

Senior Design ENG EC 463



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Team: 15 - Laser Trac

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Subject: Second Deliverable Test Report

1. Project Objective

1.1. The overall objective of our project is to create an optical based tracking and communication system from a ground station to a UAV, allowing users to interact with their vehicles without using Radio Frequency communication.

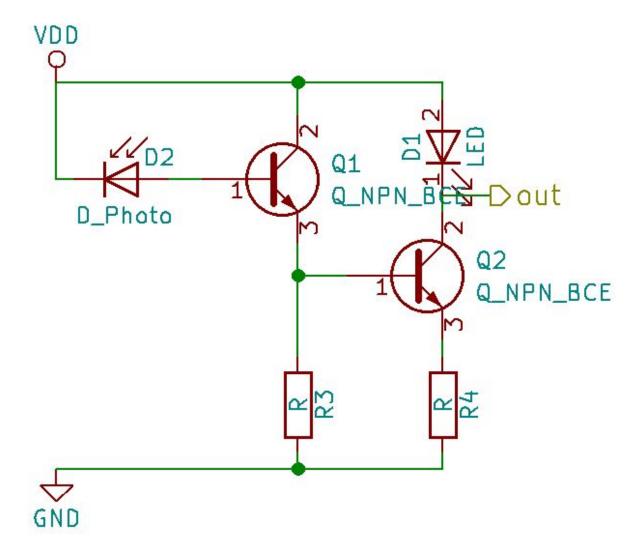
2. Test Objective and Significance

- 2.1. This test was significant because it demonstrated our ability to track the sensor, which is a fundamental component of our project. We demonstrated our closed loop control system, which included two wireless links -- the laser-to-sensor component and the RF feedback signal.
- 2.2. This test focused on achieving a rough example of a tracking mechanism. With this test we demonstrated an ability to track an object with a laser while utilizing a photodiode array in the way we hope to for our final project. We successfully demonstrated a single-photodiode, 2-dimensional tracking system which could follow the array at a reasonable speed. The most important part of this test is how we incorporated the photodiode array into the tracking process. This is a technique we hope to use in our final solution to the laser tracking problem.

3. Equipment and Setup

3.1. Receiver Circuit

This is the main hardware component of our project.



The photodiode circuit is tiled 16 times in our sensor array. Each output is treated as a single analog value, which is pulled low when the photodiode detects the presence of a laser.

The LED in our circuit provides visual feedback for which signal is currently active. These indicators showed that 13 of the 16 circuit elements worked reliably, and 3 appeared to have broken photodiodes. We will fix this problem by replacing the failing units as they are detected in future versions of the circuit.

In our tests, we used (algorithm 1) 5 photodiodes and (algorithm 2) 1 photodiode, so the missing signals were not a problem.

3.2. Tracking Algorithm I

The first tracking algorithm is an extension of the naive tracking algorithm from first deliverable testing from one dimension to two dimensions. In this test we demonstrated a rudimentary tracking mechanism. A laser is pointed with a MEMS mirror at a cluster of 5 photodiodes on the receiver. The five photodiodes are arranged in a cross configuration. We demonstrated that as the receptor moves left and right or up and down, the laser is able to follow.

The MEMS is programmed to move at a constant speed when it is not pointing at the target. When the laser hits the left photodiode, an interrupt is triggered and the MEMS changes its direction to move right. When the laser hits the right photodiode, an interrupt is triggered and the MEMS turns left. Similar interrupts are programmed for the up and down photodiodes. This test is an improvement upon the testing done last semester, since the laser will not move when it is directly hitting the target, so the tracking algorithm is slightly more stable.

Code is included in appendix.

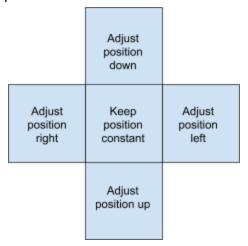


Figure 1. Diagram of the five photodiodes used in this tracking algorithm along with expected response by the laser/MEMS.

3.3. Tracking Algorithm II

In this test we tested tracking using one photodiode. The laser is initially aimed at the target. While the laser is aimed at the target at any point during tracking, the laser will not move (same as the first algorithm). As soon as the target moves out of the laser beam, the MEMS mirror will draw a circle with the laser beam around the previous known position of the target. Specifically, this is done by moving the laser to 32 points along the circle counterclockwise at 200 microsecond increments. When the target hits the circle, an interrupt is triggered and the laser stops. At this point, we immediately

move the laser clockwise a fixed number of increments. This is where we think the laser hit the target (hence where the target is). We have to backtrack a certain number of increments because of latency between sending the target signal and receiving it.

In practice, it looks like the target photodiode is dragging a circle around as it moves. Because we have not yet figured out a way to make latency deterministic, the laser occasionally over or under compensates for latency.

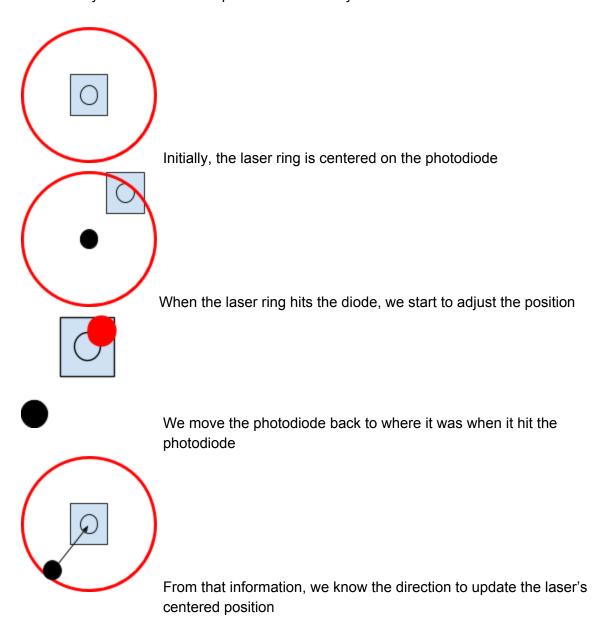


Figure 2. This diagram illustrates the sequence of events for this tracking algorithm. The black dot represents the last known location of the target. The red represents the laser beam.

3.4. Block Diagram of Tracking Test

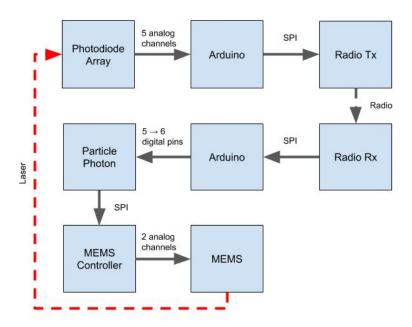


Figure 3. This diagram illustrates the closed loop tracking system. Note that both tests use the same setup. Since the second tracking algorithm only uses one photodiode, it simply ignores the signals from the other four photodiodes. More detail is provided below.

Description of signal path:

- 1. Photodiode circuit outputs analog value. Under ambient light, it outputs ~2.9 volts. When it sees the laser it outputs ~3.5 volts.
- 2. The output from the photodiode array is connected to 5 analog pins. In a loop, the values are read and compared against a threshold value to generate a digital value. The five bit values are shifted into one byte and communicated to the radio transmitter via SPI. The threshold value is determined on startup. All photodiodes are read and the threshold value is set 0.05 volts below the average analog value (the Arduino Leonardo uses 10 bit analog resolution, the analog threshold is set to be 50 steps below the average analog value of the photodiodes under ambient light).
- 3. The radio transmitter transmits the one byte payload. There is some transmission overhead.
- 4. The radio receiver receives the one byte payload.
- 5. The second Arduino reads the byte from radio receiver via SPI in an infinite loop. 5 digital pins are set to HIGH or LOW accordingly.
- 6. The input to the Particle Photon has 6 input pins. 5 pins trigger interrupts on the falling edge. The target photodiode needs an extra pin to trigger rising edge

- interrupt, because we need to know when target is lost. The Photon is where the tracking algorithm lives. See the code in Appendix.
- 7. The rest of the signal path is provided off-the-shelf and is simplified in this diagram. The general idea is that everytime the Photon wants to move the MEMS, it sends a pair of voltage values to the MEMS controller via SPI (The voltage values correspond to degrees tilt around x and y axes). The controller then moves the MEMS accordingly.

4. Measurements

Due to the nature of our project at this stage, we were more concerned with building the hardware and software components to make closed loop tracking work than taking concrete measurements. Here are some rough numerical measurements that are pertinent:

- Latency from shining light on photodiode to target interrupt triggered on Particle Photon: 1 - 2 ms. This a random distribution because of interference from WiFi and Bluetooth, which use the same frequency range, and potentially other factors that we have not yet considered.
- Distance across which tracking was achieved: 1 3 meters. We have not tested beyond 3 meters.
- Speed at which target can move at constant speed with reliable tracking: 1 2 m/s. Estimate is based purely on judgement.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1. In our test we successfully tracked an array of photodiodes. In future tests we will be passing bits from our ground station to the drone. This test shows that we have viable methods for optical wireless communication. In future tests we will have to mount the photodiode array on the drone, and improve our tracking solution. However, having the optical wireless communications working is a fundamental part of our project which we have successfully implemented.
- 5.2. From the second test we take note that although we have successful tracking results in the azimuthal direction, we still have many areas of our tracking mechanism that require development. In future tests we will add onto the photodiode array techniques that we have developed in our second test. Some areas for future development include tracking in the elevation and azimuthal direction together and improving the tracking algorithms that tell the laser how much to shift when it hits an outer photodiode in the array.

 We would like to track the drone's position and incorporate a model of its motion to improve the steady-state response of our tracking algorithm, which should allow us to track at a higher speed.

5.3. Summary of next steps:

- Establish deterministic latency.
- Incorporate a model of motion into tracking.
- Lens the laser to achieve wider collimated beam and wider field of view (series of diverging, collimating, and convex lenses).
- Shorten signal path leading to reduced latency.

6. Appendix

Please note that for the Particle Photon Code, all tracking is done in the loop() function. The rest of the code declares various constants, variables, and support functions (most of which we did not write). The MEMS code is based on code provided by Emily Lam.

6.1. Transmitter Code (Runs on First Arduino Leonardo)

```
#include <SPI.h>
#include "nRF24L01.h"
#include "RF24.h"
RF24 radio(7, 8); // CE, CSN
const byte address[][6] = {"00001","00002"};
int threshold;
char data;
void setup() {
  Serial.begin(9600);
  radio.begin();
  radio.openWritingPipe(address[0]);
  radio.setPALevel(RF24_PA_MIN);
  radio.setAutoAck(∅,false);
  radio.stopListening();
  pinMode(A0,INPUT_PULLUP);
  pinMode(A1,INPUT_PULLUP);
  pinMode(A2,INPUT_PULLUP);
  pinMode(A3,INPUT PULLUP);
  pinMode(A4,INPUT_PULLUP);
  pinMode(A5,INPUT_PULLUP);
  threshold = analogRead(A1) - 20;
```

```
void loop() {
  data = (char)(analogRead(A1) < threshold);
  data |= (analogRead(A2) < threshold) << 1;
  data |= (analogRead(A3) < threshold) << 2;
  data |= (analogRead(A4) < threshold) << 3;
  data |= (analogRead(A5) < threshold) << 4;
  radio.write(&data, sizeof(data));
}</pre>
```

6.2. Receiver Code (Runs on Second Leonardo)

```
#include <SPI.h>
#include "nRF24L01.h"
#include "RF24.h"
RF24 radio(7, 8); // CE, CSN
const byte address[][6] = {"00001","00002"};
unsigned long starttime;
char data;
void setup() {
 Serial.begin(115200);
 radio.begin();
  radio.openReadingPipe(0, address[0]);
  radio.setPALevel(RF24_PA_MIN);
  radio.setAutoAck(∅,false);
  radio.startListening();
  pinMode(2,OUTPUT);
  pinMode(3,OUTPUT);
  pinMode(4,OUTPUT);
 pinMode(5,OUTPUT);
 pinMode(6,OUTPUT);
void loop() {
  if (radio.available()) {
    radio.read(&data, sizeof(data));
    Serial.println(data,BIN);
    if (data & 1){
      digitalWrite(2,LOW);
    else{
      digitalWrite(2,HIGH);
```

```
if (data & (1<<1)){</pre>
  digitalWrite(3,LOW);
else{
  digitalWrite(3,HIGH);
if (data & (1<<2)){</pre>
 digitalWrite(4,LOW);
else{
 digitalWrite(4,HIGH);
if (data & (1<<3)){</pre>
 digitalWrite(5,LOW);
else{
  digitalWrite(5,HIGH);
if (data & (1<<4)){</pre>
 digitalWrite(6,LOW);
else{
  digitalWrite(6,HIGH);
```

6.3. Tracking Algorithm I Code (Runs on Particle Photon)

```
int enable_all_dac_channels
                          = 2097167; // B00100000 00000000 00001111//Initialization to
set up DAC
to set up DAC
int disable all dac channels = 2097215; //Power Down
#define AD56X4_COMMAND_WRITE_INPUT_REGISTER
#define AD56X4 COMMAND UPDATE DAC REGISTER 8 //B00001000 //Update the DAC
#define AD56X4 COMMAND WRITE INPUT REGISTER UPDATE ALL 16 //B00010000 //Set channel/s's
#define AD56X4 CHANNEL A
                                              0 //B00000000
#define AD56X4 CHANNEL B
#define AD56X4 CHANNEL C
#define AD56X4 CHANNEL D
#define AD56X4_CHANNEL_ALL
#define pi 3.1415926
int writecommand[] = {AD56X4_COMMAND_WRITE_INPUT_REGISTER | AD56X4_CHANNEL A,
                   AD56X4 COMMAND WRITE INPUT REGISTER | AD56X4 CHANNEL B,
                   AD56X4_COMMAND_WRITE_INPUT_REGISTER | AD56X4_CHANNEL_C,
                   AD56X4_COMMAND_WRITE_INPUT_REGISTER_UPDATE_ALL | AD56X4_CHANNEL_D
           = 650; // 650 Hz recommended cutoff frequency
int freq
int fclk_freq = 60*freq; //39000; // Recommended 650 Hz * 60 - do not change!!!!!!
double analog_bias = (bias_voltage*65535)/160 + 0.5;
int dig_bias = (int) analog_bias;
int data;
volatile bool left = true;
volatile bool up = true;
volatile bool targeted = false;
volatile bool target_lost = false;
unsigned long counter = 0;
unsigned long target_time = 0;
int numloops = 0;
int maxloops
double difX, difY;
volatile double targetX, targetY;
```

```
void move_left();
void move_right();
void move_up();
void move down();
void set_target();
void release_target();
void setup() {
  pinMode(enable_pin, OUTPUT);
  pinMode(fclk_pin, OUTPUT);
  pinMode(ss, OUTPUT);
  pinMode(sck, OUTPUT);
  pinMode(mosi, OUTPUT);
  pinMode(A0,INPUT PULLUP);
  pinMode(D6,INPUT);
  pinMode(D5,INPUT_PULLUP); //LEFT
  pinMode(D4,INPUT PULLUP); //RIGHT
  pinMode(D3,INPUT_PULLUP); //UP
  pinMode(D2,INPUT PULLUP); //DOWN
  pinMode(D1,INPUT_PULLUP); //TARGET
  attachInterrupt(D5, move_right, FALLING);
  attachInterrupt(D4, move_left, FALLING);
  attachInterrupt(D3, move_up, FALLING);
  attachInterrupt(D2, move_down, FALLING);
  attachInterrupt(D1, set_target, FALLING);
  attachInterrupt(D6, release_target, RISING);
  SPI.begin();
  SPI.begin(SPI MODE MASTER); // SPI master
  SPI.setClockDivider(SPI_CLOCK_DIV4); // 60 MHz over 4 -> 15 MHz
  SPI.setBitOrder(MSBFIRST); // Bit 23 is first in buffer
  SPI.setDataMode(SPI_MODE1); // According to github library
  analogWrite(fclk_pin, 127, fclk_freq); // Begin Bessel filter clock set at 50% duty cycle
  digitalWrite(enable_pin,LOW);
  initialization();
 Serial.begin();
}
void loop() {
```

```
difX = 0; //Can be positive or negative
  difY = 0;
  targetX = 0;
  targetY = 0;
 while(1) {
   if (target_lost){
     target_time = counter;
     target_lost = false;
     setChannels(targetX, targetY);
      difX = targetX;
      difY = targetY;
   if (targeted){
     setChannels(targetX, targetY);
     while(targeted){
        target_time = counter;
   if (left){
      difX -= 0.02;
      if (difX < -80) left = !left;</pre>
    else{
     difX += 0.02;
     if (difX > 80) left = !left;
    if (up){
     difY += 0.02;
     if (difY > 80) up = !up;
    else{
     difY -=0.02;
     if (difX < -80) up = !up;
    setChannels(difX, difY);
    if (counter - target_time > 100){
     target_lost = true;
    if (digitalRead(A0) == LOW) break;
   delayMicroseconds(100);
    counter++;
 powerdown(); //Always power down at the end to disable the MEMS output.. If you don't do
}
void move_right(){
 left = false;
  targeted = false;
```

```
void move_left(){
  left = true;
  targeted = false;
}

void move_up(){
  up = true;
  targeted = false;
}

void move_down(){
  up = false;
  targeted = false;
}

void set_target(){
  targetX = difX;
  targetY = difY;
  targeted = true;
}

void release_target(){
  targeted = false;
}
```

6.4. Tracking Algorithm II Code (Runs on Particle Photon)

```
to set up DAC
int disable_all_dac_channels = 2097215; //Power Down
#define AD56X4_COMMAND_WRITE_INPUT_REGISTER
#define AD56X4_COMMAND_UPDATE_DAC_REGISTER 8 //B00001000 //Update the DAC
#define AD56X4_COMMAND_WRITE_INPUT_REGISTER_UPDATE_ALL 16 //B00010000 //Set channel/s's
#define AD56X4_CHANNEL_A
                                             0 //B00000000
#define AD56X4 CHANNEL B
#define AD56X4 CHANNEL C
#define AD56X4 CHANNEL D
#define AD56X4 CHANNEL ALL
                                             7 //B00000111
#define pi 3.1415926
int writecommand[] = {AD56X4_COMMAND_WRITE_INPUT_REGISTER | AD56X4_CHANNEL_A,
                   AD56X4 COMMAND WRITE INPUT REGISTER | AD56X4 CHANNEL B,
                   AD56X4_COMMAND_WRITE_INPUT_REGISTER | AD56X4_CHANNEL_C,
                   AD56X4_COMMAND_WRITE_INPUT_REGISTER_UPDATE_ALL | AD56X4_CHANNEL_D
                 };
double max_voltage = 157;  // Datasheet spec - do not change!!!!!
int bias_voltage = 80;
double analog_bias = (bias_voltage*65535)/160 + 0.5;
int dig_bias = (int) analog_bias;
int data;
volatile bool left
                    = true;
volatile bool up
                    = true;
volatile bool targeted = false;
volatile bool target lost = false;
unsigned long counter
unsigned long target_time = 0;
// Required constants
int numloops = 0;
int maxloops
double difX, difY;
volatile double targetX, targetY;
/* interrupt service routines */
void set_target();
```

```
void release_target();
void setup() {
 pinMode(enable_pin, OUTPUT);
 pinMode(fclk_pin, OUTPUT);
  pinMode(ss, OUTPUT);
 pinMode(sck, OUTPUT);
 pinMode(mosi, OUTPUT);
  pinMode(A0,INPUT PULLUP);
 pinMode(D6,INPUT);
  pinMode(D1,INPUT_PULLUP); //TARGET
  attachInterrupt(D1, set_target, FALLING);
  attachInterrupt(D6, release target, RISING);
  attachInterrupt(A0, powerdown, FALLING);
 SPI.begin();
  SPI.begin(SPI_MODE_MASTER); // SPI master
  SPI.setClockDivider(SPI_CLOCK_DIV4); // 60 MHz over 4 -> 15 MHz
  SPI.setBitOrder(MSBFIRST); // Bit 23 is first in buffer
 SPI.setDataMode(SPI_MODE1); // According to github library
  analogWrite(fclk_pin, 127, fclk_freq); // Begin Bessel filter clock set at 50% duty cycle
  digitalWrite(enable_pin,LOW);
 initialization();
 Serial.begin();
void loop() {
  difX = 0; //Can be positive or negative
 difY = 0;
  targetX = 0;
  targetY = 0;
  long int start,done,finish;
  int latency, calc_delay, setchannel_delay;
  double inc
  int angle delay
  long int latency_sum = 0;
  int latency_min = 2147483647;
  int tmp
  int count
 double angle = ((double)r)/100.0;
double offsetX = ((double)r)/100.0;
 double offsetY = ((double)r)/100.0;

double offsetY = ((double)r)/100.0;
  double vX = 0; //speed in volts/100 micros
  double vY = 0; //speed in volts/100 micros
```

```
double cos_table [32];
double sin_table [32];
for (int i = 0; i < 32; i + +){
 cos_{table[i]} = cos(i*0.2);
  sin_table[i] = sin(i*0.2);
for (int i=0; i<32; i++) {
    start = micros();
    difX = cos_table[i]+offsetX;
   difY = sin_table[i]+offsetY;
   setChannels(0, 0);
   finish = micros();
    latency_sum += finish - start;
Serial.println(tmp);
calc_delay = latency_sum / 32;
Serial.print("CALCULATION DELAY IN MICROS: ");
Serial.println(calc_delay);
// Previous measurement: 183 micros
//make circle around target in 0.1 rad increments with 100 micros delay
latency_sum = ∅;
for (int i=0; i<100; i++) {
   start = micros();
   setChannels(0, 0);
   finish = micros();
    latency_sum += finish - start;
setchannel_delay = latency_sum / 100;
Serial.print("SETCHANNEL DELAY IN MICROS: ");
Serial.println(setchannel_delay);
latency = 2000;
angle_delay = 100 - calc_delay;
double fallback = ((double)latency/100.0);
while(1) {
 while(targeted){
   setChannels(difX, difY);
  int i = 0;
  offsetX = difX;
  offsetY = difY;
  Inc
  count = 0;
```

```
while (!targeted){
      //make circle around target in 0.1 rad increments with 100 micros delay
      difX = inc*cos_table[i]+offsetX;
      difY = inc*sin table[i]+offsetY;
      setChannels(difX, difY);
      i++;
      count ++;
      if (i > 32) i = 0;
      delayMicroseconds(angle_delay);
    i = i - fallback;
    if (i<0) i = 32+i;
    difX = inc*3.0/4.0*cos_table[i]+offsetX;
    difY = inc*3.0/4.0*sin_table[i]+offsetY;
    setChannels(difX, difY);
}
void set_target(){
  targeted = true;
void release_target(){
 targeted = false;
```

6.5. MEMS Library Functions Needed for Tracking Code to Work. Provided by Emily Lam.

```
SPI.transfer(enable_all_dac_channels & 0xFF);
   digitalWrite(ss,HIGH);
   digitalWrite(ss,LOW);
   SPI.transfer((enable software ldac>>16) & 0xFF);
   SPI.transfer((enable_software_ldac>>8) & 0xFF);
   SPI.transfer(enable_software_ldac & 0xFF);
   digitalWrite(ss,HIGH);
   digitalWrite(enable_pin,HIGH); // Enable MEMS Output
   setChannels(∅,∅); // Set MEMS to bias offset of 80 V
}
void setChannels(double difX, double difY) {
 double Xp = bias_voltage + difX;
 double Xm = bias_voltage - difX;
 double Yp = bias_voltage + difY;
 double Ym = bias voltage - difY;
 if (Xp > max_voltage | Xm > max_voltage | Yp > max_voltage | Ym > max_voltage) {
   difX = 0; // If it exceeds 157 V, set the output to the bias voltage.
   difY = 0; // If it exceeds 157 V, set the output to the bias voltage.
 double voltage[] = {Xp, Xm, Yp, Ym};
 digitalWrite(ss,HIGH); //pull out of idle
 for (int i = 0; i < 4; i++) {
   double analog_voltage = (voltage[i]*65535)/160 + 0.5; // Convert from voltage to digital
   data = (int) analog_voltage;
   digitalWrite(ss,LOW);
   SPI.transfer(writecommand[i]); //Defined above to write to LDAC and write to DAC
   SPI.transfer((data >> 8) & 0xFF);
   SPI.transfer(data & 0xFF);
   digitalWrite(ss,HIGH);
 digitalWrite(ss,LOW);
 SPI.transfer(AD56X4_COMMAND_UPDATE_DAC_REGISTER | AD56X4_CHANNEL_ALL);
 SPI.transfer(0);
 SPI.transfer(0);
```

```
digitalWrite(ss,HIGH);
 digitalWrite(ss,LOW); //idle for low current mode without powering down
void powerdown() {
 digitalWrite(enable_pin,LOW); //Disable MEMS output
 digitalWrite(ss,HIGH); //pull out of idle
 digitalWrite(ss,LOW);
 SPI.transfer((full_reset>>16) & 0xFF); // bits 16-23
 SPI.transfer((full_reset>>8) & 0xFF); // bits 8-15
 SPI.transfer(full_reset & 0xFF);  // bits 0-7
 digitalWrite(ss,HIGH);
 digitalWrite(ss,LOW);
 SPI.transfer((disable_all_dac_channels>>16) & 0xFF);
 SPI.transfer((disable_all_dac_channels>>8) & 0xFF);
 SPI.transfer(disable_all_dac_channels & 0xFF);
 digitalWrite(ss,HIGH);
 digitalWrite(ss,LOW);
```