Working with Pulseq objects

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Preliminaries

- Code for this PDF (Latex, MATLAB) available on course Github site
- Custom functions written for this talk end with '__' suffix. Example:

```
>> sincrf__; % creates example Pulseq events ('rf' and 'gz')
```

 Other functions belong to the Pulseq MATLAB toolbox, either as standalone functions or attached to a 'seq' object. Examples:

Outline

- Units
- ② Gradient events
- RF events
- 4 ADC events
- Delay events
- **6** Creating blocks

Units

- RF
 - ▶ Unit: Hz
 - divide by sys.gamma to convert to Tesla
- Gradients
 - ▶ Unit: Hz/m
 - divide by sys.gamma to convert to Tesla/m
- Time in seconds
- Flip angles in radians
- RF/ADC phase in radians

.seq file structure

```
# Pulsed sequence file, truncated for illustration purposes
# NUM DUR RF GX GY GZ ADC EXT
[BLOCKS]
  1 320
  2 100
# id amplitude mag_id phase_id time_shape_id delay freq phase
[RF]
1
       22.3311 1 2 0 100 0 0
       22 3311 1 2 0 100 0 2 04204
# id amplitude rise flat fall delay
[TRAP]
         266667 100 3000 100
 1
        -150709 60 880
                         60
# id num dwell delay freq phase
[ADC]
1 32 10000 190 0 0
2 32 10000 190 0 2 04204
# Sequence Shapes
[SHAPES]
shape_id 1
num_samples 3000
5 33512061e - 05
0.000160161335
0.000267116839
```

Gradient events

3 types:

- Trapezoid
- Extended trapezoid
- Arbitrary gradient

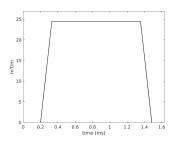
Pulseq toolbox defaults

 \bullet gradRasterTime = 10e-6 s

Trapezoid

Shape specified by rise/flat/fall times

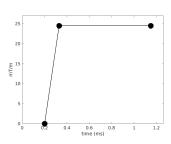
```
gx = 
    type: 'trap'
    channel: 'x'
    amplitude: 1.0417e+06
    riseTime: 1.3000e-04
    flatTime: 0.0010
    fallTime: 1.3000e-04
        area: 1.2021e+03
    flatArea: 1.0667e+03
        delay: 2.0000e-04
        first: 0
```



Extended trapezoid

Shape sampled on vertices

```
gx = 
	type: 'grad' 
	channel: 'x' 
	waveform: [0 1.0417e+06 1.0417e+06] 
	delay: 2.0000e-04 
	t: [0 1.3000e-04 9.5000e-04] 
	shape.dur: 9.5000e-04 
	area: 921.8750 
	first: 0 
	last: 1.0417e+06
```



Arbitrary gradient

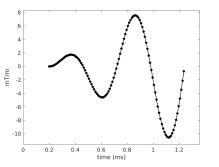
Shape sampled on regular raster, on center of raster periods

```
gx = 
	type: 'grad' channel: 'x' waveform: [148.3082 1.3283e+03 3.6538e+03 7.0567e+03 1.1437e+04 1.6663e+04 2.2579e+04 2 delay: 2.0000e-04 area: -42.3091 tt: [5.0000e-06 1.5000e-05 2.5000e-05 3.5000e-05 4.5000e-05 5.5000e-05 6.5000e-05 shape_dur: 0.0010 first: -441.6805 last: -666.5979
```

Arbitrary gradient

Shape sampled on regular raster, on center of raster periods

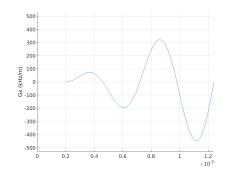
```
spiral; % creates 'wav' vector, mT/m
gx = mr.makeArbitraryGrad('x', wav*sys.gamma/1e3, 'delay', 200e-6);
```

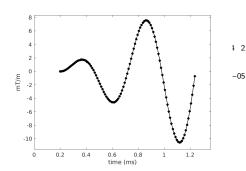


-05

Arbitrary gradient

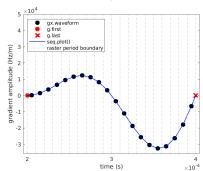
Shape sampled on regular raster, on center of raster periods





'first' and 'last'

- Waveform values at beginning of first raster period, and end of last raster period
- Calculated by makeArbitraryGradient(), or set manually
- Uses: seq.plot(); k-space calculation; check for waveform continuity across blocks
- not yet saved in .seq file (likely to change in the future)



Modify gradients with scaleGrad()

- Function returns a scaled copy of the input event
- Typically used inside scan loop, e.g., to scale the y phase encode gradient:

```
\begin{array}{ll} \text{for } j = -Ny/2 \colon Ny/2 - 1 \\ & \text{seq.addBlock} \left( \text{mr.scaleGrad} \left( gy \,, \; j / (Ny/2) \right) \right); \\ & \cdots \\ & \text{end} \end{array}
```

- Opinion: it is good programming practice use scaleGradient() instead of creating a new event from scratch
 - Makes the purpose of the gradient event, and relationship to the input gradient, clear
 - lacktriangle Scaled events share the same shape ID ightarrow simplifies interpreter code

Modify gradients with rotate()

• Function returns single-axis gradient events resulting from rotation

```
gx =
                                 type: 'grad'
                      channel: 'x'
                   waveform: [166.5088 1.4497e+03 3.7632e+03 6.6387e+03 9.4617e+03 1.1564e+04 1.2329e
                              delav: 2.0000e-04
                                  area: -1.3608
                                        tt: [5.0000e-06 1.5000e-05 2.5000e-05 3.5000e-05 4.5000e-05 5.5000e-05 6.500
               shape_dur: 2.0000e-04
\gg [gxr gyr] = mr.rotate('z', pi/4,gx)
 gxr =
                                 type: 'grad'
                      channel: 'x'
                   waveform: [117.7395 \ 1.0251e+03 \ 2661 \ 4.6943e+03 \ 6.6904e+03 \ 8.1772e+03 \ 8.7179e+03 \ 7.0251e+03 \ 
                              delav: 2.0000e-04
                                  area: -1.3608
                                        tt: [5.0000e-06 1.5000e-05 2.5000e-05 3.5000e-05 4.5000e-05 5.5000e-05 6.500
               shape_dur: 2.0000e-04
 gyr =
                                 type: 'grad'
                      channel: 'v'
                   waveform: [117.7395 1.0251e+03 2.6610e+03 4.6943e+03 6.6904e+03 8.1772e+03 8.7179e
                              delay: 2.0000e-04
                                  area: -1 3608
                                         tt: [5.0000e-06 1.5000e-05 2.5000e-05 3.5000e-05 4.5000e-05 5.5000e-05 6.500
               shape_dur: 2.0000e-04
```

Gradient 'surgery' with splitGradientAt()

```
gyBlip =
          type: 'trap'
      channel: 'v'
    amplitude: 5.5556e+05
     riseTime: 9.0000e-05
     flatTime · 0
     fallTime: 9.0000e-05
         area: 50
>> gy_parts = mr.splitGradientAt(gyBlip, gyBlip.riseTime);
gv_parts(1) =
          type: 'grad'
      channel: 'v'
     waveform: [0 \ 5.5556e + 05]
        delav: 0
            tt: [0 9.0000e-05]
    shape_dur: 9.0000e-05
         area: 25
g_{v_parts}(2) =
         type: 'grad'
      channel: 'v'
     waveform: [5.5556e+050]
        delay: 9.0000e-05
           tt: [0 9.0000e-05]
    shape_dur: 9.0000e-05
         area: 25
```

addGradients()

Returns sum of gradients

```
gy =
         type: 'trap'
      channel: 'v'
    amplitude: 8.3333e+05
     riseTime: 1.2000e-04
     flatTime · 0
     fallTime: 1.2000e-04
         area: 100
     flatArea: 0
        delay: 0
>> gy_sum = mr.addGradients({gy, gy}, 'system', sys)
gy_sum =
         type: 'trap'
      channel: 'v'
    amplitude: 1.6667e+06
     riseTime: 1.2000e-04
     flatTime: 0
     fallTime: 1 2000e-04
         area: 200
     flatArea: 0
        delay: 0
```

RF events

- Shape sampled on regular raster on center of raster periods, or on vertices
- Pulseq toolbox defaults
 - ▶ rfRasterTime = 1e-6 s

RF event: Example 1

sinc pulse

```
[rf, gz] = mr.makeSincPulse(20/180*pi, 'Duration', 2e-3, 'SliceThickness', 5e-3, ...
             'apodization', 0.42, 'timeBwProduct', 4, 'system', sys);
rf =
                                             type: 'rf'
                                       signal: [-0.0089 -0.0268 -0.0448 -0.0628 -0.0808 -0.0988 -0.1169 -0.1350 -0.1532 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.0808 -0.
                                                          t: [5.0000e-07 1.5000e-06 2.5000e-06 3.5000e-06 4.5000e-06 5.5000e-06 6.5000e-
                            shape_dur: 0.0020
                       freaOffset: 0
                   phaseOffset: 0
                               deadTime: 1.0000e-04
                ringdownTime: 6.0000e-05
                                           delav: 1.0000e-04
gx =
                                   type: 'grad'
                       channel: 'x'
                   waveform: [166.5088 1.4497e+03 3.7632e+03 6.6387e+03 9.4617e+03 1.1564e+04 1.2329e+04 1
                               delay: 2.0000e-04
                                    area: -1 3608
                                           tt: [5.0000e-06 1.5000e-05 2.5000e-05 3.5000e-05 4.5000e-05 5.5000e-05 6.5000e-05
                shape_dur: 2.0000e-04
                               first · 0
                                  last · 0
```

RF event: Example 1

sinc pulse

```
[rf, gz] = mr.makeSincPulse(20/180*pi, 'Duration', 2e-3, 'SliceThickness', 5e-3, ...
    'apodization', 0.42, 'timeBwProduct', 4, 'system', sys);
rf =
                                               ADC/labels
                                                                                    Gx (kHz/m)
                        1 rf 1
                type:
                        [-0.0089 -0.02
             signal:
                                                  0.5
                                                                                       0.5
                        [5.0000e-07 1.
         shape_dur:
                        0.0020
                                                   0
                                                                                         0
        freaOffset: 0
                                                     'n
                                                          0.5
                                                                  1
                                                                        1.5
                                                                                          n
                                                                                                0.5
                                                                                                            1.5
      phaseOffset:
                                                                             \times 10^{-3}
                                                                                                                  \times 10^{-3}
          deadTime: 1.0000e-04
                                               R mag (Hz)
                                                                                    Gy (kHz/m)
                                                 100
     ringdownTime: 6.0000e-05
               delav: 1.0000e-04
                                                                                       0.5
                                                  50
gx =
                    grad '
            type:
                                                                                         0
        channel.
                    I_{\chi}I
                                                     0
                                                          0.5
                                                                  1
                                                                       1.5
                                                                               2
                                                                                          n
                                                                                                0.5
                                                                                                            1.5
                                                                                                                    2
                                                                                                       1
      waveform:
                    [166.5088 1.4497e
                                                                             \times 10^{-3}
                                                                                                                 \times 10^{-3}
           delay:
                    2.0000e-04
                                                 RF/ADC ph (rad)
                    -1.3608
                                                                                    3z (kHz/m)
                    [5.0000e-06 1.500
                                                   2
                                                                                      200
     shape_dur: 2.0000e-04
           first: 0
            last: 0
                                                    0
                                                    0
                                                          0.5
                                                                        1.5
                                                                               2
                                                                                                0.5
                                                                                                            1.5
                                                                  1
                                                                                          Ω
                                                                                                       1
```

t (s)

 $\times 10^{-3}$

t (s)

 $\times 10^{-3}$

RF dead time, ringdown time

- Some time is required to turn on RF amplifier
 - ▶ Varies by vendor (of order \sim 100 μs)
- Some time is also required to turn off the RF amplifier
 - ▶ Varies by vendor (of order tens of μs)
- Pulseq toolbox:
 - ▶ Requires that rf.delay ≥ sys.rfDeadTime. makeSincPulse() will insert this delay if needed.
- Depending on the vendor, it may not always be necessary to specify non-zero dead/ringdown times (more on that later)

RF event: Example 2

SMS pulse (6 simultaneous slices)

```
load arbrf.mat; % rfwav (T) and gzwav (mT/m)
flip = pi: % dummy value, will rescale anyhow
rf = mr. makeArbitraryRf(rfway, flip, 'delay', sys.rfDeadTime, 'system', sys);
rf.signal = rf.signal/max(abs(rf.signal))*max(abs(rfway)*sys.gamma); % Hz
gzwav_Hzm = gzwav*sys.gamma/1e3;
gz = mr. makeArbitraryGrad('z', gzwav_Hzm, sys, 'delay', 10e-6);
rf =
            type: 'rf'
          signal: [0.0000 + 0.0000i \ 0.0000 + 0.0000i \ 0.0000 + 0.0000i \ 0.0000 + 0.0000i \ 0.0000i \ 0.0000i
               t: [5.0000e-07 1.5000e-06 2.5000e-06 3.5000e-06 4.5000e-06 5.5000e-06 6.5000e-
       shape_dur: 0.0080
      freaOffset: 0
     phaseOffset: 0
        deadTime: 1.0000e-04
    ringdownTime: 6.0000e-05
           delay: 1.0000e-04
gx =
         type: 'grad'
      channel: 'x'
     waveform: [166.5088 1.4497e+03 3.7632e+03 6.6387e+03 9.4617e+03 1.1564e+04 1.2329e+04 1
        delay: 2.0000e-04
         area: -1.3608
           tt: [5.0000e-06 1.5000e-05 2.5000e-05 3.5000e-05 4.5000e-05 5.5000e-05 6.5000e-05
    shape_dur: 2.0000e-04
        first · 0
         last: 0
```

RF event: Example 2

SMS pulse (6 simultaneous slices)

```
load arbrf.mat;
                        % rfwav (T) and gzwav (mT/m)
flip = pi: % dummy value, will rescale anyhow
rf = mr. makeArbitraryRf(rfway, flip. 'delay', svs.rfDeadTime. 'svstem', svs.):
rf.signal = rf.signal/max(abs(rf
                                              ADC/labels
                                                                                 Gx (kHz/m)
gzwav_Hzm = gzwav*sys.gamma/1e3;
gz = mr. makeArbitraryGrad('z', g
                                                0.5
                                                                                    0.5
rf =
                                                  0
                                                         2
                                                                                            2
                                                   'n
                                                                          8
                       'rf'
               tvpe:
                                                                         \times 10^{-3}
                                                                                                             \times 10^{-3}
             signal:
                       [0.0000 + 0.00]
                       [5.0000e-07 1.
                                             (Hz) 300
200
100
                                                                                 Gy (kHz/m)
         shape_dur: 0.0080
       freaOffset: 0
                                                                                    0.5
      phaseOffset: 0
                                             쏫
          deadTime: 1.0000e-04
     ringdownTime: 6.0000e-05
                                                                                            2
                                                                                                             8
              delay: 1.0000e-04
                                                                         \times 10^{-3}
                                                                                                             \times 10^{-3}
                                               RF/ADC ph (rad)
gx =
                                                                               (kHz/m)
           tvpe:
                   'grad'
       channel.
                                                                                 -1000
      waveform:
                  [166.5088 1.4497e
                   2.0000e-04
          delav:
                                                                                 -2000
           area:
                   -1.3608
                                                         2
                                                                                            2
                                                                                                             8
                   [5.0000e-06 1.500
                                                               t (s)
                                                                         \times 10^{-3}
                                                                                                  t (s)
                                                                                                             \times 10^{-3}
     shape_dur: 2.0000e-04
          first: 0
           last: 0
```

ADC events

- Samples assumed to occur at centers of dwell time periods
- The delay defines the timing of the starting edge of the first period

```
Nx = 256;
dwell = 4e-6; % sec
adc = mr.makeAdc(Nx, 'Duration', Nx*dwell, 'Delay', 0.2e-3, 'system', sys);
```

```
adc =

type: 'adc'
numSamples: 256
dwell: 4.0000e-06
delay: 2.0000e-04
freqOffset: 0
phaseOffset: 0
deadTime: 4.0000e-05
```

ADC dead time

- Some time is required to turn on data acquisition board
 - ▶ Varies by vendor (typically a few tens of μs)
- Pulseg toolbox:
 - ▶ Requires that adc.delay ≥ sys.adcDeadTime. makeAdc() will insert this delay if needed.
 - ▶ Requires a gap ≥ sys.adcDeadTime between end of ADC window and end of block. makeAdc() will extend the block duration if needed.
- Depending on the vendor, it may not always be necessary to specify a non-zero dead time before/after the ADC window

Delay events

- Not real objects: their only function is to (possibly) extend the block duration
- Not stored in the Pulseq file

```
del = mr.makeDelay(2e-3);
```

```
delay =
    type: 'delay'
    delay: 0.0020
```

Get event duration: mr.calcDuration()

• Example:

```
rf =

type: 'rf'
signal: [-0.0089 -0.0268 -0.0448 -0.0628 -0.0808 -0.0988 -0.1169 -0.1350 -0.

t: [5.0000e-07 1.5000e-06 2.5000e-06 3.5000e-06 4.5000e-06 5.5000e-06 6.5000e-06 5.5000e-06 6.5000e-06 6.5000e-06
```

• Common use: calculate delays for desired TE, TR, etc

Creating blocks

```
seq.getBlock(1) =
    blockDuration: 0.0022
    rf: [1x1 struct]
        gx: []
        gy: []
        gz: [1x1 struct]
    adc: []
```

Creating blocks

```
seq = mr. Sequence();
% slice-select pulse
sincrf;
                                                          % create rf and gz
seq.addBlock(rf, gz, mr.makeDelay(2e-3));
                                                          % what is effect of the delay event here??
% slice rephaser gradient
gzrep = mr.makeTrapezoid('z', 'Are;
                                               ADC/labels
seq.addBlock(gzrep);
                                                                                  Gx (kHz/m)
                                                                                    10
0
-10
-20
-30
% spiral readout
spiral:
                                    % crea
                                                                                                     2.16
                                                                    2.16
seq.addBlock(gx, adc);
close all; seq.plot('showBlocks',
                                                R mag (Hz)
                                                                                  Gy (kHz/m)
                                                   100
                                                    50
                                                                                    0.5
                                                     0
                                                                                                           ×10-3
                                                                    2.16
                                                     0
                                                                      2.6
                                                                                                    2.16
seq.getBlock(1) =
     block Duration:
                        0.0022
                                                  RF/ADC ph (rad)
                                                                          ×10.3 GZ (KHZ/m)
                        [1x1 struct]
                   gx:
                   gy:
                                                                                   -1000
                         [1x1 struct]
                                                                                  -2000
                  adc:
                                                                    2.16
                                                                                                                3.864
                                                                                                           ×10<sup>-3</sup>
                                                                 t (s)
                                                                                                  t (s)
```

Creating blocks

Rules:

- Time is referenced to start of block
- Block duration is determined by the longest event
- Only one event on each channel (per block)

To pass seq.checkTiming(), additional rules apply:

- Minimum RF delay = sys.rfDeadTime
- Minimum RF ringdown time before end of block = sys.rfRingdownTime
- Minimum ADC delay = sys.adcDeadTime
- Minimum time after ADC event before end of block = sys.adcDeadTime
- Many more constraints are verified/checked by checkTiming(), which will be covered in the 'Sequence Analysis' talk.