

**PENTEK**

# Virtex-7 FPGAs Target Software Defined Radio Applications

# Rodger Hosking



# Software Defined Radio Needs

- High-Performance Signal Processing
  - DSP: filtering, FFTs, custom DDC/DUC, modulation, demodulation, etc.
  - Coding: Viterbi, trellis, turbo, space time, convolutional, etc.
  - Beamforming: diversity combining, direction finding, antenna steering, etc.
- Fast Interfaces
  - Processor I/O and Interprocessor Communication
  - Real-time I/O Peripherals (A/Ds, D/As, codecs, etc)
  - Memory (data buffers, coefficient tables, workspace, etc.)
  - Dedicated ASICs (digital up/down converters, etc.)
  - Networks (Ethernet, SAN, WAN, etc.)
  - Other System Boards (backplanes and switched fabric)

## Low-Latency Control Sub-Systems

- Dehopping, tracking, countermeasures, Doppler processing, etc.
- Peripheral Interfaces
  - Wide variety of different electrical levels, standards, and characteristics
- Timing and Control
  - Custom synchronization, gating, triggering and timing functions



# What is Series-7

June 2010: Xilinx announced Series-7



Low cost / low power  
(equivalent to Spartan-6)

Max performance / high cost  
lots of gigabit serial I/O  
(more than all previous Virtex-6)

Mid cost and performance,  
decent amount of I/O pins  
(equivalent to medium to large Virtex-6)



# Xilinx Series-7 Target Markets

**ARTIX<sup>7</sup>**

- Portable/handheld ultrasound
- 3D cameras and camcorders
- D-SLR still cameras
- Software defined radio
- 3D TV
- Portable eReaders
- Automotive Infotainment
- Multifunction printers
- Video surveillance

**KINTEX<sup>7</sup>**

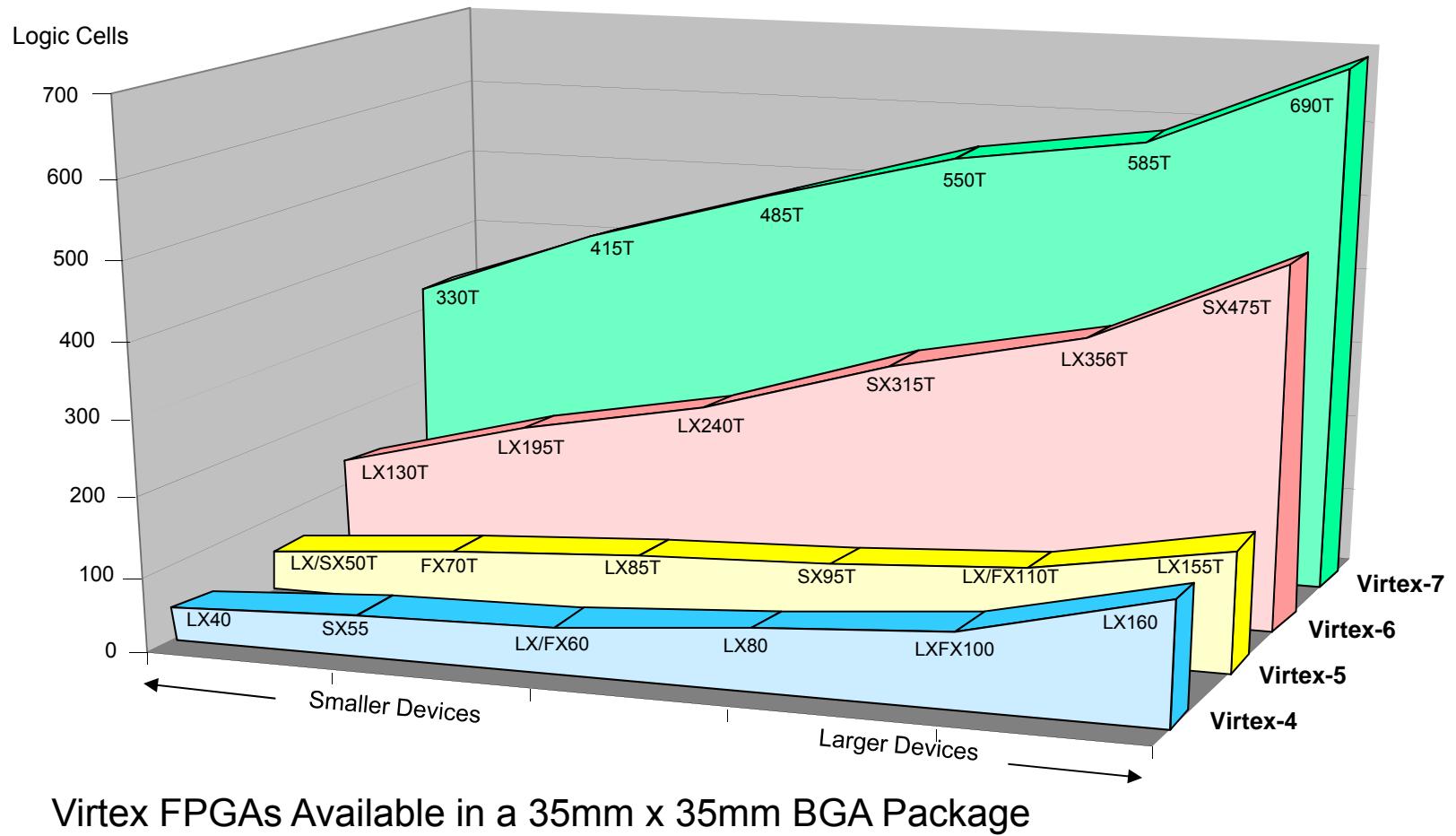
- Wireless LTE infrastructure
- 10G PON OLT line card
- LED backlit and 3D video displays
- Video-over-IP bridge
- Cellular radio
- Medical Imaging
- Avionics imaging
- Set top boxes
- Motor control

**VIRTEX<sup>7</sup>**

- RADAR
- ASIC emulation
- High-performance computing
- Test and measurement
- 400G and 100G line cards
- 300G Interlaken bridge
- Terabit switch fabric
- 100G OTN
- MUXPONDER



# Comparing Virtex-4, -5, -6, and -7



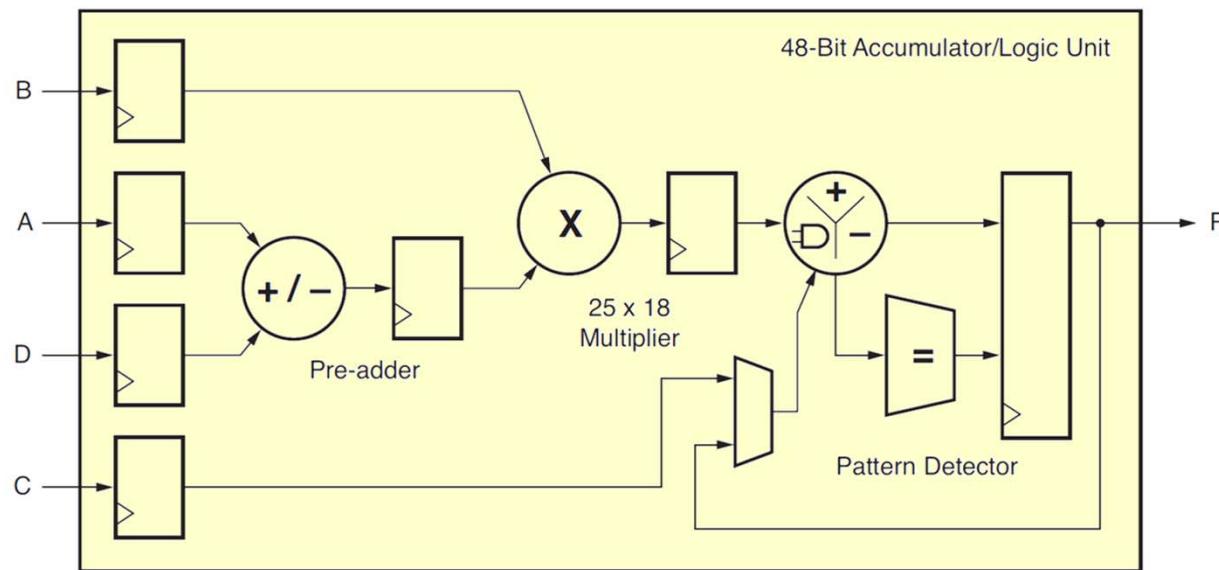
Virtex FPGAs Available in a 35mm x 35mm BGA Package

- Virtex geometry & power:
  - Virtex-4 = 90nm, Virtex-5 = 65nm, Virtex-6 = 45nm, Virtex-7 = 28nm
  - Virtex-7 – “Half the Power”
    - Various power management techniques from hardware design to software for optimizing IP



# DSP48E1 DSP Engine

- 25x18 2's complement multiplier
- 48-bit accumulator / synchronous up/down counter
- Pre-adder for A & D inputs optimizes symmetrical FIR filters
- SIMD arithmetic unit for dual 24-bit or quad 12-bit operations
- Logic unit handles ten different logical operations
- Pattern detector for convergent or symmetrical rounding
- Pipelining modes for cascade processing

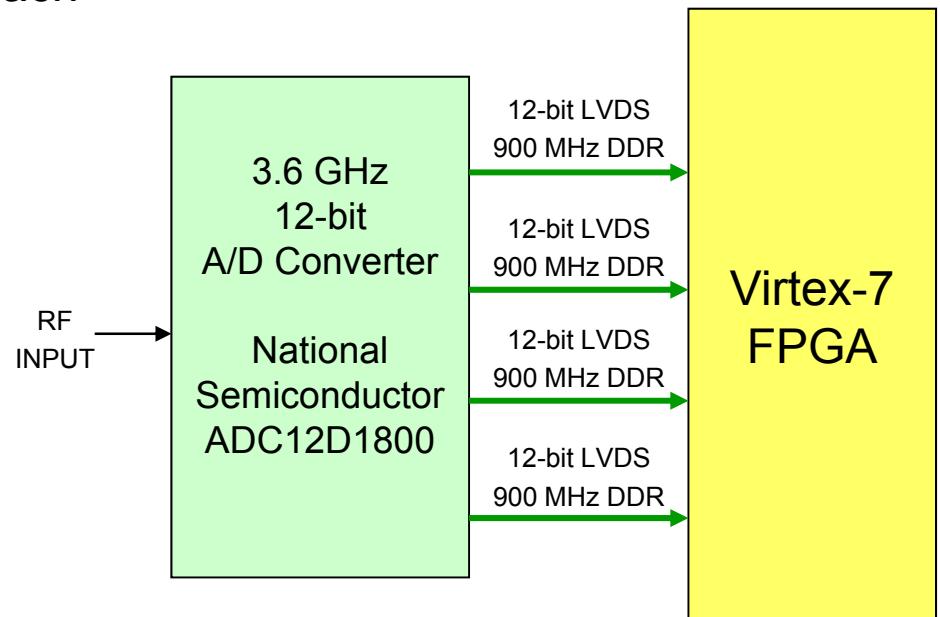


Quantity:  
**5280**  
maximum in  
Virtex-7



# Data Converter Interfaces

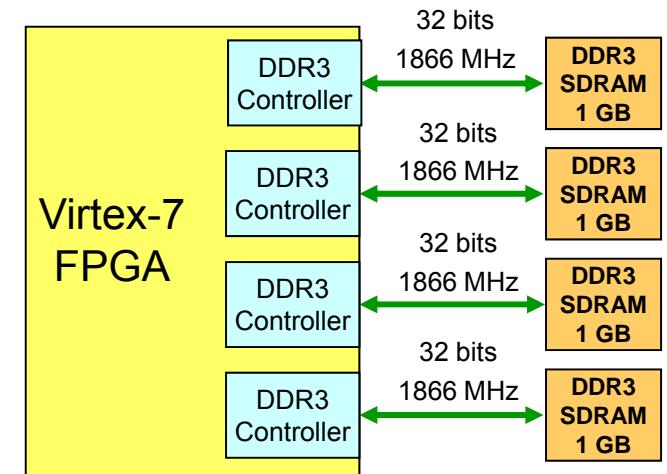
- Higher signal bandwidths for wideband communications like LTE and UMTS require faster A/D and D/A converters
- Example: National Semi ADC12D1800 - 3.6 GSample/sec, 12 bits
  - Digitizes up to 1.5 GHz instantaneous bandwidth
- Four 12-bit demultiplexed outputs – each 900 MS/sec
  - DDR transfers – 2 transfers on each edge of a 450 MHz clock
- Virtex-7 DDR I/O
  - Up to 1600 MHz transfer rates
  - Per bit skew adjustments align data bits within each word
  - Digitally controlled termination networks eliminate discrete resistors and boost performance





# External Memory Interfaces

- For large storage and buffering requirements that exceed block RAM
- DDR3 SDRAMs: Most dense and least expensive memory devices
  - Volume and pricing driven by enormous PC market
  - PCs use processor interfaces and bridge chips for interface
  - Critical timing with complex adaptive training
- Virtex-7 DDR3 SDRAM Controller
  - Direct glue-less connection to DDR3 SDRAMs
  - Operates at up to 1.866 GHz rates per bit
  - For a 32-bit SDRAM = 7.464 GBytes/sec!
  - New 1:4 ratio for fabric-to-memory clock
  - Phaser clock generator maintains real-time clock-to-data timing to within 7 psec!





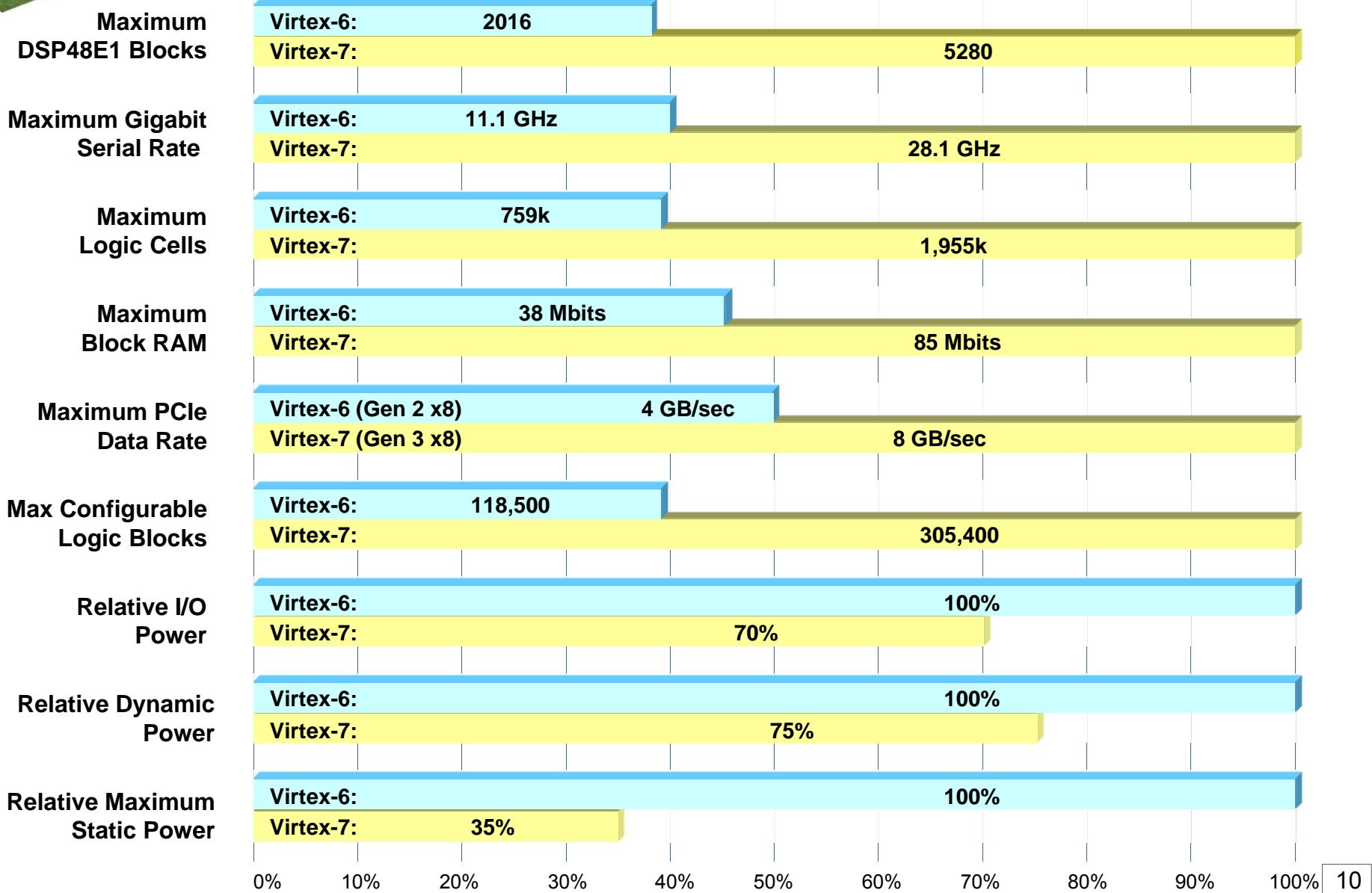
# Gigabit Serial Interfaces

- Three gigabit serial speed versions: GTX, GTH, and GTZ
- Protocol independent: Ethernet, PCIe, Aurora, SRIO, Infiniband, etc.
- Aurora: Xilinx link-layer protocol – ideal for raw data streaming
- Built-in PCIe Interfaces now include endpoints and root ports
- TEMAC – Tri-Mode Ethernet MAC for 10M, 100M and 1G
- GTZ supports 10G, 40G, 100G and 400G Ethernet line cards

Device Type	Virtex-7 T	Virtex-7 XT	Virtex-7 HT
Peak transceiver speed	12.5 Gb/s (GTX)	13.1 Gb/s (GTH)	28.05 Gb/s (GTZ)
Qty Transceivers	36	96	88
Peak bi-directional serial bandwidth	0.900 Tb/s	2.515 Tb/s	2.784 Tb/s
No. PCIe Interfaces	4	4	3
PCIe Speed	Gen2 x8	Gen3 x8	Gen3 x8



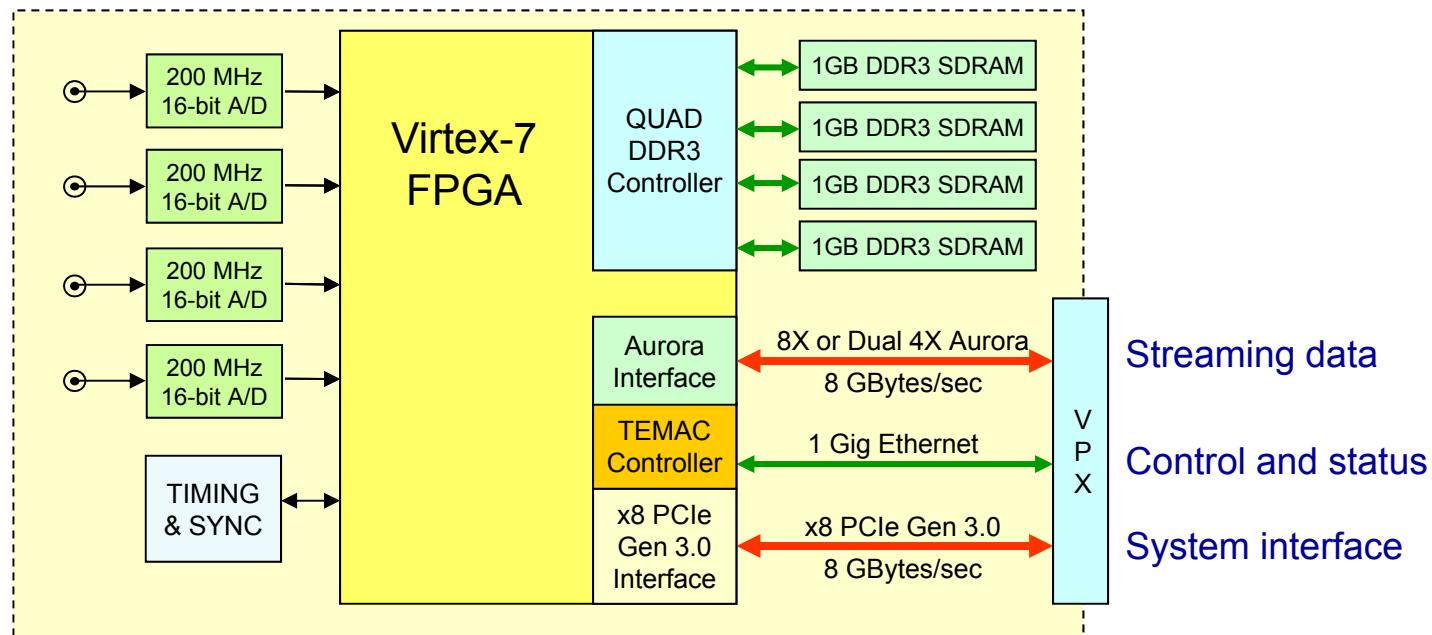
# Relative Comparisons: Virtex-6 and -7





# Virtex-7 Support for OpenVPX SDR

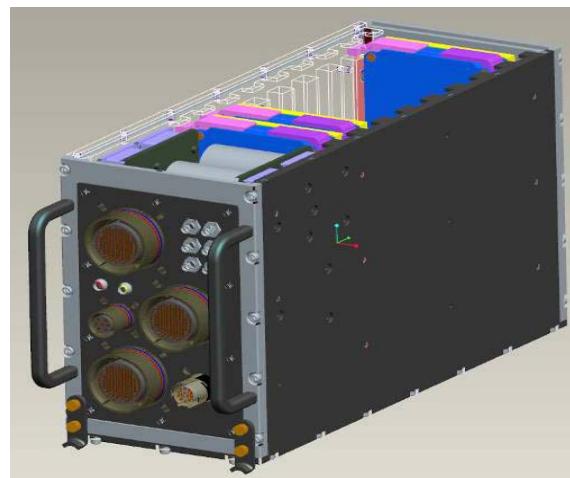
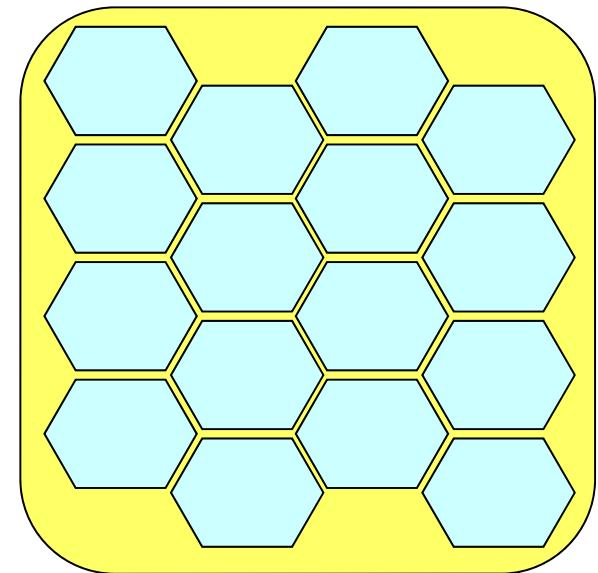
- All critical resources for a complete OpenVPX SDR module
  - Up to 5280 DSP48E1 DSP blocks for complex signal processing
  - 85 Mbits Block RAM for data buffering and algorithm workspace
  - High-speed A/D and D/A interfaces for wideband signals
  - Fast DDR3 SDRAM memory interfaces for buffering and delay
  - 8 GB/sec PCIE Gen3 x 8 system interface eliminates backplane bottlenecks
  - 1 Gig Ethernet control interface for control and status
  - Aurora interfaces for inter-board and inter-FPGA data streaming





# System Requirements

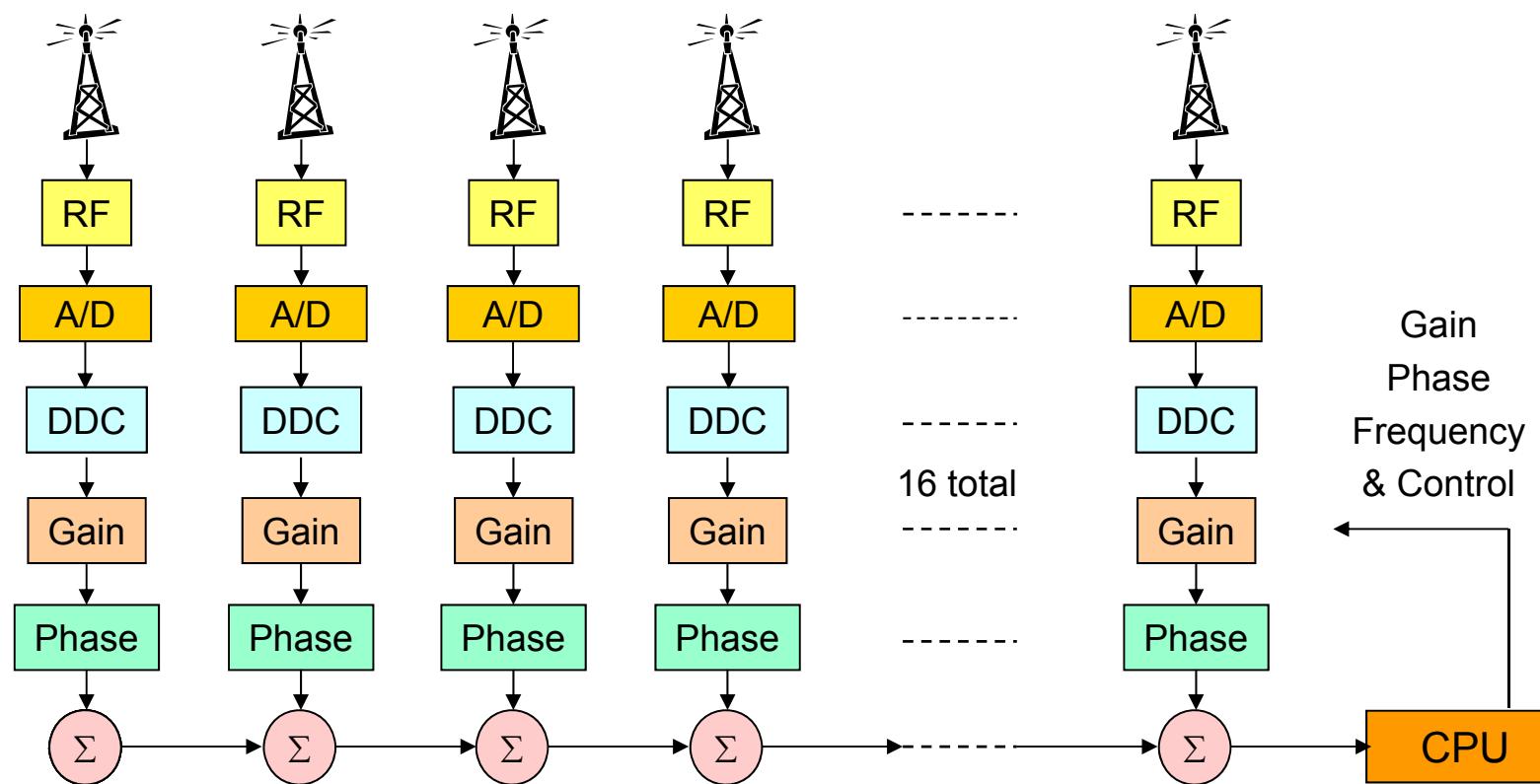
- Airborne 16 Antenna Array
- IF Frequency: 70 MHz
- IF Bandwidth: 40 MHz
- Beamforming Signal Processing:
  - Downconvert 16 IF signals to baseband
  - Apply phase shift to each baseband signal
  - Apply gain adjustment to each baseband signal
  - Sum 16 phase+gain adjusted baseband signals
- Deliver final sum to CPU
- Ruggedized, conduction-cooled 3U OpenVPX chassis
  - VITA 65 controls OpenVPX standard





# Functional System Block Diagram

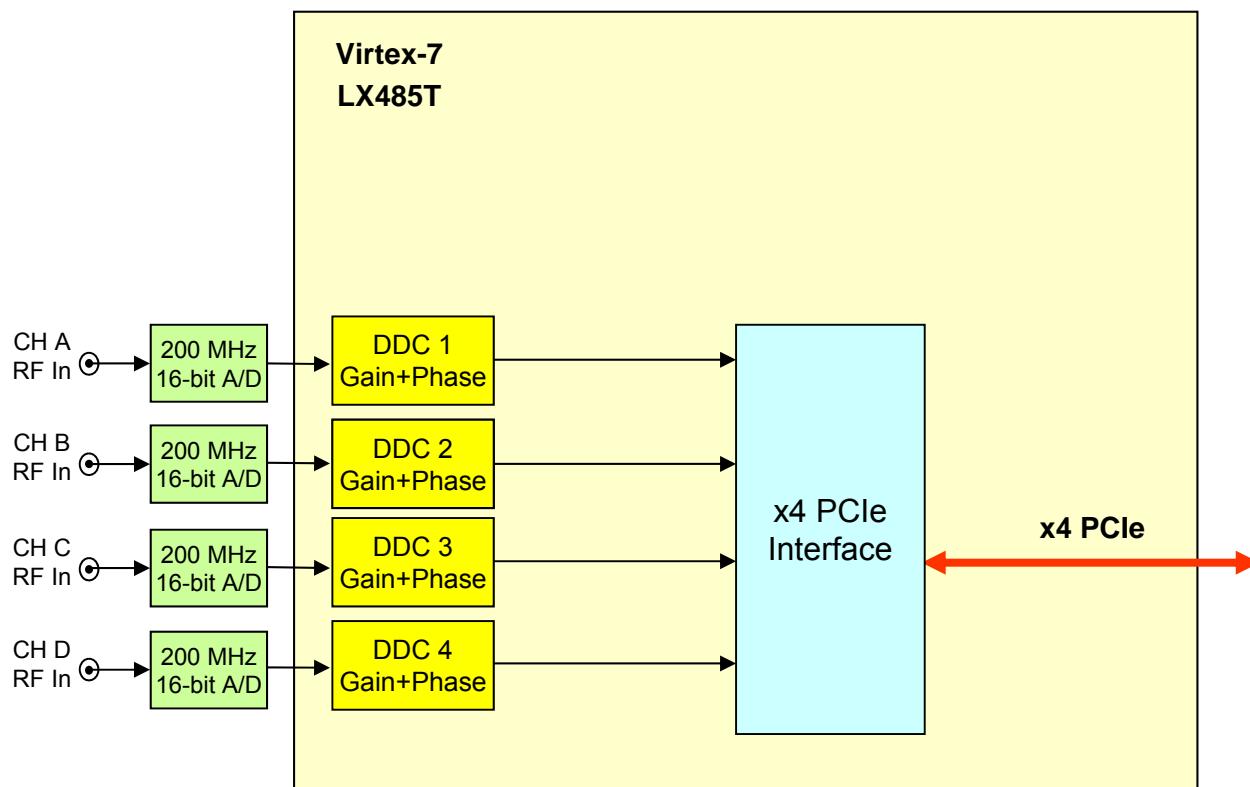
- RF stages convert the antenna frequency down to IF
- A/D converters digitize the IF signals
- DDC downconverts IF to baseband with gain and phase adjustments
- Summation chain adds all 16 baseband signals
- CPU receives the beamformed sum
- CPU adaptively controls frequency, gain, and phase shifts for each antenna





# 53X61 Virtex-7 3U OpenVPX Beamformer

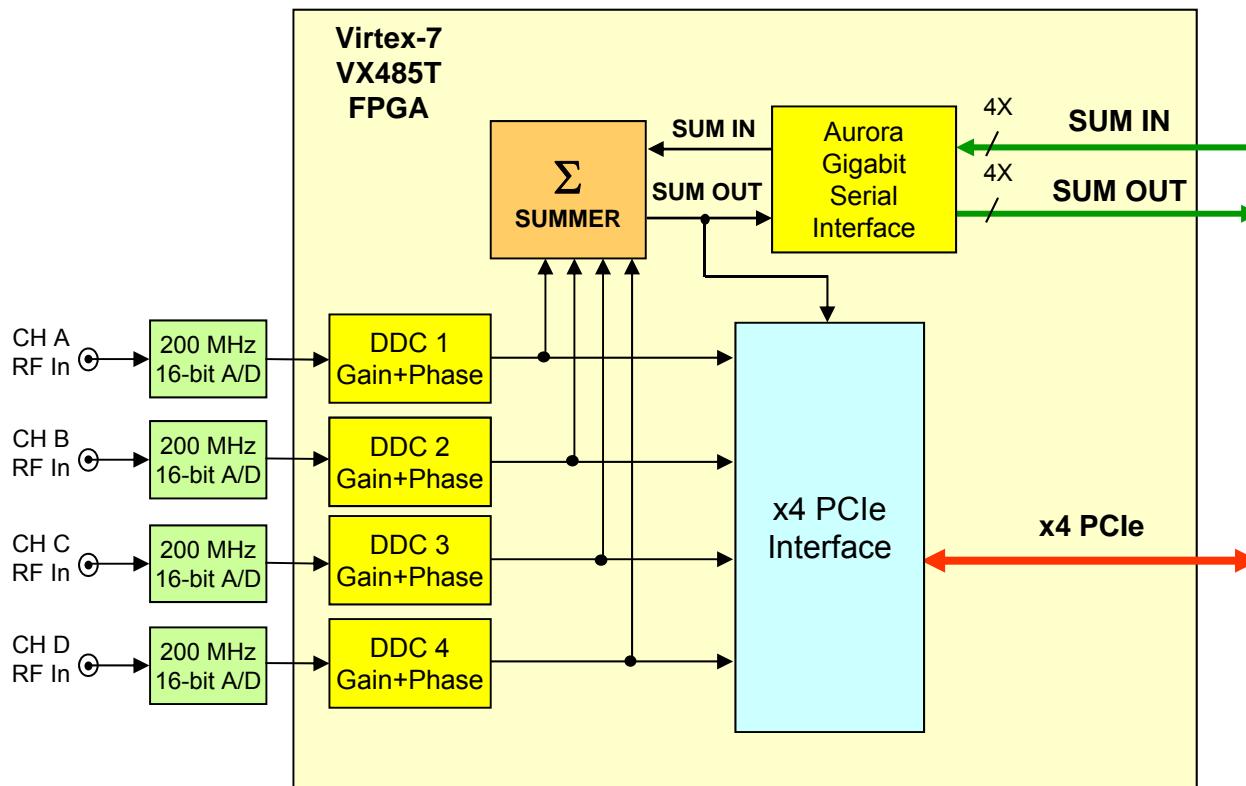
- Xilinx Virtex-7 FPGA
- Four 200 MHz 16-bit A/Ds
- Four Digital Downconverters (DDCs)
- Each DDC has independent Phase and Gain Adjustments
- PCIe x4 Interface
- Controls module operating modes
- Delivers phase and gain coefficients to the DDCs





# 53X61 Virtex-7 3U OpenVPX Beamformer

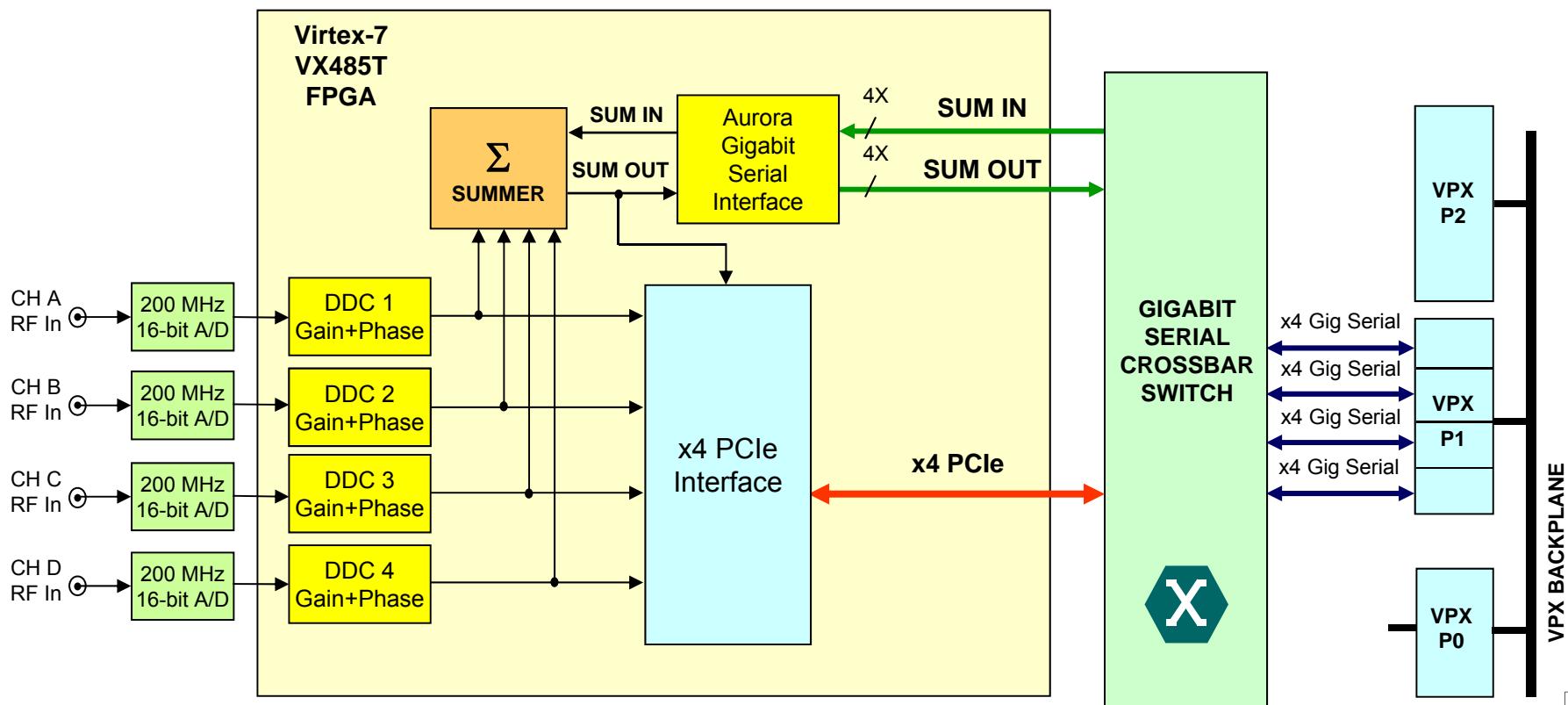
- Summer sums 4 DDC outputs
- Summer accepts Sum In from previous module
- Summer delivers Sum Out to PCIe interface and next module
- Xilinx Aurora Gigabit Serial Engine
  - Accepts 4X Sum In from previous module (2.5 GB/sec)
  - Propagates 4X Sum Out to next module (2.5 GB/sec)





# 53X61 Virtex-7 3U OpenVPX Beamformer

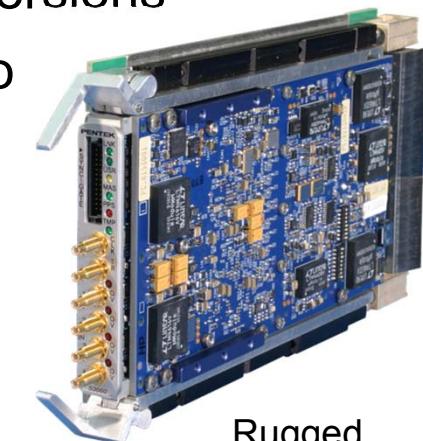
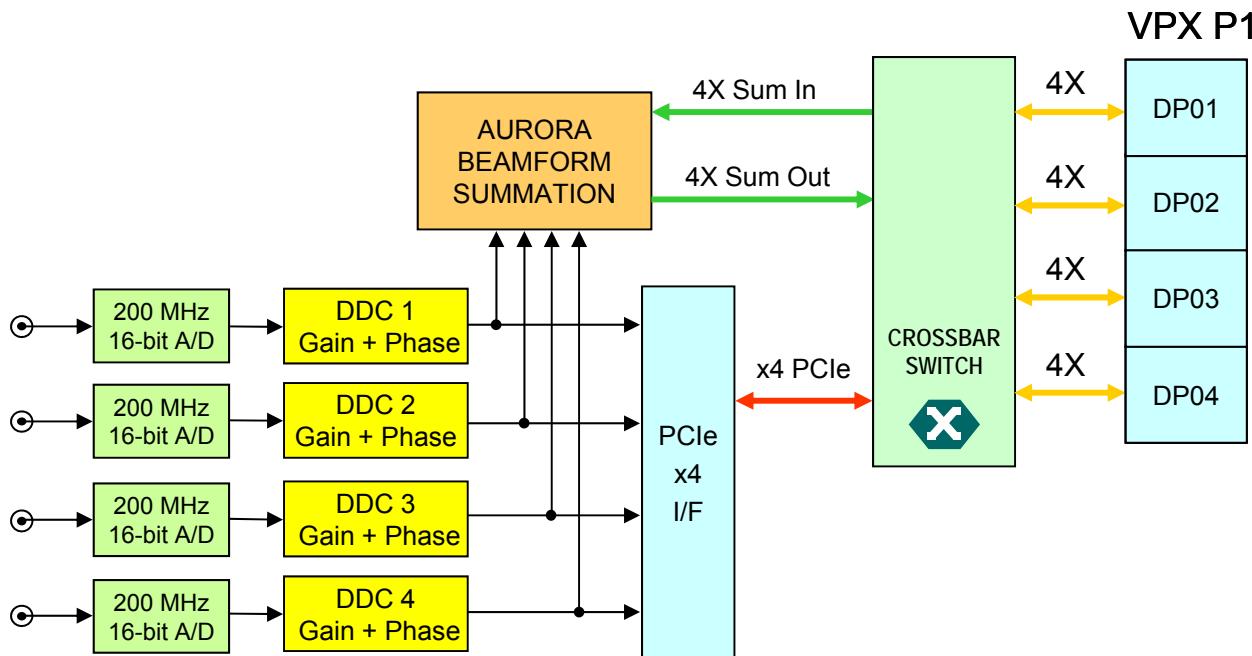
- Programmable Fabric Transparent Crossbar Switch
- User programmable crossbar switch path routing
- Allows flexible routing of Aurora sum and PCIe gigabit serial links to VPX P1 connector





# 53X61 Virtex-7 3U OpenVPX Beamformer

- Simplified block diagram
- Available in both commercial and conduction-cooled versions
- Four 4X gigabit serial or FP (“Fat Pipe”) connections to the data plane (DP) on VPX P1 connector
- Crossbar switch supports many different backplanes and interconnection topologies



Rugged

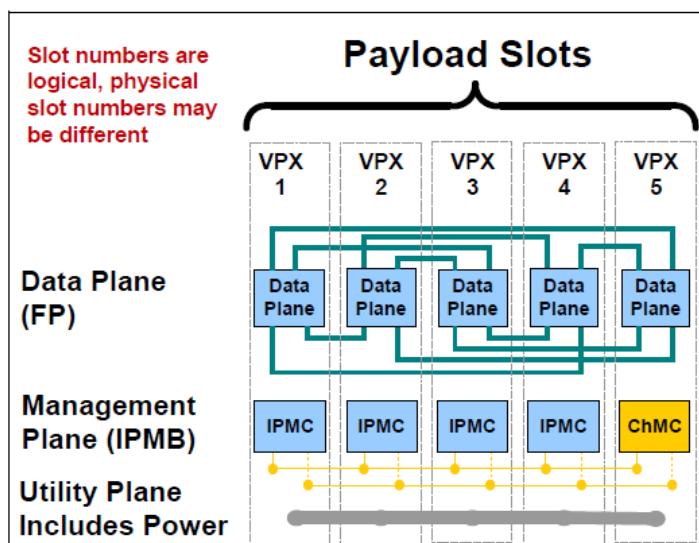


Commercial

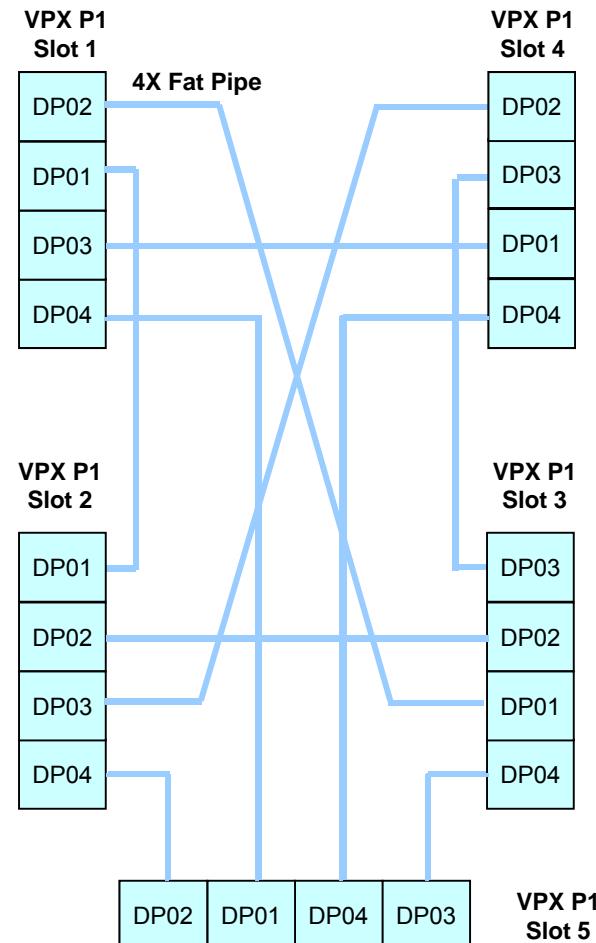


# OpenVPX 3U Full Mesh 5-Slot Backplane

- Jointly specified by Pentek and DRS
- Designed and manufactured by Bustronic
- 5 Payload Slots connected as a full mesh
- Each VPX P1 connector has four X4 fat pipe ports (FP) for the OpenVPX data plane
- Each slot has one FP data plane connection to each of the other four slots



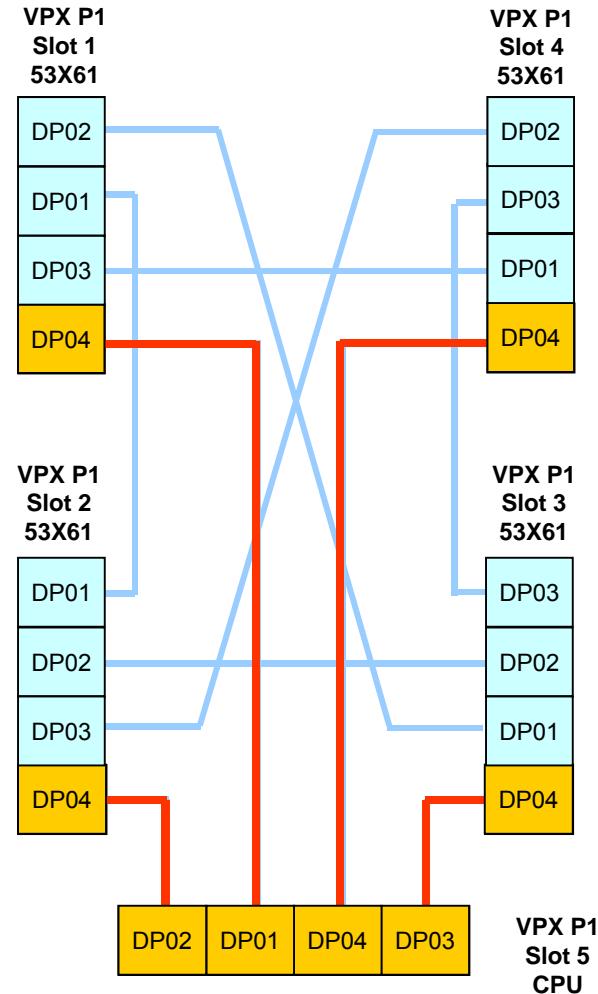
OpenVPX Backplane Profile: BKP3-DIS05-15.3.2-n





# 3U Backplane CPU Connections

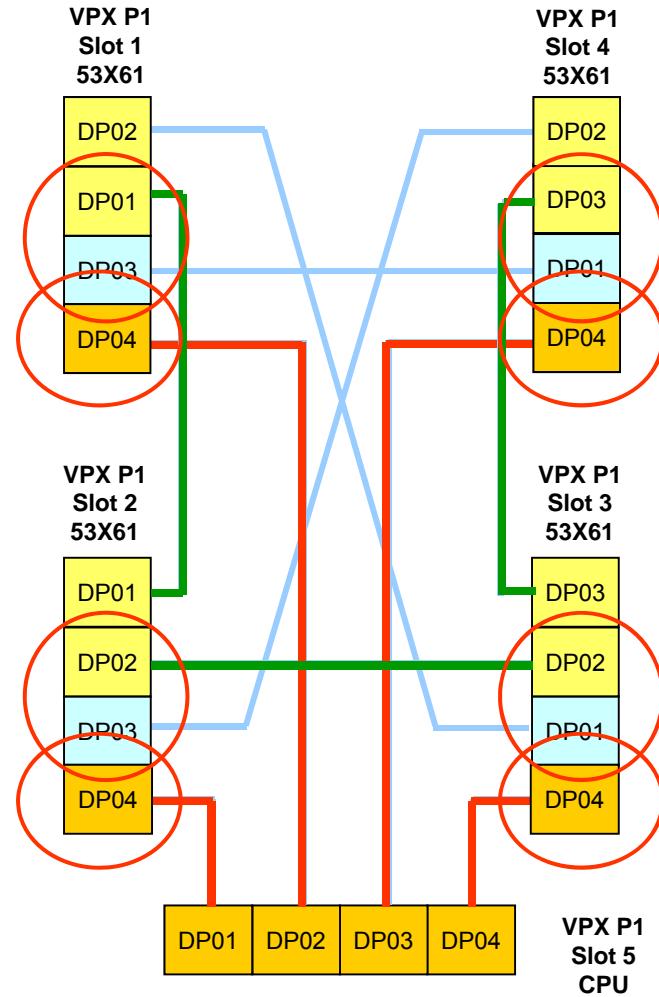
- Install the four 53X61s in slots 1 thru 4
- Install the CPU card in slot 5 at the bottom
- The CPU is connected to each of the other four beamformer module slots with a 4X FP on the data plane
- Allows the CPU to send control and coefficients, and to receive data





# 3U Backplane Beamforming Connections

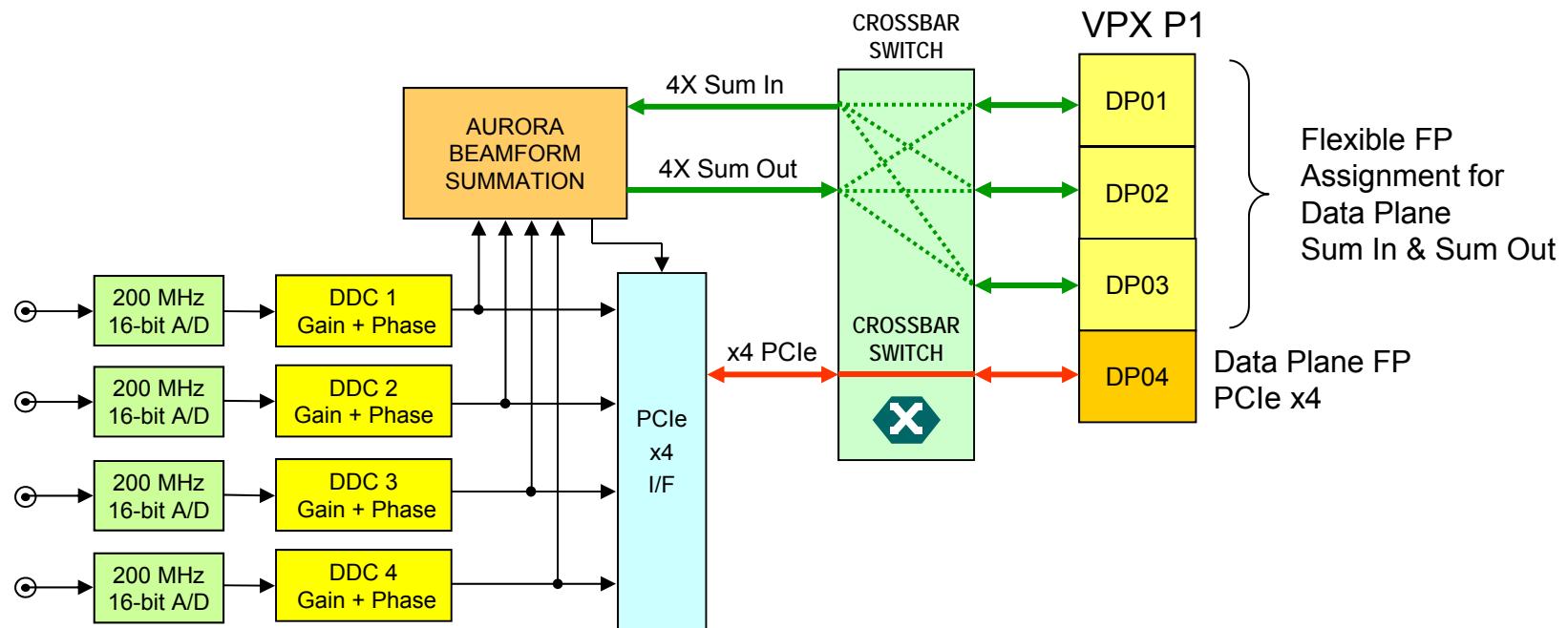
- Three other data plane 4X FPs join the four Virtex-7 beamforming modules in a chain
- This will support the Aurora sum in/ sum out propagation between the modules
- Note: the fat pipes of the all Cobalt modules just happen to use DP04 for the CPU connection
- However, the summation chaining links use different DP fat pipes for each Cobalt module





# Mapping OpenVPX to the Virtex-7

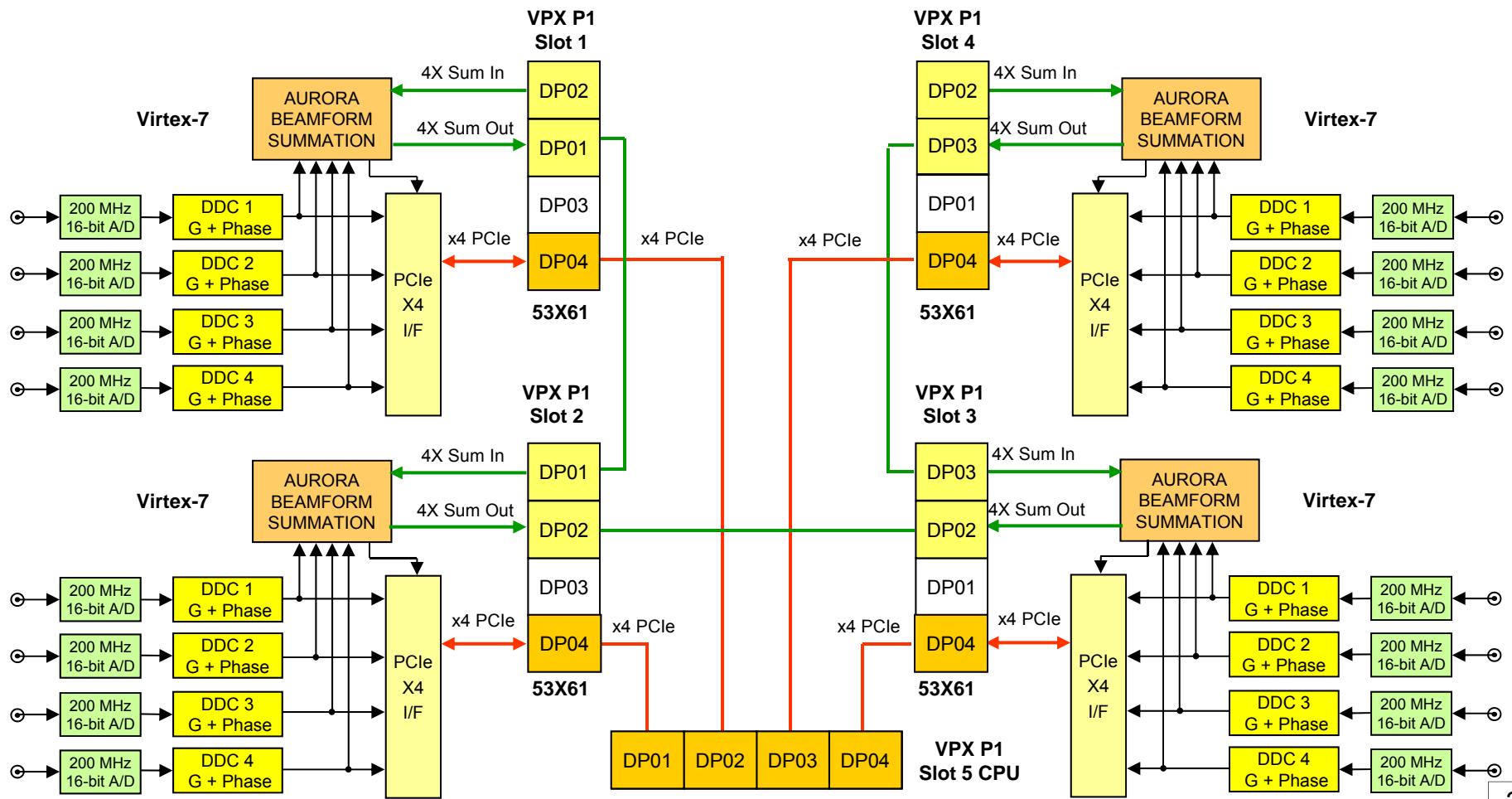
- Crossbar switch connects the Aurora and PCIe FPs to the VPX P1 connector
- FP DP04: Used for x4 PCIe control interface maps to the CPU
- FP DP01, DP02, & DP03: Used for Sum In/Sum Out Beamforming Sum
- Crossbar switch allows flexible assignment to any FP port





# Modules installed in the backplane

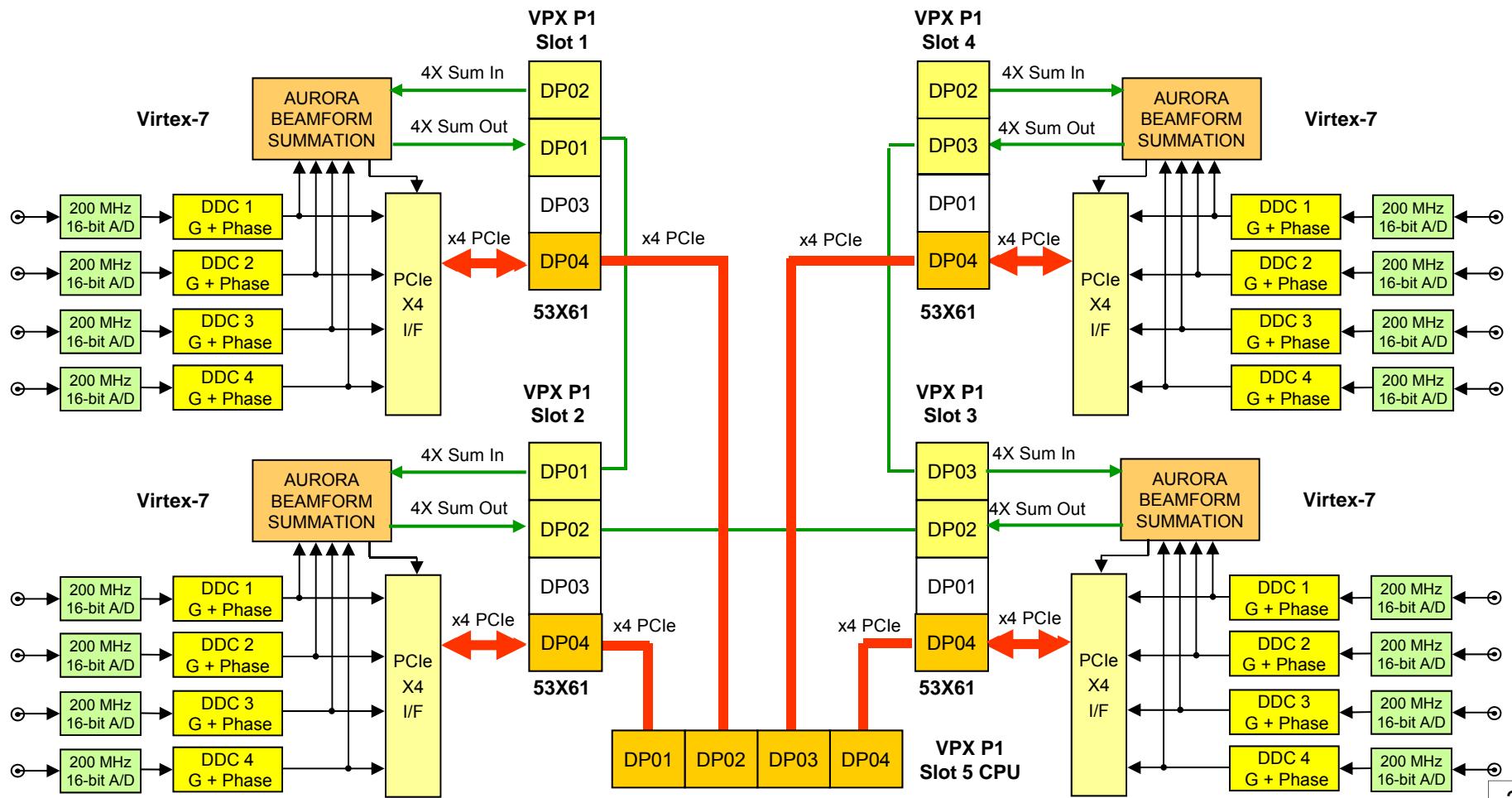
- Install four Virtex-7 3U VPX beamformer modules in payload slots 1 to 4
- Install a 3U VPX PCIe CPU in payload slot 5 (bottom)





# PCIe control and data connections to CPU

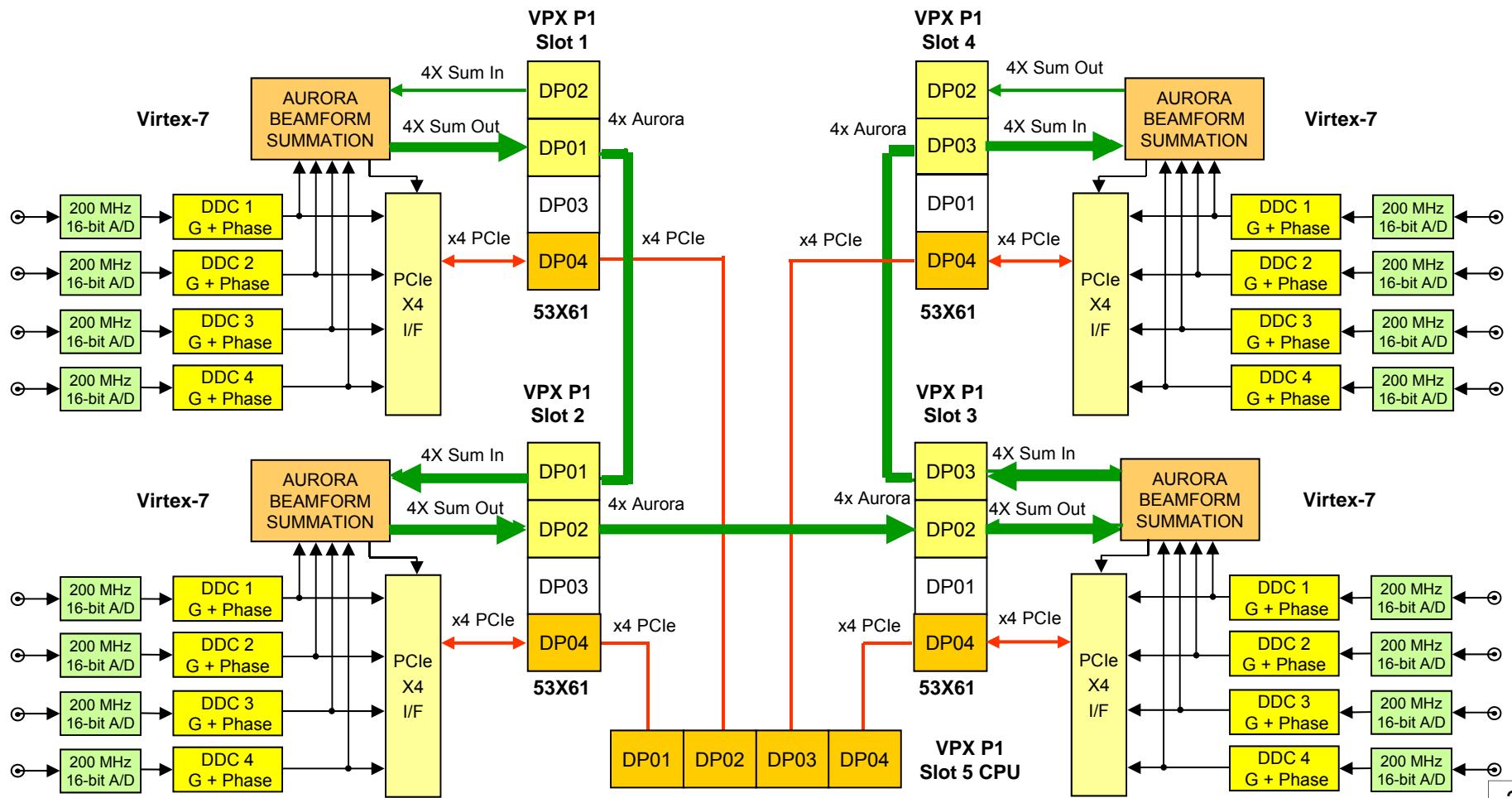
- Provides four x4 PCIe data plane fat pipes between CPU & each 53X61
- Delivers 16 sets of beamforming coefficients to 16 DDCs





# Beamformed sum propagation paths

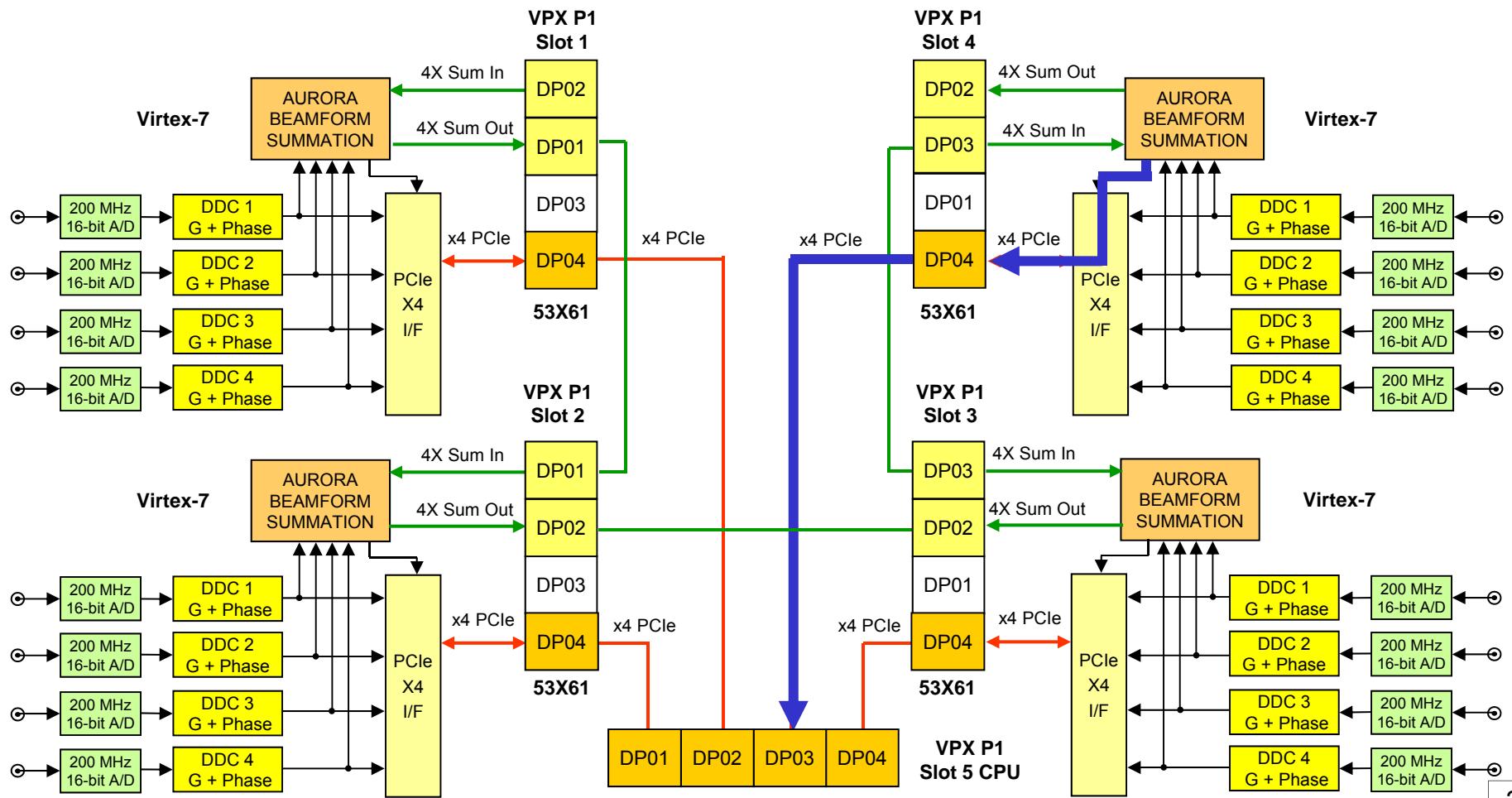
- Data plane fat pipes join the four 53X61s to propagate the 4X Aurora beamformed summation data in a daisy chain through the boards





# Final sum delivered via PCIe to CPU

- Final summation flows across x4 PCIe link from last 53X61 module in slot 4 to CPU card in slot 5





# Virtex-7 Delivers Solutions for SDR

- All critical resources SDR applications
  - Up to 5280 DSP48E1 DSP blocks for complex signal processing
  - 85 Mbits Block RAM for data buffering and algorithm workspace
  - High-speed A/D and D/A interfaces for wideband signals
  - Fast DDR3 SDRAM memory interfaces for buffering and delay
  - 8 GB/sec PCIE Gen3 x 8 system interface eliminates backplane bottlenecks
  - 1 Gig Ethernet control interface for control and status
  - Aurora interfaces for inter-board and inter-FPGA data streaming
- Virtex-7 53X61 3U VPX Module
  - Includes all critical beamforming functions
  - Four A/Ds, four DDCs with Phase & Gain Adjustments
  - Summation Block with Aurora Summation over VPX P1
  - Flexible Crossbar Switch Adapts to Many Backplanes
  - PCIe Gen 3 System Interface – 8 GB/sec

