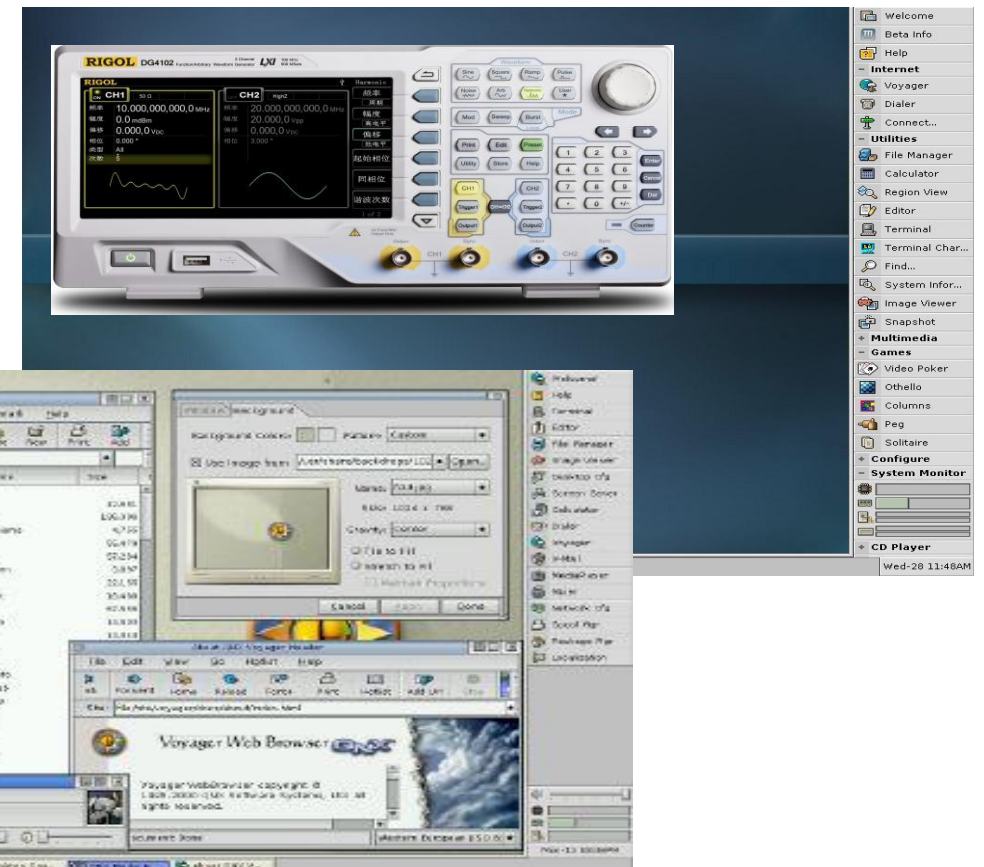


Supplementary Guidance

Major CA

- *General Guidelines*
- *Waveform Generator*

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School of Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering
Jan 2025





Group project

- Course Weightage: 3 x Minor CA
- Group Size: 6 members (typ.)
- Submission Dateline: Friday, 25 April 2025
- *You choose your own group members*

General Requirements

- Participation
 - Peer Assessment
- Programming, Debugging & Report preparation
- Group Submission
- Submit one program (executable + commented source code)
- Accompanying report
- **Report:**
- Hardcopy Report + Softcopy of files
 - Copy to Lab. Drive (Instructor PC)
 - *One folder containing source & executables*
 - *Report, source code, executable.*



Grading Scheme

- Report: 40%
 - Content as indicated in previous/subsequent slide
 - Credit given for quality of presentation
 - Precise procedure on running demo sequence
- Program: 60%
 - Functionality & comprehensiveness.
 - Programming techniques and range of functions used
 - Scope of functions, modularity, structure etc.
 - Novelty and comprehensive use of functions
 - “User Friendly”, innovative features/interpretation
 - Ease of use
 - Error checking
 - Robustness
 - Stable, does not crash or hang
 - Precise instructions and contextual messages
 - On screen help
 - Appropriate comments in program listing



Report Structure

- Full name of all members and a group photograph identifying individual members
- Description of the program and its use
 - Comment on any positive attributes of your program and its uniqueness
- Instructions for use
 - With screen shots of the computer display (as appropriate)
- Appendix:
 - Commented program listing with indentation
 - Flowchart
- *Page limit of report 10 to 15 pages (not inclusive of appendices & program listing)*



A waveform generator is a classification of a signal generator used to generate electrical waveforms over a wide range of signals. Common types of waveforms outputs include sine wave, square wave, ramp or triangular wave, pulse wave, cardiac pattern wave, arbitrary waves.

Basic Requirements – Waveform Generator

- Beat Generator
 - Generate a precise and regular D/A output to be displayed on the oscilloscope
 - software delay (or timer)
 - Design a visual & auditory queue on the screen
 - Accept rates in Hz. via the kbd (keyboard).
 - Use keyboard “arrow keys” to change settings.
 - Or type in data via kbd.
- Use of command line arguments for initial setup.
 - Open default setting file or store last setting.
- Explore option of an arbitrary waveform from disk
- Additional Requirements
 - The output must continue uninterrupted
 - whilst waiting for a new setting
 - Visual & auditory queue must be synchronised
 - Interesting “Graphics”
 - Deploy Real-time programming techniques (as appropriate)
 - Incl. Threads, timers, interrupts, mutex

- Write codes as modular subroutines
 - Do this now, as you learn how to perform multi-threaded processes



Additional Functionality

- Read/write data to file on hard-disk or portable drive.
 - Configuration, user settings etc.
- Responsiveness and logical operation of Program
- Synchronisation between sound & visual
- Accuracy of output waveform
 - Fastest Rate, accuracy
- Multi input/output modes
 - Use of full features of equipment, provided.
- Friendly and informative User Interface (UI)
 - Provide useful instruction when an input is incorrect



Demonstrate Programming Skills, Techniques & Creativity

- Multi threaded processes or multi-processes
- Inter-process or inter-thread communication & synchronisation
 - Use threads & processes, as appropriate
- Use of alarms/signals etc.
- Trapping of Ctrl+ C
 - SIGINT signal
 - Orderly shutdown of program
 - Clear display and release resources.



Others

- Esthetically appealing report
 - With matching content
- Clean & clear screen display
- Comprehensive and appropriate comments
 - in program listing