

Low cost proportional chamber readout electronics using the Arduino

24.06.2017

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The Setup

nCatcher:
Pulse analyzer

High Voltage
supply

Slow-control &
Data processing

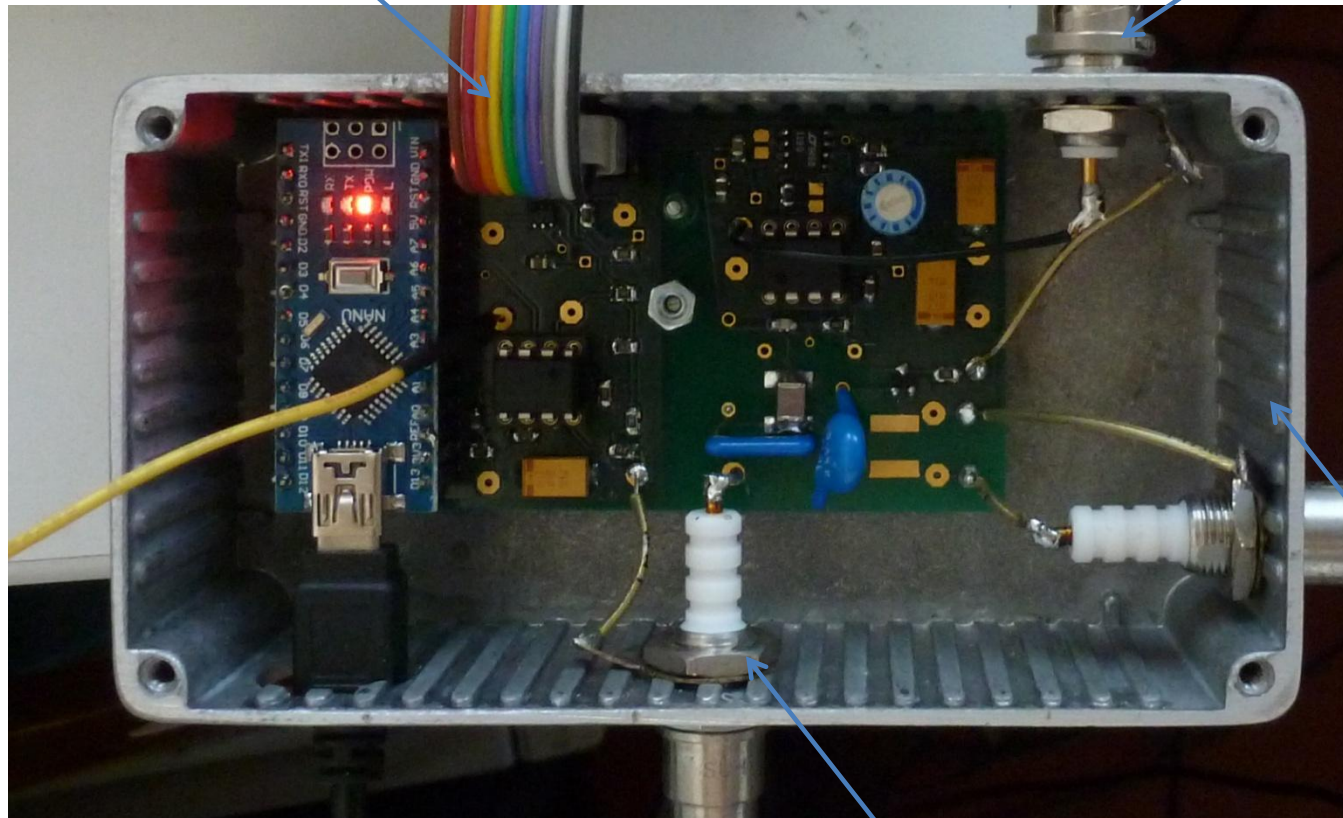
Detector unit



nCatcher Board

Voltage supply & communication

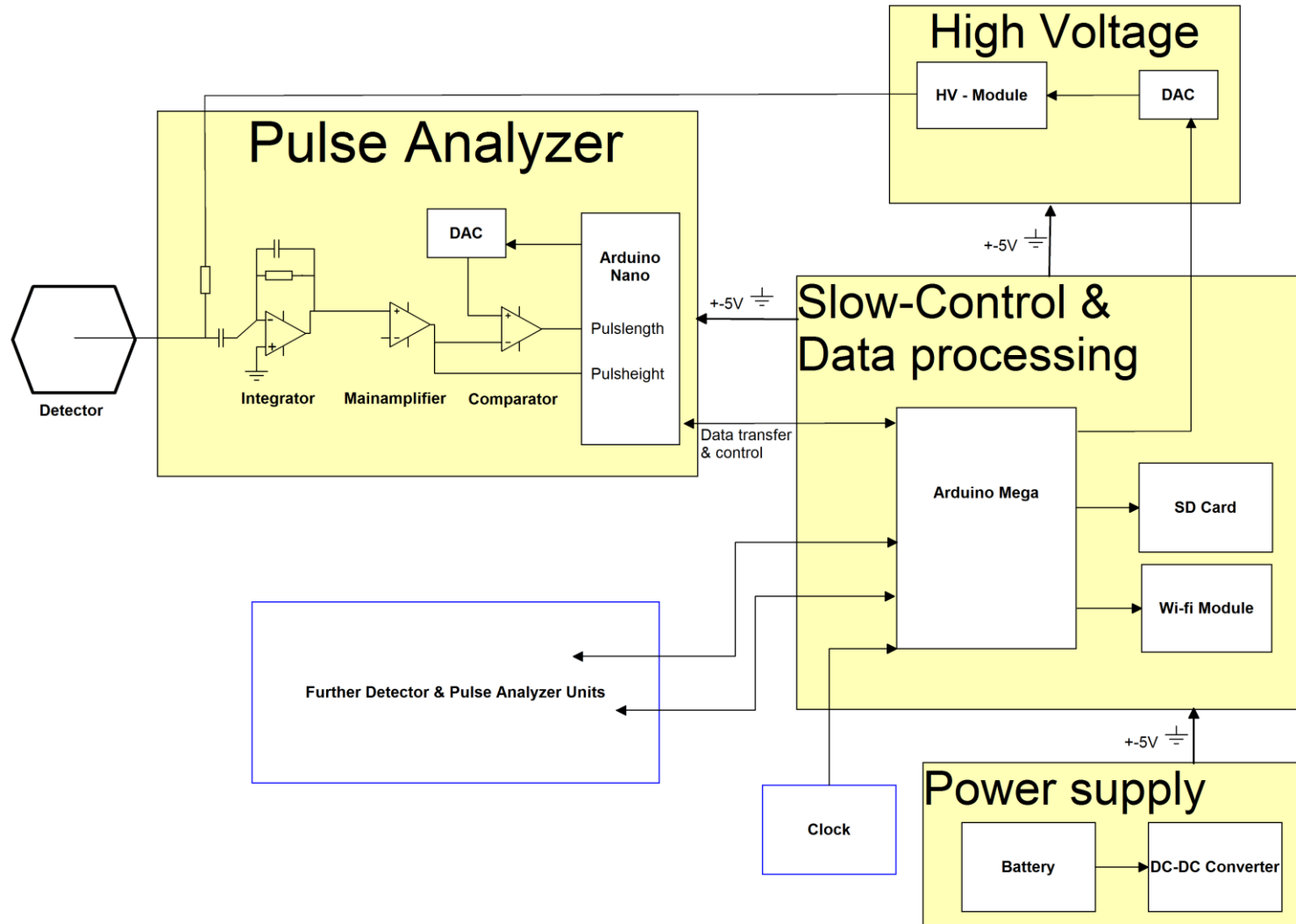
Pulse monitoring



HV Input

Detector Input

Schematic setup



Blue units are not yet implemented



nCatcher Board Features

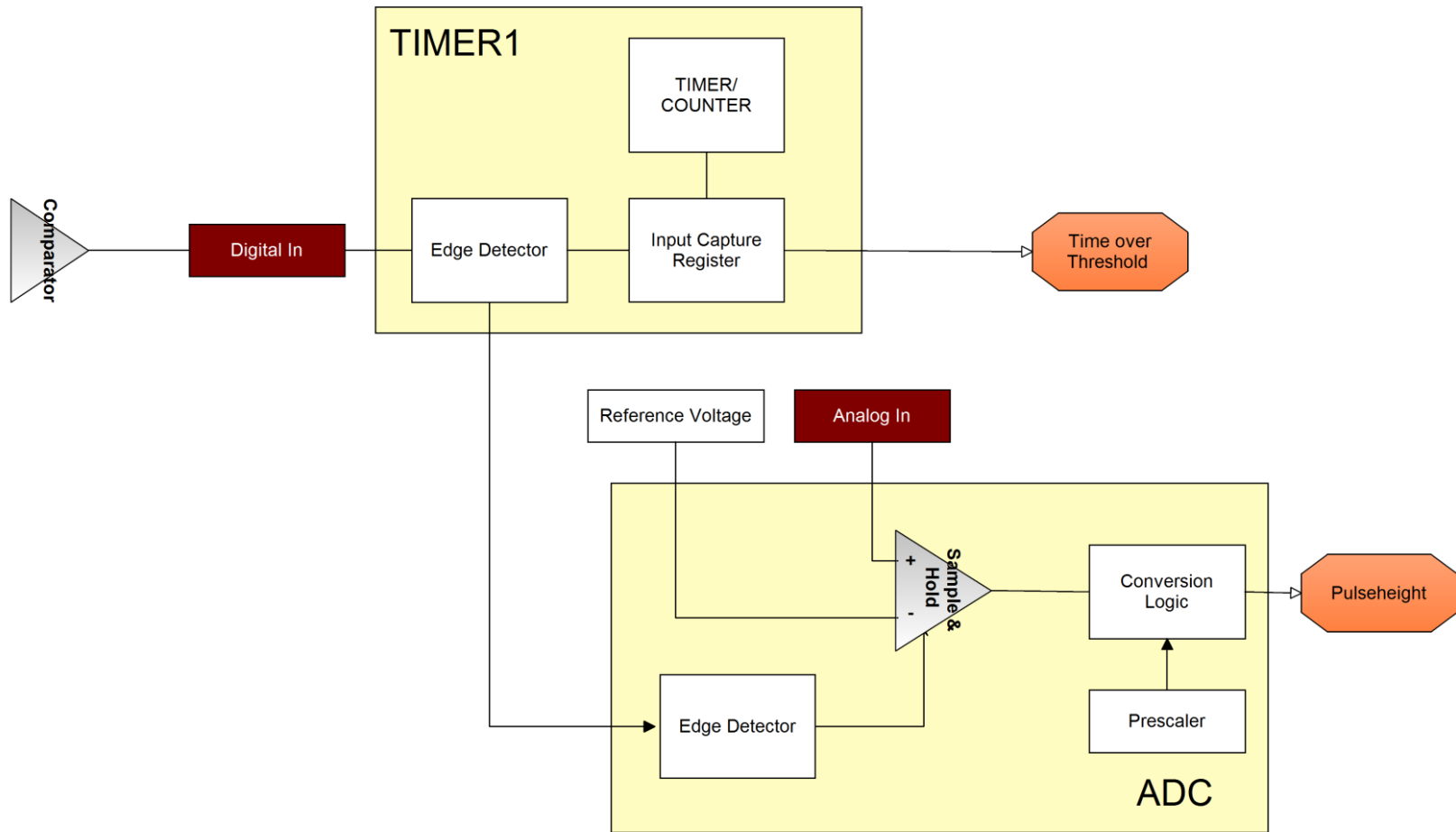
It's a Pulse Height Analyzer:

- Designed to read out proportional chambers
- Featuring:
 - Integrating Preamplifier + Mainamplifier
 - Comparator (Schmitt-Trigger)
 - Arduino nano
 - Pulse length and pulse height measurements via time over threshold and internal 10-bit ADC
 - Schmitt-Trigger threshold configuration via 12-bit DAC

It's a Single Channel Analyzer:

- Comparator triggers nano's Input Capture Unit (ICU) if a pulse $>$ a THL voltage
- The ICU measures the time for which the THL voltage is exceeded (Pulselength)
- The ICU also triggers the ADC which needs between 250 ns and 16mus to sample the Pulseheight

The Single Channel Analyser





Cost Calculation

Main Components:

PCB: ~20 €

PCB Components: ~15 €

Arduino Nano: ~10 €

Arduino MEGA: ~15 €

Arduino Box: ~10 €

Optional:

Coaxial Cable/Jacks: ~30 €

SD Card and RTC Shield: ~ 25 €

DC-DC Converter: ~ 15€

High Voltage Source:

Actually a lab scale HV source is used. For low cost projects we can also try to find a cheap (low current) solution?



Contact

For more detailed information:

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I'm always happy to answer questions concerning the nCatcher Board

or

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