





Capturing ghosts: the oscilloscope specifications that matter the most

A flickering "waveform ghost" is a classic intermittent signal—sometimes it's there; sometimes it isn't. A ghost can be an infrequent narrow glitch, an infrequent shift in timing, an infrequent runt pulse, or any inconsistent and unexpected waveform.

These anomalies are among the toughest troubleshooting challenges, so it's vital to understand how scope performance affects your ability to capture, identify, and fix these difficult creatures.

Bandwidth and sample rate

The most important oscilloscope specifications to consider are bandwidth and sample rate. A scope's real-time bandwidth and its associated sample rate determine the level of detail in which signals can be captured. If an infrequent glitch has a very fast transition time or is very narrow, a low bandwidth scope may filter out the glitch entirely, and you'll never know it's there.

Memory depth and display update rate

Deep memory is a powerful tool for catching ghosts because it allows you to sample at higher rates over a longer period of time. However, even if an infrequent event is randomly captured in your scope's deep acquisition memory buffer, will you know it's there? And if you can't readily see it on the scope's display, how do you even know that you need to search for it, or what to search for?

A fast display system greatly enhances a scope's ability to make those occasional waveform ghosts more visible. The higher the waveform update rate, the more likely it will catch and display infrequent anomalies, even when you are not specifically looking for them.

Figure 1 shows an example of a waveform ghost captured on Agilent's new InfiniiVision 4000 X-Series oscilloscope while updating at 1,000,000 waveforms per second. Scopes with slower update rates may never reveal this ghost of a waveform (an infrequent non-monotonic edge).

Assuming that your oscilloscope's update rate is fast enough, the next step is typically to set up the scope to uniquely trigger on it in order to isolate it so that you can determine its root cause. If the infrequent anomaly is a narrow glitch, try using your scope's pulse-width trigger mode. If the infrequent

anomaly is a pulse with insufficient amplitude, try using your scope's runt trigger mode. Or if the anomaly is an infrequent non-monotonic edge as in this particular example, try the rise-time trigger mode.

Zone triggering

Chances are you'll encounter situations in which using your scope's advanced parametric/violation triggering modes is easier said than done. A simpler alternative in many cases is zone triggering, which is available on Agilent's InfiniiVision 4000 X-Series oscilloscopes. Simply draw a box (zone) around the area of the waveform ghost using the scope's capacitive touch screen as shown in **Figure 2**, and the scope will display only the anomalous waveforms that intersect that zone.

To learn more about capturing elusive signals with today's advanced scopes, visit **www.agilent.com/find/zonetrigger**



FIGURE 1
The scope's fast waveform update rate reveals an infrequent non-monotonic

edge.

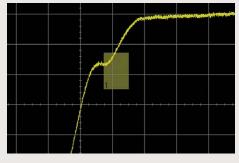


FIGURE 2
InfiniiScan Zone trigger
isolates the non-monotonic
edge waveform.

PROMOTIONS



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- 8.5-inch WWGA display is 50% larger and 3x the resolution of competitive scopes
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- Fully upgradable—bandwidth, MSO, memory, WaveGen built-in 20 MHz arb/ function generator, integrated digital voltmeter, and serial analysis

InfiniiVision 4000 X-Series oscilloscopes





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- 12.1-inch capacitve touch display— 40% larger than competitive scopes
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- MegaZoom IV uncompromised smart memory with segmented memory standard
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Description	2000 X-Series	3000 X-Series	4000 X-Series
20 MHz WaveGen	DS0X2WAVEGEN	DS0X3WAVEGEN	DS0X4WAVEGEN2
3-digit voltmeter	DSOXDVM	DSOXDVM	DSOXDVM
DSO to MSO upgrade	DS0X2MS0	DS0X3MS0*	DS0XPERFMS0
I2C/SPI trigger/decode		DS0X3EMBD	DS0X4EMBD
RS232/UART trigger/decode		DS0X3C0MP	DS0X4C0MP
USB full/low trigger/decode			DS0X4USBFL
USB high trigger/decode			DS0X4USBH

* 1 GHz models require DSOXPERFMSO

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- · USB, GPIB and LAN (LXI Core) connectivity

Model	Key specifications
33500B Series	20 & 30 MHz, 16-bit, 250 Msa/s, 1 M point arb
33509B/33511B	20 MHz, 1-Ch (optional arb) / (built-in arb), 20 MHz pulse
33510B/33512B	20 MHz, 2-Ch (optional arb) / (built-in arb), 20 MHz pulse
33519B/33521B	30 MHz, 1-Ch (optional arb) / (built-in arb), 30 MHz pulse
33520B/33522B	30 MHz, 2-Ch (optional arb) / (built-in arb), 30 MHz pulse
33210A	10 MHz, 1-Ch, 14-bit, 50 MSa/s, 8 K point (optional arb)
33220A	20 MHz, 1-Ch, 14-bit, 50 MSa/s, 64 K point, 5 MHz pulse
33250A	80 MHz, 1-Ch, 12-bit, 200 MSa/s, 64 K point, 50 MHz pulse
33502A	Isolated amplifier, dual channel, 50 V peak-to-peak
33503A	BenchLink Waveform Builder Pro Software



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34970A/72A plug-in modules		
Model	Key specifications	
34901A/02A/08A multiplexers	Up to 300 V, 16, 20, or 40 channels	
34903A GP switch	300 V, 20 actuator channels	
34904A matrix	4x8 matrix	
34905A/06A RF switches	2 GHz dual, 50 and $75~\Omega$	
34907A multi-function	DIO, DAC, totalizer	

34980A multi-function switch/ measurement unit



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34980A plug-in modules Model **Key specifications** 34921A-34925A Up to 300 V, 40, 70, or 80 channels multiplexers 34937A-34939A Up to 64 channels, 5 A, 300 V **GP** switches 34931A-34934A Up to Quad 4x32 matrix matrix modules 34941A-34947A Up to 26.5 GHz switching RF & µWave switches 34950A-34952A DIO. DAC. totalizer system control modules

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- USB, GPIB and LAN (LXI Core) connectivity

Model	Key specifications
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53220A	350 MHz universal frequency counter/timer, 12 digits/s, 100 ps
53230A	350 MHz universal frequency counter/timer, 12 digits/s, 20 ps

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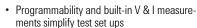
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- Tight 0.01% load and line regulation
- Fast load transient response time (<50 µs)
- · 30 to 200 W outputs

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- GPIB connectivity

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- 0.09% basic DCV accuracy

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See how the wireless capability works with the U1210 Series HH clamp meter.

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or scan this QR code to watch how the wireless capability allows large current measurements at a safe distance.



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- Basic accuracy: 0.0035% DC, 0.06% AC
- 12 measurement functions, plus limit testing and statistics give meaningful answers in less time
- 1,000 readings/s in ASCII format across the **GPIB** interface

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- Upgrade to a faster, more accurate multimeter with additional functions
- 10,000 readings/s at 5½ digits (34410A), 50,000 readings/s at 4½ digits (34411A)
- 14 measurement functions including capacitance and temperature; built-in data logging
- 50,000 reading non-volatile memory
- · USB, GPIB, and LAN (LXI Core) connectivity

34450A digital multimeter, 5½ digits



- · Increase test throughput with up to 190 readings/second
- · 0.015% DCV accuracy
- 11 measurement functions, plus histogram and basic statistical functions
- Ultra-bright OLED with dual display capability
- Up to 50,000 memory points—capture and log up to 14 hours of data
- USB 2.0, Serial interface (RS-232), GPIB (option)

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- Optional IQ modulator, 40 MHz bandwidth
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- · LAN, GPIB, and USB connectivity
- Frequency range: 9 kHz to 3 GHz
- DANL: -148 dBm with pre-amp on
- RBW: 10 Hz to 1 MHz
- · Free remote control PC software

N9322C RF spectrum analyzer



- · Frequency range: 9 kHz to 7 GHz
- DANL: -152 dBm typical, with preamp on
- RBW: 10 Hz to 3 MHz
- Sweep time: 2 ms to 1000 s
- 7 GHz tracking generator, built-in VSWR bridge
- · AM/FM, ASK/FSK demodulation
- · Free remote control PC software

Express configurations: fastest delivery on the leading low-cost signal characterization tool



N9000AEP Express CXA signal analyzer



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- Consistent measurement platforms save you time and money
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Models	Key specifications
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N9343C	9 kHz to 13.6 GHz
N9342C	9 kHz to 7 GHz
N9340B	9 kHz to 3 GHz

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N9935A-N9938A	Combination Spectrum Analyzers, up to 26.5 GHz
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N9923A	RF VNA, 4 and 6 GHz

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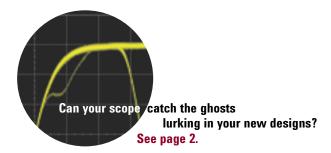
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True form signal generation technology: high-end performance at budget-friendly prices

The technologies used to digitally generate analog waveforms have long been a case study in compromise. The point per clock (PPC) method is precise but complex and expensive, whereas the far less expensive direct digital synthesis (DDS) renders only approximations of the desired waveform.

The Trueform signal generation technology available in the Agilent 33500B Series waveform generators uses a virtual variable clock with advanced filtering to deliver the performance of PPC at the price of DDS generators. Consider the advantages over DDS: a twelvefold reduction

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- · Simulating a clock signal
- · Generating a serial data signal
- · Precise timing control, such as a trigger source or gate controller
- · Baseband IQ signal generator (option IQP)



Technical data and pricing subject to change without notice.

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