

LabVIEW & NI myRIO

Design Real Systems, Fast

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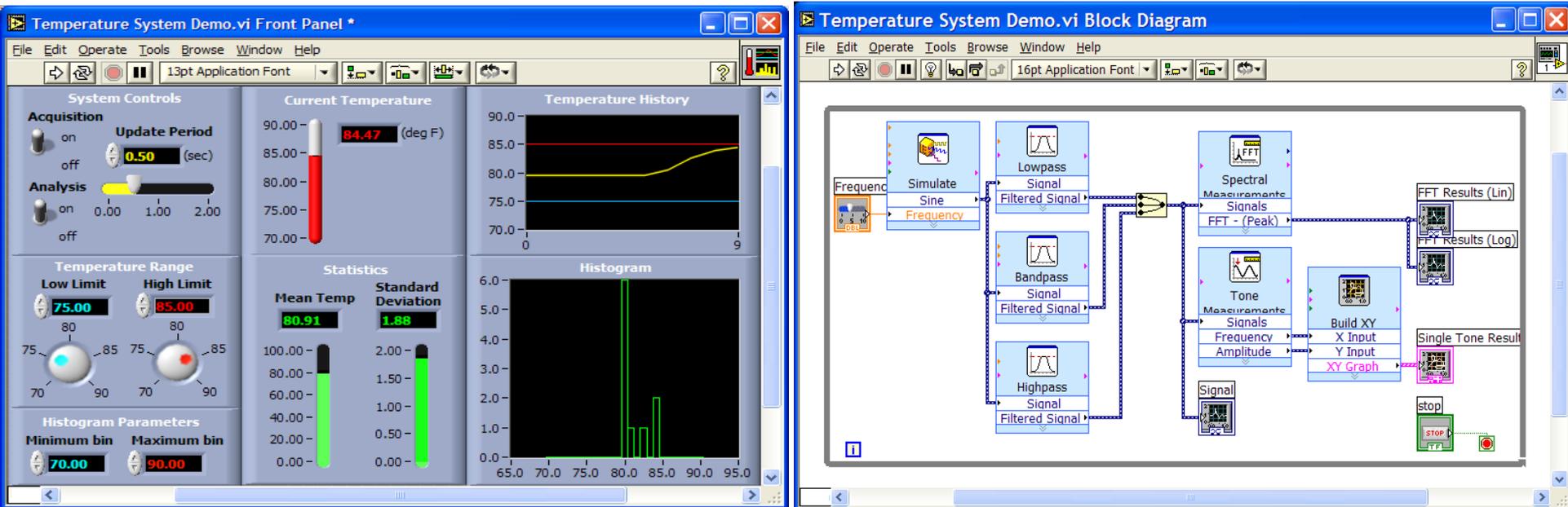
University of Alabama at Birmingham - UAB

Part 1

LabVIEW

What is LabVIEW?

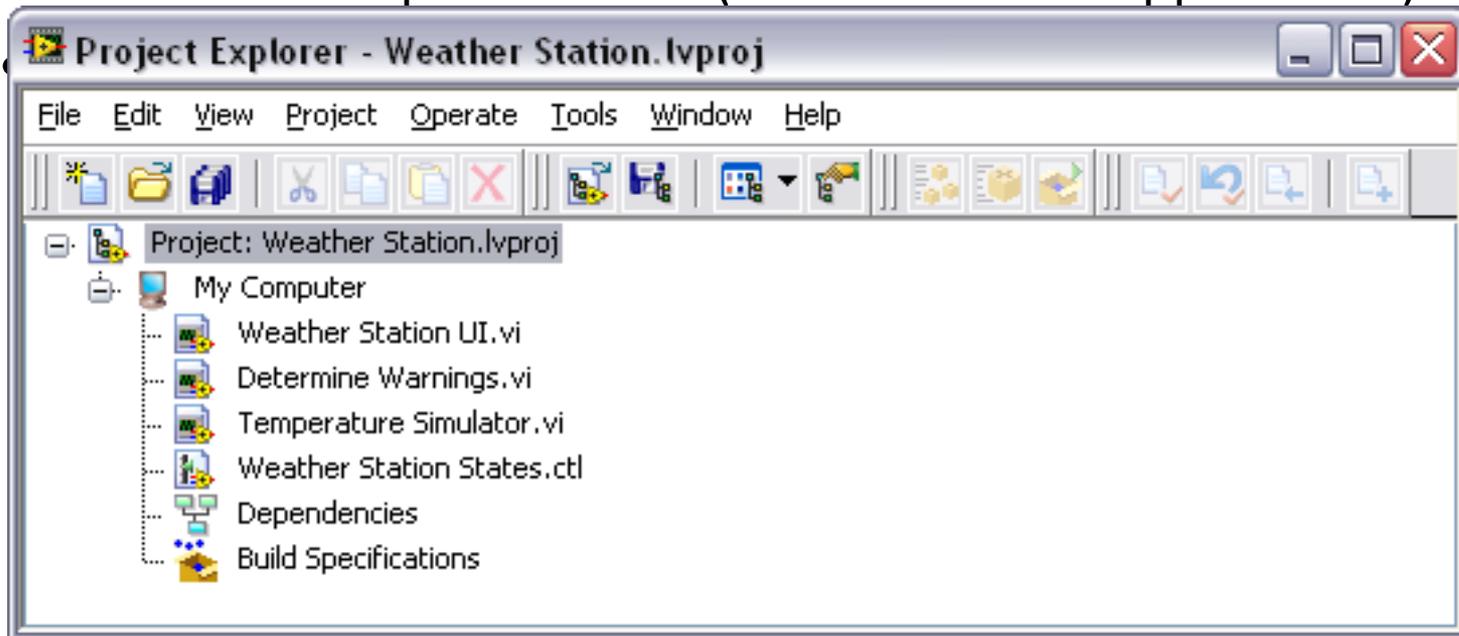
Laboratory Virtual Instrumentation Engineering Workbench



- Compiled graphical development environment
- Development time reduction of four to ten times
- Tools to acquire, analyze, and present your data

Project Explorer

- Use LabVIEW Projects to:
 - Group LabVIEW files and non-LabVIEW files
 - Create build specifications (i.e. stand-alone applications)



What is a Virtual Instrument (VI)?

Answer: a LabVIEW program

1. Front Panel

User interface (UI)

- Controls = inputs
- Indicators = outputs

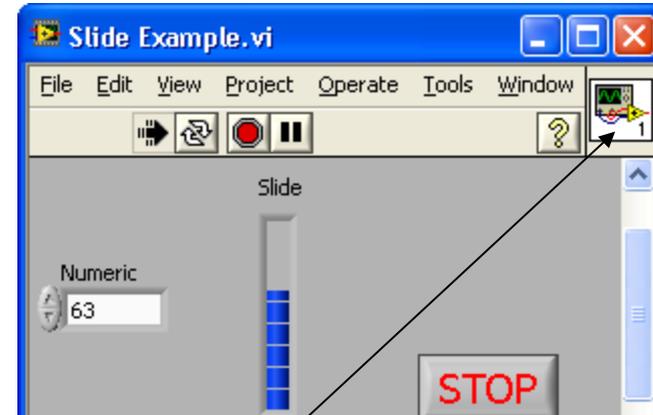
2. Block Diagram

Graphical source code

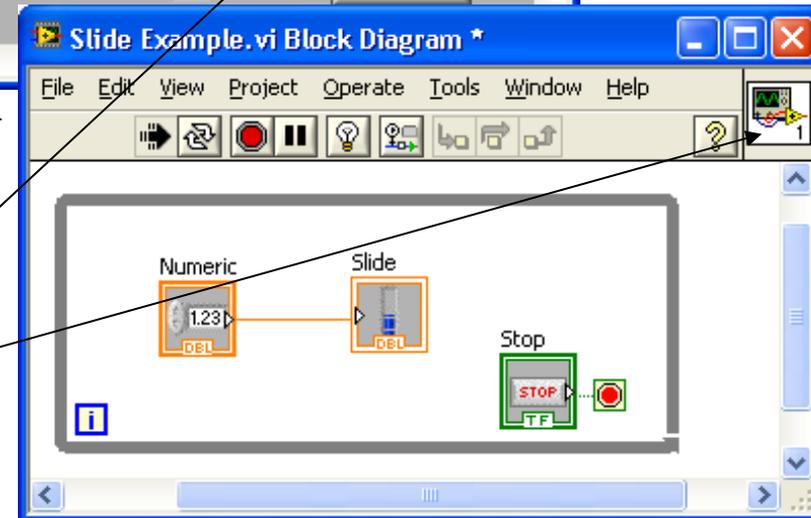
- Data travels on wires from control terminals through functions to indicator terminals
- Blocks execute by data flow

3. Icon/Connector Pane

- Graphical representation of a VI
- Means of connecting VIs (subVIs)

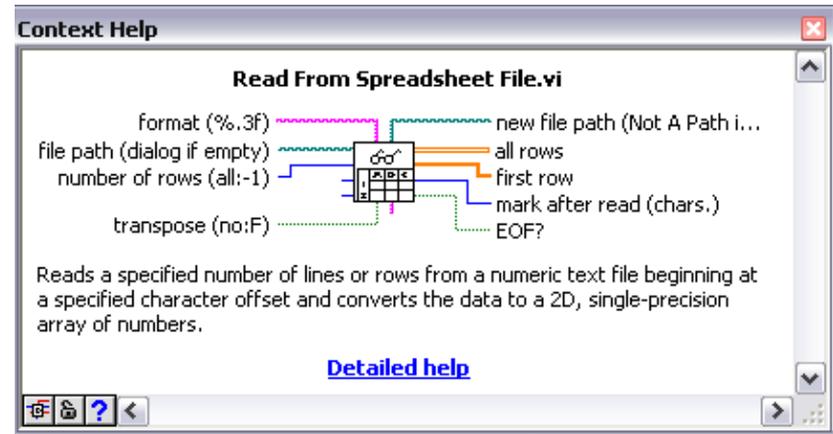


* Conn. pane available from FP only



Front Panel Toolbar

It is best not to use the **Abort** button because you run the risk of not closing references or cleaning up memory correctly



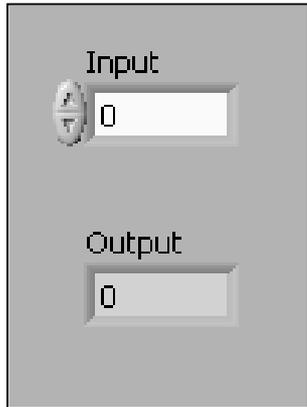
- Run
- Run Continuously
- Abort
- Pause

- Text Settings

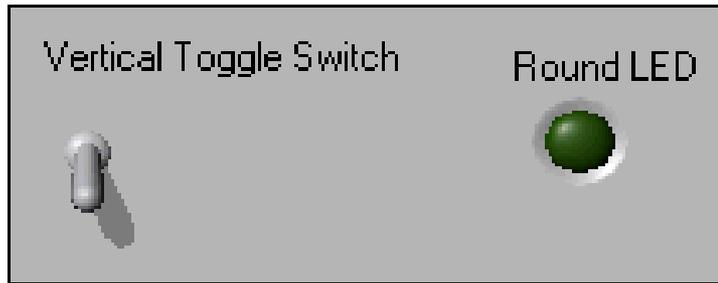
- Context Help

Front Panel Controls and Indicators

Numeric

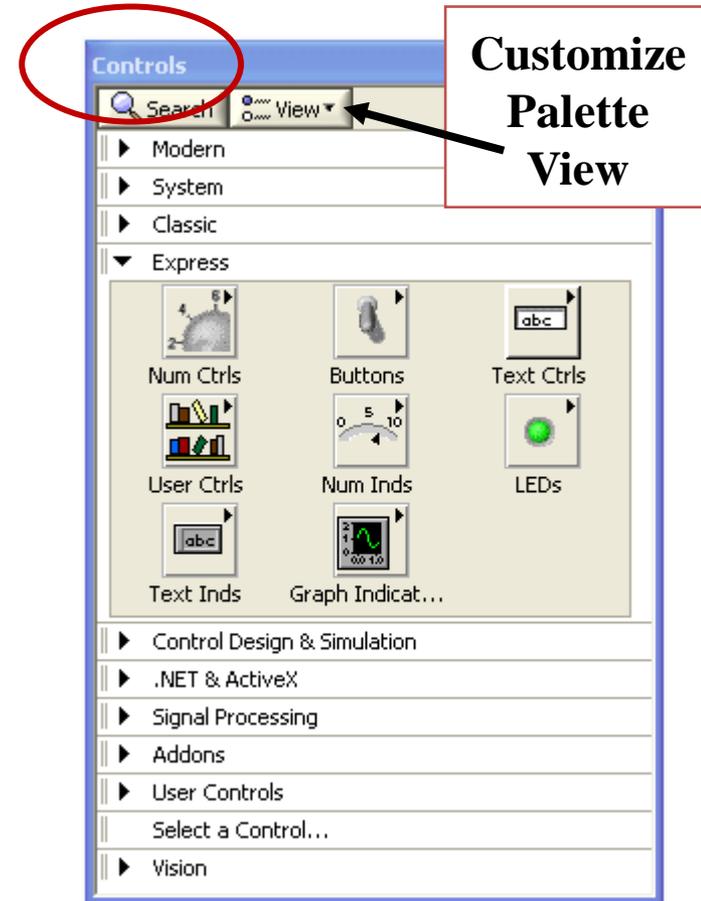
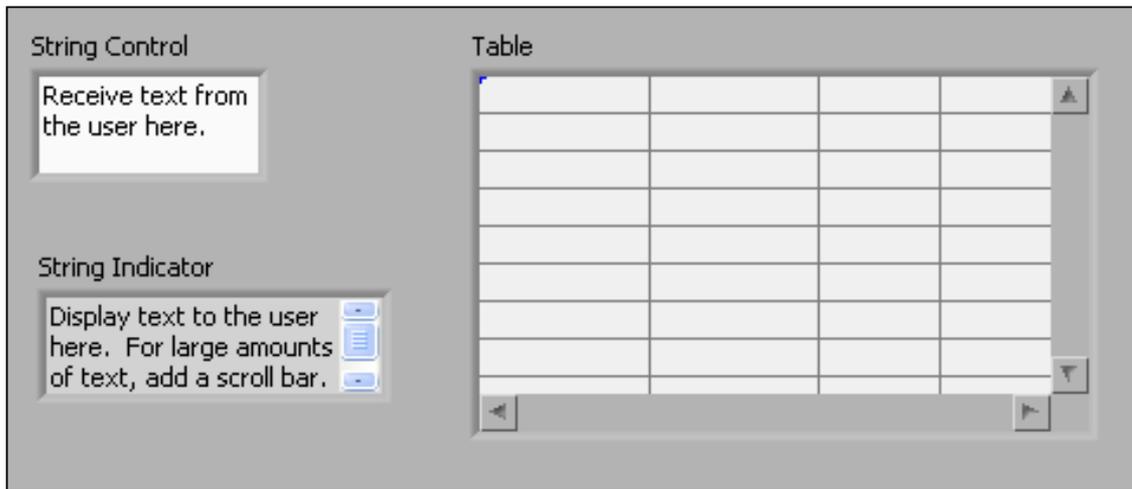


Boolean



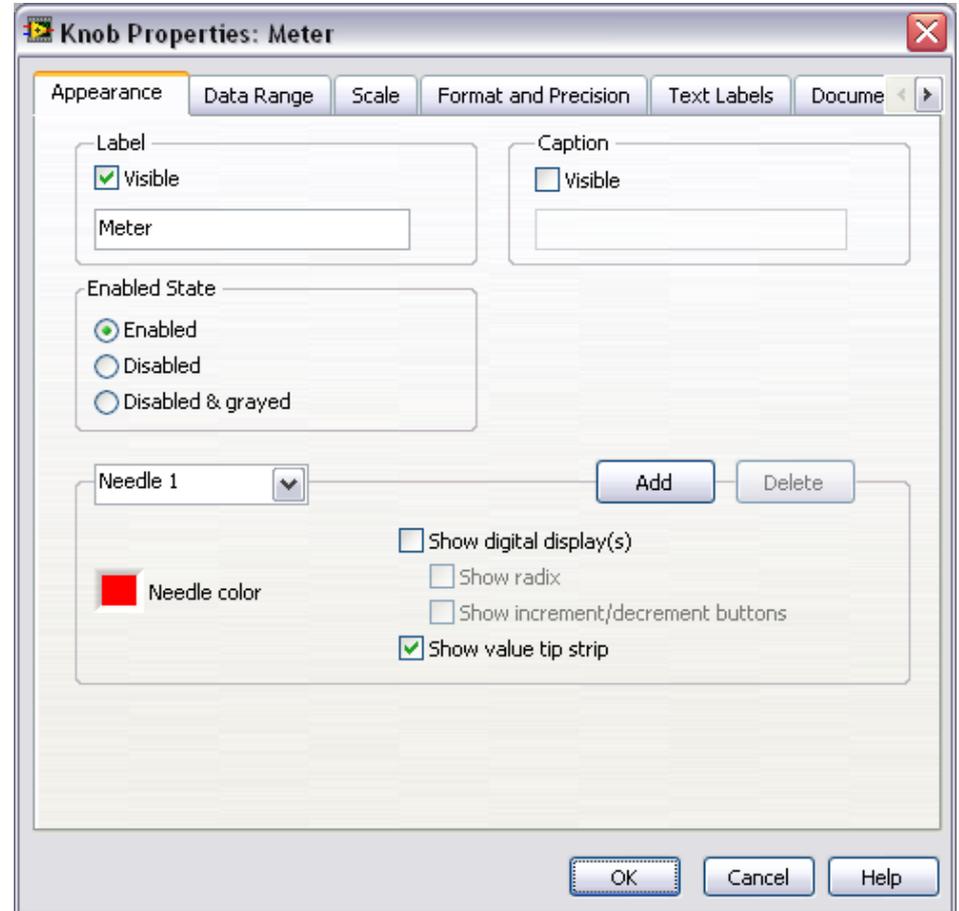
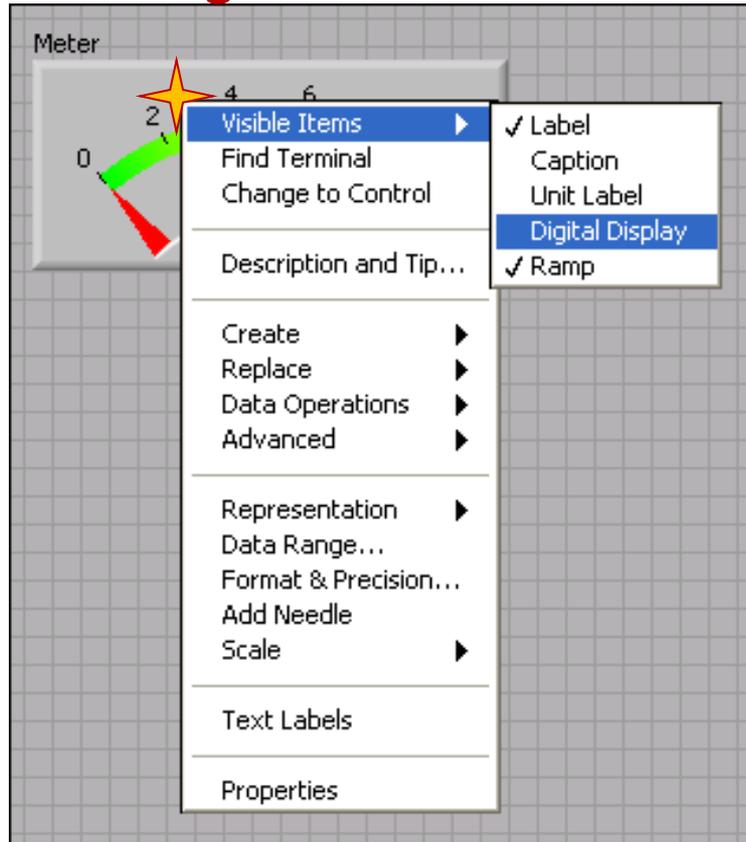
Right click!

String



Shortcut Menus and Properties Dialog

Right Click!



Block Diagram Toolbar



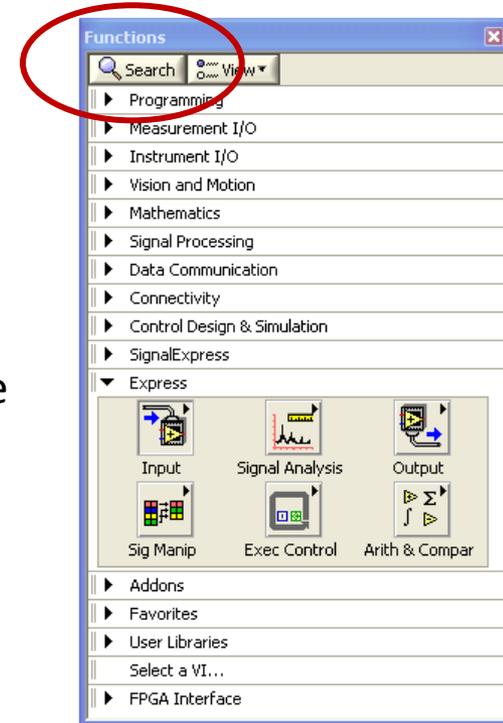
- Run
- Run Continuously
- Abort
- Pause
- Highlight Execution
- Retain Wire Values
- Text Settings
- Clean Up Block Diagram

Block Diagram

Input



Input



- **Terminals**

- Block Diagram appearance of front panel objects
- Entry & exit ports that exchange information between the front panel and block diagram
- Analogous to parameters and constants in text-based programming languages

- **Wires**

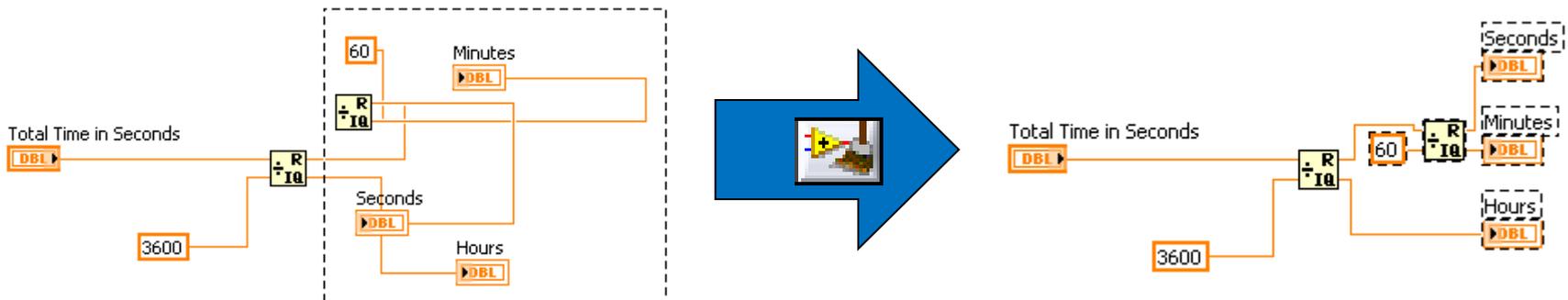
- Transfer data between block diagram objects
- Wires are different colors, styles, and thicknesses, depending on data type
- A broken wire appears as a dashed black line with a red X in the middle

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



Block Diagram: Wiring Tips

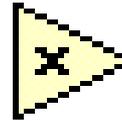
- Press <Ctrl>-B to delete all broken wires
- Right-click and select **Clean Up Wire** to reroute the wire
- Use the Clean Up Diagram tool to reroute multiple wires and objects to improve readability
 - Select a section of your block diagram
 - Click the Clean Up Diagram button on the block diagram toolbar (or <Ctrl>-U)



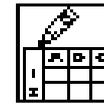
Block Diagram

• Nodes

- Objects on the block diagram that have inputs and/or outputs and perform operations when a VI runs
- Analogous to statements, operators, functions, and subroutines in text-based programming languages



Write To Spreadsheet File.vi



Functions

- Fundamental operating elements of LabVIEW
- Do not have front panels or block diagrams, but do have connector panes
- Double-clicking a function only selects the function – does not open it like a VI
- Has a pale yellow background on its icon

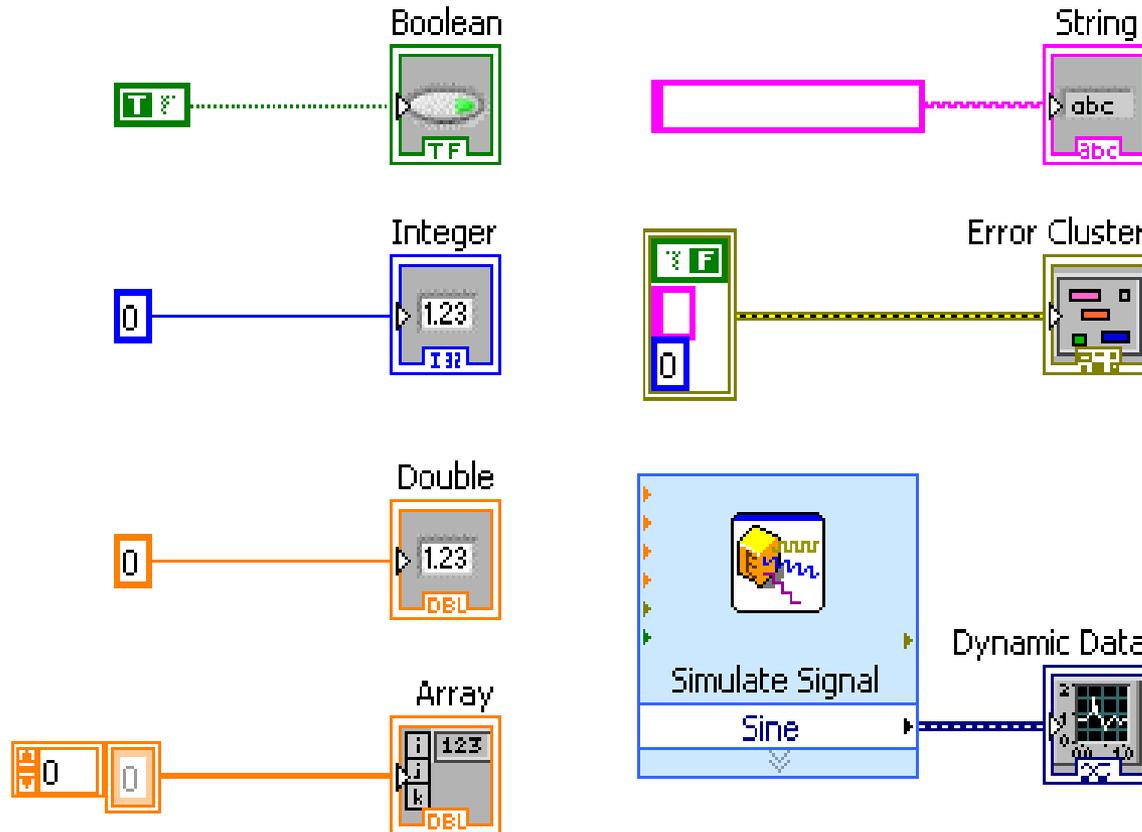
subVIs

- VI that you build to use inside another VI
- Any VI has potential to become a subVI
- Double-clicking a subVI will open it (exception: Express Vis- config. window opens)
- Icon represents subVI in main VI

Structures

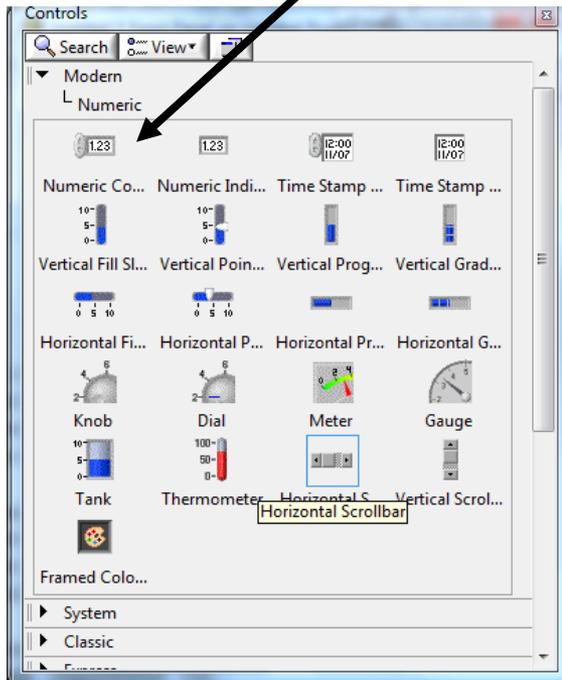
- While loops, for loops, event structures
- More discussion later

Common Data Types Found in LabVIEW

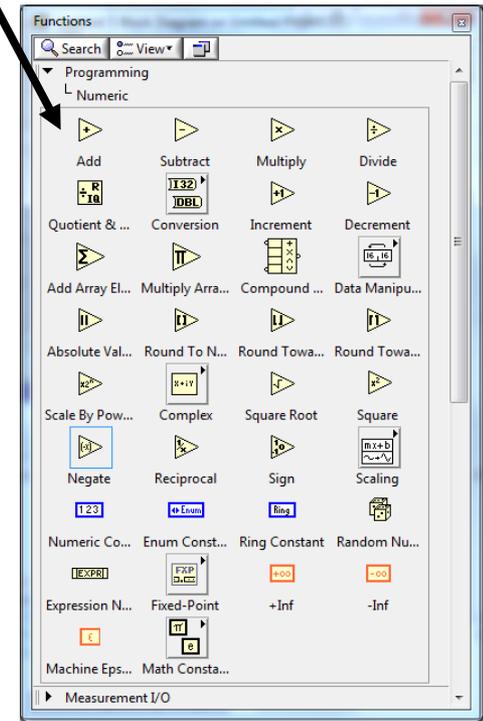
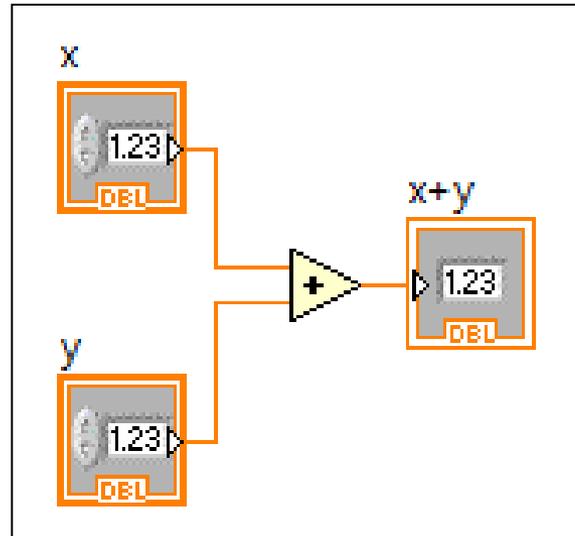


Numeric Controls and Functions

- (Front Panel) From the **Controls»Modern»Numeric** subpalette, select the **Numeric Control** icon.

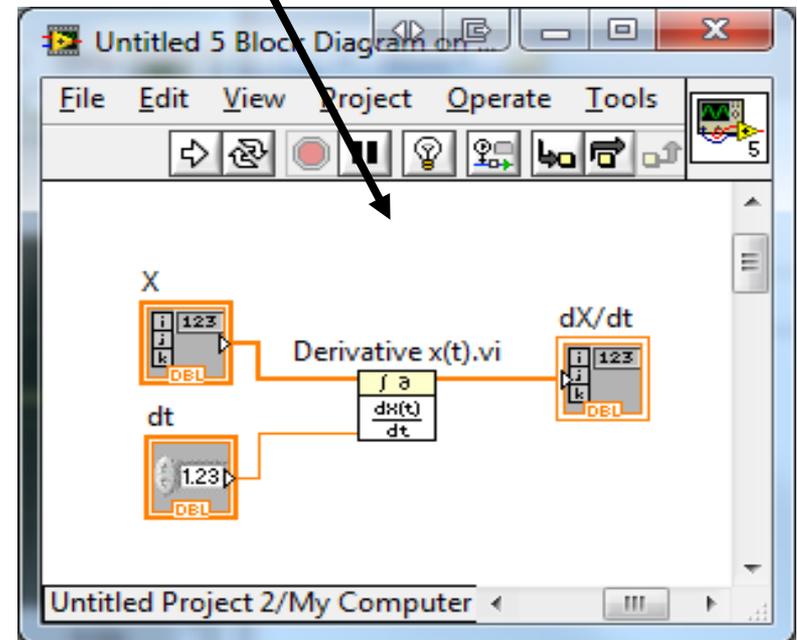
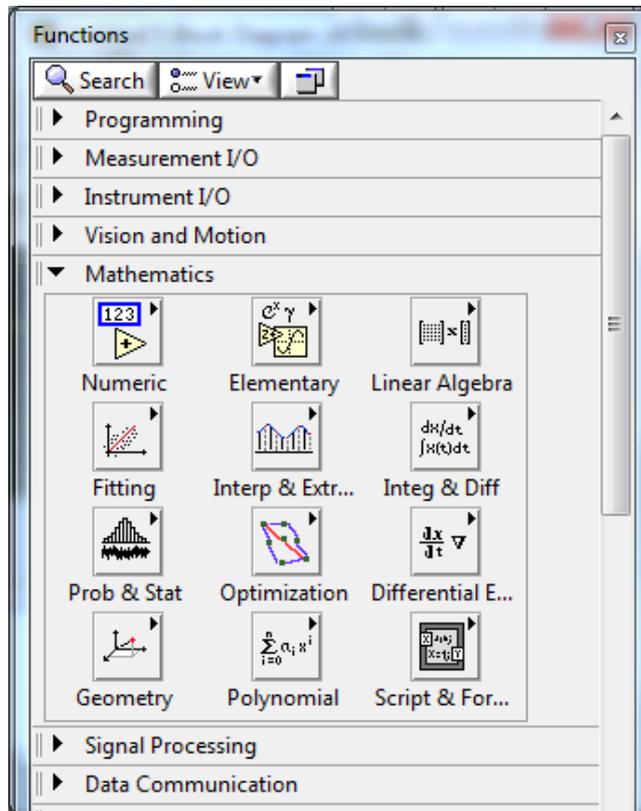


- (Block Diagram) From the **Functions»Programming»Numeric** subpalette, select the **Add** icon.



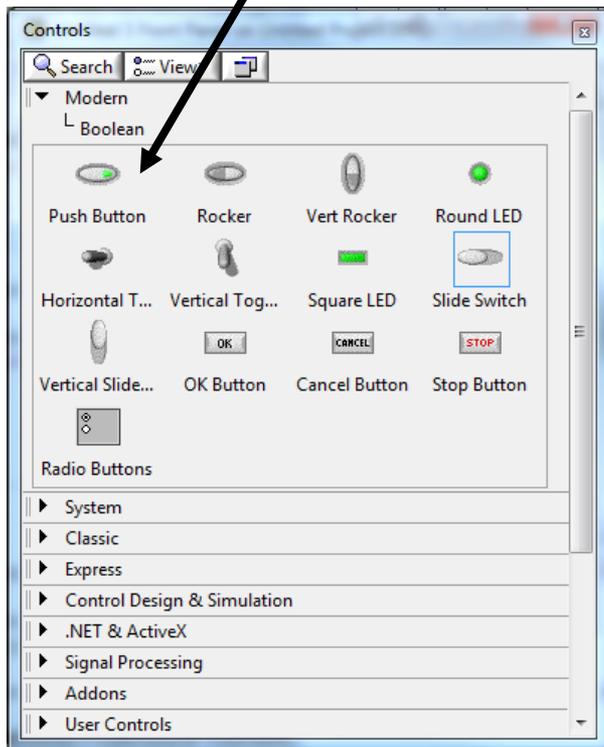
Mathematical Operations

- (Block Diagram) From the **Functions»Mathematics»Integration and Differentiation** subpalette, select the **Derivative x(t).vi**

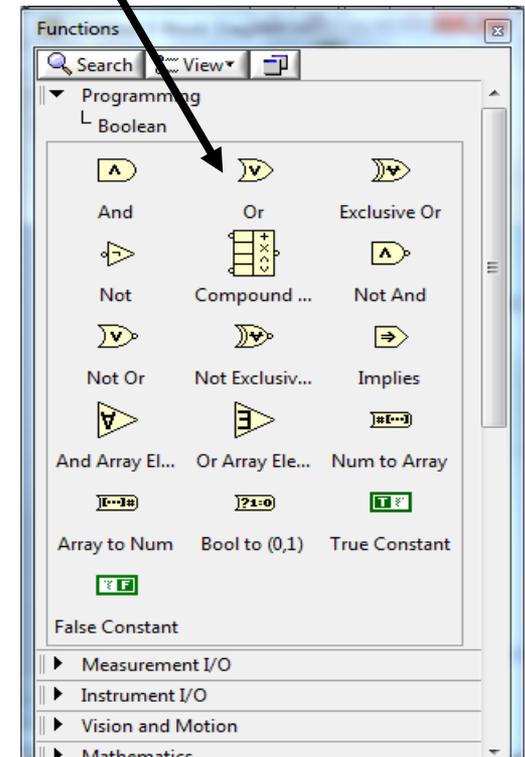
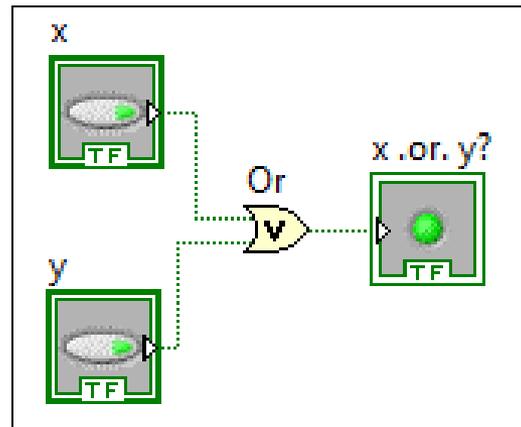


Boolean Controls and Functions

- (Front Panel) From the **Controls»Modern»Boolean** subpalette, select the **Push Button** icon.

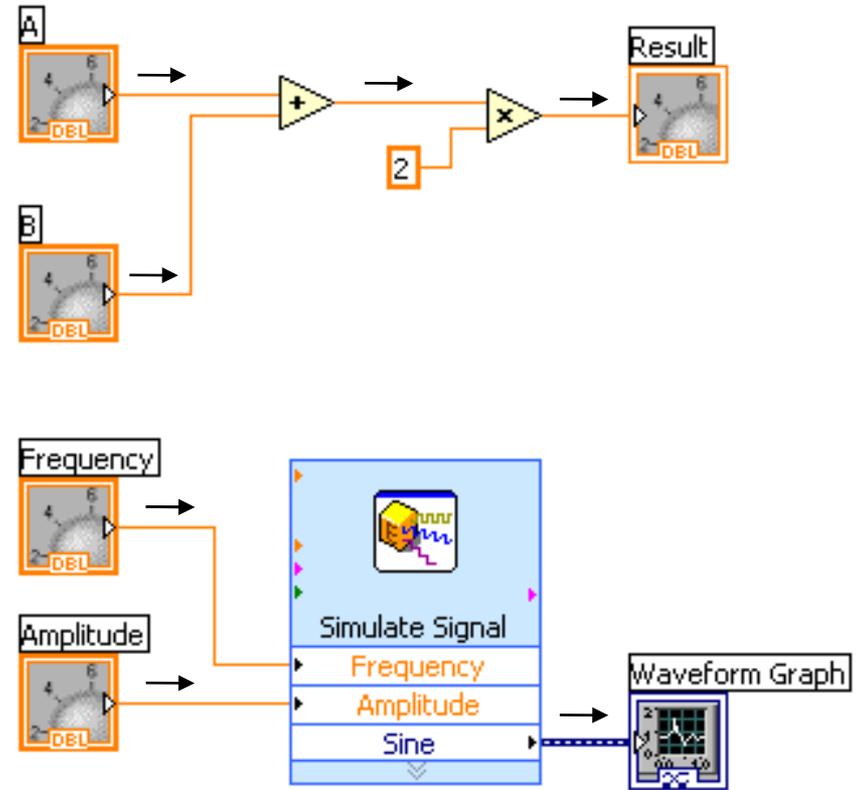


- (Block diagram) From the **Function»Programming»Boolean** subpalette, select the **OR** icon.



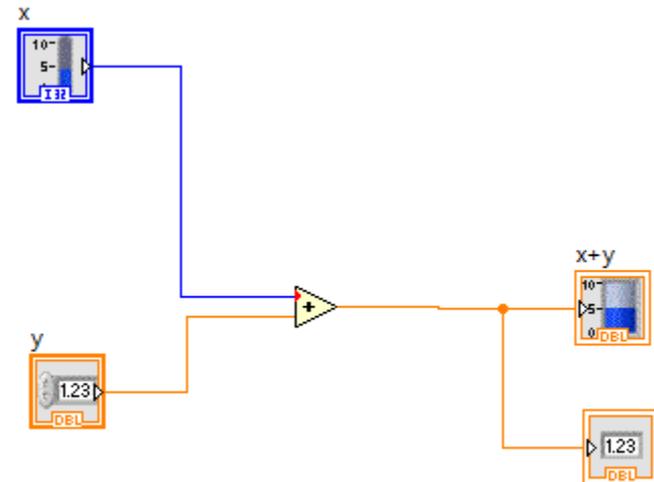
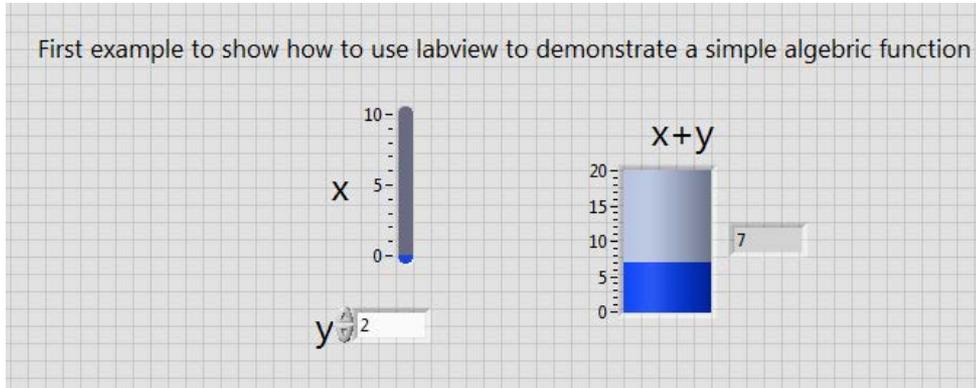
Data Flow

- Block diagram execution is dependent on the flow of data
- Block diagram does NOT execute left to right
- Node executes when data is available to ALL input terminals
- Nodes supply data to all output terminals when done
- If the computer running this code had multiple processors, these two pieces of code could run independently without additional coding



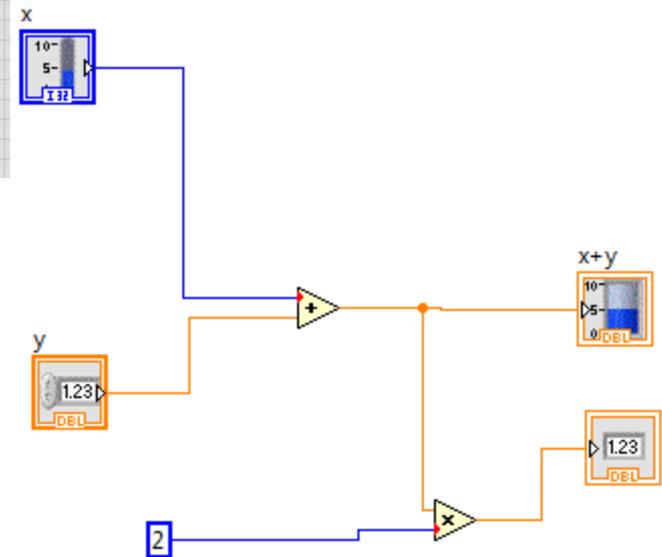
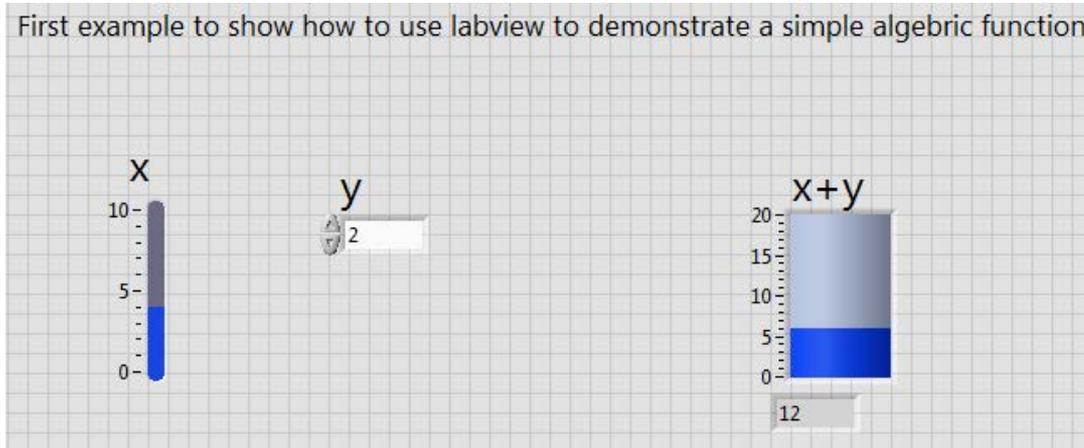
Tutorial 1: Simple Algebraic Equation

First example to show how to use labview to demonstrate a simple algebraic function

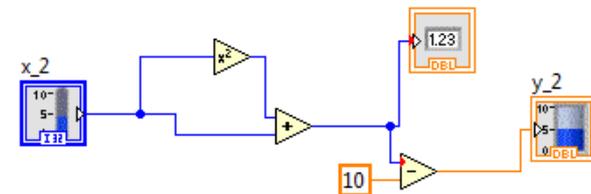
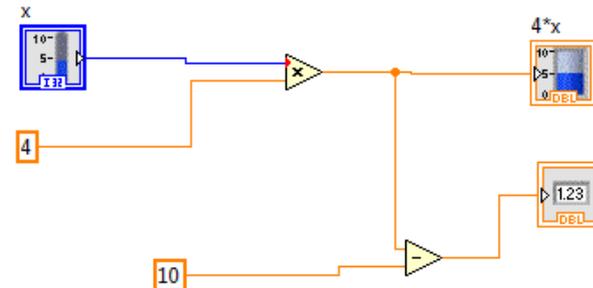
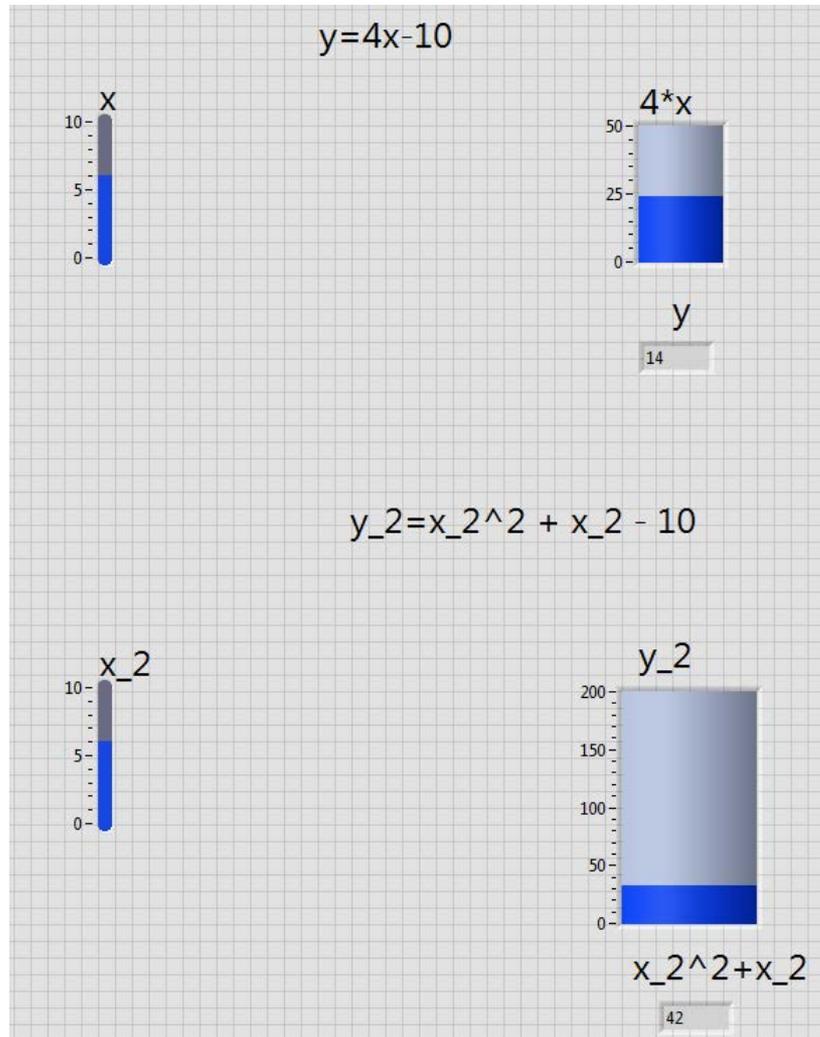


Tutorial 2: Simple Algebraic Equation

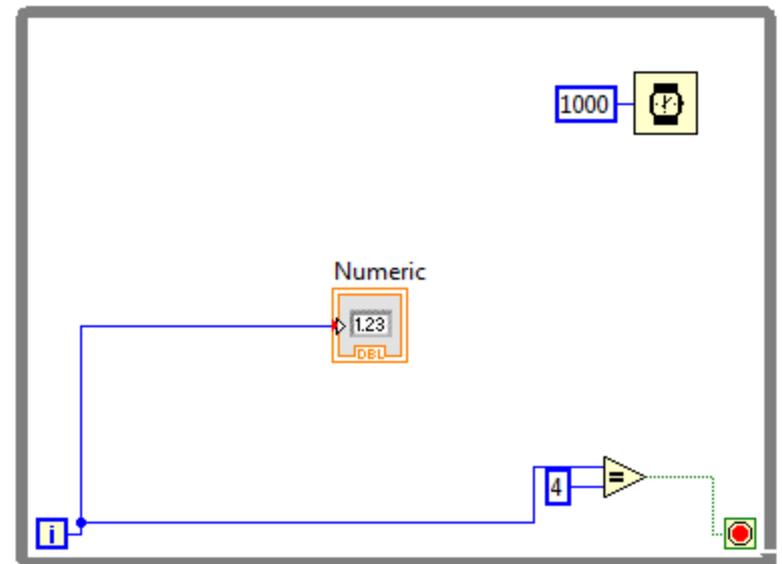
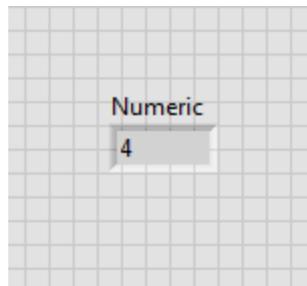
First example to show how to use labview to demonstrate a simple algebraic function



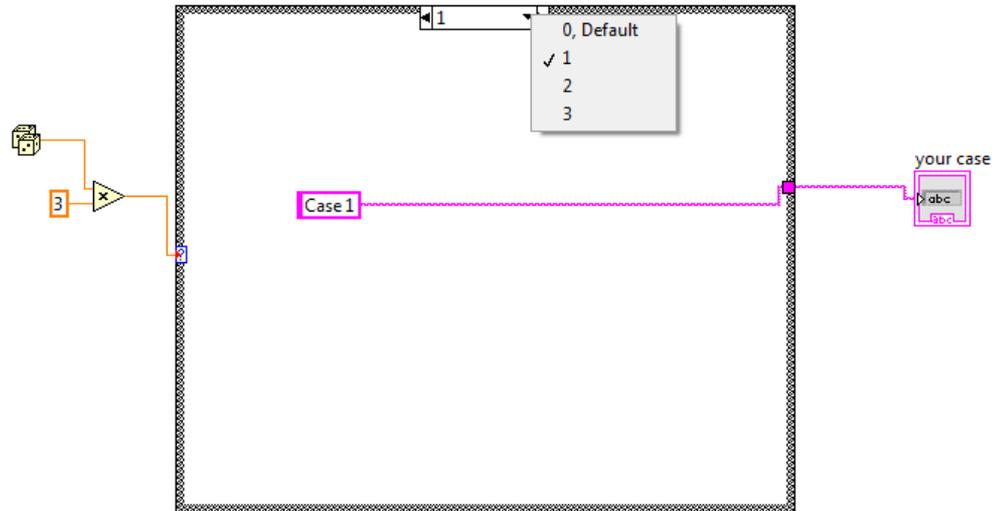
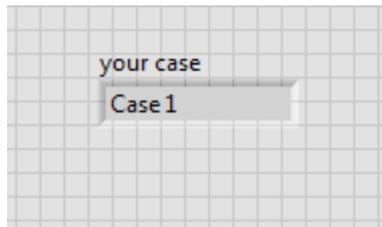
Tutorial 3: Parallel Computations



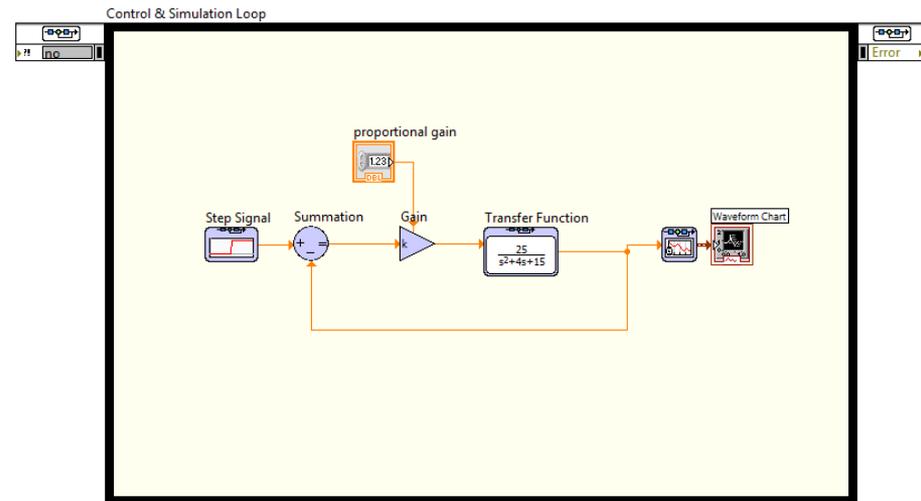
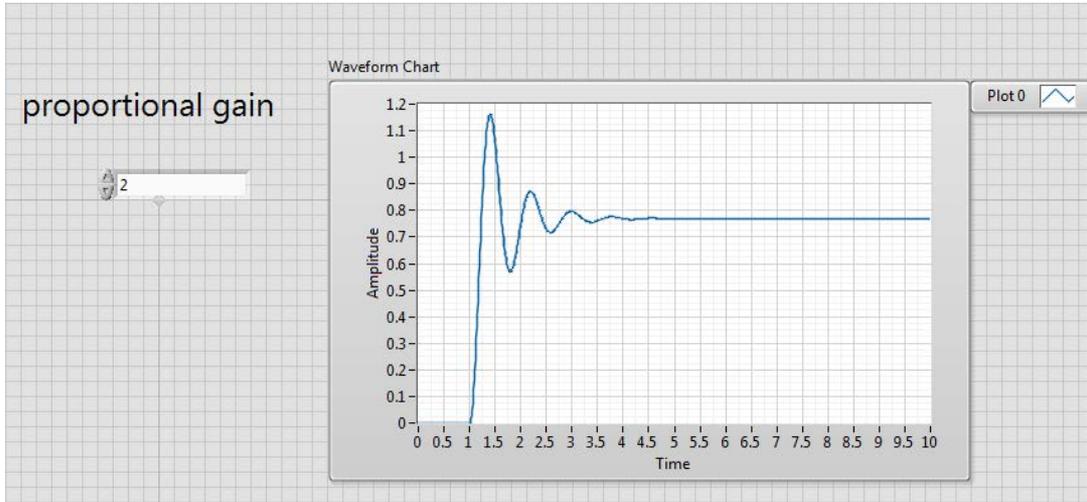
Tutorial 4: Loops



Tutorial 5: Case Statements



Tutorial 7: Control & Simulation Module



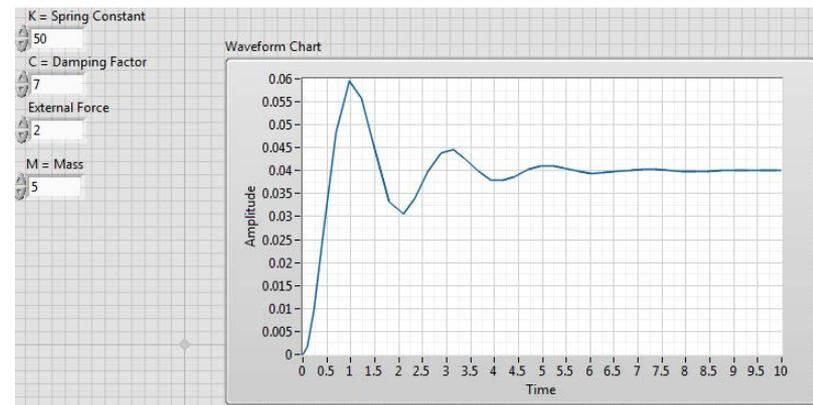
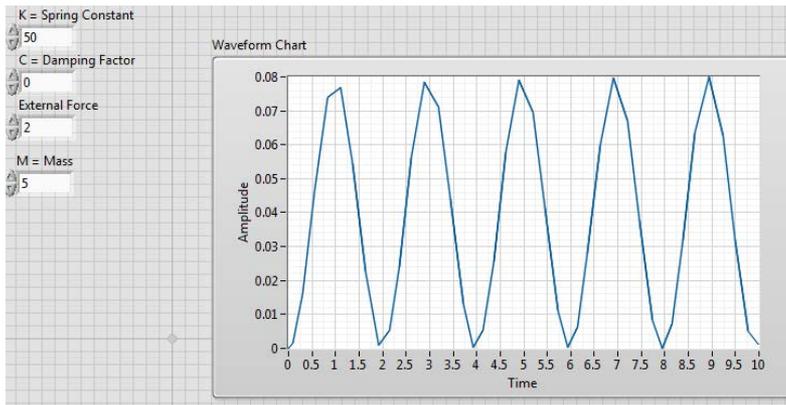
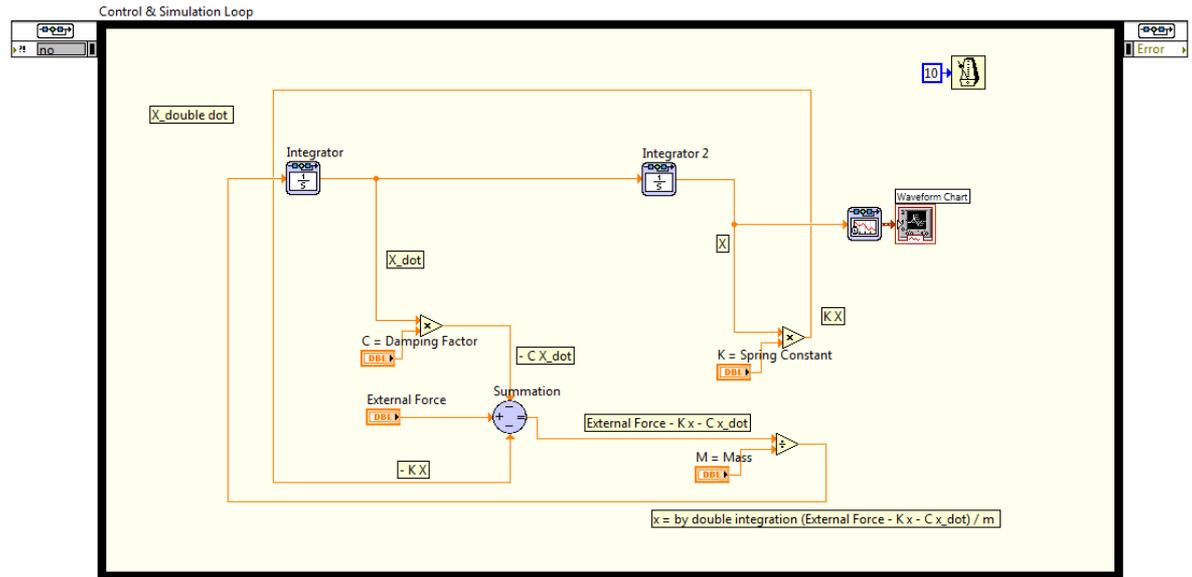
Tutorial 8: Differential Equations

$$m \ddot{x} + C \dot{x} + Kx = \text{External Force}$$

$$\ddot{x} = (\text{External Force} - Kx - C \dot{x}) / m$$

$$\dot{x} = \text{by integration} (\text{External Force} - Kx - C \dot{x}) / m$$

The response $x = \text{by double integration} (\text{External Force} - Kx - C \dot{x}) / m$



Part 2

NI myRIO

The Problem

- Today's tools do not let engineering students accomplish real projects within one semester

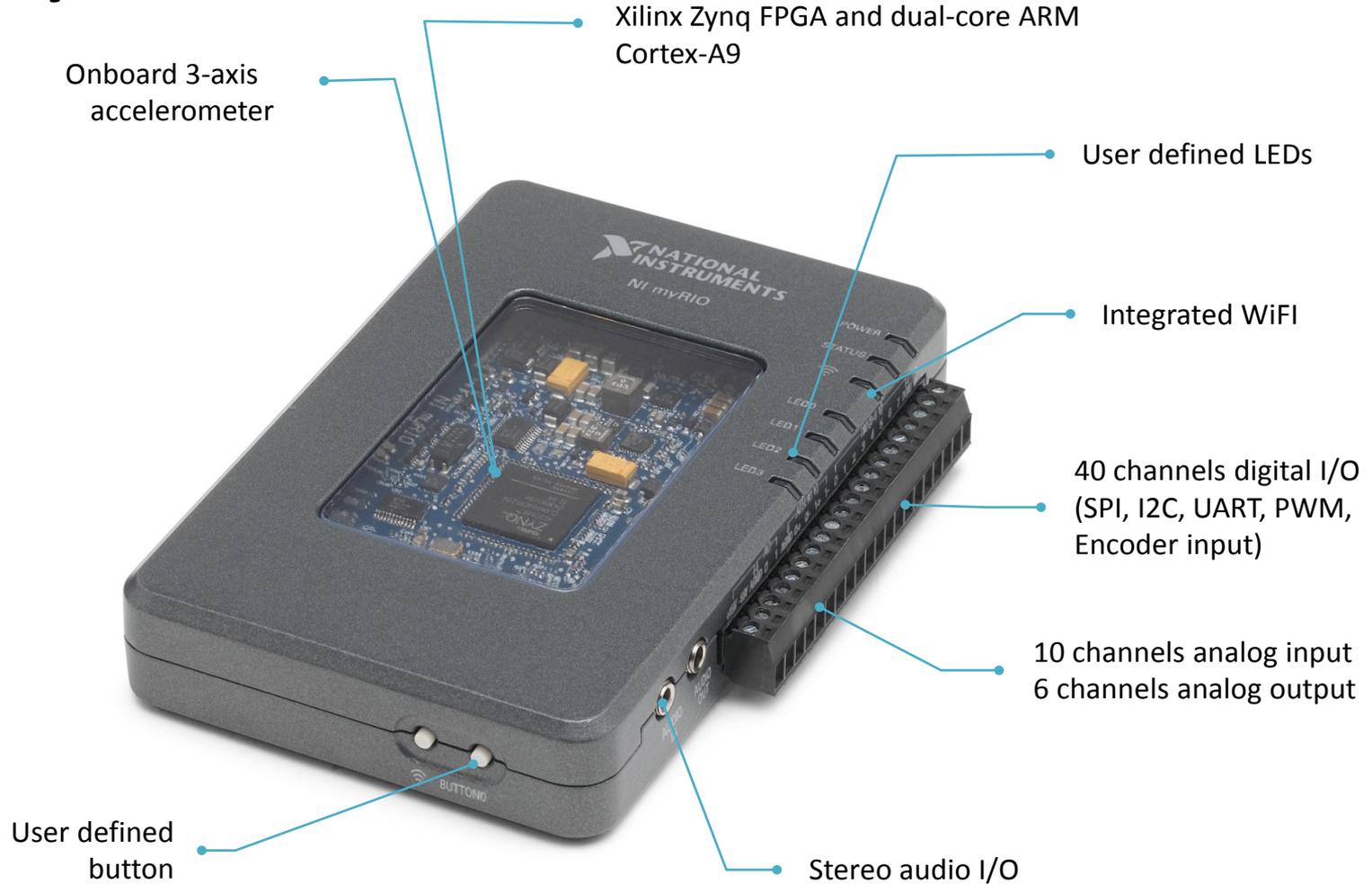
The Solution

- Students need a powerful hardware / software solution that allows them to get up to speed quickly

What is NI myRIO

- An embedded hardware / software device designed specifically to help students design real, complex engineering systems more quickly and affordably than ever before.

NI myRIO



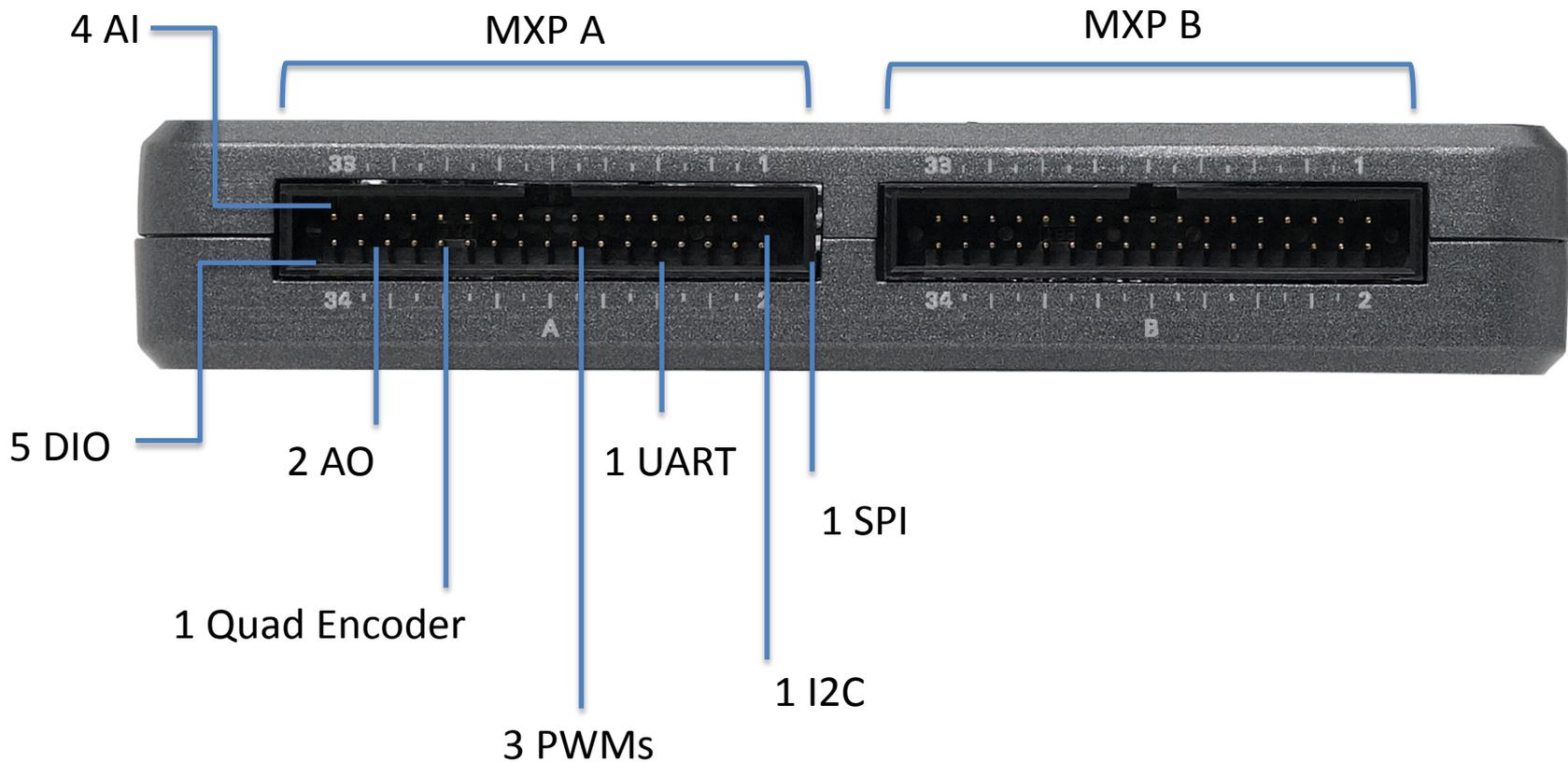
Additional Features



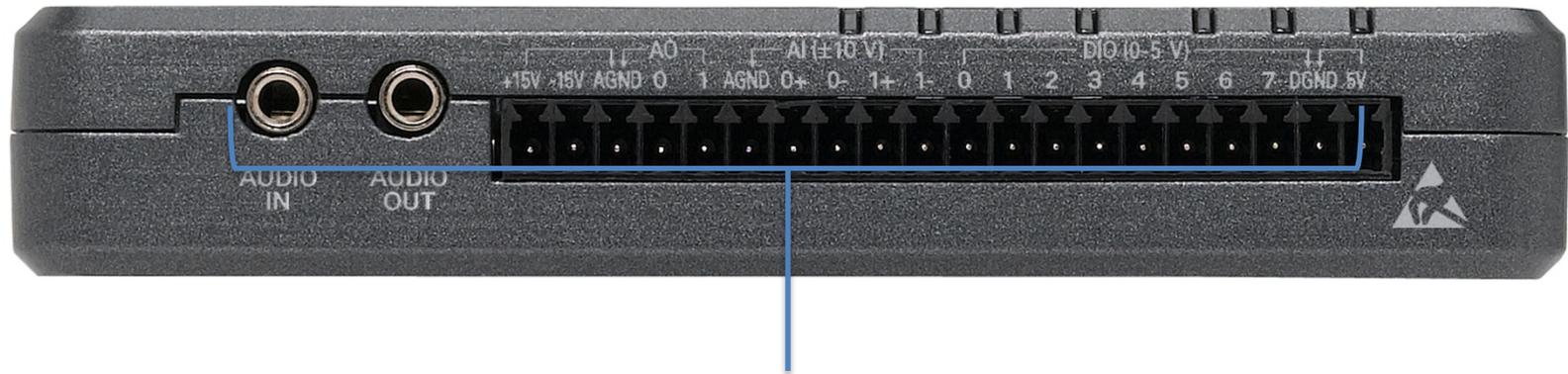
- Fully programmable FPGA through LabVIEW FPGA
- Dual-Core ARM Cortex-A9 processor
- Expandable ecosystem of sensors and actuators
- Ready to use projects and courseware
- Deploy code to real-time processor and FPGA via USB or WiFi
- Minutes to first measurement
- Processor programmable in C/C++

NI myRIO Expansion Port (MXP)

Identical Connectors



miniSystems Port (MSP)



Identical to NI myDAQ

RT Template VI

Main.vi Block Diagram on Untitled Project 12.lvproj/myRIO

File Edit View Project Operate Tools Window Help

15pt Application Font Search

You can configure the **Accelerometer** Express VI by double-clicking it. You can find other myRIO Express VIs in the **myRIO** palette.

Initialize Add data acquiring and processing code here Reset myRIO safely

#CodeNeeded - Add code to initialize your user interface and hardware here.

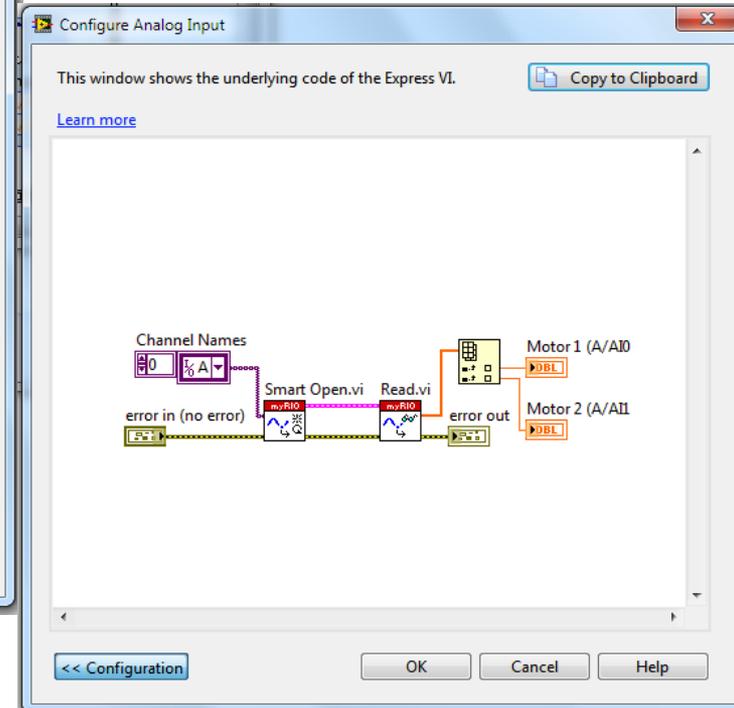
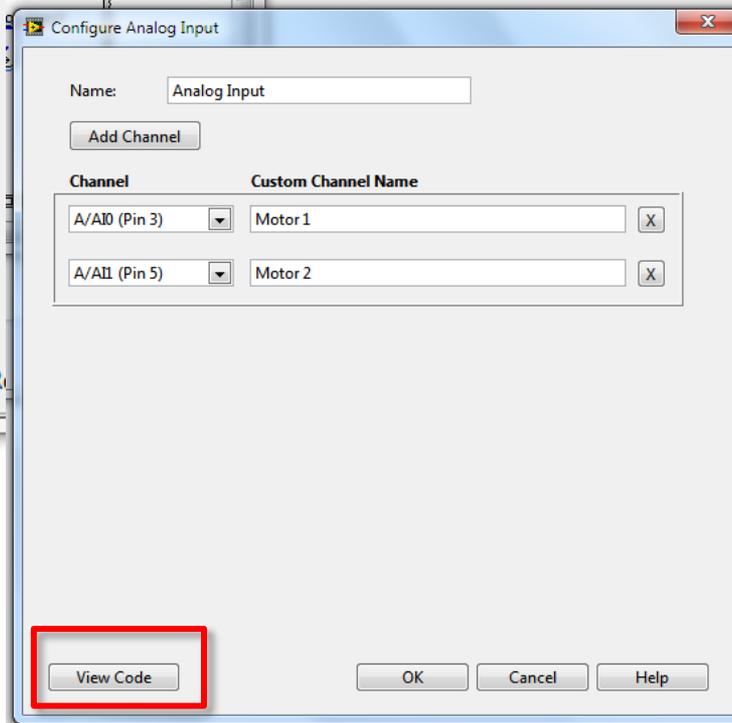
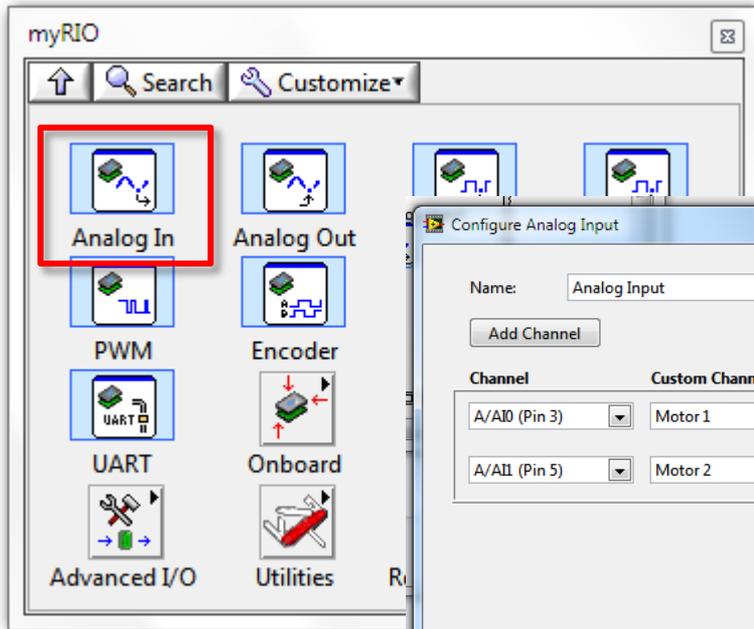
Accelerometer X-Axis Y-Axis Z-Axis

Waveform Chart

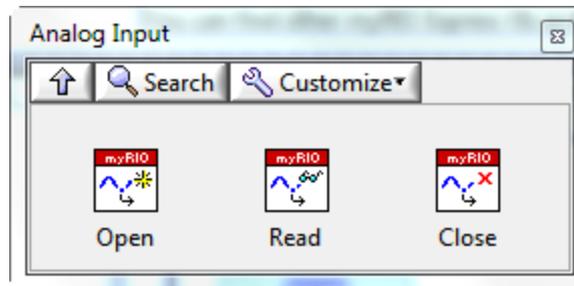
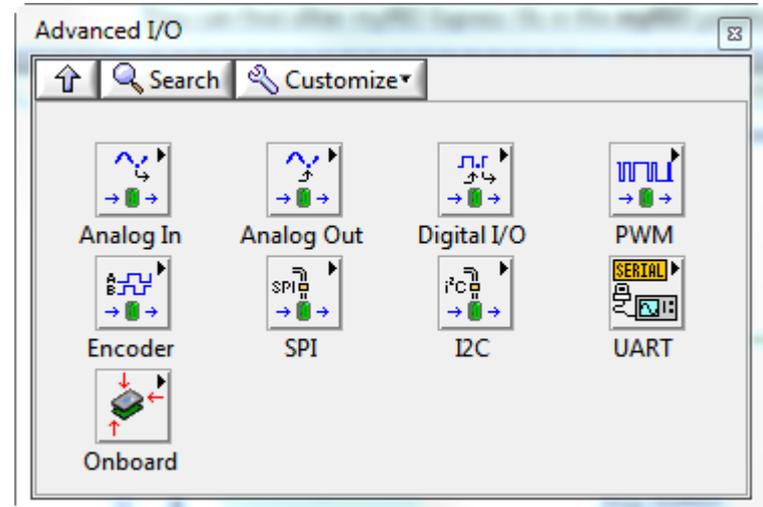
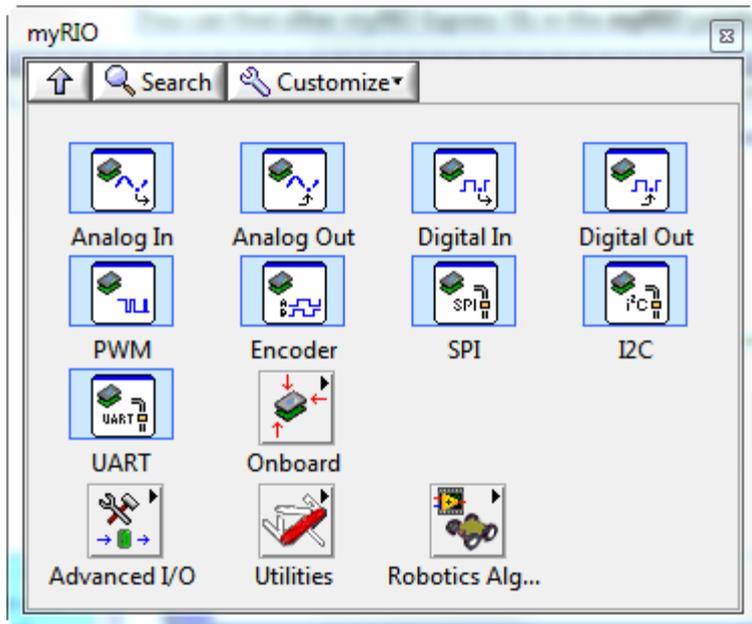
Stop Button OK TFL

myRIO

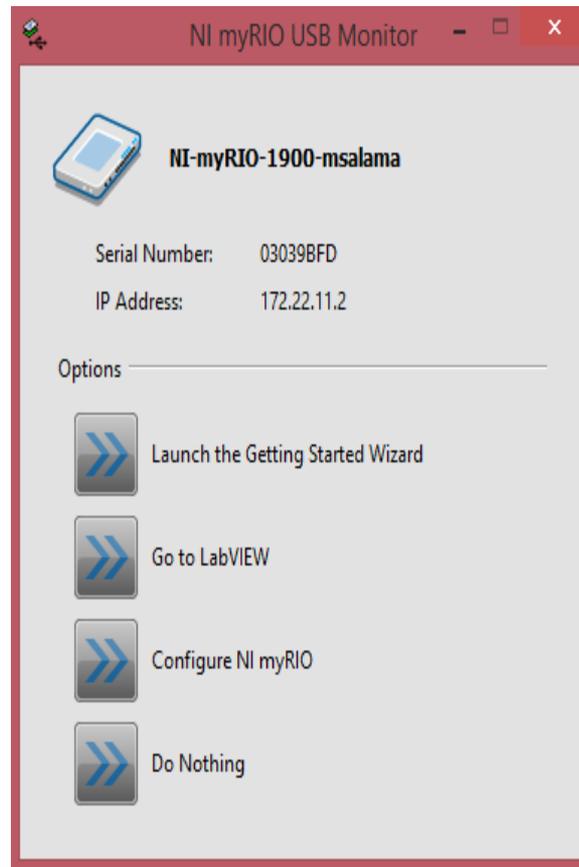
Express VIs to Advanced VIs **Open Source**

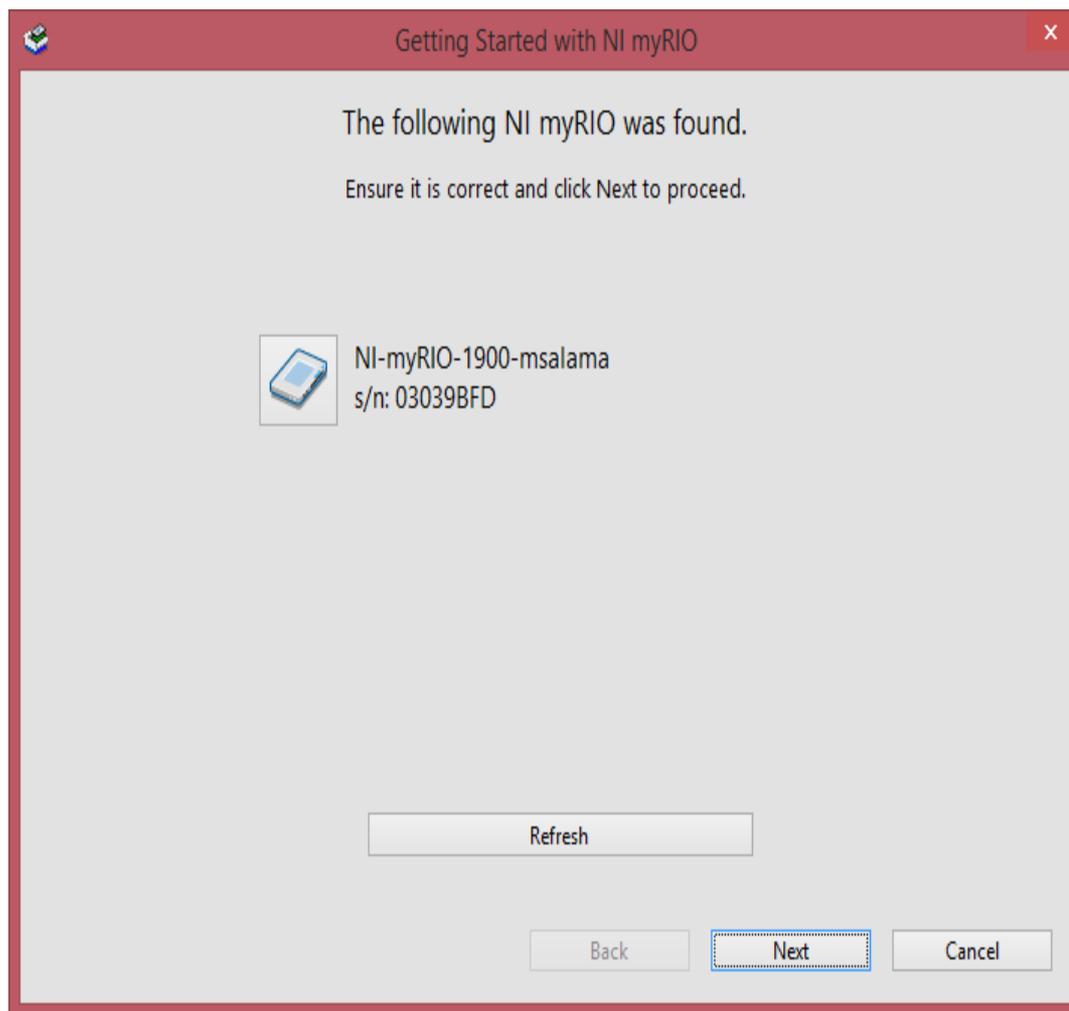


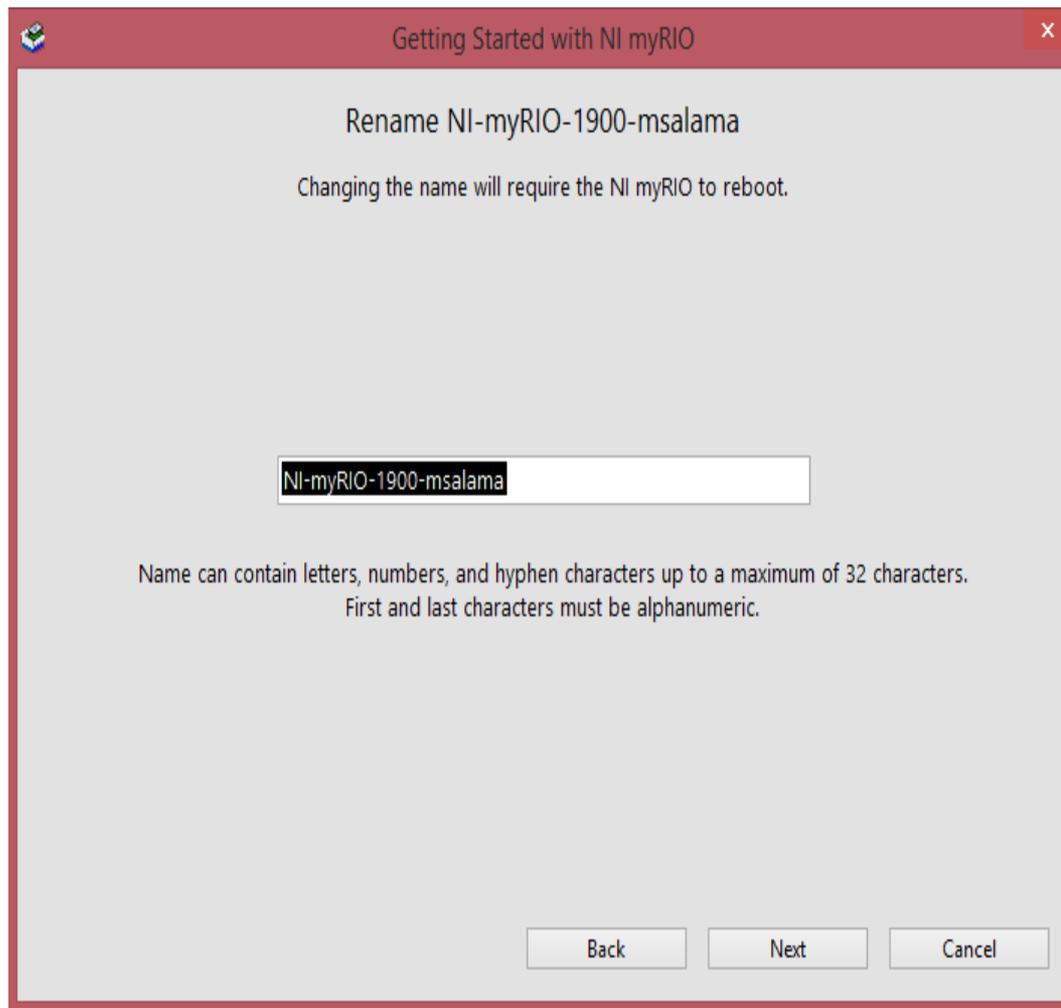
NI myRIO Palette



Connecting myRIO to your Computer







Getting Started with NI myRIO

Test your onboard devices

Follow the instructions to see the NI myRIO onboard devices working.

X-Axis



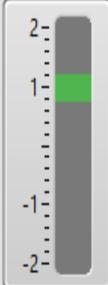
0.18 g

Y-Axis



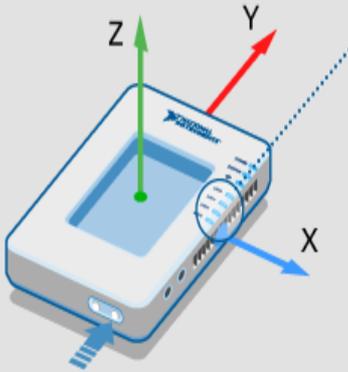
-0.03 g

Z-Axis



0.95 g

Rotate or shake the NI myRIO to see the X, Y, and Z acceleration values change.



Press the button on the NI myRIO to see the indicator light up.

Toggle the buttons above to change the LEDs on the NI myRIO.

Off

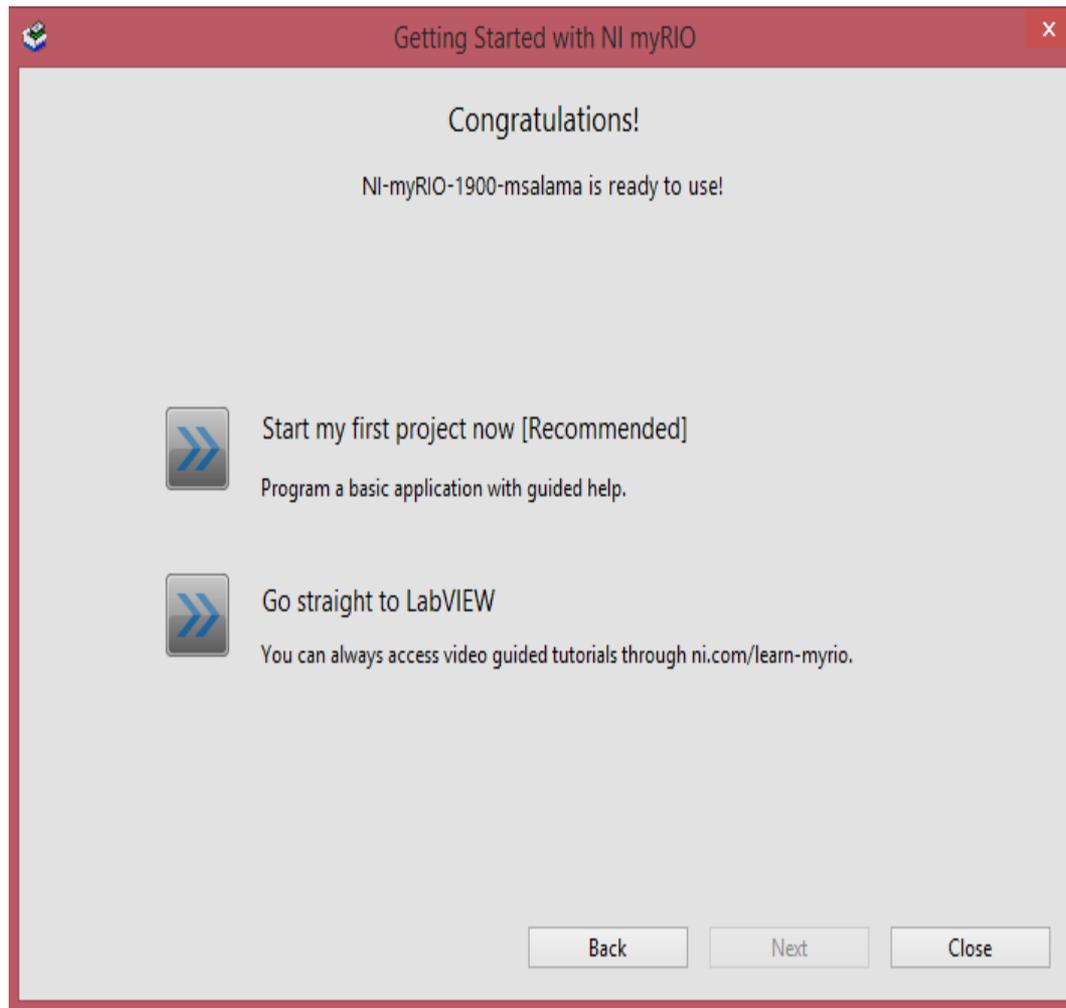
Off

On

On

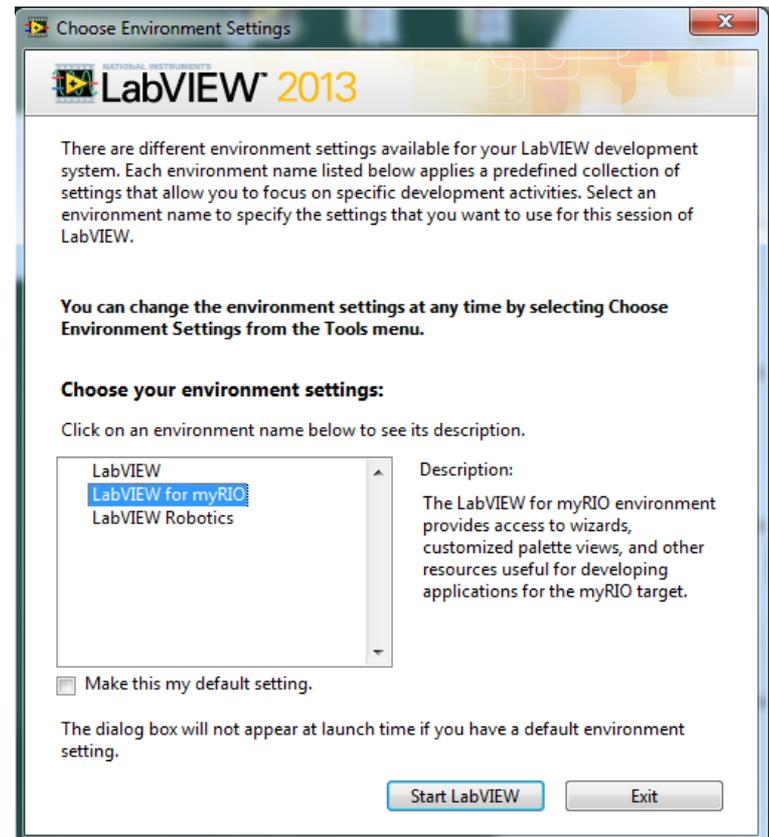
Back
Next
Close

Start my first project now [Recommended]



Choose Environment Settings

- Choose LabVIEW for myRIO.
- Then click **Start LabVIEW**.



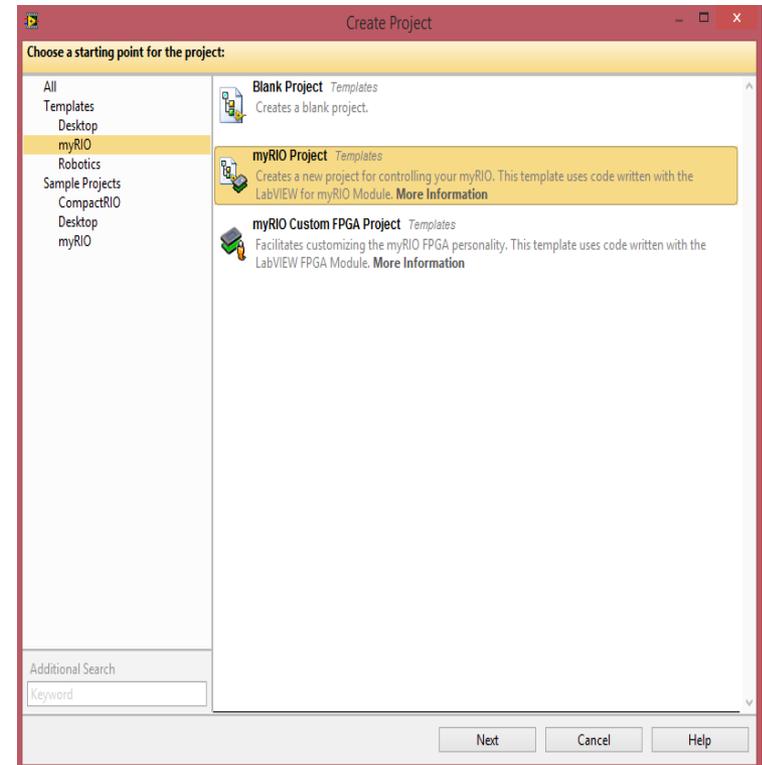
Part 1: Creating a myRIO Project

- Click **Create Project** from the **Getting Started** window of LabVIEW



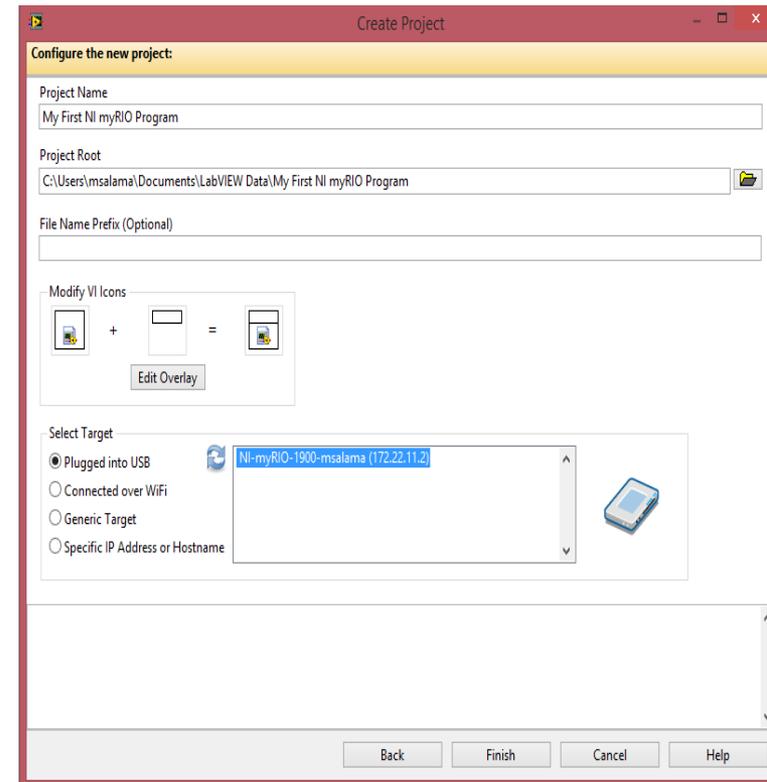
Part 1: Cont'd

- Select **Templates>>myRIO** and then select the **myRIO Project** template in the **Project List**.



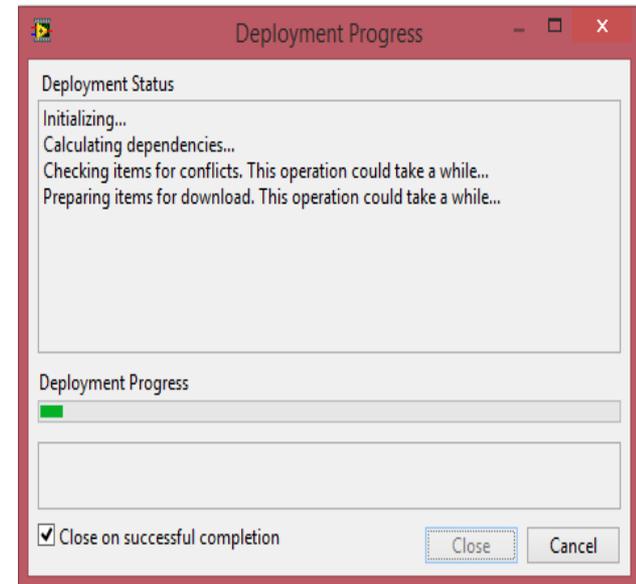
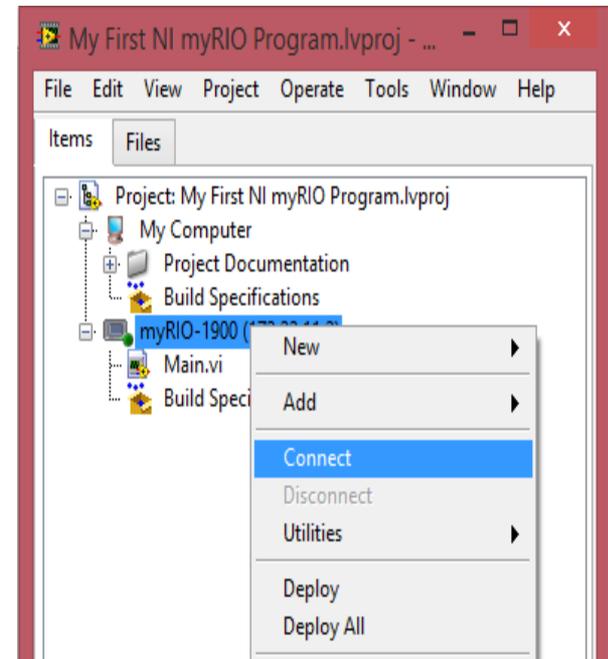
Part 1: Cont'd

- Enter My First NI myRIO Program under **Project Name**.
- Under **Project Root**, specify the directory into which you want to save the project. labVIEW will place all the project files and Vis in this directory.
- In **Select Target**, select the NI myRIO that you connected to your computer.
- Click **Finish**.



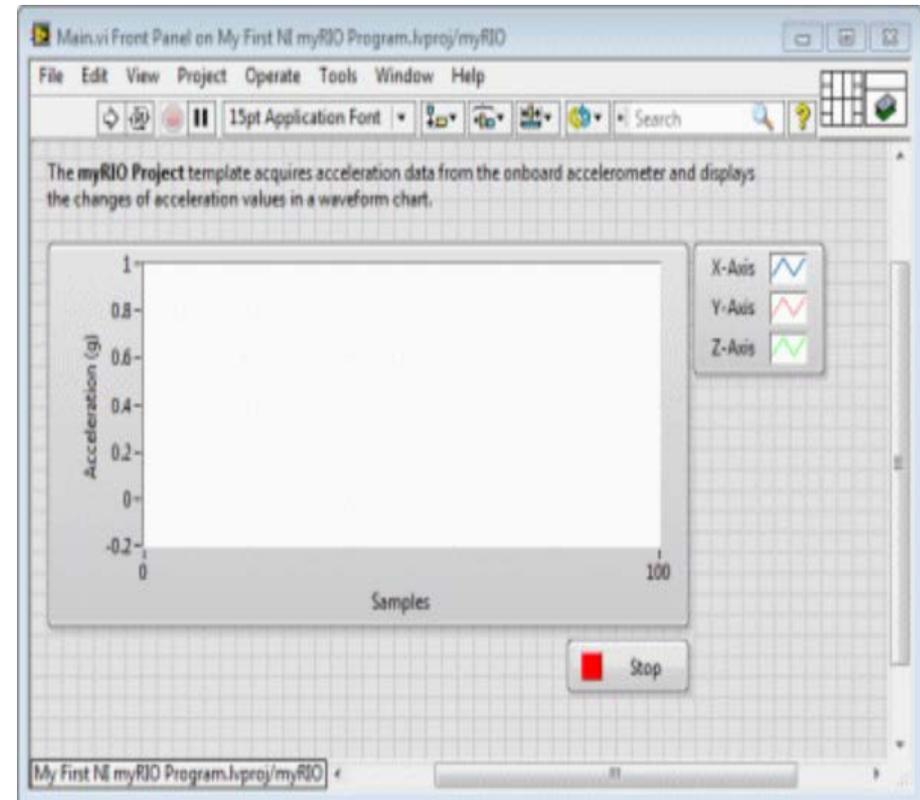
Part 1: Cont'd

- Explore the **Project Explorer** window. If you want to learn more details about this myRIO project, open myRIO Project Documentation.html under **Project Documentation**.
- You have successfully created a myRIO project. Proceed to the next tutorial to learn how you can create applications based on the myRIO project.



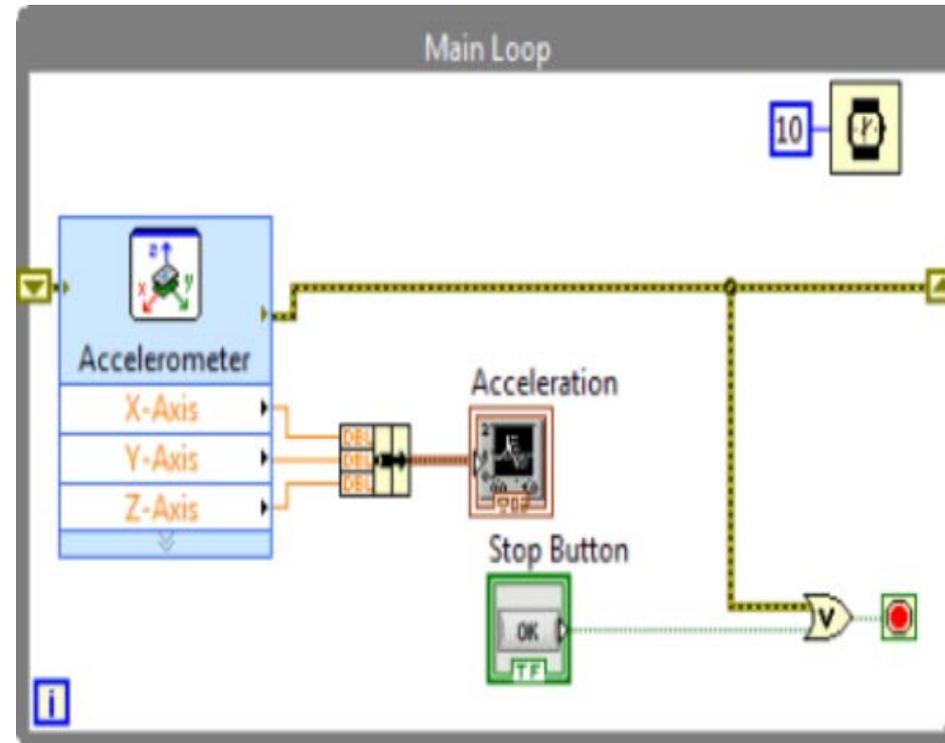
Part 2: Testing the Accelerometer

- NI myRIO contains an onboard accelerometer that can be used for general orientation and acceleration measurements.
- Open Main.vi from the **Project Explorer** window of your myRIO project. By default, LabVIEW opens the front panel of Main.vi. The front panel is the user interface of a VI.



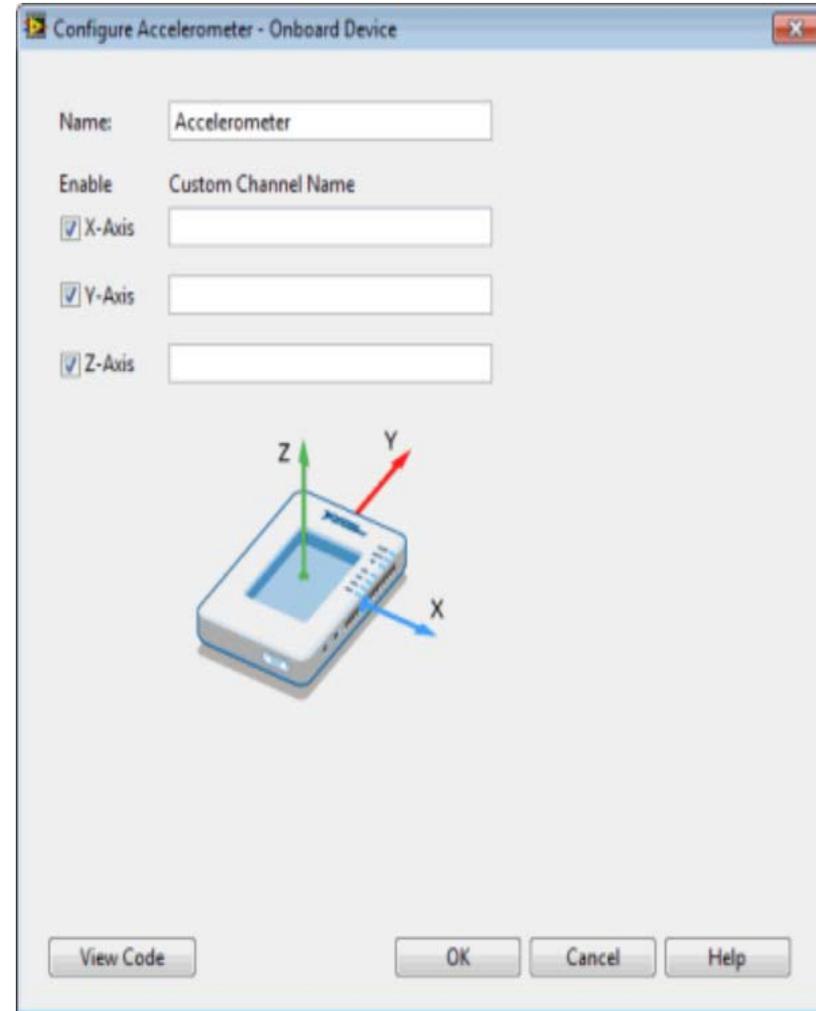
Part 2: Cont'd

- Press <Ctrl-E> to switch to the block diagram. The block diagram contains the graphical code of a VI. This VI uses the Accelerometer Express VI to read acceleration values from the onboard accelerometer and uses the waveform chart indicator to display the acceleration values



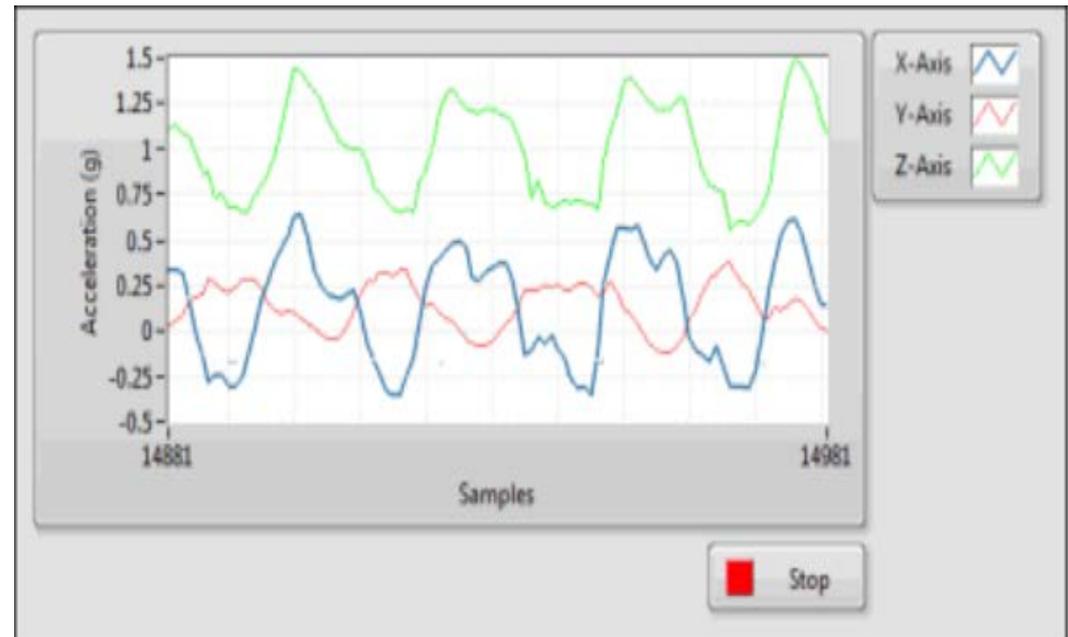
Part 2: Cont'd

- Double-click the Accelerometer Express VI to display the **Configure Accelerometer** dialog box.
- Press <Ctrl-H> to display the **Context Help** window. You can move the cursor over options in the dialog box and learn basic information about the options from the **Context Help** window. Most objects in LabVIEW display context help information.
- Click **OK** to apply your configuration.



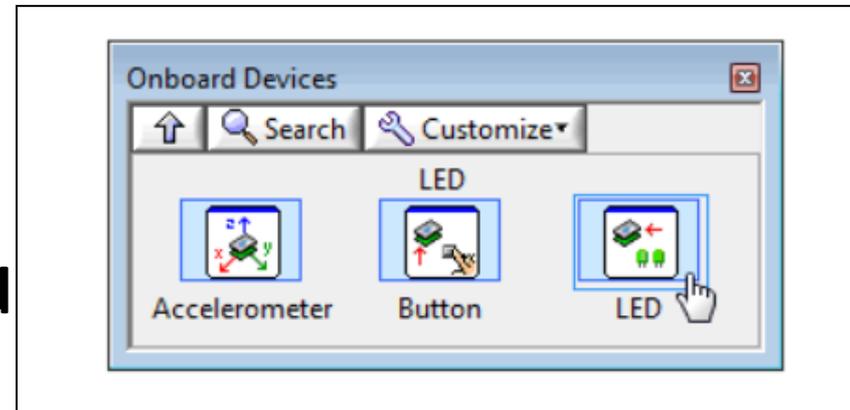
Part 2: Cont'd

- Press <Ctrl-E> to switch to the front panel and click **Run**. Rotate or shake your NI myRIO to see the changes of the X, Y, and Z acceleration values on the waveform chart.
- Click **Stop**.
- Click **File>>Save**.



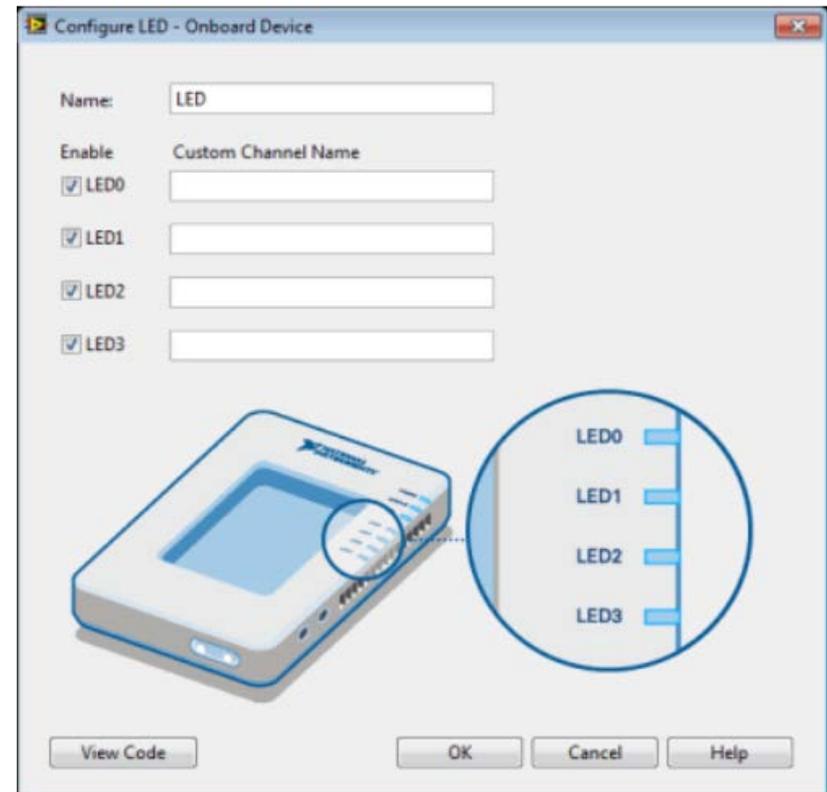
Part 3: Testing the LEDs

- In the block diagram window of Main.vi, click **View>> Functions Palette**. You can find all the myRIO VIs and LabVIEW functionality on the Functions palette.
- Select **Functions>>myRIO>>Onboard Devices** to locate the LED Express VI.
- Click the LED Express VI and add it to the While Loop in Main.vi.



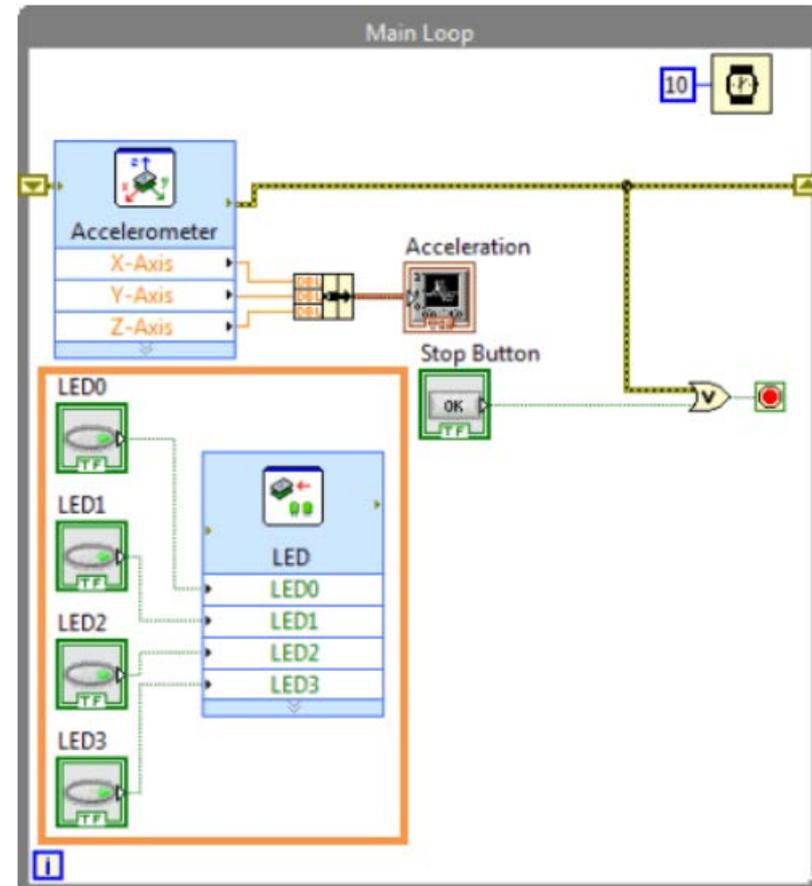
Part 3: Cont'd

- In the **Configure LED** dialog box, select the LEDs you want to test and click **OK**. in this tutorial, we will test all four onboard LEDs.



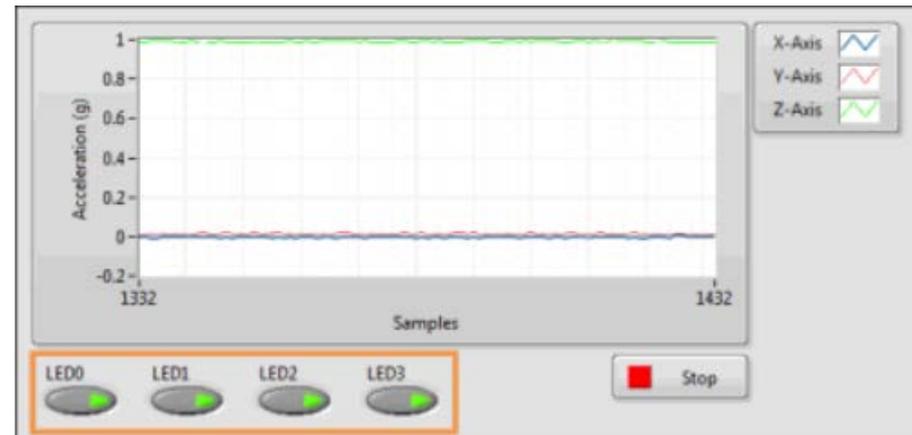
Part 3: Cont'd

- Right-click each block diagram input of the LED Express VI and select **Create>>Control** to create Boolean controls for the four LEDs. You can click a Boolean control to toggle between the TRUE and FALSE states, which determined the ON and OFF states of an onboard LED.



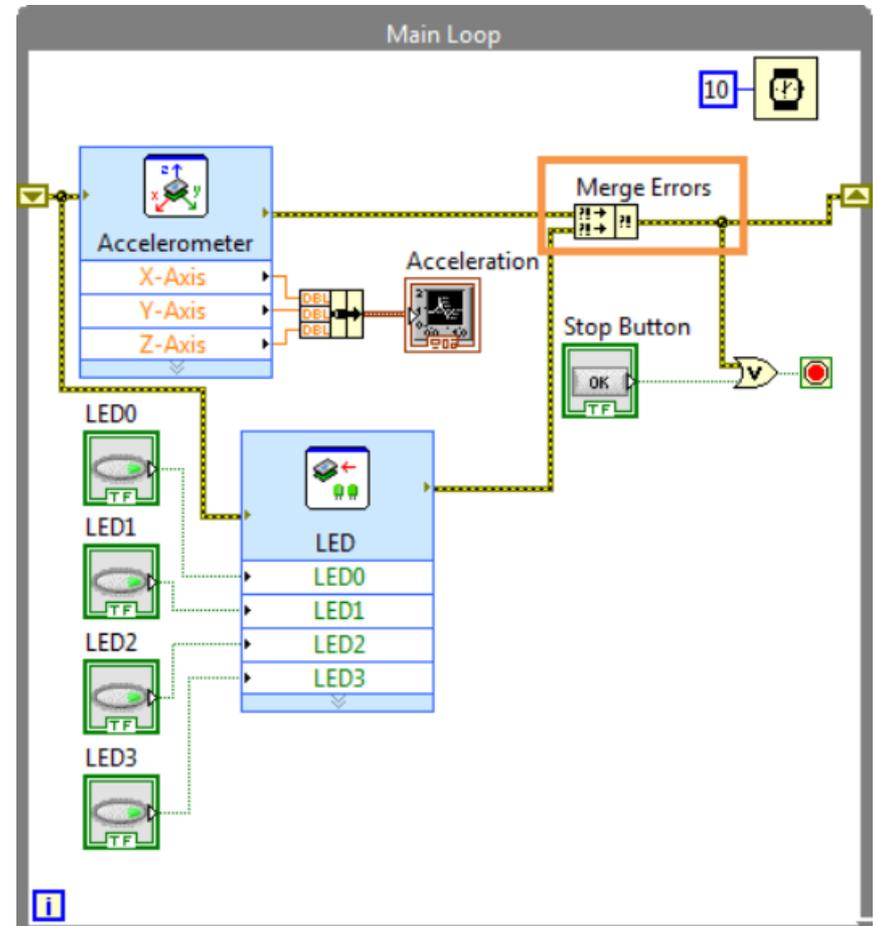
Part 3: Cont'd

- Press <Ctrl-E> to switch to the front panel. You can arrange the four Boolean controls in a layout that you like.
- Click **Run**.
- Click the four Boolean controls and see the status changes of the onboard LEDs.
- Click **Stop**.
- Click **File>>Save**.



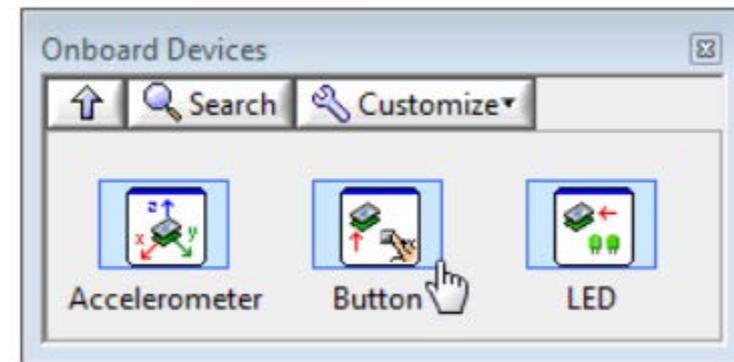
Error checking in LabVIEW

- Right now Main.vi stops if the Accelerometer Express VI returns an error. You need to add code to handle errors that the LED Express VI might return. You can use the Merge Errors function, available by selecting **Functions>>Programming>>Dialog & User Interface>> Merge Errors**, to merge errors from the Accelerometer and LED Express VIs.
- Error checking is important because it can tell you why and where errors occur.



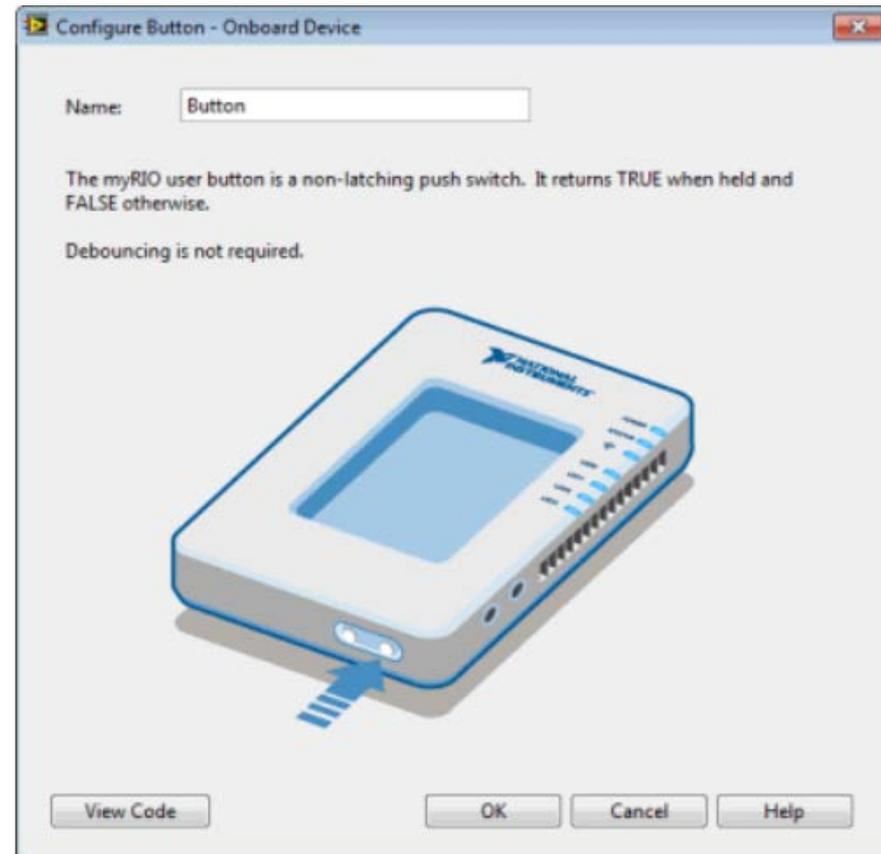
Part 4: Testing the Button

- In the block diagram window of Main.vi, click **View>>Functions Palette and select Functions>>myRIO>>Onboard Devices** to locate the button Express VI.
- Click the button Express VI and add it to the Whil Loop in Main.vi.



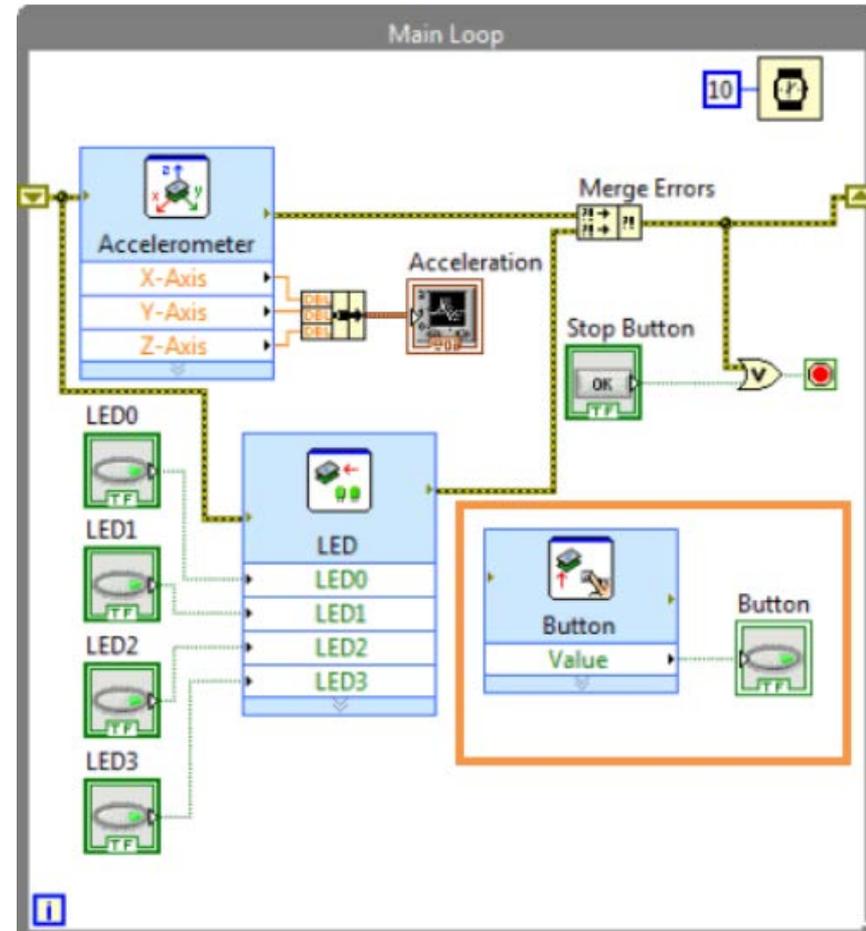
Part 4: Cont'd

- In the **Configure Button** dialog box, click **OK** to enable testing the user button.



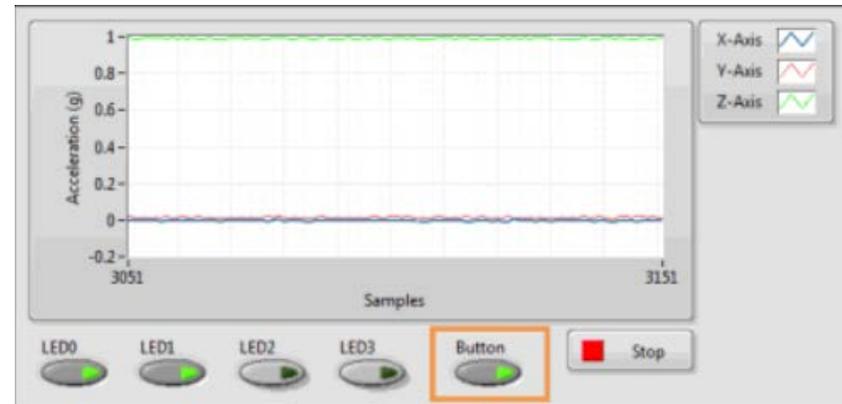
Part 4: Cont'd

- Right-click the **Value** output of the Button Express VI and select **Create>>Indicator** to create a Boolean indicator for the user button. The TRUE and FALSE states of the Boolean indicator represent the ON and OFF states of the user button.
- Rename the indicator as **Button**.
- (Optional) Add error checking for the Button Express VI.



Part 4: Cont'd

- Press <Ctrl-E> to switch to the front panel and click **Run**.
- Press the user button on the NI myRIO and observe the state change of the **Button** indicator.
- Click **Stop**.
- Click **File>>Save**.



Good job! You have successfully created a myRIO project and tested all the NI myRIO onboard devices. You're ready to get started creating applications of your own!

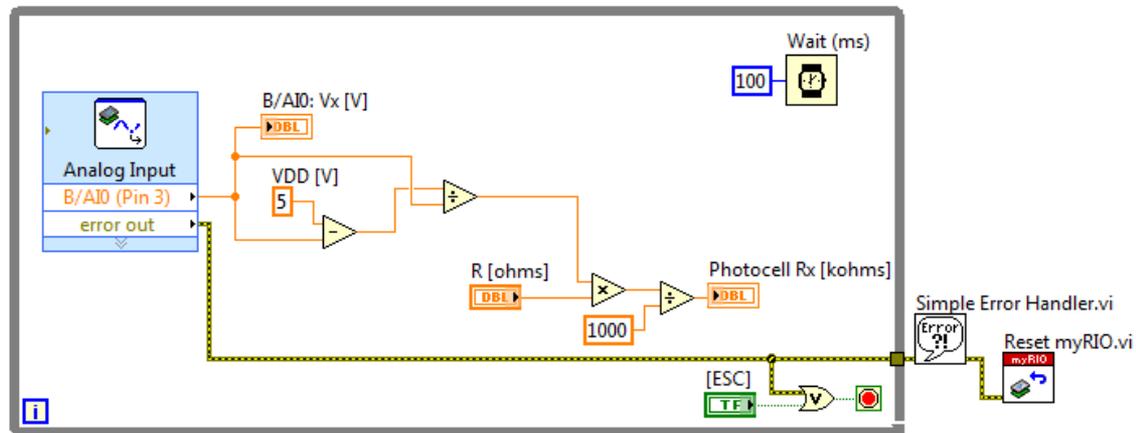
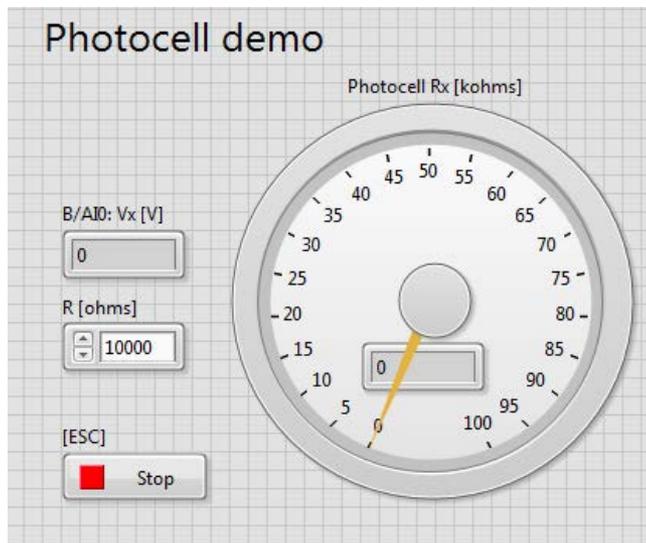
- **Helpful resources**
 - **myRIO Module Help**
 - You can access this help file by selecting **Help»LabVIEW Help** from LabVIEW.
 - **Templates and Sample Projects**
 - You can customize templates and sample projects according to the needs of your application. In LabVIEW, select **File»Create Project** to display the **Create Project** dialog box. Look for the templates and sample projects under the **myRIO** categories.

Tutorial: Photo Cell Demo

See the "Photocell" chapter of the "NI myRIO Project Essentials Guide" for operating instructions and more information: <http://www.ni.com/myrio/project-guide>

Target device = myRIO

July 31, 2013



Part 3

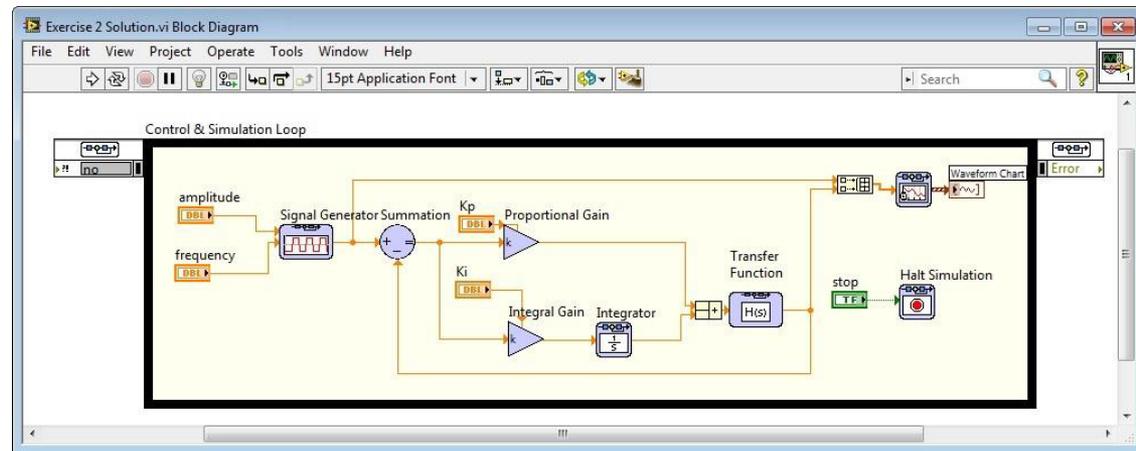
NI myRIO Examples using Control Design and Simulation
Toolkit

Introduction

- Control design is a process that involves developing mathematical models that describe a physical system, analyzing the models to learn about their dynamics characteristics, and creating a controller to achieve certain dynamic characteristics.
- Control systems are traditionally modeled as block diagrams.

Introduction

- CD&SIM contains a control and simulation loop, which is essentially a while loop with additional functionality for controls running in the background, including various ODE solvers.
- Once a controller has been analysed in simulation, the simulated plant can be replaced with actual I/O pins.



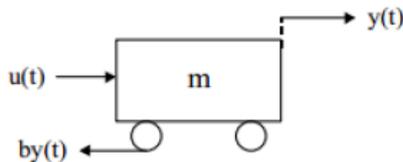
Example 1: RC Circuit Modeling and Simulation

NI myRIO Examples using Control Design and Simulation
Toolkit

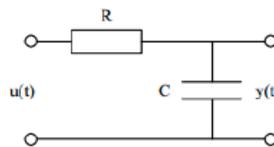
Develop a simulated control system that executes on the development machine

- Create a simple PI controller to control a voltage across the capacitor.
- We will model the RC circuit using a simple 1st order transfer function.
- The input is $u(t)$ and the output is $y(t)$.
- RC circuit time constant = 2.5.

Example: 1st Order Mechanical system



Example: 1st Order Electrical system

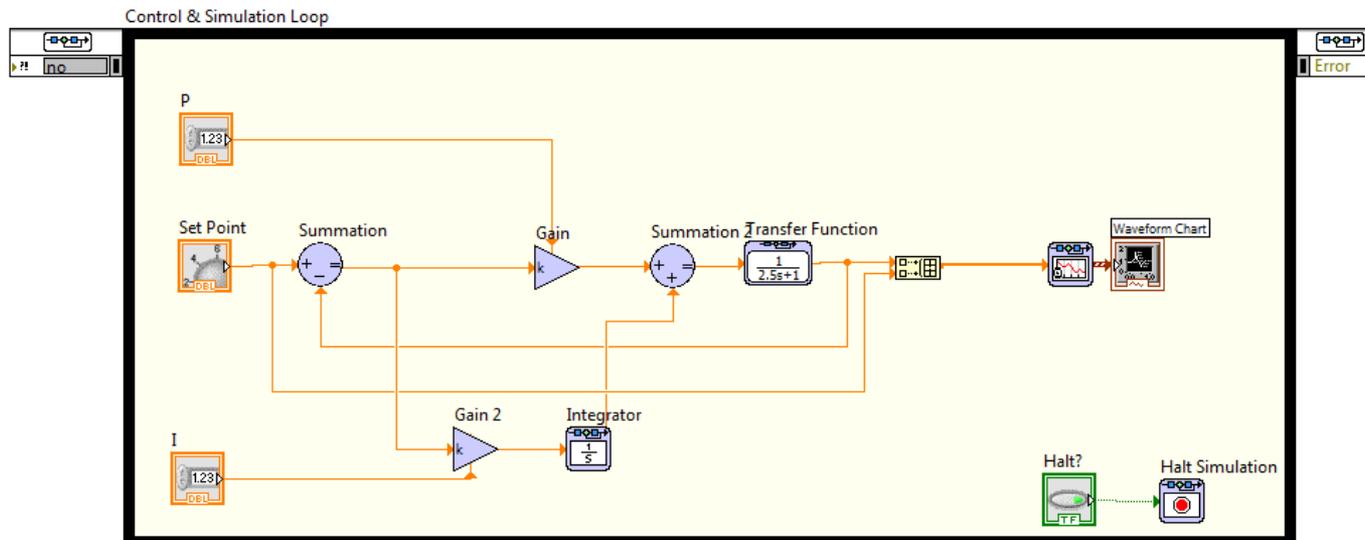
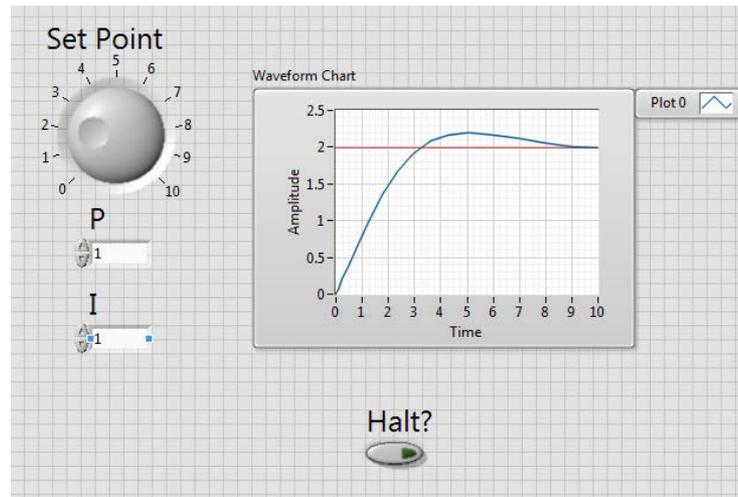


$$H_C(s) = \frac{V_C(s)}{V_{in}(s)} = \frac{1}{1 + RCs}$$

Steps

1. To save time we have provided a starting point for the application. Select **File» Open Project** and navigate to L\ME360\Section2C\Lecture\LabVIEW Lecture\Lecture 3\RC circuit\RC circuit.vi.
2. This will execute the VI on the development machine rather than the myRIO.
3. To execute on the myRIO, select File>> RC circuit.lvproj when the myRIO is connected to the computer machine using USB cable.

Front panel and Block diagram

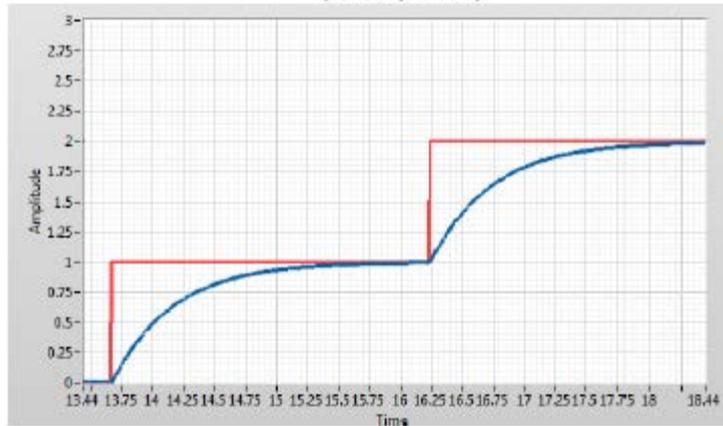


Steps

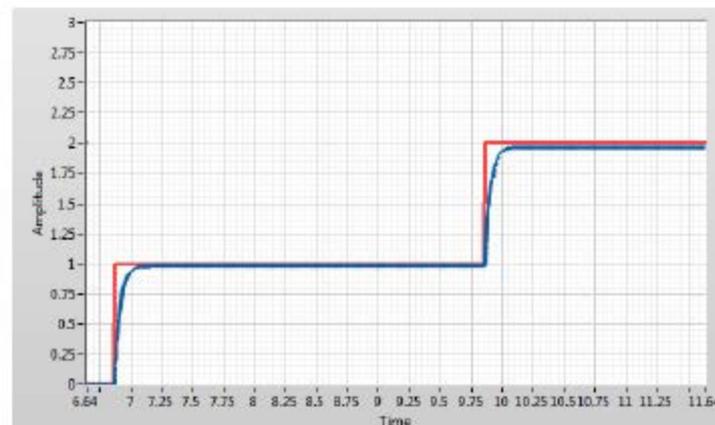
- The application is now complete. **Save** the application, switch to the front panel, and click **Run**. Remember that this application is now running on the host processor.
- While the application is executing, try interacting with the set point control and experimenting with the control gain values.

Results

Using the modest default gains
($P=5$, $I=2$)

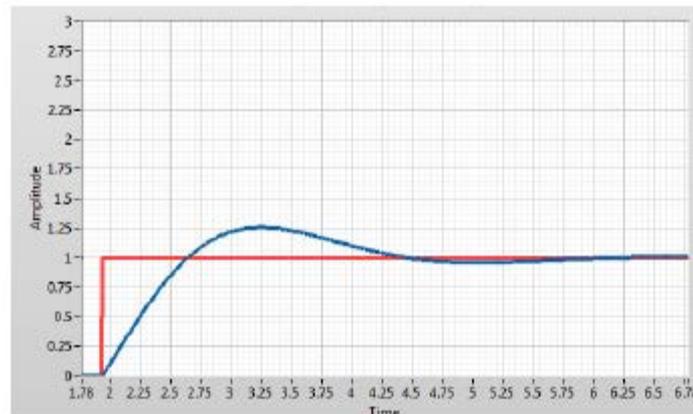


Increasing P causes a faster response, but can cause instabilities and oscillations
($P=50$, $I=2$)



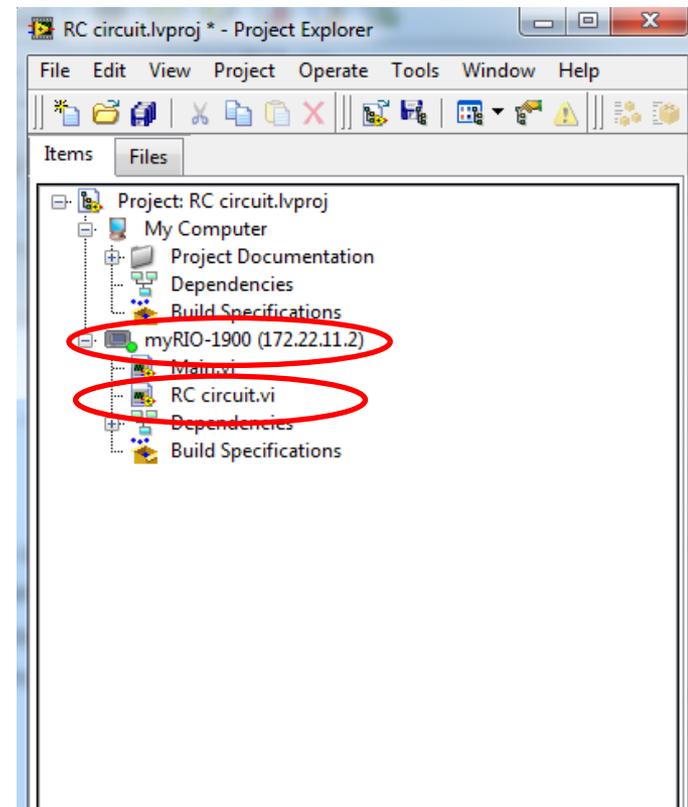
Results

Increasing I decreases steady state error, but can increase overshoot and settling time
($P=4, I=10$)



Develop a simulated control system that executes on the myRIO processor

- Select **File» Open Project** and navigate to L\ME360\Section2C\Lecture\Lab VIEW Lecture\Lecture 3\RC circuit\RC circuit.lvproj.
- Right click on myRIO to connect.
- Double click on RC circuit.vi to deploy the code on myRIO processor.



Example 2: DC Motor Simulation Control using PID

NI myRIO Examples using Control Design and Simulation
Toolkit

PID Control

- Proportional Integral Derivative (PID) is one of the most commonly used control algorithms due its ease of use and minimal required knowledge of the system or plant to be controlled.
- National Instruments provides ready-to-run, advanced (PID) control algorithms with the NI LabVIEW PID Control Toolkit. Combined with the LabVIEW Control Design & Simulation Module, the LabVIEW PID Control Toolkit can help you simulate and tune your PID controllers without implementing them in real-world systems, thus avoiding possible problems such as instability during application development.

Objective

- In this tutorial, learn how to use the LabVIEW PID Control Toolkit with the LabVIEW Control Design & Simulation Module and design the PID gains for the position controller of a DC motor in a Real-Time system.

DC Motor Modeling

- In this tutorial, we will design the velocity controller for a DC motor. For the sake of simplicity consider a basic transfer function for a DC motor where effects such as friction and disturbances are being considered:

$$\frac{\Phi(s)}{V(s)} = \frac{\frac{K}{JL}}{s^2 + \left(\frac{JR + BL}{JL}\right)s + \frac{BR + K^2}{JL}}$$

DC Motor Modeling

- Where
- $\Phi(s)$ is the angular velocity (rad/sec)
- $V(s)$ is applied voltage (V)
- J is the rotor inertia ($9.64E-6$)
- R is the rotor resistance (3.3Ω)
- K is the torque constant (0.028 N-m/A)
- L is the Inductance ($4.64E-3 \text{ H}$)
- B is the Friction Torque Constant ($1.8E-6 \text{ N-m-s}$)

DC Motor Modeling

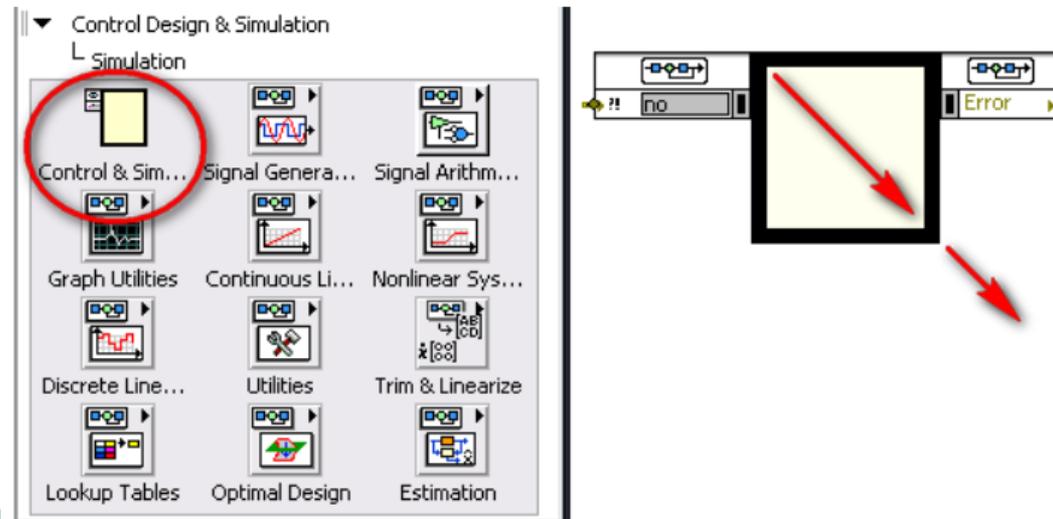
- If you replace the numeric values, you get the following transfer function:

$$G(s) = \frac{3.5276 \cdot 10^6}{s^2 + 1591.46s + 109711}$$

- Your goal is to implement a PID algorithm that is going to run on a Real-Time controller with a loop rate of 1000 Hz (0.001 second period).

Step 1

- Start by opening the LabVIEW Development Environment and navigating to the Block Diagram. On the Functions Palette, select *Control Design & Simulation*->*Simulation*->*Control & Simulation Loop* then click and drag to size and create a **Control & Simulation Loop**.



Step 2

- Again on the *Simulation* subpalette, select *Continuous Linear Systems* and click once on *Transfer Function* and once inside the Control & Simulation Loop you created previously. This places a Transfer Function block inside the Control & Simulation Loop. Now double-click on the Transfer Function block to input the transfer function parameters.

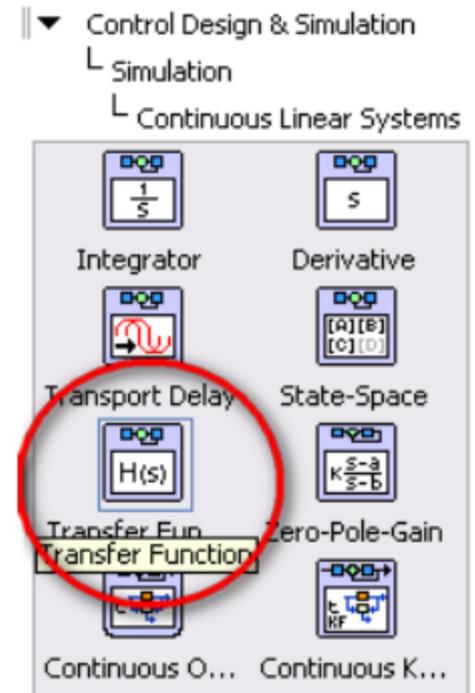


Figure 2. Select a Transfer Function.

Step 3

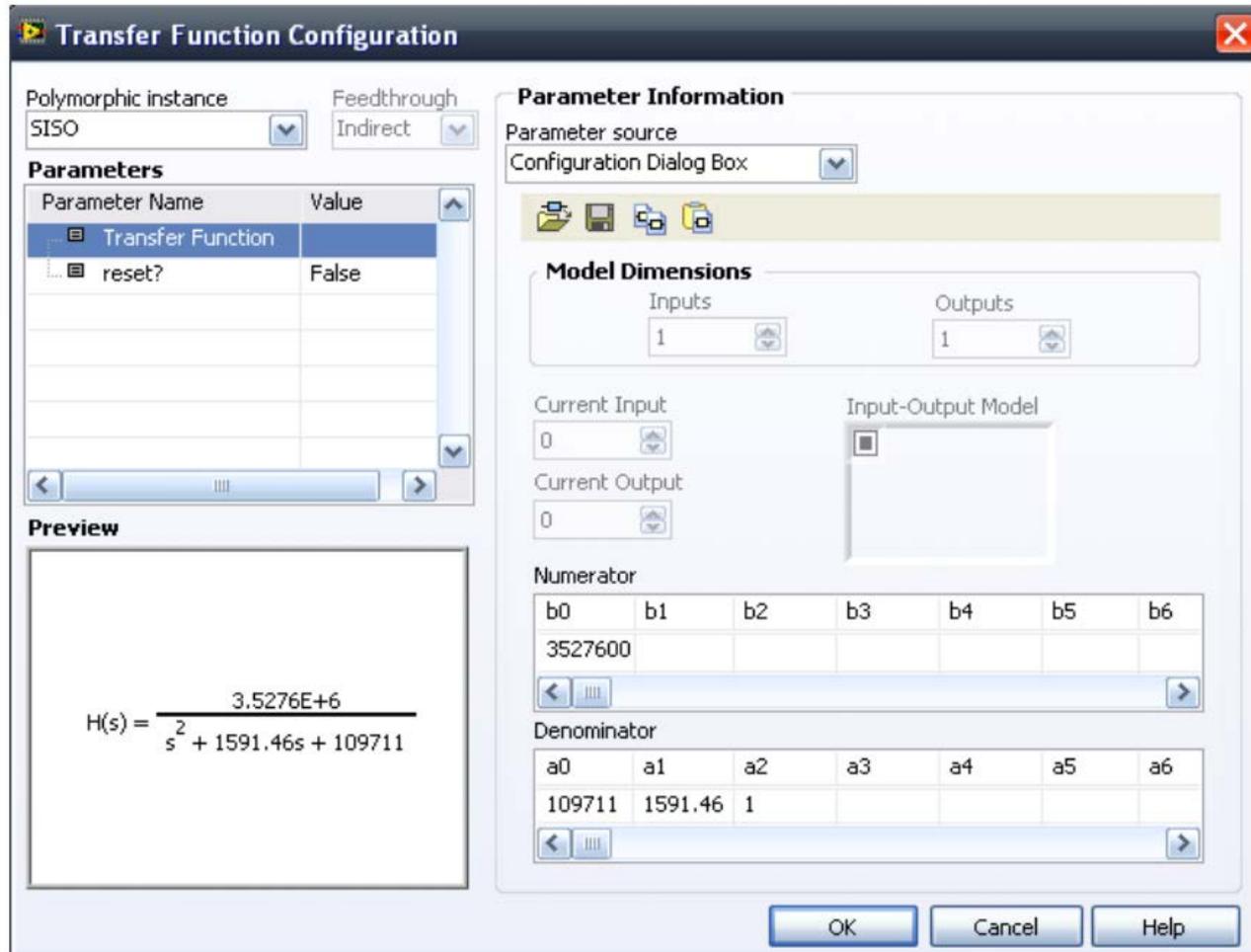
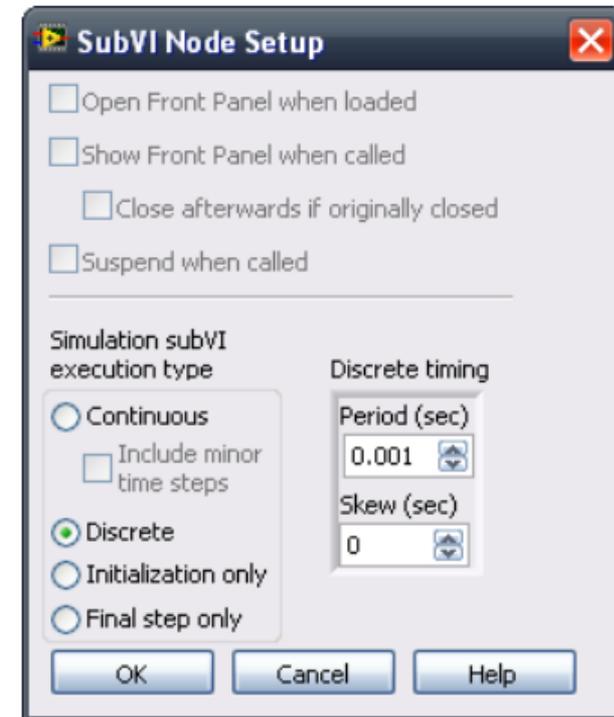


Figure 3. Input Transfer Function parameters.

Step 4: Implement the PID algorithm

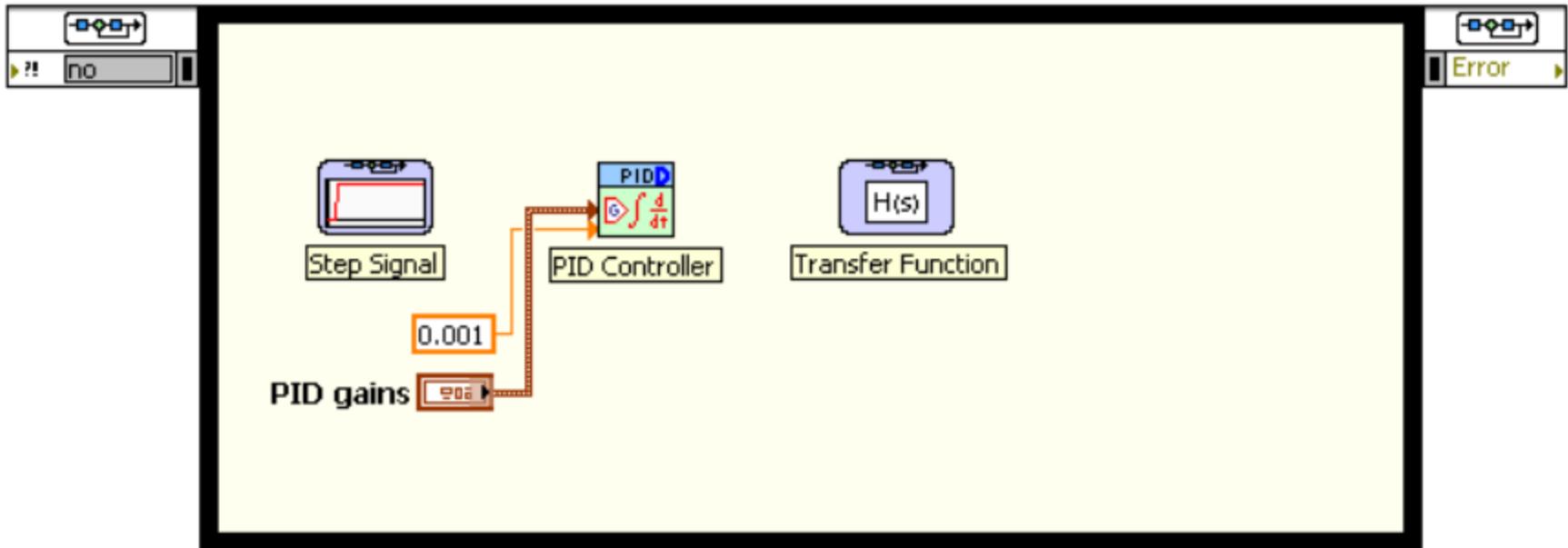
- On the function palette, select the *Control Design & Simulation*->*PID* subpalette and drag and drop the **PID.vi** into the Control & Simulation Loop.
- Because the PID algorithm is going to run on a Real-Time based operating system with a fixed loop rate, right-click on the **PID.vi** and select *SubVI Node Setup....* to bring up a configuration dialog window.
- You can use this window to configure the simulation loop to handle timing with this particular VI.
- Assume the controller is going to run at a 1000 Hz loop rate, so select *discrete* with a period value of 0.001 seconds.



Step 4: Implement the PID algorithm

- The “D” that appears on the PID VI indicates that it is being handled as a discrete system.
- Run the cursor over the PID VI until you are on top of the *PID Gains Terminal* (you might type CTRL+H to Show Context Help if you cannot find it). Right-click and select *Create->Control*. This creates a control on the Front Panel that you can use to change the PID gains interactively. Finally, right-click on the *dt(s)* terminal and create a constant. This should be the same as the digital period you created previously, 0.001 seconds.
- To create an input signal, use a step signal. From *Control Design & Simulation->Simulation->Signal Generation*, select *Step Signal* and drop it into the simulation loop. Leave parameters as they are configured by default.

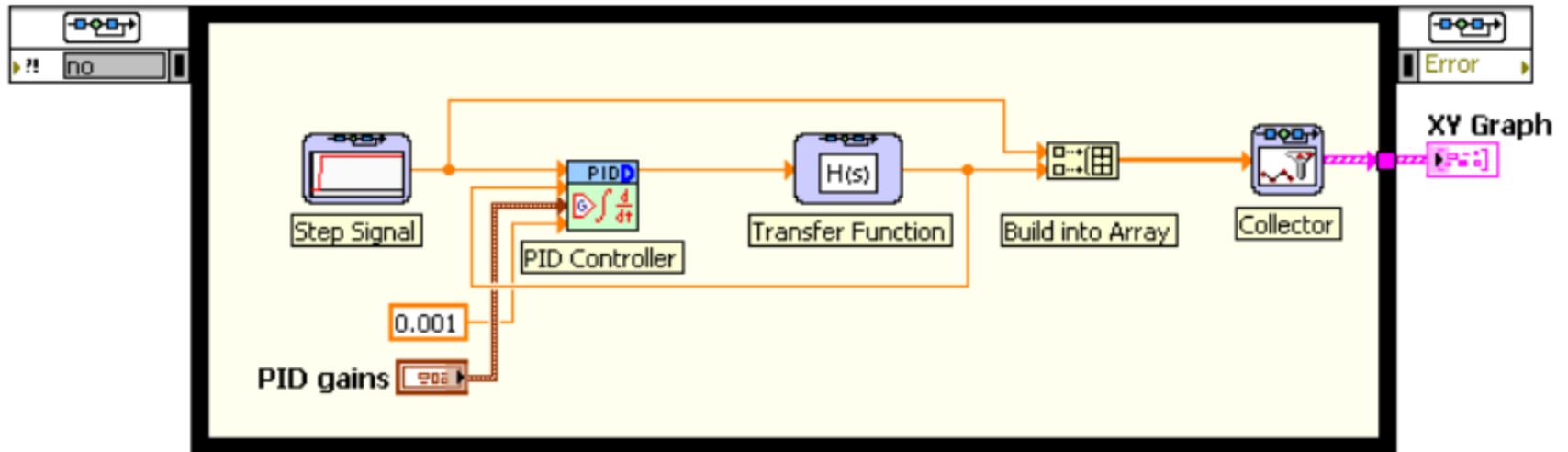
Step 4: Implement the PID algorithm



Step 5: View Simulation Results

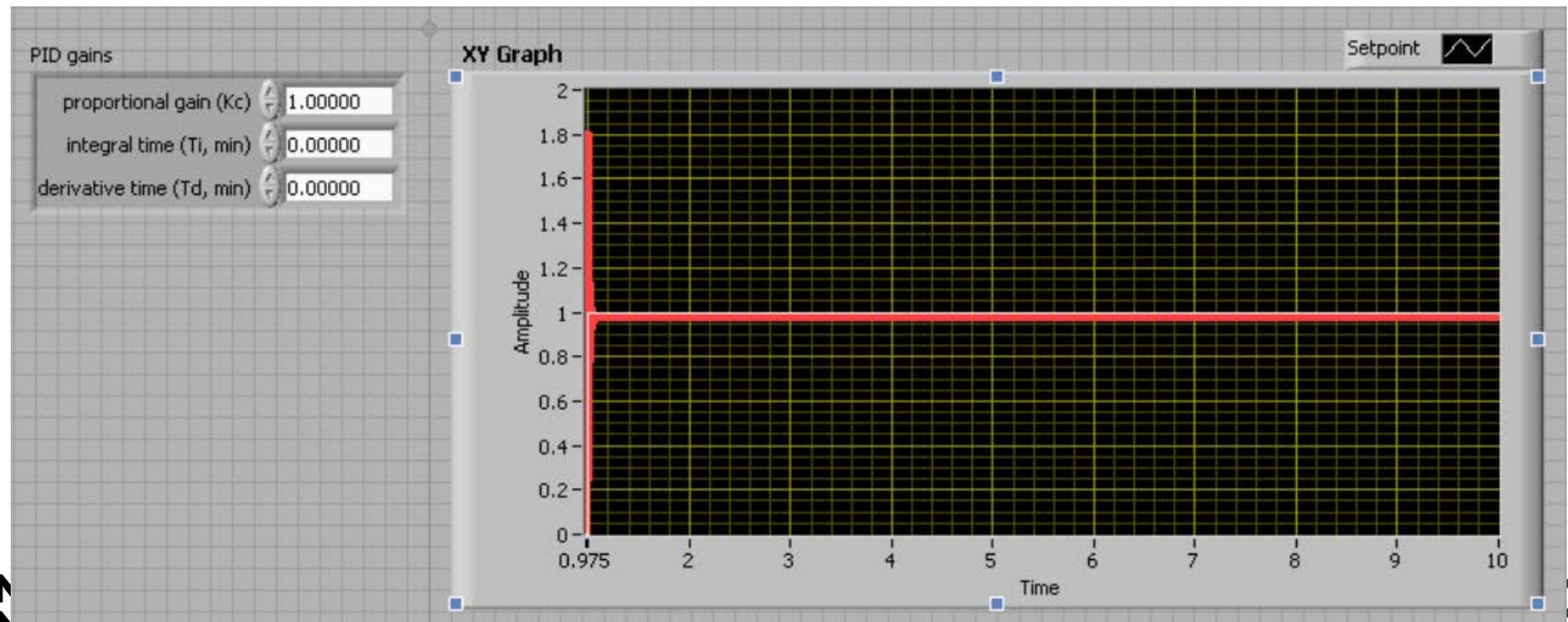
- First bundle the input (Step Signal) with the output from the motor transfer function into a *Build Array* node, which you can find on the *Programming->Arrays* subpalette.
- Collect these signals and plot them on a graph on the Front Panel.
- To do so, select *Control Design & Simulation->Simulation->Utilities* then select and drop *Collector*.
- On the Front Panel, create an XY Graph to display the simulation results.
- Connect all the signals as shown in Figure 5.

Step 6: Simulation loop



Step 6: Front Panel

- If you rearrange the Front Panel elements and use the default values, you will end up with a graph similar to Figure 6:



Step 7: Fine-Tune the Simulation

- Use LabVIEW native graphical capabilities to improve the simulation and fine-tune the PID gains.
- First, change axis properties to have a better view of the simulation results. Right-click on the border of the XY Graph and uncheck the *AutoScale X* property under the *X Scale* option

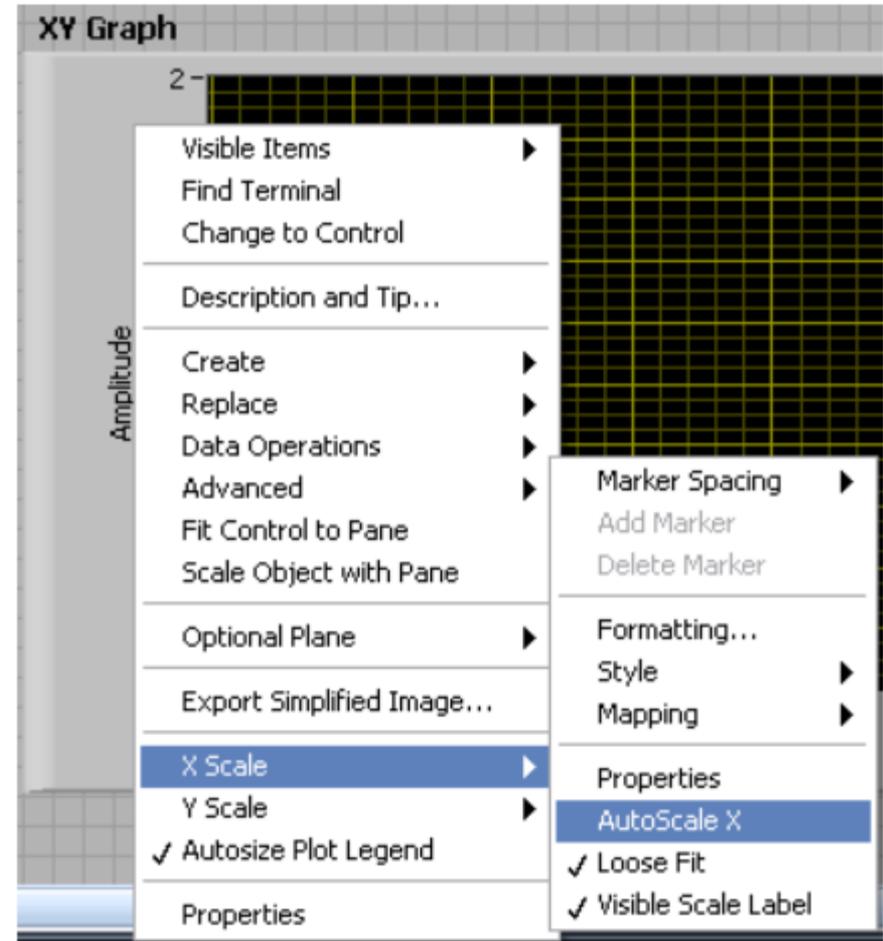


Figure 7. Graph properties.

Step 8: Configure Simulation Parameters

- Before making changes to the PID controller, we will make the simulation more efficient. As seen on Figure 6 there is no need to simulate the default 10 seconds; the plant is fast enough so that a final simulation time of 2 seconds is enough. Now modify the simulation parameters by double-clicking on the Control & Simulation Loop configuration pane which calls up the Configure Simulation Parameters dialog window. Implement the parameters as shown in Figure 8.

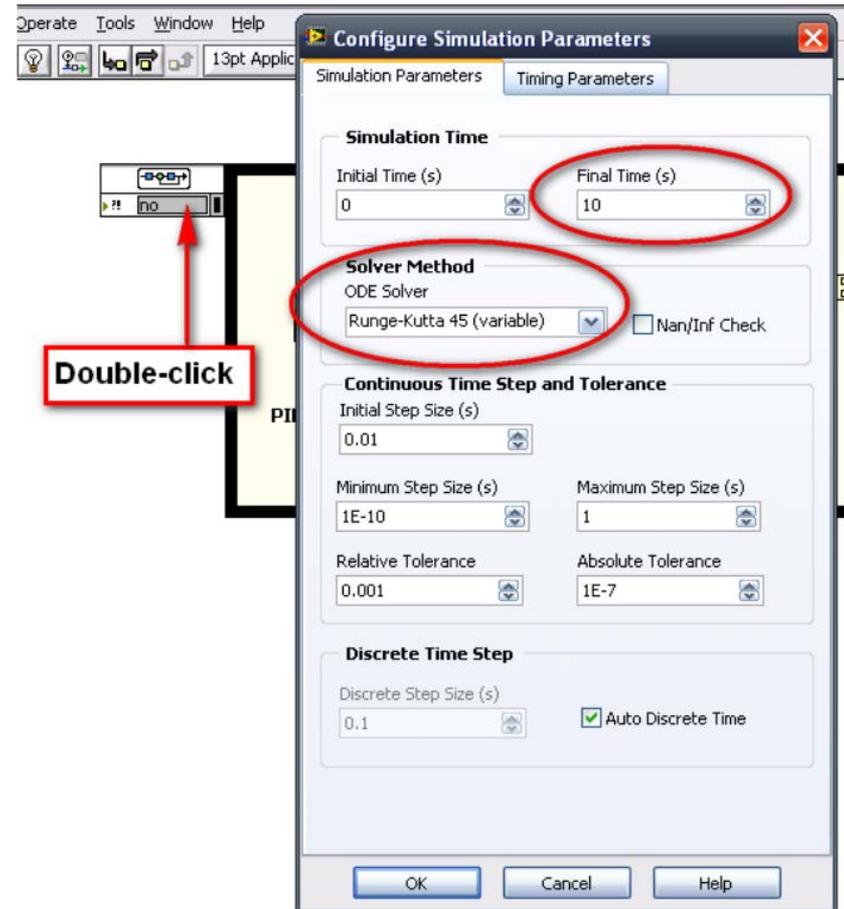


Figure 8. Change the simulation parameters.

Step 9: PID Tuning

- You now can run the VI continuously and change the PID gains until you are satisfied with the results.
- A typical procedure to tune a PID controller would be
 1. K_c to 1 and T_i , T_d to zero. Keep increasing/decreasing K_c until the response has some overshoot
 2. Modify T_d to make the system faster and compensate the overshoot
 3. Modify T_i to remove any steady-state error on the step response

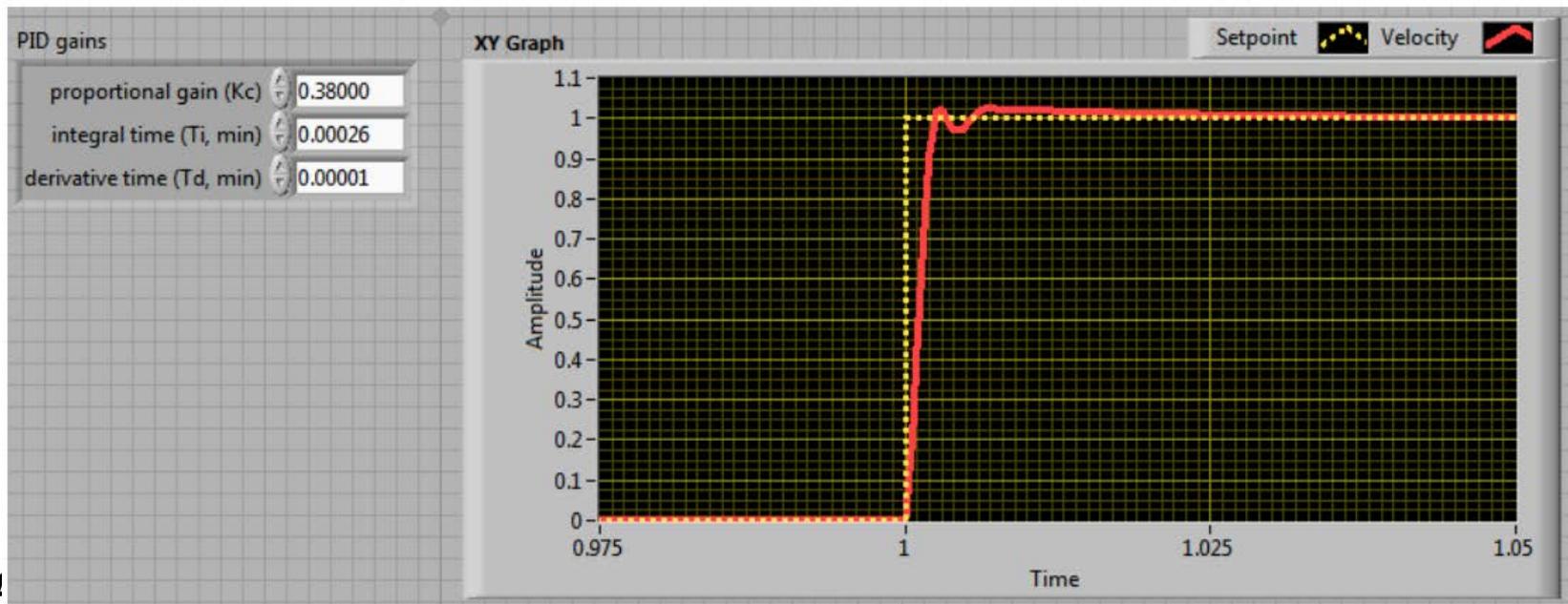


Figure 8. Simulation results with $K_c=0.38$, $T_i=0.00026$, and $T_d=0.0001$.

Conclusion

- You now know how to simulate a discrete-based PID controller with the continuous dynamic system behavior of a DC motor. You can apply this technique to any kind of hybrid system where continuous and discrete behavior is mixed. One of the benefits of the procedure shown is that the control algorithm you used is exactly the same as the one you would use in a Real-Time implementation, and you can take advantage of many of its features, such as integral anti windup.

THANK YOU

Questions..?!