



A brief introduction to

# NI LabVIEW



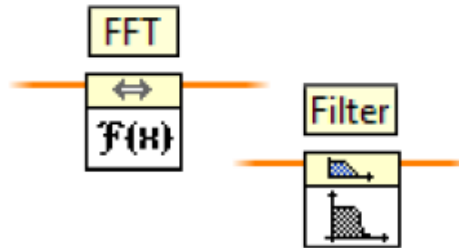
NATIONAL INSTRUMENTS

# LabVIEW™

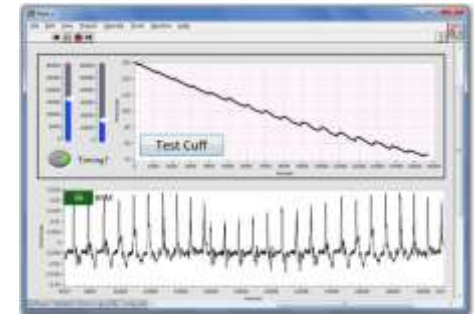
A Highly Productive Graphical Development Environment for Engineers and Scientists



Hardware APIs



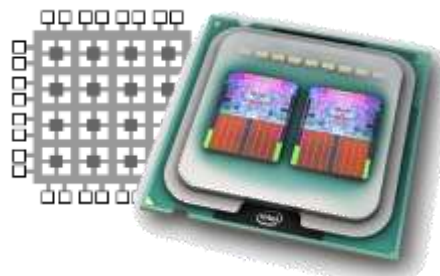
Built-in Libraries



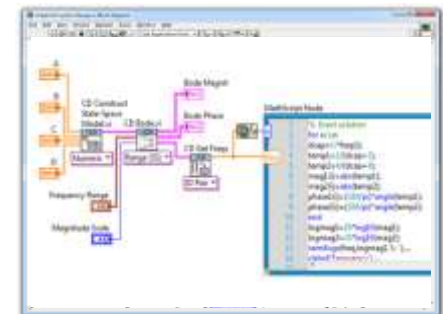
Custom User Interfaces



Deployment Targets



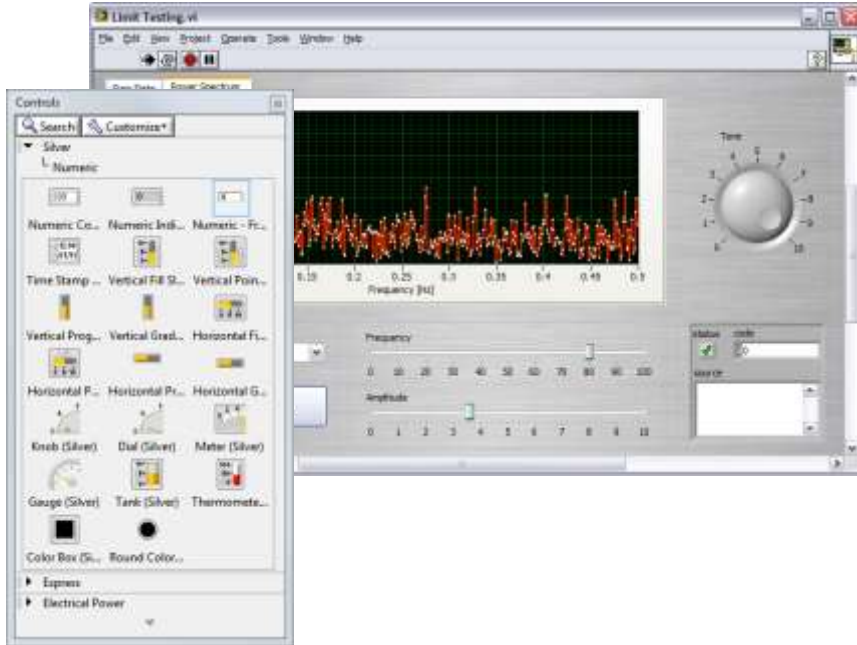
Technology Abstractions



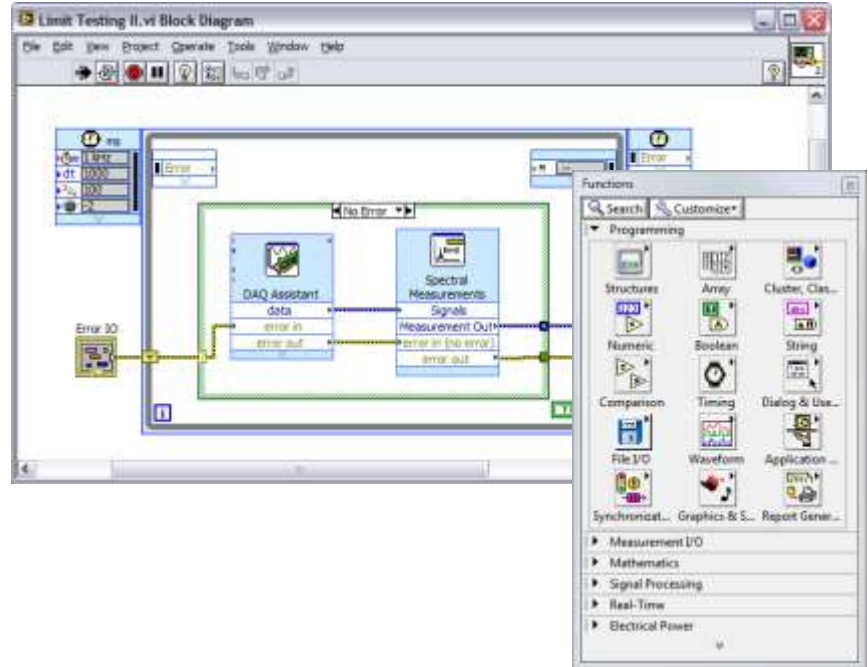
Approaches

# NI LabVIEW Development Environment

Front Panel



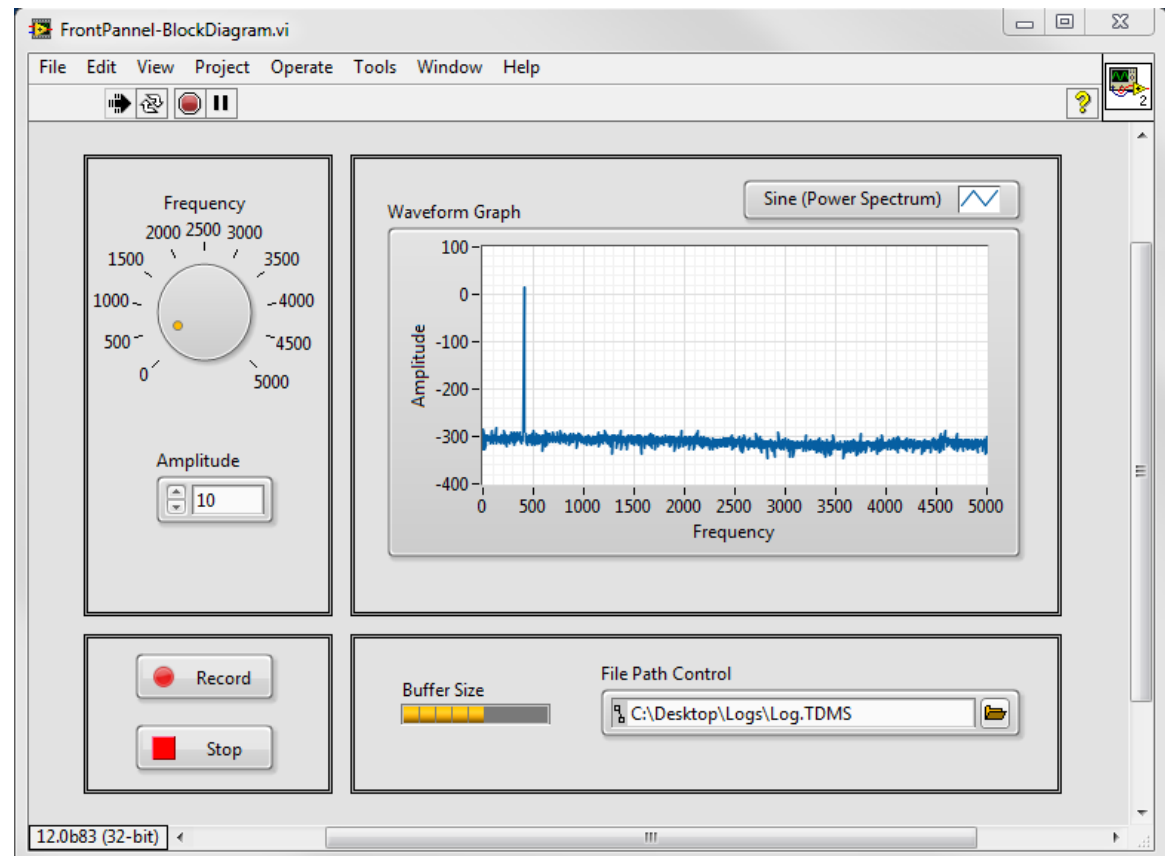
Block Diagram



“An intuitive graphical programming for engineers and scientists to acquire, analyse, present, and log real-world data”

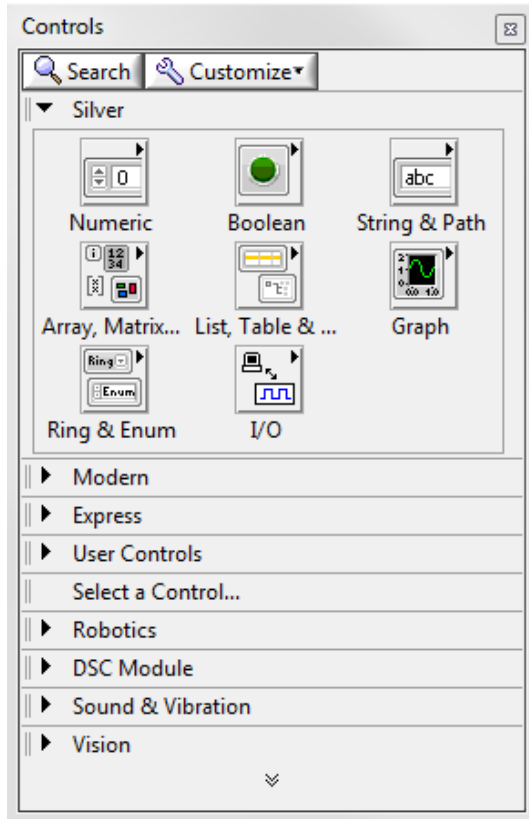
# Controls & Indicators

- Knobs/Dials
- Graphs/Charts
- Buttons
- Digital Displays
- Sliders
- Thermometers
- Customise and create your own



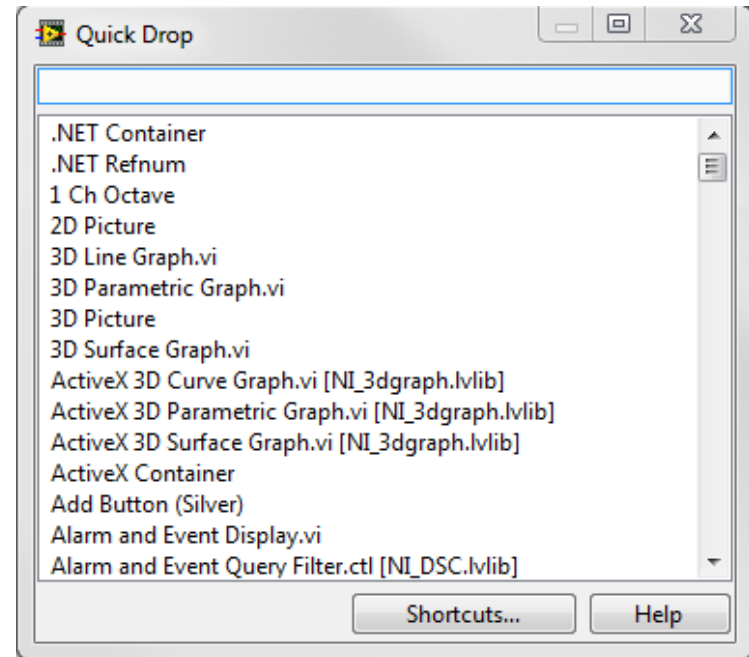
# Finding Front Panel Objects

## Controls Palette



- Right-click on Front Panel
- Browse by object hierarchy

## Controls Quick Drop

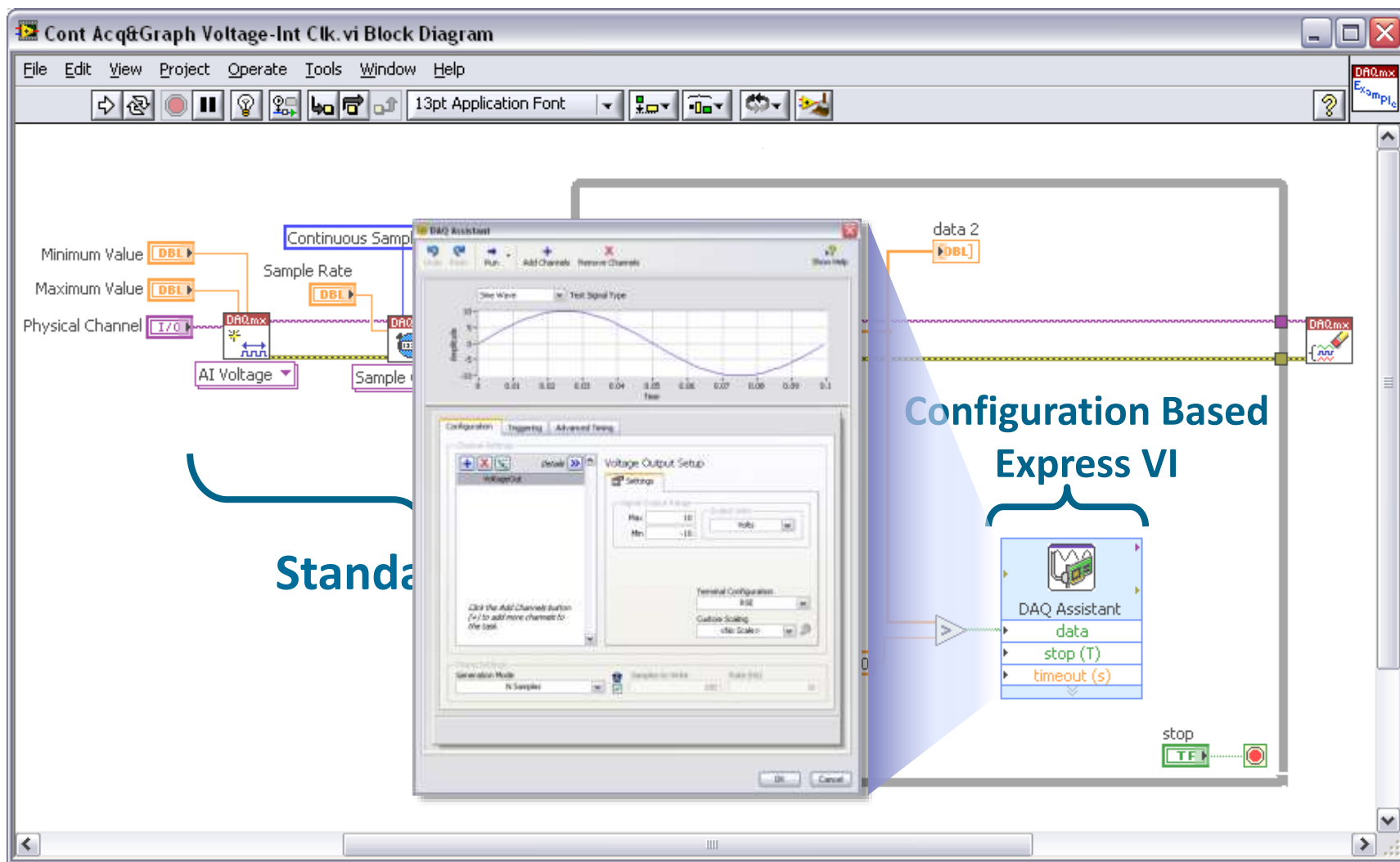


or

- Press <ctrl + space> to bring up
- Search by object name

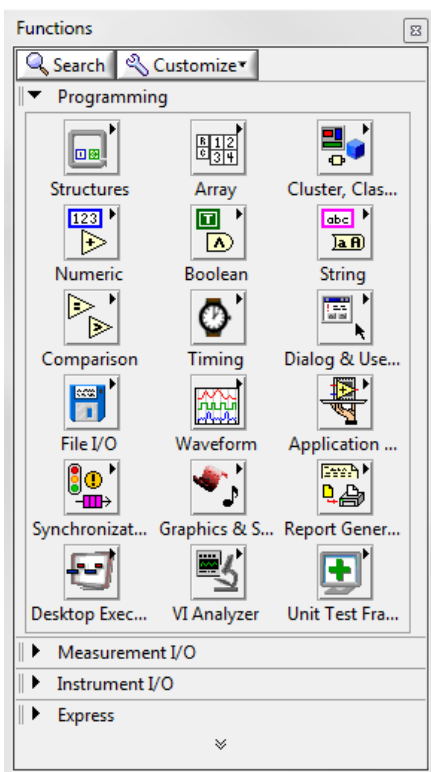
# Functions and Express VIs

Block Diagram

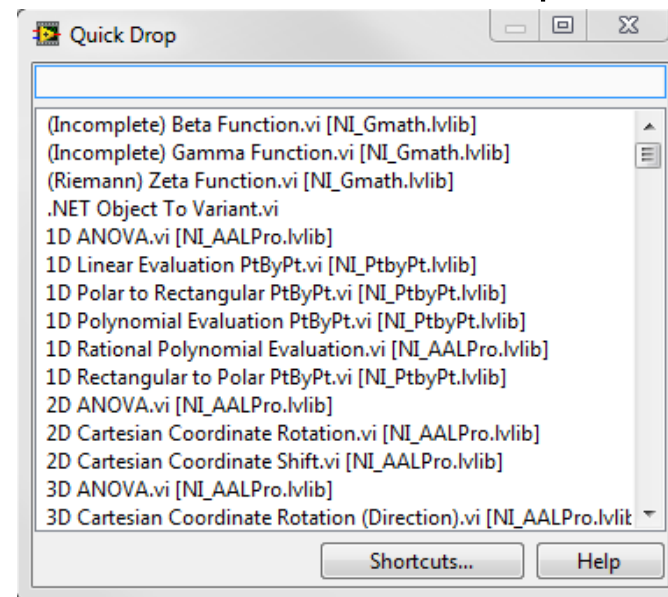


# Finding Block Diagram Functions

## Functions Palette



## Functions Quick Drop



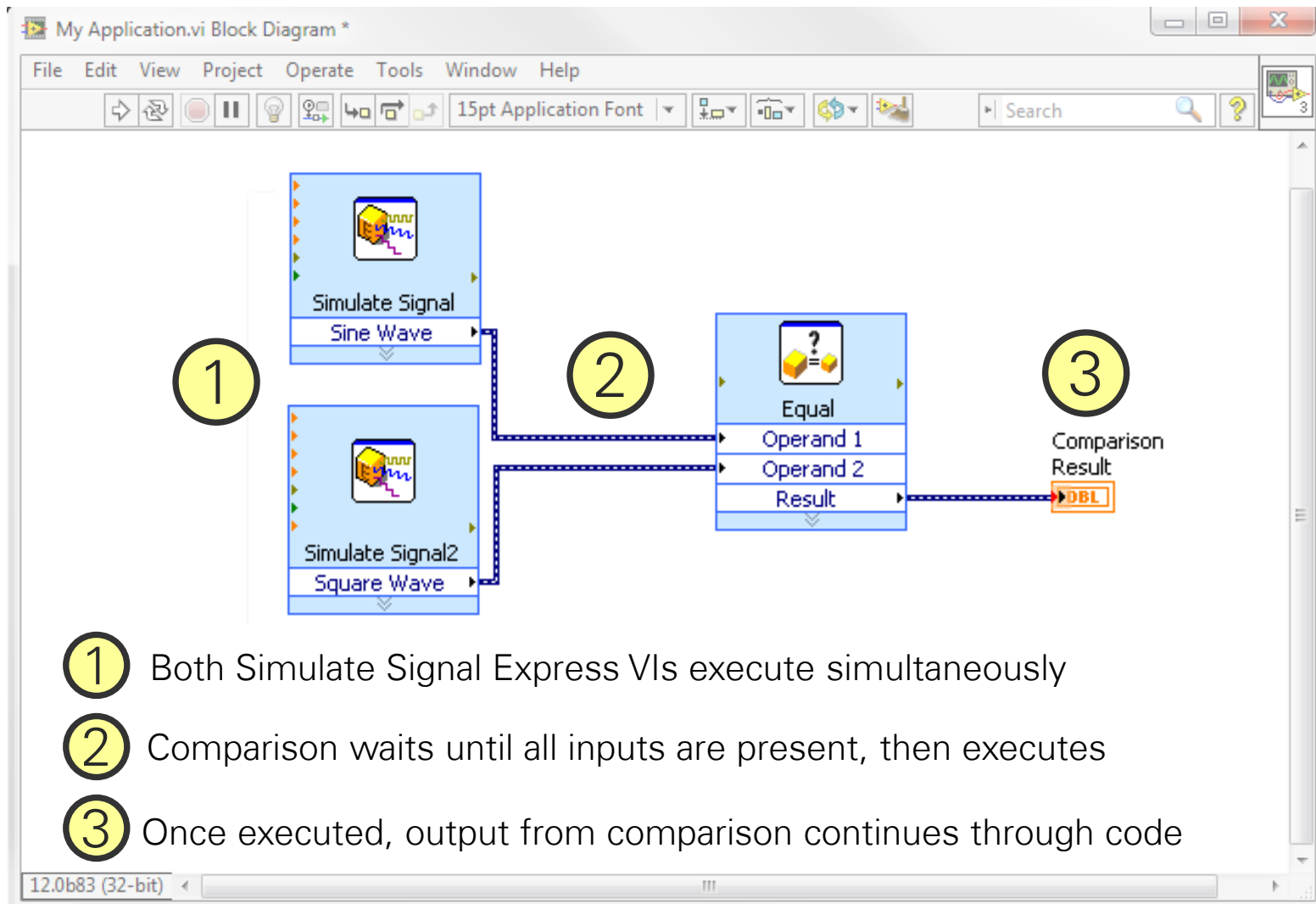
or

- Right-click on Block Diagram
- Browse by object hierarchy

- Press "ctrl + space" to bring up
- Search by object name

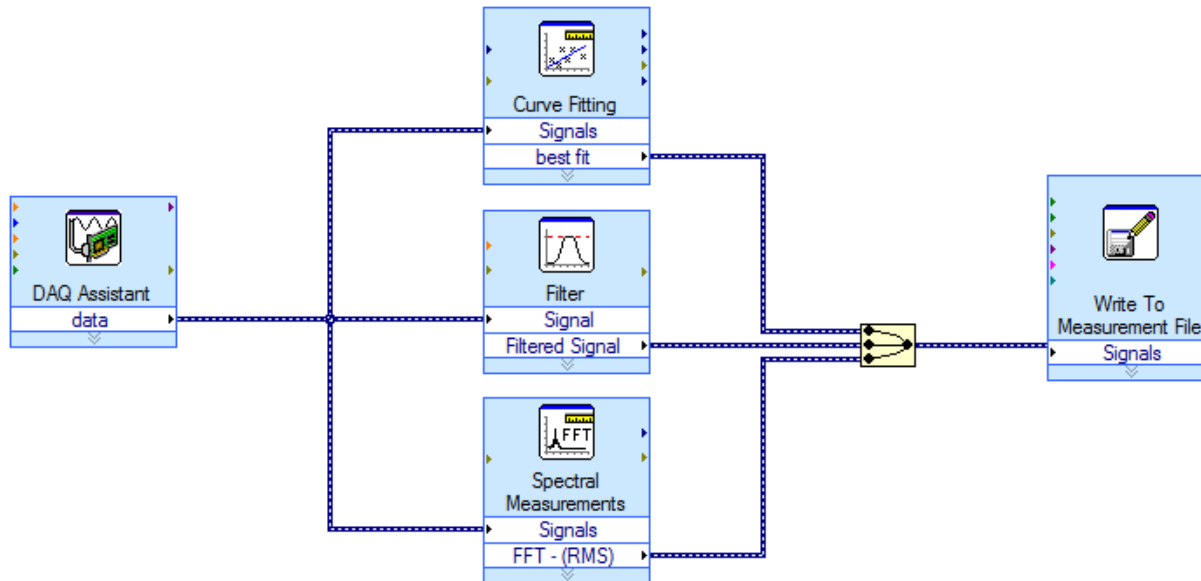


# Dataflow Programming



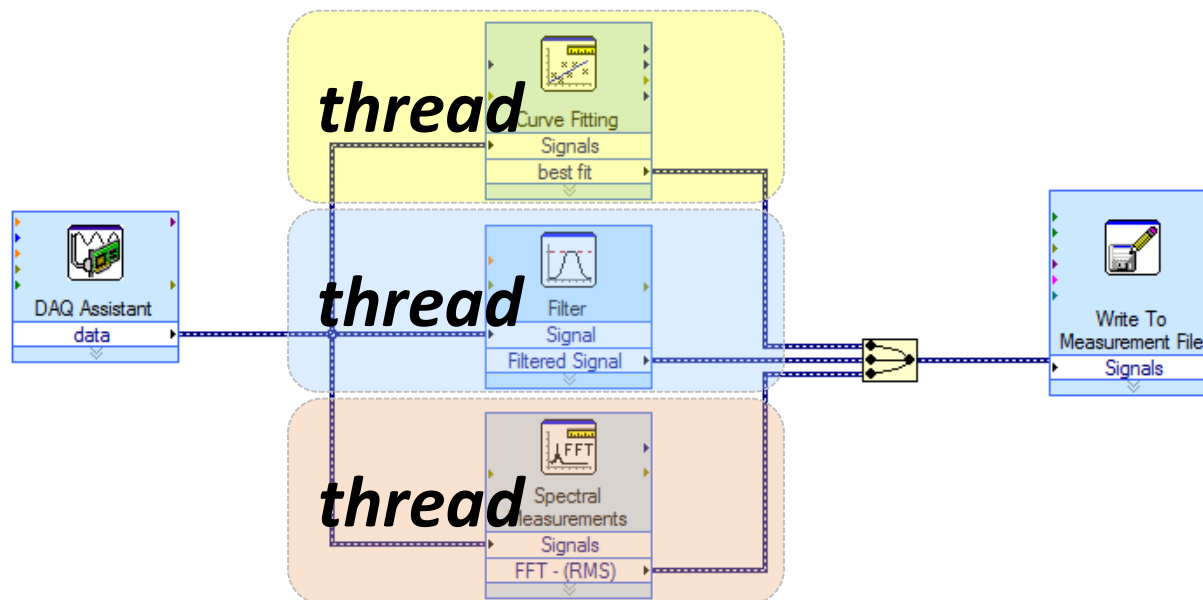
# Automatic Multithreading in LabVIEW

- LabVIEW automatically divides each application into multiple execution threads
- LabVIEW introduced multithreading in 1998



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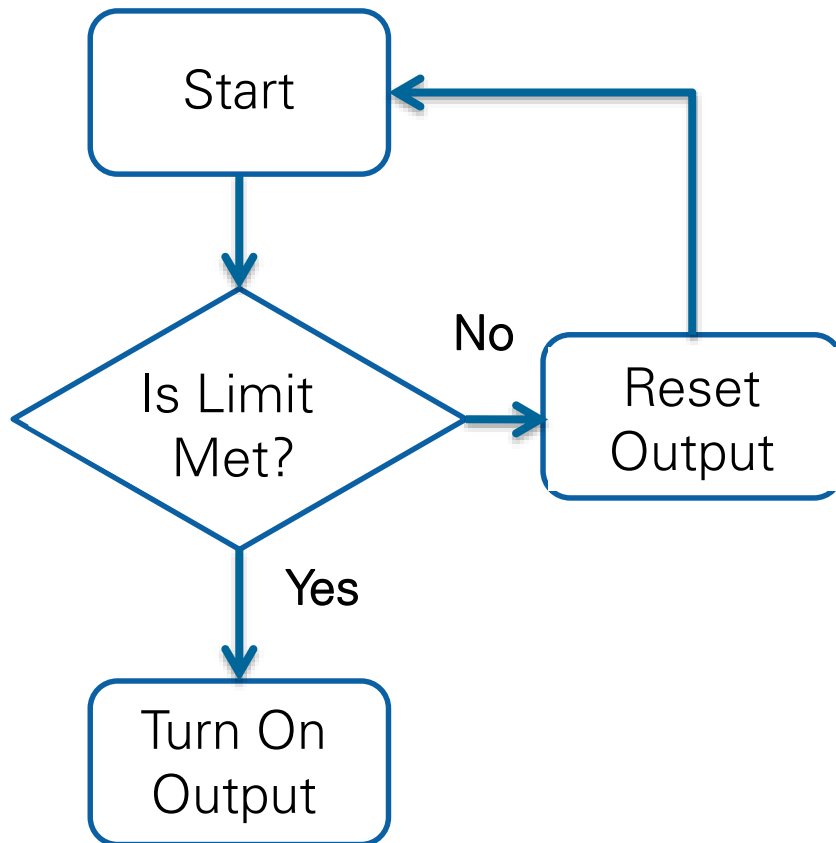
# Wires and Data Types

- Transfer data between block diagram objects through wires
- Wires are different colors, styles, and thicknesses, depending on their data types
- A broken wire appears as a dashed black line with a red X in the middle



	DBL Numeric	Integer Numeric	String
Scalar			
1D Array			
2D Array			

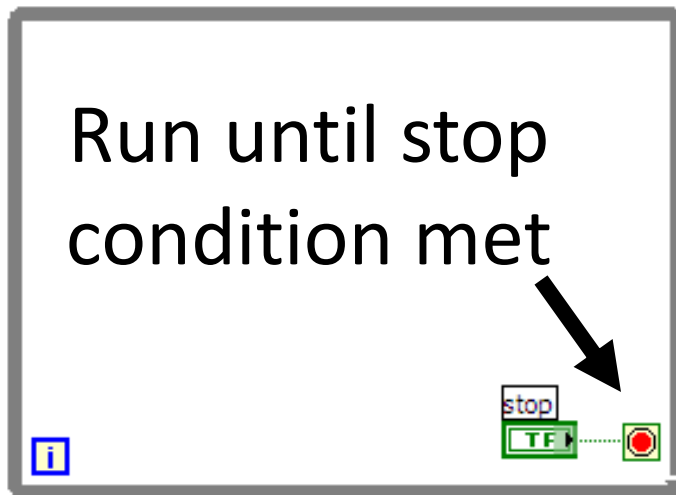
# Controlling Program Execution



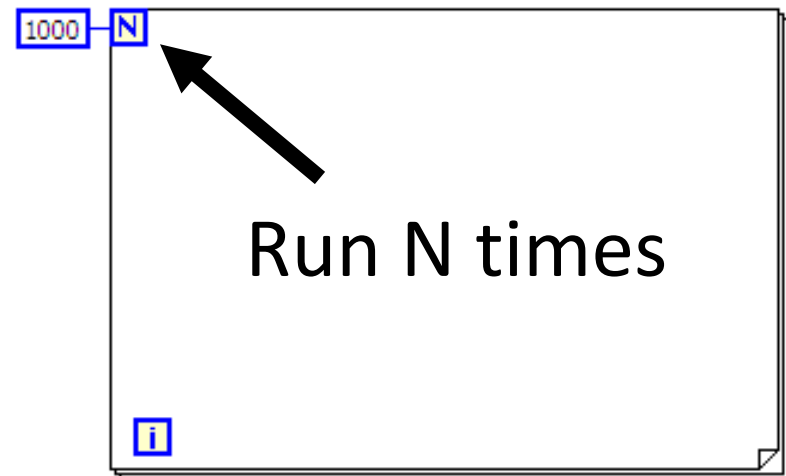
- Looping (For and While)
- Case structure
- Sequence structure
- State machines
- Event structure
- State diagram editor
- Timed loop

# Execution Control Structures

## While Loop



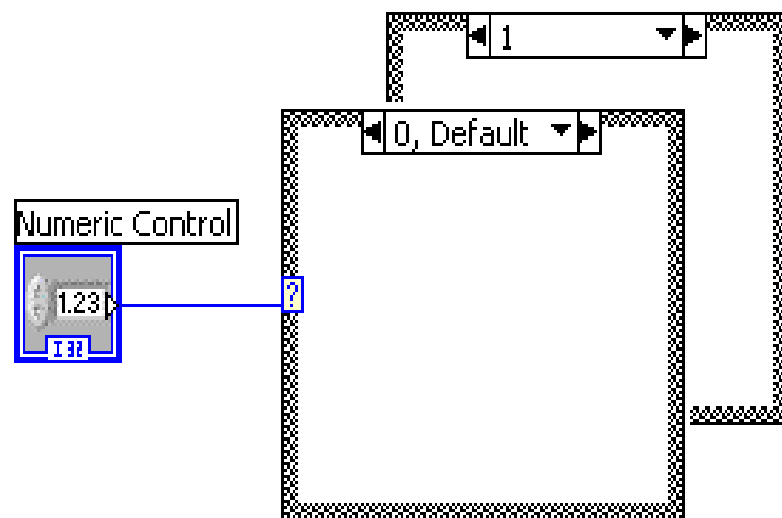
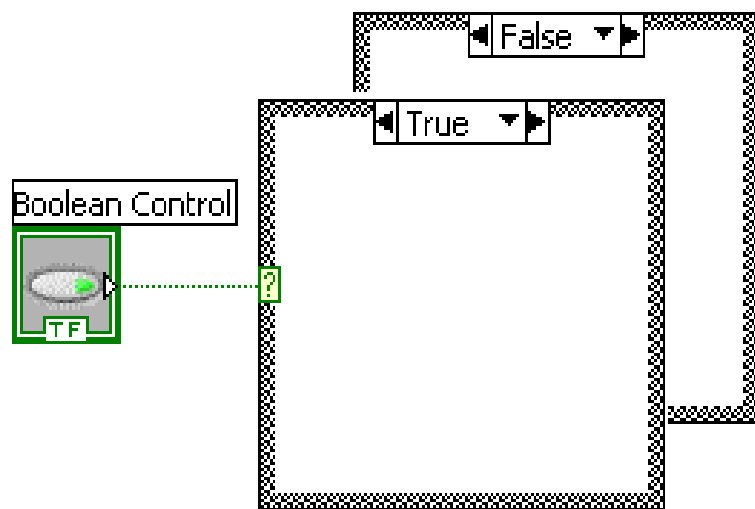
## For Loop



- Allow same piece of code to run multiple times
- Exit conditions different for each

# LabVIEW Case Structure

## Primary decision making block



# Status Toolbar



Run Button



Continuous Run Button



Abort Execution

## Additional Buttons on the Block Diagram Toolbar



Execution Highlighting Button



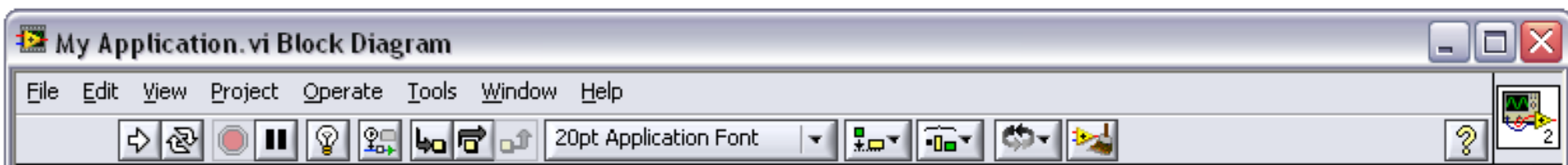
Retain Wire Values Button



Step Function Buttons



# Built-in Programming Assistance



Highlight Execution



Block Diagram Cleanup

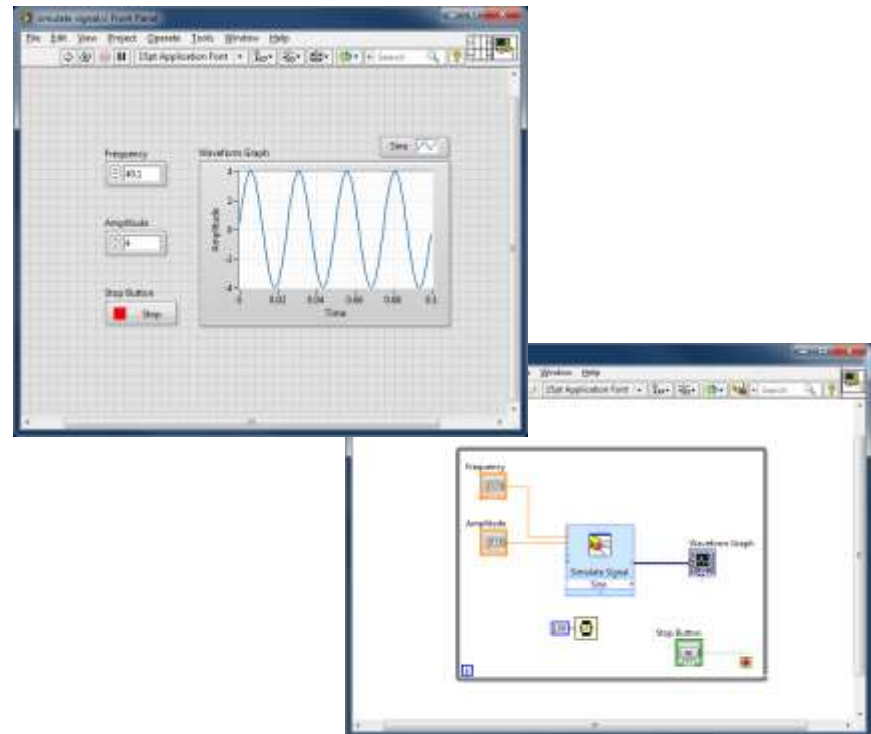


Context Help

# Exercise 1 – Simulate Signal to Graph

- Simulate signals
- Write to Graph

Time to complete: 20 minutes



Acquire



Analyze



Present



with NI LabVIEW

A brief introduction to  
**Data Acquisition**



# DAQ Solution for Your Application



Distributed



Desktop



Rugged and Modular Test



Portable

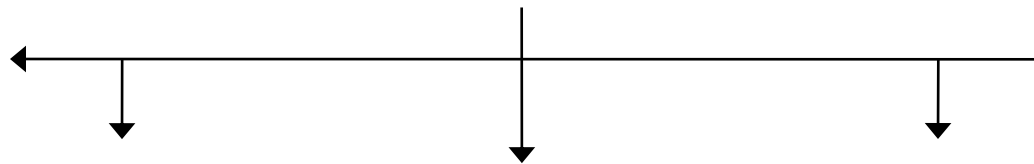
# NI DAQ Platforms



One application,  
multiple targets



USB



PCI



CompactDAQ

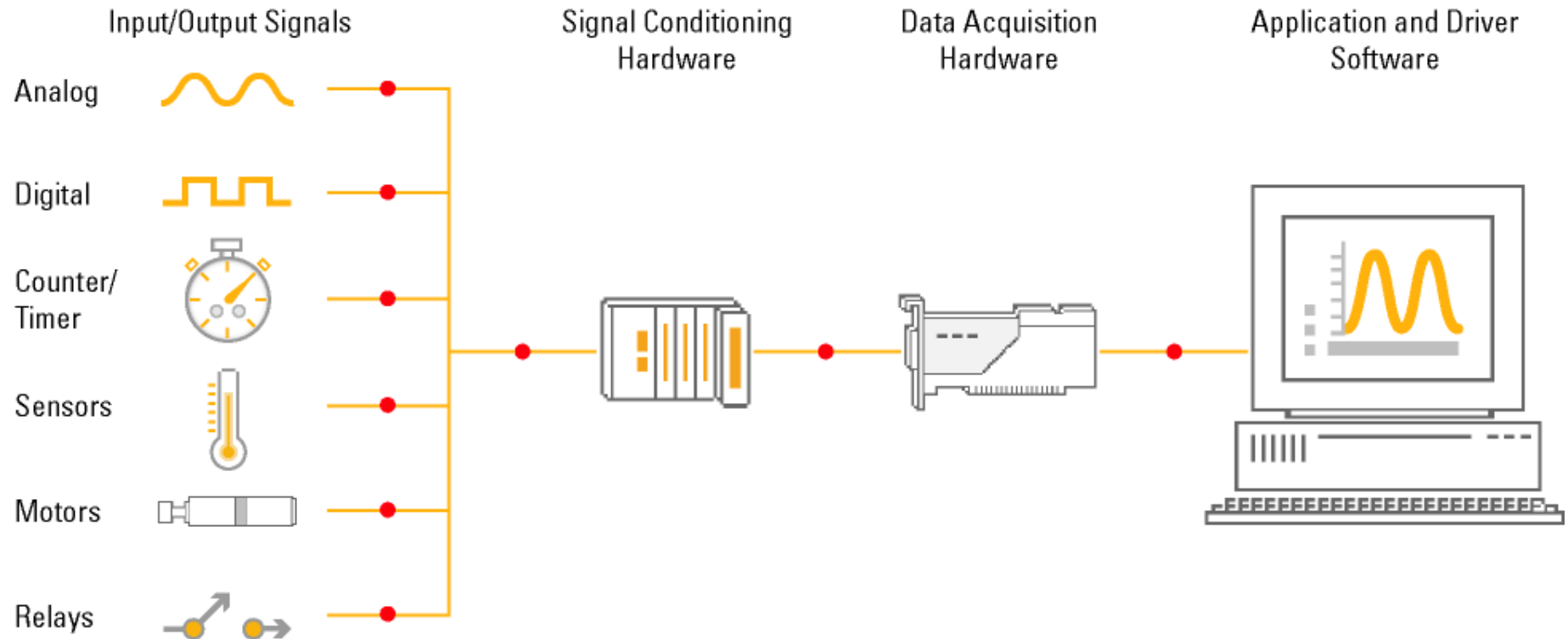


PXI



Wireless

# PC-Based Data Acquisition (DAQ)



# What is NI CompactDAQ (cDAQ)?



“CompactDAQ provides a flexible, expandable platform to meet the needs of any PC-based electrical or sensor measurement system.”

The system is comprised of:

- Chassis
- NI C Series Module(s)
- Windows OS host PC
- Sensors





# NI CompactDAQ Key Features



Run up to 7 HW-timed I/O tasks at different rates with NI-STC3 technology

Stream continuous waveforms up to 1 MS/s per channel with NI Signal Streaming

Flexible Software Options with NI-DAQmx

Supports 50+ NI C Series I/O modules

Measure up to 256 channels in a single chassis

Distribute systems over Gigabit Ethernet or USB 2.0





# CompactDAQ – How it works

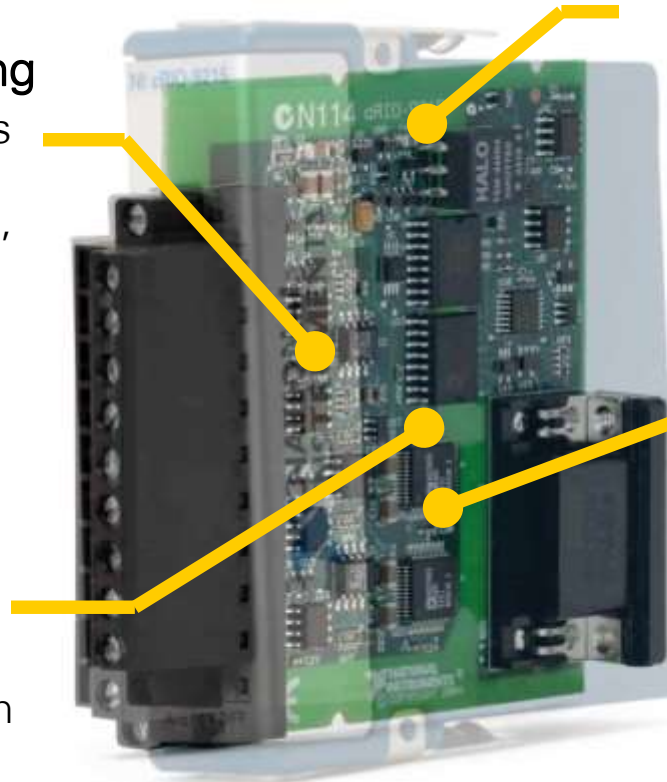


## Built-in Signal Conditioning

Direct connection to sensors for temperature, pressure, acceleration, strain, load cell, current and so on

## High Quality Measurements

Streaming up to 51.2 kS/s with up to 24-bit resolution



## Guaranteed Accuracy

NIST traceable calibration

## Signal to Backplane

## Isolation barrier

Safety, noise immunity, common mode rejection

# C Series Modules



- Currently, there are more than 50 C Series modules for different measurements including:
  - Thermocouple, voltage, resistance temperature detector (RTD), current, resistance, strain, digital (TTL and other), accelerometers, and microphones.
- Channel counts on the individual modules range from three to 32 channels to accommodate a wide range of system requirements.



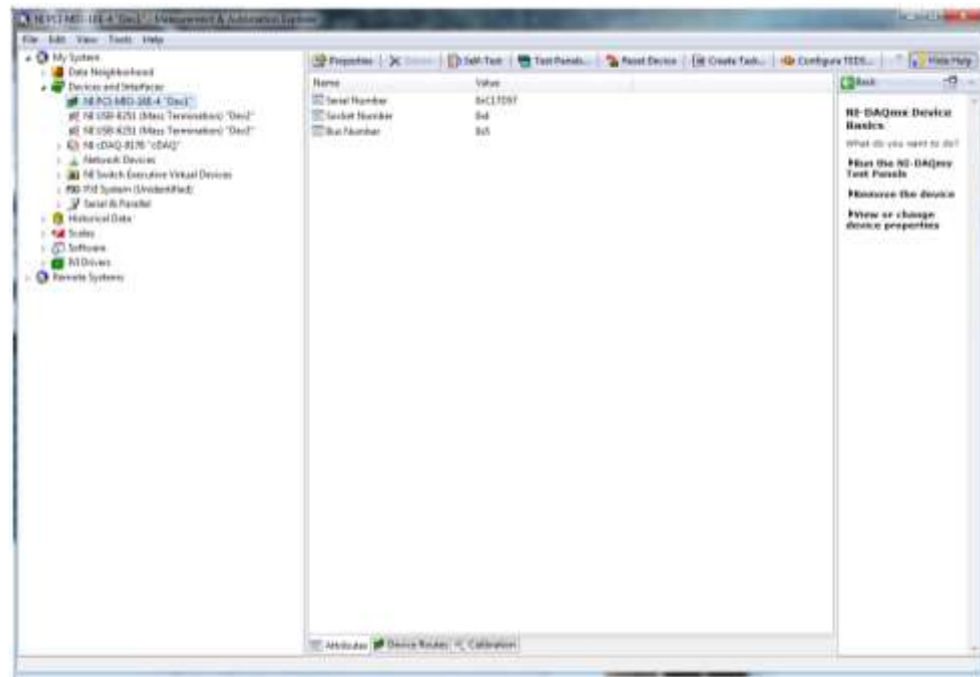
# What is MAX?



- MAX stands for Measurement & Automation Explorer.
- MAX configures and organises all your National Instruments DAQ, PCI/PXI instruments, GPIB, IMAQ, IVI, Motion, VISA, and VXI devices.
- Used for configuring and testing devices.



Measurement  
& Automation





# Analysis in LabVIEW

# Using Analysis Functions

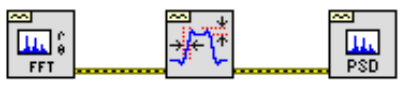


My Application.vi Block Diagram

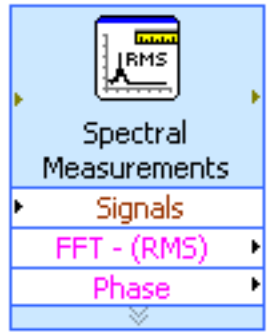
File Edit View Project Operate Tools Window Help

20pt Application Font

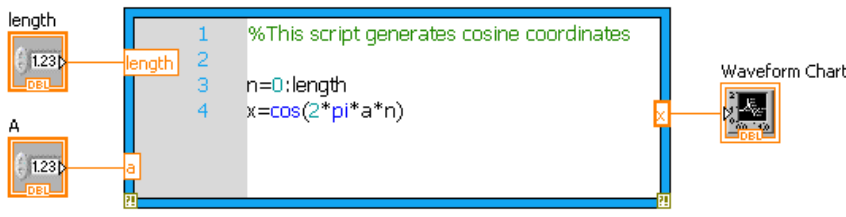
## Programmatic, Low-Level VIs



## Configuration Based Express VIs



## Text-based MathScript Node



```
1 %This script generates cosine coordinates
2
3 n=0:length
4 x=cos(2*pi*a*n)
```

## • Signal Processing & Analysis

- Waveform Generation
- Waveform Conditioning
- Waveform Monitoring
- Waveform Measurements
- Signal Generation
- Signal Operations
- Windows
- Digital Filters
- Spectral Analysis
- Transforms
- Point-by-Point

## • Mathematics

- Numeric
- Elementary and Special Functions
- BLAS/LAPAC-based Linear Algebra
- Curve Fitting
- Interpolation / Extrapolation
- Probability and Statistics
- Optimisation
- Ordinary Differential Equations
- Geometry
- Polynomial
- Formula Parsing
- 1D & 2D Evaluation
- Calculus



# Presenting Data in LabVIEW

# Data Visualisation and Communication



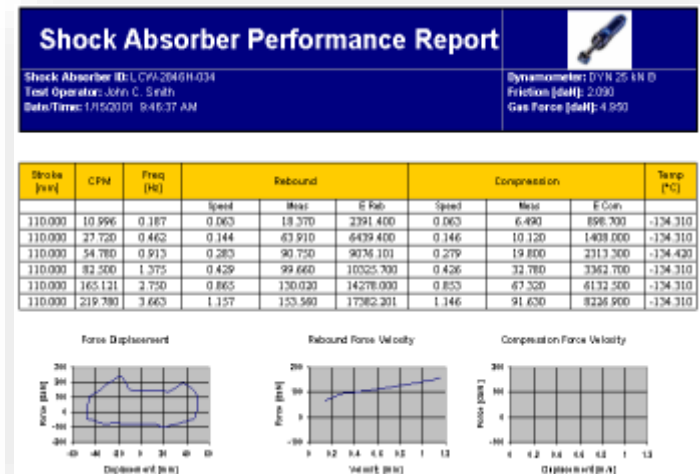
## Visualisation

- Built-in user interface objects
- Charting and graphing capabilities
- Remote application control



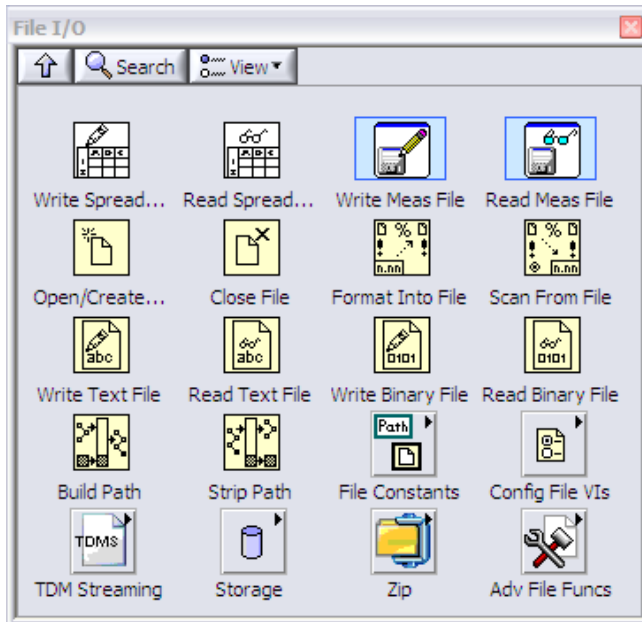
## Reporting and Data Storage

- File I/O functionality
- HTML reports for the Web
- Microsoft Word and Excel reports





# LabVIEW Supported Storage Types



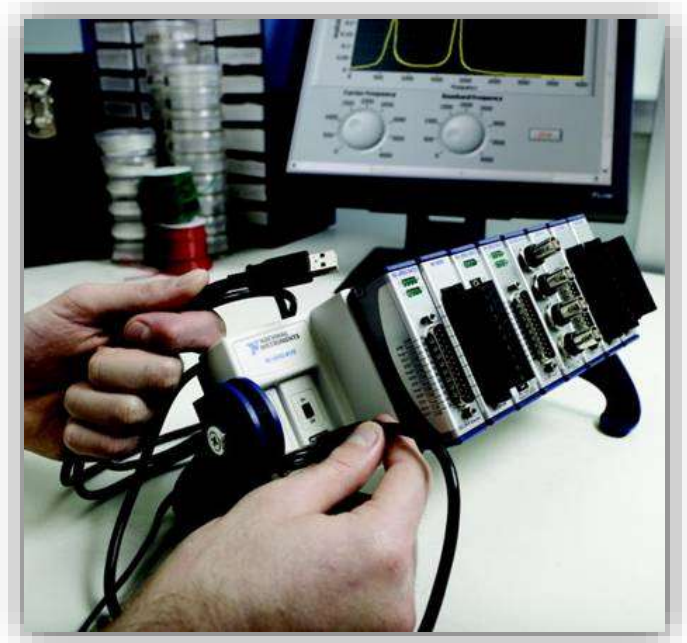
- ASCII
- Binary
- HTML
- XML
- LVM
- TDM(S) \*
- Excel
- Word
- Datalog
- Databases

# Exercise 1a-1c – Adding Tests from Templates

Taking measurements from scratch using  
NI CompactDAQ and NI LabVIEW

Time to complete: 20 minutes

- Create an application that
  - Measures from a thermocouple
  - Logs data to a file

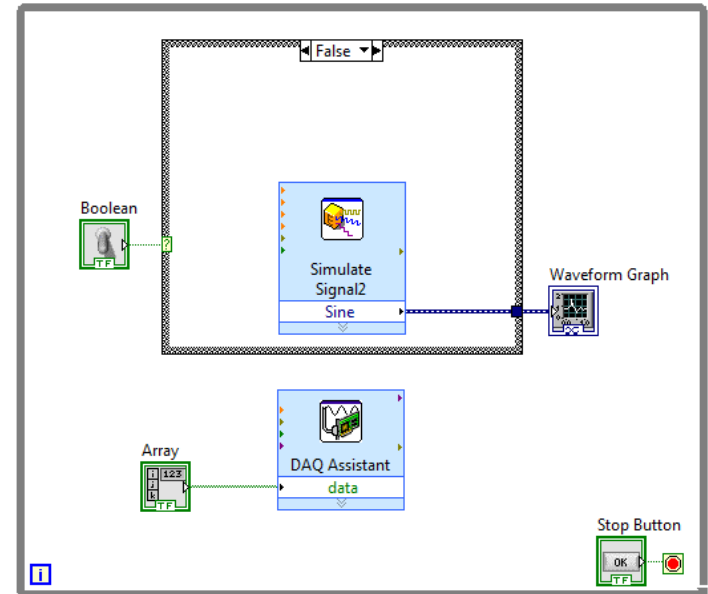


# Controlling Program Execution - How to incorporate logic into your LabVIEW application

Create an application that:

- Charts a sine or triangle wave depending on toggle switch position
- Turns on/off digital outputs based on user selections

Time to complete: 15 minutes



## Exercise 2 – Controlling Program Execution

# Learn More about NI LabVIEW and NI DAQ Systems

Check out additional **LabVIEW** exercises:

[ni.com/labview/whatis](http://ni.com/labview/whatis)

View DAQ product specs and demos:

[ni.com/daq](http://ni.com/daq)

