
Evaluation results of xTCA equipment for HEP experiments at CERN

Topical Workshop on Electronics for Particle Physics
Perugia 24/9/2013

Collaboration (CERN PH-ESE-BE)

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Outline

Introduction

- xTCA Evaluation Project
- Tests performed

MicroTCA evaluation

- MicroTCA Equipment
- Test tools and setup
- Test results
- Summary

ATCA evaluation

- ATCA Equipment
- Test tools and setup
- Test results
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Conclusions

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Conclusions

- **The MicroTCA and AdvancedTCA industry standards are candidate platforms for modular electronics for the upgrade of the current generation of high energy physics experiments.**
- **xtCA evaluation project in Electronics support group for experiments (PH-ESE) group launched in 2011**
 - Technical evaluation of components for **MicroTCA** and **ATCA** systems
 - Development of tools (H/W and S/W) for the testing of commercial components
 - Conduct market surveys
 - Report and share results (xtCA Interest Group)
- **Technical evaluation of AC/DC converters**
- **Longer term goal**
 - Try to standardize MicroTCA and ATCA shelves, power supplies, MCHs..
 - Define acceptance test procedures
 - Propose a selected set of equipment to the experiments
 - Provide centralized support for these items

Tests Performed

Today

	MicroTCA	ATCA	AC/DC PSU
Electrical tests	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Static regulation- Dynamic regulation- Ripple and noise- Efficiency and PF- Overcurrent protection		xTCA Interest Group Thursday 26
Cooling and mechanics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Cooling performance- Mechanical aspect and layout- Backplane alignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Cooling performance- Mechanical aspect and layout	
Software (IPMI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- IPMI interoperability tests- IPMI conformity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- IPMI interoperability tests- IPMI conformity	

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MicroTCA Crates

Vadatech VT892 MTCA.0



ELMA 043-012 MTCA.4



Schroff MTCA.4 11890



Schroff MTCA.4 + AC/DC CM100



Power Modules (PM)

NAT DC780
(792W)



Vadatech UTC010
(792W)



Wiener AC/DC
(Prototype, 800W)



Samway



Vadatech
UTC001



NAT



Kontron
AM4904



AMCs

ELMA Load Board



Processor
Kontron AM5030



ESD ADIO24



Processor
CCT AM310



> MicroTCA evaluation\Test tools and setup

➤ **AMC** and **RTM** load modules developed in-house based on switched resistive loads

- Control via **MMC**, based on code received by DESY
- Used for power supply and cooling performance measurements

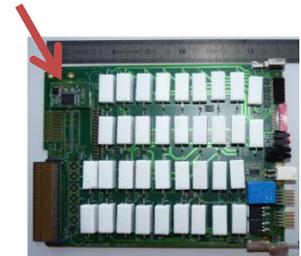
➤ IPMITOOL based Labview interface to communicate with load boards and components



MMC



RTM Load Board



AMC Load Board

Labview GUI



SSH



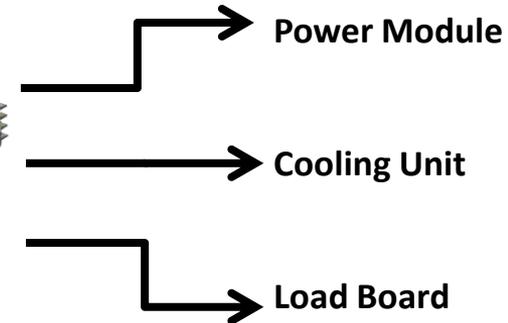
Remote Linux Server
(ipmitool)

IPMI over LAN



MCH

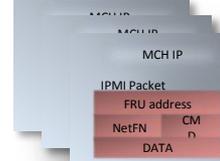
Target



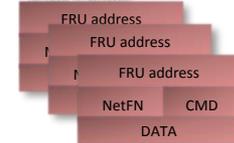
IPMI CMD LIST

```
ipmitool -l lan -h mch -U admin
ipmitool -l lan -h mch -U admin
ipmitool -l lan -h mch -U admin
ipmitool -l lan -h mch -U admin...
```

Ethernet Packets



IPMI Packet



Labview test GUI

The screenshot displays the Labview test GUI interface, organized into several functional panels:

- Connection Settings:** Includes fields for Host (lxplus), Host Username (mdicosmo), MCH Select (NAT MCH), Send command, Host protocol (SSH), Host Password, MCH Username (admin), and MCH Password. A Terminal output window is also present.
- Static Measurements:** Contains the 34970A Setup section with VISA resource name (% GPIB0:9), Action (Conf), Autorange (On), and Reset (T: Reset) options. It also features Serial Port Configuration (Timeout Value: 10000, Baud Rate: 57600, Flow Control: XON/XOFF) and a 34970A Channel List (102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112).
- Dynamic Measurements:** Includes the Load Configuration section with Slot Selection (Slot 1 to Slot 12), Load Selection (20W, 10W, 10W, 10W, 10W, 10W, 10W, 10W), Calculated Power [W] (550), and a Commands List containing two ipmitool commands.
- Miscellaneous:** Features a File Path Control (\\cern.ch\dfs\Users\m\), a Stop Button, and an Exit Fullscreen button.

IPMI conformity test

Polaris

The screenshot displays the uTCA Tester interface. The 'Test Explorer' pane on the left shows a tree view of test cases under 'uTCA Test Cases', including 'Carrier Tests', 'EMMC Tests', and 'MCMC Tests'. The main window shows a table of test results with columns for Test, Last Result, Last Run Time, and Last Run Description. The 'Current Test Results' pane at the bottom left shows a summary of test statistics: Tests Run: 11, Pass: 2, Fail: 3, Error: 0, Abort: 0, Skip: 5, Inconclusive: 0. Below this is a detailed log of events, including 'Packet Sent', 'Packet Received', 'Debug', and 'User Prompt'. The right side of the interface shows a network traffic log with messages like 'Request to [0x82@0x20]/0 : SendMsg>ReadFruData' and 'Response from [0x82@0x20]/0 : SendMsg>ReadFruData'.

Test	Last Result	Last Run Time	Last Run Description
REQ 3.3 Validate the Support for Get PICMG Properties Command	Passed	03-15-2013 16:27:02...	Validated that the MCMC (0x10) implements the Get PICMG Properties command
REQ 3.4 Verify PICMG Extension Version	Passed	03-15-2013 16:27:04...	Validated that the MCMC (0x10) returns 0x05 as PICMG Extension Version in response of
REQ 3.6 FRU ID to Access Shelf FRU Information by MCMC	Skipped	03-15-2013 16:27:04...	Skip cause: No FRU Information Partition record found in the Carrier FRU Information
REQ 3.7 FRU ID to Access Carrier FRU Information by MCMC	Failed	03-15-2013 16:27:06...	Carrier FRU Information retrieved from MCMC 1 with FRU Device ID 2 does not match wi
REQ 3.41 Updating Carrier FRU Information	Failed	03-15-2013 16:27:10...	Error: No Carrier Activation and Power Management record (PICMG Record ID 0x26) four
REQ 3.46 FRU Information Partition Record Offset	Skipped	03-15-2013 16:27:10...	Skip cause: No FRU Information Partition record found in Carrier FRU Information
REQ 3.47 Partition Length in FRU Information Partition Record	Failed	03-15-2013 16:27:12...	No FRU Information Partition Record found in the Carrier FRU Information
REQ 3.48 FRU Information Partition Record Length	Skipped	03-15-2013 16:27:12...	Skip cause: No FRU Information Partition record found in FRU Information.
REQ 3.51 First FRU Information Partition	Skipped	03-15-2013 16:27:13...	Skip cause: No FRU Information Partition record found in Carrier FRU Information retriev
REQ 3.53 Second FRU Information Partition	Skipped	03-15-2013 16:27:15...	Skip cause: No FRU Information Partition record found in Carrier FRU Information retriev
REQ 3.206 Module Handle and BLUE LED	Skipped	03-13-2013 15:42:58...	Skip cause: Operator skipped this test
REQ 3.340 Temperature Sensors	Passed	03-13-2013 15:42:59...	Validated that the Management Controller (0x10@0x82) provides atleast two Temperat
REQ 3.343 Upper Critical Threshold for Temperature Sensor	Passed	03-13-2013 15:42:59...	Validated that Management Controller 0x10 provides SDR information identifying the ma
REQ 3.344 Upper Non Critical Threshold for Temperature Sensor	Passed	03-13-2013 15:43:00...	Validated that Management Controller 0x10 provides SDR information identifying the wa
REQ 3.355 Fabrics in AMC Point-to-Point Connectivity Records	Skipped	03-13-2013 15:43:02...	Skip cause: No AMC point to point Connectivity record is present for each Fabric that are
REQ 3.357 Fabric Channels and Capabilities	Skipped	03-13-2013 15:43:02...	Skip cause: No AMC Point-to-Point Connectivity records found in FRU Information
REQ 3.358 Link Descriptor for Multi-Protocol Support	Skipped	03-13-2013 15:43:04...	Skip cause: No AMC Point-to-Point Connectivity records found in FRU Information
REQ 3.365 Telco Alarm Commands	Skipped	03-13-2013 15:43:04...	Skip cause: The MCMC (0x10@0x82) does not implement Telco Alarm
REQ 3.366 Telco Alarm Commands	Passed	03-13-2013 15:43:05...	Validated that the Management Controller (0x10@0x82) returns an error Completion Co

PM test – First results obtained (Beginning of 2013)

Power modules



NAT DC780
HW v1.2

	Test Conditions	Measured	DC780 Specs
Maximum Power	Vi=-48V	730W	780W
Input Voltage		-48V to -53V	-40V to -60V
Load Regulation	Full power	8.6%	10%
Line Regulation	Full load, Vin: -40V to -53V	2mV (max) before failure	Not reported
Efficiency	Vi = -48V, 1-100% of full power	94% (max)	95.5% (min)
Ripple	Full power	20mV	Not reported
Voltage transient deviation	Load step from 25% to 75% of full load	±0.5V	Not reported

Shelves



Vadatech
UTC010
FW v3.0

	Test Conditions	Measured	UTC010 Specs
Maximum Power	Vi=-48V	600W	780W
Input Voltage		-38V to -53V	-36V to -75V
Load Regulation	Full power	1.2%	Not reported
Line Regulation	Full load, Vin: -38V to -53V	1.93V	Not reported
	Minimum load, Vin: -38V to -53V	1.22V	Not reported
Efficiency	Vi = -48V, 1-100% of full power	93% (max at 300W)	95% (full load)
Ripple	Full power	73mV	Not reported
	Minimum Power	700mV	Not reported
Voltage transient deviation	Load step from 25% to 75% of full load	±0.4V	Not reported

MCH



Wiener AC PM
Prototype

	Test Conditions	Measured	Wiener Specs
Maximum Power		800W	800W
Load Regulation	1-100% of full power	3.5%	Not reported
Efficiency	1-100% of full power	Not possible to measure	93% (min)
Power Factor		Not possible to measure	0.99
Ripple	Full power	10mV	<10mV Pk-to-Pk
Voltage transient deviation	Load step from 25% to 75% of full load	To be done	Not reported

PM test – New results obtained (July 2013)

- Communication with manufacturer: Efficiency, output power improvements

Power modules



NAT DC780
HW v1.3
(Patch version)

	Test Conditions	Measured	DC780 Specs
Maximum Power	Vi=-48V	780W	780W
Input Voltage		-40V to -60V	-40V to -60V
Load Regulation	Full power	8.6%	10%
Line Regulation	Full load, Vin: -40V to -53V	2mV (max)	Not reported
Efficiency	Vi = -48V, 1-100% of full power	94% (max)	95.5% (min)
Ripple	Full power	20mV	Not reported
Voltage transient deviation	Load step from 25% to 75% of full load	±0.5V	Not reported

Shelves



Vadatech
UTC010
FW v.4.0

	Test Conditions	Measured	UTC010 Specs
Maximum Power	Vi=-48V	780W	780W
Input Voltage		-38V to -75V	-36V to -75V
Load Regulation	Full power	1.2%	Not reported
Line Regulation	Full load, Vin: -38V to -53V	1.93V	Not reported
	Minimum load, Vin: -38V to -53V	1.22V	Not reported
Efficiency	Vi = -48V, 1-100% of full power	93% (full load)	95% (full load)
Ripple	Full power	73mV	Not reported
	Minimum Power	700mV	Not reported
Voltage transient deviation	Load step from 25% to 75% of full load	±0.4V	Not reported

MCH



Wiener AC PM
Prototype

	Test Conditions	Measured	Wiener Specs
Maximum Power		800W	800W
Load Regulation	1-100% of full power	9.5%	Not reported
Efficiency	1-100% of full power	Not possible to measure	93% (min)
Power Factor		Not possible to measure	0.99
Ripple	Full power	10mV	<10mV Pk-to-Pk
Voltage transient deviation	Load step from 25% to 75% of full load	To be done	Not reported

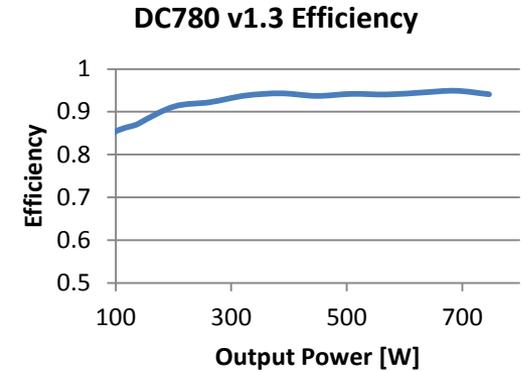
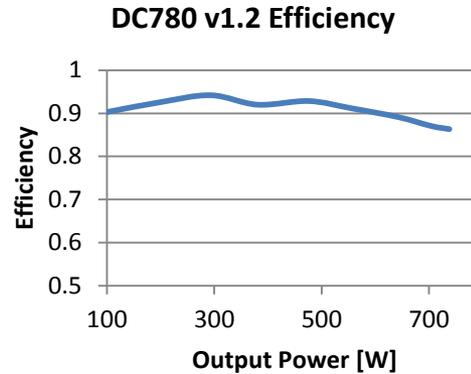
**new version
test pending**

PM test results: Efficiency improvements

Power modules



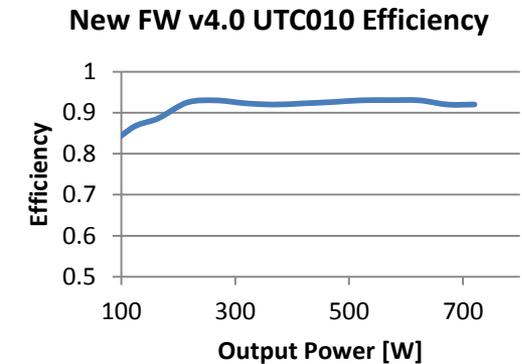
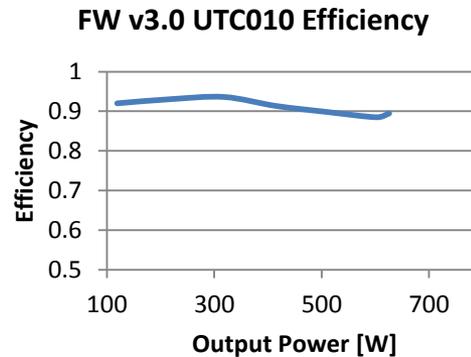
NAT DC780



Shelves



Vadatech UTC010



MCH

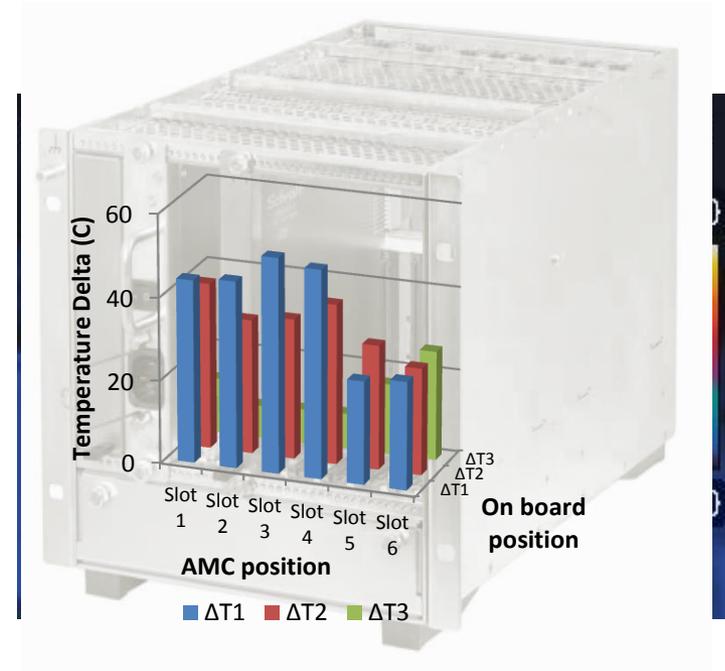
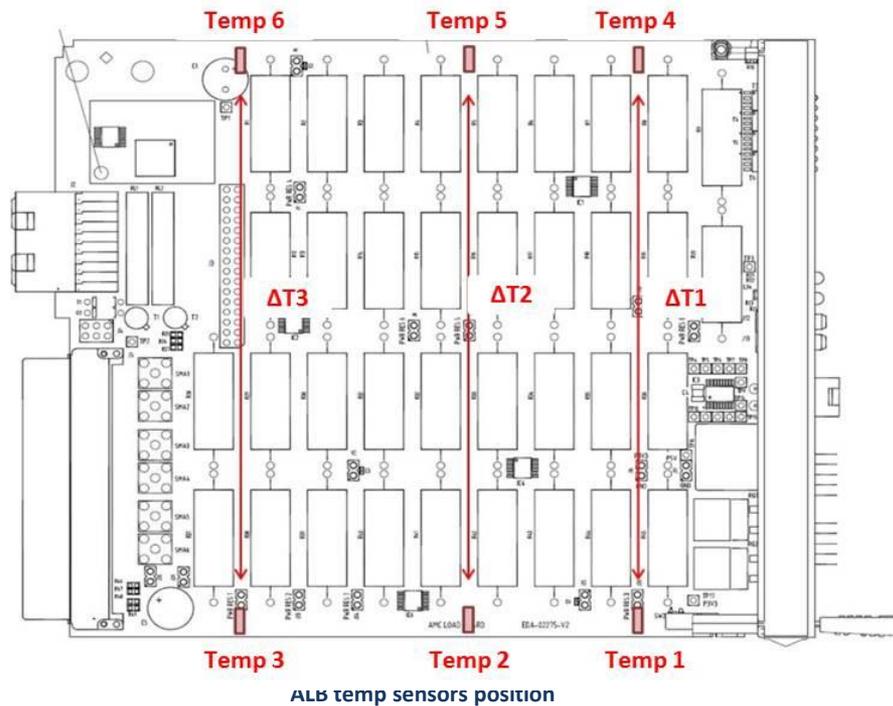
Cooling performance

- The aim is to evaluate the maximum temperature difference and the cooling homogeneity between slots
- Temperature measured on six different points on load boards

Power modules

Shelves

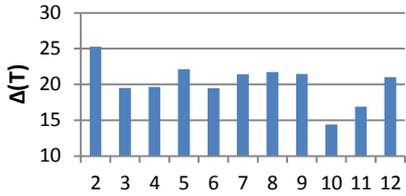
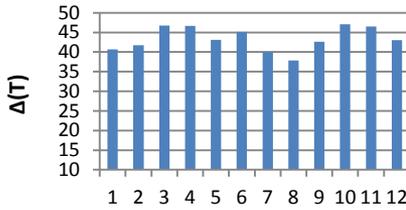
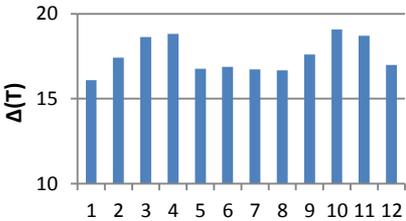
MCH



Cooling unit test results

CFM Cubic Feet per Minute

- **AMC** and **RTM** load modules dissipating max power (90W AMC, 40W RTM)
 - Fans model and mechanical layout have significant impact on the cooling capability

	Crate	AMC delta plot (Average)	Max delta (°C)
Power modules	Vadatech VT892 (2PM, 2MCH, 12 AMC) 		AMC 25 °C FAN spec.: CFM 60 x 10
Shelves	ELMA 043-012 (4PM, 2MCH, 12 AMC,RTM) 		AMC: 47 °C RTM: 23 °C FAN spec.: CFM 100 x 3
MCH	Schroff 11890-035 (4PM,2MCH,12 AMC,RTM) 		AMC: 19 °C RTM: 14 °C FAN spec.: CFM 171 x 3

MCH test

- Interoperability tests
 - Several issues have been experienced mixing PMs and MCHs by different vendors
- IPMI conformity test
 - Polaris tester is a useful tool to predict interoperability problems
- MicroTCA.4 (MicroTCA for physics) support
 - NAT MCH, Vadatech UTC001 and Kontron AM49090 are MicroTCA.4 compliant
- MCH Command Line interface, configuration and management software are evaluated

Power modules

Shelves

MCH

MicroTCA Summary

Power Modules:

- Some non-conformities with technical specification have been found, reported and discussed with the manufacturer
- Significant efficiency improvement (>93%)
- Sometimes incomplete documentation provided by the manufacturer

Shelves

- Non-negligible difference regarding the cooling efficiency
- Different fan models across the manufacturers

MCH

- Complete interoperability between manufacturers seems to be far
- Some non-conformities with the IPMI standard have been found by Polaris Tester

- **New products sometimes lacking maturity**
- **Good communication and support with manufacturer is essential**

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ATCA Crates

Schroff 14-slot 13U ATCA
11596-150



ASIS 14-slot 13U ATCA
144D422

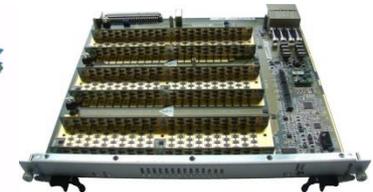


ATCA boards

Kontron AMC Carrier
AT8901M



Comtel load boards
(Front and rear)



ATCA Evaluation

- Commercial load boards for thermal tests
 - Front and rear boards
 - IPMI controlled
 - On board temperature monitoring
- IPMITOOL based Labview interface to communicate with load boards



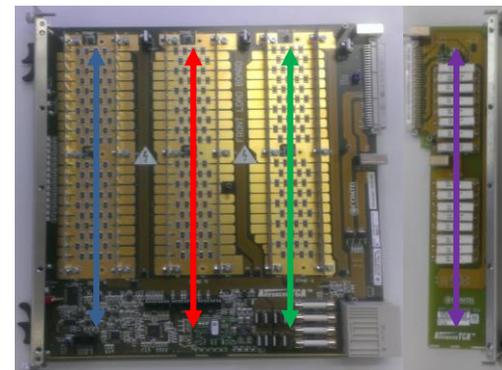
COMTEL Front and rear boards



Schroff crate test setup

ATCA Evaluation: Schroff and ASIS crate

- Test is performed with fans at maximum speed and:
 - 250W for front modules (Power Entry Module limitation)
 - 50W for rear modules



$\Delta T1$ $\Delta T2$ $\Delta T3$ ΔR

Load boards

Schroff crate

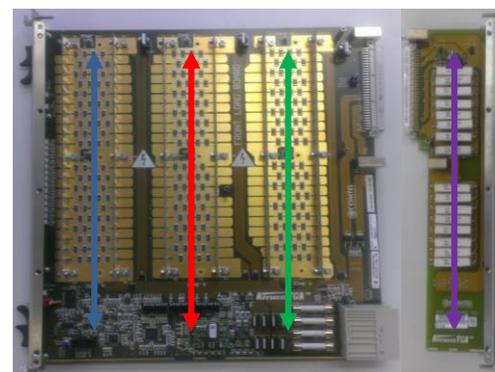


ASIS crate



ATCA Evaluation: Schroff and ASIS crate

- Test is performed with fans at maximum speed and:
 - 250W for front modules (Power Entry Module limitation)
 - 50W for rear modules



$\Delta T1$ $\Delta T2$ $\Delta T3$ ΔR

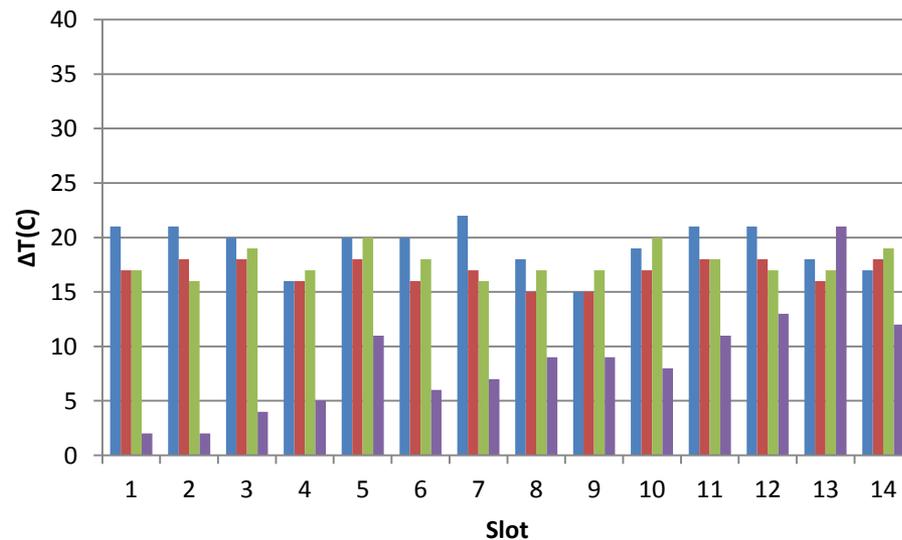
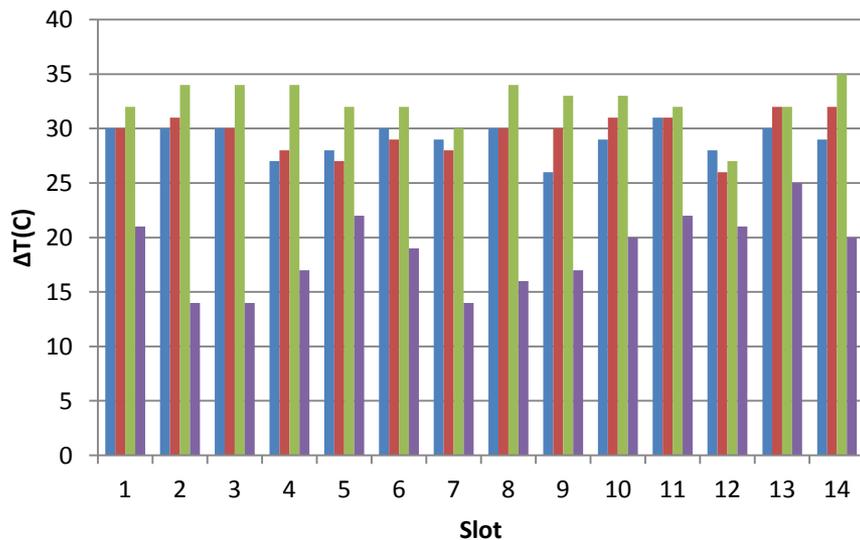
Load boards

Schroff crate MAX front $\Delta T = 35^\circ\text{C}$

ASIS crate MAX front $\Delta T = 23^\circ\text{C}$

■ $\Delta T1$ ■ $\Delta T2$ ■ $\Delta T3$ ■ ΔR

■ $\Delta T1$ ■ $\Delta T2$ ■ $\Delta T3$ ■ ΔR



ATCA Summary

- Different cooling performance depending on number of fans, model and mechanical layout
- The maximum power per slot is limited by the Power Entry Module and backplane power distribution
- Both Shelf Manager based on Pigeon Point Shelf Management Mezzanines (ShMMs)
- The evaluation will continue with Polaris tester

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Results obtained

- Detailed test procedures defined
- Test systems developed (Modules, systems and software)
- xTCA standards, systems and equipment know-how
- Comprehensive set of tests performed for MicroTCA crates, PMs and MCH. ATCA in progress.
- Interaction with manufacturers (HW and SW modifications introduced)
- Detailed evaluation reports published

Lessons learned

- Good communication with support is essential
- New products lacking maturity

This leads us to the next project phase:

- Technical specifications in view of future equipment purchase
- Equipment recommendations
- Provide support and tools to the xTCA community



Available on the uTCA/ATCA Repository

THANK YOU

Next xTCA events:

Thursday 26, 5p.m. - Room Trumpet 1:

- *Summary of evaluation results of xTCA equipment* – Matteo Di Cosmo
- *Evaluation results from AC/DC converters for xTCA* – Vincent Bobillier

Useful links

- MicroTCA Evaluation Repository <https://espace.cern.ch/ph-dep-ESE-BE-uTCAEvaluationProject/default.aspx>
- ATCA Evaluation Repository <https://espace.cern.ch/ph-dep-ESE-BE-ATCAEvaluationProject/SitePages/Home.aspx>
- PICMG Website <http://www.picmg.org/>
- MicroTCA Short Form Specification http://www.picmg.org/pdf/MicroTCA_Short_Form_Sept_2006.pdf
- AMC Short Form Specification http://www.picmg.org/pdf/AMC.0_R2.0_Short_Form.pdf
- ATCA Short Form Specification http://www.picmg.org/pdf/PICMG_3_0_Shortform.pdf
- IPMI, IPMB Specification <http://www.intel.com/content/www/us/en/servers/ipmi/ipmi-specifications.html>
- Polaris Tester <http://www.polarisnetworks.net/atca-test-tool.html>
- NAT Website <http://www.nateurope.com/>
- Vadatech Website <http://www.vadatech.com/>
- Schroff Website <http://www.schroff.de/>
- ASIS Website <http://www.asis-pro.com/>
- Wiener <http://www.wiener-d.com/>
- ELMA <http://www.elma.com/>
- COMTEL <http://www.comtel-online.com/>