User Manual

Tektronix

TDS 694C
Digital Real-Time Oscilloscope
071-0473-00

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General Safety Summary

Review the following safety precautions to avoid injury and prevent damage to this product or any products connected to it. To avoid potential hazards, use this product only as specified.

*Only qualified personnel should perform service procedures.*

**To Avoid Fire or Personal Injury**

- **Use Proper Power Cord.** Use only the power cord specified for this product and certified for the country of use.
- **Use Proper Voltage Setting.** Before applying power, ensure that the line selector is in the proper position for the power source being used.
- **Connect and Disconnect Properly.** Do not connect or disconnect probes or test leads while they are connected to a voltage source.
- **Ground the Product.** This product is grounded through the grounding conductor of the power cord. To avoid electric shock, the grounding conductor must be connected to earth ground. Before making connections to the input or output terminals of the product, ensure that the product is properly grounded.
- **Observe All Terminal Ratings.** To avoid fire or shock hazard, observe all ratings and markings on the product. Consult the product manual for further ratings information before making connections to the product.

Connect the ground lead of the probe to earth ground only.

Do not apply a potential to any terminal, including the common terminal, that exceeds the maximum rating of that terminal.

- **Do Not Operate Without Covers.** Do not operate this product with covers or panels removed.
- **Use Proper Fuse.** Use only the fuse type and rating specified for this product.
- **Avoid Exposed Circuitry.** Do not touch exposed connections and components when power is present.
- **Do Not Operate With Suspected Failures.** If you suspect there is damage to this product, have it inspected by qualified service personnel.
- **Do Not Operate in Wet/Damp Conditions.**
- **Do Not Operate in an Explosive Atmosphere.**
- **Keep Product Surfaces Clean and Dry.**
- **Provide Proper Ventilation.** Refer to the manual’s installation instructions for details on installing the product so it has proper ventilation.
Terms in this Manual. These terms may appear in this manual:

**WARNING.** Warning statements identify conditions or practices that could result in injury or loss of life.

**CAUTION.** Caution statements identify conditions or practices that could result in damage to this product or other property.

Terms on the Product. These terms may appear on the product:

DANGER indicates an injury hazard immediately accessible as you read the marking.

WARNING indicates an injury hazard not immediately accessible as you read the marking.

CAUTION indicates a hazard to property including the product.

Symbols on the Product. The following symbols may appear on the product:

![Symbols](image)

Electrostatic Discharge

Acquisition circuitry in the TDS 694C is very susceptible to damage from electrostatic discharge and from overdrive signals.

To prevent electrostatic damage to the TDS 694C, be sure to operate the oscilloscope only in a static-controlled environment. Be sure to discharge to ground any electrostatic charge that may be present on cables and probes before attaching them to the oscilloscope.

To prevent damage from electrostatic discharge, install short-circuit terminations on unused input connectors. Always use a wrist strap with internal impedance (provided with your instrument) when handling your oscilloscope or making connections.
Preface

This is the User Manual for the TDS 694C Oscilloscopes

The chapter Getting Started briefly describes the TDS 694C Oscilloscopes, prepares you to install it, and tells you how to put it into service.

The chapter Operating Basics covers basic principles of the operation of the oscilloscope. The operating interface illustrations and the tutorial examples rapidly help you understand how your oscilloscope operates.

The chapter Reference teaches you how to perform specific tasks. See page 3–1 for a complete list of operating tasks covered in that chapter.

The Appendices provide an options listing, an accessories listing, and other useful information.

Related Manuals

The following documents are related to the use or service of the oscilloscope.

- The TDS Family Digitizing Oscilloscopes Programmer Manual (a diskette that is included with the user manual) describes using a computer to control the oscilloscope through the GPIB interface.

- The TDS 500D, TDS 600C & TDS 700D Digitizing Oscilloscopes Reference (Quick Reference) gives you a quick overview of how to operate the oscilloscope.

- The TDS 500D, TDS 600C, & TDS 700D Technical Reference (Performance Verification and Specifications) tells how to verify the performance of the oscilloscope and lists its specifications.

- The TDS 500B, TDS 600B, TDS 600B, & TDS 700A Service Manual provides information for maintaining and servicing the oscilloscope to the module level.

Conventions

In this manual, you will find various procedures which contain steps of instructions for you to perform. To keep those instructions clear and consistent, this manual uses the following conventions:

- In procedures, names of front panel controls and menu labels appear in boldface print.
Names also appear in the same case (initial capitals or all uppercase) in the manual as is used on the oscilloscope front panel and menus. Front panel names are all upper case letters, for example, VERTICAL MENU and CH 1.

Instruction steps are numbered. The number is omitted if there is only one step.

When steps require that you make a sequence of selections using front panel controls and menu buttons, an arrow (→) marks each transition between a front panel button and a menu, or between menus. Also, whether a name is a main menu or side menu item is clearly indicated: Press VERTICAL MENU → Coupling (main) → DC (side) → Bandwidth (main) → 250 MHz (side).

Using the convention just described results in instructions that are graphically intuitive and simplifies procedures. For example, the instruction just given replaces these five steps:

1. Press the front-panel button VERTICAL MENU.

2. Press the main-menu button Coupling.

3. Press the side-menu button DC.

4. Press the main-menu button Bandwidth.

5. Press the side-menu button 250 MHz.

Sometimes you may have to make a selection from a pop-up menu: Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) → Edge (pop-up). In this example, you repeatedly press the main menu button Type until Edge is highlighted in the pop-up menu.
The Tektronix TDS 694C Digital Real-Time Oscilloscope is a superb tool for acquiring, displaying, and measuring waveforms. Its performance addresses the needs of both benchtop lab and portable applications with the following key features:

- An analog bandwidth of 3 GHz simultaneous on 4 channels
- A maximum sample rate of up to 10 GS/s simultaneous on 4 channels
- Records lengths up to 120 K
- Up to 29 automatic measurements and measurement statistics (see Taking Automated Measurements on page 3–88)
- 1% DC vertical gain accuracy (see TDS 500D, TDS600B & TDS 700D Technical Reference manual)
- Internal floppy disk storage and compatible with Iomega 100 Mbyte Zip drive (see Saving Waveforms and Setups on page 3–115)
- Optional internal hard drive
- Trigger modes include edge, logic, pulse, delay, modes (see Triggering on Waveforms on page 3–39)
- Java application support
- TLA 700 Logic Analyzer cross-triggering support
Advanced features include limit testing (see *Limit Testing* on page 3–145), FFT (see *Fast Fourier Transforms* on page 3–153), waveform differentiation and integrations (see *Waveform Differentiation* and *Waveform Integration* starting on page 3–172), waveform histograms (see *Displaying Histograms* on page 3–104)

- Adjustable channel deskew for increased measurement accuracy (see *Channel/Probe Deskew* on page 3–109)

- Full GPIB programmability (see *Communicating with Remote Instruments* on page 3–137 and the *TDS Family Programmer Manual* disk)

- Wide array of probing solutions (see *Accessory Probes* on page 0–3 and *Probe Selection* on page 0–1)

- CE, FCC, UL, and CAN/CSE compliant (see *TDS 500D, TDS600B & TDS 700D Technical Reference* manual)

- All 4 channels have 8-bit resolution. (See Table 1–1 on page 1–3.)

- Dual Window Zoom, which shows a waveform magnified and unmagnified on the same display (see *Using Dual Window Mode* on page 3–35)

- Sample, envelope, average, and peak-detect modes (see Table 1–1, on page 1–3.)
### TDS 694C Features

Table 1–1 lists some key TDS 694C features that are covered in this manual.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>TDS 694C</th>
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<td>No. of channels</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digitizing rate, max.</td>
<td>10 GS/s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of Channels. @ maximum rate</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analog Bandwidth</td>
<td>3 GHz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Record Lengths, max.</td>
<td>To 120 K/Channel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced DSP Math(^1)</td>
<td>Std.(^2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storage, Floppy Disk</td>
<td>Std.(^2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I/O includes RS–232 and Centronics(^3)</td>
<td>Std.(^2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iomega Zip Drive support</td>
<td>Std.(^2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Input Impedance</td>
<td>50 Ω only</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\) Advanced digital signal processing provides FFTs, integrals, and derivatives of waveforms. See Option 2F on page 0–2.

\(^2\) Std. denotes a standard product feature as opposed to a feature included as part of an option.

\(^3\) GPIB I/O included with all models.
Product Specification

The product specification is found in the technical reference *TDS 500D, TDS 600C, & TDS 700D Technical Reference (Performance Verification and Specifications)* that is shipped as a standard accessory with the TDS 694C Oscilloscopes.
Start Up

Before you use the TDS 694C Oscilloscopes, ensure that it is properly installed and powered on.

Preparation

To ensure maximum accuracy for your most critical measurements, you should know about signal path compensation and the proper use of the probe you choose to use with your oscilloscope.

Signal Path Compensation

Be sure you compensate your oscilloscope for the surrounding temperature. This action, called Signal Path Compensation (SPC), ensures maximum possible accuracy for your most critical measurements. See Signal Path Compensation on page 3–108 for a description of and operating information on this feature.

Recommended Probes

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes ships without probes. To take advantage of the higher bandwidth of these oscilloscopes, order P6249 or P6158 probes.

For a list of recommended optional-accessory probes see Accessory Probes on page A–3. Probes that require a 1 MΩ input, like the P6139A, will not work on the TDS 694C.

Probe Usage

Be sure you use the appropriate probe for the measurement. (See the User manual for the probe for more information.)

CAUTION. Using the P6249 or P6245 Active Probe to measure signals greater than ±40 volts may damage the probe. Using the P6158 Voltage Divider Probe to measure signals greater than ±22 $V_{RMS}$ may damage the probe.

Putting into Service

To learn how to install, access the front panel, power on, do a self test, and power off the oscilloscope, do the following procedures:
To properly install and power on the oscilloscope, do the following steps:

1. Be sure you have the appropriate operating environment. Specifications for temperature, relative humidity, altitude, vibrations, and emissions are included in the *TDS 500D, TDS 600C, & TDS 700D Technical Reference (Performance Verification and Specifications)* manual (Tektronix part number 071-0496-xx).

   **CAUTION.** To prevent damage to the instrument caused by over heating, the TDS 694C must have adequate airflow. Verify air intake and exhaust ventilation in the cabinet as specified in Step 2.

2. Leave space for cooling for both rackmount and bench configurations. Do this by verifying that the air intake and exhaust holes on the sides and bottom of the cabinet are free of any airflow obstructions. Leave at least 5.1 cm (2 inches) free on both sides. Leave 2.5 cm (1.0 inch) minimum space on the bottom of rackmount instruments, the height of the feet will provide adequate space for bench configurations.

   **WARNING.** To avoid electrical shock, be sure that the power cord is disconnected before checking the fuse.

3. Check the fuse to be sure it is the proper type and rating (see Figure 1–1). You can use either of two fuses. Each fuse requires its own cap (see Table 1–2). The oscilloscope is shipped with the UL approved fuse installed.

4. Check that you have the proper electrical connections. The oscilloscope requires 100 to 240 V\textsubscript{ACRMS}, continuous range, 45 Hz to 440 Hz, and may require up to 450 W.
5. Connect the proper power cord from the rear-panel power connector (see Figure 1–1) to the power system.

Table 1–2: Fuse and fuse cap part numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fuse</th>
<th>Fuse part number</th>
<th>Fuse cap part number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.25 inch × 1.25 inch (UL 198.6, 3AG): 6 A FAST, 250 V</td>
<td>159-0013-00</td>
<td>200-2264-00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 mm × 20 mm (IEC 127): 5 A (T), 250 V</td>
<td>159-0210-00</td>
<td>200-2265-00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Front Cover Removal
To remove the front cover, grasp the left and right edges and snap the cover off of the front subpanel. (To reinstall the cover, align it to the front subpanel and snap it back on.)

Power On
To power on the oscilloscope, do the following steps:

1. Check that the rear-panel principal power switch is on (see Figure 1–1). The principal power switch controls all AC power to the instrument.

2. If the oscilloscope is not powered on (the screen is blank), push the front-panel **ON/STBY** button to toggle it on (see Figure 1–2).
Start Up

The ON/STBY button controls power to most of the instrument circuits. Power continues to go to certain parts even when this switch is set to STBY.

Once the oscilloscope is installed, it is typical to leave the principal power switch on and use the ON/STBY button instead of the power switch.

**Self Test**

The oscilloscope automatically performs power-up tests each time it is turned on. It will come up with a display screen that states whether or not it passed the self test. To determine the self-test results, check the screen. (If the self test passed, the status display screen will be removed after a few seconds.)

If the self test fails, call your local Tektronix Service Center. Depending on the type of failure, you may still be able to use the oscilloscope before it is serviced.

**Power Off**

To power off the oscilloscope, toggle the ON/STBY switch.
Overview

This chapter describes the basic concepts of operating the TDS 694C Digital Real-Time Oscilloscope. Understanding the basic concepts of your oscilloscope will help you use it much more effectively.

The first section, Operating Interface Maps, quickly shows you how the oscilloscope controls are organized and where you can read about them. It also illustrates the general procedures for operating the menu system. This section includes the titles:

- Front Panel Map
- Rear Panel Map
- Display Map
- To Operate a Menu
- To Operate a Pop-Up Menu

The second section, Tutorial, contains example procedures that lead you through the fundamental tasks needed to display a waveform measurement. It also includes an example procedure that teaches you how to store a setup of the oscilloscope controls for later use. This section includes the following tutorial examples:

- Setting Up for the Examples
- Example 1: Displaying a Waveform
- Example 2: Displaying Multiple Waveforms
- Example 3: Taking Automated Measurements
- Example 4: Saving Setups

To explore these topics in more depth and to read about topics not covered in this section, see Reference. A list of the topics covered begins on Page 3–1.
Operating Interface Maps

This section contains illustrations, or maps, of the display, the front and rear panels, and the menu system of the TDS 694C Oscilloscopes. These maps will help you understand and operate the oscilloscope. This section also contains a visual guide to using the menu system.

Front Panel Map — Left Side

File System, page 3–122
ON/STBY Switch, page 1–7
Main Menu Buttons, page 2–7
Side Menu Buttons, page 2–7
CLEAR MENU Removes Menus from the Display

CLEAR MENU
Removes Menus from the Display
Front Panel Map — Right Side

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- Status, page 3–141
- Saving and Recalling Waveforms, page 3–118
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- Selecting Channels, page 3–6
- Waveform Math, page 3–150
- Vertical Controls, page 3–9
- Measurement System, page 3–88
- Cursor Measurements, page 3–98
- Hardcopy, page 3–127
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- **GPIB Connector**, page 3–137
- **Fuse**, page 1–6
- **Serial Number**
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- **VGA Output**
- **Rear Panel Connectors**
  - **AUX TRIGGER INPUT** – (Provides Auxiliary Trigger Signal Input)
  - **MAIN TRIGGER OUTPUT** – (Provides Main Trigger (TTL) Output)
  - **DELAYED TRIGGER OUTPUT** – (Provides Delayed Trigger (TTL) Output)
- **Security Bracket**
Display Map

The acquisition status, page 3–20
Indicates position of vertical bar cursors in the waveform record, page 3–102
Trigger position (T), page 3–46
The value entered with the general purpose knob or keypad.
When present, the general purpose knob makes coarse adjustments; when absent, fine adjustments.

Tke Run: 10.00GS/s Sample Trigger Level: 252mV

Shows what part of the waveform record is displayed, page 3–12
The waveform record icon
Shows what part of the acquisition record is in the waveform record

Trigger level on waveform (may be an arrow at right side of screen instead of a bar).
Channel level and waveform source.
Vertical scale, page 3–9

The main menu with choices of major actions
Horizontal scale and time base type, page 3–13
Trigger parameters, page 3–46
The side menu with choices of specific actions.
Cursor measurements, page 3–98

Set to TTL
Set to ECL
Set to 50%

Type Edge
Source Ch1
Coupling DC
Slope
Level 252mV
Mode & Holdoff
To Operate a Menu

1. Press front-panel menu button. (Press **SHIFT** first if button label is blue.)

2. Press one of these buttons to select from main menu.

3. Press one of these buttons to select from side menu (if displayed).

4. If side menu item has an adjustable value (shown in reverse video), adjust it with the general purpose knob or keypad.
To Operate a Pop-Up Menu

Press to display pop-up menus. Press it again to make selection.

Alternatively, press SHIFT first to make selection in the opposite direction.

A pop-up selection changes the other main menu titles.

Press here to remove menus from screen.
Tutorial

This section quickly makes you acquainted with some of the fundamental operations required to use the TDS 694C Oscilloscopes to take measurements. Start this tutorial by doing Setting Up for the Examples on this page.

Setting Up for the Examples

Perform the following tasks to connect input signals to the TDS 694C Oscilloscopes, to reset it, and to become acquainted with its display screen. Once completed, these tasks ready the oscilloscope for use in the examples that follow.

Connect the Input Signal

Remove all probes and signal inputs from the input BNC connectors along the lower right of the front panel. Then, using an appropriate probe (such as the P6249), connect from the CH 1 connector of the oscilloscope to the PROBE COMPENSATION connectors. (See Figure 2–2.)

NOTE See Appendix A: Options and Accessories for optional probes you can order and use with this product. Use the probe deskew fixture to ensure optimum probe connections.

Figure 2–1: Deskew Fixture Connections (two P6249 probes shown)
Reset the Oscilloscope

Do the following steps to reset the oscilloscope to a known factory default state before doing the examples. (You can reset the oscilloscope anytime you begin a new task and need to “start fresh” with known default settings.)

1. Press the save/recall SETUP button to display the Setup menu. (See Figure 2–3.)
The oscilloscope displays *main menus* along the bottom of the screen. Figure 2–4 shows the Setup main menu.

![Figure 2–4: The Setup Menu](image)

2. Press the button directly below the **Recall Factory Setup** menu item.

   The display shows *side menus* along the right side of the screen. The buttons to select these side menu items are to the right of the side menu.

   Because an accidental instrument reset could destroy a setup that took a long time to create, the oscilloscope asks you to verify the Recall Factory Setup selection. (See Figure 2–4.)

3. Press the button to the right of the **OK Confirm Factory Init** side menu item.

   **NOTE.** This manual uses the following notation to represent the sequence of selections you made in steps 1, 2 and 3: Press save/recall **SETUP** → **Recall Factory Setup** (main) → **OK Confirm Factory Init** (side).

   Note that a clock icon appears on screen. The oscilloscope displays this icon when performing operations that take longer than several seconds.

4. Press **SET LEVEL TO 50%** (see Figure 2–5) to be sure the oscilloscope triggers on the input signal.
Read the following information to become familiar with the oscilloscope display before doing the examples.

Figure 2–6 shows the display that results from the oscilloscope reset. There are several important points to observe:

- The trigger level bar shows that the waveform is triggered at a level near 50% of its amplitude (from step 4).

- The trigger position indicator shows that the trigger position of the waveform is located at the horizontal center of the graticule.

- The channel reference indicator shows the vertical position of channel 1 with no input signal. This indicator points to the ground level for the channel when its vertical offset is set to 0 V in the vertical menu; when vertical offset is not set to 0 V, it points to the vertical offset level.
- The **trigger readout** shows that the oscilloscope is triggering on channel 1 (Ch1) on a rising edge, and that the trigger level is about 200–300 mV.

- The **time base readout** shows that the main time base is set to a horizontal scale of 500 μs/div.

- The **channel readout** indicates that channel 1 (Ch1) is displayed with DC coupling. The oscilloscope always displays channel 1 at reset.

**Figure 2–6: The Display After Factory Initialization**

Right now, the channel, time base, and trigger readouts appear in the graticule area because a menu is displayed. You can press the CLEAR MENU button at any time to remove any menus and to move the readouts below the graticule.

**Example 1: Displaying a Waveform**

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes provides front panel knobs for you to adjust a waveform, or it can automatically set up its controls to display a waveform. Do the following tasks to learn how to adjust a waveform and how to autoset the TDS 694C Oscilloscopes.
The display shows the probe compensation signal. It is a 1 kHz square wave of approximately 0.5 V amplitude.

Figure 2–7 shows the main VERTICAL and HORIZONTAL sections of the front panel. Each has SCALE and POSITION knobs. Do the following steps to adjust the size and placement of the waveform using the front-panel knobs:

1. Turn the vertical **SCALE** knob clockwise. Observe the change in the displayed waveform and the channel readout at the bottom of the display.

2. Turn the vertical **POSITION** knob first one direction, and then the other. Observe the change in the displayed waveform. Then return the waveform to the center of the graticule.

3. Turn the horizontal **SCALE** knob one click clockwise. Observe the time base readout at the bottom of the display. The time base should be set to 200 μs/div now, and you should see two complete waveform cycles on the display.
**AutoSet the Oscilloscope**

When you first connect a signal to a channel and display it, the signal displayed may not be scaled and triggered correctly. Use the autoSet function and you should quickly get a meaningful display.

You should have a stable display of the probe compensation waveform from the last step. Do the following steps to first create an unstable display and then to autoSet the display:

1. To create an unstable display, slowly turn the trigger **MAIN LEVEL** knob (see Figure 2–8) first one direction, and then the other. Observe what happens when you move the trigger level above the highest part of the waveform. Leave the trigger level in that untriggered state.

![Figure 2–8: TRIGGER Controls](image)

2. Press **AUTOSET** (see Figure 2–9) and observe the stable waveform display.

**NOTE** The oscilloscope triggers on the input signal. Sometimes the oscilloscope triggers on high frequency signal components that are not visible using the current setup. You may see these signal components at higher **HORIZONTAL SCALE** settings. You can reduce these signal components using shorter probe ground and signal leads.
Figure 2–9: AUTOSET Button Location

Figure 2–10 shows the display after pressing AUTOSET. If necessary, you can adjust the waveform now by using the knobs discussed earlier in this example.

Figure 2–10: The Display After Pressing Autoset

Example 2: Displaying Multiple Waveforms

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes can display up to four channels, three math waveforms, and four reference waveforms at one time. Do the following tasks to learn how to display and control more than one waveform at a time.
Add a Waveform

The VERTICAL section of the front panel contains the channel selection buttons. These buttons are CH 1, CH 2, CH 3, CH 4, and MORE. (See Figure 2–11.)

![Figure 2–11: The Channel Buttons and Lights](image)

Each of the channel (CH) buttons has a light behind its label. Right now, the CH 1 light is on. That light indicates that the vertical controls are set to adjust channel 1. Do the following steps to add a waveform to the display:

1. If you are not continuing from the previous example, follow the instructions on page 2–9 under the heading Setting Up for the Examples.

2. Press SETUP → Recall Factory Setup (main) → OK Confirm Factory Init (side).

3. Press AUTOSET.


   The display shows a second waveform, which represents the signal on channel 2. Since there is nothing connected to the CH 2 input connector, this waveform is a flat line. There are several other important things to observe:

   - The channel readout on the display now shows the settings for both Ch1 and Ch2.
   - There are two channel indicators at the left edge of the graticule. Right now, they overlap.
- The light above the CH 2 button is now on, and the CH 1 light is off. Because the knobs control only one channel at a time, the vertical controls are now set to adjust channel 2.

- The trigger readout still indicates that the trigger is detecting trigger events on channel one. The trigger source is not changed simply by adding a channel. (You can change the trigger source by using the TRIGGER MENU button to display the trigger menu.)

5. Turn the vertical POSITION knob clockwise to move the channel 2 waveform up on the graticule. You will notice that the channel reference indicator for channel 2 moves with the waveform.

6. Press VERTICAL MENU → Coupling (main).

The VERTICAL MENU button displays a menu that gives you control over many vertical channel parameters. (See Figure 2–12.) Although there can be more than one channel displayed, the vertical menu and buttons only adjust the selected channel.

Each menu item in the Vertical menu displays a side menu. Right now, the Coupling item in the main menu is highlighted, which means that the side menu shows the coupling choices. At the top of the side menu, the menu title shows the channel affected by the menu choices. That channel always matches the lighted channel button.

7. Press GND (side) to toggle the selection to ground (GND). That changes the input coupling of channel 2 from DC to GND. The channel readout for channel 2 (near the bottom of the graticule) now shows a ground indicator.
Assign Controls to Another Channel

Pressing a channel (CH) button sets the vertical controls to that channel. It also adds the channel to the display if that waveform is not already displayed. To explore assigning controls to different channels, do the following steps:

1. **Press CH 1.**
   
   Observe that now the side menu title shows Ch1 (see Figure 2–13) and that the light above CH 1 is lighted. The highlighted menu item in the side menu has changed from the GND channel 2 setting to the DC coupling setting of channel 1.

2. **Press CH 2 → DC (side) to toggle the selection to DC.** That returns the input coupling of channel 2 to its initial state.
Remove a Waveform

Pressing the WAVEFORM OFF button removes the waveform for the currently selected channel. If the waveform you want to remove is not already selected, select that channel using the channel (CH) button.

1. Press WAVEFORM OFF (under the vertical SCALE knob).
   
   Since the CH 2 light was on when you pressed the WAVEFORM OFF button, the channel 2 waveform was removed.

   The channel (CH) lights now indicate channel 1. Channel 1 has become the selected channel. When you remove the last waveform, all the CH lights are turned off.

2. Press WAVEFORM OFF again to remove the channel 1 waveform.

Example 3: Taking Automated Measurements

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes can measure many waveform parameters automatically and read out the results on screen. Do the following tasks to discover how to set up the oscilloscope to measure waveforms automatically.

Display Measurements Automatically

To use the automated measurement system, you must have a stable display of your signal. Also, the waveform must have all the segments necessary for the
measurement you want. For example, a rise time measurement requires at least one rising edge, and a frequency measurement needs at least one complete cycle. To take automated measurements, do the following steps:

1. If you are not continuing from the previous example, follow the instructions on page 2–9 under the heading Setting Up for the Examples.
2. Press SETUP → Recall Factory Setup (main) → OK Confirm Factory Init (side).
3. Press AUTOSET.
4. Press MEASURE to display the Measure main menu. (See Figure 2–14.)
5. If it is not already selected, press Select Measrmnt (main). The readout for that menu item indicates which channel the measurement will be taken from. All automated measurements are made on the selected channel.

The Select Measurement side menu lists some of the measurements that can be taken on waveforms. There are many different measurements available; up to four can be taken and displayed at any one time. Pressing the button next to the –more– menu item brings up the other measurement selections.

6. Press Frequency (side). If the Frequency menu item is not visible, press –more– (side) repeatedly until the Frequency item appears. Then press Frequency (side).

Observe that the frequency measurement appears within the right side of the graticule area. The measurement readout includes the notation Ch1, meaning that the measurement is taken on the channel 1 waveform. (To take a measurement on another channel, select that channel, and then select the measurement.)
7. Press **Positive Width** (side) → **–more–** (side) → **Rise Time** (side) → **Positive Duty Cycle** (side).

   All four measurements are displayed. Right now, they cover a part of the graticule area, including the displayed waveforms.

8. To move the measurement readouts outside the graticule area, press **CLEAR MENU**. (See Figure 2–15.)

**Remove Measurement Readouts**

Use the Measure menu to remove measurements you no longer want. To remove a measurement individually (you can also remove them, as a group), do the following step:

1. Press **MEASURE** → **Remove Measrmnt** (main) → **Measurement 1**, **Measurement 2**, and **Measurement 4** (side) to remove those measurements. Leave the rise time measurement displayed.
Change the Measurement Reference Levels

By default, the measurement system will use the 10% and 90% levels of the waveform for taking the rise time measurement. You can change these values to other percentages or change them to absolute voltage levels.

To examine the current values, press Level Setup (main) → High Ref (side).

The General Purpose Knob. The general purpose knob, the large knob, is now set to adjust the high reference level (Figure 2–16.)

There are several important things to observe on the screen:

- The knob icon appears at the top of the screen. The knob icon indicates that the general purpose knob has just been set to adjust a parameter.
- The upper right corner of the screen shows the readout High Ref: 90%.
- The High Ref side menu item is highlighted, and a box appears around the 90% readout in the High Ref menu item. The box indicates that the general purpose knob is currently set to adjust that parameter.

Turn the general purpose knob left and right, and then use it to adjust the high level to 80%. That sets the high measurement reference to 80%.
Hint: To make large changes quickly with the general purpose knob, press the **SHIFT** button before turning the knob. When the light above the **SHIFT** button is on and the display says **Coarse Knobs** in the upper-right corner, the general purpose knob speeds up significantly.

![Figure 2–16: General Purpose Knob Indicators](image)

**The Numeric Keypad.** Any time the general purpose knob is set to adjust a numeric parameter, you can enter the value as a number using the keypad instead of using the knob. Always end the entry of a number by pressing **ENTER (↵)**.

The numeric keypad also provides multipliers for engineering exponents, such as m for milli, M for mega, and µ for micro. To enter these multiplier values, press the **SHIFT** button, and then press the multiplier.
1. Press Low Ref (side).

2. On the numeric keypad, press the 2, the 0, and the ENTER (←) buttons, which sets the low measurement reference to 20%. Observe that the rise-time value has changed.

3. Press Remove Measrmnt (main) → All Measurements (side). That returns the display to its original state.

Displaying a Snapshot of Automated Measurements

You have seen how to display up to four individual automated measurements on screen. You can also pop up a display of almost all of the automated measurements available in the Select Measrmnts side menus. This snapshot of measurements is taken on the waveform currently selected using the channel selection buttons.

As when displaying individual measurements, you must have a stable display of your signal, and that signal must have all the segments necessary for the measurement you want.

1. Press Snapshot (main) to pop up a snapshot of all available single waveform measurements. (See Figure 2–17.)

   The snapshot display includes the label Ch 1, meaning that the measurements displayed are taken on the channel 1 waveform. You take a snapshot of a waveform in another channel by first selecting that channel using the channel selection buttons.

   The snapshot measurements do not continuously update. Snapshot executes a one-time capture of all measurements and does not update those measurements unless it is performed again.

2. Press Again (side) to do another snapshot and update the snapshot measurements.

3. Press Remove Measrmnt (main) to remove the snapshot display. (You can also press CLEAR MENU, but a new snapshot will be executed the next time you display the Measure menu.)
Example 4: Saving Setups

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes can save its controls settings and recall them later to quickly re-establish a setup. It provides ten storage locations to store up to ten setups. It also provides a file system, so that you can also save setups to a floppy disk, an optional hard disk, or an external Zip drive. Do the following procedures to learn how to save, and then recall, a setup.

NOTE. Besides being able to save several complete setups, the oscilloscope remembers all the parameter settings when you power it off. That feature lets you power on and continue where you left off without having to reconstruct the setup in effect when you powered off the oscilloscope.

Save a Setup

First, you need to create an instrument setup you want to save. Perform the following steps to create and save a setup that is complex enough that you might prefer not to go through all these steps each time you want that display:

1. If you are not continuing from the previous example, follow the instructions on page 2–9 under the heading Setting Up for the Examples.
2. Press SETUP → Recall Factory Setup (main) → OK Confirm Factory Init (side).

3. Press AUTOSET.

4. Press MEASURE → Select Measrmnt (main) → Frequency (side). (Press the –more– side menu item if the Frequency selection does not appear in the side menu.)

5. Press CH 2 → CLEAR MENU.

6. Press SAVE/RECALL SETUP → Save Current Setup (main) to display the Setup main menu. (See Figure 2–18.)

CAUTION. Setup locations in the side menu appear with the label user if they contain a stored setup or with the label factory if they do not. To avoid overwriting (and losing forever) a saved setup, choose a setup location labeled factory. (Setup locations labeled factory have the factory setup stored as a default and can be used to store current setups without disturbing previously stored setups.)

![Figure 2–18: Save/Recall Setup Menu](image-url)
7. Press one of the To Setup side menu buttons to store the current instrument settings into that setup location. Remember which setup location you selected for use later.

There are more setup locations than can be listed at one time in the side menu. The –more– side menu item gives you access to all the setup locations.

Once you have saved a particular setup, you can change the settings as you wish, knowing that you can come back to that setup at any time.

8. Press MEASURE → Positive Width (side) to add that measurement to the display.

Recall a Setup

To recall the setup, press SAVE/RECALL SETUP → Recall Saved Setup (main) → Recall Setup (side) for the setup location you used in the last exercise. The positive width measurement is now removed from the display because you selected it after you saved the setup.

The step just performed completes the examples. You can restore the default settings by pressing SETUP → Recall Factory Setup (main) → OK Confirm Factory Init (side).
Overview

This chapter describes in detail how to perform the operating tasks you must do to measure, test, process, or save and document your waveforms. It leads with three sections on the fundamental tasks of acquiring, stably displaying, and taking measurements on waveforms:

- **Acquiring and Displaying Waveforms**
- **Triggering on Waveforms**
- **Measuring Waveforms**

Once you have acquired and measured waveforms, you may want to save and restore them or the control setups used to acquire and measure them. Or you may want to save the display screen, complete with waveform and setup information, to include them with the documents you produce with your desk top publishing system. You may even want to digitally process them (add, multiply, or divide them; integrate, differentiate or take an FFT of them). The following two topics cover these tasks:

- **Saving Waveforms and Setups**
- **Using Features for Advanced Applications**

When performing any operation task, you might want to display a comprehensive listing of its current control settings on screen. Or you may find it handy to display operating information about front panel controls and menus instead of looking them up in this manual. The following topic tells you how to do both:

- **Determining Status and Accessing Help**

The topics just listed contain steps that you perform to accomplish the task that the topic defines. You should read *Conventions* on page xi of *Preface* before reading about these tasks.

Each topic just listed comprises more basic operation tasks and topics. A list of these tasks follows.
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Acquiring and Displaying Waveforms

To use the TDS 694C Oscilloscopes to measure or monitor waveforms, you need to know how to acquire, select, and display those waveforms properly. To help you do so, this section describes how to do the following tasks:

- How to couple waveforms to the oscilloscope channels
- How to select channels to turn on and off their display
- How to size and position the selected channel on screen
- How to use the menus to set vertical (coupling, offset, and bandwidth) and horizontal (time base, record length, and so on) parameters

This section also describes how to choose the appropriate acquisition mode for acquiring your waveform, how to customize the display (including selecting the color of the display elements).

Coupling Waveforms to the Oscilloscope

Tektronix produces a variety of probes and cables suitable for connecting various types of signals to the input channels of this product. This subsection covers two topics important to coupling: *Probe Compensation* and *Input Impedance Considerations*.

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes ships without probes. Tektronix recommends you order and use the P6249, P6339 or P6158 probes. These probes take advantage of the higher bandwidth of these models.

Tektronix also offers a variety of optical probes, differential probes, adapters, and BNC cabling and connectors to couple a variety of signal sources to the input channels. See *Options and Accessories* on page A–1 or your Tektronix Sales representative for the specific items offered for signal coupling.

To Find More Information

To find a procedure for changing the coupling and input impedance settings, see *To Change Vertical Parameters* on page 3–11.

To find a list of available probes, see *Accessory Probes* on page A–3.

To find a guide for selecting probes for a variety of applications, see *Appendix D: Probe Selection* on page D–1.
Setting up Automatically: Autoset and Reset

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes can automatically obtain and display a stable waveform of usable size. It can also be reset to its factory default settings. This subsection describes how to execute Autoset and reset, and lists the default settings in effect after an Autoset.

Autoset automatically sets up the front panel controls based on the characteristics of the input signal. It is much faster and easier than a manual control-by-control setup. Autoset adjusts controls in these categories: Acquisition, Display, Horizontal, Trigger, and Vertical.

Do the following steps to automatically set up the oscilloscope:

1. Press the channel selection button (such as CH 1) corresponding to your input channel to make it active.

2. Press AUTOSET.

If you use Autoset when one or more channels are displayed, the oscilloscope selects the lowest numbered channel for horizontal scaling and triggering. Vertically, all channels in use are individually scaled. If you use Autoset when no channels are displayed, the oscilloscope will turn on channel one (CH 1) and scale it.

NOTE. Autoset may change vertical position in order to position the waveform appropriately. If an offsetable level II probe is attached, AUTOSET will adjust offset to center the signal in the dynamic range of the probe.
**List of Autoset Defaults**

Table 3–1 lists the autoset defaults.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Control</th>
<th>Changed by autoset to</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Selected channel</td>
<td>Numerically lowest of the displayed channels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquire Mode</td>
<td>Sample</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acquire Stop After</td>
<td>RUN/STOP button only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deskew, Channel/Probe</td>
<td>Unchanged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Display Style</td>
<td>Vectors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Display Intensity — Overall</td>
<td>If less than 50%, set to 75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Display Format</td>
<td>YT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horizontal Position</td>
<td>Centered within the graticule window</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horizontal Scale</td>
<td>As determined by the signal frequency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horizontal Time Base</td>
<td>Main Only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horizontal Record Length</td>
<td>Unchanged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horizontal Lock</td>
<td>Unchanged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horizontal Fit-to-Screen</td>
<td>Unchanged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limit Test</td>
<td>Off</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trigger Position</td>
<td>Unchanged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trigger Type</td>
<td>Edge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trigger Source</td>
<td>Numerically lowest of the displayed channels (the selected channel)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trigger Level</td>
<td>Midpoint of data for the trigger source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trigger Slope</td>
<td>Positive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trigger Coupling</td>
<td>DC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trigger Holdoff</td>
<td>Default Holdoff: Set equal to 5 horizontal divisions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adjustable Holdoff: 250 ns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Selection in Mode and Holdoff menu determines whether the default holdoff value or the adjustable hold value is used.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vertical Scale</td>
<td>As determined by the signal level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vertical Coupling</td>
<td>DC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vertical Offset</td>
<td>0 volts, except offsetable probes, the offset will be set to the mid point of the signal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoom</td>
<td>Off</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
To Reset the Oscilloscope

Do the following steps to reset the oscilloscope to its factory default settings:

1. Press the Save/Recall SETUP button to display the Setup menu (see Figure 3–1). Press the button directly below the Recall Factory Setup menu item.

2. Press the button to the right of the OK Confirm Factory Init side menu item.

3. Press the SET LEVEL TO 50% button (front panel) to be sure the oscilloscope triggers on the input signal.

Selecting Channels

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes applies all actions based on a specific waveform, such as taking measurements or applying any changes it receives to the vertical control settings, to the selected waveform. You can select a channel waveform, a math waveform, or a reference waveform. This subsection describes how to select a waveform and how you can turn the display of a waveform off.

To Identify the Selected Channel

To determine which channel is currently selected, check the channel readout. It shows the selected channel in inverse video in the lower left corner of the display. The channel reference indicator for the selected channel also appears in reverse video along the left side of the display. (See Figure 3–1.)
To Select a Channel, use the *channel selection* buttons on the right of the display. These buttons labeled **CH 1**, **CH 2**, **CH 3**, **CH 4**, and **MORE** select a channel and display it if its off. (The **MORE** button allows you to select internally stored *Math* and *Ref* waveforms for display and manipulation.) The selected channel is indicated by the lighting the LED above the button of the selected channel.

Do the following steps to first display and then remove waveforms from the display:

1. Press **CH 1**, **CH 2**, **CH 3**, or **CH 4** to turn on as many of these channels as desired. The one you select last (or first if you only select one) becomes the selected channel. Selecting a channel turns it on if it is not already on.

   You do not use the channel selection buttons to select the trigger source. Instead you select the trigger source in the Main Trigger menu or Delayed Trigger menu.

2. Press **WAVEFORM OFF** to turn OFF the display of the selected channel waveform. It will also remove from the display any automated measurements being made on that waveform.

3. To select a math waveform you have created or a reference waveform you have stored, press **MORE** and select the waveform from the More menu. Press **WAVEFORM OFF** while the MORE button is lit to remove the display of the waveform selected in the More menu.

---

**Waveform Priority**

When you turn off a waveform, the oscilloscope automatically selects the next highest priority waveform. Figure 3–2 shows the order of priority.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Waveform</th>
<th>Priority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CH1</td>
<td>1. MATH1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH2</td>
<td>2. MATH2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH3</td>
<td>3. MATH3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH4</td>
<td>4. REF1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5. REF2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6. REF3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7. REF4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Figure 3–2: Waveform Selection Priority**

Note Figure 3–2 shows two orders of priority due to the following rules: If you are turning off more than one priority and you start by turning off a channel waveform, all channels will be turned off before going to the **MORE** waveforms. If you start by turning off the **MORE** waveforms, all the **MORE** waveforms will be turned off before going to the channel waveforms.

If you turn off a channel that is a trigger source, it continues to be the trigger source even though the waveform is not displayed.
Acquiring and Displaying Waveforms

To Find More Information

To read about selecting reference waveforms, see *Saving and Recalling Waveforms* on page 3–118.

To read about selecting (and creating) math waveforms, see *Waveform Math* on page 3–150.

Scaling and Positioning Waveforms

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes allows you to scale (change the vertical or horizontal size) and position (move up, down, left, or right) waveforms on screen for best display. (Figure 3–3 shows the results of both vertical and horizontal scaling and positioning.) This section first tells you how to quickly check and set vertical and horizontal scales, positions, and other parameters, such as vertical bandwidth and horizontal record length.

To Check Position

To quickly see the position of the waveform in the display, check the Channel Reference, and Record icons. (See figures 3–3.)

The Channel Reference icon, at the left side of the display, points to ground on the waveform record when offset is set to 0 V. The oscilloscope contracts or expands the selected waveform around this point when you change the vertical scale.

The Record View, at the top of the display, indicates where the trigger occurs and what part of the waveform record is displayed.

To Check the Vertical Scale

Check the Vertical Readout at the bottom-left part of the display to read the volts/division setting for each displayed channel (the selected channel is in inverse video). (See Figure 3–4.)
The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes permits you to change vertical scale and position quickly from the front panel using dedicated control knobs. To change the vertical scale and position:

1. Turn the vertical SCALE knob. Note only the scale of the selected waveform changes.

   As you turn the vertical SCALE knob clockwise, the value decreases resulting in higher resolution because you see a smaller part of the waveform. As you turn it counterclockwise, the scale increases allowing you to see more of the waveform but with lower resolution.

2. Turn the vertical POSITION knob. Again, note that only the selected waveform changes position.
3. To make positioning faster, press the **SHIFT** button. When the light above the **SHIFT** button is on and the display says **Coarse Knobs** in the upper right corner, the **POSITION** knob positions waveforms more quickly.

The **POSITION** knob simply adds screen divisions to the reference point of the selected waveform. Adding divisions moves the waveform up and subtracting them moves the waveform down. You also can adjust the waveform position using the offset option in the Vertical menu (discussed later in this section).

![Vertical Readout](image)

**Figure 3–4: Vertical Readouts and Channel Menu**

By changing the vertical scale, you can focus on a particular portion of a waveform. By adjusting the vertical position, you can move the waveform up or down on the display. Adjustment of vertical position is particularly useful when you are comparing two or more waveforms.
To select the coupling, and offset for the selected waveform, use the Vertical menu (Figure 3–4). This menu also lets you numerically change the position or scale instead of using the vertical knobs. To make such changes, do the following procedures:

**NOTE.** The TDS 694C requires a P6339 probe for AC coupling, 10 MΩ input impedance, and bandwidth selections to appear in the menus.

**Coupling.** To choose the type of coupling for attaching the input signal to the vertical attenuator for the selected channel and to set its input impedance:

Press VERTICAL MENU → Coupling (main) → DC, GND, or (side).

- **DC**
  - DC coupling shows both the AC and DC components of an input signal.

- **GND**
  - Ground (GND) coupling disconnects the input signal from the acquisition.

**Fine Scale.** To make fine adjustments to the vertical scale, press VERTICAL MENU → Fine Scale (main) and use the general purpose knob or the keypad.

**Position.** To adjust the vertical position to a specific number of divisions, press VERTICAL MENU → Position (main) and use the general purpose knob or the keypad to set the offset value. Press Set to 0 divs (side) if you want to reset the reference point of the selected waveform to the center of the display.

**Offset.** Use offset to subtract DC bias before examining a waveform. For example, you might want to display a small ripple (for example, 100 mV of ripple) on a power supply output (for example, a +5 V output). Adjust offset to keep the ripple on screen while setting the vertical scale sensitive enough to best display the ripple.

To adjust offset, press VERTICAL MENU → Offset (main). Then use the general purpose knob or keypad to set the vertical offset. Press Set to 0 V (side) if you want to reset the offset to zero.

**To Set External Attenuation**

You can set an external attenuation (or gain) in addition to the attenuation specified by the probe.

To set external attenuation, press VERTICAL MENU → Probe Functions (main) → External Attenuation or External Attenuation in dB (side).

**External Attenuation** — Use the general purpose knob or the keypad to set the external attenuation as a multiplier.
**External Attenuation in dB** — Use the general purpose knob or the keypad to set the external attenuation in dB.

To Check the Horizontal Status

Check the *Record View* to determine the size and location of the waveform record and the location of the trigger relative to the display. (See Figure 3–5.)

Check the *Time Base readout* at the lower right of the display to see the time/division settings and the time base (main or delayed) being referred to. (See Figure 3–5. Also see Figure 3–3 on page 3–9.) Since all live waveforms use the same time base, the oscilloscope only displays one time base and time/division setting for all the active channels.

---

**Figure 3–5: Record View and Time Base Readouts**
To Change Horizontal Scale and Position

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes provides control of horizontal position and scale using the horizontal front panel knobs.

By changing the horizontal position, you can move the waveform right or left to see different portions of the waveform. That is particularly useful when you are using larger record sizes and cannot view the entire waveform on one screen.

To change the horizontal scale and position:

1. Turn the horizontal POSITION and horizontal SCALE knobs. (See Figure 3–6.)
2. If you want the POSITION knob to move faster, press the SHIFT button. When the light above the shift button is on and the display says Coarse Knobs in the upper right corner, the POSITION knob positions waveforms more quickly.

![Horizontal Controls Diagram](image)

Figure 3–6: Horizontal Controls

When you select a channel, the horizontal SCALE knob scales all channel waveforms displayed at the same time. If you select a math or reference waveform, the knob scales only the selected waveform.
When you select a channel, the horizontal POSITION knob positions all channel, reference, and math waveforms displayed at the same time when Horizontal Lock is set to Lock in the Zoom menu. See Zoom a Waveform on page 3–33.

To select the waveform record length and the trigger position, use the Horizontal menu. You can also use this menu to change the horizontal position or scale instead of using the horizontal knobs. You can select the delayed time base (see Delayed Triggering on page 3–80).

Trigger Position. The trigger point marks time zero in a waveform or acquisition (in Extended Acquisition mode) record. All record points before the trigger event make up the pretrigger portion of the record. Every record point after the trigger event is part of the posttrigger portion. All timing measurements in the record are made relative to the trigger event. To define the trigger point position:

Press HORIZONTAL MENU \(\rightarrow\) Trigger Position (main) \(\rightarrow\) Set to 10\%, Set to 50\%, or Set to 90\% (side), or use the general purpose knob or the keypad to change the value.

Record Length. The number of points that make up the waveform record is defined by the record length. To set the waveform record length:

1. Press HORIZONTAL MENU \(\rightarrow\) Record Length (main). Select the record length desired from the side menu. Press –more– to see additional choices:

   TDS 694C Oscilloscopes have standard record lengths up to 30,000 points. Record lengths up to 120,000 with Option 1M.

2. To fit an acquired waveform (or with Extended Acquisition On, an acquisition) to the visible screen, regardless of record length, press HORIZONTAL MENU \(\rightarrow\) Record Length (main). Then toggle Fit to Screen to ON from the side menu. This feature fits the waveform automatically much like you could do manually — by turning zoom mode on and changing the time/division until the waveform fits the screen. To turn off this feature, toggle Fit to Screen to OFF.

Horizontal Scale. To change the horizontal scale (time per division) numerically in the menu instead of using the Horizontal SCALE knob:

Press HORIZONTAL MENU \(\rightarrow\) Horiz Scale (main) \(\rightarrow\) Main Scale or Delayed Scale (side), and use the keypad or the general purpose knob to change the scale values.
Horizontal Position. To set the horizontal position to specific values in the menu instead of using the Horizontal POSITION knob:

Press HORIZONTAL MENU → Horiz Pos (main) → Set to 10%, Set to 50%, or Set to 90% (side) to choose how much of the waveform will be displayed to the left of the display center.

You can also control whether changing the horizontal position setting affects all displayed waveforms, just the live waveforms, or only the selected waveform. See Zoom a Waveform, on page 3–33 for the steps to set the horizontal lock feature.

To Select the Delayed Time Base

You also can select Delayed Runs After Main or Delayed Triggerable. Use the main time base for most applications. Use the delayed time base when you want to delay an acquisition so it captures and displays events that follow other events. See To Find More Information below.

To Find More Information

To perform tutorials that teach selecting, scaling, and positioning of waveforms, see Example 1: Displaying a Waveform on page 2–13 and Example 2: Displaying Multiple Waveforms on page 2–16.

To learn how to use delay with waveforms, see Delayed Triggering on page 3–80. To learn how to magnify waveforms, see Zooming on Waveforms, on page 3–32.

Choosing an Acquisition Mode

The TDS Oscilloscopes are digital products that can acquire and process your input signal in a variety of modes. To help you choose the best mode to use for your signal measurement task, this section first describes:

- How the oscilloscope samples and digitizes an input signal
- How the different acquisition modes (such as interpolation) affect this process
- How to select among these modes

Following these descriptions are procedures for selecting the sampling and acquisition modes, beginning with Checking the Acquisition Readout on page 3–20.
Acquiring and Displaying Waveforms

**Sampling and Digitizing**

Acquisition is the process of sampling the analog input signal, digitizing it to convert it into digital data, and assembling it into a waveform record. (See Figure 3–7.) The oscilloscope creates a digital representation of the input signal by sampling the voltage level of the signal at regular time intervals. The sampled and digitized points are stored in memory along with corresponding timing information. You can use this digital representation of the signal for display, measurements, or further processing.

![Input Signal, Sample, and Digitize](image)

**Figure 3–7: Acquisition: Input Analog Signal, Sample, and Digitize**

The oscilloscope uses the samples it takes (see Figure 3–9) to create a waveform record containing a user-specified number of data or record points. Each record point represents a certain voltage level that occurs a determined amount of time from the trigger event.

The oscilloscope may take more samples than the number of points in your waveform record. In fact, the oscilloscope may take several samples for each record point (see Figure 3–8). The digitizer can use any extra samples to perform additional processing, such as looking for minimum and maximum values. The methods of sampling and acquisition modes you choose determine how the oscilloscope assembles the sample points it acquires into the waveform record.

![Samples for a record point](image)

**Figure 3–8: Several Points May be Acquired for Each Point Used**
The general method of sampling are real-time and equivalent-time. The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes use only real-time sampling.

In real-time sampling, the oscilloscope digitizes all the points it acquires after one trigger event (see Figure 3–9). Always use real-time sampling to capture single-shot or transient events.

**Real-time Sampling**

Your oscilloscope can interpolate between the samples it acquires. It does so only when it cannot obtain all the real samples it needs to fill up its waveform record. For instance, setting the horizontal SCALE to progressively faster acquisition rates leaves progressively shorter time periods for the waveform record. Therefore, the oscilloscope must sample faster to acquire the samples (record points) needed to fill up the record. Eventually the time period established by scale setting does not allow enough time to get all the real samples needed to fill the record.

The situation just described occurs if you set the Horizontal SCALE knob to a time base setting that is faster than 5 ns. The oscilloscope then interpolates to create the intervening points in the waveform record. There are two options for interpolation: linear or sin(x)/x.

*Linear interpolation* computes record points between actual acquired samples by using a straight line fit. It assumes all the interpolated points fall in their appropriate point in time on that straight line. Linear interpolation is useful for many waveforms such as pulse trains.

*Sin(x)/x interpolation* computes record points using a curve fit between the actual values acquired. It assumes all the interpolated points fall along that curve. That is particularly useful when acquiring more rounded waveforms such as sine waves. Actually, it is appropriate for general use, although it may introduce some overshoot or undershoot in signals with fast rise times.

**Interpolation**

The TDS 694C oscilloscope supports the following four acquisition modes: Sample, Envelope, Average, and Peak Detect.

Sample (the mode most commonly used), Peak Detect operate in real time on a single trigger event, provided that the oscilloscope can acquire enough samples for each trigger event. Envelope and Average modes operate on multiple
acquisitions; the oscilloscope averages or envelopes several waveforms on a point-by-point basis.

Figure 3–10 illustrates the different modes and lists the benefits of each. It will help you select the appropriate mode for your application. Refer to it as you read the following descriptions of each mode.

**Sample Mode.** In Sample mode, the oscilloscope creates a record point by saving the first sample (of perhaps many) during each acquisition interval. (An acquisition interval is the time covered by the waveform record divided by the record length.) Sample mode is the default mode.

**Envelope Mode.** In Envelope mode, the oscilloscope acquires and displays a waveform record that shows the extremes in variation over several acquisitions (you specify the number of acquisitions). The oscilloscope saves the highest and lowest values in two adjacent intervals similar to the Peak Detect mode. But Envelope mode, unlike Peak Detect, gathers peaks over many trigger events. After each trigger event, the oscilloscope acquires data and then compares the min/max values from the current acquisition with those stored from previous acquisitions. The final display shows the most extreme values for all the acquisitions for each point in the waveform record.

**Average Mode.** Average mode lets you acquire and display a waveform record that is the averaged result of several acquisitions. This mode reduces random noise. The oscilloscope acquires data after each trigger event using Sample mode. It then averages the record point from the current acquisition with those stored from previous acquisitions.

**Peak Detect Mode.** Peak Detect mode alternates between saving the highest sample in one acquisition interval and lowest sample in the next acquisition interval. Peak Detect mode only works with real-time, noninterpolated sampling.

If you set the time base so fast that it requires real-time interpolation, the mode automatically changes from Peak Detect to Sample, although the menu selection will not change.

**NOTE.** For record lengths of 30,000 points of less, the Peak Detect sample interval will be 100ps. For record lengths of 50,000 points or greater, the Peak Detect sample interval will be 400ps.
### Single Waveform Acquisition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interval 1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Samples Acquired in Four Acquisition Intervals</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Acquisition Mode
- Sample

- Uses first sample in interval

#### Displayed Record Points

- Interval 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

#### Waveform Drawn on CRT

Use for fastest acquisition rate. This is the default mode.

### Multiple Waveform Acquisitions

#### Three Acquisitions from One Source

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acquisition 1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Uses Peak Detect Mode for Each Acquisition</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Use to reveal variations in the signal across time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acquisition 1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Uses Sample Mode for Each Acquisition</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Use to reduce apparent noise in a repetitive signal.

#### Envelope

Finds highest and lowest record points over many acquisitions

#### Average

Calculates average value for each record point over many acquisitions

---

**Figure 3–10: How the Acquisition Modes Work**
To determine the acquisition sampling rate, the acquisition state (running or stopped), and the acquisition mode, check the Acquisition readout at the top of the display. (See Figure 3–11.) The state “Run:” shows the sample rate and acquisition mode. The state “Stop:” shows the number of acquisitions acquired since the last stop or major change.

The oscilloscope provides several modes (see The Acquisition Modes on page 3–17) for acquiring and converting analog data into digital form. To choose how the oscilloscope will create points in the waveform record:

1. Press SHIFT ACQUIRE MENU → Mode (main). (See Figure 3–11.)
2. Press Sample, Envelope, Average, or Peak Detect (side) or ...
3. If you selected Envelope or Average, enter the number of waveform records to be enveloped or averaged using the keypad or the general purpose knob.

To choose the event that stops the acquiring waveforms, do the following step:

Press SHIFT ACQUIRE MENU → Stop After (main) → RUN/STOP button only, Single Acquisition Sequence, or Limit Test Condition Met (side). (See Figure 3–12.)
Press **RUN/STOP button only** (side) to use the **RUN/STOP** button to start or stop acquiring. Pressing the **RUN/STOP** button once will stop the acquisitions. The upper left hand corner in the display will say “Stop” and show the number of acquisitions. If you press the button again, the oscilloscope will resume taking acquisitions.

**RUN/STOP Foot Switch** performs the same function as the **RUN/STOP button only**. The foot switch is recommended when both hands are needed to probe two test points. To toggle the **RUN/STOP** function you can easily step on the foot switch. The foot switch connects to the TDS 694C Oscilloscope’s RS–232 port located on the rear panel. See Appendix A: Table A–2, for Standard accessories

**Set Communications Parameters.** To set up the communication parameters for a foot switch attached directly to the oscilloscope RS-232 port:

Press **SHIFT → UTILITY → System** (main) → **I/O** (pop-up) → **Configure** (main) → **Foot Switch RUN/STOP** (side).

Press **Single Acquisition Sequence** (side). That selection lets you run a single sequence of acquisitions by pressing the **RUN/STOP** button. In Sample, Peak Detect, the oscilloscope will acquire a waveform record with the first valid trigger event and stop.

In Envelope or Average mode, the oscilloscope will make the specified number of acquisitions to complete the averaging or enveloping task.
**NOTE.** To quickly select Single Acquisition Sequence without displaying the Acquire and Stop After menus, press SHIFT FORCE TRIG. Now the RUN/STOP button operates as just described. (You still must display the Acquire menu and then the Stop After menu to leave Single Acquisition Sequence operation.)

- Press **Limit Test Condition Met** (side) to acquire waveforms until waveform data exceeds the limits specified in the limit test. Then acquisition stops. At that point, you can also specify other actions for the oscilloscope to take, using the selections available in the Limit Test Setup main menu.

**NOTE.** For the oscilloscope to stop an acquisition when limit test conditions have been met, limit testing must be turned ON using the Limit Test Setup main menu.

Setting up limit testing requires several more steps. See *Limit Testing* on page 3–145.

### Preventing Aliasing

Under certain conditions, a waveform may be aliased on screen. Read the following description about aliasing and the suggestions for preventing it.

**About Aliasing.** When a waveform aliases, it appears on screen with a frequency lower than the actual waveform being input or it appears unstable even though the light next to **TRIG’D** is lighted. Aliasing occurs because the oscilloscope cannot sample the signal fast enough to construct an accurate waveform record. (See Figure 3–13.)

![Figure 3–13: Aliasing](image)

**Methods to Check and Eliminate.** To quickly check for aliasing, slowly increase the horizontal scale (time per division setting). If the shape of the displayed waveform changes drastically or becomes stable at a faster time base setting, your waveform was probably aliased.
Acquiring and Displaying Waveforms

To avoid aliasing, be sure to sample the input signal at a rate more than twice as fast as the highest frequency component. For example, a signal with frequency components of 500 MHz would need to be sampled at a rate faster than 1 Gigasamples/second to represent it accurately and to avoid aliasing. The following tips may help you eliminate aliasing on a signal:

- Try adjusting the horizontal scale.
- Try pressing the AUTOSET button.
- Try switching the acquisition mode (in the acquisition menu) to Envelope or Peak Detect. Envelope searches for samples with the highest and lowest values over multiple acquisitions; Peak Detect mode does the same but in a single acquisition. Either can detect faster signal components over time.

Customizing the Display

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes can display waveform records and other display elements in different ways. This section describes how to adjust the oscilloscope display style, intensity level, graticule, and format.

Change Display Settings

To bring up the Display menu:

Press DISPLAY → Settings (main) → Display (pop-up).

The Display menu allows you to adjust the style, intensity level, graticule, and format features described below. The Color menu allows you to alter color settings for various display components such as waveforms and text. To find more information on color, see Customizing the Display Color on page 3–28.

Select the Display Style

Press DISPLAY → Settings (main) → Display (pop-up) → Style (main) → Vectors, Dots, Intensified Samples, Infinite Persistence, or Variable Persistence (side). (See Figure 3–14.)

Vectors style displays vectors (lines) between the record points.

Dots style displays waveform record points as dots.

Intensified Samples style also displays waveform record points as dots. However, the points actually sampled are displayed in the color labeled “Zone” in the Display Colors menus.

In addition to choosing Intensified Samples in the side menu, the oscilloscope must be interpolating or Zoom must be on with its horizontal expansion greater that 1X. See Interpolation on page 3–17; see Zooming on Waveforms on page 3–32.
Variable Persistence style accumulates the record points on screen and displays them only for a specific time interval. In that mode, the display behaves like that of an analog oscilloscope. You enter the time for that option with the keypad or the general purpose knob. Record points are also displayed with colors that vary depending on the persistence of the point. See Choose a Palette on page 3–29.

Infinite Persistence style accumulates the record points until you change some control (such as scale factor) causing the display to be erased.

**Figure 3–14: Display Menu — Style**

Adjust Intensity

Intensity lets you set text/graticule and waveform intensity (brightness) levels. To set the intensity:

Press DISPLAY → Settings (main) → Display (pop-up) → Intensity (main) → Text/Grat or Waveform (side). Enter the intensity percentage values with the keypad or the general purpose knob.

All intensity adjustments operate over a range from 20% (close to fully off) to 100% (fully bright).

Set Display Readout Options

Readout options control whether the trigger indicator, trigger level bar, and current date and time appear on the display. The options also control what style trigger level bar, long or short, is displayed.
1. Press **DISPLAY → Settings** (main) → **Display** (pop-up) → **Readout Options** (main).

2. Toggle **Display ‘T’ @ Trigger Point** (side) to select whether or not to display ‘T’ indicating the trigger point. You can select **ON** or **OFF**. (The trigger point indicates the position of the trigger in the waveform record.)

3. Press **Trigger Bar Style** (side) to select either the short or the long trigger bar or to turn the trigger bar off. (See Figure 3–15. Note that both styles are shown for illustrating purposes, but you can only display one style at a time.)

   The trigger bar is only displayed if the trigger source is an active, displayed waveform. Also, two trigger bars are displayed when delay triggerable acquisitions are displayed — one for the main and one for the delayed time base. The trigger bar is a visual indicator of the trigger level.

**Figure 3–15: Trigger Point and Level Indicators**
Acquiring and Displaying Waveforms

Sometimes, especially when using the hardcopy feature, you may want to display the current date and time on screen. (To find more information displaying and setting date and time, see Date/Time Stamp the Hardcopy on page 3–130.)

4. Press **Display Date/Time** (side) to turn it on or off. Push **Clear Menu** to see the current date and time.

**Select Interpolation Filter**

The display filter types are sin(x)/x interpolation and linear interpolation. To switch between interpolation filters:

**DISPLAY → Settings** (main) → **Display** (pop-up) → **Filter** (main) → **Sin(x)/x Interpolation** or **Linear Interpolation** (side).

**NOTE**. When the horizontal scale is set to the faster rates (2 ns/div for the TDS 694C) or when using the ZOOM feature to expand waveforms horizontally, interpolation occurs. (The filter type, linear or sin(x)/x, depends on which is set in the Display menu.) Otherwise, interpolation is not used. See Interpolation on page 3–17 for a discussion of interpolation.

**Select the Graticule Type**

To change the graticule:

Press **DISPLAY → Settings** (main) → **Display** (pop-up) → **Graticule** (main) → **Full, Grid, Cross Hair, Frame, NTSC or PAL** (side).

- **Full** provides a grid, cross hairs and a frame.
- **Grid** displays a frame and a grid.
- **Cross Hair** provides cross hairs, and a frame.
- **Frame** displays just a frame.
- **NTSC** provides a grid useful for measuring NTSC-class waveforms.
- **PAL** provides a grid useful for measuring PAL-class waveforms.

**NOTE**. Selecting either NTSC or PAL graticules automatically changes the vertical scale, position settings, coupling, and sets to zero any vertical offset of any channel displayed. These settings are not restored after switching to other graticule types. Therefore, you might want to recall the factory setup or other stored setup after selecting a different graticule.
The oscilloscope displays waveforms in either of two formats: YT and XY. To set the display axis format:

Press \textit{DISPLAY} \rightarrow \textit{Settings} (main) \rightarrow \textit{Display} (pop-up) \rightarrow \textit{Format} (main) \rightarrow \textit{XY} or \textit{YT} (side).

YT is the conventional oscilloscope display format. It shows a signal voltage (the vertical axis) as it varies over time (the horizontal axis).

XY format compares the voltage levels of two waveform records point by point. That is, the oscilloscope displays a graph of the voltage of one waveform record against the voltage of another waveform record. This mode is particularly useful for studying phase relationships.

When you choose the XY format, any channel or reference displayed is assigned to the axis indicated in Table 3–2 and displayed as part of an XY pair. If only one source in an XY pair is displayed, the oscilloscope automatically turns on the other source to complete the XY pair when you select XY. Moreover, once XY is on, selecting either source in a pair turns the pair on; pressing WAVEFORM OFF for either source in the pair removes both sources from the display.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>XY Pair</th>
<th>X-Axis source</th>
<th>Y-Axis source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ch 1 and Ch 2</td>
<td>Ch 1</td>
<td>Ch 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ch 3 and Ch 4</td>
<td>Ch 3</td>
<td>Ch 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ref 1 and Ref 2</td>
<td>Ref 1</td>
<td>Ref 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ref 3 and Ref 4</td>
<td>Ref 3</td>
<td>Ref 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Since selecting YT or XY affects only the display, the horizontal and vertical scale and position knobs and menus control the same parameters regardless of the mode selected. Specifically, in XY mode, the horizontal scale will continue to control the time base and the horizontal position will continue to control which portion of the waveforms are displayed.

XY format is a dot-only display, although it can have persistence. The Vector style selection has no effect when you select XY format.

You cannot display Math waveforms in XY format. They will disappear from the display when you select XY.
Customizing the Display Color

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes can display information in different colors. This section describes how to use the Color menu to choose the colors in which the various display objects appear.

Change the Display Color

To bring up the Color menu:

1. Press **DISPLAY** to show the Display menu.
2. Press **Settings** in the main menu until you select **Color** from the pop-up menu. (See Figure 3–16.)

The Color menu allows you to alter color settings for various display components such as waveforms and text. The Display menu allows you to adjust the style, intensity level, graticule, and format features. To find more information on display, see Change the Display Settings on page 3–23.

---

**Figure 3–16: Display Menu — Setting**
Choose a Palette

To choose a palette of 13 colors from a menu of preset palettes:

1. Choose the starting palette by selecting **Palette** from the main menu.

2. Select one of the available palettes in the side menu. Choose from **Normal**, **Bold**, **Hardcopy Preview** or **Monochrome**.

3. If you are using a persistence display and want to vary the color of each point depending on its persistence, choose **Persistence Palettes**. Then choose **Temperature**, **Spectral**, or **Gray Scale** from the resulting side menu. Choose **View Palette** to preview your selection on the display. Press **Persistence Palette** to quit preview mode. Press **Clear Menu** to return to the Palette menu.

**NOTE.** You can select the Hardcopy Preview palette when using certain color hardcopy formats. The default colors in this palette comprise a white background and fully saturated primary colors which generally produce the best result.

Change the Palette Colors

To change the color of the current palette, select a color and vary these attributes:

- **Hue**, which is the wavelength of light reflected from the surface. It varies continuously along the color spectrum as produced by a rainbow. Hue is not available on monochrome oscilloscopes.

- **Lightness**, which is the amount of light reflected from the surface. It varies from black, to the nominal color, to white.

- **Saturation**, which is the intensity of color. Completely desaturated color is gray. Completely saturated color of any hue is that color at its most intense level. Saturation is not available on monochrome oscilloscopes.

1. Color oscilloscopes: Select the main menu **Change Colors** item. (See Figure 3–17.)

   If changing the colors of a persistence palette: press **Palette** (main) → **Persistence Palettes** (side) → **View Palette** (main). Then select the palette you want to change from the side menu and select the main menu **Change Colors for** item.

2. Select one of the colors by pressing (repeatedly) **Color** (**Color Index** if changing a persistence palette) in the side menu.

3. If you want to use the factory default for this color or color index, press the side menu **Reset to Factory Color**.

4. Choose **Hue** from the side menu and use the general purpose knob or keypad to select the desired hue. Values range from 0 to 359. Sample values are:
0 = blue, 60 = magenta, 120 = red, 180 = yellow, 240 = green, and 300 = cyan.

5. Choose **Lightness** from the side menu and use the general purpose knob or keypad to select the lightness you desire. A value of 0 results in black. A value of 50 provides the nominal color. A value of 100 results in white.

6. Choose **Saturation** from the side menu and use the general purpose knob or keypad to select the saturation you desire. A value of 100 provides a pure color. A value of 0 provides gray.

---

**Figure 3–17: Display Menu — Palette Colors**

**Set Math Waveform Color**

To define math waveform colors:

1. Choose to define math waveform colors by selecting the main menu **Map Math** item.

2. Select one of the three math waveforms by pressing **Math** in the side menu.

3. If you want to assign the selected math waveform to a specific color, press **Color** and cycle through the choices.

4. If you want the selected math waveform to be the same color as the waveform it is based on, select **Color Matches Contents**. If the math waveform is based on dual waveforms, the math waveform will use the color of the first constituent waveform.
To return to the factory defaults, select **Reset to Factory Color**.

**Set Reference Waveform Color**

To define reference waveform colors:
1. Press **Map Reference** in the main menu. (See Figure 3–18.)
2. Select one of the four reference waveforms by pressing **Ref** in the side menu.
3. To assign the selected reference waveform to a specific color, press (repeatedly) **Color** and choose the value.
4. To make the selected reference waveform the same color as the waveform it is based on, select **Color Matches Contents**.

To return to the factory defaults, select **Reset to Factory Color**.

**Figure 3–18: Display Menu — Map Reference Colors**

**Select Options**

To define what color to show where a waveform crosses another waveform:
1. Press the **Options** main menu item.
2. Toggle **Collision Contrast** to **ON** in the side menu to mark collision zones with a special color.

**Restore Colors**

To restore colors to their factory default settings:
1. Press the main menu **Restore Colors** item. (See Figure 3–19.)

2. Select the object(s) you want to restore by pressing **Reset Current Palette To Factory**, **Reset All Palettes To Factory** (**Reset Palette** on monochrome oscilloscopes), or **Reset All Mappings To Factory** in the side menu.

### Zooming on Waveforms

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes can expand or compress (zoom in or out) on a waveform without changing the acquisition parameters (sample rate, record length, and so on). This section describes how to use Zoom and how it interacts with the selected waveform. It also describes how interpolation can affect Zoom.

Use Zoom (press the ZOOM button) when you want to temporarily expand a waveform to inspect small feature(s) on that waveform. For example, to temporarily expand the front corner of a pulse to inspect its aberrations, use Zoom to expand it horizontally and vertically. After you are finished, you can return to your original horizontal scale setting by pressing one menu button.

#### Using with Waveforms

To help you use zoom effectively, consider how it operates on waveforms. When zooming vertically, the oscilloscope expands or contracts the *selected* waveform only. Also, the oscilloscope only positions the selected waveform when in Zoom.
When zooming horizontally, Zoom expands either the selected waveform, all live waveforms, or all live and reference waveforms, depending on the setting for Horizontal Lock in the Zoom menu.

When zooming horizontally or vertically, Zoom expands or contracts the waveform by the zoom factor.

**Interpolation and Zoom**

To help you use Zoom effectively, consider how it is affected by interpolation. When you zoom on a waveform, you expand a portion of it. If the expansion requires the oscilloscope to show more points for that portion than it has acquired, it interpolates.

The method the oscilloscope uses to interpolate, linear or sin(x)/x, can affect the way Zoom displays your waveform. If you selected sin(x)/x (the default), it may introduce some overshoot or undershoot to the waveform edges. If such is the case, change the interpolation method to linear, following the instructions on page 3–35.

To read about the two interpolation methods, see *Interpolation* on page 3–17. To differentiate between the real and interpolated samples, set the display style to *Intensified Samples*. (See *Select the Display Style* on page 3–23.)

**Checking the Zoom Factor**

To quickly determine the zoom factor of a zoomed waveform, select it and check the Zoom readout. It shows the selected waveform by number, along with the horizontal and vertical expansion factors.

The Zoom readout appears at the top of the display when zoom is on. (See Figure 3–20 on page 3–35.) Dual-window (preview) mode does not display the Zoom readout.

**Zoom a Waveform**

To use Zoom, select a waveform, turn Zoom on, and magnify that waveform using the vertical and horizontal scale knobs:

1. Press any of waveform selection buttons **CH 1** through **CH 4** on the right side of the display. Or press **MORE** and select a math or reference waveform from the More menu.

2. Press **ZOOM**.
   
   Press **ZOOM → Mode** (main) → **ON** (side). The ZOOM front-panel button should light up. Toggle **Dual Zoom** to **OFF** in the side menu.

3. Adjust the vertical zoom factor for the selected waveform using the vertical **SCALE** knob. Adjust the vertical position of the zoomed waveform using the vertical **POSITION** knob.
4. Adjust the horizontal zoom factor using the horizontal **SCALE** knob. Adjust the horizontal position of the zoomed waveform using the horizontal **POSITION** knob.

Depending on the selection for Horizontal Lock in the side menu, Zoom affects the displayed waveforms as follows:

- **None** — only the waveform currently selected can be magnified and positioned horizontally (Figure 3–20).
- **Live** — all “live” (as opposed to reference) waveforms can be magnified and positioned horizontally at the same time. If a *reference* or *math* waveform is selected and Horizontal Lock set to Live, only the selected reference or math waveform is magnified and positioned.
- **All** — all waveforms displayed (live, math, and reference) can be magnified and positioned horizontally at the same time.

5. Press **ZOOM → Lock** (main) → **All, Live, or None** (side).

**NOTE.** Although Zoom must be turned on to control which waveforms Zoom affects, the setting for Horizontal Lock affects which waveforms the horizontal control positions whether Zoom is on or off. The rules for the three settings are listed in step 4 on page 3–34.
Acquiring and Displaying Waveforms

Set Interpolation
To change the interpolation method used, press Display → Settings (main) → Display (pop-up) → Filter (main) → Sin(x)/x Interpolation or Linear Interpolation (side).

Reset Zoom
To reset all zoom factors to their defaults, do the following step:

Press Zoom → Reset (main) → Reset Live Factors or Reset All Factors (side). Reset Live Factors resets only for live waveforms, as opposed to reference waveforms; Reset All Factors resets for all waveforms.

Using Dual Window Mode
The oscilloscope can display and control a waveform that is both zoomed and unzoomed (magnified and unmagnified). To do so, it creates two 1/2 height graticules, or windows, and displays the magnified waveform in the upper, and the unmagnified waveform in the lower graticule. To use Dual Window Zoom (also called zoom preview mode), do the following steps:

1. Press Zoom → Mode (main) → Preview (side). Note that the oscilloscope displays the box-enclosed area on the waveform as magnified in the top graticule. (See Figure 3–21.)

2. To scale or position the unmagnified waveform, press Selected Graticule (main) → Lower (side). Use the vertical and horizontal knobs to scale and position the unmagnified waveform in the box.
Note that as you scale or move the unmagnified waveform relative to the box, the oscilloscope alters the magnified display accordingly to include only the waveform portion within the box.

3. To scale or position the magnified waveform, press **Selected Graticule** (main) → **Upper** (side). Use the vertical and horizontal knobs to scale and position the magnified waveform.

Note that as you scale or move the magnified waveform, the oscilloscope scales or moves the box relative to the unmagnified waveform, so the box encloses only the waveform portion magnified in the upper graticule.

In Dual Window Zoom mode, the oscilloscope does not display the zoom magnification factors; however, it does display the scale factors (volts/division and time/division) for the zoomed waveform.

### Figure 3–21: Dual Window (Preview) Mode

**Dual Zoom a Waveform**

To select Dual Zoom, press **ZOOM → Mode** (main) → **Dual Zoom** (side) to toggle it to **ON**. (See Figure 3–22.)

Dual zoom displays a second zoomed view of the selected unzoomed waveform. The second zoomed view is offset in time from the first zoomed view. Also, zoom must be enabled (side menu set to On or Preview) to see the Dual Zoom displays.
To set the offset in time of the second zoomed waveform from the first, press **ZOOM → Mode** (main) → **Dual Zoom Offset** (side). Then turn the general purpose knob or use the keypad to set the offset.

Dual Zoom offset is always positive. The oscilloscope sets the offset as close to the requested value as possible. An offset request of 0.0 insures that the zoom boxes are butted up against each other, regardless of the zoom factor.

The horizontal zoom and scale factors determine the minimum offset time available. Both zoom boxes always enclose equal amounts of time with the second box always offset from the first by a time equal to one box. Doubling the zoom factor halves the time enclosed by either box and, therefore, halves the minimum offset time.

The oscilloscope retains any value input that is less than the minimum time available as a “request” if you enter that value using the keypad. Increasing the zoom factor or decreasing the horizontal scale to a setting that allows the requested value sets offset time to that value. You cannot set offset to less than the minimum offset time available when using the general purpose knob.

**NOTE.** To make setting up Dual Zoom easier, turn on Preview in the side menu. In this dual-window mode, the zoomed display appears in the top graticule, while the lower graticule shows the two zoomed portions enclosed in two boxes on the unzoomed waveform. Adjusting Dual Zoom offset moves the right box relative to the left box, which remains stationary. The associated zoomed waveform in the upper graticule moves to track the offset changes. You can also adjust the waveform relative to the zoom boxes by selecting the lower graticule and adjusting the vertical and horizontal control knobs. See Using Dual Window Mode on page 3–35.
Selected Graticule

Zoomed Waveform Edges

Zoom Boxes

Unzoomed Waveform

Figure 3–22: Dual Zoom — Shown Dual Window (Preview) Mode
To use the TDS 694C Oscilloscopes to measure or monitor waveforms, you need to know how to trigger a stable display of those waveforms. Toward that end, this section first covers the following topics:

- **Trigger Concepts** which details some basic principles of triggering and describes triggering elements: *type, source, coupling, holdoff, mode,* and so on.

- **Triggering from the Front Panel** which describes how to use the front-panel triggering controls each of which is common to most, if not all, the trigger types the oscilloscope provides.

Once these basics are covered, this section describes how to trigger using the various trigger types provided by the Main trigger system: *edge, logic,* and *pulse.*

- To use the “general purpose” trigger type, edge, see *Triggering on a Waveform Edge* on page 3–47.

- To logic trigger based on an input pattern, state, or setup/hold violation, see *Triggering Based on Logic* on page 3–51.

- To pulse trigger based on various pulse types (glitch, runt) or their parameters (width, slew rate) see *Triggering on Pulses* on page 3–67.

This section concludes with details about and instructions for using the *Delayed time base* and *Delayed trigger system* to delay the acquisition of a waveform relative to a trigger event. (See *Delayed Triggering* on page 3–80.)

**Triggering Concepts**

Triggers determine when the oscilloscope stops acquiring and displays a waveform. They help create meaningful waveforms from unstable jumbles or blank screens. (See Figure 3–23.) The oscilloscope has three types of triggers: *edge, logic,* pulse.
Triggering on Waveforms

The Trigger Event

The trigger event establishes the time-zero point in the waveform record. All points in the record are located in time with respect to that point. The oscilloscope continuously acquires and retains enough sample points to fill the pretrigger portion of the waveform record (that part of the waveform that is displayed before, or to the left of, the triggering event on screen). When a trigger event occurs, the oscilloscope starts acquiring samples to build the posttrigger portion of the waveform record (displayed after, or to the right of, the trigger event). Once a trigger is recognized, the digitizing oscilloscope will not accept another trigger until the acquisition is complete.

Trigger Sources

You can derive your trigger from the following sources:

*Input channels* provide the most commonly used trigger source. You can select any one of the four input channels. The channel you select as a trigger source will function whether it is displayed or not.

*AC Line Voltage* is the trigger source most often used when you are looking at signals related to the power line frequency. Examples include devices such as lighting equipment and power supplies. Because the oscilloscope generates the trigger, you do not have to input a signal to create the trigger.

*Auxiliary Trigger* is the trigger source most often used in doing digital design and repair. For example, you might want to trigger with an external clock, a logic analyzer or with a signal from another part of the circuit. To use the auxiliary trigger, connect the external triggering signal to the Auxiliary Trigger input connector on the oscilloscope rear panel.
**Trigger Types**

The digitizing oscilloscope provides three standard triggers for the main trigger system: edge, pulse, and logic. Option 05 provides a video trigger. The standard triggers are described individually starting on page 3–47. A brief definition of each type follows:

*Edge* is the “basic” trigger. You can use it with both analog and digital test circuits. An edge trigger event occurs when the trigger source (the signal the trigger circuit is monitoring) passes through a specified voltage level in the specified direction (the trigger slope).

*Pulse* is a special-purpose trigger primarily used on digital circuits. The five classes of pulse triggers are *glitch, runt, width, slew rate* and *timeout*. Pulse triggering is available on the main trigger only.

*Logic* is a special-purpose trigger primarily used on digital logic circuits. Two of the classes, *pattern* and *state*, trigger based on the Boolean operator you select for the trigger sources. Triggering occurs when the Boolean conditions are satisfied. A third class, *setup/hold*, triggers when data in one trigger source changes state within the setup and hold times that you specify relative to a clock in another trigger source. Logic triggers are available on the main trigger system only.

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**Trigger Modes**

The trigger mode determines how the oscilloscope behaves in the absence of a trigger event. The oscilloscope provides two trigger modes, *normal* and *automatic*.

*Normal* trigger mode enables the oscilloscope to acquire a waveform only when it is triggered. If no trigger occurs, the oscilloscope will not acquire a waveform. (You can push FORCE TRIGGER to force the oscilloscope to make a single acquisition.)

*Automatic* trigger mode (auto mode) enables the oscilloscope to acquire a waveform even if a trigger does not occur. Auto mode uses a timer that starts after a trigger event occurs. If another trigger event is not detected before the timer times out, the oscilloscope forces a trigger anyway. The length of time it waits for a trigger event depends on the time base setting.

Be aware that auto mode, when forcing triggers in the absence of valid triggering events, does not sync the waveform on the display. In other words, successive acquisitions will not be triggered at the same point on the waveform; therefore, the waveform will appear to roll across the screen. Of course, if valid triggers occur the display will become stable on screen.

Since auto mode will force a trigger in the absence of one, auto mode is useful in observing signals where you are only concerned with monitoring amplitude level. Although the unsynced waveform may “roll” across the display, it will not freeze as it would in normal trigger mode. Monitoring of a power supply output is an example of such an application.
**Trigger Holdoff**
When the oscilloscope recognizes a trigger event, it disables the trigger system until acquisition is complete. In addition, the trigger system remains disabled during the holdoff period that follows each acquisition. You can set holdoff time to help ensure a stable display.

For example, the trigger signal can be a complex waveform with many possible trigger points on it. Though the waveform is repetitive, a simple trigger might get you a series of patterns on the screen instead of the same pattern each time.

A digital pulse train is a good example of a complex waveform. (See Figure 3–24.) Each pulse looks like any other, so many possible trigger points exist. Not all of these will result in the same display. The holdoff period allows the oscilloscope to trigger on the correct edge, resulting in a stable display.

Holdoff is settable from 250 ns (minimum holdoff available) to 12 seconds (maximum holdoff available). To see how to set holdoff, see *To Set Mode & Holdoff* on page 3–49.

You can also set a default holdoff. The default hold is the “general purpose” holdoff for most triggering signals and varies with the horizontal scale. It is equal to 5 divisions times the current time/division settings.

![Figure 3–24: Trigger Holdoff Time Ensures Valid Triggering](image)

**Trigger Coupling**
Trigger coupling determines what part of the signal is passed to the trigger circuit. All trigger types except edge triggering use only DC coupling; edge triggering can use all available coupling types: AC, DC, Low Frequency Rejection, High Frequency Rejection, and Noise Rejection: See *To Specify Coupling* on page 3–49 for a description of each coupling mode.
Triggering on Waveforms

Trigger Position

The adjustable feature trigger position defines where on the waveform record the trigger occurs. It lets you properly align and measure data within records. The part of the record that occurs before the trigger is the pretrigger portion. The part that occurs after the trigger is the posttrigger portion.

To help you visualize the trigger position setting, the top part of the display has an icon indicating where the trigger occurs in the waveform record. You select in the Horizontal menu what percentage of the waveform record will contain pretrigger information.

Displaying pretrigger information can be valuable when troubleshooting. For example, if you are trying to find the cause of an unwanted glitch in your test circuit, it might trigger on the glitch and make the pretrigger period large enough to capture data before the glitch. By analyzing what happened before the glitch, you may uncover clues about its source.

Slope and Level

The slope control determines whether the oscilloscope finds the trigger point on the rising or the falling edge of a signal. (See Figure 3–25.)

You set trigger slope by first selecting Slope in the Main Trigger menu and then selecting between the rising or falling slope icons in the side menu that appears.

The level control determines where on that edge the trigger point occurs. (See Figure 3–25.) The oscilloscope lets you set the main trigger level with the trigger MAIN LEVEL knob.

Delayed Trigger System

The oscilloscope also has a delayed trigger system that provides an edge trigger (no pulse or logic triggers). When using the delayed time base, you can also delay the acquisition of a waveform for a user-specified time or a user-specified number of delayed trigger events (or both) after a main trigger event. See Delayed Triggering on page 3–80 to learn how to use delay.
Triggering on Waveforms

Triggering from the Front Panel

The trigger buttons and knob let you quickly adjust the trigger level or force a trigger. (See Figure 3–26.) The trigger readout and status screen lets you quickly determine the state of the trigger system. You use the following trigger controls and readouts for all trigger types except where noted.

**To manually change the trigger level when edge triggering (or certain threshold levels when logic or pulse triggering), turn the MAIN LEVEL knob. It adjusts the trigger level (or threshold level) instantaneously no matter what menu, if any, is displayed.**

To manually change the trigger level, turn the **MAIN LEVEL** knob. It adjusts the trigger level (or threshold level) instantaneously no matter what menu, if any, is displayed.

![TRIGGER Controls and Status Lights](image)

**Figure 3–26: TRIGGER Controls and Status Lights**

**To Set to 50%**

To quickly obtain an edge trigger or a glitch or width pulse trigger, press **SET LEVEL TO 50%**. The oscilloscope sets the trigger level to the halfway point between the peaks of the trigger signal. Set Level to 50% has no effect when trigger type is logic or video.

You can also set the level to 50% in the Trigger menu under the main menu item Level if edge trigger or glitch or width pulse trigger is selected.

Note that the MAIN LEVEL knob and menu items apply only to the main trigger level. To modify the delayed trigger level, use the Level item in the Delayed Trigger menu.
To Force a Trigger

To force the oscilloscope to immediately start acquiring a waveform record even without a trigger event, press the FORCE TRIG front panel button.

Forcing a trigger is useful when in normal trigger mode and the input signal is not supplying a valid trigger. By pressing FORCE TRIG, you can quickly confirm that there is a signal present for the oscilloscope to acquire. Once that is established, you can determine how to trigger on it (press SET LEVEL TO 50%, check trigger source setting, and so on).

The oscilloscope recognizes and acts upon FORCE TRIG even when you press it before the end of pretrigger holdoff. However, the button has no effect if the acquisition system is stopped.

To Single Trigger

To trigger on the next valid trigger event and then stop, press SHIFT FORCE TRIG. Now press the RUN/STOP button each time you want to initiate the single sequence of acquisitions.

To leave Single Trig mode, press SHIFT ACQUIRE MENU → Stop After (main) → RUN/STOP Button Only (side).

See the description under Stop After on page 3–20 for further discussion of single sequence acquisitions.

To Check Trigger Status

To ascertain the state and setup of the triggering circuit, use the trigger status lights, readout, and screen.

Trigger Status Lights. To quickly determine trigger status, check the three status lights TRIG’D, READY, and ARM in the Trigger control area. (See Figure 3–26.)

- When TRIG’D is lighted, it means the oscilloscope has recognized a valid trigger and is filling the posttrigger portion of the waveform.
- When READY is lighted, it means the oscilloscope can accept a valid trigger event and the oscilloscope is waiting for that event to occur.
- When ARM is lighted, it means the trigger circuitry is filling the pretrigger portion of the waveform record.
- When both TRIG’D and READY are lighted, it means the oscilloscope has recognized a valid main trigger and is waiting for a delayed trigger. When the oscilloscope recognizes a delayed trigger, it will fill in the posttrigger portion of the delayed waveform.
- When ARM, TRIG’D, and READY are all off, the digitizer is stopped.
Trigger Readout. To quickly determine the settings of some key trigger parameters, check the Trigger readout at the bottom of the display. (See Figure 3–27.) The readouts differ for edge, logic, and pulse triggers.

![Trigger Readout Diagram]

**Figure 3–27: Example Trigger Readouts — Edge Trigger Selected**

Record View. To determine where the trigger point is located in the waveform record and with respect to the display, check the record view at the top of the display. (See Figure 3–28.)

Trigger Position and Level Indicators. To see the trigger point and level on the waveform display, check the graphic indicators Trigger Position and Trigger Bar. Figure 3–28 shows the trigger point indicator and trigger level bar.

Both the trigger point indicator and level bar are displayed from the Display menu. See Set Display Readout Options on page 3–24 for more information.

The trigger point indicator shows position. It can be positioned horizontally off screen, especially with long record length settings. The trigger level bar shows only the trigger level. It remains on screen, regardless of the horizontal position, as long as the channel providing the trigger source is displayed.

Trigger Status Screen. To see a more comprehensive status listing of the settings for the main and delayed trigger systems, press **SHIFT STATUS → STATUS** (main) → **Trigger** (side).
Triggering on Waveforms

Each trigger type (edge, logic, and pulse) has its own main trigger menu, which is described as each type is discussed in this section. To select the trigger type, press **TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) → Edge, Logic, or Pulse (pop-up).**

**Triggering on a Waveform Edge**

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes can trigger on an edge of a waveform. An *edge trigger* event occurs when the trigger source passes through a specified voltage level in a specified direction (the trigger slope). You will likely use edge triggering for most of your measurements. This subsection describes how to use edge triggering — how to select edge type, source, coupling, slope, and level. It also details how to select trigger mode, auto or normal, for all trigger types.

**To Check Edge Trigger Status**

To quickly check if edge triggers are selected, check the Trigger readout. When edge triggers are selected, the trigger readout displays the trigger source, as well as the trigger slope and level. (See Figure 3–29.)
Triggering on Waveforms

Figure 3–29: Edge Trigger Readouts

To Select Edge Triggering

Use the edge trigger menu to select edge triggering and to perform the procedures for source, coupling, slope, trigger level, mode, and holdoff that follow.

To bring up the Edge Trigger menu, press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) → Edge (pop-up). (See Figure 3–30.)

Figure 3–30: Main Trigger Menu — Edge Type
To Select a Source

To select which source you want for the trigger:

Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) → Edge (pop-up) →
Source (main) → Ch1, Ch2, Ch3, Ch4, AC Line, DC Aux, or TLA Cross
Trigger (DC Aux Rear Panel) (side).

To Specify Coupling

To select the coupling you want, press TRIGGER MENU →
Type (main) → Edge (pop-up) → Coupling (main) → DC, AC, HF Rej, LF Rej,
or Noise Rej (side).

DC

DC passes all of the input signal. In other words, it passes both AC and DC
components to the trigger circuit.

HF Rej

HF Rej removes the high frequency portion of the triggering signal. That allows
only the low frequency components to pass on to the triggering system to start an
acquisition. High frequency rejection attenuates signals above 30 kHz.

LF Rej

LF Rej removes the low frequency portion of the triggering signal. Low
frequency rejection attenuates signals below 80 kHz.

Noise Rej

Noise Rej provides lower sensitivity. Noise Rej requires additional signal
amplitude for stable triggering, reducing the chance of falsely triggering on
noise.

NOTE. When you select DC Aux (Rear Panel) as the trigger source, the
oscilloscope uses DC coupling to couple an auxiliary signal to the trigger
circuits. Although trigger coupling can be set to other than DC when in DC Aux,
the oscilloscope ignores the setting until one of Ch1 through Ch4 is selected.

To Set Mode & Holdoff

You can change the holdoff time and select the trigger mode using this menu
item. See Trigger Modes and Trigger Holdoff beginning on page 3–41 for a
description of these features. To set mode and holdoff, do the following steps:

1. Press the TRIGGER MENU → Mode & Holdoff (main) → Auto or
Normal (side). The modes operate as follows:

   ■ In Auto mode the oscilloscope acquires a waveform after a specific time has
     elapsed even if a trigger does not occur. The amount of time the oscilloscope
     waits depends on the time base setting.

   ■ In Normal mode the oscilloscope acquires a waveform only if there is a valid
     trigger.

2. To change the holdoff time, press Holdoff (side). Enter the value in time
   using the general purpose knob or the keypad.
If you want to enter a large number using the general purpose knob, press the **SHIFT** button before turning the knob. When the light above the **SHIFT** button is on and the display says **Coarse Knobs** in the upper right corner, the general purpose knob speeds up significantly.

You can set holdoff from 250 ns (minimum holdoff available) to 12 seconds (maximum available).

3. To change to the factory default holdoff setting for the current horizontal scale setting, press **Default Holdoff** (side).

**NOTE** If you select Default Holdoff, the default holdoff time will vary with the horizontal scale setting to maintain a good value for general purpose triggering at that scale. However, if you select Holdoff (as opposed to Default Holdoff), the time set in the Holdoff menu item is used at all horizontal scale settings.

**To Set Slope**

To select the slope that the edge trigger will occur on:

1. Press the **TRIGGER MENU → Type** (main) → **Edge** (pop-up) → **Slope** (main).

2. Select the rising or falling edge from the side menu.

**To Set Level**

Press the **TRIGGER MENU → Type** (main) → **Edge** (pop-up) → **Level** (main) → **Level, Set to TTL, Set to ECL, or Set to 50%** (side).

**Level** lets you enter the trigger level using the general purpose knob or the keypad.

**Set to TTL** fixes the trigger level at +1.4 V.

**Set to ECL** fixes the trigger level at –1.3 V.

**NOTE** When you set the volts/div smaller than 200 mV, the oscilloscope reduces the **Set to TTL** or **Set to ECL** trigger levels below standard TTL and ECL levels. This reduction occurs because the trigger level range is fixed at ±12 divisions from the center. At 100 mV (the next smaller setting after 200 mV) the trigger range is ±1.2 V, which is smaller than the typical TTL (+1.4 V) or ECL (–1.3 V) level.

**Set to 50%** fixes the trigger level to approximately 50% of the peak-to-peak value of the trigger source signal.
Triggering Based on Logic

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes can trigger on a logic or binary pattern and on the state of a logic pattern at the time it is clocked. It can also trigger on data that violates setup and hold times relative to a clock. This subsection describes how to use these three classes of logic triggering: pattern, state, and setup/hold.

A pattern trigger occurs when the logic inputs to the logic function you select cause the function to become TRUE (or at your option FALSE). When you use a pattern trigger, you define:

- The precondition for each logic input — logic high, low, or do not care (the logic inputs are channels 1, 2, 3, and 4)
- The Boolean logic function — select from AND, NAND, OR, and NOR
- The condition for triggering — whether the trigger occurs when the Boolean function becomes TRUE (logic high) or FALSE (logic low), and whether the TRUE condition is time qualified

A state trigger occurs when the logic inputs to the logic function cause the function to be TRUE (or at your option FALSE) at the time the clock input changes state. When you use a state trigger, you define:

- The precondition for each logic input, channels 1, 2, and 3
- The direction of the state change for the clock input, channel 4
- The Boolean logic function — select from clocked AND, NAND, OR, and NOR
- The condition for triggering — whether the trigger occurs when the Boolean function becomes TRUE (logic high) or FALSE (logic low)

A setup/hold trigger occurs when a logic input changes state inside of the setup and hold times relative to the clock. When you use setup/hold triggering, you define:

- The channel containing the logic input (the data source) and the channel containing the clock (the clock source)
- The direction of the clock edge to use
- The clocking level and data level that the oscilloscope uses to determine if a clock or data transition has occurred
- The setup and hold times that together define a time range relative to the clock
Pattern and State Classes

Pattern and state triggers apply boolean logic functions to the logic inputs. Table 3–3 defines these four logic functions.

For **pattern** triggering, the oscilloscope waits until the end of trigger holdoff and then samples the inputs from all the channels. The oscilloscope then triggers if the conditions defined in Table 3–3 are met. (Goes TRUE or Goes FALSE must be set in the Trigger When menu. The other settings in that menu are described in *To Define a Time Qualified Pattern Trigger* on page 3–57.)

For **state** triggering, the oscilloscope waits until the end of trigger holdoff and then waits until the edge of channel 4 transitions in the specified direction. At that point, the oscilloscope samples the inputs from the other channels and triggers if the conditions defined in Table 3–3 are met.

### Table 3–3: Pattern and State Logic

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pattern</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Definition[^1]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AND</td>
<td>Clocked AND</td>
<td>If <em>all</em> the preconditions selected for the logic inputs[^3] are TRUE, then the oscilloscope triggers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAND</td>
<td>Clocked NAND</td>
<td>If <em>not all</em> of the preconditions selected for the logic inputs[^3] are TRUE, then the oscilloscope triggers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OR</td>
<td>Clocked OR</td>
<td>If <em>any</em> of the preconditions selected for the logic inputs[^3] are TRUE, then the oscilloscope triggers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOR</td>
<td>Clocked NOR</td>
<td>If <em>none</em> of the preconditions selected for the logic inputs[^3] are TRUE, then the oscilloscope triggers.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[^1]: Note that for state class triggers, the definition must be met at the time the clock input changes state.

[^2]: The definitions given here are correct for the Goes TRUE setting in the Trigger When menu. If that menu is set to Goes False, swap the definition for AND with that for NAND and for OR with NOR for both pattern and state classes.

[^3]: The logic inputs are channels 1, 2, 3, and 4 when using pattern logic triggers. For State Logic Triggers, channel 4 becomes the clock input, leaving the remaining channels as logic inputs.

**Setup and Hold Class**

Setup/hold triggering uses the setup and hold times to define a “setup/hold violation zone” relative to the clock. Data that changes state within this zone triggers the oscilloscope. Figure 3–31 shows how the setup and hold times you choose positions this zone relative to the clock.
Setup/hold triggering uses the setup/hold violation zone to detect when data is unstable too near the time it is clocked. Each time trigger holdoff ends, the oscilloscope monitors the data and clock sources. When a clock edge occurs, the oscilloscope checks the data stream it is processing (from the data source) for transitions occurring within the setup/hold violation zone. If any occur, the oscilloscope triggers with the trigger point located at the clock edge.

Positive settings for both setup and hold times (the most common application) locate the setup/hold violation zone so it spans the clocking edge. (See the top waveform in Figure 3–31.) The oscilloscope detects and triggers on data that does not become stable long enough before the clock (setup time violation) or that does not stay stable long enough after the clock (hold time violation).

Negative settings for setup or hold times skew the setup/hold violation zone to locate it before or after the clocking edge. (See the bottom and center waveforms of Figure 3–31.) The oscilloscope can then detect and trigger on violations of a time range that occurs before or one that occurs after the clock.

**NOTE.** Keep the hold-time setting to no more than 2.5 ns less than one-half the clock period (hold time ≤ (period/2) – 2.5 ns) or the oscilloscope cannot trigger (this assumes a 50% duty cycle clock).

To quickly check if logic triggers are selected and if so, what class, check the Trigger readout. When logic triggers are selected, the trigger readout displays the selected logic trigger class: Pattern, State, or StHld (Setup/Hold). (See Figure 3–32.)
Triggering on Waveforms

$T_S = \text{Setup Time}$

$T_H = \text{Hold Time}$

Setup/Hold Violation Zone = $T_S + T_H$

$T_S + T_H$ must be $\geq +2 \text{ ns}$

Figure 3–31: Violation Zones for Setup/Hold Triggering
NOTE. When the trigger type Logic is selected, the trigger levels must be set for each channel individually in the Set Thresholds menu (pattern and state classes) or the Levels (setup/hold class) menu. Therefore, the Trigger Level readout will disappear on the display and the Trigger Level knob can be used to set the selected level while the Main Trigger menu is set to Logic.

To Trigger on a Pattern

When you select the logic class Pattern, the oscilloscope will trigger on a specified logic combination of the four input channels. (Pages 3–51 through 3–52 describe how pattern triggers work.) To use pattern triggering, do the procedures that follow:

Select Pattern Triggering. Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) → Logic (pop-up) → Class (main) → Pattern (pop-up).
Triggering on Waveforms

Figure 3–33: Logic Trigger Menu

**To Define Pattern Inputs.** To set the logic state for each of the input channels (Ch1, Ch2, ...):

1. Press TRIGGER MENU → **Type** (main) → **Logic** (pop-up) → **Class** (main) → **Pattern** (pop-up) → **Define Inputs** (main) → Ch1, Ch2, Ch3, or Ch4 (side).

2. Repeatedly press each input selected in step 1 to choose either High (H), Low (L), or Don’t Care (X) for each channel (see Figure 3–33).

**To Set Thresholds.** To set the logic threshold for each channel:

1. Press TRIGGER MENU → **Type** (main) → **Logic** (pop-up) → **Class** (main) → **Pattern** (pop-up) → **Set Thresholds** (main) → Ch1, Ch2, Ch3, or Ch4 (side).

2. Use the MAIN TRIGGER LEVEL knob, the general purpose knob, or the keypad to set each threshold.
To Define the Logic. To choose the logic function you want applied to the input channels (see page 3–52 for definitions of the logic functions for both pattern and state triggers):

Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) → Logic (pop-up) → Class (main) → Pattern (pop-up) → Define Logic (main) → AND, OR, NAND, or NOR (side).

Set Trigger When. To choose to trigger when the logic condition is met (Goes TRUE) or when the logic condition is not met (Goes FALSE), do the following step:

Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) → Logic (pop-up) → Class (main) → Pattern (pop-up) → Trigger When (main) → Goes TRUE or Goes FALSE (side).

The side menu items TRUE for less than and TRUE for greater than are used to time qualify a pattern trigger. See the procedure Define a Time Qualified Pattern Trigger that follows for instructions.

To Set Mode and Holdoff. Mode and holdoff can be set for all standard trigger types and classes. To set mode and holdoff, refer to To Set Mode & Holdoff on page 3–49. To learn more about trigger mode and holdoff, see the descriptions Trigger Modes and Trigger Holdoff on page 3–41.

To Define a Time Qualified Pattern Trigger

You can also time qualify a pattern logic trigger. That is, you specify a time that the boolean logic function (AND, NAND, OR, or NOR) must be TRUE (logic high). To specify the time limit as well as the type of time qualification (greater or less than the time limit specified) for a pattern trigger, do the following steps:

1. Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) → Logic (pop-up) → Class (main) → Pattern (pop-up) → Trigger When (main) → TRUE for less than or TRUE for more than (side).

2. Use the knob and keypad to set the time in the side menu.

When you select TRUE for less than and specify a time, the input conditions you specify must drive the logic function high (TRUE) for less than the time you specify. Conversely, the TRUE for more than menu item requires the boolean function to be TRUE for longer than the time you specify.
Note the position of the trigger indicator in Figure 3–34. Triggering occurs at the point that the oscilloscope determines that the logic function you specify is TRUE within the time you specify. The oscilloscope determines the trigger point in the following manner:

- It waits for the logic condition to become TRUE.
- It starts timing and waits for the logic function to become FALSE.
- It compares the times and, if the time TRUE is longer (for TRUE for more than) or shorter (for TRUE for less than), then it triggers a waveform display at the point the logic condition became FALSE. This time can be, and usually is, different from the time set for TRUE for more than or TRUE for less than.

In Figure 3–34, the delay between the vertical bar cursors is the time the logic function is TRUE. Since this time is more (216 μs) than that set in the TRUE for more than menu item (150 μs), the oscilloscope issues the trigger at that point, not at the point at which it has been TRUE for 150 μs.

**Figure 3–34: Logic Trigger Menu — Time Qualified TRUE**
To State Trigger

When you select the logic class State, the oscilloscope uses channel 4 as a clock and triggers on a logic circuit made from the rest of the channels (pages 3–51 through 3–52 describe how state triggers work). To use state triggering, do the following procedures.

Select State Triggering. Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) → Logic (pop-up) → Class (main) → State (pop-up).

Define Inputs. To set the logic state for each of the input channels (Ch1, Ch2, ...):

1. Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) → Logic (pop-up) → Class (main) → State (pop-up) → Define Inputs (main).
2. Choose either High (H), Low (L), or Don’t Care (X) (side) for the first three channels. The choices for Ch4 are rising edge and falling edge.

Set Thresholds. To set the logic threshold for each channel:

1. Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) → Logic (pop-up) → Class (main) → State (pop-up) → Set Thresholds (main) → Ch1, Ch2, Ch3, or Ch4 (side).
2. Use the MAIN TRIGGER LEVEL knob, the general purpose knob, or the keypad to set each threshold.

Define Logic. To choose the type of logic function you want applied to the input channels:

Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) → Logic (pop-up) → Class (main) → State (pop-up) → Define Logic (main) → AND, OR, NAND, or NOR (side).

Set Trigger When. To choose to trigger when the logic condition is met (Goes TRUE) or when the logic condition is not met (Goes FALSE):

Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) → Logic (pop-up) → Class (main) → State (pop-up) → Trigger When (main) → Goes TRUE or Goes FALSE (side).
To Set Mode and Holdoff. Mode and holdoff can be set for all standard trigger types and classes. To set mode and holdoff, refer to To Set Mode & Holdoff on page 3–49. To learn more about trigger mode and holdoff, see the descriptions Trigger Modes and Trigger Holdoff on page 3–41.

When you select the logic class Setup/Hold, the oscilloscope uses one channel as a data channel (the factory default setting is Ch1), another channel as a clock channel (default is Ch2), and triggers if the data transitions within the setup or hold time of the clock. (Pages 3–51 and 3–52 describe how setup/hold triggers work). To use setup and hold triggering, do the following procedures.

Select Setup/Hold Triggering. Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) → Logic (pop-up) → Class (main) → Setup/Hold (pop-up).

Define the Data Source. To select the channel that is to contain the data signal:

1. Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) → Logic (pop-up) → Class (main) → Setup/Hold (pop-up) → Data Source (main).
2. Press any one of Ch1, Ch2, Ch3, or Ch4 (side). Do not select the same channel for both the data and clock sources.

Define the Clock Source and Edge. To select the channel that is to contain the clock signal and the edge to use to clock:

1. Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) → Logic (pop-up) → Class (main) → Setup/Hold (pop-up) → Clock Source (main) → Ch1, Ch2, Ch3, or Ch4 (side).
2. Press any one of Ch1, Ch2, Ch3, or Ch4 (side). Do not select the same channel that you selected for the clock source.
3. Press Clock Edge (side) to toggle between the rising and falling edges.
Set the Data and Clock Levels. To set the transition levels that the clock and data must cross to be recognized by the oscilloscope:

1. Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) → Logic (pop-up) → Class (main) → Setup/Hold (pop-up) → Levels (main) → Clock Level or Data Level (side).

2. Turn the general purpose knob or use the keypad to set values for the clock level and for the data level you select.

If you prefer, you can set both clock levels to a value appropriate to either of two logic families. To do so:

3. Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) → Logic (pop-up) → Class (main) → Setup/Hold (pop-up) → Levels (main) → Set Both to TTL or Set Both to ECL (side).

The oscilloscope uses the clock level you set to determine when a clock edge (rising or falling, depending on which you select) occurs. The oscilloscope uses the point the clock crosses the clock level as the reference point from which it measures setup and hold time settings.

Set the Setup and Hold Times. To set the setup time and the hold time relative to the clock:

1. Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) → Logic (pop-up) → Class (main) → Setup/Hold (pop-up) → Set/Hold Times (main) → Setup Time or Hold Time (side). See Figure 3–35.

2. Turn the general purpose knob or use the keypad to set values for the setup and for the hold times.

**NOTE.** See Setup/Hold Time Violation Trigger Minimum Clock Pulse Widths specification in the Performance Verification and Specifications manual for valid setup and hold times.

Positive setup time always leads the clock edge; positive hold time always follows the clocking edge. Setup time always leads the hold time by at least 2 ns ($T_S + T_H \geq 2$ ns). Attempting to set either time to reduce the 2 ns limit adjusts the other time to maintain the limit.
Data (Ch1) transition occurs within $10\,\text{ns}$ after the clock violating hold time limit. The oscilloscope recognizes the violation and triggers at the clock edge.

Figure 3–35: Triggering on a Setup/Hold Time Violation

In most cases, you will enter positive values for both setup and hold time. Positive values set the oscilloscope to trigger if the data source is still settling inside the setup time before the clock or if it switches inside the hold time after the clock. You can skew this “setup/hold violation zone” that the setup and hold times form by entering negative values. See Figure 3–31 on page 3–54.

To Set Mode and Holdoff. Mode and holdoff can be set for all standard trigger types and classes. To set mode and holdoff, refer to To Set Mode & Holdoff on page 3–49. To learn more about trigger mode and holdoff, see the descriptions Trigger Modes and Trigger Holdoff on page 3–41.

Advanced Logic Triggering with a TLA Logic Analyzer

This feature provides the ability to cross trigger a TDS 694C oscilloscope with the system Trigger Out signal from a TLA Series Logic Analyzer. For precise timing measurements, a user can connect a TDS 694C oscilloscope to a TLA Logic Analyzer and take advantage of the best attributes of both instruments. The TDS 694C and TLA Logic Analyzer complement each other because of their unique strengths.

The TDS 694C oscilloscope offers high accuracy timing measurements with a maximum sample rate of 10 GS/s per channel. The TDS 694C oscilloscope can capture very fast signal events with a 3 GHz trigger bandwidth. However, using a 4 channel oscilloscope can be time consuming when looking at a 64 bit bus. A better alternative would be a TLA Logic Analyzer. The TLA Logic Analyzer has...
the ability to look at hundreds of digital signals simultaneously, up to 680 inputs can be captured and measured. The TLA Logic Analyzer can evaluate several conditions simultaneously, evaluate complex combinations of events, and execute more extensive combinations of actions.

**Cross triggering is very useful when measuring between multiple channels.** Cross triggering a TDS 694C with a TLA Logic Analyzer allows you to visually align the trigger points of both instruments. The timing reference for both instruments is now the TLA Logic Analyzer trigger point. This is a beneficial application for digital designers using the TLA 700 Series Logic Analyzer to troubleshoot possible setup and hold time violations on a synchronous bus. If the setup and hold times are very small, the Logic Analyzer resolution may not be enough to positively identify the marginal timing. The TDS 694C oscilloscope can be used to observe 2-3 data lines along the with the clock signal, this will provide a more precise measurement of the setup and hold times.

**DRAM interface applications could require more than a 4 channel oscilloscope.** When a timing relationship of signals such as RAS, CAS, CS, clock and data must be verified. The TLA Series Logic Analyzer offers a solution to measure these signals with a 500 ps resolution. If a problem is suspected on any four of the signals, the TDS 694C can be used to zero in on the problem and provide even more timing resolution, less than 15 ps.

**The TLA Logic Analyzer’s acquisition system is basically two dimensional (voltage vs time).** A third statistical dimension is often needed, for timing and characterization measurements. The TDS 694C allows the users to statistically characterize an edge, pulse width, or clock period using histograms and measurement statistics. Timing errors due to clock jitter can be measured and statistically characterized using the TDS 694C statistical measurements. Not all events that trigger the oscilloscope should be included in the timing analysis, so utilizing the TLA Logic Analyzer’s trigger state machine, events of interest can be captured on the TDS694C and included in the statistical analysis.

**Connect a TDS 694C Oscilloscope to a TLA 700 Series Logic Analyzer.** There is 300 to 500 ns of delay from the trigger state machine recognizing an event until the output pulse is generated. To ensure accurate timing measurements, characterize any delays including delays in the cable connecting the two instruments. The first step in the cross trigger process should be aligning the two instruments. Connect cables from the System Trig Out signal of the TLA Logic Analyzer to the Aux Trigger Input on the TDS 694C as follows:

- TLA 714: Connect one end of a coaxial cable to the System Trig Out BNC connector on the TLA 714 rear panel. Connect the other end of the BNC cable connector to Aux Trigger Input located on the rear panel of the TDS 694C. See Figure 3–36, on page 3–64.
- TLA 720: Connect a P6041 probe to the **System Trig Out** SMB connector on the TLA 720 front panel. Connect the P6041 probe BNC cable end to a BNC to BNC connector. Connect a coaxial cable to the BNC connector, then connect the remaining BNC cable connector to the **Aux Trigger Input** located on the rear panel of the TDS 694C. See Figure 3–37.

**Figure 3–36: TLA 714 to TDS 694C**

**Figure 3–37: TLA 720 to TDS 694C**
**Time Delay Characterization.** After the connections have been made between the TLA Logic Analyzer and the TDS 694C, a trigger delay characterization should be performed.

1. Install a deskew fixture, see page 2–10, onto the TDS 694C probe compensation pins.
2. Connect a P6249 probe to channel 1.
3. Attach the P6249 probe to one set of square pins on the deskew fixture.
4. Attach one data channel from a TLA Logic Analyzer to another set of pins on the deskew fixture.

**NOTE.** For ground and signal pin locations on the deskew fixture see Figure 2–1, page 2–9.

**NOTE.** If the TLA Logic Analyzer probing prevents connection to the TDS 694C oscilloscope’s probe compensation signal, then the user will have to attach the TDS 694C probe to a signal on their prototype that is also probed by the TLA Logic Analyzer. The signal used should have an event that is uniquely recognizable within a 1 µs interval. The TDS 694C vertical setting will have to match the signal.

**TLA Logic Analyzer setup:**

1. Set the TLA Logic Analyzer trigger threshold to 0.25 V.
2. Set the TLA Logic Analyzer to trigger on the rising edge of the attached data line and trigger all modules on trigger.
3. Set the TLA Logic Analyzer with a short record length and continuous run.
4. Start the TLA Logic Analyzer.

**TDS 694C setup:**

1. Press SAVE/RECALL SETUP → Recall Factory Setup (main) → OK
   Confirm Factory Init (side).
2. Set Channel 1 VERTICAL scale to 200 mV/div.
3. Set the HORIZONTAL scale to 200 ns/div.
4. Select the trigger value, press **TRIGGER MENU** → (pop-up) → **Source** (main) → **TLA Cross Trigger** (side).

5. Press the **TRIGGER MENU** → **Mode & Holdoff** (main) → **Normal** (side).

6. Press the **TRIGGER MENU** → **Type** (main) → **Edge** (pop-up) → **Slope** (main). Select the negative, \_\_ edge from the side menu.

**NOTE.** The TLA Logic Analyzer system trigger is a negative-going edge.

**NOTE.** The TLA Logic Analyzer should now be repetitively triggering on the rising edge of the signal and sending a trigger to the TDS 694C. The rising edge of the signal should be displayed somewhere on the TDS 694C screen.

7. Adjust the TLA Logic Analyzer’s Cross Trigger delay until the rising edge of the signal is at the center of the graticule.

8. Increase the TDS 694C oscilloscope’s HORIZONTAL scale to a faster time/div setting. Then adjust the TLA Logic Analyzer’s Cross Trigger delay at the same time to keep the rising edge of the signal at the center of the graticule.

9. At the faster time/div settings, the jitter on the TLA Logic Analyzer system trigger will cause the TDS 694C acquisition to jitter several nanoseconds. The TLA Logic Analyzer Cross Trigger delay should be adjusted to cause the range of the jitter to be centered around the center graticule position.

Once this calibration has been completed, the record length, sample rate and trigger position can all be varied without affecting the relation of the system trigger position indicated on the TLA Logic Analyzer with the trigger position on the TDS 694C indicated by the **Display ‘T’ @ Trigger Point.**

The TLA Logic Analyzer Cross Trigger delay value is treated as an environmental variable, similar to GPIB and Hardcopy parameters, and will not be changed by recalling setups.
Triggering on Pulses

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes can trigger on glitch or runt pulses, or it can trigger based on the width, slew rate, or timeout period of a pulse. These capabilities make the oscilloscope suitable for such tasks as unattended monitoring for, and capturing of, a power supply glitch or GO/NO GO slew rate testing of operational amplifiers. This subsection describes how to use each of the five classes of pulse triggers: glitch, runt, width, and slew rate, and timeout triggering.

A **glitch** trigger occurs when the trigger source detects a pulse narrower (or wider) in width than some specified time. It can trigger on glitches of either polarity. Or you can set the glitch trigger to reject glitches of either polarity.

A **runt** trigger occurs when the trigger source detects a short pulse that crosses one threshold but fails to cross a second threshold before recrossing the first. You can set the oscilloscope to detect positive or negative runt pulses.

A **width** trigger occurs when the trigger source detects a pulse that is inside or, optionally, outside some specified time range (defined by the upper limit and lower limit). The oscilloscope can trigger on positive or negative width pulses.

A **slew rate** trigger occurs when the trigger source detects a pulse edge that traverses (slews) between two amplitude levels at a rate faster than or slower than you specify. The oscilloscope can trigger on positive or negative slew rates. You can also think of slew rate triggering as triggering based on the slope (change in voltage/change in time) of a pulse edge.

A **timeout** trigger occurs when the trigger source does not detect a pulse edge when it expected to.

Figure 3–38 shows the pulse trigger readout. Table 3–4, on page 3–68, describes the choices for pulse triggers.
Triggering on Waveforms

Trigger Class = Runt

Figure 3–38: Pulse Trigger Readouts

Table 3–4: Pulse trigger definitions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Glitch positive</td>
<td>Triggering occurs if the oscilloscope detects positive spike widths less than the specified glitch time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glitch negative</td>
<td>Triggering occurs if the oscilloscope detects negative spike widths less than the specified glitch time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glitch either</td>
<td>Triggering occurs if the oscilloscope detects positive or negative widths less than the specified glitch time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Runt positive</td>
<td>Triggering occurs if the oscilloscope detects a positive pulse that crosses one threshold going positive but fails to cross a second threshold before recrossing the first going negative.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Runt negative</td>
<td>Triggering occurs if the oscilloscope detects a negative going pulse that crosses one threshold going negative but fails to cross a second threshold before recrossing the first going positive.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Runt either</td>
<td>Triggering occurs if the oscilloscope detects a positive or negative going pulse that crosses one threshold but fails to cross a second threshold before recrossing the first.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Width positive</td>
<td>Triggering occurs if the oscilloscope finds a positive pulse with a width between, or optionally outside, the user-specified lower and upper time limits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Width negative</td>
<td>Triggering occurs if the oscilloscope finds a negative pulse with a width between, or optionally outside, the user-specified lower and upper time limits.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 3–4: Pulse trigger definitions (cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Slew positive</td>
<td>Triggering occurs if the oscilloscope detects a positive pulse edge that after first crossing the lower threshold then crosses the upper threshold. The pulse must travel between the two levels at a rate faster or slower than (user specifies) the user-specified slew rate for triggering to occur.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slew negative</td>
<td>Triggering occurs if the oscilloscope detects a negative pulse edge that after first crossing the upper threshold then crosses the lower threshold. The pulse must travel between the two levels at a rate faster or slower than (user specifies) the user-specified slew rate for triggering to occur.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slew either</td>
<td>Triggering occurs if the oscilloscope detects a positive or negative pulse edge that first crosses one threshold and then crosses the other threshold. The pulse must travel between the two levels at a rate faster or slower than (user specifies) the user-specified slew rate for triggering to occur.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timeout stays high</td>
<td>Triggering occurs if the signal stays higher than the trigger level for longer than the timeout value.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timeout stays low</td>
<td>Triggering occurs if the signal stays lower than the trigger level for longer than the timeout value.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timeout either</td>
<td>Triggering occurs if the signal stays higher or stays lower than the trigger level for the timeout value.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To Trigger on a Glitch

When you select the pulse class **Glitch**, the oscilloscope will trigger on a pulse narrower (or wider) in width than some specified time. To set up for glitch triggering, do the following procedures.

**Select Glitch Triggering.** Press `TRIGGER MENU` → `Type` (main) → `Pulse` (pop-up) → `Class` (main) → `Glitch` (pop-up).
Triggering on Waveforms

Figure 3–39: Main Trigger Menu — Glitch Class

Select the Source. To specify which channel becomes the pulse trigger source:

Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) → Pulse (pop-up) → Source (main) → Ch1, Ch2, Ch3, or Ch4 (side). The source selected becomes the trigger source for all four trigger classes.

Select the Polarity & Width. To specify polarity (positive, negative, or either) and width of the glitch, do the following steps:

1. Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) → Pulse (pop-up) → Polarity & Width (main) → Positive, Negative, or Either (side).

   **Positive** looks at positive-going pulses.

   **Negative** looks at negative-going pulses.

   **Either** looks at both positive and negative pulses.

2. Press Width (side), and set the glitch width using the general purpose knob or keypad.
**Set to Accept or Reject Glitch.** To specify whether to trigger on glitches or ignore glitches, press TRIGGER MENU \(\rightarrow\) Type (main) \(\rightarrow\) Pulse (pop-up) \(\rightarrow\) Class (main) \(\rightarrow\) Glitch (pop-up) \(\rightarrow\) Glitch (main) \(\rightarrow\) Accept Glitch or Reject Glitch (side).

If you choose Accept Glitch, the oscilloscope will trigger only on pulses narrower than the width you specified. If you select Reject Glitch, it will trigger only on pulses wider than the specified width.

**Set the Level.** To set the trigger level with the Level main menu (or the front panel trigger LEVEL knob), press TRIGGER MENU \(\rightarrow\) Type (main) \(\rightarrow\) Pulse (pop-up) \(\rightarrow\) Level (main) \(\rightarrow\) Level, Set to TTL, Set to ECL, or Set to 50% (side).

- If you select Level, you set the trigger level by entering a value with the general purpose knob or the keypad.
- If you select Set to TTL, the oscilloscope sets the trigger level to the TTL switching threshold.
- If you select Set to ECL, the oscilloscope sets the trigger level to the ECL switching threshold.
- If you select Set to 50%, the oscilloscope searches for the point halfway between the peaks of the trigger source signal and sets the trigger level to that point.

**To Set Mode and Holdoff.** Mode and holdoff can be set for all standard trigger types and classes. To set mode and holdoff, refer to To Set Mode & Holdoff on page 3–49. To learn more about trigger mode and holdoff, see the descriptions Trigger Modes and Trigger Holdoff on page 3–41.

**To Trigger on a Runt Pulse**

When you select the pulse class Runt, the oscilloscope will trigger on a short pulse that crosses one threshold but fails to cross a second threshold before recrossing the first. To set up for runt triggering, do the following procedures.

**Select Runt Triggering.** Press TRIGGER MENU \(\rightarrow\) Type (main) \(\rightarrow\) Pulse (pop-up) \(\rightarrow\) Class (main) \(\rightarrow\) Runt (pop-up). (See Figure 3–40.)
Select the Source. To specify which channel becomes the pulse trigger source:

Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) → Pulse (pop-up) → Source (main) → Ch1, Ch2, Ch3, or Ch4 (side). The source selected becomes the trigger source for all four trigger classes.

Select the Polarity. To specify the direction of the runt pulse:

Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) → Pulse (pop-up) → Class (main) → Runt (pop-up) → Polarity (main) → Positive, Negative, or Either (side).

Positive looks for positive-going runt pulses.
Negative looks for negative-going runt pulses.
Either looks for both positive and negative runt pulses.

Set to Trig When. To determine how wide a runt pulse the oscilloscope will trigger on:

1. Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) → Pulse (pop-up) → Class (main) → Runt (pop-up) → Trig When (main).
2. Press Occurs to trigger on all runt pulses regardless of width.
3. Press Runt is Wider Than (side) to trigger only on runt pulses that exceed the width you set. Enter the width using the general purpose knob or keypad.

Set the Thresholds. To set the two threshold levels used in detecting a runt pulse:

1. Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) → Pulse (pop-up) → Class (main) → Runt (pop-up) → Thresholds (main).
2. Use the general purpose knob or keypad to set the values for the high and low thresholds.

   Hint: To use the Trigger Bar feature to set the threshold levels on the pulse train, press DISPLAY → Readout Options (main) → Trigger Bar Style (side) until Long appears in that menu item.
Note the position of the trigger indicator in Figure 3–40. Triggering occurs at the point the pulse returns over the first (lower) threshold going negative without crossing the second threshold level (upper). The polarity selected in the Polarity side menu determines the order that the threshold must be crossed for a runt trigger to occur:

Positive requires that the lower threshold must be first crossed going positive, then recrossed going negative without the upper threshold being crossed at all.

Negative requires that the upper threshold must be first crossed going negative, then recrossed going positive without the lower threshold being crossed at all.

Either requires only that either one of the thresholds must be first crossed going in either direction, then recrossed going in the opposite direction without the other threshold being crossed at all.

For all three polarity settings, triggering occurs at the point the runt pulse recrosses its first threshold.
Trigger Based on Pulse Width

Set the Mode and Holdoff. Mode and holdoff can be set for all standard trigger types and classes. To set mode and holdoff, refer to Set Mode & Holdoff on page 3–49. To learn more about trigger mode and holdoff, see Trigger Modes and Trigger Holdoff on page 3–41.

When you select the pulse class **Width**, the oscilloscope will trigger on a pulse narrower (or wider) than some specified *range* of time (defined by the upper limit and lower limit). To set up for width triggering, do the following procedures.

Select Width Triggering. Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) →Pulse (pop-up) → Class (main) →Width (pop-up).

Select the Source. Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) →Pulse (pop-up) → Source (main) → Ch1, Ch2, Ch3, or Ch4 (side). The source selected becomes the trigger source for all four trigger classes.

Select the Polarity. Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) →Pulse (pop-up) → Class (main) →Width (pop-up) → Polarity (main) → Positive or Negative (side).

Set to Trig When. To set the range of widths (in units of time) the trigger source will search for and to specify whether to trigger on pulses that are outside this range or within this range, do the following steps:

1. Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) →Pulse (pop-up) → Class (main) →Width (pop-up) → Trig When (main).
2. Press Within Limits (side) if you want the oscilloscope to trigger on pulses that fall within the specified range. If you want it to trigger on pulses that are outside the range, then press Out of Limits (side).
3. To set the range of pulse widths in units of time, press **Upper Limit** (side) and **Lower Limit** (side). Enter the values with the general purpose knob or keypad. The **Upper Limit** is the maximum valid pulse width the trigger source will look for. The **Lower Limit** is the minimum valid pulse width. The oscilloscope will always force the **Lower Limit** to be less than or equal to the **Upper Limit**.

**Set the Level**. Press TRIGGER MENU → **Type** (main) → **Pulse** (pop-up) → **Class** (main) → **Width** (pop-up) → **Level** (main) → **Level**, **Set to TTL**, **Set to ECL**, or **Set to 50%** (side).

**Set the Mode and Holdoff**. Mode and holdoff can be set for all standard trigger types and classes. To set mode and holdoff, refer to **Set Mode & Holdoff** on page 3–49. To learn more about trigger mode and holdoff, see **Trigger Modes** and **Trigger Holdoff** on page 3–41.

**To Trigger Based on Slew Rate**

When you select the pulse class Slew Rate, the oscilloscope will trigger on a pulse edge that traverses between an upper and lower threshold faster or slower than a slew rate you specify. To set up for slew rate triggering, do the following procedures.

**Select Slew Rate Triggering**. Press TRIGGER MENU → **Type** (main) → **Pulse** (pop-up) → **Class** (main) → **Slew Rate** (pop-up). (See Figure 3–41 on page 3–78.)

**Select the Source**. Press TRIGGER MENU → **Type** (main) → **Pulse** (pop-up) → **Source** (main) → Ch1, Ch2, Ch3, or Ch4 (side). The source selected becomes the trigger source for all four trigger classes.

**Select Polarity**. To specify the direction of the pulse edge, press TRIGGER MENU → **Type** (main) → **Pulse** (pop-up) → **Class** (main) → **Slew Rate** (pop-up) → **Polarity** (main) → **Positive**, **Negative**, or **Either** (side).

**Positive** monitors the slew rate of the positive-going edges of pulses. The edge must first cross the lower threshold and then cross the upper threshold.
Triggering on Waveforms

Negative monitors the slew rate of the negative-going edges of pulses. The edge must first cross the upper threshold and then cross the lower threshold.

Either monitors positive- and negative-going edges of pulses. The edge may first cross either threshold and then cross the other.

Set the Slew Rate. The threshold levels and the delta time setting determine the slew rate setting. To set these parameters:

1. Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) → Pulse (pop-up) → Class (main) → Slew Rate (pop-up) → Thresholds (main).

2. Press Set to TTL or Set to ECL (side) to set the upper and lower thresholds to levels appropriate for those to logic families. ...OR...

3. Press the upper threshold button and, in turn, lower threshold button (side)
   Use the general purpose knob or keypad to set the values for the high and low thresholds.

   Hint: To use the Trigger Bar feature to set the threshold levels on the pulse edge, press DISPLAY → Readout Options (main) → Trigger Bar Style (side) until Long appears in that menu item.

   The threshold settings determine the voltage component of slew rate (Volts/Second). To finish specifying the slew rate, set the time component by doing the following steps:

4. Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) → Pulse (pop-up) → Class (main) → Slew Rate (pop-up) → Trigger When (main) → Delta Time (side).

5. Use the general purpose knob or keypad to set the delta time value for slew rate.

**NOTE.** The menu item Slew Rate in the side menu is not a button label; rather it is a readout of the slew rate setting. This readout varies as you vary the Delta Time setting this side menu and as you vary either of the threshold settings from the Thresholds menu. You adjust those parameters to adjust slew rate; you can’t adjust slew rate directly.
Set to Trig When. The oscilloscope compares the pulse edge of the trigger source against the slew rate setting read out in the Trigger When menu. To select whether to trigger on edges with slew rates faster than or slower than that indicated in readout, do the following step:

Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) → Pulse (pop-up) → Class (main) → Slew Rate (pop-up) → Trigger When (main) → Trigger if Faster Than or Trigger if Slower Than (side). (See Figure 3–41.)

NOTE. If you select Trigger if Faster Than and the oscilloscope does not trigger, it may be because the pulse edge is too fast rather than too slow. To check the edge speed, switch to edge triggering. Then trigger on the pulse edge and determine the time the edge takes to travel between the levels set in the slew rate Thresholds menu. The oscilloscope cannot slew rate trigger on pulse edges that traverse between threshold levels in 600 ps or less.

Also, to reliably slew rate trigger, a pulse must have a width of 7.5 ns or more. A pulse of less width may trigger on the wrong slope or not trigger at all. Switch to edge triggering and check the pulse width if you can’t slew rate trigger as expected.

To understand what happens when you slew rate trigger, study Figure 3–41 as you consider the following points:

- The main menu shows the oscilloscope is set to trigger based on the slew rate of a pulse input to the trigger source, Ch 1. It is set to monitor the positive-polarity pulse edges of the trigger source and to trigger on any edge with a slew rate faster than the slew rate setting.
Triggering on Waveforms

The Trigger When side menu displays the readout Slew Rate that indicates the slew rate setting. The slew rate setting is not the slew rate of the pulse; instead, it is the slew rate against which the oscilloscope compares the slew rate of pulse (see above). You set the slew rate setting indirectly by setting the ratio of delta voltage to delta time as:

\[
\text{Slew Rate Setting} = \frac{\text{Upper Threshold Setting} - \text{Lower Threshold Setting}}{\text{Delta Time Setting}}
\]

Substituting the threshold and delta time settings for the setup in Figure 3–41:

\[
\text{Slew Rate Setting} = \frac{4.5 \text{ V} - 0.5 \text{ V}}{250 \text{ ns}} = 16.0 \text{ mV/ns}
\]

The trigger bar indicators (long horizontal bars) point to the upper and lower thresholds. The pair cursors, which are aligned to threshold levels, read out a delta voltage of approximately 4 V and a delta time of 200 ns between the threshold levels. Therefore, the slew rate of the pulse edge triggered on is:

\[
\text{Slew Rate Measured} = \frac{\text{dv}}{\text{dt}} = \frac{4 \text{ Volts}}{200 \text{ ns}} = 20 \text{ mV/ns}
\]
The Trigger When side menu indicates the oscilloscope will trigger on pulses with slew rates slower than the slew rate setting. Since the pulse edge slews at 20 mV/ns, which is faster than the slew rate setting of 16 mV/ns, the oscilloscope triggers.

The trigger point indicator shows where the oscilloscope triggers. For a slew rate triggered waveform, the trigger point is always at the threshold crossed last (the upper threshold for positive polarity settings; the lower for negative settings).

**Set the Mode and Holdoff.** Mode and holdoff can be set for all standard trigger types and classes. To set mode and holdoff, refer to *Set Mode & Holdoff* on page 3–49. To learn more about trigger mode and holdoff, see *Trigger Modes* and *Trigger Holdoff* on page 3–41.

**Trigger Based on Pulse Timeout**

When you select the pulse class **Timeout**, the TDS oscilloscope will trigger on a pulse change that does NOT occur within the specified limits. That is, the trigger will occur when, depending on the polarity you select, the signal stays higher or stays lower than the trigger level for the timeout value. To set up for timeout triggering, do the following procedures.

**Select Timeout Triggering.** Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) → Pulse (pop-up) → Class (main) → Timeout (pop-up).

**Select the Source.** Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) → Pulse (pop-up) → Source (main) → Ch1, Ch2, Ch3, or Ch4 (side). The source selected becomes the trigger source for all four trigger classes.

**Select the Polarity.** Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) → Pulse (pop-up) → Class (main) → Timeout (pop-up) → Polarity (main) → Stays High, Stays Low, or Either (side).

- **Stays High** causes a trigger to occur if the signal stays higher than the trigger level for longer than the timeout value.
- **Stays Low** causes a trigger to occur if the signal stays lower than the trigger level for longer than the timeout value.
Triggering on Waveforms

Either causes a trigger to occur if the signal stays lower or stays higher than the trigger level for longer than the timeout value.

Time. To set the timeout time:

1. Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) →Pulse (pop-up) → Class (main) →Timeout (pop-up) → Time (main)
2. Turn the general purpose knob or use the keypad to set values for the timeout time.

Set the Level. Press TRIGGER MENU → Type (main) →Pulse (pop-up) → Class (main) →Timeout (pop-up) → Level (main) →Level, Set to TTL, Set to ECL, or Set to 50% (side).

- If you select Level, you set the trigger level by entering a value with the general purpose knob or the keypad.
- If you select Set to TTL, the oscilloscope sets the trigger level to the TTL switching threshold.
- If you select Set to ECL, the oscilloscope sets the trigger level to the ECL switching threshold.
- If you select Set to 50%, the oscilloscope searches for the point halfway between the peaks of the trigger source signal and sets the trigger level to that point.

Set the Mode and Holdoff. Mode and holdoff can be set for all standard trigger types and classes. To set mode and holdoff, refer to Set Mode & Holdoff on page 3–49. To learn more about trigger mode and holdoff, see Trigger Modes and Trigger Holdoff on page 3–41.

Delayed Triggering

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes provides a main time base and a delayed time base. The delayed time base, like the main time base, requires a trigger signal and an input source dedicated to that signal. You can only use delay with respect to the main edge trigger and certain classes of main pulse triggers. This section describes how to delay the acquisition of waveforms.

There are two different ways to delay the acquisition of waveforms: delayed runs after main and delayed triggerable. Only delayed triggerable uses the delayed trigger system. Delayed runs after main looks for a main trigger, then waits a user-defined time, and then starts acquiring. (See Figure 3–42.)
Triggering on Waveforms

Figure 3–42: Delayed Runs After Main

Delayed triggerable looks for a main trigger and then, depending on the type of delayed trigger selected, makes one of the three types of delayed triggerable mode acquisitions: After Time, After Events, or After Events/Time. Study Figure 3–43 to understand the sequence the oscilloscope goes through for each delayed mode.

Figure 3–43: Delayed Triggerable

The oscilloscope is always acquiring samples to fill the pretrigger part of the waveform record. When and if delay criteria are met, it takes enough posttrigger samples to complete the delayed waveform record and then displays it. Refer to Figure 3–44 for a more detailed look at how delayed records are placed in time relative to the main trigger.

NOTE. Due to hardware limitations, the delayed time base cannot be made triggerable when the main trigger type is Logic, any class, or when the main trigger type is Pulse with Runt or Slew Rate classes selected. For these settings, the oscilloscope will force the delayed time base to be in Runs After mode.
To Run After Delay

You use the Horizontal menu to select and define either delayed runs after main or delayed triggerable. Delayed triggerable, however, requires further selections in the Delayed Trigger menu. Do the following steps to set the delayed time base to run immediately after delay:

1. Press HORIZONTAL MENU → Time Base (main) → Delayed Only (side) → Delayed Runs After Main (side).

2. Use the general purpose knob or the keypad to set the delay time.

   If you press Intensified (side), you display an intensified zone on the main timebase record that shows where the delayed timebase record occurs relative to the main trigger. For Delayed Runs After Main mode, the start of the intensified zone corresponds to the start of the delayed timebase record. The end of the zone corresponds to the end of the delayed record.


To Trigger After Delay

To make sure that the Main Trigger menu settings are compatible with Delayed Triggerable and to select that mode, do the following steps:

1. Press TRIGGER MENU.

2. If Type is set to Logic, press Type (main) to change it to either Edge or Pulse as fits your application. Logic type is incompatible with Delayed Triggerable.

3. If Source is set to Auxiliary, press Source (main). Select any source other than Auxiliary from the side menu according to your application.
Triggering on Waveforms

Delayed Runs After Main

Delayed Triggerable By Events

Delayed Triggerable By Time

Delayed Triggerable By Events/Time

Figure 3–44: How the Delayed Triggers Work

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4. If Type is set to Pulse, press Class (main) and change it to either Glitch or Width as fits your application. Runt and Slew Rate pulse classes are incompatible with Delayed Triggerable.

5. Press HORIZONTAL MENU → Time Base (main) → Delayed Only (side) → Delayed Triggerable (side).

**NOTE.** The Delayed Triggerable menu item is not selectable unless incompatible Main Trigger menu settings are eliminated. (See the steps at the beginning of this procedure.) If such is the case, the Delayed Triggerable menu item is dimmer than other items in the menu.

By pressing Intensified (side), you can display an intensified zone that shows where the delayed timebase record may occur (a valid delay trigger event must be received) relative to the main trigger on the main time base. For Delayed Triggerable After mode, the start of the intensified zone corresponds to the possible start point of the delayed time base record. The end of the zone continues to the end of main time base, since a delayed time base record may be triggered at any point after the delay time elapses.

To learn how to define the intensity level of the normal and intensified waveform, see Adjust Intensity on page 3–24.

Now you need to bring up the Delayed Trigger menu so that you can define the delayed trigger event.

6. Press SHIFT DELAYED TRIG → Delay by (main) → Triggerable After Time, Events, or Events/Time (side) (See Figure 3–45.)

7. Enter the delay time or events using the general purpose knob or the keypad. If you selected Events/Time, use Time (side) and Events (side) to switch between setting the time and the number of events.

Hint: You can go directly to the Delayed Trigger menu. (See step 6.) By selecting one of Triggerable After Time, Events, or Events/Time, the oscilloscope automatically switches to Delayed Triggerable in the Horizontal menu. You will still need to display the Horizontal menu if you want to leave Delayed Triggerable.

The Source menu lets you select which input will be the delayed trigger source.
8. Press Source (main) → Ch1, Ch2, Ch3, Ch4, or DC Aux (side).

**NOTE.** Selecting DC Aux as source in BOTH the main and delayed triggering menus forces main and delayed trigger levels to adjust in tandem. As long as their source remains DC Aux, adjusting the trigger level for either system adjusts it for both systems.

9. Press Coupling (main) → Main Trigger, DC, or Noise Rej (side) to define how the input signal will be coupled to the delayed trigger.

**Main Trigger** sets delayed trigger coupling to match the main trigger coupling setting. For descriptions of the DC and Noise Rej coupling types, see To Specify Coupling on page 3–49.

10. Press Slope (main) to select the slope that the delayed trigger will occur on. Choose between the rising edge and falling edge slopes.

When using Delayed Triggerable mode to acquire waveforms, two trigger bars are displayed. One trigger bar indicates the level set by the main trigger system; the other indicates the level set by the delayed trigger system.
11. Press **Level** (main) → **Level, Set to TTL, Set to ECL, or Set to 50%** (side).

**Level** lets you enter the delayed trigger level using the general purpose knob or the keypad.

**Set to TTL** fixes the trigger level at +1.4 V.

**Set to ECL** fixes the trigger level at –1.3 V.

**Set to 50%** fixes the delayed trigger level to 50% of the peak-to-peak value of the delayed trigger source signal.

**NOTE** Trigger-level range is always ±12 divisions from the center of the vertical range. Some combinations of vertical scale, offset, and position result in a trigger range that prevents **Set to TTL** or **Set to ECL** from achieving their desired settings. In this case, the trigger level is set as close as possible to the desired setting.
Measuring Waveforms

To make the best use of the TDS 694C Oscilloscopes when taking measurements, you need to know how to use the five types, or classes, of measurements it can take. This section describes how to take the following classes of measurements (Figure 3–46 shows four measurement classes):

- **Automated** for automatically taking and displaying waveform measurements
- **Cursor** for measuring the difference (either in time or voltage) between two locations in a waveform record
- **Graticule** for making quick estimates by counting graticule divisions on screens
- **Histogram** for displaying and automatically measuring how your vertical and horizontal units vary in the histogram box
- **Masks** for mask counting, selecting a mask, or editing a mask

This section also tells you how to use **Probe Cal**, **Channel/Probe Deskew**, and **Signal Path Compensation** to optimize the accuracy of your measurements.

![Figure 3–46: Histogram, Graticule, Cursor and Automated Measurements]
Taking Automated Measurements

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes provides the feature Measure for automatically taking and displaying waveform measurements. This section describes how to set up the oscilloscope to let it do the work of taking measurements for you.

Because automatic measurements use the waveform record points, they are generally more accurate and quicker than cursor and graticule measurements. The oscilloscope will continuously update and display these measurements.

Automatic measurements are taken over the entire waveform record or, if you specify gated measurements (see page 3–92), over the region specified by the vertical cursors. Automated measurements are not taken just on the displayed portions of waveforms.

The oscilloscope can also display almost all of the measurements at once — see Take a Snapshot of Measurements on page 3–97.

Measurement List

The TDS 694C Oscilloscope provides you with automatic measurements. Table 3–5 lists brief definitions of the automated measurements in the oscilloscope (for more details see Appendix B: Algorithms, page B–1).

Table 3–5: Measurement definitions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| ![Amplitude Icon]    | Voltage measurement. The high value less the low value measured over the entire waveform or gated region.  
  \[\text{Amplitude} = \text{High} - \text{Low}\] |
| ![Area Icon]        | Voltage over time measurement. The area over the entire waveform or gated region in volt-seconds. Area measured above ground is positive; area below ground is negative. |
| ![Cycle Area Icon]  | Voltage over time measurement. The area over the first cycle in the waveform, or the first cycle in the gated region, in volt-seconds. Area measured above ground is positive; area below ground is negative. |
| ![Burst Width Icon] | Timing measurement. The duration of a burst. Measured over the entire waveform or gated region. |
| ![Cycle Mean Icon]  | Voltage measurement. The arithmetic mean over the first cycle in the waveform or the first cycle in the gated region. |
Table 3–5: Measurement definitions (cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cycle RMS</td>
<td>Voltage measurement. The true Root Mean Square voltage over the first cycle in the waveform or the first cycle in the gated region.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delay</td>
<td>Timing measurement. The time between the MidRef crossings of two different traces or the gated region of the traces.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall Time</td>
<td>Timing measurement. Time taken for the falling edge of the first pulse in the waveform or gated region to fall from a High Ref value (default = 90%) to a Low Ref value (default =10%) of its final value.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frequency</td>
<td>Timing measurement for the first cycle in the waveform or gated region. The reciprocal of the period. Measured in Hertz (Hz) where 1 Hz = 1 cycle per second.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>The value used as 100% whenever High Ref, Mid Ref, and Low Ref values are needed (as in fall time and rise time measurements). Calculated using either the min/max or the histogram method. The min/max method uses the maximum value found. The histogram method uses the most common value found above the mid point. Measured over the entire waveform or gated region.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>The value used as 0% whenever High Ref, Mid Ref, and Low Ref values are needed (as in fall time and rise time measurements). May be calculated using either the min/max or the histogram method. With the min/max method it is the minimum value found. With the histogram method, it refers to the most common value found below the midpoint. Measured over the entire waveform or gated region.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum</td>
<td>Voltage measurement. The maximum amplitude. Typically the most positive peak voltage. Measured over the entire waveform or gated region.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>Voltage measurement. The arithmetic mean over the entire waveform or gated region.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum</td>
<td>Voltage measurement. The minimum amplitude. Typically the most negative peak voltage. Measured over the entire waveform or gated region.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative Duty Cycle</td>
<td>Timing measurement of the first cycle in the waveform or gated region. The ratio of the negative pulse width to the signal period expressed as a percentage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative Overshoot</td>
<td>Voltage measurement. Measured over the entire waveform or gated region.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative Width</td>
<td>Timing measurement of the first pulse in the waveform or gated region. The distance (time) between MidRef (default 50%) amplitude points of a negative pulse.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peak to Peak</td>
<td>Voltage measurement. The absolute difference between the maximum and minimum amplitude in the entire waveform or gated region.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Measuring Waveforms

## Table 3–5: Measurement definitions (cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Phase</strong></td>
<td>Timing measurement. The amount one waveform leads or lags another in time. Expressed in degrees, where 360° comprise one waveform cycle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Period</strong></td>
<td>Timing measurement. Time it takes for the first complete signal cycle to happen in the waveform or gated region. The reciprocal of frequency. Measured in seconds.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Positive Duty Cycle** | Timing measurement of the first cycle in the waveform or gated region. The ratio of the positive pulse width to the signal period expressed as a percentage.  
  \[
  \text{Positive Duty Cycle} = \frac{\text{Positive Width}}{\text{Period}} \times 100\% 
  \] |
| **Positive Overshoot** | Voltage measurement over the entire waveform or gated region.  
  \[
  \text{Positive Overshoot} = \frac{\text{Max} - \text{High}}{\text{Amplitude}} \times 100\% 
  \] |
| **Positive Width**  | Timing measurement of the first pulse in the waveform or gated region. The distance (time) between MidRef (default 50%) amplitude points of a positive pulse. |
| **Rise time**       | Timing measurement. Time taken for the leading edge of the first pulse in the waveform or gated region to rise from a Low Ref value (default = 10%) to a High Ref value (default = 90%) of its final value. |
| **RMS**             | Voltage measurement. The true Root Mean Square voltage over the entire waveform or gated region. |

| **Extinction Ratio** | The value of High/Low. |
| **Extinction %**     | The value (100/Extinction Ratio). |
| **Extinction dB**    | The value (10*log10(Extinction Ratio)). |
| **Mean dBm**         | Average optical power (10*log10(Mean/0.001)). |

### Measurement Readouts

With no menus displayed, the measurement readouts appear far right of the display graticule. (See Figure 3–47.) You can display and continuously update as many as four measurements at any one time. With any menu displayed, the readouts move to the right side of the graticule area. TimeStamp uses the measurement readouts; therefore, turning on FastFrame TimeStamp turns off Measurements and vice versa.

Measurement 1 is the top readout, Measurement 2 is below it, and so forth. Once a measurement readout is displayed in the screen area, it stays in its position even when you remove any measurement readouts above it.
To use the automatic measurements you first need to obtain a stable display of the waveform to be measured. (Pressing AUTOSET may help.) Once you have a stable display, perform the following steps (see Figure 3–48):

1. Press MEASURE → Select Measrmnt (main).
2. Select a measurement from the side menu. Note the following rules for taking automatic measurements:
   - You can only take a maximum of four measurements at a time. To add a fifth, you must remove one or more of the existing measurements.
   - To vary the source for measurements, simply select the other channel and then choose the measurements you want.
   - Be careful when taking automatic measurements on noisy signals. You might measure the frequency of the noise and not the desired waveform. Your oscilloscope helps identify such situations by displaying a low signal amplitude or low resolution warning message.
Be careful when taking automatic measurements using Extended Acquisition mode and high levels of waveform compression. The compression may remove signal attributes required by some measurements.

**Remove Measurements**

The **Remove Measurements** selection provides explicit choices for removing measurements from the display according to their readout position. To remove measurements, do the following steps:

1. Press MEASURE → Remove Measurements (main).
2. Select the measurement to remove from the side menu. If you want to remove all the measurements at one time, press All Measurements (side).

**Gate Measurements**

The gating feature lets you limit measurements to a specified portion of the waveform. When gating is **Off**, the oscilloscope makes measurements over the entire waveform record.
When gating is activated, vertical cursors are displayed. Use these cursors to define the section of the waveform you want the oscilloscope to measure. (This section is called the *gated region*.) Do the following steps to gate a measurement:

1. Press **MEASURE** → **Gating** (main) → **Gate with V Bar Cursors** (side). (See Figure 3–49.)

![Figure 3–49: Measure Menu — Gating](image)

2. Using the general purpose knob, move the selected (the active) cursor. Press **SELECT** to change which cursor is active.

Displaying the cursor menu and turning V Bar cursors off will *not* turn gating off. (Gating arrows remain on screen to indicate the area over which the measurement is gated.) You must turn gating off in the Gating side menu.
NOTE  Cursors are displayed relative to the selected waveform. If you are making a measurement using two waveforms, this behavior can be a source of confusion. If you turn off horizontal locking and adjust the horizontal position of one waveform independent of the other, the cursors appear at the requested position with respect to the selected waveform. Gated measurements remain accurate, but the displayed positions of the cursors change when you change the selected waveform.

Define High-Low Setup
The oscilloscope provides two settings, histogram and min-max, for specifying how measure determines the High and Low levels of waveforms. To use the high-low setup do the following step:

Press MEASURE → Hi-Low Setup (main) → Histogram or Min-Max (side). If you select Min-Max, you may also want to check and/or revise reference levels using this side menu.

Histogram sets the values statistically. It selects the most common value either above or below the midpoint (depending on whether it is defining the high or low reference level). Since this statistical approach ignores short term aberrations (overshoot, ringing, etc.), histogram is the best setting for examining pulses.

Min-max uses the highest and lowest values of the waveform record. This setting is best for examining waveforms that have no large, flat portions at a common value, such as sine waves and triangle waves — almost any waveform except for pulses.

Define Reference Levels
Once you define the reference levels, the oscilloscope will use them for all measurements requiring those levels. To set the reference levels, do the following steps:

1. Press MEASURE → Reference Levels (main) → Set Levels (side).

Then choose whether the References are set in % relative to High (100%) and Low (0%) or set explicitly in the units of the selected waveform (typically volts). See Figure 3–50. Use the general purpose knob or keypad to enter the values.

% is the default selection. It is useful for general purpose applications.

Units helps you set precise values. For example, if your are measuring specifications on an RS-232-C circuit, set the levels precisely to RS-232-C specification voltage values by defining the high and low references in units.
2. Press High Ref, Mid Ref, Low Ref, or Mid2 Ref (side).

   - **High Ref** — Sets the high reference level. The default is 90%.
   - **Mid Ref** — Sets the middle reference level. The default is 50%.
   - **Low Ref** — Sets the low reference level. The default is 10%.
   - **Mid2 Ref** — Sets the middle reference level used on the second waveform specified in the Delay or Phase Measurements. The default is 50%.

**Take a Delay Measurement**

The delay measurement lets you measure from an edge on the selected waveform to an edge on another waveform. To take a delay measurement, do the following steps:

1. Press **MEASURE** → **Select Measrmnt** (main) → **Delay** (side) → **Delay To** (main) → **Measure Delay to**.

2. Press **Measure Delay to** (side) repeatedly to choose the delay to waveform. The choices are Ch1, Ch2, Ch3, Ch4, Math1, Math2, Math3, Ref1, Ref2, Ref3, and Ref4.
Figure 3–51: Measure Delay Menu — Delay To

The steps just performed select the waveform you want to measure to; note that the waveform you are measuring delay from is the selected waveform. (See Figure 3–51.)

3. Press MEASURE $\rightarrow$ Select Measrmnt (main) $\rightarrow$ Delay (side) $\rightarrow$ Edges (main).

A side menu of delay edges and directions will appear. Choose from one of the combinations displayed on the side menu using the following information:

- The selection you choose defines which edges you want the delayed measurement to be made between.
- The upper waveform on each icon represents the from waveform and the lower one represents the to waveform.
- The direction arrows on the choices let you specify a forward search on both waveforms or a forward search on the from waveform and a backwards search on the to waveform. The latter choice is useful for isolating a specific pair of edges out of a stream.

4. To take the measurement you just specified, press Delay To (main) $\rightarrow$ OK Create Measurement (side).

To exit the Measure Delay menu rather than creating a delay measurement, press CLEAR MENU, which returns you to the Measure menu.
Take a Snapshot of Measurements

Sometimes you may want to see all of the automated measurements on screen at the same time. To do so, use Snapshot. Snapshot executes all of the single waveform measurements available on the selected waveform once and displays the results. (The measurements are not continuously updated.) All of the measurements listed in Table 3–5 on page 3–88 except for Delay and Phase are displayed. (Delay and Phase are dual waveform measurements and are not available with Snapshot.)

The readout area for a snapshot of measurements is a pop-up display that covers about 80% of the graticule area when displayed. (See Figure 3–52.) You can display a snapshot on any channel or ref memory, but only one snapshot can be displayed at a time.

To use Snapshot, obtain a stable display of the waveform to be measured (pressing AUTOSET may help). Then do the following steps:

1. Press MEASURE → SNAPSHOT (main).
2. Press either SNAPSHOT (main) or AGAIN (side) to take another snapshot.

**NOTE.** The Snapshot display tells you the channel that the snapshot is being made on.


*Figure 3–52: Snapshot Menu and Readout*
Consider the following rules when taking a snapshot:

- Be sure to display the waveform properly before taking a snapshot. Snapshot does not warn you if a waveform is improperly scaled (clipped, low signal amplitude, low resolution, etc.).

- To vary the source for taking a snapshot, simply select another channel, math, or ref memory waveform and then execute snapshot again.

- Note that a snapshot is taken on a single waveform acquisition (or acquisition sequence). The measurements in the snapshot display are not continuously updated.

- Be careful when taking automatic measurements on noisy signals. You might measure the frequency of the noise and not the desired waveform.

- Note that pushing any button in the main menu (except for Snapshot) or any front panel button that displays a new menu removes the snapshot from display.

- Use High-Low Setup (page 3–94), Reference Levels (page 3–94), and Gated Measurements (page 3–92) with Snapshot exactly as you would when you display individual measurements from the Select Measrnmt menu.

To Find More Information

To perform a tutorial that shows you how to take automatic measurements, see *Example 3: Taking Automated Measurements* on page 2–20.

To learn how the oscilloscope calculates each automatic measurement, see *Appendix B: Algorithms* on page B–1.

**Taking Cursor Measurements**

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes provides cursors that measure the difference (either in time or voltage) between two locations in a waveform record. This section describes cursors — how to select their type and mode, how to display them, and how to use them to take measurements.

Cursor measurements are fast and easy to take. Cursors are made up of two markers that you position with the general purpose knob. You move one cursor independently or both cursors in tandem, depending on the cursor mode. As you position the cursors, readouts on the display report and update measurement information.
There are three cursor types: horizontal bar, vertical bar, and paired (see Figure 3–53).

**Cursor Types**

Horizontal bar cursors measure vertical parameters (typically volts).

Vertical bar cursors measure horizontal parameters (typically time or frequency).

Paired cursors measure both vertical parameters (typically volts) and horizontal parameters (typically time) simultaneously.

Look at Figure 3–53. Note that each of the two paired cursors has a long vertical bar paired with an X. The Xs measures vertical parameters (typically volts); the long vertical bars measure horizontal parameters (typically time or frequency).

(See Cursor Readouts on page 3–100 for more information.)

**NOTE.** When cursors measure certain math waveforms, the measurement may not be of time, frequency, or voltage. Cursor measurement of those math waveforms that are not of time, frequency, or voltage is described in Waveform Math, which begins on page 3–150.

There are two cursor modes: independent and tracking. (See Figure 3–54.)

In independent mode, you move only one cursor at a time using the general purpose knob. The active, or selected, cursor is a solid line. Press SELECT to change which cursor is selected.
In tracking mode, you normally move both cursors in tandem using the general purpose knob. The two cursors remain a fixed distance (time or voltage) from each other. Press SELECT to temporarily suspend cursor tracking. You can then use the general purpose knob to adjust the distance of the solid cursor relative to the dashed cursor. A second push toggles the cursors back to tracking.

![Cursor Modes](image)

**Figure 3–54: Cursor Modes**

**Cursor Readouts**

The cursor readout shows the absolute location of the selected cursor and the difference between the selected and non-selected cursor. The readouts differ depending on the cursor type you select, H Bars, V Bars, or Paired.

**H Bars.** The value after Δ shows the voltage difference between the cursors. The value after @ shows the voltage of the selected cursor relative to ground. (See Figure 3–55.) With the video trigger option, you can also display the voltage in IRE units.

**V Bars.** The value after Δ shows the time (or frequency) difference between the cursors. The value after @ shows the time (frequency) of the selected cursor relative to the trigger point. With the video trigger option, you can also display the line number.
Paired. The value after one Δ shows the voltage difference between the two Xs; the other Δ shows the time (or frequency) difference between the two long vertical bars. The value after @ shows the voltage at the X of the selected cursor relative to ground. (See Figure 3–56.)

![Diagram of cursor readout and menu]

**Figure 3–55: H Bars Cursor Menu and Readouts**

Paired cursors can only show voltage differences when they remain on screen. If the paired cursors are moved off screen horizontally, the word Edge will replace the voltage values in the cursor readout.

**Select the Cursor Function**

This procedure and those that follow detail the process for taking a cursor measurement. To select the type of cursors you want, do the following steps:

1. To display the cursor menu, press CURSOR. (See Figure 3–55.)
2. Press **Function** (main) → **H Bars, V Bars, Paired**, or **Off** (side).
Position of Vertical Bar Cursors (Useful for Locating Cursors Outside the Display)

Figure 3–56: Paired Cursor Menu and Readouts

**Set Mode and Adjust the Cursors**

To select the cursor mode and adjust the cursors in either mode, do the following steps:

1. Press CURSOR → Mode (main) → Independent or Track (side):

   **Independent** makes each cursor positionable without regard to the position of the other cursor.

   **Track** makes both cursors positionable in tandem; that is, both cursors move in unison and maintain a fixed horizontal or vertical distance between each other.

2. Adjust the cursors according to the mode you have selected:

   - To adjust either cursor in independent mode, use the general purpose knob to move the selected (active) cursor. A solid line indicates the adjustable cursor and a dashed line the fixed cursor. Press **Select** to toggle selection between the two cursors.
To adjust both cursors in tracking mode, use the general purpose knob to move both cursors.

To adjust the distance between cursors in tracking mode, press SELECT to temporarily suspend cursor tracking. Then use the general purpose knob to adjust the distance of the solid cursor relative to the dashed cursor. Press SELECT again to resume tracking.

**Select Cursor Speed**

To change the cursor's speed, press SHIFT before turning the general purpose knob. The cursor moves faster when the SHIFT button is lighted and the display reads Coarse Knobs in the upper right corner.

**Select Time Units**

You can choose to display vertical bar cursor results in units of time or frequency. To choose vertical bar cursor units, do the following step:

Press CURSOR → Time Units (main) → seconds or 1/seconds (Hz).

**To Find More Information**

To find instructions for using cursors with math waveforms, see Waveform Math on page 3–150.

To find instructions on using cursor with FFT waveforms, differentiated waveforms, and integrated waveforms, see Fast Fourier Transforms on page 3–153, Waveform Differentiation on page 3–172, and Waveform Integration on page 3–177.

**Taking Graticule Measurements**

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes provides a graticule for measuring the difference (either in time or amplitude) between two points on a waveform record. Graticule measurements provide you with quick, visual estimates. For example, you might look at a waveform amplitude and say “it is a little more than 100 mV.” This section briefly describes how to take graticule measurements.

**Measure Waveform Amplitude**

To measure the amplitude of a waveform, do the following steps:

1. Press the channel selection button of the channel you wish to measure. Note the vertical scale factor for the channel in the channel readout on screen.

2. Count the graticule divisions between two features to be measured and multiply by the vertical scale factor.

For example, if you count five major vertical graticule divisions between the minimum and maximum values of a waveform at a scale factor of 100 mV/division, then you can easily calculate your peak-to-peak voltage as:
5 divisions × 100 mV/division = 500 mV.

**NOTE.** When you select the NTSC graticule, the volts per division of all selected channels is set to 143 mV/div (152 mV/div for PAL) where the divisions are those of the conventional graticule, not the divisions of the video graticules. For NTSC, the actual grid lines represent 10 IRE, and for PAL the lines are 100 mV apart.

### Measure Waveform Time

To measure the time of a waveform, repeat the process just described, but count the horizontal divisions and multiply by the horizontal scale factor. For example, if you count five major horizontal graticule divisions for one waveform cycle at a horizontal scale factor of 50 μS/division, then you can easily calculate the waveform period as:

5 divisions × 50 μS/division = 250 μs, or 4 kHz.

### Displaying Histograms

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes can display histograms constructed from the selected trace waveform data. You can display either a vertical or horizontal histogram. You can display only one type of histogram at a time. See Figure 3–57.
Measuring Waveforms

Vertical histogram

Figure 3–57: Histogram Menu and Vertical Histogram

Start Histogram Counting

To start histogram counting press MEASURE → Histogram (pop-up) → Histogram Options (main) → Histogram Mode (side) → Off, Vertical, or Horizontal (side).

- **Off** turns off histogram counting and display.
- **Vertical** displays a vertical histogram that shows how your vertical units vary in the histogram box. A vertical histogram is displayed starting at the left edge of the graticule. The size of the max bin is controlled by the Histogram Size side menu.
- **Horizontal** displays a horizontal histogram that shows how time varies in the histogram box. A horizontal histogram is displayed at the top of the graticule. The size of the max bin is controlled by the Histogram Size side menu.

Reset Histogram Counting

To reset the count in all histogram bins to zero, press MEASURE → Histogram (pop-up) → Histogram Options (main) → Reset Histogram Counting (side).
Display a Histogram

To display a histogram, press MEASURE → Histogram (pop-up) → Histogram Options (main) → Histogram Display (side) → Off, Log, or Linear (side).

- If you select Off, you turn off histogram displays. Histogram counting and measurements can continue. The histogram box is not turned off.

- If you select Log, you display the log of the count in each bin. Log scaling provides better visual detail for bins with low count.

- If you select Linear, you display the count in each bin.

To select which waveform is compared against the histogram box, press MEASURE → Histogram (pop-up) → Histogram Options (main) → Histogram Source (side) → Ch1, Ch2, Ch3, or Ch4 (side). Histogram Source is not available in DPO, because all on channels contribute to the histogram.

To set the size of the histogram display press MEASURE → Histogram (pop-up) → Histogram Options (main) → Histogram Size (side). Use the general purpose knob or keypad to set the histogram size.

Setting Histogram Box Size

The histogram box selects the section of the trace used for histograms. To set the size of the histogram box, press MEASURE → Histogram (pop-up) → Histogram Box Limits (main) → Top Limit, Bottom Limit, Left Limit, or Right Limit (side). Use the general purpose knob or keypad to adjust the selected edge of the histogram box.

To Move the Histogram Box

To move the histogram box without changing its size, press MEASURE → Measure (main) → Histogram (pop-up) → Histogram Box Limits (main). Then toggle Move Box (side) to Horizontal or Vertical and use the general purpose knob to move the histogram box. (The SELECT button will also toggle Move Box.)
The TDS 694C Oscilloscope provides you with 10 histogram measurements. Table 3–6 lists brief definitions of the measurements.

### Table 3–6: Measurement definitions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>The average of all acquired points within (or on) the histogram box.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median</td>
<td>Half of all acquired points within (or on) the histogram box are less than and half are greater than this value.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>StdDev</td>
<td>The standard deviation (Root Mean Square (RMS) deviation) of all acquired points within (or on) the histogram box.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hits in Box</td>
<td>Displays the number of points in the histogram box or on the box boundary.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waveform Count</td>
<td>Displays the number of waveforms that have contributed to the histogram.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peak Hits</td>
<td>Displays the number of points in the largest bin of the histogram.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pk-Pk</td>
<td>Displays the peak-to-peak value of the histogram. Vertical histograms display the “voltage” of the highest nonzero bin minus the “voltage” of the lowest nonzero bin. Horizontal histograms display the “time” of the rightmost nonzero bin minus the “time” of the leftmost nonzero bin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean ± 1 StdDev</td>
<td>The percentage of points in the histogram which are within 1 standard deviation of the histogram mean.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean ± 2 StdDev</td>
<td>The percentage of points in the histogram which are within 2 standard deviations of the histogram mean.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean ± 3 StdDev</td>
<td>The percentage of points in the histogram which are within 3 standard deviations of the histogram mean.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Measurement Readouts

Histogram measurements are displayed in the same location as other measurements. (See Figure 3–47 on page 3–91.)

### Display Histogram Measurements

To display histogram measurements you first need to obtain a stable display of your waveform. (Pressing AUTOSET may help.) Once you have a stable display, press MEASURE to bring up the Measure menu. (See Figure 3–48.)

1. Turn on histogram counting by pressing MEASURE → Histogram (pop-up) → Histogram Options (main) → Histogram Mode (side) → Vertical or Horizontal (side).
2. Press MEASURE → Histogram (pop-up) → Histogram Measrmnt (main).
3. Select a measurement from the side menu (see Table 3–6 on page 3–107).
The **Remove Measurements** selection provides the same functions as in the Measure menu. See *Remove Measurements* on page 3–92.

### Optimizing Measurement Accuracy: SPC and Probe Cal

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes provides three features that optimize measurement accuracy. **Signal Path Compensation (SPC)** lets you compensate the internal signal path used to acquire the waveforms and measure based on the ambient temperature. **Channel/Probe Deskew** lets you compensate for the fact that signals may come in from cables of different length. **Probe Cal** lets you compensate the entire signal path, from probe tip to digitized signal, to improve the gain and offset accuracy of the probe. This section tells you how to use both features.

**Signal Path Compensation**

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes lets you compensate the internal signal path used to acquire the waveforms you measure. SPC optimizes the oscilloscope capability to make accurate measurements based on the ambient temperature.

You should run an SPC if the temperature has changed more than 5°C since the last SPC was performed.

To run an SPC, do the following steps:

1. Power on the digitizing oscilloscope and allow a 20 minute warm-up before doing this procedure.
2. Disconnect any input signals you may have connected from all four input channels.

STOP. When doing steps 3 and 4, do not turn off the oscilloscope until signal path compensation completes. If you interrupt (or lose) power to the instrument while signal path compensation is running, a message is logged in the oscilloscope error log. If such a case occurs, rerun signal path compensation.

3. Press **SHIFT UTILITY** → **System** (main) → **Cal** (pop-up) → **Signal Path** (main) → **OK Compensate Signal Paths** (side).

4. Wait for signal path compensation to complete (up to 8 minutes). While it progresses, a “clock” icon (shown at left) is displayed on-screen. When compensation completes, the status message will be updated to *Pass* or *Fail* in the main menu.

5. Verify the word *Pass* appears under **Signal Path** in the main menu. (See Figure 3–58.)
Channel/Probe Deskew

The TDS Oscilloscopes allow you to adjust a relative time delay for each channel. This feature lets you align the signals to compensate for the fact that signals may come in from cables of differing lengths.

The oscilloscope applies deskew values after it completes each acquisition; therefore, the deskew values do not affect logic triggering. Also, deskew has no affect on XY display format.

To set a channel/probe deskew, do the following steps:

- Press VERTICAL MENU → Deskew (main).
- Then use the general purpose knob or the keypad to set the deskew time. You can also eliminate any deskew setting by pressing Set to 0 S (side).

Probe Cal

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes lets you compensate the probe, based on the channel it is connected to, to improve the gain and offset accuracy of the probe. By executing Probe Cal on a channel with its probe installed, you can optimize the oscilloscope capability to make accurate measurements using that channel and probe.

Run a Probe Cal anytime you wish to ensure that the measurements you make are made with the most accuracy possible. You should also run a Probe Cal if you have changed to a different probe since the last Probe Cal was performed.
Some Probes Cannot Be Compensated. Some types of probes can be gain compensated, some can be offset compensated, and some can be compensated for both. Some probes cannot be compensated at all. Note the following restrictions:

- The oscilloscope cannot compensate probes that have an attenuation factor of greater than 20X. If you attempt to compensate such a probe you will get an error message.

To run a probe cal, follow the instructions regarding prerequisites below and then do the steps that follow:

- If you are installing an active probe, such as the P6249 or P6245, there are no prerequisites to performing this procedure. Start at step 1.

1. Install the probe on the input channel on which it is to be used.

2. Power on the digitizing oscilloscope and allow a 20 minute warm-up before doing this procedure.


4. Look at the status label under Signal Path in the main menu. If the status does not read Pass, perform a signal path compensation (Signal Path Compensation, page 3–108), and then continue with this procedure.

5. Press the front-panel button corresponding to the input channel on which you installed the probe.

6. Press VERTICAL MENU → Probe Functions (main) → Cal Probe (side).

STOP. Your oscilloscope will detect the type of probe you have installed and display screen messages and menu choices for compensation of probe gain, offset, or both. (See Figure 3–59.) The following steps will have you run probe gain, offset, or both depending on the probe the oscilloscope detects.

7. If the message on screen is Probe Offset Compensation rather than Probe Gain Compensation, skip to step 15.

8. Connect the probe tip to PROBE COMPENSATION SIGNAL; connect the probe ground lead to PROBE COMPENSATION GND.


10. Wait for gain compensation to complete (one to three minutes).

    When gain compensation completes, the following actions occur:
    - The clock icon will disappear.
If offset compensation is required for the probe installed, the Probe Offset Compensation message will replace the Probe Gain Compensation message.

If gain compensation did not complete successfully, you may get a “Probe is not connected” message (examine the probe connections to the digitizing oscilloscope, be sure the probe tip is properly installed in its retractor, etc., and repeat step 9).

If gain compensation did not complete successfully, you may get the message “Compensation Error.” This error implies that the probe gain (2% error) and/or offset (50 mV) is too great to be compensated. You can substitute another probe and continue. Have your probe checked by service personnel.

11. If the Probe Offset Compensation message is displayed, continue with step 15; otherwise, continue with step 12.

12. If the Compensation Error message is displayed, continue with step 13; otherwise continue with step 18.

13. Press **SHIFT UTILITY** → **System** (main) → **Diag/Err** (pop-up) → **Error Log** (main). If there are too many error messages to be seen on screen, rotate the general purpose knob clockwise to scroll to the last message.
14. Note the compensation error amount. Skip to step 19.

15. Disconnect the probe from any signal you may have connected it to. Leave the probe installed on its channel.


17. Wait for offset compensation to complete (one to three minutes).

When offset compensation completes, the following occurs:

- The clock icon will disappear.

- If offset compensation did not complete successfully, you may get the message “Compensation Error.” This error implies that the probe offset scale (10% error) and/or offset (50 mV) is too great to be compensated. You can substitute another probe and continue. Have your probe checked by service personnel. You can also check the error log by doing steps 13 through 14.

18. After the clock icon is removed, verify the word **Initialized** changed to **Pass** under **Cal Probe** in the main menu. (See Figure 3–59.)

19. If desired, repeat this procedure beginning at step 1 to compensate for other probe/channel combinations. But before you do so, be sure you take note of the following requirements:

- Remember to connect all probes to the oscilloscope for a twenty minute warm up before running Probe Cal.

**Changing Probes After a Probe Cal.** If a Probe Cal has never been performed on an input channel or if its stored Probe Cal data is erased using the **Re-use Probe Calibration Data** menu (discussed later), the oscilloscope displays **Initialized** status in its vertical menu. It also displays initialized whenever you remove a probe from an input.

If you execute a successful Probe Cal on an input channel, the oscilloscope stores the compensation data it derived in nonvolatile memory. Therefore, this data is available when you turn the oscilloscope off and back on and when you change probes.

When you install a probe or power on the oscilloscope with probes installed, the oscilloscope tests the probe at each input. Depending on the probe it finds on each input, it takes one of the following actions:

- If the probe has a TEKPROBE interface (such an interface can convey additional information, such as a unique identification number), the oscilloscope determines whether it is the same probe for which data was stored. If it is, the oscilloscope sets status to pass; if not, it sets the status to **Initialized**.
If a probe has a simple oscilloscope interface, the oscilloscope can usually determine if it has a different probe attenuation factor than that stored for the last Probe Cal. It can also determine if the last Probe Cal was for a probe with a TEKPROBE interface. If either is the case, the probe installed is different from that stored for the last Probe Cal. Therefore, the oscilloscope sets the status to *Initialized*.

If a probe has a simple oscilloscope interface and the probe attenuation factor is the same as was stored at the last Probe Cal, the oscilloscope cannot determine whether it is the same probe. Therefore, it displays the *Re-use Probe Calibration data?* menu. (See Figure 3–60.)

If the *Re-use Probe Calibration data?* menu is displayed, you can choose one of the following options:

- Press **OK Use Existing Data** (side) to use the Probe Cal data last stored to compensate the probe.
- Press **OK Erase Probe Cal Data** (side) to erase the Probe Cal data last stored and use the probe uncompensated.
- Press **CLEAR MENU** on the front panel to retain the Probe Cal data last stored and use the probe uncompensated.

![Figure 3–60: Re-use Probe Calibration Data Menu](image)
Table 3–7 shows the action the oscilloscope takes based on the probe connected and user operation performed.

### Table 3–7: Probe cal status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Probe Cal’d?</th>
<th>User action</th>
<th>Type probe connected</th>
<th>Simple interface</th>
<th>TEKPROBE interface</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>Doesn’t Matter</td>
<td>Initialized</td>
<td>Initialized</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Power off</td>
<td>initialized (probe data is retained)</td>
<td>Initialized (probe data is retained)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Power on</td>
<td>Can not detect different probe:</td>
<td>Display Re-use Probe Calibration Data menu</td>
<td>Cal’d Probe: Pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Different probe:</td>
<td>Initialized</td>
<td>Different probe: Initialized</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Disconnect Probe</td>
<td>Initialized</td>
<td></td>
<td>Initialized</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Connect Probe</td>
<td>Can not detect different probe:</td>
<td>Display Re-use Probe Calibration Data menu</td>
<td>Cal’d Probe: Pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Different probe:</td>
<td>Initialized</td>
<td>Different probe: Initialized</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Refers to a channel input that was successfully compensated at the time Probe Cal was last executed for the input channel.
2. If no probe is connected, the probe status in the vertical main menu is always initialized.
3. A probe with a simple interface is a probe that can convey very limited information to the oscilloscope. Most passive probes (such as the P6158) have simple interfaces.
4. A probe with a TEKPROBE interface is a probe that can convey additional information. For instance, it might automatically set the oscilloscope input channel impedance to match the probe, send the oscilloscope a unique probe identification number, and so on. Some optical probes and most active probes (such as the P6249) have TEKPROBE interfaces.
Saving Waveforms and Setups

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes can save and recall the waveforms you measure and the setups you use to measure them. It can also output or save a copy of its display screen. This section describes how to use the following features to save, recall, and document your measurements:

- **Save/Recall Setups**, for saving the setups you create to internal memory or to a disk (the disk can be a floppy disk, the optional hard disk, or an external Zip drive), so you can recall and reuse those setups

- **Save/Recall Waveform** for saving waveforms to internal memory or to a disk and for recalling those waveforms to the display

- **Hardcopy** for printing a copy of the oscilloscope display screen or for saving it to disk (hardcopies can be incorporated into documents using desk top publishing software)

- **File Utilities** for managing (copying, organizing into directories, and so on) the setups, waveforms, and display screens that you save to disk

This section ends with details on how to connect your oscilloscope into a system environment, so that it can communicate with remote instruments.

**NOTE. TDS Oscilloscopes do not come equipped with a hard disk drive.**

Saving and Recalling Setups

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes can store up to ten instrument setups in internal memory that you may later recall. This section describes how you save and recall a setup, and how you can recall the factory default setup.

Save a setup when you want to reuse it later. For example, after changing the setting during the course of an experiment, you may want to quickly return to your original setup. Save setups are retained even when you turn the oscilloscope off or unplug it.
To save the current setup of the oscilloscope:

1. Press **SAVE/RECALL SETUP → Save Current Setup** (main).

**STOP.** Before doing step 2 that follows, note that if you choose a setup location labeled user, you will overwrite the user setup previously stored there. You can store setups in setup locations labeled factory without disturbing previously stored setups.

2. To store to a setup internally, choose one of the ten internal storage locations from the side menu **To Setup 1, To Setup 2, ...** (see Figure 3–61). Now the current setup is stored in that location.

3. To store a setup to disk, press **To File** (side). Then use the general purpose knob to select the exact file from the resulting scrollbar list. Finally, press **Save To Selected File** (side) to complete the operation.
NOTE Upon power on, the oscilloscope creates the "wild card" file, marked in the file utilities menu by the name TEK?????.SET and by a wild card icon as shown on the left of this page, for storing setups. Selecting this file in step 3 stores a setup in a uniquely named, sequentially numbered file. For instance, the oscilloscope saves the first setup you save in the file TEK00001.SET, the second in TEK00002.SET, and so on.

To Recall a Setup

To recall a setup, do the following steps:

1. To recall a setup stored internally, press SAVE/RECALL SETUP → Recall Saved Setup (main) → Recall Setup 1, Recall Setup 2, ... (side).

2. To recall a setup stored on disk, press From File (side). Then use the general purpose knob to select the exact file from the resulting scrollbar list. Only files with .set extensions will be displayed. Finally, press Recall From Selected File (side) to complete the operation.

Recalling a setup will not change the menu that is currently displayed. If you recall a setup that is labeled factory in the side menu, you will recall the factory setup. (The conventional method for recalling the factory setup is described below.)

To Recall the Factory Setup

To reset your oscilloscope to the factory defaults:

Press SAVE/RECALL SETUP → Recall Factory Setup (main) → OK Confirm Factory Init (side).

To Delete All Setups and Waveforms — Tek Secure®

Sometimes you might use the oscilloscope to acquire waveforms that are confidential. Furthermore, before returning the oscilloscope to general usage, you might want to remove all such waveforms and any setups used to acquire them. (Be sure you want to remove all waveforms and setups, because once they are removed, you cannot retrieve them.) To use Tek Secure to remove all reference setups and waveforms (does not affect mass storage disks):

Press SHIFT UTILITY → System (main) → Config (pop-up) → Tek Secure Erase Memory (main) → OK Erase Setup & Ref Memory (side).
Executing Tek Secure accomplishes the following tasks:

- Replaces all waveforms in reference memories with zero sample values.
- Replaces the current front panel setup and all setups stored in setup memory with the factory setup.
- Calculates the checksums of all waveform memory and setup memory locations to verify successful completion of setup and waveform erasure.
- If the checksum calculation is unsuccessful, displays a warning message; if the checksum calculation is successful, displays a confirmation message.

**Select an Application**

You can select and load an application into the APPLICATION menu. Then you can control the application using the APPLICATION menus.

To select an application, do the following steps:

1. Press SAVE/RECALL SETUP → Select Application (main).
2. Then use the general purpose knob to select the exact file from the resulting scrollbar list. Only files with .APP extensions are displayed. Finally, press Activate Application (side) to complete the operation.

**To Run the File Utilities**

To run file utilities, see the Managing the File System on page 3–122.

**To Find More Information**

See Example 4: Saving Setups, on page 2–26.

**Saving and Recalling Waveforms and Acquisitions**

TDS 694C Oscilloscopes provides four internal reference memories in any of which you can store a waveform. Waveforms thus stored are retained even when you turn the oscilloscope off or unplug it. The oscilloscope also can save waveforms to disk. This section describes how to save, delete, and display reference waveforms and acquisitions.
The oscilloscope can display up to 11 waveforms at one time. That includes waveforms from the four input channels, four reference waveforms, and three math waveforms. You can save any combination of different size waveform records.

You will find saving waveforms useful when working with many waveforms and channels. If you have more waveforms than you can display, you can save one of the waveforms and then stop acquiring it. By doing so, you free an input channel to display another waveform without losing the first one.

To Save a Waveform

To save a waveform, do the following steps:

1. Select the channel that has the waveform you want to save.

STOP Before doing step 2 that follows, note that if you choose a reference memory location labeled active (see Figure 3–62), you will overwrite the waveform that was previously stored there. You can store waveforms in reference locations labeled empty without disturbing previously stored waveforms.

2. To store a waveform internally, press SAVE/RECALL WAVEFORM → Save Wfm (main) → To Ref1, To Ref2, To Ref3, or To Ref4 (side).
3. To store a waveform to disk, press To File (side). Then use the general purpose knob to select the exact file from the resulting scrollbar list. Finally, press Save To Selected File (side) to complete the operation.

**NOTE.** Upon power on, the oscilloscope creates the “wild card” file, marked in the file utilities menu by the name TEK?????.WFM and by a wild-card icon (shown left), for storing waveforms. Selecting this file in step 3 stores a waveform in a uniquely named, sequentially numbered file. For instance, the oscilloscope saves the first waveform you save in the file TEK00001.WFM, the second in TEK00002.WFM, and so on.

Recalling an image histogram stops acquisitions.

### To Change Format

To select the format that the oscilloscope uses to save waveforms to a disk:

Press save/recall WAVEFORM → Save Format (main) → Internal, MathCad, or Spreadsheet (side).

**Internal** creates files (.WFM or .WF1) in the internal format of the oscilloscope.

**MathCad** creates files (.DAT) in a format usable by MathCad®.

**Spreadsheet** creates files (.CSV) in a format usable by spreadsheets (Excel®, Lotus 1-2-3®, and Quattro Pro®).

If you are writing a MathCad program, note that the TDS-MathCad file is an ASCII file, the first four values of which contain header information:

- The first header value holds the TDS record length.
- The second header value holds time, in seconds, between samples.
- The third header value holds the trigger position (expressed as an index in the data position).
- The fourth header value refers to the fractional trigger position.

Also note that the delimiters are carriage returns.

### To Delete Waveforms

To delete a reference waveform(s) that you no longer need:

Press SAVE/RECALL WAVEFORM → Delete Refs (main) → Delete Ref1, Delete Ref2, Delete Ref3, Delete Ref4, or Delete All Refs (side).
To remove all stored reference waveforms and setups, use the feature called Tek Secure. See To Delete All Setups and Waveforms on page 3–117.

To display a waveform in internal reference memory:

Press MORE → Ref1, Ref2, Ref3, or Ref4 (main). (See Figure 3–63.)

Note that in Figure 3–63, the main menu items Ref2, Ref3, and Ref4 appear shaded while Ref1 does not. References that are empty appear shaded in the More main menu.

Figure 3–63: More Menu

To recall a waveform from disk to an internal reference memory:

Press SAVE/RECALL WAVEFORM → Recall Wfm To Ref (main) → Recall From File (side).
Then use the general purpose knob to select the exact file from the resulting scrollbar list. Only files with .WFM extensions are displayed. Finally, press To Ref1, To Ref2, To Ref3, or To Ref4 (side) to complete the operation.

To Enable Autosave

To use autosave:

Press SAVE/RECALL WAVEFORM → Autosave (main) → Autosave Single Seq ON (side).

Also turn on Single Acquisition Sequence in the Acquire menu. (See Stop After on page 3–20.)

To disable this feature, simply press Autosave (main) → Autosave Single Seq OFF (side).

If you enable both autosave and single sequence, the oscilloscope will save all live channels to reference waveforms at the completion of each single sequence event. All previous reference waveform data will be erased.

To rearm the oscilloscope for taking a new autosave single acquisition sequence, press RUN/STOP.

To avoid loss of reference waveforms, you can save them to disk (use the SAVE/RECALL WAVEFORM menu), before rearming the oscilloscope.

Consider the following operating characteristics when using autosave.

- Autosave saves all “live” waveforms; that is, waveforms displayed in CH 1 – CH 4. To be saved, the live waveforms must be displayed on screen.
- Autosave saves each live waveform into the reference memory that corresponds to the channel (CH 1 to Ref1, CH 2 to Ref2, and so on).
- Autosave, when executing, erases all four reference memories. To avoid loss of important waveforms, you may want to save them to a disk file before enabling a single acquisition sequence.
- Autosave is not available in DPO mode or if Extended Acquisition is On.

To Run the File Utilities

To run file utilities, see the Managing the File System on page 3–122.

Managing the File System

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes provides file utilities and a floppy disk drive (and optional hard disk) for saving hardcopies, setups, and waveforms. This section describes how to manage (delete, rename, etc.) these files using the file system. Read the sections listed under To Find More Information on page 3–127 for information on saving hardcopies, setups, and waveforms.
To Access the File Utilities

The File Utilities menu lets you delete, rename, copy, print files, create a new directory, operate the confirm delete and overwrite lock, and format disks.

To bring up the File Utilities menu:

1. Press the **SAVE/RECALL SETUP** button to bring up the Save/Recall Setup menu, or press **SAVE/RECALL WAVEFORM** (pop-up) to bring up the Save/Recall Waveform menu, or press the **SHIFT HARDCOPY** button to bring up the Hardcopy menu.

2. Press **File Utilities** in the main menu to bring up the File Utilities side menu. (See Figure 3–64.)

**NOTE.** The amount of free space on the active disk is shown in the upper right corner of the display. The oscilloscope shows the amount in Kbytes (or in Mbytes if the free space is 1 Mbyte or more). To convert the amount to bytes, you simply multiply the Kbytes amount times 1024. Thus, the 690 Kbytes shown in Figure 3–64 = 690 Kbytes x 1024 bytes/Kbyte = 706,560 bytes.

![Figure 3–64: File Utilities](image-url)
To delete a file or directory, turn the general purpose knob until it scrolls the cursor over the line marked with both the name of the file or directory to delete and the file icon or directory icon as shown to the left of this page. Then, press the side menu **Delete** button.

To delete all files in the file list, set the cursor to the "*.*" selection.

The oscilloscope deletes directories recursively. That means it deletes both the directories and all their contents.

### To Rename

To rename a file or directory, turn the general purpose knob until it scrolls the cursor over the name of the file or directory to delete. For example, to rename the target file whose default name is **TEK?????** set the cursor over its name. Then, press the side menu **Rename** button. (See Figure 3–65).

The labeling menu should appear. Turn the general purpose knob or use the main-menu arrow keys to select each letter. Press **Enter Char** from the main menu to enter each letter. When you have entered the name, press the side menu **OK Accept** item.

![Figure 3–65: File System — Labeling Menu](image)
To Copy

To copy a file or directory, turn the general purpose knob until it scrolls the cursor over the name of the file to copy. Then, press the side menu Copy button. The file menu will reappear with the names of directories to copy to. Select a disk and directory and press the side-menu button labelled Copy <name> to Selected Directory.

To copy all files, select the *.* entry.

The oscilloscope copies all directories recursively. That means it copies both the directories and all their contents.

To Print

To print a file, turn the general purpose knob until it scrolls the cursor over the name of the file to print. Then, press the side-menu Print button.

NOTE: While a Zip drive is attached, printing to the Centronics port is not allowed.

The Print-to side menu should appear. Select the port to print to from GPIB, RS-232, or Centronics. Then the oscilloscope will send the file in its raw form out the port. The device (printer) receiving the file must be capable or printing the particular file format.

To Create a Directory

To create a new directory, press the side menu Create Directory button.

The labeling menu should appear. Turn the general purpose knob or use the main-menu arrow keys to select each letter. Press Enter Char from the main menu to enter each letter. When you have entered the name, press the side menu OK Accept item. (See Figure 3–65.)

To Set Confirm Delete

To turn on or off the confirm delete message, toggle the side menu Confirm Delete button.

When the confirm delete option is OFF, the oscilloscope can immediately delete files or directories. When the confirm option is ON, the oscilloscope warns you before it deletes files and gives you a chance to reconsider.
To Set Overwrite Lock

To turn on or off the file overwrite lock, toggle the side menu **Overwrite Lock** button.

When overwrite lock is on, the oscilloscope will not permit you to write over an existing file of the same name. An important reason to allow overwriting is to let you write files using a target file name that contains wild card characters ("?"). This means the oscilloscope creates sequential files whose names are similar except for the sequential numbers that go in the real name in the place of the question marks.

To Select a Drive

To select the floppy disk or the hard disk (optional), turn the general purpose knob until it scrolls the cursor over the line marked with both the name of the drive to select (fd0:, hd0:, or Zip:) and the disk drive icon (pictured at left). Then, press **SELECT**.

To Format

To format a 720 Kbyte or 1.44 Mbyte floppy disk or the optional hard disk, turn the general purpose knob until it scrolls the cursor over the line marked with both the name of the drive to format (fd0: or hd0:) and the disk drive icon (pictured at left). Then, press the side menu **Format** button.

To format a Zip drive, attach it to a compatible PC and use Iomega tools.

Connecting Printers and Zip Drives

You can use an Iomega Zip drive to save and recall waveforms and hardcopies. When a Zip drive is attached to the Centronics port, the Centronics port is not available to printers and is grayed out in menus. To attach a Zip drive to the Centronics parallel port, do the following steps:

1. Power down the oscilloscope.
2. If a printer is attached to the parallel port, disconnect the printer.
3. Attach a parallel port compatible Zip drive to the Centronics port (for the location of the port, see the figure on page 2–5).
4. Power up the Zip drive either immediately after or at the same time the oscilloscope is powered up. Do not power up the Zip drive first.
The oscilloscope determines if a printer or Zip drive is attached at power up. Changing, and then attempting to use, the I/O device after power-up will generate an error message.

To Find More Information

See Saving and Recalling Setups, on page 3–115.

See Saving and Recalling Waveforms and Acquisitions, on page 3–118.

See Printing a Hardcopy, on page 3–127.

Printing a Hardcopy

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes can provide you with hardcopies of its display. To obtain a hardcopy, you need to know how to configure the communication and hardcopy parameters of the oscilloscope, how to connect it to one of the many hardcopy devices it supports, and how to print the hardcopy. This subsection describes how to do these tasks and how to save a hardcopy to a disk.

Supported Formats

The oscilloscope prints hardcopies of its display in many formats, which allows you to choose from a wide variety of hardcopy devices. It also makes it easier for you to place oscilloscope screen copies into a desktop publishing system. The oscilloscope supports the following formats:

- HP Thinkjet inkjet printer
- HP Deskjet inkjet printer
- HP Color Deskjet inkjet printer
- HP Laserjet laser printer
- Epson
- DPU-411/II portable thermal printer
- DPU-412 portable thermal printer
- PCX® (PC Paintbrush®)
- PCX Color (PC Paintbrush®)
- TIFF® (Tag Image File Format)
- BMP® Mono (Microsoft Windows file format)
- BMP® Color (Microsoft Windows file format)
- RLE Color (Microsoft Windows color image file format – compressed)
Saving Waveforms and Setups

- EPS Mono Image (Encapsulated Postscript, mono-image)
- EPS Color Image (Encapsulated Postscript, color-image)
- EPS Mono Plot (Encapsulated Postscript, mono-plot)
- EPS Color Plot (Encapsulated Postscript, color-plot)
- Interleaf
- HPGL Color Plot

Depending on the output format selected, the oscilloscope creates either an image or a plot. Images are direct bit map representations of the oscilloscope display. Plots are vector (plotted) representations of the display. To capture the gray-scale information in DPO displays, use BMP Color or EPS Image formats.

Some formats, particularly Interleaf, EPS, TIFF, PCX, BMP, and HPGL, are compatible with various desktop publishing packages. Such compatibility means you can paste files created from the oscilloscope directly into a document on any of those desktop publishing systems.

EPS Mono and Color formats are compatible with Tektronix Phaser Color Printers, HPGL is compatible with the Tektronix HC100 Plotter, and Epson is compatible with the Tektronix HC200 Printer.

To Set Up for Making Hardcopies

Before you make a hardcopy, you need to set up communications and hardcopy parameters. Do the following procedures to set up for making hardcopies.

Set Communications Parameters. To set up the communication parameters for a printer attached directly to the oscilloscope GPIB, RS-232 or Centronics port:

Press \texttt{SHIFT} \rightarrow \texttt{UTILITY} \rightarrow \texttt{System} (main) \rightarrow \texttt{I/O} (pop-up) \rightarrow \texttt{Configure} (main) \rightarrow \texttt{Hardcopy} (Talk Only) (side). (See Figure 3–66.)
Set Hardcopy Parameters. To specify the hardcopy format, layout, and type of port using the hardcopy menu, do the following steps:

1. Press SHIFT $\rightarrow$ HARDCOPY MENU to bring up the Hardcopy menu.

2. Press Format (main) $\rightarrow$ Thinkjet, Deskjet, DeskjetC, Laserjet, Epson, DPU-411, DPU-412, PCX, PCX Color, TIFF, BMP Mono, BMP Color, RLE Color, EPS Mono Img, EPS Color Img, EPS Mono Plt, EPS Color Plt, Interleaf, or HPGL (side). (Press more $\rightarrow$ (side) to page through all of these format choices.)

**NOTE.** Some formats, such as DeskJetC, require up to several minutes to process and print the screen. When using these formats, be careful not to inadvertently abort the print by pressing the Hardcopy button for a second print before the oscilloscope has finished processing and transmitting the first one.
3. Press \textit{SHIFT} $\rightarrow$ \textit{HARDCOPY MENU} $\rightarrow$ \textit{Layout} (main) $\rightarrow$ \textit{Landscape} or \textit{Portrait} (side). (See Figure 3–67.)

![Landscape Format](Figure 3–67: Hardcopy Formats)

![Portrait Format](Landscape Format)

4. Press \textit{SHIFT} $\rightarrow$ \textit{HARDCOPY MENU} $\rightarrow$ \textit{Palette} (main) $\rightarrow$ \textit{Hardcopy} or \textit{Current} (side) to specify a hardcopy palette. \textit{Current} uses the current palette settings to create the hardcopy, while \textit{Hardcopy} sets the hardcopy palette to an optimal setting for hardcopy devices.

5. Press \textit{SHIFT} $\rightarrow$ \textit{HARDCOPY MENU} $\rightarrow$ \textit{Port} (main) to specify the output channel to send your hardcopy through. The choices are \textit{GPIB}, \textit{RS–232}, \textit{Centronics}, and \textit{File}.

The menu item \textit{File} chooses a disk drive as the destination for hardcopies. See \textit{To Save to a Disk} on page 3–134. The disk drive can be either the floppy disk drive, a hard disk (optional), or a Zip drive. When a Zip drive is attached, \textit{File} is selected and Centronics is grayed out.

\textbf{Date/Time Stamp the Hardcopy.} You can display the current date and time on screen so that they appear on the hardcopies you print. To date and time stamp your hardcopy, do the following steps:

1. Press \textit{DISPLAY} $\rightarrow$ \textit{Settings} (main) $\rightarrow$ \textit{Display} (pop-up) $\rightarrow$ \textit{Readout Options} (main) $\rightarrow$ \textit{Display Date and Time} (side) to toggle the setting to \textit{On}.

2. If you want to set the date and time, skip steps 3 and 4 and continue with step 1 of \textit{Set the Date and Time} below. Then redo this procedure.

3. Press \textit{Clear Menu} to remove the menu from the display so the date and time can be displayed. (See Figure 3–68.) (The date and time are removed from the display when menus are displayed.)

4. Once the oscilloscope is connected to a hardcopy device, press \textit{HARDCOPY} to print your date/time stamped hardcopy.
Set the Date and Time. You might need to set the date and time of the oscilloscope. To set those parameters, do the following steps:

1. Press SHIFT → UTILITY → Config (pop-up) → Set Date & Time (main) → Year, Day Month, Hour, or Minute (side).

2. Use the general purpose knob or the keypad to set the parameter you have chosen to the value desired. (The format when using the keypad is day.month. For example, use 23.6 for the 23rd of June.)

3. Repeat steps 1 and 2 to set other parameters as desired.

4. Press OK Enter Date/Time (side) to put the new settings into effect. This sets the seconds to zero.
NOTE. When setting the clock, you can set to a time slightly later than the current time and wait for it to catch up. When current time catches up to the time you have set, pressing Ok Enter Date/Time (side) synchronizes the set time to the current time.

5. Press CLEAR MENU to see the date/time displayed with the new settings.

To Print Directly to a Hardcopy Device

To make your hardcopies, use the procedures that follow.

Connect to a Hardcopy Device. To connect the oscilloscope directly to a hardcopy device, determine which interface and cable the device uses, and connect accordingly. (See Figure 3–69.)

![Figure 3–69: Connecting the Oscilloscope Directly to the Hardcopy Device](image)

Some devices, such as the Tektronix HC100 Plotter, use the GPIB interface. Many printers, such as the Tektronix HC200, use Centronics interfaces. Many hardcopy devices, including the HC100 and HC200 with option 03, provide RS-232 support. (Check the documentation for your hardcopy device.)

Print. To print a single hardcopy or send additional hardcopies to the oscilloscope spool (queue) while waiting for earlier hardcopies to finish printing, press HARDCOPY.
While the hardcopy is being sent to the printer, the oscilloscope will display the message “Hardcopy in process — Press HARDCOPY to abort.”

Abort. To stop and discard the hardcopy being sent, press HARDCOPY again while the hardcopy in process message is still on screen.

Add to the Spool. To add additional hardcopies to the printer spool, press HARDCOPY again after the hardcopy in process message is removed from the screen.

You can add hardcopies to the spool until it is full. When adding a hardcopy fills the spool, the message “Hardcopy in Process—Press HARDCOPY to abort” remains displayed. You can abort only the last hardcopy sent by pressing the button while the message is still displayed. When the printer empties enough of the spool to finish adding the last hardcopy, it does so and then removes the message.

Clear the Spool. To remove all hardcopies from the spool, press SHIFT \(\rightarrow\) HARDCOPY MENU \(\rightarrow\) Clear Spool (main) \(\rightarrow\) OK Confirm Clear Spool (side).

The oscilloscope takes advantage of any unused RAM when spooling hardcopies to printers. The size of the spool is, therefore, variable. The number of hardcopies that can be spooled depends on three variables:

- The amount of unused RAM
- The hardcopy format chosen
- The complexity of the display
Although not guaranteed, usually about 2.5 hardcopies can be spooled before the oscilloscope must wait to send the rest of the third copy.

To send hardcopies to a disk, do the following steps:

1. Set up the oscilloscope communication and hardware parameters as outlined in To Set Up for Making Hardcopies on page 3–128.

2. If saving to a floppy disk, insert a formatted 720 Kbyte or 1.44 Mbyte floppy disk into the slot at the left of the oscilloscope display.

   **NOTE** To format disks, delete hardcopy files you save to disk, and otherwise manage the disk storage, see Managing the File System on page 3–122.

3. Press **SHIFT** → **HARDCOPY MENU** → **Port (main)** → **File (side)** to specify that any hardcopy be output to a disk file. The file list and its scrollbar will appear.

4. Turn the general purpose knob to place the scroll bar over the file in which to store the hardcopy.

   **NOTE** Upon power on, the oscilloscope creates the “wild card” file `TEK?????.FMT` for storing hardcopies, where “.FMT” is replaced by the hardcopy format you select. Selecting this file and pressing Hardcopy stores a hardcopy in a uniquely named, sequentially numbered file. For instance, the oscilloscope saves the first hardcopy you save to the file `TEK00001.FMT`, the second to `TEK00002.FMT`, and so on.

5. Press **HARDCOPY** to print your hardcopy to the selected file.

Saving files to the disk provides a convenient way to store hardcopies. You can print hardcopies stored on disk at a site remote from where the hardcopies were captured. Or you might load stored hardcopies from disk into your desktop publishing software that runs on a PC-compatible computer.
To Print Using a Controller

To make your hardcopies, use the procedures that follow.

**Connect to a Hardcopy Device.** To connect a controller with two ports between the oscilloscope and the hardcopy device, connect from the oscilloscope GPIB connector (rear panel) to the controller GPIB port and from the controller RS-232 or Centronics port to the hardcopy device. (See Figure 3–70.) Use the GPIB port to remotely request and receive a hardcopy from the oscilloscope. Use the RS-232 or the Centronics port on the controller to print output.

![Figure 3–70: Connecting the Oscilloscope and Hardcopy Device Via a PC](image)

**Print.** If your controller is PC-compatible and it uses the Tektronix GURU® or S3FG210 (National Instruments GPIB-PCII/IIA) GPIB package, do the following steps to print a hardcopy:

1. Use the MS-DOS `cd` command to move to the directory that holds the software that came with your GPIB board. For example, if you installed the software in the GPIB-PC directory, type: `cd GPIB–PC`.

2. Run the IBIC program that came with your GPIB board. Type: `IBIC`.

3. Type: `IBFIND DEV1` where “DEV1” is the name for the oscilloscope you defined using the IBCONF.EXE program that came with the GPIB board.
NOTE. If you defined another name, use it instead of “DEV1”. Also, remember that the device address of the oscilloscope as set with the IBCONF.EXE program should match the address set in the oscilloscope Utility menu (typically, use “1”).

4. Type: IBWRT “HARDCOPY START”

NOTE. Be sure the oscilloscope Utility menu is set to Talk/Listen and not Hardcopy (Talk Only) or you will get an error message at this step. Setting the oscilloscope Utility menu is described under Set Communication Parameters on page 3–128.

5. Type: IBRDF <Filename> where <Filename> is a valid DOS file name with which you want to label your hardcopy file. It should be ≤ 8 characters long and up to a 3 character extension. For example, you could type “ibrdf screen1”.

6. Exit the IBIC program by typing: EXIT

7. Copy the data from your file to your hardcopy device. Type: COPY <Filename> <Output port> </B> where:

   <Filename> is the name you defined in step 5 and

   <Output port> is the PC output port your hardcopy device is connected to (such as LPT1 or LPT2).

   For example, to copy (print) a file called screen1 to a printer attached to the lpt1 parallel port, type “copy screen1 lpt1: /B”.

   Your hardcopy device should now print a picture of the oscilloscope screen.

NOTE. If you transmit hardcopy files across a computer network, use a binary (8-bit) data path.
Communicating with Remote Instruments

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes can connect into a system environment, so that you can control it remotely or exchange measurement or waveform data between it and a computer. This subsection explains how to prepare and setup the oscilloscope for control and operation over the IEEE Std 488.2-1987 (GPIB) interface.

To transfer data between the oscilloscope and other instruments over the GPIB, do the following tasks to make sure the instruments support GPIB protocols and observe GPIB Interface requirements.

Check for GPIB Protocols. Make sure the instruments to be connected support the GPIB protocols. These protocols cover:

- Remote instrument control
- Bidirectional data transfer
- Device compatibility
- Status and event reporting

To simplify the development of GPIB systems, include instruments that use Tektronix defined codes and formats for messages that travel over the GPIB. Each device that follows these codes and formats, such as this oscilloscope, supports standard commands. Use of instruments that support these commands can greatly simplify development of GPIB systems.

Know the GPIB Interface Requirements. To prepare to connect the oscilloscope to GPIB networks, read and follow these rules:

- Connect no more than 15 devices, including the controller, to a single bus.
- Connect one device load every two meters (about six feet) of cable length to maintain bus electrical characteristics. (Generally, each instrument represents one device load on the bus.)
- Do not exceed 20 meters (about 65 feet) of the total cumulative cable length.
- Turn on at least two-thirds of the device loads present when you use your network.
- Include only one cable path between devices on your network. (See Figure 3–71.) Do not create loop configurations.

Figure 3–71: Typical GPIB Network Configuration

Obtain the Proper Interconnect Cabling. To connect the oscilloscope to a GPIB network, obtain at least one GPIB cable. Connecting two GPIB devices requires an IEEE Std 488.1-1987 GPIB cable (available from Tektronix, part number 012-0991-00).

The standard GPIB cable connects to a 24-pin GPIB connector located on the rear panel of the oscilloscope. The connector has a D-type shell and conforms to IEEE Std 488.1-1987. You can stack GPIB connectors on top of each other. (See Figure 3–72.)

Figure 3–72: Stacking GPIB Connectors
To Set Up for Remote Operation

To set up remote communications, be sure your setup will meet GPIB protocol and interface requirements just described. Then do the following procedures.

Connect the Oscilloscope to the GPIB. To connect the oscilloscope, plug an IEEE Std 488.2-1987 GPIB cable into the GPIB connector on the oscilloscope rear panel and into the GPIB port on your controller. (See Figure 3–73.)

![Figure 3–73: Connecting the Oscilloscope to a Controller](image)

Select GPIB Port. To select the GPIB port, press \textit{SHIFT} \rightarrow \textit{UTILITY} \rightarrow \textit{System} (main) \rightarrow \textit{I/O} (pop-up) \rightarrow \textit{Port} (main) \rightarrow \textit{GPIB} (pop-up).

Configure the GPIB Port. You must set two important GPIB parameters: mode and address. To set those parameters:

Press \textit{SHIFT} \rightarrow \textit{UTILITY} \rightarrow \textit{System} (main) \rightarrow \textit{I/O} (pop-up) \rightarrow \textit{Port} (main) \rightarrow \textit{GPIB} (pop-up) \rightarrow \textit{Configure} (main) \rightarrow \textit{Talk/Listen Address, Hardcopy (Talk Only)}, or \textit{Off Bus} (side). (See Figure 3–74.)

\textit{Talk/Listen Address} configures the port for controller-based system operation. Use the general purpose knob or the keypad to define the address.

\textit{Hardcopy (Talk Only)} configures the port for the hardcopy output without controller supervision. Once so configured, the oscilloscope will send the hardcopy data to any listeners on the bus when the \textit{HARDCOPY} button is pressed.

Pressing \textit{HARDCOPY} with the port configured any other way causes an error, and the oscilloscope responds with a message saying the selected hardcopy port is currently unavailable.

\textit{Off Bus} disconnects the oscilloscope from the bus.
Figure 3–74: Utility Menu

To Find More Information

See Printing a Hardcopy, on page 3–127.

See the TDS Programmer Manual disk.
Determining Status and Accessing Help

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes can display the status of its internal systems. It also provides an on-line help system. This section describes how to use the following two features:

- **Status** which displays a snapshot of system, display, trigger, waveform, and I/O settings
- **Help** which displays a screen of brief information about each oscilloscope control when that control is operated

Displaying Status

To display the status of the internal systems, perform the following steps:

1. Press **SHIFT STATUS → Status** (main).
2. Select a status snapshot from the side menu:
   - **System** displays information about the Horizontal, Zoom, Acquisition, Measure, and Hardcopy systems. (See Figure 3–75.) This display also tells you the firmware version.
   - **Display** provides parameter information about the display and color systems.
   - **Trigger** displays parameter information about the triggers.
   - **Waveforms** displays information about waveforms, including live, math, and reference waveforms.
   - **I/O** displays information about the I/O port(s).
   - **Histogram** displays information about histograms.
Determining Status and Accessing Help

Figure 3–75: Status Menu — System
Displaying the Banner

To display the banner (lists firmware version, options, copyright, and patents):

Press **SHIFT STATUS → Banner** (main). (See Figure 3–76.)

![Figure 3–76: Banner Display](image)

Displaying Help

To use the on-line help system:

Press **HELP** to provide on-screen information on any front panel button, knob or menu item. (See Figure 3–77.)
When you press that button, the instrument changes mode to support on-line help. Press HELP again to return to regular operating mode. Whenever the oscilloscope is in help mode, pressing any button (except HELP or SHIFT), turning any knob, or pressing any menu item displays help text on the screen that discusses that control.

The menu selections that were displayed when HELP was first pressed remain on the screen. On-line help is available for each menu selection displayed at the time the HELP button was first pressed. If you are in help mode and want to see help on selections from menus not displayed, you first exit help mode, display the menu you want information on, and press HELP again to re-enter help mode.
Using Features for Advanced Applications

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes provides powerful features for testing and digitally processing the waveforms you acquire. This section describes how to use the following features:

- **Limit Testing** — for testing the waveforms you acquire against a template you create (on this page)
- **Waveform Math** — for inverting, adding, subtracting, and multiplying of waveforms (see page 3–150)
- **Fast Fourier Transforms** — for displaying the frequency content of waveforms (see page 3–153)
- **Waveform Differentiation** — for displaying the derivative of a waveform (see page 3–172)
- **Waveform Integration** — for displaying the integral of a waveform (see page 3–177)

**Limit Testing**

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes provides limit testing, which can automatically compare each incoming or math waveform against a template waveform. You set an envelope of limits around a waveform and the oscilloscope finds waveforms that fall outside those limits. (See Figure 3–78.) When it finds such a waveform, the oscilloscope can generate a hardcopy, ring a bell, and stop and wait for your input.

To use limit testing, you must do four tasks:

- Create the limit test template from a waveform.
- Specify the channel to compare to the template.
- Specify the action to take if incoming waveform data exceeds the set limits.
- Turn limit testing on so that the parameters you have specified will take effect.
To do the tasks just listed, do the following procedures:

**To Create Limit Test Template**

To use an incoming or stored waveform to create the limit test template, first you select a source and specify a template destination. Then you create the template envelope by specifying the amount of variation from template you will tolerate. To do these tasks, perform the following steps:

1. Press **SHIFT ACQUIRE MENU** to bring up the Acquire menu.

2. Press **Create Limit Test Template** (main) → **Template Source** (side) → Ch1, Ch2, Math1, Math2, Math3, Ref1, Ref2, Ref3, or Ref4 (side). (See Figure 3–79.)

   **NOTE.** The template will be smoother if you acquire the template waveform using **Average** acquisition mode. If you are unsure how to select **Average**, see Selecting an Acquisition Mode on page 3–20.

3. Once you have selected a source, select a destination for the template: press **Template Destination** (side) → Ref1, Ref2, Ref3, or Ref4.
4. Press $\pm \text{V Limit}$ (side). Enter the vertical (voltage) tolerance value using the general purpose knob or keypad.

5. Press $\pm \text{H Limit}$ (side). Enter the horizontal (time) tolerance value using the general purpose knob or keypad.

   Tolerance values are expressed in fractions of a major division. They represent the amount by which incoming waveform data can deviate without having exceeded the limits set in the limit test. The range is from 0 (the incoming waveform must be exactly like the template source) to 5 major divisions of tolerance.

6. When you have finished specifying the limit test template, press **OK Store Template** (side). This action stores the specified waveform in the specified destination, using the specified tolerances. Until you have done so, the template waveform has been defined but not created.

   To avoid overwriting the template you have just created, store any new template you create in a different destination from that just stored.
To view the template you have created, press the MORE button. Then press the button corresponding to the destination reference memory you have used. The waveform appears on the display.

**NOTE.** To view the waveform data as well as the template envelope, it might be useful to select the Dots display style. (See Select the Display Style on page 3–23.)

**To Select a Limit Test Source**

Now specify the channel that will acquire the waveforms to be compared against the template you have created:

1. Press SHIFT ACQUIRE MENU → Limit Test Sources (main) → Compare Ch1 to, Compare Ch2 to, Compare Ch3 to, Compare Ch4 to, Compare Math1 to, Compare Math2 to or Compare Math3 to (side).

2. Once you have selected one of the four channels or a math waveform as a waveform source from the side menu, press the same side menu button to select one of the reference memories in which you have stored a template. Valid selections are any of the four reference waveforms Ref1 through Ref4 or None. Choosing None turns limit testing off for the specified channel or math waveform.

**NOTE.** Specify the same reference memory you chose as the template destination if you want to use the template you just created.

If you have created more than one template, you can compare one channel to one template and the other channel to another template.

**To Specify the Limit Test Response**

Now specify the action to take if waveform data exceeds the limits set by the limit test template and turn on limit testing:

1. Press SHIFT ACQUIRE MENU → Limit Test Setup (main) to bring up a side menu of possible actions.
2. Ensure that the side button corresponding to the desired action reads **ON**.
   - If you want to send a hardcopy command when waveform data exceeds the limits set, toggle **Hardcopy if Condition Met (side)** to **ON**. You can set the hardcopy system to send the hardcopy to the file system. (Do not forget to set up the hardcopy system. See **Hardcopy** on page 3–127 for details.)
   - If you want the bell to ring when waveform data exceeds the limits set, toggle **Ring Bell if Condition Met (side)** to **ON**.
   - If you want the oscilloscope to stop when waveform data exceeds the limits set, toggle **Stop After Limit Test Condition Met (side)** to **ON**.

**NOTE.** The button labeled **Stop After Limit Test Condition Met** corresponds to the **Limit Test Condition Met** menu item in the **Stop After** main menu. You can turn this button on in the **Limit Test Setup** menu, but you cannot turn it off. To turn it off, press **Stop After** and specify one of the other choices in the **Stop After side menu.**

3. Ensure that **Limit Test (side)** reads **ON**. If it reads **OFF**, press **Limit Test (side)** once to toggle it to **ON**.

   When you set **Limit Test** to **ON**, the oscilloscope compares incoming waveforms against the waveform template stored in reference memory according to the settings in the **Limit Test Sources** side menu.

**Single Waveform Comparisons**

You can compare a single waveform against a single template. When making a single waveform versus a single template comparison, consider the following operating characteristics:

- The waveform will be repositioned horizontally to move the first sample in the waveform record that is outside of template limits to center screen.
- The position of the waveform template will track that of the waveform.
You can also compare more than one waveform against a single template, or more than one waveform with each one compared against its own template or a common template. When setting up for such comparisons, consider the following operating characteristics:

- You should set Horizontal Lock to None in the Zoom side menu (push ZOOM and press (repeatedly) Horizontal Lock to None). See Zoom a Waveform, on page 3–33 for more information on horizontal lock.

- With horizontal lock set as just described, the oscilloscope will reposition each waveform horizontally to move the first sample in the waveform record that is outside of template limits to center screen.

- If you are comparing each waveform to its own template, the position of each waveform template will track that of its waveform.

- If you are comparing two or more waveforms to a common template, that template will track the position of the failed waveform. If more than one waveform fails during the same acquisition, the template will track the position of the waveform in the highest numbered channel. For example, CH 2 is higher than CH 1.

**Waveform Math**

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes provides a means for you to mathematically manipulate your waveforms. For example, you might have a waveform clouded by background noise. You can obtain a cleaner waveform by subtracting the background noise from your original waveform.

This section describes the invert, add, subtract, divide, and multiply waveform math features. See Fast Fourier Transforms on page 3–153, Waveform Differentiation on page 3–172, and Waveform Integration on page 3–177 for information on Advanced DSP Math features.
To Use Single Wfm Math

To perform waveform math, use the More menu (Figure 3–80). The More menu allows you to display, define, and manipulate three math waveforms; the following steps explain how to create a math waveform based on a single source waveform:


2. To define the source waveform, press Set Single Source to (side) repeatedly to cycle it to the desired channel or reference waveform.

3. Press Set Function to (side) repeatedly to cycle it to inv (invert), intg, or diff. Waveform integration (intg) is described on page 3–177, and waveform differentiation (diff) is described on page 3–172.

4. To create the math waveform, press OK Create Math Wfm (side).
To create a math waveform that requires two waveform sources, do the following steps:

1. Press MORE → Math1, Math2, or Math3 (main) → Change Math waveform definition (side) → Dual Wfm Math (main).

2. To define the first source waveform, press Set 1st Source to (side) repeatedly to cycle it to the desired channel or reference waveform.

3. To define the second source waveform, press Set 2nd Source to (side) repeatedly to cycle it to the desired channel or reference waveform.

4. To enter the math operator, press Set operator to (side) repeatedly to cycle it through the choices. Supported operators are +, −, *, and /.

**NOTE.** If you select *, for multiply, in step 4, the cursor feature will measure amplitude in the units volts squared, VV, rather than in volts, V.

![Figure 3–81: Dual Waveform Math Main and Side Menus](image)
Using Features for Advanced Applications

5. Press OK Create Math Wfm (side) to perform the function.

To Average a Math Waveform

You can also select whether or not you wish to average a certain math waveform; to do so, perform the following steps:

1. Press MORE → Math1, Math2, or Math3 (main) to select the math waveform to be averaged.

2. Press Average (side) and enter a value with the general purpose knob or the keypad. Any math operations you select for the waveform are performed on an average of multiple acquisitions.

3. To turn off math averaging for the selected math waveform, press No Extended Processing (side). Any math operations you select for the waveform are performed on only one acquisition.

Fast Fourier Transforms

The Advanced DSP Math capabilities of the TDS 694C Oscilloscopes include taking the Fast Fourier Transform (FFT) of a waveform. This section describes FFTs and how to set up the oscilloscope to display and measure FFTs.

The FFT allows you to transform a waveform from a display of its amplitude against time to one that plots the amplitudes of the various discrete frequencies the waveform contains. Further, you can also display the phase shifts of those frequencies. Use FFT math waveforms in the following applications:

- Testing impulse response of filters and systems
- Measuring harmonic content and distortion in systems
- Characterizing the frequency content of DC power supplies
- Analyzing vibration
- Analyzing harmonics in 50 and 60 cycle lines
- Identifying noise sources in digital logic circuits
The FFT computes and displays the frequency content of a waveform you acquire as an FFT math waveform. This frequency domain waveform is based on the following equation:

$$X(k) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=-\frac{N}{2}}^{\frac{N}{2}-1} x(n)e^{-j\frac{2\pi nk}{N}} \text{ for } k = 0 \text{ to } N - 1$$

Where:

- $x(n)$ is a point in the time domain record data array
- $X(k)$ is a point in the frequency domain record data array
- $n$ is the index to the time domain data array
- $k$ is the index to the frequency domain data array
- $N$ is the FFT length
- $j$ is the square root of $-1$

The resulting waveform is a display of the magnitude or phase angle of the various frequencies the waveform contains with respect to those frequencies. For example, Figure 3–82 shows the untransformed impulse response of a system in channel 2 at the top of the screen. The FFT-transformed magnitude and phase appear in the two math waveforms below the impulse. The horizontal scale for FFT math waveforms is always expressed in frequency per division with the beginning (left-most point) of the waveform representing zero frequency (DC).

The FFT waveform is based on digital signal processing (DSP) of data, which allows more versatility in measuring the frequency content of waveforms. For example, DSP allows the oscilloscope to compute FFTs of source waveforms that must be acquired based on a single trigger, making it useful for measuring the frequency content of single events. DSP also allows the phase as well as the magnitude to be displayed.
To Create an FFT

To obtain an FFT of your waveform, do the following steps:

1. Connect the waveform to the desired channel input and select that channel.

2. Adjust the vertical and horizontal scales and trigger the display (or press AUTOSET).

   The topic Offset, Position, and Scale, on page 3–163, provides in depth information about optimizing your setup for FFT displays.

3. Press MORE to access the menu for turning on math waveforms.

4. Select a math waveform. Your choices are Math1, Math2, and Math3 (main).

5. If the selected math waveform is not FFT, press Change Math Definition (side) → FFT (main). See Figure 3–83.

6. Press Set FFT Source to (side) repeatedly until the channel source selected in step 1 appears in the menu label.
7. Press Set FFT Vert Scale to (side) repeatedly to choose from the following vertical scale types:

- **dBV RMS** — Magnitude is displayed using log scale, expressed in dB relative to 1 V\(_{\text{RMS}}\) where 0 dB = 1 V\(_{\text{RMS}}\).
- **Linear RMS** — Magnitude is displayed using voltage as the scale.
- **Phase (deg)** — Phase is displayed using degrees as the scale, where degrees wrap from \(-180^\circ\) to \(+180^\circ\).
- **Phase (rad)** — Phase is displayed using radians as the scale, where radians wrap from \(-\pi\) to \(+\pi\).

The topic *Considerations for Phase Displays*, on page 3–166, provides in depth information on setup for phase displays.
8. Press **Set FFT Window** to (side) repeatedly to choose from the following window types:

**Rectangular** — Best type of window for resolving frequencies that are very close to the same value but worst for accurately measuring the amplitude of those frequencies. Best type for measuring the frequency spectrum of nonrepetitive signals and measuring frequency components near DC.

**Hamming** — Very good window for resolving frequencies that are very close to the same value with somewhat improved amplitude accuracy over the rectangular window.

**Hanning** — Very good window for measuring amplitude accuracy but degraded for resolving frequencies.

**Blackman-Harris** — Best window for measuring the amplitude of frequencies but worst at resolving frequencies.

The topic *Selecting a Window*, on page 3–169, provides in depth information on choosing the right window for your application.

9. If you did not select **Phase (deg)** or **Phase (rad)** in step 7, skip to step 12. Phase suppression is only used to reduce noise in phase FFTs.

10. If you need to reduce the effect of noise in your phase FFT, press **Suppress phase at amplitudes <** (side).

11. Use the general purpose knob to adjust the phase suppression level. FFT magnitudes below this level will have their phase set to zero.

The topic *Adjust Phase Suppression*, on page 3–167, provides additional information on phase suppression.

12. Press **OK Create Math Wfm** (side) to display the FFT of the waveform you input in step 1. (See Figure 3–84.)
To Take Cursor Measurements of an FFT

Once you have displayed an FFT math waveform, use cursors to measure its frequency amplitude or phase angle.

1. Be sure MORE is selected in the channel selection buttons and that the FFT math waveform is selected in the More main menu.


3. Use the general purpose knob to align the selected cursor (solid line) to the top (or to any amplitude on the waveform you choose).

4. Press SELECT to select the other cursor. Use the general purpose knob to align the selected cursor to the bottom (or to any amplitude on the waveform you choose).

5. Read the amplitude between the two cursors from the Δ: readout. Read the amplitude of the selected cursor relative to either 1 V RMS (0 dB), ground (0 volts), or the zero phase level (0 degrees or 0 radians) from the @: readout. (The waveform reference indicator at the left side of the graticule indicates the level where phase is zero for phase FFTs.)
Figure 3–85 shows the cursor measurement of a frequency magnitude on an FFT. The @: readout reads 0 dB because it is aligned with the 1 V$_{\text{RMS}}$ level. The Δ: readout reads 24.4 dB indicating the magnitude of the frequency it is measuring is –24.4 dB relative to 1 V$_{\text{RMS}}$. The source waveform is turned off in the display.

The cursor units will be in dB or volts for FFTs measuring magnitude and in degrees or radians for those FFTs measuring phase. The cursor unit depends on the selection made for Set FFT Vert Scale to (side). See step 7 on page 3–156 for more information.

6. Press V Bars (side). Use the general purpose knob to align one of the two vertical cursors to a point of interest along the horizontal axis of the waveform.

7. Press SELECT to select the alternate cursor.

8. Align the selected cursor to another point of interest on the math waveform.
9. Read the frequency difference between the cursors from the Δ: readout. Read the frequency of the selected cursor relative to the zero frequency point from the @: readout.

The cursor units will always be in Hz, regardless of the setting in the Time Units side menu. The first point of the FFT record is the zero frequency point for the @: readout.


11. Use the technique just outlined to place the vertical bar of each paired cursor to the points along the horizontal axis you are interested in.

12. Read the amplitude between the X of the two paired cursors from the top-most Δ: readout. Read the amplitude of the short horizontal bar of the selected (solid) cursor relative to either 1 V_RMS (0 dB), ground (0 volts), or zero phase level (0 degrees or 0 radians) from the @: readout. Read the frequency between the long horizontal bars of both paired cursors from the bottom Δ: readout.

You can use automated measurements to measure FFT math waveforms. Use the procedure To Take Automated Measurements found in Waveform Differentiation on page 3–174.

There are several characteristics of FFTs that affect how they are displayed and should be interpreted. Read this topic to learn about the FFT frequency domain record — how the source waveform relates to the record length, frequency resolution, and frequency range of that record. (The FFT frequency domain waveform is the FFT math waveform that you display.) Continue reading the topics that follow to learn how to optimize the oscilloscope setup for good display of your FFT waveforms.

**FFT May Not Use All of the Waveform Record.** The FFT math waveform is a display of the magnitude or phase data from the FFT frequency domain record. This frequency domain record is derived from the FFT time domain record, which is derived from the waveform record. All three records are described below.
Waveform Record — the complete waveform record acquired from an input channel and displayed from the same channel or a reference memory. The length of this time domain record is user-specified from the Horizontal menu. The waveform record is not a DSP Math waveform.

FFT Time Domain Record — that part of the waveform record input to the FFT. This time domain record waveform becomes the FFT math waveform after it’s transformed. Its record length depends on the length of the waveform record defined above.

FFT Frequency Domain Record — the FFT math waveform after digital signal processing converts data from the FFT time domain record into a frequency domain record.

Figure 3–86 compares the waveform record to the FFT time domain record. Note the following relationships:

- For waveform records ≤10 K points in length, the FFT uses all of the waveform record as input.
- For waveform records >10 K points, the first 10 K points of the waveform record becomes the FFT time domain record.
- Each FFT time domain record starts at the beginning of the acquired waveform record.
- The zero phase reference point for a phase FFT math waveform is in the middle of the FFT time domain record regardless of the waveform record length.

![Diagram](Image)

Figure 3–86: Waveform Record vs. FFT Time Domain Record
**FFTs Transform Time Records to Frequency Records.** The FFT time domain record just described is input for the FFT. Figure 3–87 shows the transformation of that time domain data record into an FFT frequency domain record. The resulting frequency domain record is one half the length of the FFT input because the FFT computes both positive and negative frequencies. Since the negative values mirror the positive values, only the positive values are displayed.

![Diagram of FFT Time Domain Record vs. FFT Frequency Domain Record](image)

**Figure 3–87: FFT Time Domain Record vs. FFT Frequency Domain Record**

**FFT Frequency Range and Resolution.** When you turn on an FFT waveform, the oscilloscope displays either the magnitude or phase angle of the FFT frequency domain record. The resolution between the discrete frequencies displayed in this waveform is determined by the following equation:

\[ \Delta F = \frac{\text{Sample Rate}}{\text{FFT Length}} \]

Where:
- \( \Delta F \) is the frequency resolution.
- Sample Rate is the sample rate of the source waveform.
- FFT Length is the length of the FFT Time Domain waveform record.

The sample rate also determines the range these frequencies span; they span from 0 to \( \frac{1}{2} \) the sample rate of the waveform record. (The value of \( \frac{1}{2} \) the sample rate is often referred to as the Nyquist frequency or point.) For example, a sample rate of 20 Megasamples per second would yield an FFT with a range of 0 to 10 MHz. The sample rates available for acquiring data records vary over a range. TDS oscilloscopes display the sample rate in the acquisition readout at the top of the oscilloscope screen.
The following topics contain information to help you display your FFT properly.

**Offset, Position, and Scale**

Adjust for a Non-Clipped Display. To properly display your FFT waveform, scale the source waveform so it is not clipped.

- You should scale and position the source waveform so it is contained on screen. (Off-screen waveforms may be clipped, resulting in errors in the FFT waveform).

Alternately, to get maximum vertical resolution, you can display source waveforms with amplitudes up to two divisions greater than that of the screen. If you do, turn on **Pk-Pk** in the measurement menu and monitor the source waveform for clipping.

- Use vertical position and vertical offset to position your source waveform. As long as the source waveform is not clipped, its vertical position and vertical offset will not affect your FFT waveform except at DC. (DC correction is discussed below.)

Adjust Offset and Position to Zero for DC Correction. Normally, the output of a standard FFT computation yields a DC value that is twice as large as it should be with respect to the other frequencies. Also, the selection of window type introduces errors in the DC value of an FFT.

The displayed output of the FFT on TDS oscilloscopes is corrected for these errors to show the true value for the DC component of the input signal. The Position and Offset must be set to zero for the source waveform in the Vertical menu. When measuring the amplitude at DC, remember that 1 VDC equals 1 Vrms and the display is in dB.

**Record Length**

Most often, you will want to use a short record length because more of the FFT waveform can be seen on screen and long record lengths can slow oscilloscope response. However, long record lengths lower the noise relative to the signal and increase the frequency resolution for the FFT. More important, they might be needed to capture the waveform feature you want to include in the FFT.
To speed up oscilloscope response when using long record lengths, you can save your source waveform in a reference memory and perform an FFT on the saved waveform. That way the DSP will compute the FFT based on saved, static data and will only update if you save a new waveform.

**Acquisition Mode**

Selecting the right acquisition mode can produce less noisy FFTs.

**Set up in Sample.** Use sample mode until you have set up and turned on your FFT. Sample mode can acquire repetitive and nonrepetitive waveforms and does not affect the frequency response of the source waveform.

**Reduce Noise.** If the pulse is repetitive, Average mode may be used to reduce noise in the signal at a cost of slower display response. Average operates on repetitive waveforms only, and averaging does affect the frequency response of the source waveform.

**Peak Detect and Envelope Add Distortion.** Peak Detect and Envelope mode can add significant distortion to the FFT results and are not recommended for use with FFTs.

**Zoom and Interpolation**

Once you have your waveform displayed optimally, you may magnify (or reduce) it vertically and horizontally to inspect any feature you desire. Just be sure the FFT waveform is the selected waveform. (Press MORE, then select the FFT waveform in the More main menu. Then use the Vertical and Horizontal SCALE knobs to adjust the math waveform size.)

If you wish to see the zoom factor (2X, 5X, etc.) you need to turn Zoom on: press ZOOM → On (side). The vertical and horizontal zoom factors appear on screen.
Whether Zoom is on or off, you can press Reset (main) → Reset Live Factors or Reset All Factors (side) to return the zoomed FFT waveform to no magnification.

Zoom always uses either sin(x)/x or linear interpolation when expanding displayed waveforms. To select the interpolation method: press DISPLAY → Setting (main) → Display (pop-up) → Filter (main) → Sin(x)/x or Linear (side).

If the source waveform record length is 500 points, the FFT will use 2X Zoom to increase the 250 point FFT frequency domain record to 500 points. Therefore, FFT math waveforms of 500 point waveforms are always zoomed 2X or more with interpolation. Waveforms with other record lengths can be zoomed or not and can have minimum Zooms of 1X or less.

Sin(x)/x interpolation may distort the magnitude and phase displays of the FFT depending on which window was used. You can easily check the effects of the interpolation by switching between sin(x)/x and linear interpolation and observing the difference in measurement results on the display. If significant differences occur, use linear interpolation.

**Undersampling (Aliasing)**

Aliasing occurs when the oscilloscope acquires a source waveform with frequency components outside of the frequency range for the current sample rate. In the FFT waveform, the actual higher frequency components are undersampled, and therefore, they appear as lower frequency aliases that “fold back” around the Nyquist point. (See Figure 3–88.)

The greatest frequency that can be input into any sampler without aliasing is \( \frac{1}{2} \) the sample frequency. Since source waveforms often have a fundamental frequency that does not alias but have harmonic frequencies that do, you should have methods for recognizing and dealing with aliases:

- Be aware that a source waveform with fast edge transition times creates many high frequency harmonics. These harmonics typically decrease in amplitude as their frequency increases.
- Sample the source signal at rates that are at least 2X that of the highest frequency component having significant amplitude.
- Filter the input to bandwidth limit it to frequencies below that of the Nyquist frequency.

- Recognize and ignore the aliased frequencies.

If you think you have aliased frequencies in your FFT, select the source channel and adjust the horizontal scale to increase the sample rate. Since you increase the Nyquist frequency as you increase the sample rate, the alias signals should appear at their proper frequency.

![Figure 3–88: How Aliased Frequencies Appear in an FFT](image)

**Considerations for Phase Displays**

When you set up an FFT math waveform to display the phase angle of the frequencies contained in a waveform, you should take into account the reference point the phase is measured against. You may also need to use phase suppression to reduce noise in your FFTs.

**Establish a Zero Phase Reference Point.** The phase of each frequency is measured with respect to the zero phase reference point. The zero reference point is the point at the center of the FFT math waveform but corresponds to various points on the source (time domain) record. (See Figure 3–86 on page 3–161.)
To measure the phase relative to most source waveforms, you need only to center the positive peak around the zero phase point. (For instance, center the positive half cycle for a sine or square wave around the zero phase point.) Use the following method:

- First be sure the FFT math waveform is selected in the More menu, then set horizontal position to 50% in the Horizontal menu. This positions the zero phase reference point to the horizontal center of the screen.

- In the Horizontal menu, vary the trigger position to center the positive peak of the source waveform at the horizontal center of screen. Alternately, you can adjust the trigger level (knob) to bring the positive peak to center screen if the phase reference waveform has slow enough edges.

When impulse testing and measuring phase, align the impulse input into the system to the zero reference point of the FFT time domain waveform:

- Set the trigger position to 50% and horizontal position to 50% for all record lengths less than 15 K.

- For records with a 100 K length, set the trigger position to 5%. Use the horizontal position knob to move the trigger T on screen to the center horizontal graticule line.

- Do not use the 15 K length, nor, if your oscilloscope model is so equipped, and of the record lengths 30 K, 75 K, or 130 K to impulse test using FFTs. These record lengths do not allow easy alignment of the zero reference point for phase measurements.

- Trigger on the input impulse.

**Adjust Phase Suppression.** Your source waveform record may have a noise component with phase angles that randomly vary from $-\pi$ to $\pi$. This noise could make the phase display unusable. In such a case, use phase suppression to control the noise.
You specify the phase suppression level in dB with respect to 1 V\text{RMS}. If the magnitude of the frequency is greater than this threshold, then its phase angle will be displayed. However, if it is less than this threshold, then the phase angle will be set to zero and be displayed as zero degrees or radians. (The waveform reference indicator at the left side of the graticule indicates the level where phase is zero for phase FFTs.)

It is easier to determine the level of phase suppression you need if you first create a \textit{frequency} FFT math waveform of the source and then create a \textit{phase} FFT waveform of the same source. Do the following steps to use a cursor measurement to determine the suppression level:

1. Do steps 1 through 7 of \textit{To Create an FFT} that begins on page 3–155. Select dBV RMS (side) for the \textit{Set FFT Vert Scale to} (side).

2. Press CURSOR $\rightarrow$ Mode (main) $\rightarrow$ Independent (side) $\rightarrow$ Function (main) $\rightarrow$ H Bars (side). Use the general purpose knob to align the selected cursor to a level that places the tops of the magnitudes of frequencies of interest above the cursor but places other magnitudes completely below the cursor.

3. Read the level in dB from the @: readout. Note the level for use in step 5.

4. Press MORE (main) $\rightarrow$ Change Waveform Definition menu (side). Press Set FFT Vert Scale to (side) repeatedly to choose either Phase (rad) or Phase (deg).

5. Press Suppress Phase at Amplitudes (side). Use the general purpose knob to set phase suppression to the value obtained using the H Bar cursor. Do not change the window selection or you will invalidate the results obtained using the cursor.

\textbf{FFT Windows}

To learn how to optimize your display of FFT data, read about how the FFT windows data before computing the FFT math waveform. Understanding FFT windowing can help you get more useful displays.

\textbf{Windowing Process.} The oscilloscope multiplies the FFT time domain record by one of four FFT windows before it inputs the record to the FFT function. Figure 3–89 shows how the time domain record is processed.
The FFT windowing acts like a bandpass filter between the FFT time domain record and the FFT frequency domain record. The shape of the window controls the ability of the FFT to resolve (separate) the frequencies and to accurately measure the amplitude of those frequencies.

![Diagram of FFT Windowing](image)

**Figure 3–89: Windowing the FFT Time Domain Record**

**Selecting a Window.** You can select your window to provide better frequency resolution at the expense of better amplitude measurement accuracy in your FFT, better amplitude accuracy over frequency resolution, or to provide a compromise between both. You can choose from these four windows: Rectangular, Hamming, Hanning, and Blackman-Harris.
In step 8 (page 3–157) in To Create an FFT, the four windows are listed in order according to their ability to resolve frequencies versus their ability to accurately measure the amplitude of those frequencies. The list indicates that the ability of a given window to resolve a frequency is inversely proportional to its ability to accurately measure the amplitude of that frequency. In general, then, choose a window that can just resolve between the frequencies you want to measure. That way, you will have the best amplitude accuracy and leakage elimination while still separating the frequencies.

You can often determine the best window empirically by first using the window with the most frequency resolution (rectangular), then proceeding toward that window with the least (Blackman-Harris) until the frequencies merge. Use the window just before the window that lets the frequencies merge for best compromise between resolution and amplitude accuracy.

**NOTE.** If the Hanning window merges the frequencies, try the Hamming window before settling on the rectangular window. Depending on the distance of the frequencies you are trying to measure from the fundamental, the Hamming window sometimes resolves frequencies better than the Hanning.

**Window Characteristics.** When evaluating a window for use, you may want to examine how it modifies the FFT time domain data. Figure 3–90 shows each window, its bandpass characteristic, bandwidth, and highest side lobe. Consider the following characteristics:

- The narrower the central lobe for a given window, the better it can resolve a frequency.
- The lower the lobes on the side of each central lobe are, the better the amplitude accuracy of the frequency measured in the FFT using that window.
- Narrow lobes increase frequency resolution because they are more selective. Lower side lobe amplitudes increase accuracy because they reduce leakage.
Leakage results when the time domain waveform delivered to the FFT function contains a non-integer number of waveform cycles. Since there are fractions of cycles in such records, there are discontinuities at the ends of the record. These discontinuities cause energy from each discrete frequency to “leak” over on to adjacent frequencies. The result is amplitude error when measuring those frequencies.

The rectangular window does not modify the waveform record points; it generally gives the best frequency resolution because it results in the most narrow lobe width in the FFT output record. If the time domain records you measured always had an integer number of cycles, you would only need this window.

Hamming, Hanning, and Blackman-Harris are all somewhat bell-shaped widows that taper the waveform record at the record ends. The Hanning and Blackman/Harris windows taper the data at the end of the record to zero; therefore, they are generally better choices to eliminate leakage.

Care should be taken when using bell shaped windows to be sure that the most interesting parts of the signal in the time domain record are positioned in the center region of the window so that the tapering does not cause severe errors.
Waveform Differentiation

The Advanced DSP Math capabilities of the TDS 694C Oscilloscopes include *waveform differentiation*. This capability allows you to display a derivative math waveform that indicates the instantaneous rate of change of the waveform acquired. This section describes how to setup the oscilloscope to display and measure derivative math waveforms.

Derivative waveforms are used in the measurement of slew rate of amplifiers and in educational applications. You can store and display a derivative math waveform in a reference memory, then use it as a source for another derivative waveform. The result is the second derivative of the waveform that was first differentiated.
The math waveform, derived from the sampled waveform, is computed based on the following equation:

\[ Y_n = \frac{X_{n+1} - X_n}{T} \]

Where:
- \( X \) is the source waveform
- \( Y \) is the derivative math waveform
- \( T \) is the time between samples

Since the resultant math waveform is a derivative waveform, its vertical scale is in volts/second (its horizontal scale is in seconds). The source signal is differentiated over its entire record length; therefore, the math waveform record length equals that of the source waveform.

**To Create a Derivative of a Waveform**

To obtain a derivative math waveform:

1. Connect the waveform to the desired channel input and select that channel.

2. Adjust the vertical and horizontal scales and trigger the display (or press \textbf{AUTOSET}).

3. Press \textbf{MORE} \( \rightarrow \text{Math1, Math2, or Math3 (main) \rightarrow Change Math Definition (side) \rightarrow Single Wfm Math (main).} \) (See Figure 3–91).

4. Press \textbf{Set Single Source} to (side). Repeatedly press the same button (or use the general purpose knob) until the channel source selected in step 1 appears in the menu label.

5. Press \textbf{Set Function} to (side). Repeatedly press the same button (or use the general purpose knob) until \textbf{diff} appears in the menu label.

6. Press \textbf{OK Create Math Wfm} (side) to display the derivative of the waveform you input in step 1.

You should now have your derivative math waveform on screen. Use the Vertical \textbf{SCALE} and \textbf{POSITION} knobs to size and position your waveform as you require.
Once you have displayed your derivative math waveform, you can use automated measurements to make various parameter measurements. Do the following steps to display automated measurements of the waveform:

1. Be sure MORE is selected in the channel selection buttons and that the differentiated math waveform is selected in the More main menu.

2. Press MEASURE → Measure (pop-up) → Select Measrmnt (main).

3. Select up to four measurements in the side menu. (See Figure 3–92.)

You can also use cursors to measure derivative waveforms. Use the same procedure as is found under To Take Cursor Measurements on page 3–179. When using that procedure, note that the amplitude measurements on a derivative waveform will be in volts per second rather than in volt-seconds as is indicated for the integral waveform measured in the procedure.
Using Features for Advanced Applications

Figure 3–92: Peak-Peak Amplitude Measurement of a Derivative Waveform

**Offset, Position, and Scale**

The settings you make for offset, scale, and position affect the math waveform you obtain. Note the following tips for obtaining a good display:

- You should scale and position the source waveform so it is contained on screen. (Off screen waveforms may be clipped, resulting in errors in the derivative waveform).

- You can use vertical position and vertical offset to position your source waveform. The vertical position and vertical offset will not affect your derivative waveform unless you position the source waveform off screen so it is clipped.

- When using the vertical scale knob to scale the source waveform, note that it also scales your derivative waveform.
Because of the method the oscilloscope uses to scale the source waveform before differentiating that waveform, the derivative math waveform may be too large vertically to fit on screen — even if the source waveform is only a few divisions on screen. You can use Zoom to reduce the size of the waveform on screen (see *Using Zoom* that follows), but if your waveform is clipped before zooming, it will still be clipped after it is zoomed.

If your math waveform is a narrow differentiated pulse, it may not appear to be clipped when viewed on screen. You can detect if your derivative math waveform is clipped by expanding it horizontally using Zoom so you can see the clipped portion. Also, the automated measurement Pk-Pk will display a clipping error message if turned on (see *To Take Automated Measurements* on page 3–174).

If your derivative waveform is clipped, try either of the following methods to eliminate clipping:

- Reduce the size of the source waveform on screen. (Select the source channel and use the vertical SCALE knob.)
- Expand the waveform horizontally on screen. (Select the source channel and increase the horizontal scale using the horizontal SCALE knob.) For instance, if you display the source waveform illustrated in Figure 3–91 on page 3–174 so its rising and falling edges are displayed over more horizontal divisions, the amplitude of the corresponding derivative pulse will decrease.

Whichever method you use, be sure Zoom is off and the zoom factors are reset (see *Using Zoom* below).

**Using Zoom**

Once you have your waveform optimally displayed, you can also magnify (or contract) it vertically and horizontally to inspect any feature. Just be sure the differentiated waveform is the selected waveform. (Press MORE, then select the differentiated waveform in the More main menu. Then use the Vertical and Horizontal SCALE knob to adjust the math waveform size.)

If you wish to see the zoom factor (2X, 5X, etc.), you need to turn zoom on: press ZOOM → ON (side). The vertical and horizontal zoom factors appear on screen.
Whether zoom is on or off, you can press **Reset** (main) → **Reset Live Factors** or **Reset All Factors** (side) to return the zoomed derivative waveform to no magnification.

### Waveform Integration

The Advanced DSP Math capabilities of the TDS 694C Oscilloscopes include *waveform integration*. This capability allows you to display an integral math waveform that is an integrated version of the acquired waveform. This section describes how to setup the oscilloscope to display and measure integral math waveforms.

Integral waveforms find use in the following applications:

- Measuring of power and energy, such as in switching power supplies
- Characterizing mechanical transducers, as when integrating the output of an accelerometer to obtain velocity

The integral math waveform, derived from the sampled waveform, is computed based on the following equation:

$$y(n) = \text{scale} \sum_{i = 1}^{n} \frac{x(i) + x(i - 1)}{2} T$$

Where:
- $x(i)$ is the source waveform
- $y(n)$ is a point in the integral math waveform
- scale is the output scale factor
- $T$ is the time between samples

Since the resultant math waveform is an integral waveform, its vertical scale is in volt-seconds (its horizontal scale is in seconds). The source signal is integrated over its entire record length; therefore, the math waveform record length equals that of the source waveform.
To Create a Integral Math Waveform

To obtain an integral math waveform, do the following steps:

1. Connect the waveform to the desired channel input and select that channel.

2. Adjust the vertical and horizontal scales and trigger the display (or press AUTOSET).


4. Press Set Single Source to (side). Repeatedly press the same button until the channel source selected in step 1 appears in the menu label.

5. Press Set Function to (side). Repeatedly press the same button until intg appears in the menu label.

6. Press OK Create Math Waveform (side) to turn on the integral math waveform.

You should now have your integral math waveform on screen. See Figure 3–93. Use the Vertical SCALE and POSITION knobs to size and position your waveform as you require.
Once you have displayed your integrated math waveform, use cursors to measure its voltage over time.

1. Be sure **MORE** is selected (lighted) in the channel selection buttons and that the integrated math waveform is selected in the **More** main menu.

2. Press **CURSOR → Mode** (main) → **Independent** (side) → **Function** (main) → **H Bars** (side).

3. Use the general purpose knob to align the selected cursor (solid) to the top (or to any amplitude level you choose).

4. Press **SELECT** to select the other cursor.

5. Use the general purpose knob to align the selected cursor (to the bottom (or to any amplitude level you choose).

6. Read the integrated voltage over time between the cursors in volt-seconds from the Δ: readout. Read the integrated voltage over time between the selected cursor and the reference indicator of the math waveform from the @: readout. (See Figure 3–94.)
Using Features for Advanced Applications

Figure 3–94: H Bars Cursors Measure an Integral Math Waveform

7. Press Function (main) → V Bars (side). Use the general purpose knob to align one of the two vertical cursors to a point of interest along the horizontal axis of the waveform.

8. Press SELECT to select the alternate cursor.

9. Align the alternate cursor to another point of interest on the math waveform.

10. Read the time difference between the cursors from the Δ: readout. Read the time difference between the selected cursor and the trigger point for the source waveform from the @: readout.


12. Use the technique just outlined to place the long vertical bar of each paired cursor to the points along the horizontal axis you are interested in.
13. Read the following values from the cursor readouts:

- Read the integrated voltage over time between the Xs of both paired cursors in volt-seconds from the \( \Delta \): readout.
- Read the integrated voltage over time between the X of the selected cursor and the reference indicator of the math waveform from the @: readout.
- Read the time difference between the long vertical bars of the paired cursors from the \( \Delta \): readout.

**To Take Automated Measurements**

You can also use automated measurements to measure integral math waveforms. Use the same procedure as is found under *To Take Automated Measurements* on page 3–174. When using that procedure, note that your measurements on an integral waveform will be in volt-seconds rather than in volts per second as is indicated for the differential waveform measured in the procedure.

**Offset, Position, and Scale**

When creating integrated math waveforms from live channel waveforms, consider the following topics. Note the following requirements for obtaining a good display:

- You should scale and position the source waveform so it is contained on screen. (Off screen waveforms may be clipped, which will result in errors in the integral waveform).
- You can use vertical position and vertical offset to position your source waveform. The vertical position and vertical offset will not affect your integral waveform unless you position the source waveform off screen so it is clipped.
- When using the vertical scale knob to scale the source waveform, note that it also scales your integral waveform.

**DC Offset**

The source waveforms that you connect to the oscilloscope often have a DC offset component. The oscilloscope integrates this offset along with the time varying portions of your waveform. Even a few divisions of offset in the source waveform may be enough to ensure that the integral waveform saturates (clips), especially with long record lengths.
You may be able to avoid saturating your integral waveform if you choose a shorter record length. (Press HORIZONTAL MENU → Record Length (main).) Reducing the sample rate (use the HORIZONTAL SCALE knob) with the source channel selected might also prevent clipping.

**Using Zoom**  
Once you have your waveform optimally displayed, you may magnify (or reduce) it vertically and horizontally to inspect any feature you desire. Just be sure the integrated waveform is the selected waveform. (Press MORE, then select the integrated waveform in the More main menu. Then use the Vertical and Horizontal SCALE knobs to adjust the math waveform size.)

If you want to see the zoom factor (2X, 5X, etc.), you need to turn Zoom on: press ZOOM → On (side). The vertical and horizontal zoom factors appear on screen.

Whether Zoom is on or off, you can press Reset (main) → Reset Live Factors or Reset All Factors (side) to return the zoomed integral waveform to no magnification.
Appendix A: Options and Accessories

This appendix describes the various options as well as the standard and optional accessories that are available for the TDS 694C Oscilloscope.

Options

Tektronix will ship the options shown in Table A–1:

Table A–1: Options

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option #</th>
<th>Label</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A1</td>
<td>Universal European power cord</td>
<td>220 V, 50 Hz power cord</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A2</td>
<td>UK power cord</td>
<td>240 V, 50 Hz power cord</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A3</td>
<td>Australian power cord</td>
<td>240 V, 50 Hz power cord</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A5</td>
<td>Switzerland power cord</td>
<td>220 V, 50 Hz power cord</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1K</td>
<td>Scope cart</td>
<td>K420 scope cart. This cart can help transport the oscilloscope around many lab environments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1M</td>
<td>120,000 samples record length</td>
<td>Extend record length from 30,000 samples standard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1R</td>
<td>Rackmount</td>
<td>Oscilloscope comes configured for installation in a 19 inch wide instrument rack. For later field conversions, order kit # 016-1236-00.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Buffered passive probe</td>
<td>Add a 500 MHz P6339A 10x, buffered passive probe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Low capacitance probe</td>
<td>Add a 3 GHz (probe only) P6158 20x, 1 kΩ, low capacitance probe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Active probe</td>
<td>Add a 1.5 GHz (probe only) P6245 high speed digital voltage probe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>Active probe</td>
<td>Add a 4 GHz (probe only) P6249 5X, small geometry active probe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>Differential probe</td>
<td>Add a 1.5 GHz (probe only) P6248 small geometry active differential probe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C3</td>
<td>Three years calibration</td>
<td>Provides three years of calibration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C5</td>
<td>Five years calibration</td>
<td>Provides five years of calibration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D1</td>
<td>Calibration data report</td>
<td>Oscilloscope comes with a calibration data report.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D3</td>
<td>Calibration data for C3</td>
<td>Provides calibration data for option C3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D5</td>
<td>Calibration data for C5</td>
<td>Provides calibration data for option C5</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Appendix A: Options and Accessories

Table A–1: Options (cont.)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option #</th>
<th>Label</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>HD</td>
<td>Hard disk drive</td>
<td>Add a hard disk.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R5</td>
<td>Extended Warranty</td>
<td>Oscilloscope comes with a 5 year extended warranty.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Standard Accessories

The oscilloscope comes standard with the accessories listed in Table A–2.

Table A–2: Standard accessories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accessory</th>
<th>Part number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>User Manual (with programmer disk 063-3060-XX)</td>
<td>071-0473-XX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference Manuals</td>
<td>020-2313-XX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Reference: Performance Verification and Specifications</td>
<td>071-0496-XX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Probes: No probes standard</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Front Cover</td>
<td>200-3696-01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accessory Pouch (TDS 654C, TDS 684C, TDS694C, TDS 700D)</td>
<td>016-1268-00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Power Cord</td>
<td>161-0230-01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Run/Stop footswitch, Run/Stop</td>
<td>260-1189-02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adapter: footswitch</td>
<td>013-0312-00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deskew Fixture</td>
<td>679-4809-00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Optional Accessories

You can also order the optional accessories listed in Table A–3.

Table A–3: Optional accessories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accessory</th>
<th>Part number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Service Manual</td>
<td>071-0495-XX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oscilloscope Cart</td>
<td>K420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rack Mount Kit (for field conversion)</td>
<td>016-1236-00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accessory Pouch</td>
<td>016-1268-00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table A–3: Optional accessories (cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accessory</th>
<th>Part number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Soft-Sided Carrying Case</td>
<td>016-0909-01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transit Case</td>
<td>016-1135-00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GPIB Cable (1 meter)</td>
<td>012-0991-01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GPIB Cable (2 meter)</td>
<td>012-0991-00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centronics Cable</td>
<td>012-1214-00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RS-232 Cable</td>
<td>012-1298-00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Accessory Probes

Table A–4 lists the recommended probes for each oscilloscope. Descriptions of each probe follow the table.

Table A–4: Recommended probe cross reference

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Probe</th>
<th>TDS 694C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Specialty 10X</td>
<td>P6339A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low Capacitance</td>
<td>P6158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Active &lt;3.5V Logic</td>
<td>P6249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Active &gt;3.5V Logic</td>
<td>P6245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Active CMOS/TTL</td>
<td>P6245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Technology</td>
<td>P6245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Differential Digital/Telecom</td>
<td>P6246</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Micro Volt</td>
<td>ADA400A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Voltage</td>
<td>P5210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current AC Only</td>
<td>CT-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current AC/DC</td>
<td>CT-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current AC/DC</td>
<td>CT-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electro-Optical Converter</td>
<td>TCP202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AM503S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>P6701B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>P6703B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NOTE. The TDS 694C oscilloscope does not have a 1MΩ input impedance, therefore many passive, high voltage, and current probes will not work correctly. Use probes with 50Ω output impedance only.

Accessory Probes

The following optional accessory probes are recommended for use with your TDS 694C:

- P6245 Active, high speed digital voltage probe. FET. DC to 1.5 GHz
- P6248 Active, high bandwidth differential probe. FET. DC to 1.5 GHz
- P6249 Active, small geometry active probe, 5X, 3 GHz
- P6339A 500 MHz buffered passive, AC/DC coupling, 20/150 MHz bandwidth limit probe (for TDS 794D)
- ADA 400A differential preamp, switchable gain
- AM 503S — DC/AC 50 MHz Current measurement system, AC/DC. Supplied with A6302 Current Probe
- AM 503S Option 03: DC/AC 100 A Current measurement system, AC/DC. Supplied with A6303 Current Probe
- AM 503S Option 05: DC/AC 100 MHz Current measurement system. Supplied with A6312 Current Probe
- TCP 202 Current Probe, DC to 50 Mhz, 15 A DC
- CT-1 Current probe — designed for permanent or semi-permanent in-circuit installation. 25 kHz to 1 GHz, 50 Ω input
- CT-2 Current probe — designed for permanent or semi-permanent in-circuit installation. 1.2 kHz to 200 MHz, 50 Ω input
- CT-4 Current Transformer — for use with the AM 503S (A6302, A6312) and P6021. Peak pulse 20 kA. 0.5 Hz to 20 MHz with AM 503S (A6302)
- CT-6 AC Current probe — 250 kHz to 2 GHz, 50 Ω input
- P6701B Optical-to-Electrical Analog Converter: 500 to 950 nm (DC to 1 GHz, 1 V/mW)
- P6703B Optical-to-Electrical Analog Converter: 1100 to 1700 nm (DC to 1.2 GHz, 1 V/mW)
- P6723 Optical Logic Probe: 1310 to 1550 nm (20 to 650 Mb/s, –8 to –28 dBm
- AFTDS Differential Signal Adapter
- AMT75 75 Ω to 50 Ω Adapter
Accessory Software

The optional accessories listed in Table A–5 are Tektronix software products recommended for use with your oscilloscope.

Table A–5: Accessory software

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Software</th>
<th>Part number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wavewriter: AWG and waveform creation</td>
<td>S3FT400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WaveStar®: Waveform capture and documentation</td>
<td>WSTR31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WaveStar®: Waveform capture and documentation, Windows 95/NT version</td>
<td>WSTRO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Warranty Information

Check for the full warranty statements for this product and the products listed above on the first page after the title page of each product manual.
Appendix B: Algorithms

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes can take 25 automatic measurements. By knowing how it makes these calculations, you may better understand how to use your oscilloscope and how to interpret your results.

Measurement Variables

The oscilloscope uses a variety of variables in its calculations. These include:

**High, Low**

*High* is the value used as the 100% level in measurements such as fall time and rise time. For example, if you request the 10% to 90% rise time, then the oscilloscope will calculate 10% and 90% as percentages with *High* representing 100%.

*Low* is the value used as the 0% level in measurements such as fall time and rise time.

The exact meaning of *High* and *Low* depends on which of two calculation methods you choose from the **High-Low Setup** item of the Measure menu. These are **Min-max** and **Histogram**.

**Min-Max Method** — defines the 0% and the 100% waveform levels as the lowest amplitude (most negative) and the highest amplitude (most positive) samples. The min-max method is useful for measuring frequency, width, and period for many types of signals. Min-max is sensitive to waveform ringing and spikes, however, and does not always measure accurately rise time, fall time, overshoot, and undershoot.

The min-max method calculates the High and Low values as follows:

\[ High = Max \]

and

\[ Low = Min \]
**Histogram Method** — attempts to find the highest density of points above and below the waveform midpoint. It attempts to ignore ringing and spikes when determining the 0% and 100% levels. This method works well when measuring square waves and pulse waveforms.

The oscilloscope calculates the histogram-based *High* and *Low* values as follows:

1. It makes a histogram of the record with one bin for each digitizing level (256 total).
2. It splits the histogram into two sections at the halfway point between *Min* and *Max* (also called *Mid*).
3. The level with the most points in the upper histogram is the *High* value, and the level with the most points in the lower histogram is the *Low* value. (Choose the levels where the histograms peak for *High* and *Low*.)

If *Mid* gives the largest peak value within the upper or lower histogram, then return the *Mid* value for both *High* and *Low* (this is probably a very low amplitude waveform).

If more than one histogram level (bin) has the maximum value, choose the bin farthest from *Mid*.

This algorithm does not work well for two-level waveforms with greater than about 100% overshoot.

**HighRef, MidRef, LowRef, Mid2Ref**

The user sets the various reference levels, through the **Reference Level** selection of the Measure menu. They include:

**HighRef** — the waveform high reference level. Used in fall time and rise time calculations. Typically set to 90%. You can set it from 0% to 100% or to a voltage level.

**MidRef** — the waveform middle reference level. Typically set to 50%. You can set it from 0% to 100% or to a voltage level.
LowRef — the waveform low reference level. Used in fall and rise time calculations. Typically set to 10%. You can set it from 0% to 100% or to a voltage level.

Mid2Ref — the middle reference level for a second waveform (or the second middle reference of the same waveform). Used in delay time calculations. Typically set to 50%. You can set it from 0% to 100% or to a voltage level.

Other Variables

The oscilloscope also measures several values itself that it uses to help calculate measurements.

RecordLength — is the number of data points in the time base. You set it with the Horizontal menu Record Length item.

Start — is the location of the start of the measurement zone (X-value). It is 0.0 samples unless you are making a gated measurement. When you use gated measurements, it is the location of the left vertical cursor.

End — is the location of the end of the measurement zone (X-value). It is (RecordLength – 1.0) samples unless you are making a gated measurement. When you use gated measurements, it is the location of the right vertical cursor.

Hysteresis — The hysteresis band is 10% of the waveform amplitude. It is used in MCross1, MCross2, and MCross3 calculations.

For example, once a crossing has been measured in a negative direction, the waveform data must fall below 10% of the amplitude from the MidRef point before the measurement system is armed and ready for a positive crossing. Similarly, after a positive MidRef crossing, waveform data must go above 10% of the amplitude before a negative crossing can be measured. Hysteresis is useful when you are measuring noisy signals, because it allows the oscilloscope to ignore minor fluctuations in the signal.
**MCross Calculations**

**MCross1, MCross2, and MCross3** — refer to the first, second, and third MidRef cross times, respectively. (See Figure B–1.)

The polarity of the crossings does not matter for these variables, but the crossings alternate in polarity; that is, *MCross1* could be a positive or negative crossing, but if *MCross1* is a positive crossing, *MCross2* will be a negative crossing.

![MCross Calculations Diagram](image)

**Figure B–1: MCross Calculations**

The oscilloscope calculates these values as follows:

1. Find the first MidRefCrossing in the waveform record or the gated region. This is *MCross1*.
2. Continuing from *MCross1*, find the next MidRefCrossing in the waveform record (or the gated region) of the opposite polarity of *MCross1*. This is *MCross2*.
3. Continuing from *MCross2*, find the next MidRefCrossing in the waveform record (or the gated region) of the same polarity as *MCross1*. This is *MCross3*.

**MCross1Polarity** — is the polarity of first crossing (no default). It can be rising or falling.
**StartCycle** — is the starting time for cycle measurements. It is a floating-point number with values between 0.0 and \((\text{RecordLength} - 1.0)\), inclusive.

\[ \text{StartCycle} = M\text{Cross1} \]

**EndCycle** — is the ending time for cycle measurements. It is a floating-point number with values between 0.0 and \((\text{RecordLength} - 1.0)\), inclusive.

\[ \text{EndCycle} = M\text{Cross3} \]

**Waveform[<0.0 ... RecordLength-1.0>]** — holds the acquired data.

**TPOS** — is the location of the sample just before the trigger point (the time reference zero sample). In other terms, it contains the domain reference location. This location is where time = 0.

**TSOFF** — is the offset between \(TPOS\) and the actual trigger point. In other words, it is the trigger sample offset. Values range between 0.0 and 1.0 samples. This value is determined by the instrument when it receives a trigger. The actual zero reference (trigger) location in the measurement record is at \((TPOS + TSOFF)\).
Measurement Algorithms

The automated measurements are defined and calculated as follows:

**Amplitude**  
\[ Amplitude = High - Low \]

**Area**  
The arithmetic area for one waveform. Remember that one waveform is not necessarily equal to one cycle. For cyclical data you may prefer to use the cycle area rather than the arithmetic area.

- If \( Start = End \) then return the (interpolated) value at \( Start \).
- Otherwise,

\[ Area = \int_{Start}^{End} Waveform(t) \, dt \]

For details of the integration algorithm, see page B–15.

**Cycle Area**  
Amplitude (voltage) measurement. The area over one waveform cycle. For data not cyclical, you might prefer to use the Area measurement.

- If \( StartCycle = EndCycle \) then return the (interpolated) value at \( StartCycle \).

\[ CycleMean = \int_{StartCycle}^{EndCycle} Waveform(t) \, dt \]

For details of the integration algorithm, see page B–15.
Appendix B: Algorithms

Burst Width
Timing measurement. The duration of a burst.

1. Find MCross1 on the waveform. This is MCrossStart.

2. Find the last MCross (begin the search at EndCycle and search toward StartCycle). This is MCrossStop. This could be a different value from MCross1.

3. Compute BurstWidth = MCrossStop − MCrossStart

Cycle Mean
Amplitude (voltage) measurement. The mean over one waveform cycle. For non-cyclical data, you might prefer to use the Mean measurement.

If StartCycle = EndCycle then return the (interpolated) value at StartCycle.

\[ CycleMean = \frac{\int_{StartCycle}^{EndCycle} \text{Waveform}(t)dt}{(EndCycle - StartCycle) \times \text{SampleInterval}} \]

For details of the integration algorithm, see page B–15.

Cycle RMS
The true Root Mean Square voltage over one cycle.

If StartCycle = EndCycle then CycleRMS = Waveform[Start]. Otherwise,

\[ CycleRMS = \sqrt{\frac{\int_{StartCycle}^{EndCycle} (\text{Waveform}(t))^2dt}{(EndCycle - StartCycle) \times \text{SampleInterval}}} \]

For details of the integration algorithm, see page B–15.
Appendix B: Algorithms

**Delay**
Timing measurement. The amount of time between the MidRef and Mid2Ref crossings of two different traces, or two different places on the same trace.

Delay measurements are actually a group of measurements. To get a specific delay measurement, you must specify the target and reference crossing polarities and the reference search direction.

\[ \text{Delay} = \text{the time from one MidRef crossing on the source waveform to the Mid2Ref crossing on the second waveform.} \]

Delay is not available in the Snapshot display.

**Extinction Ratio**
Optical measurement between 1 and 100. In real circuits, the extinction ratio is typically 8 to 30. Values \( \leq 1 \) or \( \geq 100 \) generate errors. An Extinction Ratio of 1 or 100 means a problem exists. The optical probe and the oscilloscope must be calibrated. All inputs are micro watts and are not negative. Extinction ratio is dimensionless.

\[ \text{Extinction Ratio} = \frac{\text{High}}{\text{Low}} \]

\[ \text{Low} \geq 1 \ \mu\text{W} \]

**Extinction %**
Optical measurement.

\[ \text{Extinction \%} = \frac{100.0}{\text{Extinction Ratio}} \]

**Extinction dB**
Optical measurement. Extinction dB is typically 8 to 12 db. To exceed this range the input may be from nonoptical probes or noncommunication lasers.

\[ \text{Extinction dB} = 10.0 \ \log_{10}(\text{Extinction Ratio}) \]

**Fall Time**
Timing measurement. The time taken for the falling edge of a pulse to drop from a HighRef value (default = 90%) to a LowRef value (default = 10%).

Figure B–2 shows a falling edge with the two crossings necessary to calculate a Fall measurement.

1. Searching from Start to End, find the first sample in the measurement zone greater than HighRef.
2. From this sample, continue the search to find the first (negative) crossing of HighRef. The time of this crossing is THF. (Use linear interpolation if necessary.)
3. From $THF$, continue the search, looking for a crossing of $LowRef$. Update $THF$ if subsequent $HighRef$ crossings are found. When a $LowRef$ crossing is found, it becomes $TLF$. (Use linear interpolation if necessary.)

4. $FallTime = TLF - THF$

**Frequency**

Timing measurement. The reciprocal of the period. Measured in Hertz (Hz) where 1 Hz = 1 cycle per second.

If Period = 0 or is otherwise bad, return an error.

$Frequency = 1/Period$

**High**

100% (highest) voltage reference value. (See High, Low on page B–1.)

Using the min-max measurement technique:

$High = Max$
Appendix B: Algorithms

**Low** 0% (lowest) voltage reference value calculated. (See High, Low on page B–1.)

Using the min-max measurement technique:

\[ \text{Low} = \text{Min} \]

**Maximum** Amplitude (voltage) measurement. The maximum voltage. Typically the most positive peak voltage.

Examine all \( \text{Waveform[ ]} \) samples from \( \text{Start} \) to \( \text{End} \) inclusive, and set \( \text{Max} \) equal to the greatest magnitude \( \text{Waveform[ ]} \) value found.

**Mean** The arithmetic mean for one waveform. Remember that one waveform is not necessarily equal to one cycle. For cyclical data you may prefer to use the cycle mean rather than the arithmetic mean.

If \( \text{Start} = \text{End} \) then return the (interpolated) value at \( \text{Start} \).

Otherwise,

\[
\text{Mean} = \frac{\int_{\text{Start}}^{\text{End}} \text{Waveform}(t) dt}{(\text{End} - \text{Start}) \times \text{SampleInterval}}
\]

For details of the integration algorithm, see page B–15.

**Mean dBm** The normalized mean. If the waveform source is from an optical probe, this can give average optical power.

\[
\text{Mean dBm} = 10.0(\log_{10}(\text{Mean} / 0.001))
\]

**Minimum** Amplitude (voltage) measurement. The minimum amplitude. Typically the most negative peak voltage.

Examine all \( \text{Waveform[ ]} \) samples from \( \text{Start} \) to \( \text{End} \) inclusive, and set \( \text{Min} \) equal to the smallest magnitude \( \text{Waveform[ ]} \) value found.
### Negative Duty Cycle

Timing measurement. The ratio of the negative pulse width to the signal period expressed as a percentage.

Negative Width is defined in **Negative Width**, below.

If \( \text{Period} = 0 \) or undefined then return an error.

\[
\text{Negative Duty Cycle} = \frac{\text{Negative Width}}{\text{Period}} \times 100\%
\]

### Negative Overshoot

Amplitude (voltage) measurement.

\[
\text{Negative Overshoot} = \frac{\text{Low} - \text{Min}}{\text{Amplitude}} \times 100\%
\]

Note that this value should never be negative (unless High or Low are set out-of-range).

### Negative Width

Timing measurement. The distance (time) between \( \text{MidRef} \) (default = 50%) amplitude points of a negative pulse.

If \( \text{MCross1Polarity} = '-' \)

then

\( \text{Negative Width} = (\text{MCross2} - \text{MCross1}) \)

else

\( \text{Negative Width} = (\text{MCross3} - \text{MCross2}) \)

Waveform[Start]

### Optical Power

See Mean dBm on page B–10.

### Peak to Peak

Amplitude measurement. The absolute difference between the maximum and minimum amplitude.

\[ \text{Peak to Peak} = \text{Max} - \text{Min} \]
Appendix B: Algorithms

**Period**  
Timing measurement. Time taken for one complete signal cycle. The reciprocal of frequency. Measured in seconds.

\[ Period = MCross3 - MCross1 \]

**Phase**  
Timing measurement. The amount of phase shift, expressed in degrees of the target waveform cycle, between the \textit{MidRef} crossings of two different waveforms. Waveforms measured should be of the same frequency or one waveform should be a harmonic of the other.

Phase is a dual waveform measurement; that is, it is measured from a target waveform to a reference waveform. To get a specific phase measurement, you must specify the target and reference sources.

Phase is determined in the following manner:

1. The first \textit{MidRefCrossing} (\textit{MCross1Target}) and third (\textit{MCross3}) in the source (target) waveform are found.

2. The period of the target waveform is calculated (see \textit{Period} above).

3. The first \textit{MidRefCrossing} (\textit{MCross1Ref}) in the reference waveform crossing in the same direction (polarity) as that found \textit{MCross1Target} for the target waveform is found.

4. The phase is determined by the following:

\[
Phase = \frac{MCross1Ref - MCross1Target}{Period} \times 360
\]

If the target waveform leads the reference waveform, phase is positive; if it lags, negative.

Phase is not available in the Snapshot display.
### Positive Duty Cycle

Timing measurement. The ratio of the positive pulse width to the signal period, expressed as a percentage.

*PositiveWidth* is defined in **Positive Width**, following.

If *Period* = 0 or undefined then return an error.

\[
PositiveDutyCycle = \frac{PositiveWidth}{Period} \times 100\%
\]

### Positive Overshoot

Amplitude (voltage) measurement.

\[
PositiveOvershoot = \frac{Max - High}{Amplitude} \times 100\%
\]

Note that this value should never be negative.

### Positive Width

Timing measurement. The distance (time) between *MidRef* (default = 50%) amplitude points of a positive pulse.

If *MCross1Polarity* = ‘+’

then

\[
PositiveWidth = (MCross2 - MCross1)
\]

else

\[
PositiveWidth = (MCross3 - MCross2)
\]

### Rise Time

Timing measurement. Time taken for the leading edge of a pulse to rise from a *LowRef* value (default = 10%) to a *HighRef* value (default = 90%).

Figure B–3 shows a rising edge with the two crossings necessary to calculate a Rise Time measurement.

1. Searching from *Start* to *End*, find the first sample in the measurement zone less than *LowRef*.

2. From this sample, continue the search to find the first (positive) crossing of *LowRef*. The time of this crossing is the low rise time or *TLR*. (Use linear interpolation if necessary.)
3. From $TLR$, continue the search, looking for a crossing of $HighRef$. Update $TLR$ if subsequent $LowRef$ crossings are found. If a $HighRef$ crossing is found, it becomes the high rise time or $THR$. (Use linear interpolation if necessary.)

4. $RiseTime = THR - TLR$

![Figure B–3: Rise Time](image)

**RMS:** Amplitude (voltage) measurement. The true Root Mean Square voltage.

If $Start = End$ then $RMS =$ the (interpolated) value at $Waveform[Start]$.

Otherwise,

$$RMS = \sqrt{\frac{\int_{Start}^{End} (Waveform(t))^2dt}{(End - Start) \times SampleInterval}}$$

For details of the integration algorithm, see below.
**Integration Algorithm**

The integration algorithm used by the oscilloscope is as follows:

\[
\int_{A}^{B} W(t) \, dt \text{ is approximated by } \int_{A}^{B} \hat{W}(t) \, dt
\]

where:

- \( W(t) \) is the sampled waveform
- \( \hat{W}(t) \) is the continuous function obtained by linear interpolation of \( W(t) \)
- \( A \) and \( B \) are numbers between 0.0 and \( \text{RecordLength}–1.0 \)

If \( A \) and \( B \) are integers, then:

\[
\int_{A}^{B} \hat{W}(t) \, dt = s \times \sum_{i=A}^{B-1} \frac{W(i) + W(i + 1)}{2}
\]

where \( s \) is the sample interval.

Similarly,

\[
\int_{A}^{B} (W(t))^2 \, dt \text{ is approximated by } \int_{A}^{B} \left( \hat{W}(t) \right)^2 \, dt
\]

where:

- \( W(t) \) is the sampled waveform
- \( \hat{W}(t) \) is the continuous function obtained by linear interpolation of \( W(t) \)
- \( A \) and \( B \) are numbers between 0.0 and \( \text{RecordLength}–1.0 \)

If \( A \) and \( B \) are integers, then:

\[
\int_{A}^{B} \left( \hat{W}(t) \right)^2 \, dt = s \times \sum_{i=A}^{B-1} \frac{(W(i))^2 + W(i) \times W(i + 1) + (W(i + 1))^2}{3}
\]

where \( s \) is the sample interval.
Measurements on Envelope Waveforms

Time measurements on envelope waveforms must be treated differently from time measurements on other waveforms, because envelope waveforms contain so many apparent crossings. Unless otherwise noted, envelope waveforms use either the minima or the maxima (but not both), determined in the following manner:

1. Step through the waveform from Start to End until the sample min and max pair DO NOT straddle MidRef.

![Diagram of choosing minima or maxima for envelope measurements](image)

Figure B–4: Choosing Minima or Maxima to Use for Envelope Measurements
2. If the pair > \textit{MidRef}, use the minima, else use maxima.

If all pairs straddle \textit{MidRef}, use maxima. See Figure B–4.

The Burst Width measurement always uses both maxima and minima to determine crossings.

### Missing or Out-of-Range Samples

If some samples in the waveform are missing or off-scale, the measurements will linearly interpolate between known samples to make an “appropriate” guess as to the sample value. Missing samples at the ends of the measurement record will be assumed to have the value of the nearest known sample.

When samples are out of range, the measurement will give a warning to that effect (for example, “CLIPPING”) if the measurement could change by extending the measurement range slightly. The algorithms assume the samples recover from an overdrive condition instantaneously.

For example, if \textit{MidRef} is set directly, then \textit{MidRef} would not change even if samples were out of range. However, if \textit{MidRef} was chosen using the \% choice from the \textbf{Set Levels in \% Units} selection of the Measure menu, then \textit{MidRef} could give a “CLIPPING” warning.

\textbf{NOTE}. When measurements are displayed using Snapshot, out of range warnings are \textit{NOT} available. However, if you question the validity of any measurement in the snapshot display, you can select and display the measurement individually and then check for a warning message.
Appendix C: Packaging for Shipment

If you ship the TDS 694C Oscilloscopes, pack it in the original shipping carton and packing material. If the original packing material is not available, package the instrument as follows:

1. Obtain a corrugated cardboard shipping carton with inside dimensions at least 15 cm (6 in) taller, wider, and deeper than the oscilloscope. The shipping carton must be constructed of cardboard with 170 kg (375 pound) test strength.

2. If you are shipping the oscilloscope to a Tektronix field office for repair, attach a tag to the oscilloscope showing the instrument owner and address, the name of the person to contact about the instrument, the instrument type, and the serial number.

3. Wrap the oscilloscope with polyethylene sheeting or equivalent material to protect the finish.

4. Cushion the oscilloscope in the shipping carton by tightly packing dunnage or urethane foam on all sides between the carton and the oscilloscope. Allow 7.5 cm (3 in) on all sides, top, and bottom.

5. Seal the shipping carton with shipping tape or an industrial stapler.

**NOTE.** Do not ship the oscilloscope with a disk inside the disk drive. When the disk is inside the drive, the disk release button sticks out. This makes the button more prone to damage than otherwise.
Appendix D: Probe Selection

The TDS 694C Oscilloscopes can use a variety of Tektronix probes for taking different kinds of measurements. To help you decide what type of probe you need, this section introduces the five major types of probes: passive, active, current and optical. See Appendix A: Options and Accessories for a list of the optional probes available; see your Tektronix Products Catalog for more information about a given probe.

Passive Voltage Probes

Passive voltage probes measure voltage. They employ passive circuit components such as resistors, capacitors, and inductors. There are three common classes of passive voltage probes:

- General purpose (high input resistance)
- Low impedance (Z₀)
- High voltage

General Purpose (High Input Resistance) Probes

High input resistance probes are considered “typical” oscilloscope probes. The high input resistance of passive probes (typically 10 MΩ) provides negligible DC loading and makes them a good choice for accurate DC amplitude measurements. The P6339A buffered passive probe is designed to work with the TDS 694C. The P6339A probe will provide the same 10 MΩ performance as other high input resistance probes.

NOTE: Most passive probes require the input impedance of the oscilloscope to be 1 MΩ. The TDS 694C is 50 Ω only and will not work with these probes.
However, their 8 pF to 12 pF (over 60 pF for 1X) capacitive loading can distort timing and phase measurements. Use high input resistance passive probes for measurements involving:

- Device characterization (above 15 V, thermal drift applications)
- Maximum amplitude sensitivity using 1X high impedance
- Large voltage range (between 15 and 500 V)
- Qualitative or go/no-go measurements

**Low Impedance (Z₀) Probes**

Low impedance probes measure frequency more accurately than general purpose probes, but they make less accurate amplitude measurements. They offer a higher bandwidth to cost ratio.

These probes must be terminated in a 50 Ω scope input. Input capacitance is much lower than high Z passive probes, typically 1 pF, but input resistance is also lower (500 to 5000 Ω typically). Although DC loading degrades amplitude accuracy, the lower input capacitance reduces high frequency loading to the circuit under test. That makes Z₀ probes ideal for timing and phase measurements when amplitude accuracy is not a major concern.

Z₀ probes are useful for measurements up to 40 V.

**High Voltage Probes**

High voltage probes have attenuation factors in the 100X to 1000X range. The considerations that apply to other passive probes apply to high voltage probes with a few exceptions. Since the voltage range on high voltage probes varies from 1 kV to 20 kV (DC + peak AC), the probe head design is mechanically much larger than for a passive probe. High voltage probes have the added advantage of lower input capacitance (typically 2-3 pF).
Active Voltage Probes

Active voltage probes, sometimes called “FET” probes, use active circuit elements such as transistors. There are three classes of active probes:

- High speed active
- Differential active
- Fixtured active

Active voltage measuring probes use active circuit elements in the probe design to process signals from the circuit under test. All active probes require a source of power for their operation. Power is obtained either from an external power supply or from the oscilloscope itself.
Appendix D: Probe Selection

**High Speed Active Probes**

Active probes offer low input capacitance (1 to 2 pF typical) while maintaining the higher input resistance of passive probes (10 kΩ to 10 MΩ). Like Z₀ probes, active probes are useful for making accurate timing and phase measurements. However, they do not degrade the amplitude accuracy. Tektronix P6249 active probe has a dynamic range of ±1.74 V.

**Differential Probes**

Differential probes determine the voltage drop between two points in a circuit under test. Differential probes let you simultaneously measure two points and to display the difference between the two voltages.

Active differential probes are designed to be used with 50 Ω inputs. The same characteristics that apply to active probes apply to active differential probes.

**Fixtured Active Probes**

In some small-geometry or dense circuitry applications, such as surface mounted devices (SMD), a hand-held probe is too big to be practical. You can instead use fixtured (or probe card mounted) active probes (or buffered amplifiers) to precisely connect your instrument to your device-under-test. These probes have the same electrical characteristics as high speed, active probes but use a smaller mechanical design.

**Current Probes**

Current probes enable you to directly observe and measure current waveforms, which can be very different from voltage signals. Tektronix current probes are unique in that they can measure from DC to 2 GHz.

Two types of current probes are available: one that measures AC current only and AC/DC probes that utilize the Hall effect to accurately measure the AC and DC components of a signal. AC-only current probes use a transformer to convert AC current flux into a voltage signal to the oscilloscope and have a frequency response from a few hundred hertz up to 2 GHz. AC/DC current probes include Hall effect semiconductor devices and provide frequency response from DC to 100 MHz.
Use a current probe by clipping its jaws around the wire carrying the current that you want to measure. (Unlike an ammeter which you must connect in series with the circuit.) Because current probes are noninvasive, with loading typically in the milliohm to low Ω range, they are especially useful where low loading of the circuit is important. Current probes can also make differential measurements by measuring the results of two opposing currents in two conductors in the jaws of the probe.

![A6303 Current Probe Used in the AM 503S Opt. 03](image)

**NOTE.** Attempting to measure more than 40 amperes of total, in-phase current (DC + peak AC) using three or more TCP202 current probes installed on the input channels can result in measurement or display errors.

**Optical Probes**

Optical probes let you blend the functions of an optical power meter with the high-speed analog waveform analysis capability of an oscilloscope. You have the capability of acquiring, displaying, and analyzing optical and electrical signals simultaneously.

Applications include measuring the transient optical properties of lasers, LEDs, electro-optic modulators, and flashlamps. You can also use these probes in the development, manufacturing, and maintenance of fiber optic control networks, local area networks (LANs), fiber-based systems based on the FDDI, SONET, and Fiber Channel standards, optical disk devices, digital video, and high-speed fiber optic communications systems.
Appendix E: Inspection and Cleaning

Inspect for dirt and damage on and clean the exterior of the TDS 694C Oscilloscopes. When done regularly, this preventive maintenance may prevent oscilloscope malfunction and enhance its reliability.

How often to do this preventive maintenance depends on the severity of the environment in which the oscilloscope is used. A proper time to perform preventive maintenance is just before oscilloscope adjustment.

General Care

The cabinet helps keep dust out of the oscilloscope and must be in place when operating the oscilloscope. The oscilloscope front cover protects the front panel and display from dust and damage. Install it when storing or transporting the oscilloscope.

Inspection and Cleaning Procedures

Inspect and clean the oscilloscope exterior as often as operating conditions require.

Send the oscilloscope in for service if it requires an interior cleaning. The collection of dirt on components inside can cause them to overheat and breakdown. Dirt acts as an insulating blanket, preventing efficient heat dissipation. Dirt also provides an electrical conduction path that could cause an oscilloscope failure, especially under high-humidity conditions.

CAUTION. Avoid the use of chemical cleaning agents which might damage the plastics used in this oscilloscope. Use only deionized water when cleaning the menu buttons or front-panel buttons. Use a 75% isopropyl alcohol solution as a cleaner and rinse with deionized water. Before using any other type of cleaner, consult your Tektronix Service Center or representative.
**Inspection.** Inspect the outside of the oscilloscope for damage, wear, and missing parts, using Table E–1 as a guide. Oscilloscopes that appear to have been dropped or otherwise abused should be checked thoroughly to verify correct operation and performance. Immediately repair defects that could cause personal injury or lead to further damage to the oscilloscope.

**Table E–1: External inspection check list**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Inspect for</th>
<th>Repair action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cabinet, front panel, and cover</td>
<td>Cracks, scratches, deformations, damaged hardware or gaskets</td>
<td>Send in for service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Front-panel knobs</td>
<td>Missing, damaged, or loose knobs</td>
<td>Send in for service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carrying handle, bail, cabinet feet.</td>
<td>Correct operation</td>
<td>Send in for service</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Cleaning Procedure — Exterior.**

To clean the oscilloscope exterior, do the following steps:

1. Remove loose dust on the outside of the oscilloscope with a lint free cloth.
2. Remove remaining dirt with a lint free cloth dampened in a general purpose detergent-and-water solution. Do not use abrasive cleaners.
3. Clean the light filter protecting the monitor screen with a lint-free cloth dampened with either isopropyl alcohol or, preferably, a gentle, general purpose detergent-and-water solution.

**CAUTION.** To prevent getting moisture inside the oscilloscope during external cleaning, use only enough liquid to dampen the cloth or applicator.

**Lubrication.** There is no periodic lubrication required for this oscilloscope.
Appendix F: Programmer Disk

The TDS694C Programmer Manual disk is a Microsoft Windows help file that covers operating your oscilloscope using the General Purpose Interface Bus (GPIB) (optional on some oscilloscopes). The disk also includes some example programs.

The program runs on a PC-compatible system with Microsoft Windows 95. (See Figure F–1).

![Figure F–1: Equipment Needed to Run the Example Programs](image)

Loading the Programs

For instructions on installing the programmer manual and the other software on the TDS694C Programmer Manual disk, read the readme file on the disk.

Running the Help Program

To run the programmer manual help file using Windows 95, perform the following:

- Select Start, Programs, and then click the TDS694C Digital Real-Time Programmer Manual.

- If you have not created a Windows 95 shortcut, use the File Manager Explorer (Windows 95) to select and run the TDS–pgm.hlp program.
Glossary

2 + 2 channel operation
Two-plus-two channel operation limits the simultaneous display of channels to two of the four channels provided. Channels not displayed can be used to couple a triggering signal to the oscilloscope.

Accuracy
The closeness of the indicated value to the true value.

Acquisition
The process of sampling signals from input channels, digitizing the samples into data points, and assembling the data points into a waveform record. The waveform record is stored in memory. The trigger marks time zero in that process.

Acquisition interval
The time duration of the waveform record divided by the record length. The oscilloscope displays one data point for every acquisition interval.

Active cursor
The cursor that moves when you turn the general purpose knob. It is represented in the display by a solid line. The @ readout on the display shows the absolute value of the active cursor.

Aliasing
A false representation of a signal due to insufficient sampling of high frequencies or fast transitions. A condition that occurs when an oscilloscope digitizes at an effective sampling rate that is too slow to reproduce the input signal. The waveform displayed on the oscilloscope may have a lower frequency than the actual input signal.

Amplitude
The High waveform value less the Low waveform value.
AND
A logic (Boolean) function in which the output is true when and only when all the inputs are true. On the oscilloscope, that is a trigger logic pattern and state function.

Area
Measurement of the waveform area taken over the entire waveform or the gated region. Expressed in volt-seconds. Area above ground is positive; area below ground is negative.

Attenuation
The degree the amplitude of a signal is reduced when it passes through an attenuating device such as a probe or attenuator. That is, the ratio of the input measure to the output measure. For example, a 10X probe will attenuate, or reduce, the input voltage of a signal by a factor of 10.

Automatic trigger mode
A trigger mode that causes the oscilloscope to automatically acquire if triggerable events are not detected within a specified time period.

Autoset
A function of the oscilloscope that automatically produces a stable waveform of usable size. Autoset sets up front-panel controls based on the characteristics of the active waveform. A successful autoset will set the volts/div, time/div, and trigger level to produce a coherent and stable waveform display.

Average acquisition mode
In this mode, the oscilloscope acquires and displays a waveform that is the averaged result of several acquisitions. Averaging reduces the apparent noise. The oscilloscope acquires data as in the sample mode and then averages it according to a specified number of averages.

Bandwidth
The highest frequency signal the oscilloscope can acquire with no more than 3 dB (× .707) attenuation of the original (reference) signal.

Burst width
A timing measurement of the duration of a burst.

Channel
One type of input used for signal acquisition. The oscilloscope has four channels.
**Channel/probe deskew**
A relative time delay for each channel. This lets you align signals to compensate for the fact that signals may come in from cables of differing length.

**Channel Reference Indicator**
The indicator on the left side of the display that points to the position around which the waveform contracts or expands when vertical scale is changed. This position is ground when offset is set to 0 V; otherwise, it is ground plus offset.

**Coupling**
The association of two or more circuits or systems in such a way that power or information can be transferred from one to the other. You can couple the input signal to the trigger and vertical systems several different ways.

**Cursors**
Paired markers that you can use to make measurements between two waveform locations. The oscilloscope displays the values (expressed in volts or time) of the position of the active cursor and the distance between the two cursors.

**Cycle area**
A measurement of waveform area taken over one cycle. Expressed in volt-seconds. Area above ground is positive; area below ground is negative.

**Cycle mean**
An amplitude (voltage) measurement of the arithmetic mean over one cycle.

**Cycle RMS**
The true Root Mean Square voltage over one cycle.

**DC coupling**
A mode that passes both AC and DC signal components to the circuit. Available for both the trigger system and the vertical system.

**Delay measurement**
A measurement of the time between the middle reference crossings of two different waveforms.

**Delay time**
The time between the trigger event and the acquisition of data.
Digitizing
The process of converting a continuous analog signal such as a waveform to a set of discrete numbers representing the amplitude of the signal at specific points in time. Digitizing is composed of two steps: sampling and quantizing.

Display system
The part of the oscilloscope that shows waveforms, measurements, menu items, status, and other parameters.

DPO acquisition mode
A mode that increases the waveform capture rate to up to 200,000 waveforms per second. This very fast capture rate greatly increases the probability that runts, glitches, and other short term changes will accumulate in waveform memory. The oscilloscope then displays the waveform at the normal display rate using variable or infinite persistence. This display mode emulates the display of an analog oscilloscope.

Edge Trigger
Triggering occurs when the oscilloscope detects the source passing through a specified voltage level in a specified direction (the trigger slope).

Envelope acquisition mode
A mode in which the oscilloscope acquires and displays a waveform that shows the variation extremes of several acquisitions.

Extinction Ratio
The ratio of High optical power to Low optical power.

Fall time
A measurement of the time it takes for the trailing edge of a pulse to fall from a HighRef value (typically 90%) to a LowRef value (typically 10%) of its amplitude.
**Frequency**

A timing measurement that is the reciprocal of the period. Measured in Hertz (Hz) where 1 Hz = 1 cycle per second.

**Gated Measurements**

A feature that lets you limit automated measurements to a specified portion of the waveform. You define the area of interest using the vertical cursors.

**General purpose knob**

The large front-panel knob with an indentation. You can use it to change the value of the assigned parameter.

**Glitch positive trigger**

Triggering occurs if the oscilloscope detects positive spike widths less than the specified glitch time.

**Glitch negative trigger**

Triggering occurs if the oscilloscope detects negative spike widths less than the specified glitch time.

**Glitch either trigger**

Triggering occurs if the oscilloscope detects either positive or negative spike widths less than the specified glitch time.

**GPIB (General Purpose Interface Bus)**

An interconnection bus and protocol that allows you to connect multiple instruments in a network under the control of a controller. Also known as IEEE 488 bus. It transfers data with eight parallel data lines, five control lines, and three handshake lines.

**Graticule**

A grid on the display screen that creates the horizontal and vertical axes. You can use it to visually measure waveform parameters.

**Ground (GND) coupling**

Coupling option that disconnects the input signal from the vertical system.

**Hardcopy**

An electronic copy of the display in a format usable by a printer or plotter.

**High**

The value used as 100% in automated measurements (whenever high ref, mid ref, and low ref values are needed as in fall time and rise time measurements). May be calculated using either the min/max or the histogram method. With the min/max method (most useful for general waveforms), it is the maximum value found. With the histogram method (most useful for pulses), it refers to the most common value found above the mid point. See *Appendix B: Algorithms* for details.
Holdoff, trigger
A specified amount of time after a trigger signal that elapses before the trigger circuit will accept another trigger signal. Trigger holdoff helps ensure a stable display.

Horizontal bar cursors
The two horizontal bars that you position to measure the voltage parameters of a waveform. The oscilloscope displays the value of the active (moveable) cursor with respect to ground and the voltage value between the bars.

Interpolation
The way the oscilloscope calculates values for record points when the oscilloscope cannot acquire all the points for a complete record with a single trigger event. That condition occurs when the oscilloscope is limited to real time sampling and the time base is set to a value that exceeds the effective sample rate of the oscilloscope. The oscilloscope has two interpolation options: *linear* or *sin(x)/x interpolation*.

Linear interpolation calculates record points in a straight-line fit between the actual values acquired. *Sin*(x)/x computes record points in a curve fit between the actual values acquired. It assumes all the interpolated points fall in their appropriate point in time on that curve.

Intensity
Display brightness.

Knob
A rotary control.

Logic state trigger
The oscilloscope checks for defined combinatorial logic conditions on channels 1, 2, and 3 on a transition of channel 4 that meets the set slope and threshold conditions. If the conditions of channels 1, 2, and 3 are met then the oscilloscope triggers.

Logic pattern trigger
The oscilloscope triggers depending on the combinatorial logic condition of channels 1, 2, 3, and 4. Allowable conditions are AND, OR, NAND, and NOR.

Low
The value used as 0% in automated measurements (whenever high ref, mid ref, and low ref values are needed as in fall time and rise time measurements). May be calculated using either the min/max or the histogram method. With the min/max method (most useful for general waveforms), it is the minimum value found. With the histogram method (most useful for pulses), it refers to the most common value found below the mid point. See *Appendix B: Algorithms* for details.
Main menu
A group of related controls for a major oscilloscope function that the oscilloscope displays across the bottom of the screen.

Main menu buttons
Bezel buttons under the main menu display. They allow you to select items in the main menu.

Maximum
Amplitude (voltage) measurement of the maximum amplitude. Typically the most positive peak voltage.

Mean
Amplitude (voltage) measurement of the arithmetic mean over the entire waveform.

Minimum
Amplitude (voltage) measurement of the minimum amplitude. Typically the most negative peak voltage.

NAND
A logic (Boolean) function in which the output of the AND function is complemented (true becomes false, and false becomes true). On the oscilloscope, that is a trigger logic pattern and state function.

Negative duty cycle
A timing measurement representing the ratio of the negative pulse width to the signal period, expressed as a percentage.

Negative overshoot measurement
Amplitude (voltage) measurement.

\[
\text{NegativeOvershoot} = \frac{\text{Low} - \text{MinAmplitude}}{\text{Amplitude}} \times 100\%
\]

Negative width
A timing measurement of the distance (time) between two amplitude points — falling-edge \text{MidRef} (default 50%) and rising-edge \text{MidRef} (default 50%) — on a negative pulse.

Normal trigger mode
A mode on which the oscilloscope does not acquire a waveform record unless a valid trigger event occurs. It waits for a valid trigger event before acquiring waveform data.

NOR
A logic (Boolean) function in which the output of the OR function is complemented (true becomes false, and false becomes true). On the oscilloscope, that is a trigger logic pattern and state function.
**OR**
A logic (Boolean) function in which the output is true if any of the inputs are true. Otherwise the output is false. On the oscilloscope, that is a trigger logic pattern and state function.

**Oscilloscope**
An instrument for making a graph of two factors. These are typically voltage versus time.

**Peak Detect acquisition mode**
A mode in which the oscilloscope saves the minimum and maximum samples over two adjacent acquisition intervals. For many glitch-free signals, that mode is indistinguishable from the sample mode. (Peak detect mode works with real-time, non-interpolation sampling only.)

**Peak-to-Peak**
Amplitude (voltage) measurement of the absolute difference between the maximum and minimum amplitude.

**Period**
A timing measurement of the time covered by one complete signal cycle. It is the reciprocal of frequency and is measured in seconds.

**Phase**
A timing measurement between two waveforms of the amount one leads or lags the other in time. Phase is expressed in degrees, where \( 360^\circ \) comprise one complete cycle of one of the waveforms. Waveforms measured should be of the same frequency or one waveform should be a harmonic of the other.

**Pixel**
A visible point on the display. The oscilloscope display is 640 pixels wide by 480 pixels high.

**Pop-up Menu**
A sub-menu of a main menu. Pop-up menus temporarily occupy part of the waveform display area and are used to present additional choices associated with the main menu selection. You can cycle through the options in a pop-up menu by repeatedly pressing the main menu button underneath the pop-up.

**Positive duty cycle**
A timing measurement of the ratio of the positive pulse width to the signal period, expressed as a percentage.

**Positive overshoot**
Amplitude (voltage) measurement.

\[
PositiveOvershoot = \frac{Max - High}{Amplitude} \times 100\%
\]
Positive width
A timing measurement of the distance (time) between two amplitude points — rising-edge $MidRef$ (default 50%) and falling-edge $MidRef$ (default 50%) — on a positive pulse.

Posttrigger
The specified portion of the waveform record that contains data acquired after the trigger event.

Pretrigger
The specified portion of the waveform record that contains data acquired before the trigger event.

Probe
An oscilloscope input device.

Quantizing
The process of converting an analog input that has been sampled, such as a voltage, to a digital value.

Probe compensation
Adjustment that improves low-frequency response of a probe.

Pulse trigger
A trigger mode in which triggering occurs if the oscilloscope finds a pulse, of the specified polarity, with a width between, or optionally outside, the user-specified lower and upper time limits.

Real-time sampling
A sampling mode where the oscilloscope samples fast enough to completely fill a waveform record from a single trigger event. Use real-time sampling to capture single-shot or transient events.

Record length
The specified number of samples in a waveform.

Reference memory
Memory in a oscilloscope used to store waveforms or settings. You can use that waveform data later for processing. The oscilloscope saves the data even when the oscilloscope is turned off or unplugged.
Rise time
The time it takes for a leading edge of a pulse to rise from a LowRef value (typically 10%) to a HighRef value (typically 90%) of its amplitude.

RMS
Amplitude (voltage) measurement of the true Root Mean Square voltage.

Runt trigger
A mode in which the oscilloscope triggers on a runt. A runt is a pulse that crosses one threshold but fails to cross a second threshold before recrossing the first. The crossings detected can be positive, negative, or either.

Sample acquisition mode
The oscilloscope creates a record point by saving the first sample during each acquisition interval. That is the default mode of the acquisition.

Sample interval
The time interval between successive samples in a time base. For real-time digitizers, the sample interval is the reciprocal of the sample rate. For equivalent-time digitizers, the time interval between successive samples represents equivalent time, not real time.

Sampling
The process of capturing an analog input, such as a voltage, at a discrete point in time and holding it constant so that it can be quantized. Two general methods of sampling are: real-time sampling and equivalent-time sampling.

Setup/Hold trigger
A mode in which the oscilloscope triggers when a data source changes state within the setup or hold time relative to a clock source. Positive setup times precede the clock edge; positive hold times follow the clock edge. The clock edge may be the rising or falling edge.

Select button
A button that changes which of the two cursors is active.

Selected waveform
The waveform on which all measurements are performed, and which is affected by vertical position and scale adjustments. The light over one of the channel selector buttons indicates the current selected waveform.
Side menu
Menu that appears to the right of the display. These selections expand on main menu selections.

Side menu buttons
Bezel buttons to the right of the side menu display. They allow you to select items in the side menu.

Slew Rate trigger
A mode in which the oscilloscope triggers based on how fast a pulse edge traverses (slews) between an upper and lower threshold. The edge of the pulse may be positive, negative, or either. The oscilloscope can trigger on slew rates faster or slower than a user-specified rate.

Slope
The direction at a point on a waveform. You can calculate the direction by computing the sign of the ratio of change in the vertical quantity (Y) to the change in the horizontal quantity. The two values are rising and falling.

Tek Secure
This feature erases all waveform and setup memory locations (setup memories are replaced with the factory setup). Then it checks each location to verify erasure. This feature finds use where this oscilloscope is used to gather security sensitive data, such as is done for research or development projects.

Time base
The set of parameters that let you define the time and horizontal axis attributes of a waveform record. The time base determines when and how long to acquire record points.

Timeout trigger
A trigger mode in which triggering occurs if the oscilloscope does NOT find a pulse, of the specified polarity and level, within the specified time period.

Trigger
An event that marks time zero in the waveform record. It results in acquisition and display of the waveform.

Trigger level
The vertical level the trigger signal must cross to generate a trigger (on edge trigger mode).
Vertical bar cursors
The two vertical bars you position to measure the time parameter of a waveform record. The oscilloscope displays the value of the active (moveable) cursor with respect to the trigger and the time value between the bars.

Waveform
The shape or form (visible representation) of a signal.

Waveform interval
The time interval between record points as displayed.

XY format
A display format that compares the voltage level of two waveform records point by point. It is useful for studying phase relationships between two waveforms.

XYZ format
A display format that compares the voltage level of two waveform records point by point as in XY format. The displayed waveform intensity is modulated by the CH 3 (Z) waveform record.

YT format
The conventional oscilloscope display format. It shows the voltage of a waveform record (on the vertical axis) as it varies over time (on the horizontal axis).

Zip drive
An optional external disk drive you connect to the Centronix port. You can save and recall waveforms, acquisitions, image histograms, setups, and hardcopies to an attached Iomega Zip drive.
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