

# DAC

## (chapter 13)

MBSD, 6<sup>th</sup> Semester

DCSE, UET Peshawar

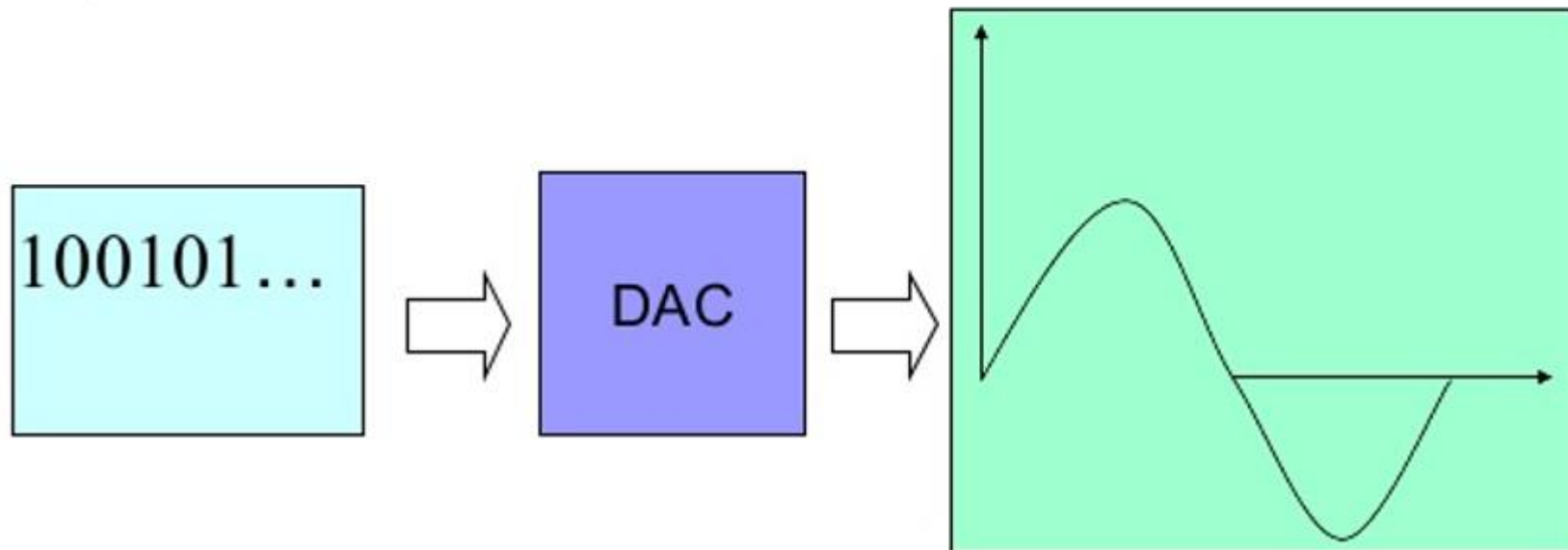
Bilal Habib

Some photos taken from Khulna University

# DAC: Digital to Analog Convertor

## What is a DAC?

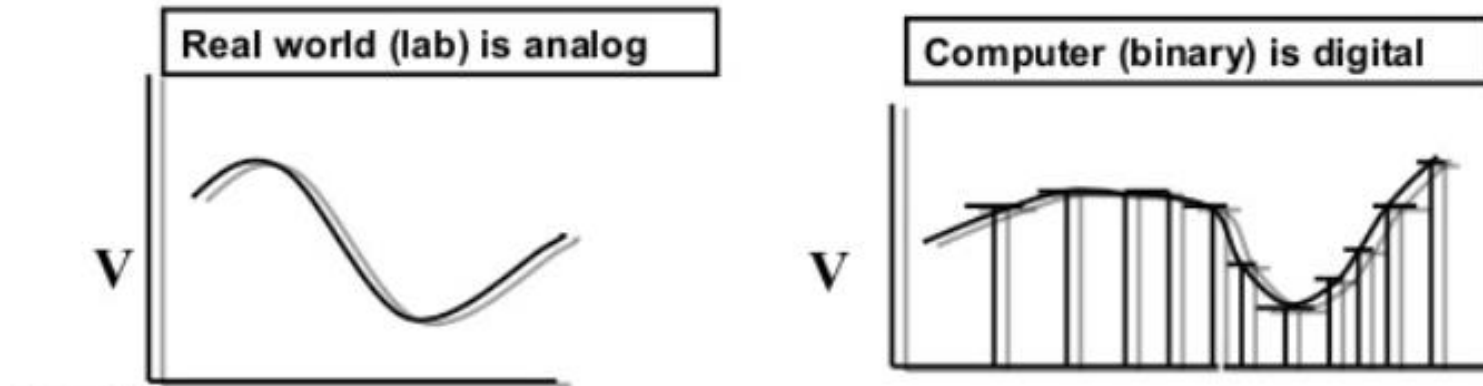
A digital-to-analog converter (DAC) takes a digital code as its input and produces an analog voltage or current as its output. This analog output is proportional to the digital input.



# Terminology

- **Analog:** continuously valued signal, such as temperature or speed, with infinite possible values in between.
- **Digital:** discretely valued signal, such as integers, encoded in binary.

digital-to-analog converter: DAC, D/A, D2A



# DAC

## ❑ General Concept:

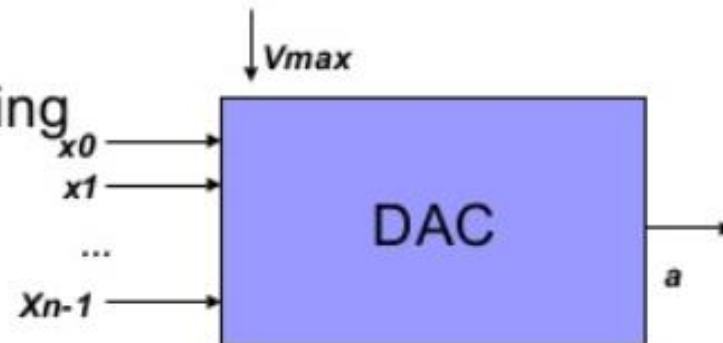
➤ Digital to Analog conversion involves transforming the computer's binary output in 0's and 1's (1's typically = 5.0 volts) into an analog representation of the binary data

## ❑ DAC:

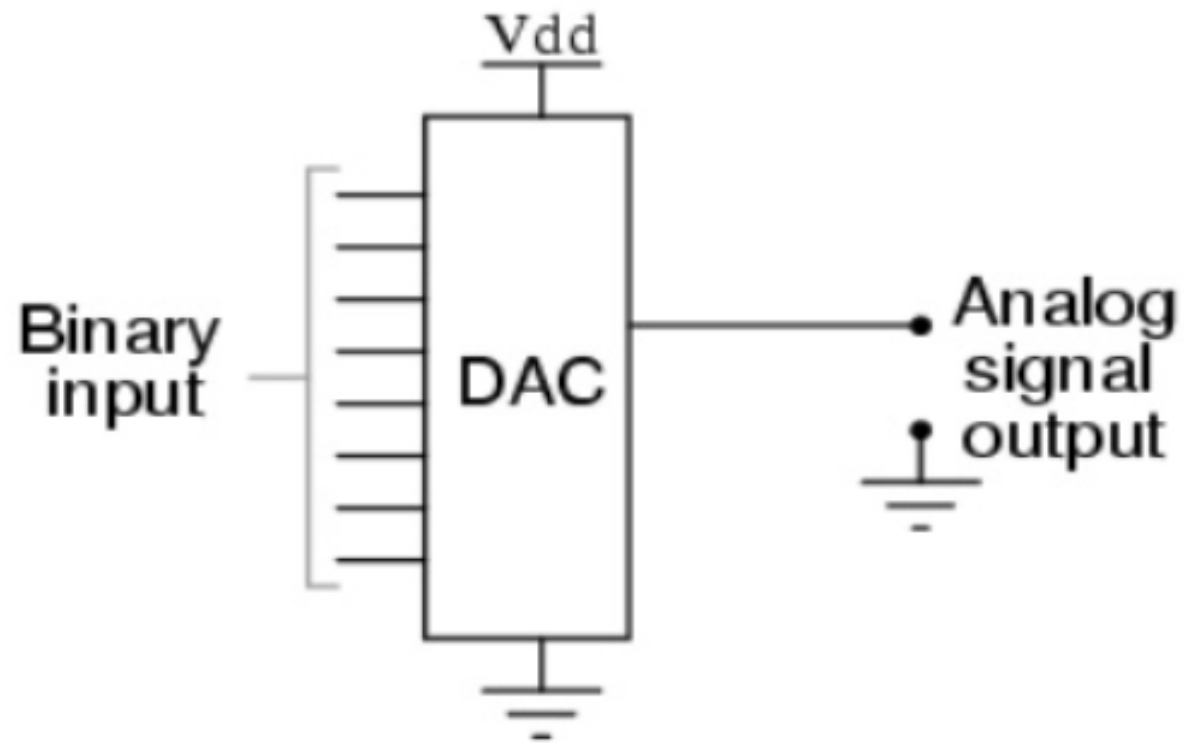
➤  $n$  digital inputs for digital encoding

➤ analog input for  $V_{max}$

➤ analog output  $a$



# Block Diagram



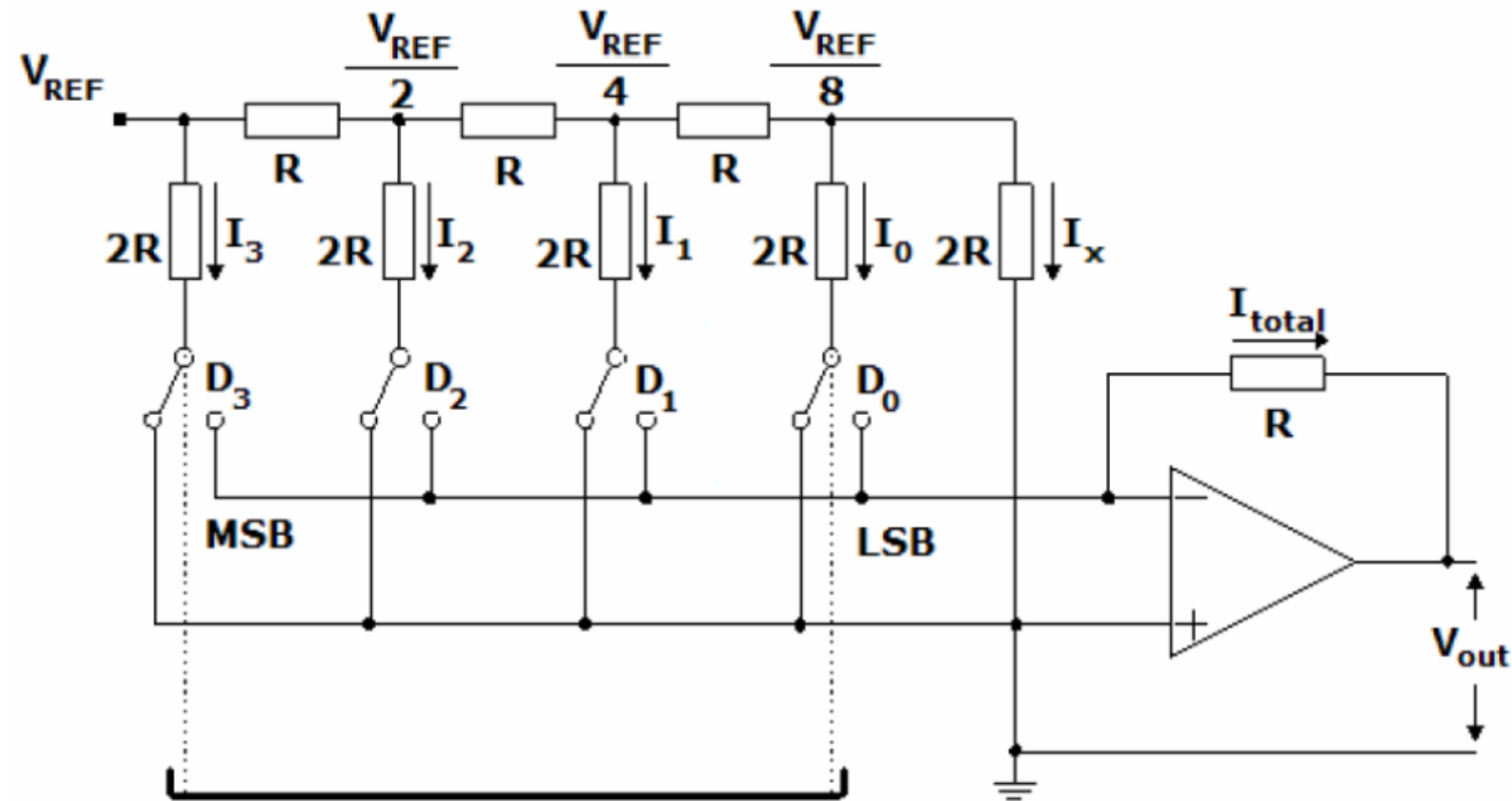
# DAC Resolution

Resolution is the amount of variance in output voltage for every change of the LSB in the digital input.

- Just as with ADCs, there are several common ways of specifying a DAC's resolution:
- Number of bits,  $n$
- Number of output codes =  $2^n$ , or number of steps in the output =  $2^n - 1$

# R/2R 4-bit DAC Architecture (1/2)

- Uses a repeating cascaded structure of resistor values  $R$  and  $2R$  to create a binary weighted DAC.
- The R/2R ladder divides down a positive reference voltage by switching individual resistors between a positive reference voltage,  $V_{REF}$ , and the analogue ground, generating a current.
- The equivalent resistance between  $V_{REF}$  and ground is  $R$ .
- An operational amplifier converts this current to Voltage ( $V_{out}$ )

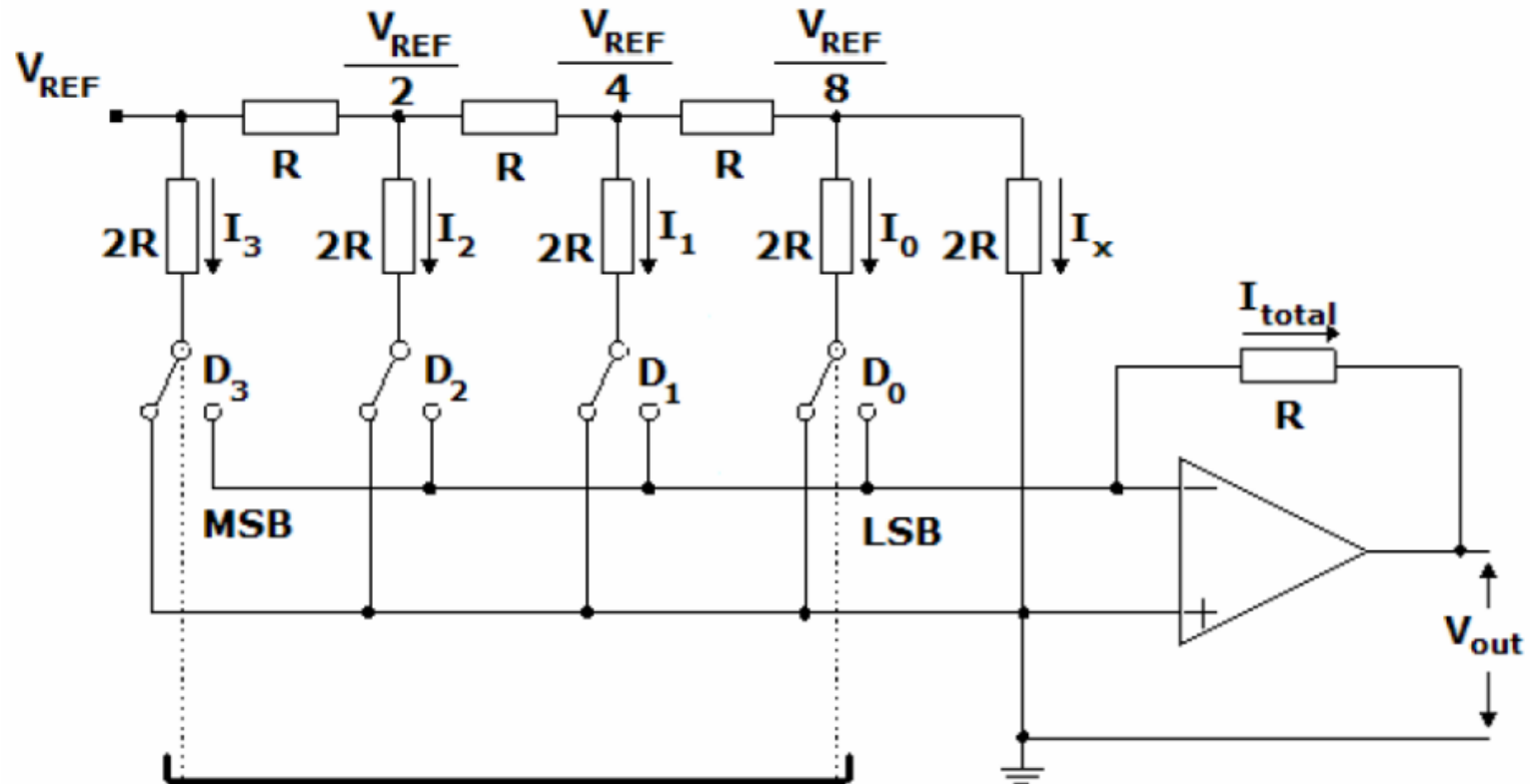


Data bit "Low" -> Switch current to ground

Data bit "high" -> Switch current to negative input of OpAmp

# R/2R 4-bit DAC Architecture (2/2)

- $V_{out} = \frac{V_{ref}}{2^4} * \text{Value}$
- Example:
  - if Value = 15 &  $V_{ref} = 2.5$  Volts.
  - $V_{out} = ?$
- Step size = ?

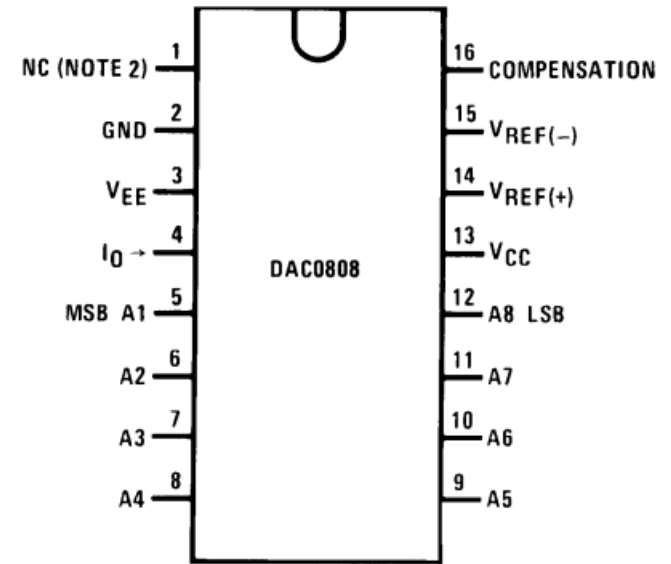
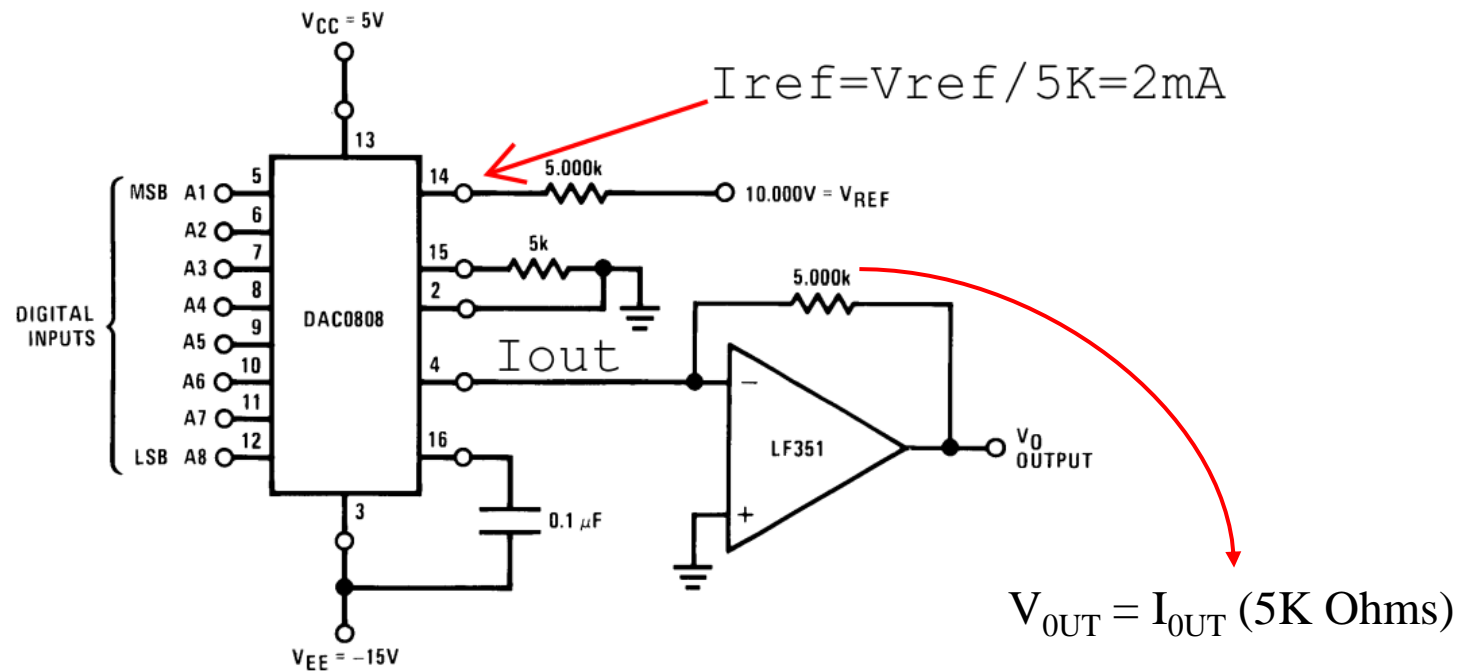


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# Typical Application (DAC0808)



$$I_{OUT} = I_{ref} (D_7/2 + D_6/4 + D_5/8 + D_4/16 + D_3/32 + D_2/64 + D_1/128 + D_0/256)$$

$$V_{OUT} = I_{OUT} (5K \text{ Ohms})$$

# DAC interfacing

