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Computer Systems / Rekenaarstelsels 245

Lecture 23

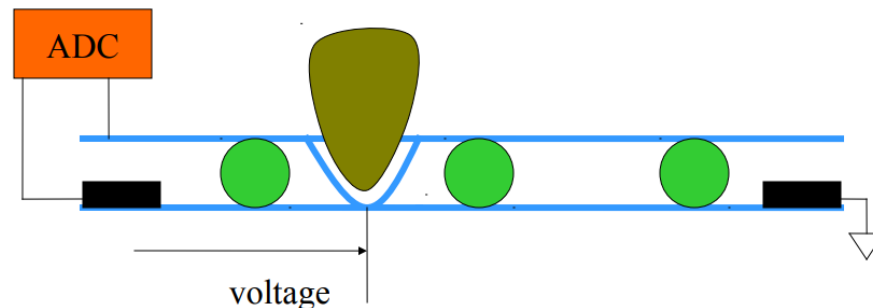
Analog-to-Digital Converter (ADC)/ Analoog-na-Digitaal Omsetter

Dr Rensu Theart & Dr Lourens Visagie

Analog Signals

Analoog seine

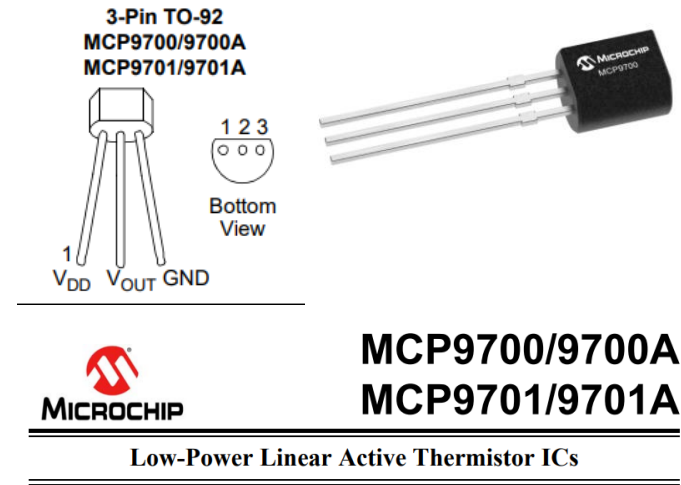
- Quite often the microcontroller has to “read” an analog voltage signal (and not interpret it as ‘0’ or ‘1’)
- Almost all sensing units produce an analog voltage as output
 - Temperature from a thermocouple
 - Magnetic field sensor (electronic compass)
 - MEMS accelerometer
 - MEMS rate sensor
 - Power/current sensor
 - Touchscreen position sensing
- Sensors that produce a digital output (I2C, or SPI) already performs the conversion to digital value inside the device.



Analog Signals

Analoog seine

- **Example:** MCP9700 temperature sensor
- 3 pins: Supply (V_{DD}), GND and V_{OUT}
- V_{OUT} voltage varies proportional to ambient temperature, T_A
- If the temperature is 20°C , V_{OUT} is expected to be 0.7V ($20^\circ\text{C} \times 0.01\text{V}/^\circ\text{C} + 0.5\text{V}$)
- Possible microcontroller applications:
 - Display temperature on LCD screen
 - Turn on a heating element if it gets too cold
 - Turn on a fan if it gets too hot
 - Log temperature measurements to SD card
- If the microcontroller can sense the analog voltage, it can calculate the temperature
- How does the microcontroller sense the analog voltage?



Sensor Output						
Output Voltage, $T_A = 0^\circ\text{C}$	$V_{0^\circ\text{C}}$	—	500	—	mV	MCP9700/9700A
Output Voltage, $T_A = 0^\circ\text{C}$	$V_{0^\circ\text{C}}$	—	400	—	mV	MCP9701/9701A
Temperature Coefficient	T_C	—	10.0	—	mV/ $^\circ\text{C}$	MCP9700/9700A
	T_C	—	19.5	—	mV/ $^\circ\text{C}$	MCP9701/9701A

EQUATION 4-1: SENSOR TRANSFER FUNCTION

$$V_{OUT} = T_C \times T_A + V_{0^\circ\text{C}}$$

Where:

T_A = Ambient Temperature

V_{OUT} = Sensor Output Voltage

$V_{0^\circ\text{C}}$ = Sensor Output Voltage at 0°C
(see [DC Electrical Characteristics](#) table)

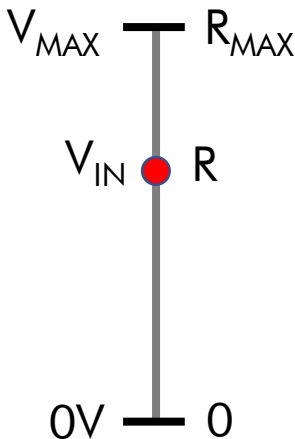
T_C = Temperature Coefficient
(see [DC Electrical Characteristics](#) table)

Analog-to-Digital Converter (ADC)

Analoog-na-Digitaal Omsetter



- Analog-to-Digital Converter (ADC) converts analog voltage on input pin to a number that can be represented by computer (digital value)
- The ADC has a linear relationship between converted number and input voltage



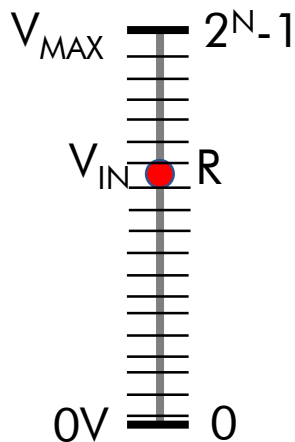
$$R = R_{MAX} \frac{V_{IN}}{V_{MAX}}$$

Analog-to-Digital Converter (ADC)

Analoog-na-Digitaal Omsetter



- The sampled ADC value (R) is an integer number, stored in N bits
- The analog voltage equivalent digital value is truncated to integer value – this is called **quantization**



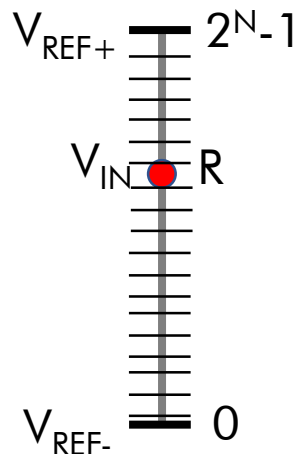
$$R = (2^N - 1) \frac{V_{IN}}{V_{MAX}}$$

Analog-to-Digital Converter (ADC)

Analoog-na-Digitaal Omsetter



- In the general scenario, the ADC uses a lower and upper reference voltage, V_{REF-} and V_{REF+} (and not 0V and V_{MAX})
- Input ADC voltage (signal to convert) has to be between V_{REF-} and V_{REF+}



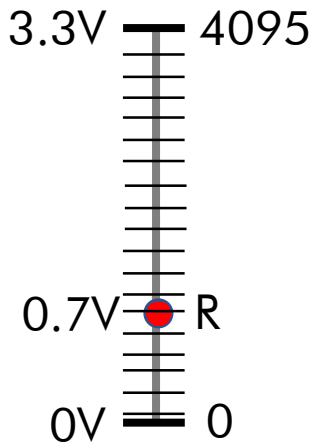
$$R = (2^N - 1) \frac{(V_{IN} - V_{REF-})}{(V_{REF+} - V_{REF-})}$$

ADC conversion examples

ADC omskakeling voorbeelde

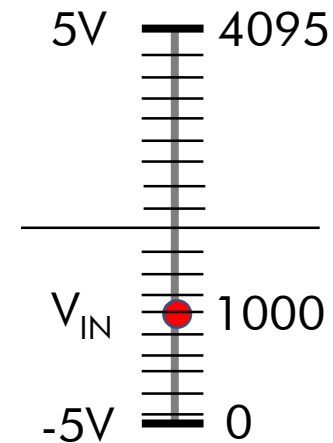
- $V_{IN} = 0.7V$
- $V_{REF-} = 0V$
- $V_{REF+} = 3.3V$
- 12-bit ADC ($N = 12$):

$$R = 4095 * 0.7 / 3.3$$
$$= 868$$



- ADC output is 1000
- $V_{REF-} = -5V$
- $V_{REF+} = 5V$
- 12-bit ADC ($N = 12$)
- What is the input voltage?

$$V_{IN} = \frac{1000 * (5V - (-5V))}{4095}$$
$$= -2.56V$$



ADC Errors

ADC Foute

- The number of bits used to represent the digital sampled value is called the ADC resolution (i.e. 12-bit resolution)
- Due to the **quantization error**, the smallest change in the ADC output (one LSB) corresponds to $(V_{REF+} - V_{REF-})/(2^N - 1)$. The ADC cannot discern between finer input voltages
- Example: 12-bit ADC, Voltage range 0V to 5V, precision is 1.22mV/LSB. The ADC cannot measure "finer" than this.
- Another source of ADC error is **non-linearity**
- Ideal ADC is perfectly linear, but in practice response might deviate slightly
- Non-linearity (linearity error) is usually also specified in LSB units

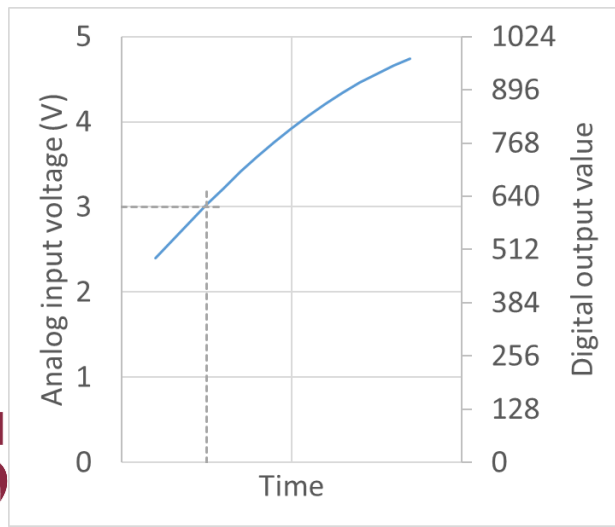


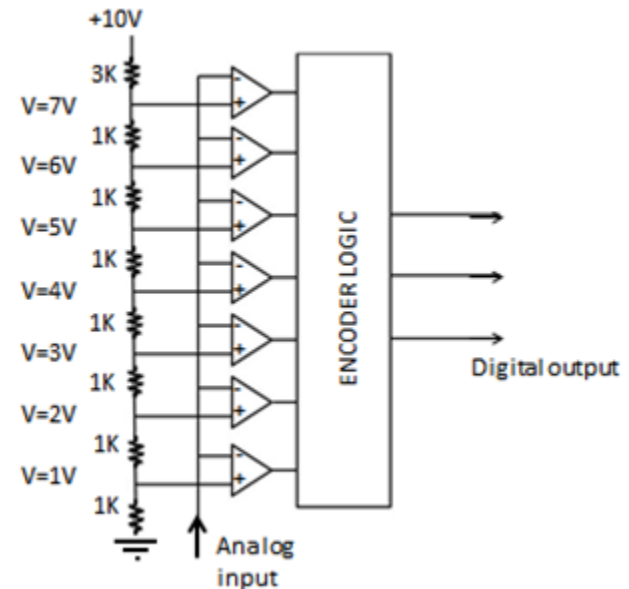
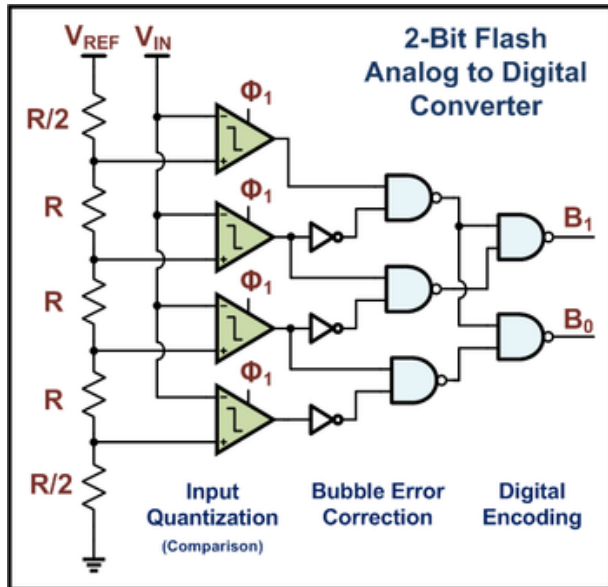
Table 66. ADC accuracy at $f_{ADC} = 18 \text{ MHz}^{(1)}$

Symbol	Parameter	Test conditions	Typ	Max ⁽²⁾	Unit
ET	Total unadjusted error	$f_{ADC} = 18 \text{ MHz}$ $V_{DDA} = 1.7 \text{ to } 3.6 \text{ V}$ $V_{REF} = 1.7 \text{ to } 3.6 \text{ V}$ $V_{DDA} - V_{REF} < 1.2 \text{ V}$	± 3	± 4	LSB
EO	Offset error		± 2	± 3	
EG	Gain error		± 1	± 3	
ED	Differential linearity error		± 1	± 2	
EL	Integral linearity error		± 2	± 3	

Types of ADC

Types A-na-D omsetters

Direct-conversion ADC or Flash ADC



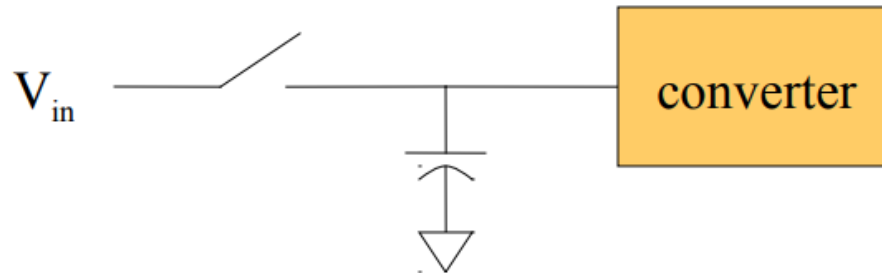
- Array of comparators (one for each digital output level) compares analog input signal to a reference voltage (through resistor divider network)
- Comparator array feeds encoder logic, which converts voltage range to binary "code" (the binary equivalent of the digitally sample value)
- Requires 2^n comparators for a n -bit binary output number
- Pros: Fast conversions. Conversion time = propagation delay through encoder logic.
- Cons: "Large" devices, with lots of logic elements. Also uses lots of power

Types of ADC

Types A-na-D omsetters

Integrating conversion (or dual-slope conversion)

- Use analog input voltage to charge a capacitor (run-up period)
 - Switch closes and capacitor charges up
- Allow capacitor to discharge through resistor (run-down period)
 - Switch opens, and capacitor discharges
- Count number of clock cycles until voltage reaches zero → this is the output of the ADC
- For fixed ADC clock, smaller load resistor results in slower discharge, but higher ADC resolution. Larger load resistor, quicker sample time, but lower resolution



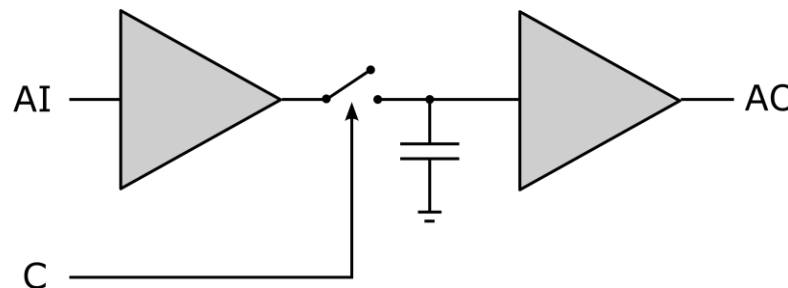
- Pros: Requires few components, with low power requirements. Small non-linearity error
- Cons: Takes longer to sample

Types of ADC

Types A-na-D omsetters

Sample-and-hold

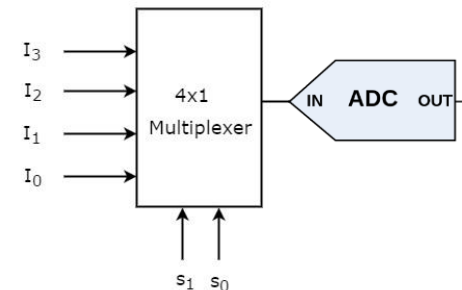
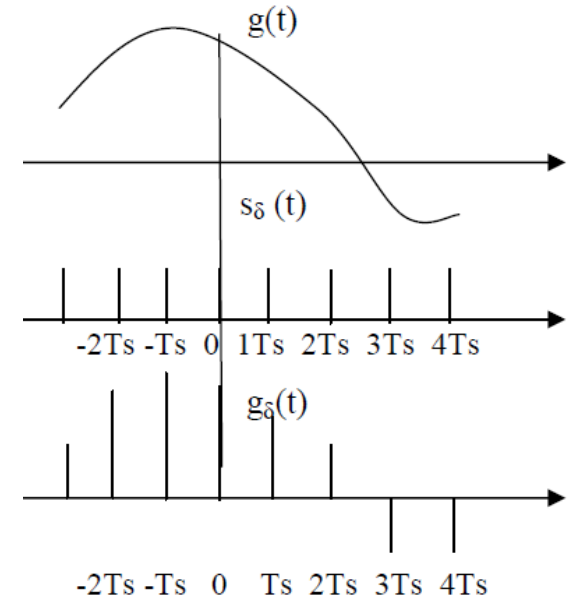
- Since ADC conversion takes time, it is important that the analog signal remains constant for the duration of the conversion
- This is accomplished using a “sample-and-hold” circuit
- Typical implementation uses a switch (FET), capacitor and unity-gain op-amp (buffer)
- **Sample**: Switch closes to charge capacitor to input voltage (AI)
- **Hold**: Switch opens, and output buffer ensures AO is the same as voltage across the capacitor



One-shot vs. Continuous ADC sampling

Enkel en Kontinue ADC monsterneming

- Sometimes only single conversions needed (get current temperature)
- Continuous conversion (audio, signal processing etc.)
 - Discrete time sampling of a continuous signal
 - At fixed sampling rate
 - (Nyquist and all that)
 - Timer module provides clock input for continuous conversion
 - Typically used with DMA, to store sampled data in memory array
- One ADC can usually sample multiple analog channels, by making use of a multiplexer
- Only one channel is sampled at a time, but multiplexer can switch between channels



ADC Specification

ADC Spesifikasies

- Typical specifications (on a datasheet):
 - The resolution or number of bits
 - Maximum conversion rate (Data rate, in samples per second or SPS)
 - Non-linearity (LSB units)



www.ti.com

ADS1113, ADS1114, ADS1115

SBAS444D – MAY 2009 – REVISED JANUARY 2018

SYSTEM PERFORMANCE			
	Resolution (no missing codes)	16	Bits
DR	Data rate	8, 16, 32, 64, 128, 250, 475, 860	SPS
	Data rate variation	All data rates	-10% 10%
	Output noise	See Noise Performance section	
INL	Integral nonlinearity	DR = 8 SPS, FSR = $\pm 2.048 \text{ V}^{(2)}$	1 LSB

- High-speed ADCs: sampling rates in excess of 10 million samples/s
- High-precision ADCs: > 16-bit resolution



STM32F411 ADC

- The STM32F411VE ADC:
 - A single 12-bit ADC, with 19 multiplexed channels
 - Successive approximation implementation
 - Select between 12, 10, 8 or 6-bit resolution
 - Multiplexer channels: 16 external sources, internal temperature sensor and Vbat channel
 - Single or continuous operating mode
 - Ability to automatically “scan” a sequence of channels
 - Selection of trigger sources (timer events, external sources)
 - Can generate DMA requests after conversion completes



STM32F411 ADC

- Pins

Table 39. ADC pins

Name	Signal type	Remarks
V_{REF+}	Input, analog reference positive	The higher/positive reference voltage for the ADC, $1.8\text{ V} \leq V_{REF+} \leq V_{DDA}$
V_{DDA}	Input, analog supply	Analog power supply equal to V_{DD} and $2.4\text{ V} \leq V_{DDA} \leq V_{DD}$ (3.6 V) for full speed $1.8\text{ V} \leq V_{DDA} \leq V_{DD}$ (3.6 V) for reduced speed
V_{REF-}	Input, analog reference negative	The lower/negative reference voltage for the ADC, $V_{REF-} = V_{SSA}$
V_{SSA}	Input, analog supply ground	Ground for analog power supply equal to V_{SS}
ADCx_IN[15:0]	Analog input signals	16 analog input channels

ADC channel	MCU pin	ADC channel	MCU pin
0	PA0	8	PB0
1	PA1	9	PB1
2	PA2	10	PC0
3	PA3	11	PC1
4	PA4	12	PC2
5	PA5	13	PC3
6	PA6	14	PC4
7	PA7	15	PC5



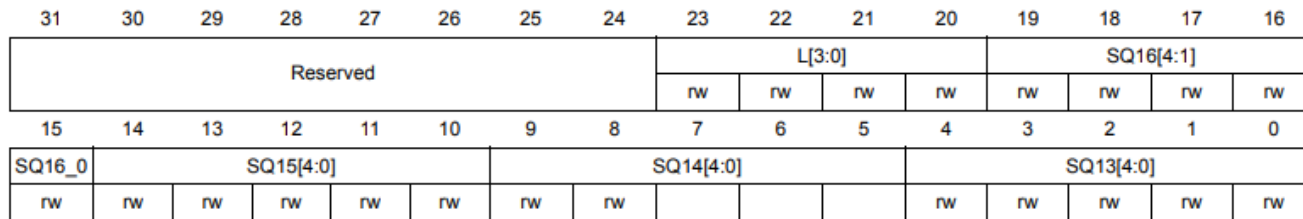
STM32F411 ADC

- Clock: ADC1 clock comes from APB2 clock. Can be divided by 2, 4, 6 or 8 – setting in the ADC registers
- Sample time is determined by ADC clock frequency. Selection bits in ADC registers determine variable number of clock cycles for conversion (+ fixed number of cycles, depending on selected resolution)
- Minimum sample times:
 - 12 bits: $3 + 12 = 15$ ADCCLK cycles
 - 10 bits: $3 + 10 = 13$ ADCCLK cycles
 - 8 bits: $3 + 8 = 11$ ADCCLK cycles
 - 6 bits: $3 + 6 = 9$ ADCCLK cycles



STM32F411 ADC

- Channel selection
- The STM32F4 ADC does not have a single channel selection, but a sequence of up to 16 channel selections



Bits 31:24 Reserved, must be kept at reset value.

Bits 23:20 **L[3:0]**: Regular channel sequence length

These bits are written by software to define the total number of conversions in the regular channel conversion sequence.

0000: 1 conversion

0001: 2 conversions

...

1111: 16 conversions

Bits 19:15 **SQ16[4:0]**: 16th conversion in regular sequence

These bits are written by software with the channel number (0..18) assigned as the 16th in the conversion sequence.

- If SCAN setting (ADC control register) is 0, only the first selection in the sequence registers are used – single conversion. If SCAN = 1, the entire sequence is used.
- Only one data register (DR). So if you use scan mode, you will probably also use DMA to make sure sampled data is not overwritten



STM32F411 ADC

- Single/Continuous conversion
- If CONT setting in control register is set to 1, another conversion is launched immediately after the previous one finished
- (If SCAN=1, another sequence of conversions are started automatically)
- Continuous mode will convert all the time, with no delay – as fast as ADC can sample
- Useful if you don't want your program to wait for a result – just read the last value that was converted from the data register.
- (It is also possible to perform an “injected” conversion – while continuously converting, interrupt the normal sequence and have another group of channels that are sampled once.)
- When not using continuous mode, conversion can be started by software (writing bit in ADC control register), or triggered by timer event (Timer update/overflow event (TRGO), or channel compare event (CHx)
- Using timer is useful if you want to sample the signal at specific data rate. Also likely you will use DMA for this.



STM32F411 ADC

- Modes and scenarios

	Single channel infrequent	Multiple channels infrequent	Single channel continuous	Multiple channels continuous	Single/multiple channels timed
Example scenario	Read temperature sensor once a second	Read two temperature sensors once a second	Want the most recent conversion available immediately – no waiting	Can't think of an example ☹	Need to sample (a) signal(s) at X Hz
Use continuous mode	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
Use scan mode	No	No	No	Yes	Yes/No
Use DMA	No	No	Possibly?	Possibly?	Yes
Triggered by timer event	No	No	No	No	Yes