

Moku Cloud Compile: Boxcar Averager



Getting started guide

Moku Cloud Compile (MCC) enables users to deploy custom code and tools directly to Moku devices. Liquid Instruments has produced a custom Boxcar Averager tool for use with MCC. This guide provides a step-by-step walk-through on how to quickly deploy and use this tool on Moku:Pro in a pre-compiled, bitstream format. The Boxcar Averager is also available on Moku:Lab and Moku:Go.

The Boxcar Averager is a tool for improving the signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) for measuring low-duty-cycle signals. By integrating the signal within narrow gates triggered by specific events, it effectively filters noise contributions between pulses. Averaging multiple gating events further enhances the SNR of the measurements.



A full discussion of the development of the Boxcar Averager tool is available here.

Moku:Pro Boxcar Averager tool specifications

Configurable trigger voltage: -20 V to +20 V Configurable trigger delay: 0 to 210 μ s Boxcar width: 0 to 210 μ s Output or Align mode Output gain: 1/(2¹⁶) to 2¹⁶ Averager length: 1 to 65535 windows

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- 1. Download the Boxcar Averager tool bitstream and Control Register spreadsheet.
- 2. Configure Moku:Pro in Multiinstrument Mode (MiM) with Moku Cloud Compile in Slot 1 and an Oscilloscope in Slot 2. Connect the input signal to be averaged to Input 1 and the trigger signal to Input 2.



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4. Configure the settings:

- a. Open the Control Register Values spreadsheet, select Moku:Pro, and input attenuation.
- b. Enter the desired trigger level, trigger delay, averager length, and other parameters in "Your Input Parameters."

Select Your Moku Device:					Cloud Compile - Slot	- CherryHill				
MokuPro										
Select Input Attennuation:			Input Cont	rol Values						
0 dB			Decimal (I	Jnsigned)						
Boxcar Input Parameters	Input range limits	Your Input Parameters	Register	MokuPro	_	Register	(Unsigned)	(Signed)	Hexadecimal	Binary
Trigger Level (V)	-0.2 - 0.2	0.01	Control0	299		Control0	299	299	0000 012B	0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0001 0010 1011
Trigger Delay (ns)	0 - 209715	80000	Control1	25000		Control1	25,000	25,000	0000 61A8	000 0000 0000 0000
Boxcar Gate Width (ns)	0 - 209715	90800	Control2	28375	_					0110 0001 1010 1000
Averager Length (# of Boxcar	1 - 65535	5	Control3	5	\rightarrow	Control2	28,375	28,375	0000 6ED7	0000 0000 0000 0000 0000 0110 1110 1101 0111
Output / Align Mode (Enter "O"						Control3	5	5	0000 0005	0000 0000 0000 0000
for Output or "A" for Align)	A or O	а	Control4	2		Control4	2	2	0000 0002	0000 0000 0000 0000
Output Signal Gain Factor (1, 10, etc.)	1/(2^16) - 65536 (Typically <1)	0.00050	Control5	33	_	Control5	33	33	0000 0021	0000 0000 0000 0000





c. Initially, configure Align Mode to "A" and align the window around the signal.

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Output B of the Cloud Compile will show the gate (blue) relative to the input signal.



- d. Adjust the trigger settings in the spreadsheet to align the gate with the input signal. The Oscilloscope cursors are useful to measure trigger delay and gate width.
- e. Once the gate is aligned, change the mode to Output (O) and adjust the output Gain to avoid saturation. Divide the boxcar output by the calculated scale factor below the parameter table in the spreadsheet to get the boxcar average. **The Boxcar Averager is now running.**