TangerineSDR Data Engine and Overall Architecture

Scotty Cowling, WA2DFI

HamSCI Workshop, University of Scranton

March 20, 2020

What is a TangerineSDR radio?

A TangerineSDR radio:

- Satisfies numerous use-cases, from space science to general amateur use to academic research
- Has wide-range cost-based performance
  - From $300 to $1000+ (typical ~$500)
- Is based upon an open source model (OHL/NCL hardware, GPL software)
- Advances the State of the Radio Art

What is a TangerineSDR radio?

A TangerineSDR radio has the following features:

- Small footprint, reasonably low power consumption
- Extremely modular, configurable and expandable
- Simple web-based User Interface
- Local display
- Built-in networking interface to data cloud

System Architecture

Target Applications (Use Cases)

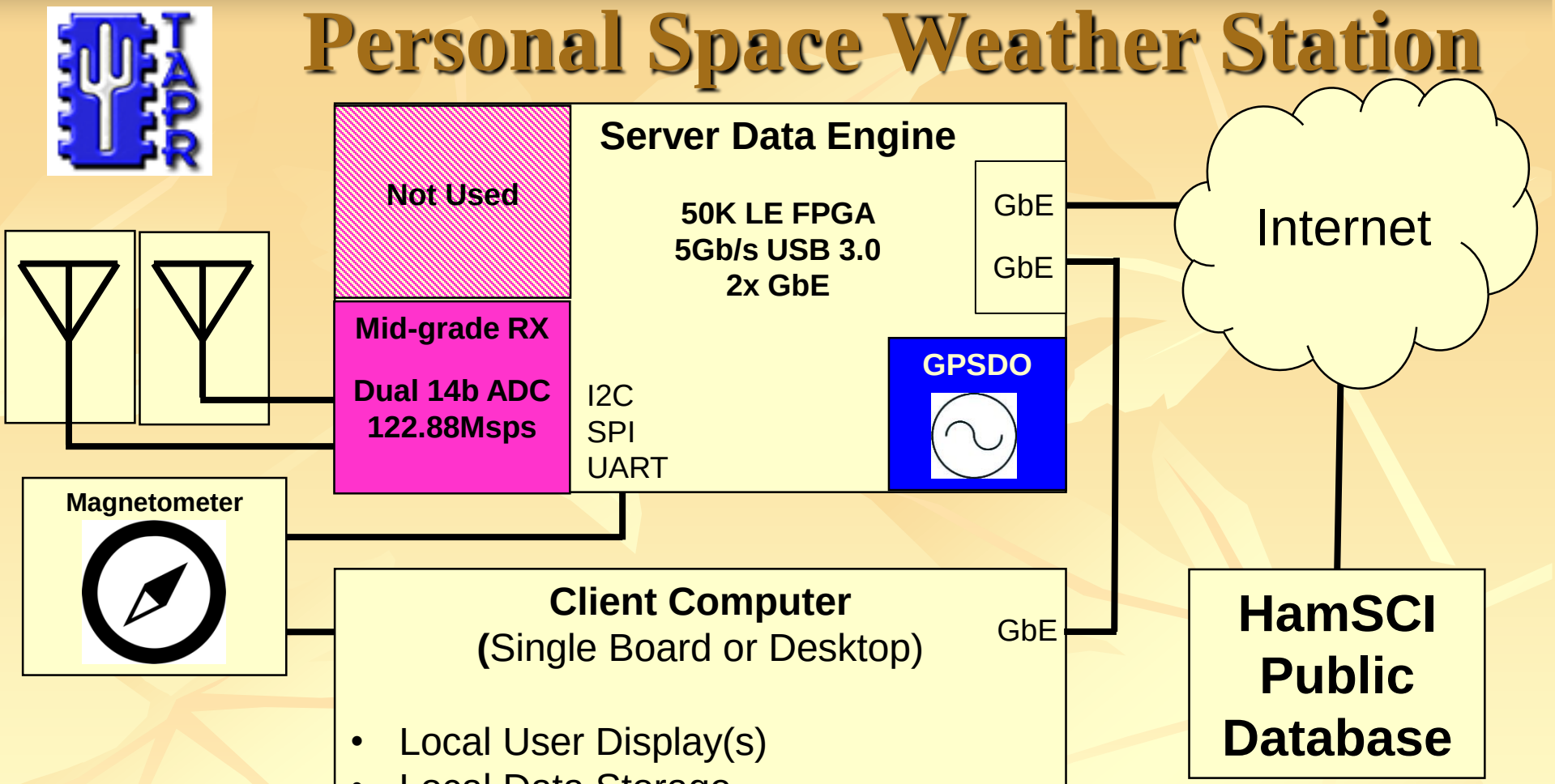
- HamSCI Personal Space Weather Station (PSWS)
- Phase 4 Satellite Ground Station (P4G)
- Academic uses to teach SDR and FPGA techniques
- Amateur Communications SDR
- Experimenters' (Amateur and non-Amateur) SDR
- Remote Ham Radio
- Others?

System Architecture

General Amateur User Benefits

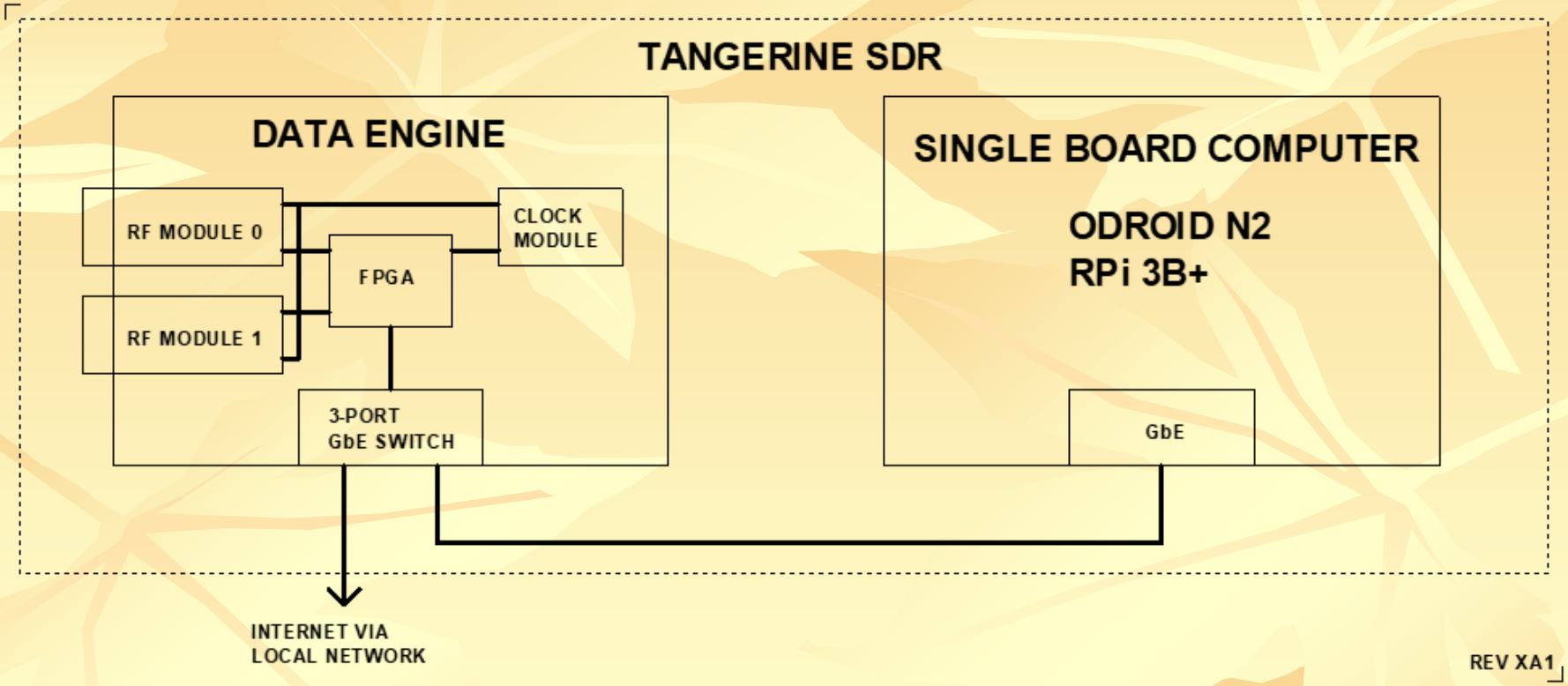
- PSWS should provide some amateur radio features
- Easy to use local Web interface
- Propagation information (WSPRnet, RBN)
- Built-in digital modes (FT8)
- Ability to monitor digital modes concurrently with PSWS data acquisition
- Multiple bands simultaneously
- Special features, such as e-mail notification of heard station(s)

Personal Space Weather Station



So What Are We Going to Build?

System Architecture



TangerineSDR System

Aphorism, Adage, Proverb?

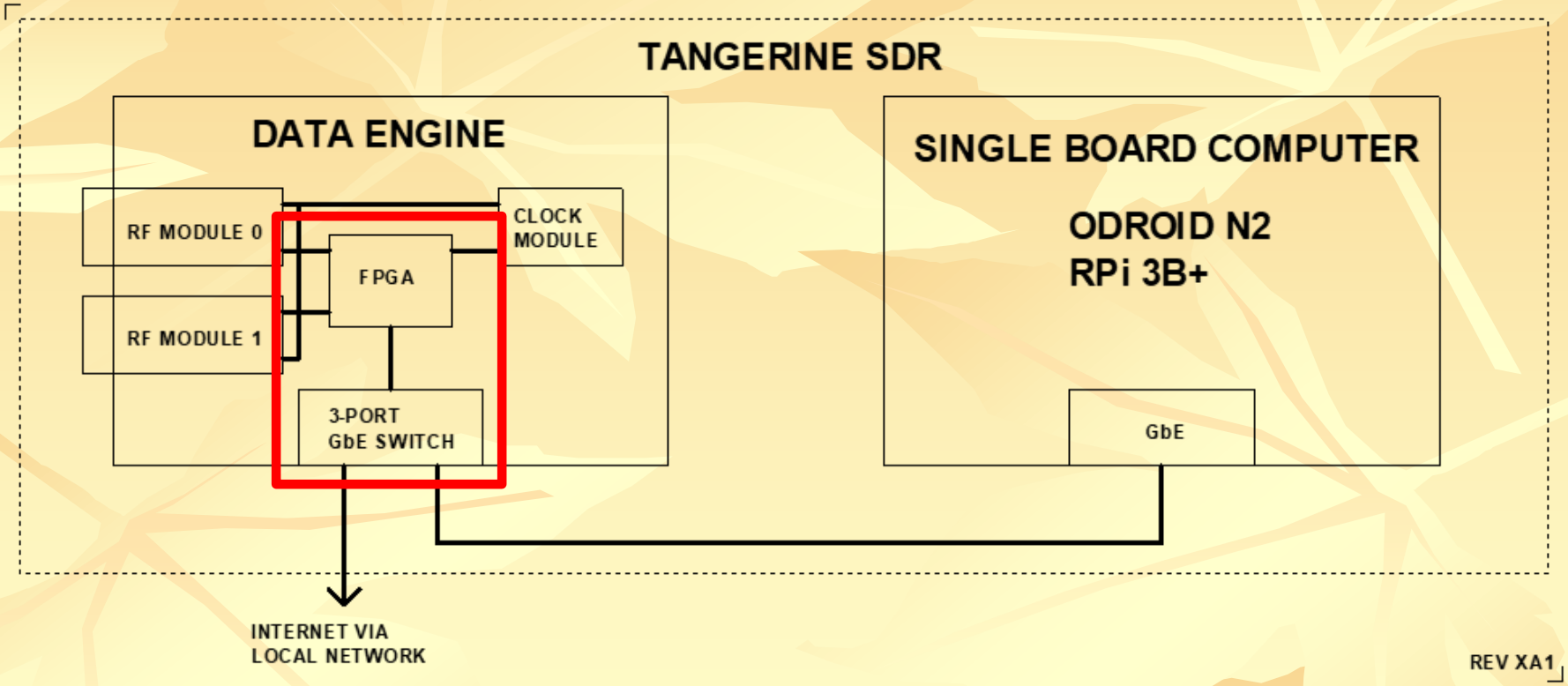
If you can't dazzle them with brilliance, baffle them with bull.

--W.C. Fields

If you can't baffle them with bull, dazzle them with details.

--WA2DFI

Hardware Features



TangerineSDR System

Hardware Features

TangerineSDR DE Features

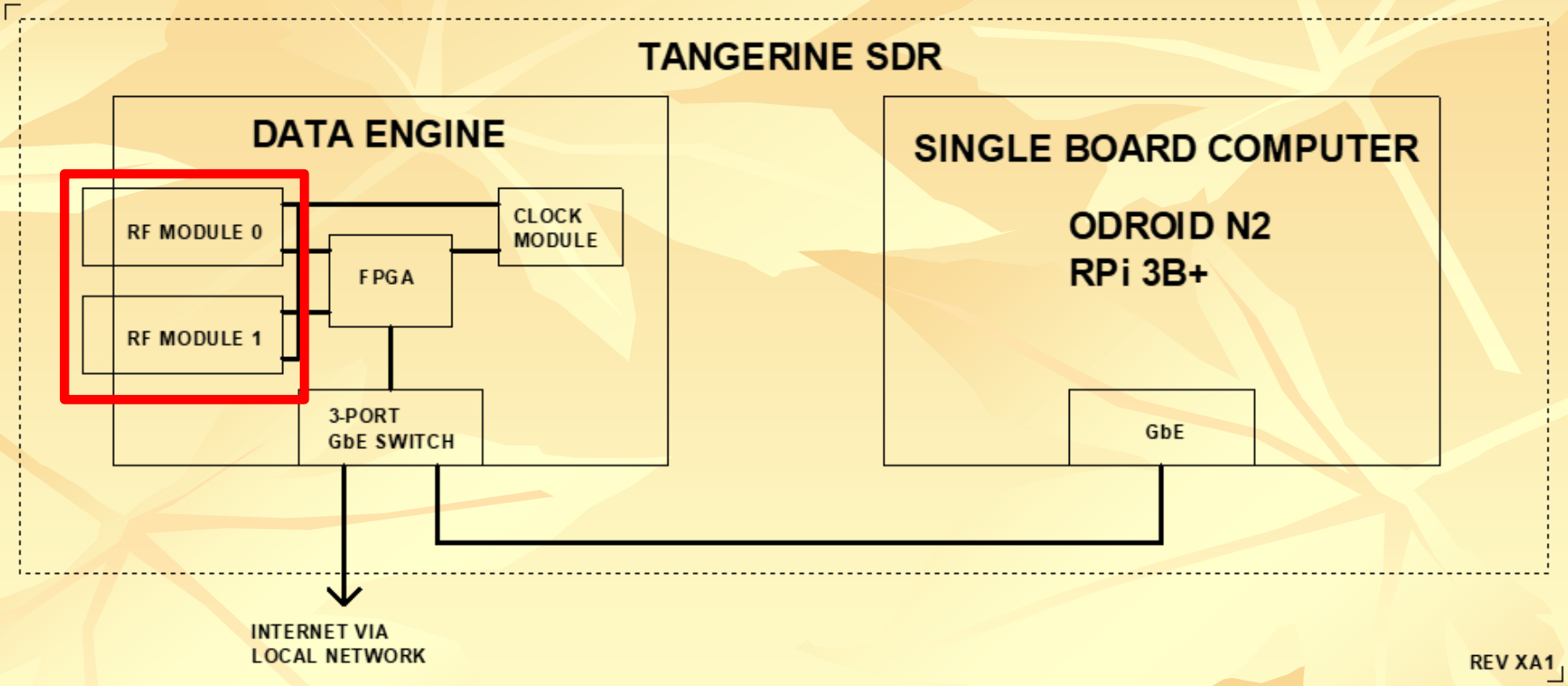
- Altera/Intel 10M50DAF672C6G FPGA **50K LEs**
- 512MByte (256Mx16) DDR3L SDRAM
- 4Mbit (512K x 8) QSPI serial flash memory
- 512Kbit (64K x 8) serial EEPROM
- µSDXC memory card up to 2TByte

Hardware Features

TangerineSDR DE Features

- 11-15V wide input, low noise SMPS
- 3-port GbE Switch (Dual GbE data interfaces)
- Cryptographic processor with key storage
- Temperature sensors (FPGA, ambient)
- Power-on reset monitor, fan header

Hardware Features



TangerineSDR System

Hardware Features

TangerineSDR RF Modules

- Two 140-pin MEC RF Module (RFM) sockets (up to 1.5GB/s)
  - One TX and one RX RFM ***or***
  - Two RX RFMs or
  - One double-wide TRX RFDM

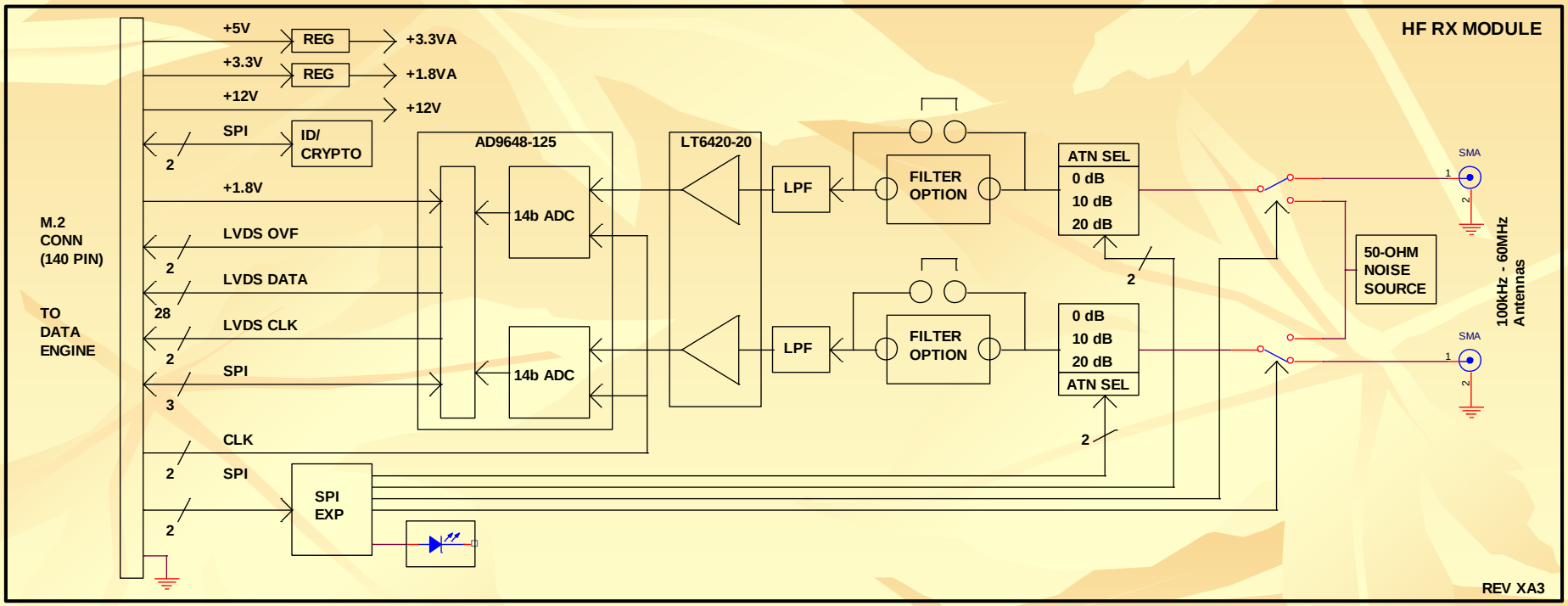
Hardware Features

TangerineSDR PSWS/HF RX Module

- AD9648-125 dual 14-bit 122.88Msps ADC
- 0dB/10dB/20dB/30dB remotely switchable attenuator
- LTC6420-20 20dB LNA
- Fixed 55MHz Low Pass Filter
- Optional user-defined plug-in filter
- On-board, switchable 50-ohm calibration noise source
- On-board low-noise power supplies
- Dual SMA antenna connectors

Hardware Features

TangerineSDR PSWS/HF RX Module



Hardware Features

Future TangerineSDR RF Modules

- P4G RX and P4G TX modules **or** P4G TRX single module
- AD9361 MIMO transceiver module (70MHz – 6GHz)?
- Lime LMS7002M SDR Module (100kHz – 3.8GHz)?
- Lime LMS8001+ SDR Module (100kHz – 12GHz)?

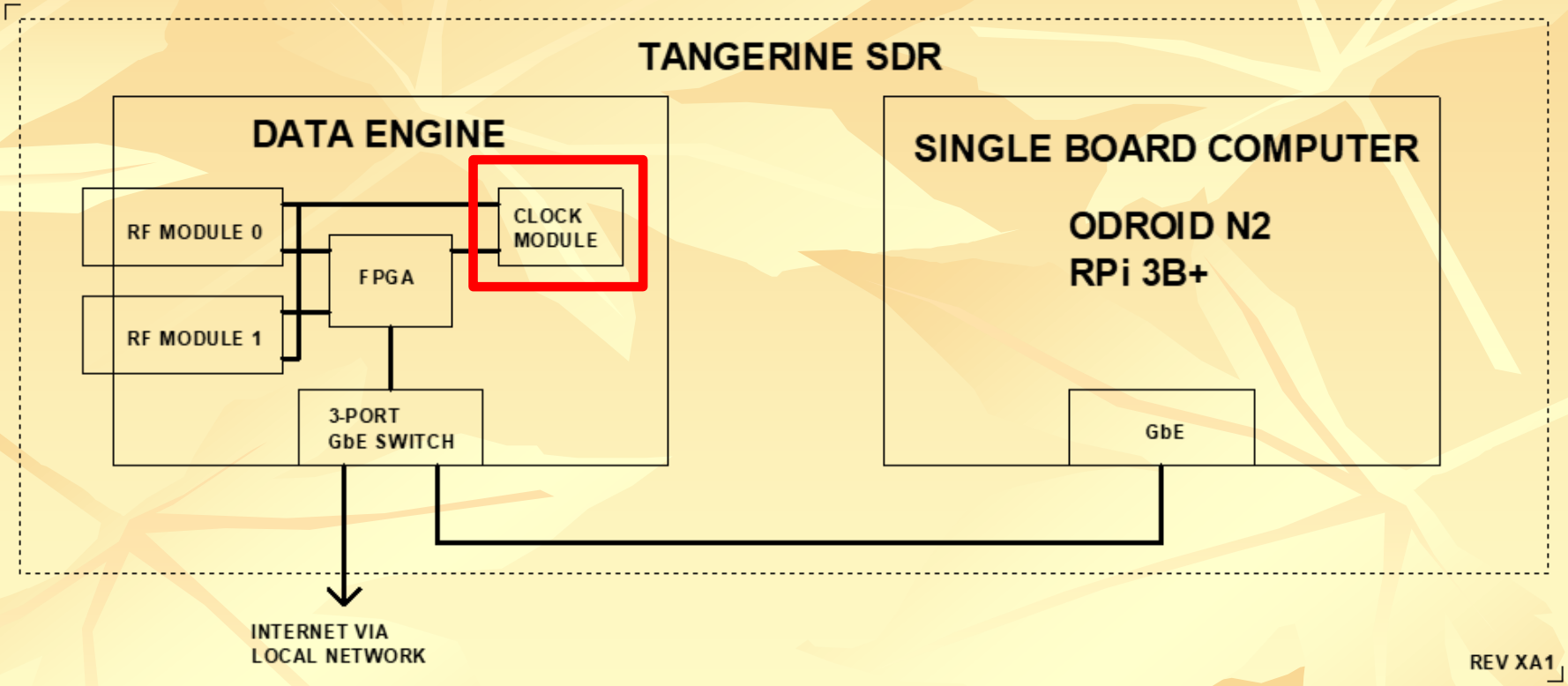
Hardware Features

TangerineSDR RF Modules

Tom McDermott, N5EG will provide more detail on the PSWS RF Module later this morning

Special thanks to Tom for lending us his RF expertise to make this exceptional RF module

Hardware Features



TangerineSDR System

Hardware Features

Yes, we have no Clock Modules

- On-board, lowest cost TCXO (e.g., Rakon RTX5032A)
  - Adequate performance for most applications
  - Lowest cost
  - Eliminates need for Clock Module

Hardware Features

TangerineSDR Clock Modules

- Clock Module Socket (M.2) for Improved Performance
  - High performance VCXO (e.g., Crystek CVHD-950)
  - Extreme performance OCXO
  - Entry-level GPSDO (LEA-M8F?)
  - High-Performance GPSDO (Jackson Labs LTE Lite?)
  - Others, as required?

A work in progress at this time.

TangerineSDR Clock Module

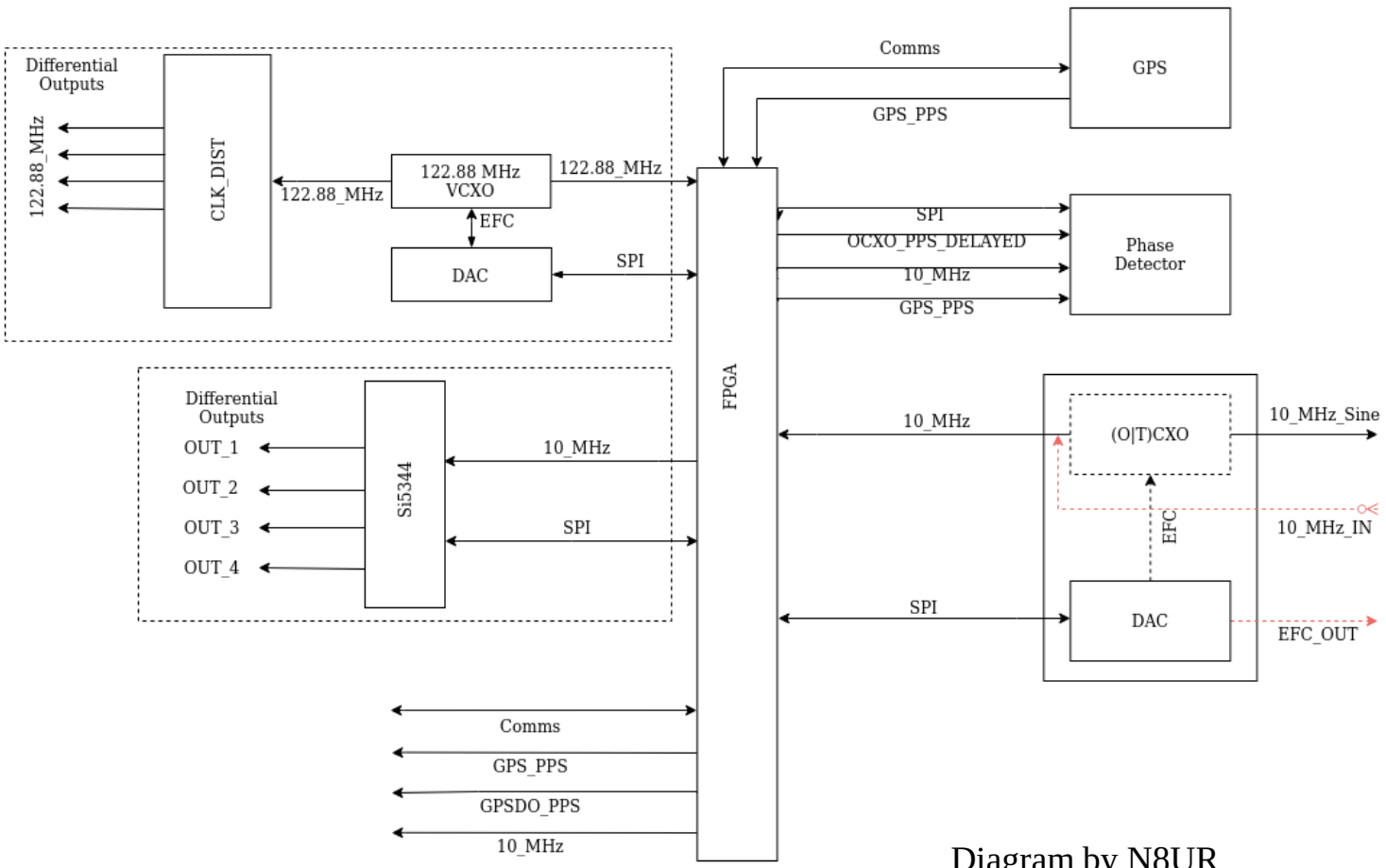


Diagram by N8UR

Hardware Features

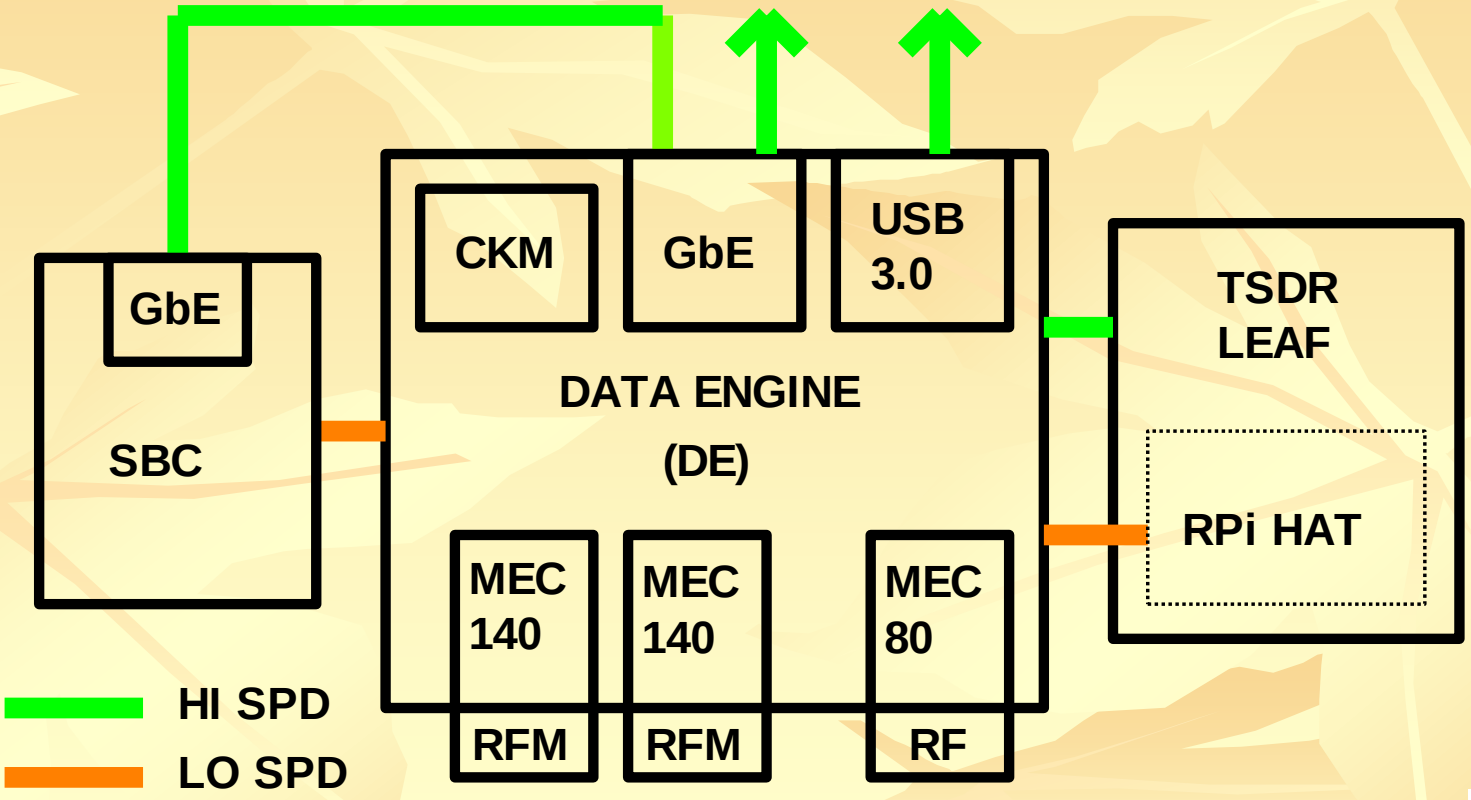
TangerineSDR Clock Modules

John Ackermann, N8UR will provide more detail on the GPSDO Clock Module later this morning

Special thanks to John for taking on the CKM design.

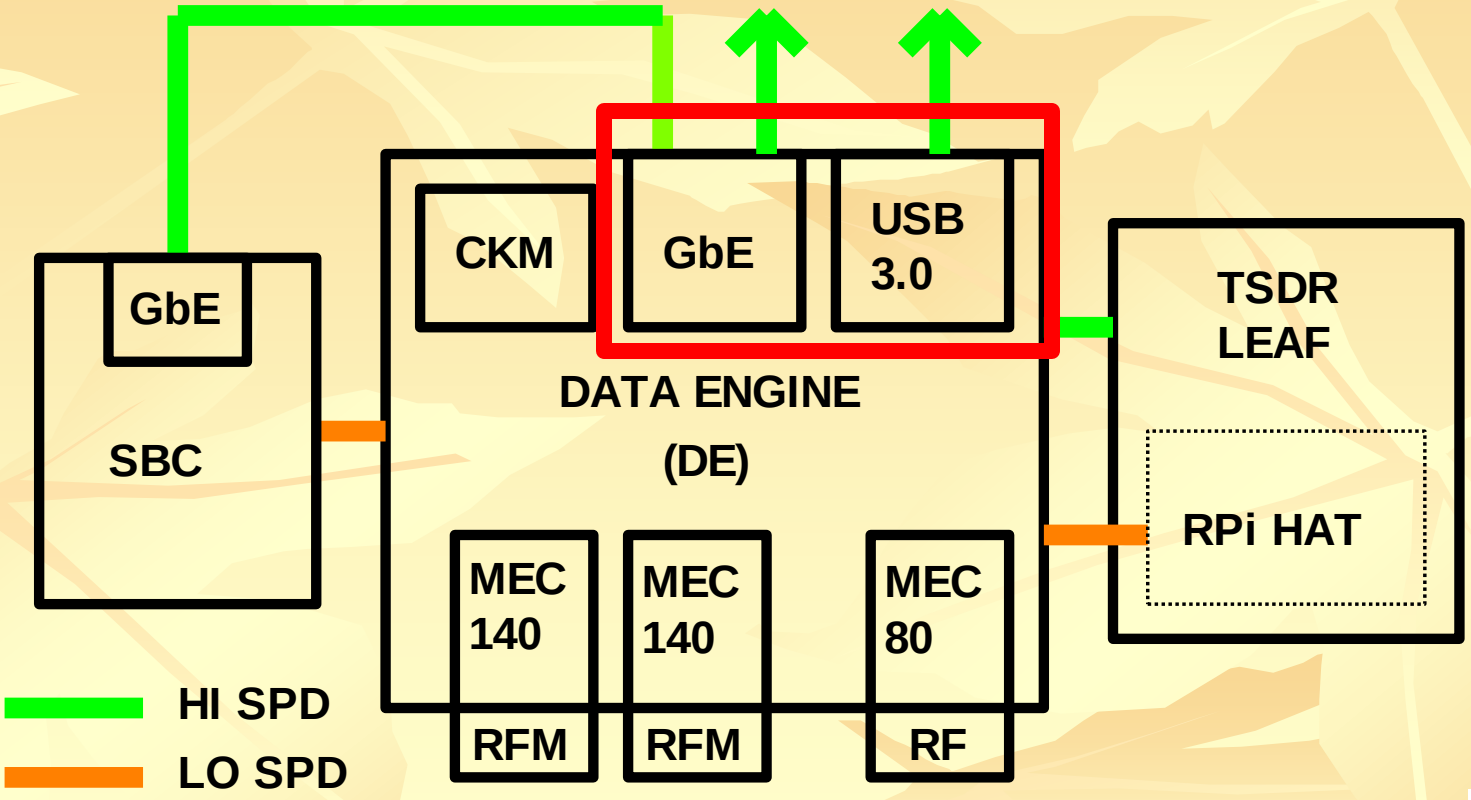
Hardware Features

Proposed Modular Solution



Hardware Features

DE Communications



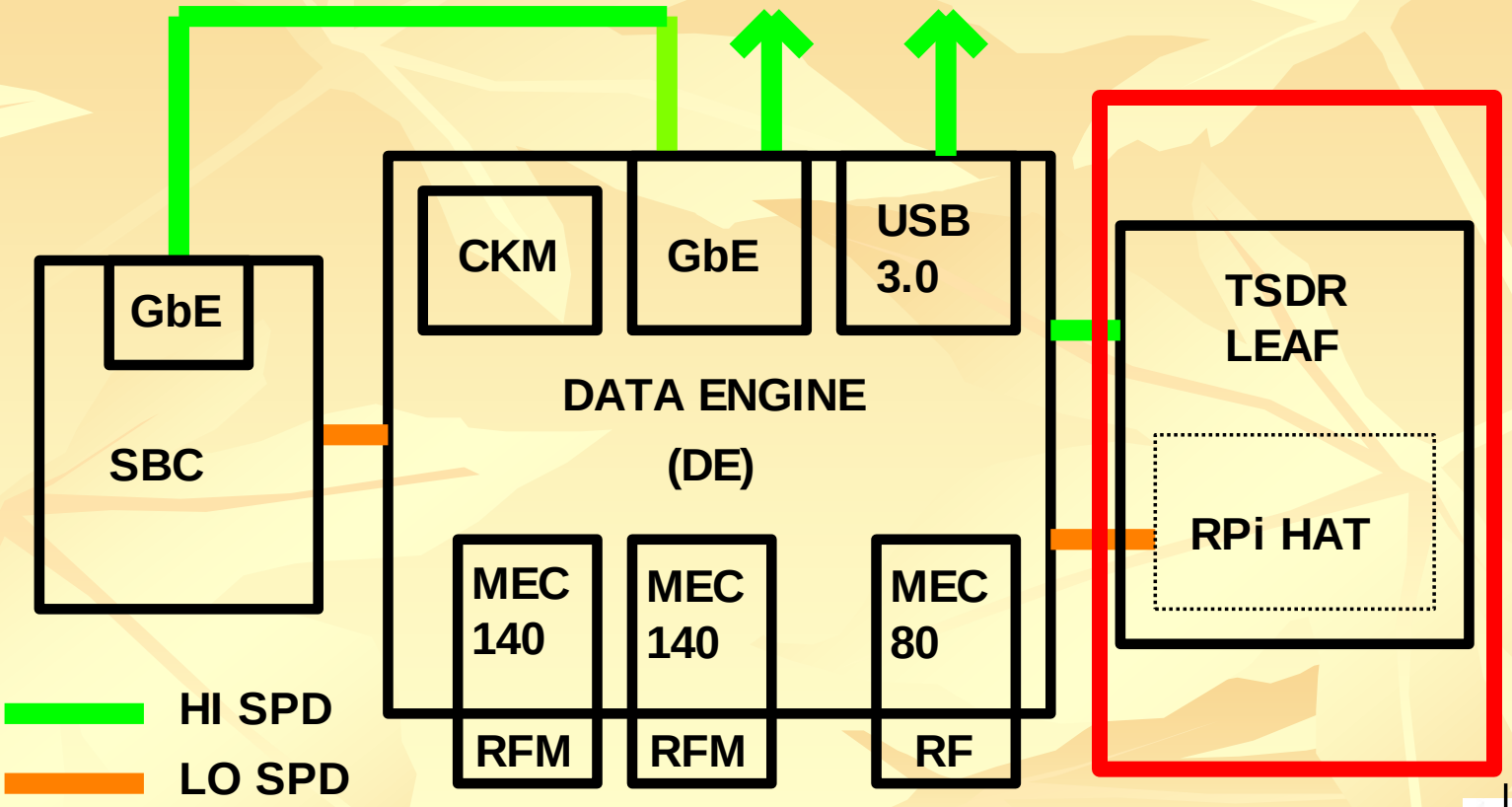
Hardware Features

TangerineSDR DE Communications

- 5Gbps USB 3.0 device interface (up to 500MB/s)
  - High-speed PC interface
- 480Mbps USB 2.0 host interface (up to 50MB/s)
  - for DVB dongle
- Dual GbE RJ45 ports (aggregate 100MB/s)
  - One for SBC, one for external network

Hardware Features

DE I/O Expansion



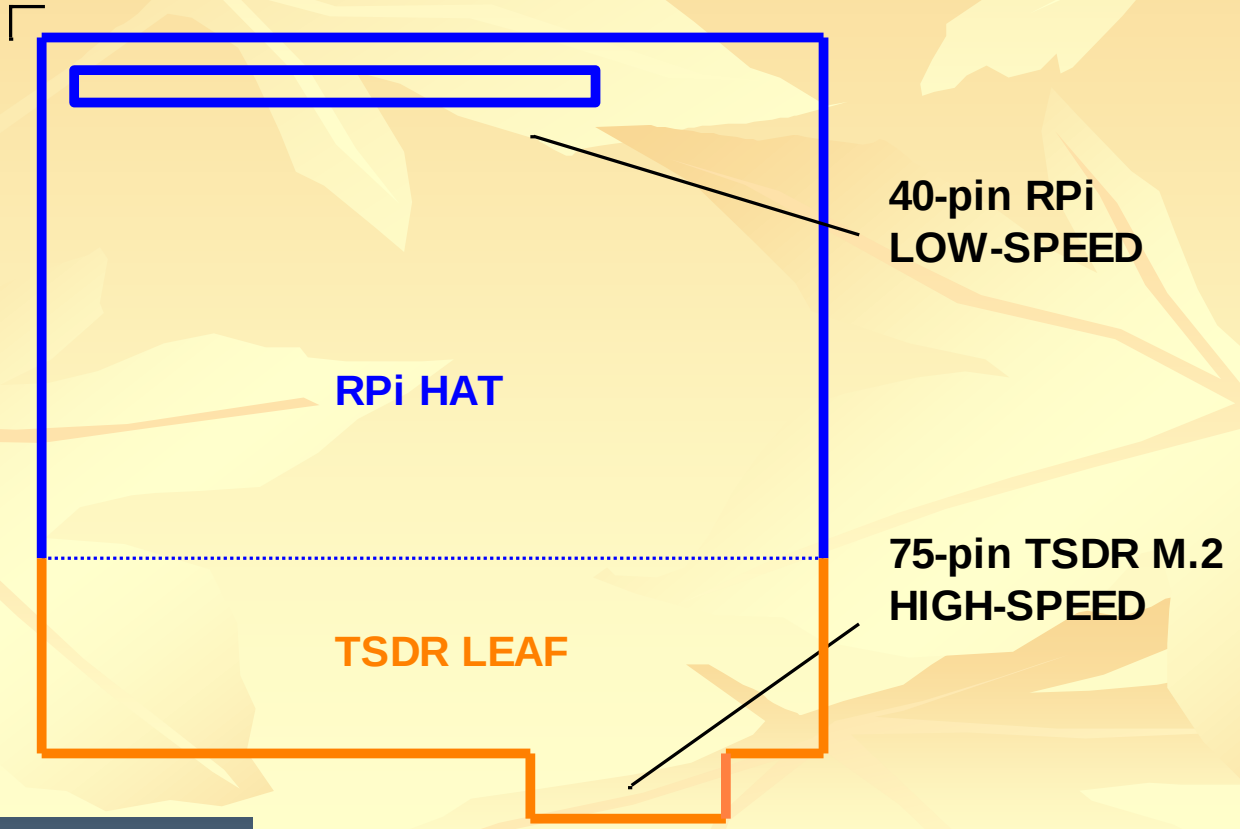
Hardware Features

TangerineSDR DE I/O Expansion

- GPIO for sensor and shield interfaces
- Dual connectors for both low/high speed expansion
  - Standard Raspberry Pi Hat low-speed connector
  - TangerineSDR LEAF high-speed connector
- Connectors for PTT, Keyer Paddle, PA Key

LEAF

Low-speed Expansion Adapter Fixture



Hardware Features

Supported Expansion

- RPi Hat - Low Speed (Direct Support)
- TangerineSDR LEAF - Low/High Speed
- Other Low Speed Using LEAF
  - Arduino Shield
  - Beagle Board Cape
  - Click modules
  - PMOD (I2C/SPI/UART)
  - Ultra96 high-speed expansion port
  - Others

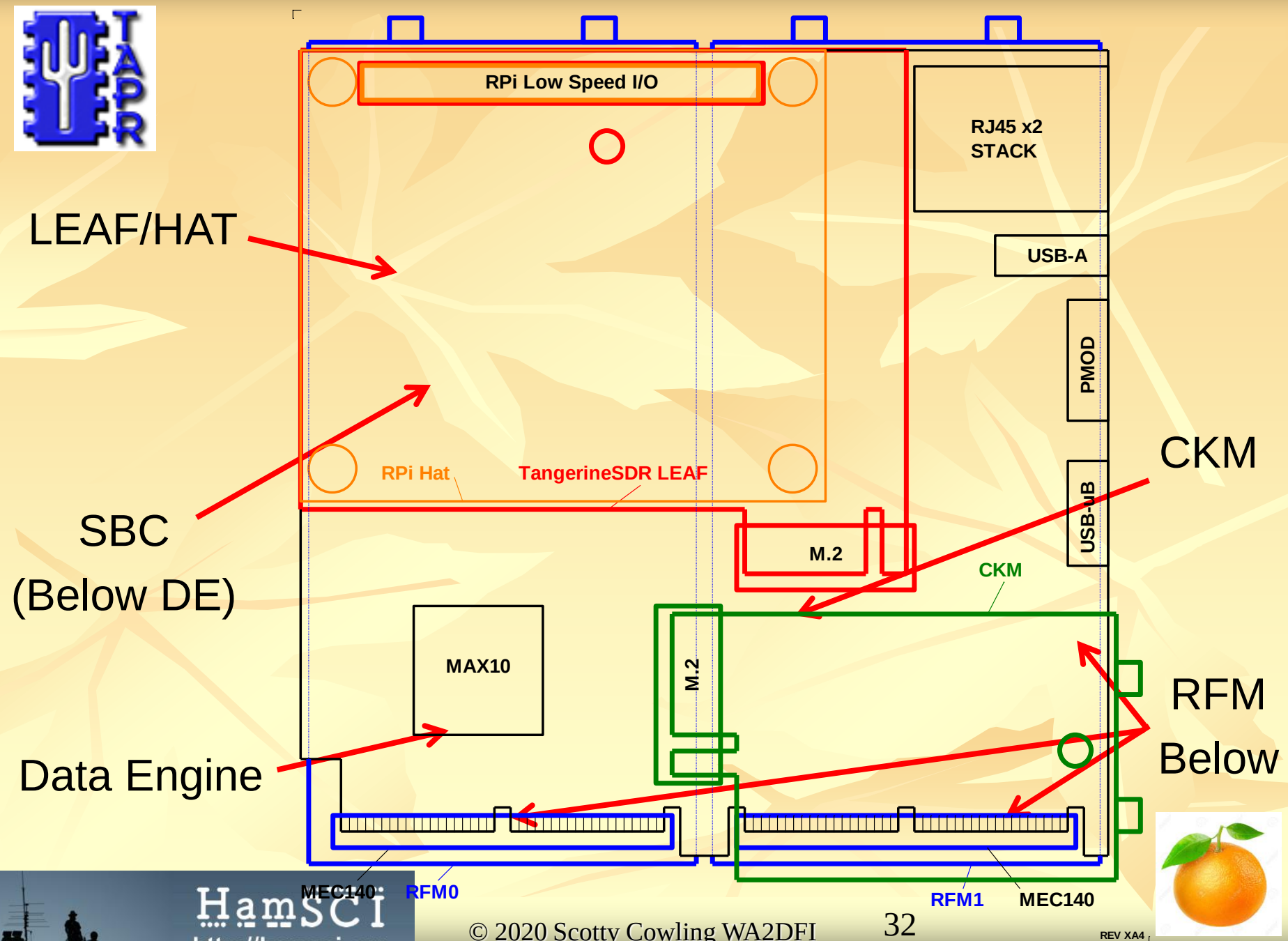
Hardware Features

Future TangerineSDR DE Boards

- Larger, faster FPGAs
- More DRAM storage
- More non-volatile (SATA, SSD, etc) storage
- Higher speed data ports (10GE, 40GE, USB 3.2, etc)

BUT…

The same RFM and CKM ports allow reuse of RF and Clock boards



REV XA4

When can I get one?

RFM

- Prototypes by mid-May
- Production by DCC (mid Sept)

DE

- Prototypes by June
- Production by DCC (mid Sept)

CKM

- Prototypes by DCC (mid Sept)
- Production by mid December

Our Web Page

TangerineSDR.com

E-mail Listserv

Post:

TangerineSDR@lists.tapr.org

Subscribe:

lists.tapr.org/mailman/listinfo/

Teamspeak 3 Chat

Teamspeak.TangerineSDR.com:7388

Monday Evenings, 2100EDT

(0100Z Tuesday)

Thank you!

WA2DFI@ARRL.NET

TangerineSDR.com

Teamspeak.TangerineSDR.com:7388