

PTC Setup at VLA

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Outline

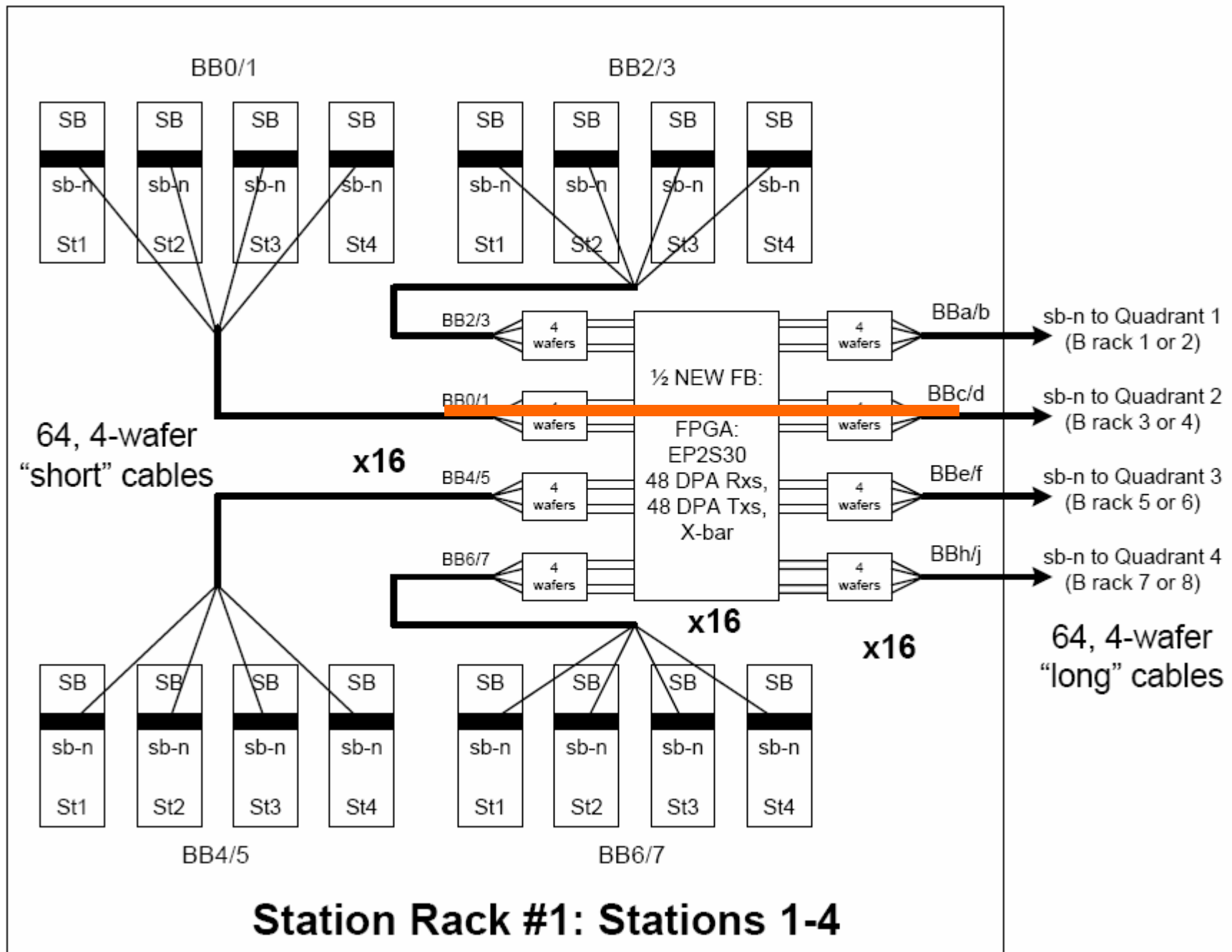
- Overview.
- Connectivity.
- Timecode distribution.
- Schedule.

Overview

- 10 Station Boards.
- 12 Baseline Boards.
 - $12 \times 128 = 1.536$ GHz in both polarizations (3-bit)
 - 8-bit: only 1 polarization unless do some “fiber fiddling” with $\frac{1}{2}$ antennas.
- Use production racks at site, with production cables.
 - It is a partially populated correlator.

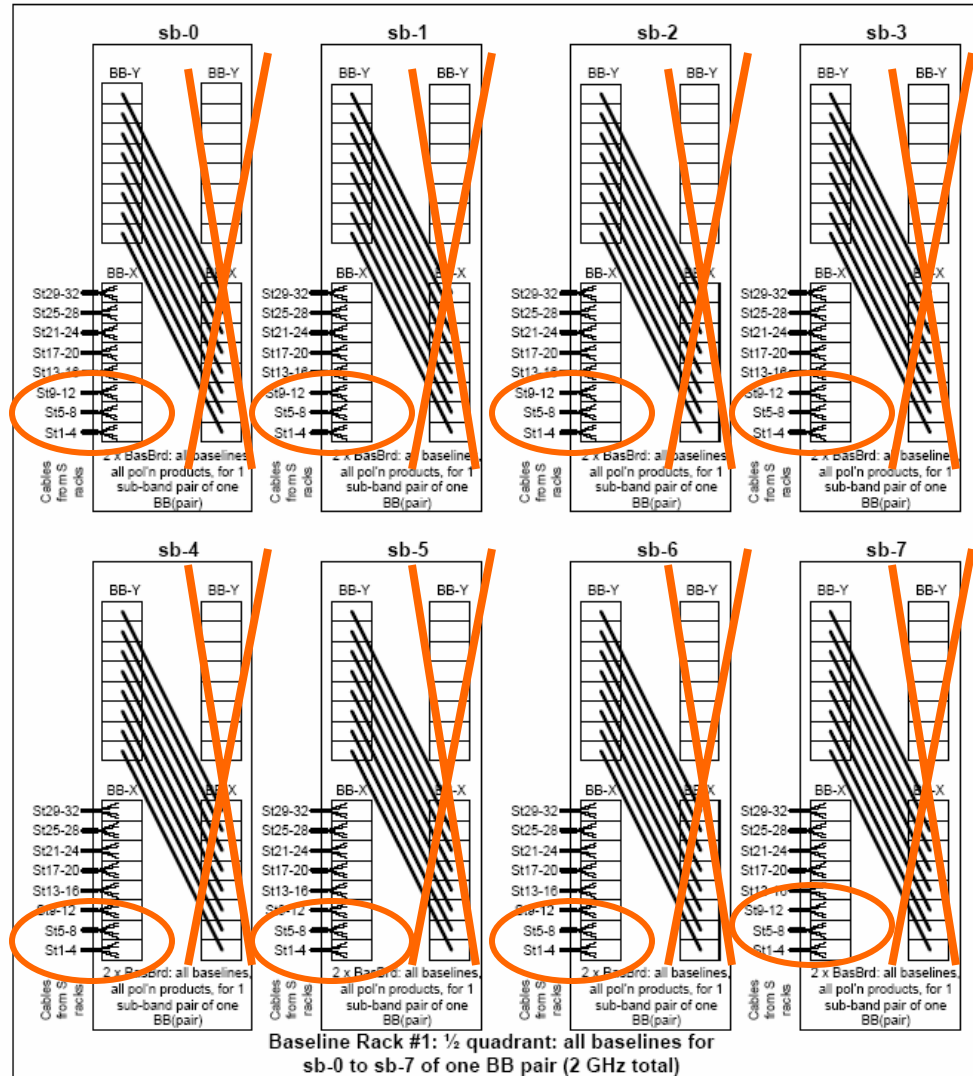
Connectivity

- 10 Station Boards installed in 3 racks.
 - 1 quadrant.
 - 4 boards in 2 racks, 2 boards in last rack.
 - If X-bar Boards not ready...bypass using direct connection of long cables “split-off” into Station Board outputs.



Connectivity

- **Baseline Boards:**
 - 12 boards available.
 - Partially populate 1 quadrant (2 racks) with every other board.
 - Only doing 10 stations (10 active wafers into each Baseline Board), so only need 1 Baseline Board to do all baselines for 1 sub-band pair.



Timecode Distribution

- If X-bar Board not ready, use existing FB/TC board to provide NRAO TC to Station Boards.
- Have to jury-rig temporary Meritec cabling to accomplish this.
 - Not a problem...it's all Meritec wafers anyway.

Schedule

- Should have rack-to-rack cables ready for install mid-end February/08.
 - Provided no delays in Meritec delivery.
 - Cable set sheathing, heat-shrink, now in stock.
 - Cable set plan ready.
 - Labels ready shortly.
 - People all geared up to start as soon as cables arrive.
- Should have racks ready by end of April/08 or sooner.