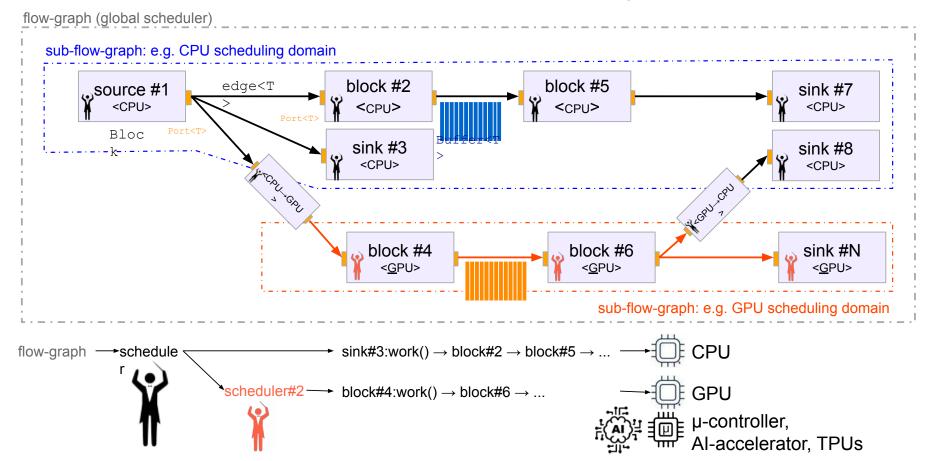
Modular schedulers allow a vast ecosystem of custom and future domain-specific schedulers

- Async & batch execution to match AI inference engine behavior.



Graph-Based Signal-Flow Description

GR3.x→4: multiple compute domains & inverted scheduler paradigm Block → Graph



Latest GR4 Features

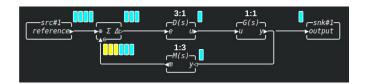


New/properly integrated features

- custom user-defined scheduler
- low-latency schedulers (< ~10 us worst-case latencies, chain of 5 blocks)
- message passing API to read/write/modify graphs from a non-C++ context (important for GUI developments)
- fully compile-time static/runtime polymorphic (plugin) block API
- unmanaged + managed (WIP) polymorphic sub-graphs (plugin-API)
- ... finalising the Buffer, Port, Block, Graph, Scheduler API, ...
- ... reduced the overhead for tag-processing (~35M tags/s possible)
- ... feedback-loop integration (WIP)
- new <simd>-FFT (MIT-licensed, as-fast/faster than FFTW)

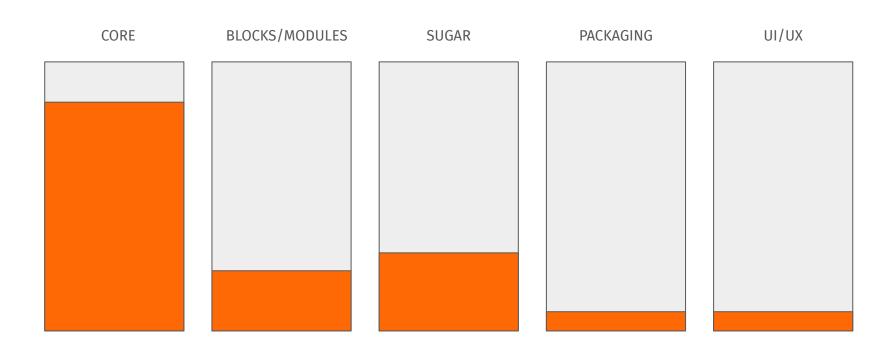
Tentative proof-of-concepts:

- tentative Windows support (Chris Gorman et al.)
- SYCL integration (GPUs, FPGAs, ...)
- ONNX integration (vendor-neutral ML integration) -> needs user-driven examples
- Tensor<T> support (John Sallay et al.)



Goals for GR4 - to be broadly adoptable





Low Hanging Fruit



What are some things that the community could jump on right now

Blocks / Modules

- Porting things from GR3
- SigMF
- ONNX, other AI model frameworks

REST/HTTP Integration

Example flowgraphs - AM/FM/Digital modulation/demodulation

Performance Benchmarks

How to Engage



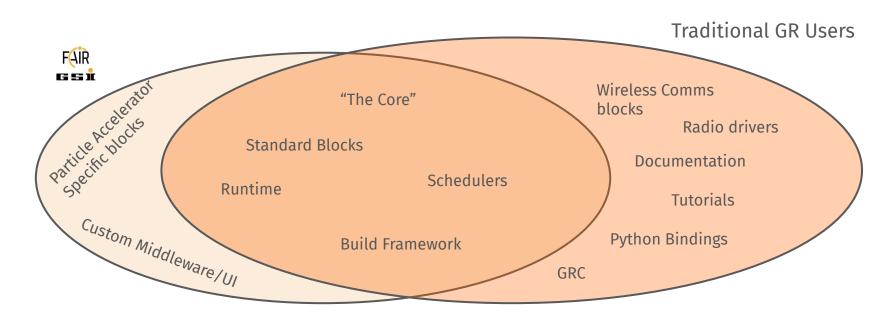
<u> Architecture Working Group -</u>

- This is where we discuss what is going on with GR4
- 4th Thursday of every month (mostly) 12PM ET
- https://groups.io/g/gnuradio-scheduler
 - To get meeting invites
- #Architecture Channel on <u>chat.gnuradio.org</u>
- Topics:
 - We would like to have more community driven topics show what you are doing with GR4, issues you might be running into, how you would like to use it
 - Apart from that general updates and feature planning

Community Maintainership



Goal is to transition ownership / maintenance to the GNU Radio community



Let's Make this a Reality!





Reach a level of community maintainership

Expand the blockset (join the GR4 block tutorial tomorrow, and hackfest Friday)

Create new and exciting applications that demonstrate the functionalities and performance advantages







