

~~ECTE333~~

~~Lecture 11~~ - Analogue-to-Digital Converter

School of Electrical, Computer and Telecommunications Engineering
University of Wollongong
Australia

~~ECTE333's schedule~~

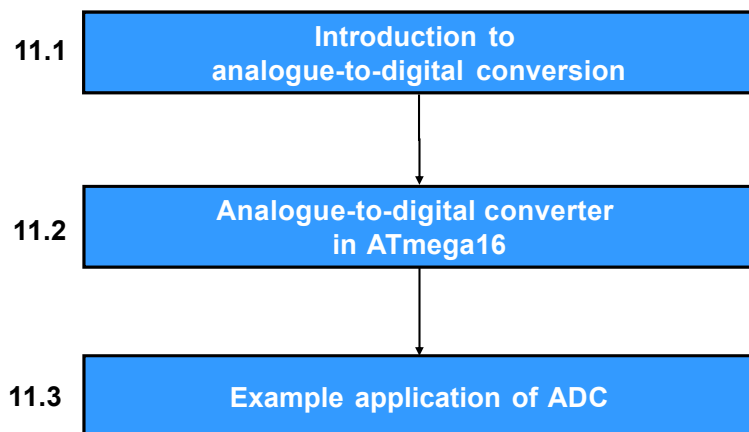
| Week | Lecture (2h) | Tutorial (1h) | Lab (2h) |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | L7: C programming for the ATMEL AVR | | |
| 2 | | Tutorial 7 | Lab 7 |
| 3 | L8: Serial communication | | |
| 4 | | Tutorial 8 | Lab 8 |
| 5 | L9: Timers | | |
| 6 | | Tutorial 9 | Lab 9 |
| 7 | L10: Pulse width modulator | | |
| 8 | | Tutorial 10 | Lab 10 |
| 9 | L11: Analogue to digital converter | | |
| 10 | | Tutorial 11 | Lab 11 |
| 11 | L12: Revision lecture | | |
| 12 | | | Lab 12 |
| 13 | L13: Self study guide (no lecture) | | |
| Final exam (25%), Practical exam (20%), Labs (5%) | | | |

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~~Lecture 11's sequence~~

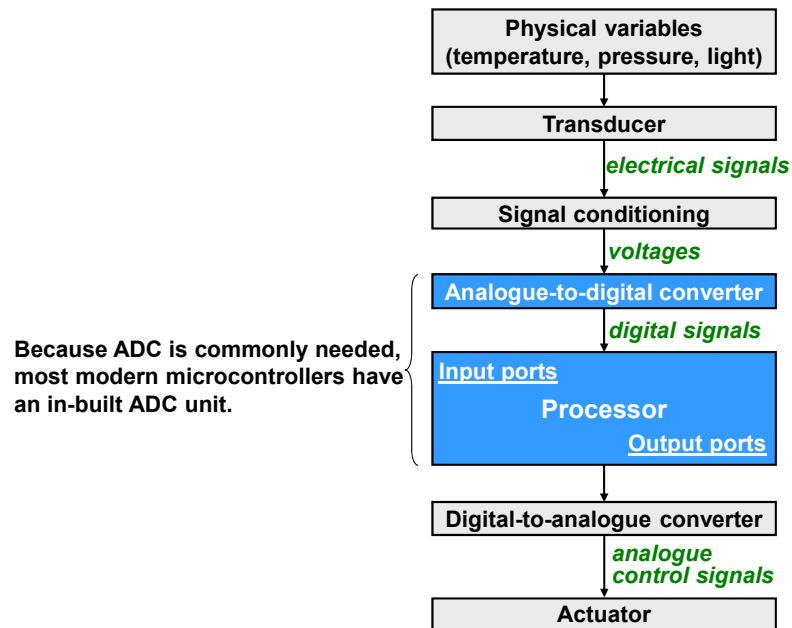


~~[Lab 11: Task 1 | Task 2]~~

11.1 Introduction to A-to-D conversion

- An ADC samples an analogue signal at discrete times, and converts the sampled signal to digital form.
- Used with transducers, ADCs allow us to monitor real-world inputs and perform control operations based on these inputs.
- Many dedicated ICs are made for ADC, e.g.
 - ADC0804: 8-bit, successive approximation.
 - Maxim104: 8-bit, flash type.

A-to-D conversion: Typical embedded application



A-to-D conversion: Example applications

■ Local positioning sensor for object tracking

[ECTE457 Project]

- Measure the distance between FM transmitter/receiver.
- The receiver has an RSSI output (Receiver Signal Strength Indicator)
- The RSSI voltage is inversely proportional to the squared distance.

■ Temperature sensor for shower water

[ECTE350 Third-year Group Project, 3rd prize]

- Measure the temperature of shower water.
- Control hot/cold water valves.
- Use a thermistor as sensor.

A-to-D conversion: Example applications

■ Obstacle sensor & audio cues in the cane for the blind

[ECTE250 Second-year Group Project, 1st prize]

- Measure distance to nearest object with an ultrasonic sensor.
- The sensor output is digitized using the ADC.

■ Electric fence monitoring

[ECTE350 Third-year Group Project]

- Determine if a electric fence is being tampered.
- Measure the voltage level of an electric fence.

A-to-D conversion: Example applications

■ Wireless irrigation system

[ECTE350 Third-year Group Project, 1st prize]

- Measure the moisture of the soil with resistor & ADC.
- Transmit data wirelessly to base station
- Turn ON or OFF the sprinklers.

■ Intelligent clothesline

[ECTE350 Third-year Group Project]

- Use a set of sensors to measure humidity, temperature, wind speed.
- Open or close the clothesline cover to protect against rain.

A-to-D conversion: Example applications

■ Car control using 3-D accelerometers

[ECTE350 Third-year Group Project in 2010, 2nd prize]



A-to-D conversion: The process

■ There are two related steps in A-to-D conversion:

- sampling,
- quantisation.

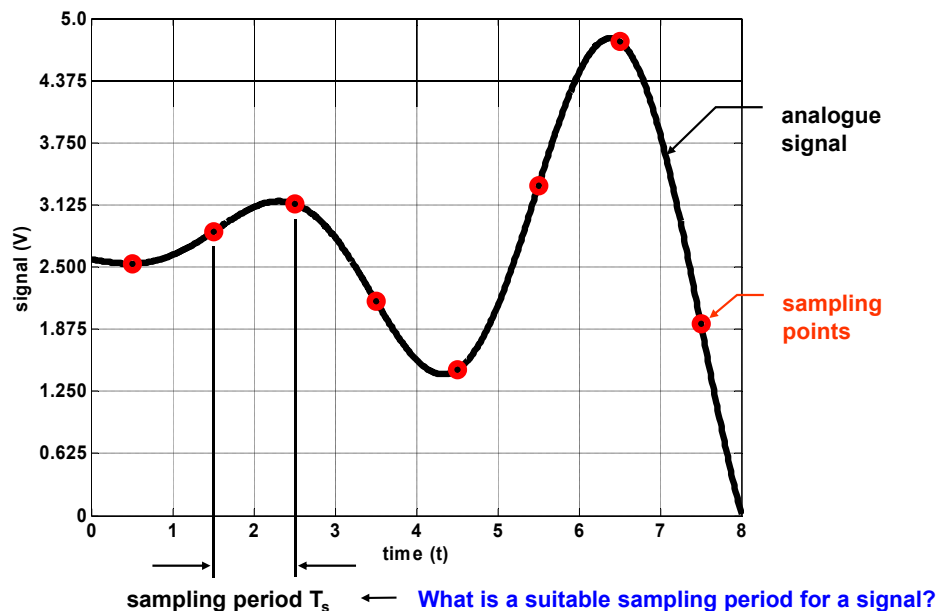
■ Sampling:

- The analogue signal is extracted, usually at regularly-spaced time instants.
- The samples have real values.

■ Quantisation:

- The samples are quantized to discrete levels.
- Each sample is represented as a digital value.

Sampling an analogue signal



The sampling theorem

An analogue signal $x(t)$ with frequencies of no more than F_{\max} can be reconstructed exactly from its samples if the sampling rate satisfies:

$$F_s \geq 2 \times F_{\max}$$

Significance

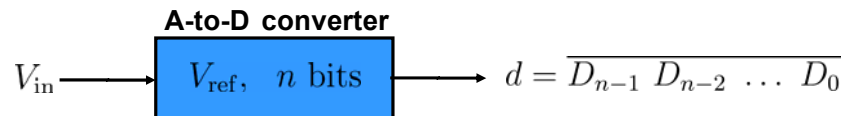
- If maximum frequency of the signal is F_{\max} , the sampling rate should be at least:

$$\text{Nyquist rate} = 2 \times F_{\max}$$

- If the sampling rate is F_s , the maximum frequency in the signal must not exceed:

$$\text{Nyquist frequency} = \frac{1}{2} F_s$$

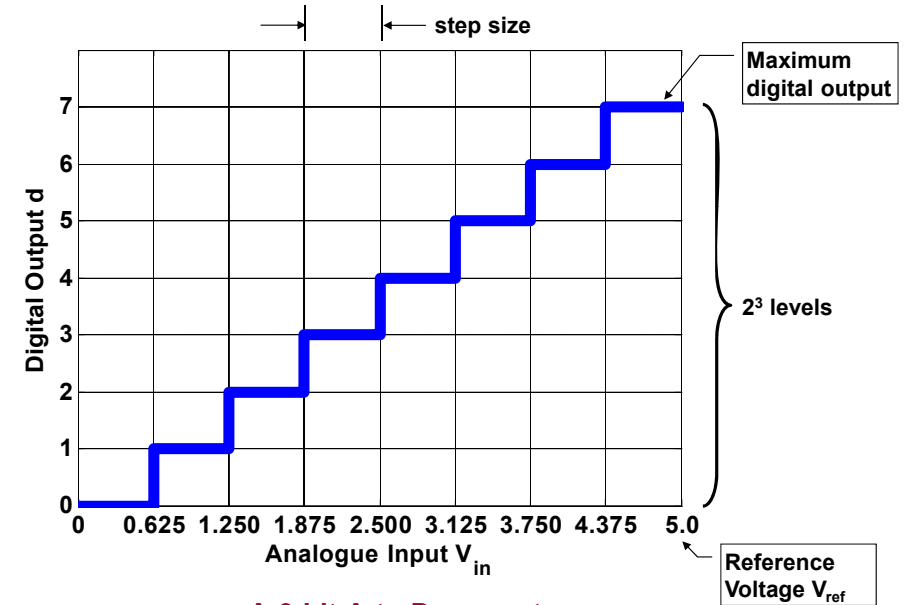
Quantising the sampled signal



- Consider an n-bit ADC.
 - Let V_{ref} be the **reference voltage**.
 - Let V_{in} be the analog input voltage.
 - Let V_{min} be the minimum allowable input voltage, usually $V_{min} = 0$.
 - The ADC's digital output, $d = D_{n-1} D_{n-2} \dots D_0$, is given as
- $$d = \text{round down} \left[\frac{V_{in} - V_{min}}{\text{step size}} \right]$$
- The **step size (resolution)** is the smallest change in input that can be discerned by the ADC:

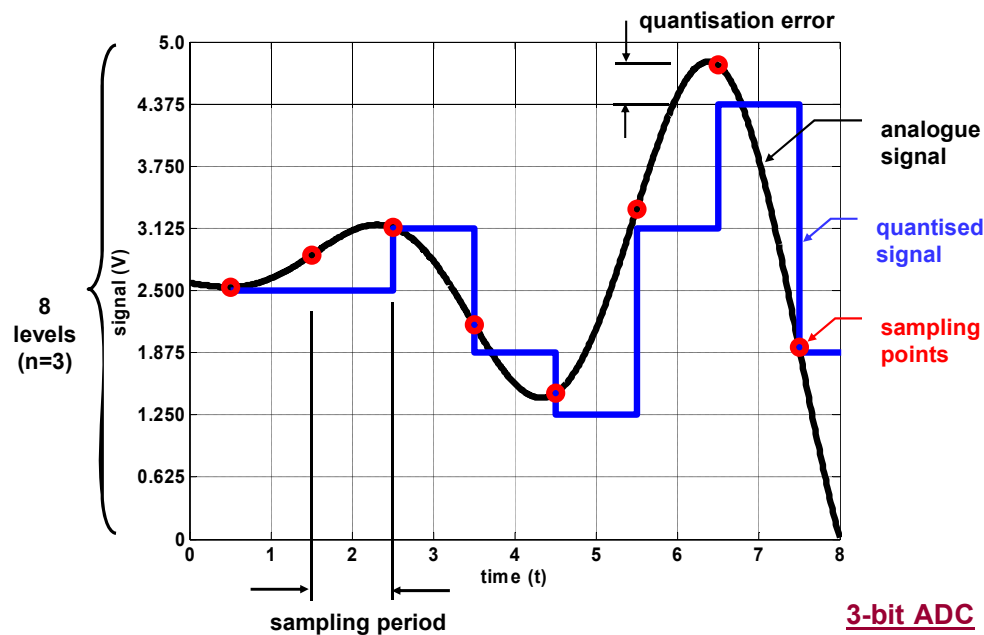
$$\text{step size} = \frac{V_{ref} - V_{min}}{2^n}$$

Quantising the sampled signal



A 3-bit A-to-D converter

Quantising the sampled signal



A-to-D converter: Parameters

- **Number of bits n**: The higher is the number of bits, the more precise is the digital output.
- **Quantization error E_q** : The average difference between the analogue input and the quantised value. The quantisation error of an ideal ADC is half of the step size.
- **Sample time T_{sample}** : A sampling capacitor must be charged for a duration of T_{sample} before conversion taking place.
- **Conversion time T_{conv}** : Time taken to convert the voltage on the sampling capacitor to a digital output.

A-to-D converter: Designs

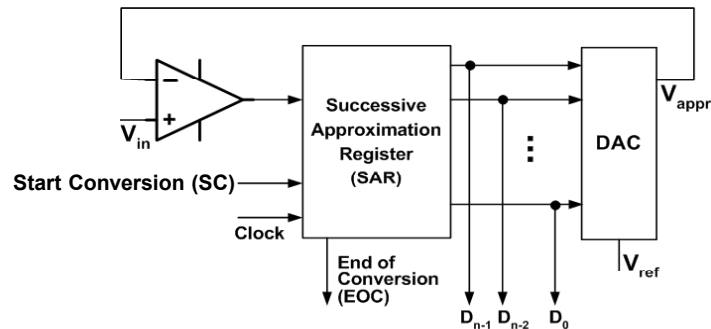
- There are many designs for analogue-to-digital converters.

- We'll consider briefly two common designs.

Flash ADC.

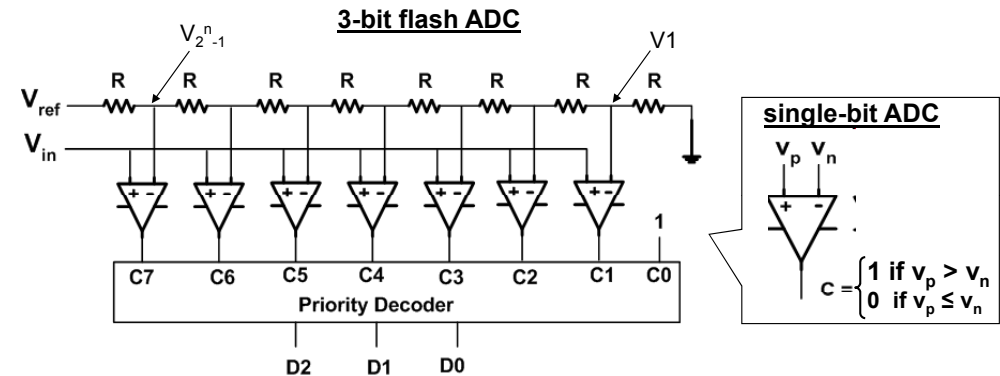
- Successive-approximation ADC.

Successive-approximation ADC



- A DAC is used to generate approximations of the input voltage.
- A comparator is used to compare V_{in} and V_{appr} .
- In each cycle, SAR finds one output bit using comparator.
- To start conversion, set $SC = 1$. When conversion ends, $EOC = 1$.
- Quite fast, one of the most widely used design for ADCs.

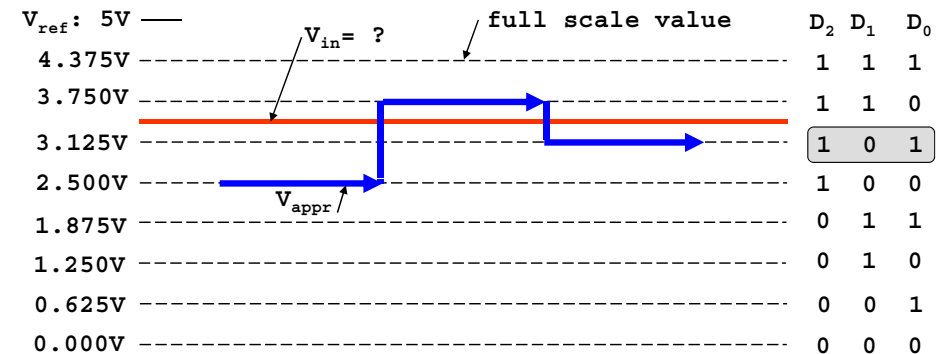
Flash ADC



- An n -bit flash ADC uses (2^n-1) comparators, and a priority decoder.
- **Advantage:** the fastest type of ADC.
- **Disadvantages:** limited resolution, expensive, and large power consumption.

Successive-approximation ADC

Binary search for a 3-bit ADC

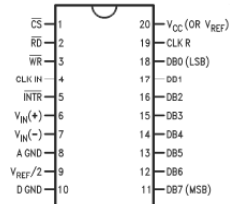


| clock cycle 1 | clock cycle 2 | clock cycle 3 |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| $D_2 = 1$ | $D_1 = 0$ | $D_0 = 1$ |
| $[V_{in} > V_{appr}]$ | $[V_{in} < V_{appr}]$ | $[V_{in} > V_{appr}]$ |

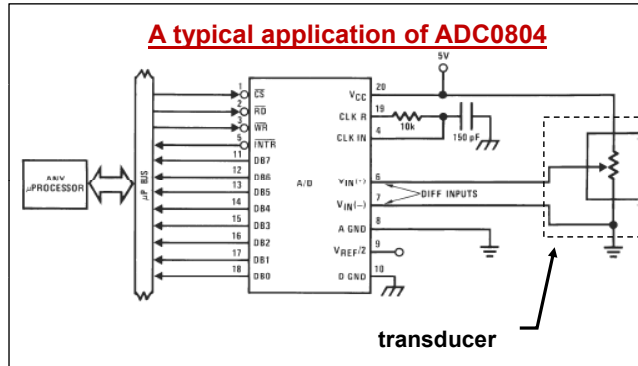
Example IC for ADC

ADC0804

(National Semiconductor)



- **V_{CC}**: reference voltage
- **RD**: to read digital output
- **WR**: to start a new conversion
- **INTR**: when conversion completes
- **V_{IN}(+), V_{IN}(-)**: analogue input
- **DB0-DB7**: 8-bit output
- **CLK IN, CLK R**: clock signal

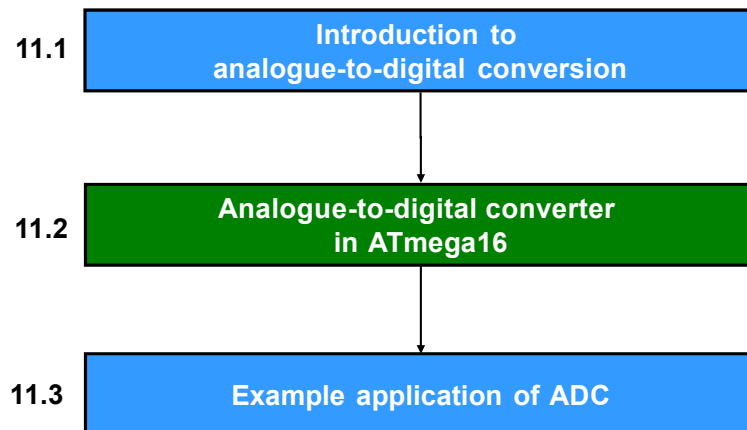


AVR Demo: ATmega128L and Color LCD



ATmega128L, color LCD, temperature sensor
www.youtube.com/watch?v=m6mtCak3krE

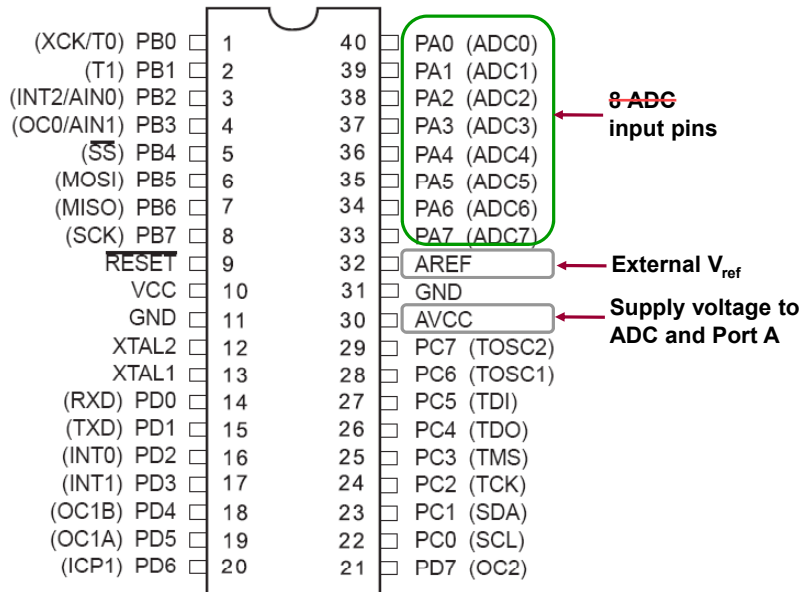
Lecture 11's sequence



11.2 The ADC in ATmega16

- The ADC in ATmega16 has a 10-bit resolution.
 - The digital output has $n = 10$ bits.
- The ADC has 8 input channels.
 - Analog input can come from 8 different sources.
 - However, it performs conversion on only one channel at a time.
- If default reference voltage $V_{ref} = 5V$ is used.
 - step size: $5(V)/1024 \text{ (steps)} = \pm 4.88mV$.
 - accuracy: $2 \times \text{LSB} = \pm 9.76mV$.
- The clock rate of the ADC can be different from the CPU clock rate.
 - One ADC conversion takes 13 ADC cycles.
 - An ADC prescaler will decide the actual ADC clock rate.

ADC unit – Relevant pins

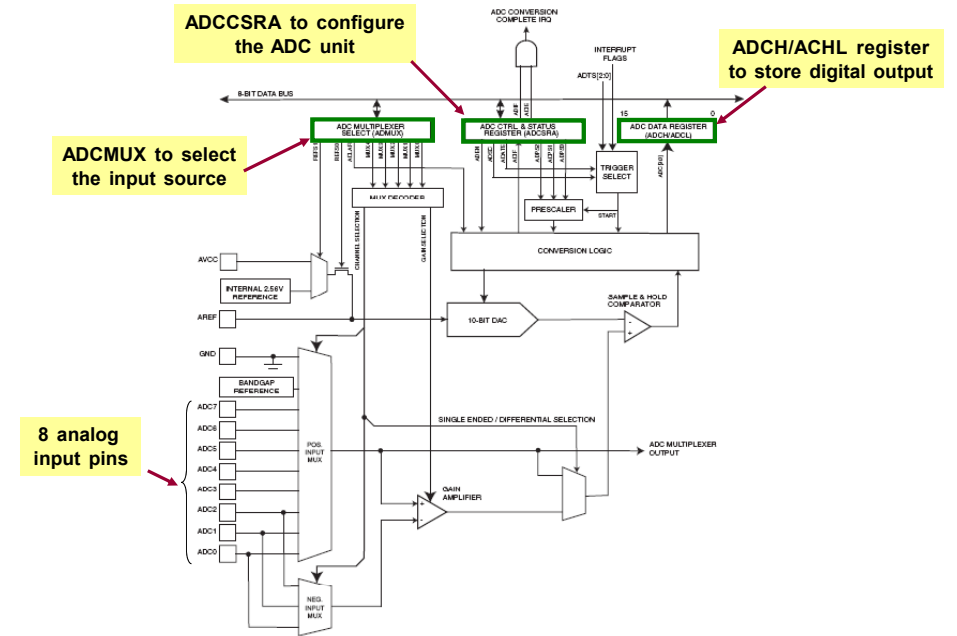


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ADC unit – Block diagram



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ADC unit

We focus on the major aspects of the ADC unit.

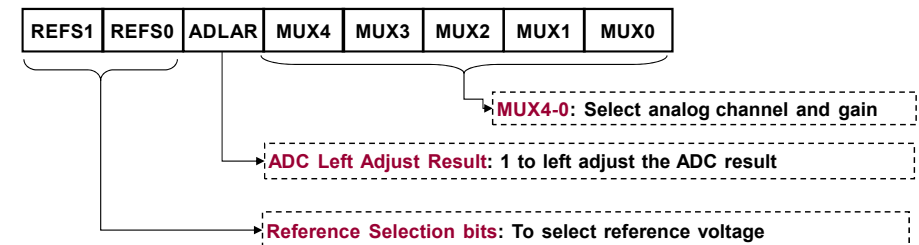
11.2.1 What are the relevant ADC registers?

- ADCMUX
- ADCH/ADCL
- ADCCSRA
- SFIOR

11.2.2 What are the steps to use the ADC?

11.2.3 How to use the ADC interrupt?

11.2.1a ADC Multiplexer Selection Register (ADCMUX)



- Reference voltage V_{ref} can be selected among 3 choices. [Slide 29]
- Analog input voltage can be selected among different pins. Differential input and custom gain factor can also be chosen. [Slide 30]
- ADLAR flag determines how the 10-bit digital output is stored in output registers. [Slide 31]

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Selecting reference voltage V_{ref}

Table 11.1: ADC reference voltage selection.

| REFS1 | REFS0 | Voltage Reference Selection |
|-------|-------|--|
| 0 | 0 | AREF, Internal Vref turned off |
| 0 | 1 | AVCC with external capacitor at AREF pin |
| 1 | 0 | Reserved |
| 1 | 1 | Internal 2.56V Voltage Reference with external capacitor at AREF pin |

- Usually, mode 01 is used: AVCC = 5V as reference voltage.
- However, if the input voltage has a different dynamic range, we can use mode 00 to select an external reference voltage.

Selecting input source and gain factor

Table 11.2: ADC input source.

| MUX4..0 | Single Ended Input | Positive Differential Input | Negative Differential Input | Gain |
|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------|
| 00000 | ADC0 | N/A | | |
| 00001 | ADC1 | | | |
| 00010 | ADC2 | | | |
| 00011 | ADC3 | | | |
| 00100 | ADC4 | | | |
| 00101 | ADC5 | | | |
| 00110 | ADC6 | | | |
| 00111 | ADC7 | | | |
| 01000 | N/A | ADC0 | ADC0 | 10x |
| 01001 | | ADC1 | ADC0 | 10x |
| 01010 ⁽¹⁾ | | ADC0 | ADC0 | 200x |
| 01011 ⁽¹⁾ | | ADC1 | ADC0 | 200x |
| 01100 | | ADC2 | ADC2 | 10x |
| 01101 | | ADC3 | ADC2 | 10x |
| 01110 ⁽¹⁾ | | ADC2 | ADC2 | 200x |
| 01111 ⁽¹⁾ | | ADC3 | ADC2 | 200x |
| 10000 | N/A | ADC0 | ADC1 | 1x |
| 10001 | | ADC1 | ADC1 | 1x |
| 10010 | | ADC2 | ADC1 | 1x |
| 10011 | | ADC3 | ADC1 | 1x |
| 10100 | | ADC4 | ADC1 | 1x |
| 10101 | | ADC5 | ADC1 | 1x |
| 10110 | | ADC6 | ADC1 | 1x |
| 10111 | | ADC7 | ADC1 | 1x |
| 11000 | N/A | ADC0 | ADC2 | 1x |
| 11001 | | ADC1 | ADC2 | 1x |
| 11010 | | ADC2 | ADC2 | 1x |
| 11011 | | ADC3 | ADC2 | 1x |

- Analog input voltage can be selected as
 - 8 ADC pins –ADC7 to ADC0,
 - the differential input between two of ADC pins.
- A gain factor of 1, 10 or 200 can be selected for differential input.

11.2.1b ADC Left Adjust flag and ADCH/L registers

When bit ADLAR = 0 (Right Aligned)

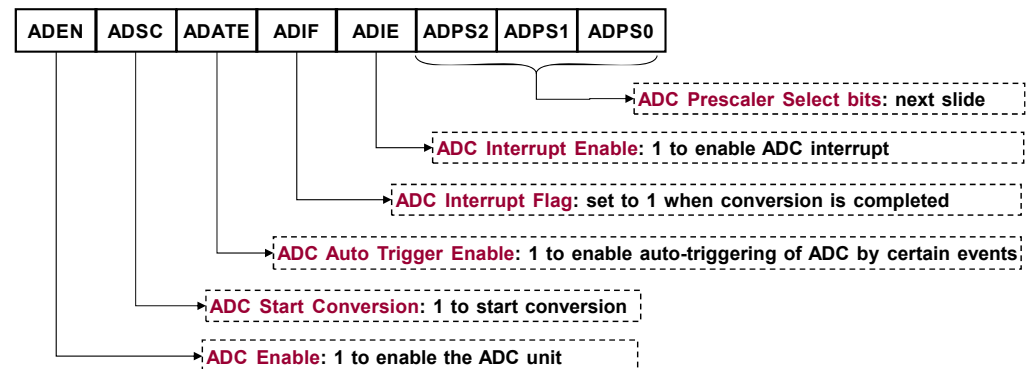


When bit ADLAR = 1 (Left Aligned)



- Digital output is stored in two 8-bit registers ADCH and ADCL.
- The format of ADCH and ADCL are interpreted differently depending on flag ADLAR.
- **Important:** When retrieving digital output, register ADCL must be read first, before register ADCH.

11.2.1c ADC Control and Status Register (ADCSRA)



- ADC unit can operate in two modes: manual or auto-trigger.
- In manual mode, setting flag ADSC = 1 will start conversion.
- In auto-trigger mode, a predefined event will start conversion.

ADC clock

Table 11.3: ADC Prescaler Selection.

| ADPS2 | ADPS1 | ADPS0 | Division Factor |
|-------|-------|-------|-----------------|
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 4 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 8 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 16 |
| 1 | 0 | 1 | 32 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 64 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 128 |

- The clock of the ADC is obtained by dividing the CPU clock and a **division factor**.
- There are 8 possible division factors, decided by the three bits {ADPS2, ADPS1, ADPS0}
- **Example:** Using internal clock of 1Mz and a ADC prescaler bits of '010', the clock rate of ADC is: $1\text{MHz}/4 = 250\text{Hz}$.

11.2.1d Special Function IO Register (SFIO)

ADC Auto Trigger Source

| | | | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|---|------|-----|------|-------|
| ADTS2 | ADTS1 | ADTS0 | - | ACME | PUD | PSR2 | PSR10 |
|-------|-------|-------|---|------|-----|------|-------|

Table 11.4: ADC Auto Trigger Source.

| ADTS2 | ADTS1 | ADTS0 | Trigger Source |
|-------|-------|-------|--------------------------------|
| 0 | 0 | 0 | Free Running mode |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | Analog Comparator |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | External Interrupt Request |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | Timer/Counter0 Compare Match |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | Timer/Counter0 Overflow |
| 1 | 0 | 1 | Timer/Counter1 Compare Match B |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | Timer/Counter1 Overflow |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | Timer/Counter1 Capture Event |

- Three flags in register SFIO specify the event that will auto-trigger an A-to-D conversion.

11.2.2 Steps to use the ADC

- **Step 1:** Configure the ADC using registers ADMUX, ADCSRA, SFIO.
 - What is the ADC source?
 - What reference voltage to use?
 - Align left or right the result in {ADCH, ADCL}?
 - Enable or disable ADC auto-trigger?
 - Enable or disable ADC interrupt?
 - What is the ADC prescaler?
- **Step 2:** Start ADC operation
 - Write 1 to flag ADSC (register ADCCSRA).
- **Step 3:** Extract ADC result
 - Wait until flag ADSC becomes 0.
 - Read result from registers ADCL and then ADCH.

Example 11.1: Performing ADC

Write C program that repeatedly performs ADC on a sinusoidal signal and displays the result on LEDs.

- **Step 1:** Configure the ADC
 - What is the ADC source? **ADC1**
 - What reference voltage to use? **AVCC = 5V**
 - Align left or right? **Left, top 8-bit in ADCH**
 - Enable or disable ADC auto-trigger? **Disable**
 - Enable or disable ADC interrupt? **Disable**
 - What is the ADC pre-scaler? **2 (fastest conversion)**

Example 11.1: Performing ADC

■ Step 1: Configure the ADC

- What is the ADC source? **ADC1 (pin A.1)**
- What reference voltage to use? **AVCC = 5V**
- Align left or right? **Left, top 8-bit in ADCH**
- Enable or disable ADC auto-trigger? **Disable**
- Enable or disable ADC interrupt? **Disable**
- What is the prescaler? **2 (010)**

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | |
| REFS1 | REFS0 | ADLAR | MUX4 | MUX3 | MUX2 | MUX1 | MUX0 | ADCMUX |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | |
| ADEN | ADSC | ADATE | ADIF | ADIE | ADPS2 | ADPS1 | ADPS0 | ADCSRA |

■ Steps 2 and 3: Show next in the C program.

Example 11.1: adc.c

```
#include<avr/io.h>
int main (void){
    unsigned char result;

    DDRB = 0xFF; // set port B for output

    // Configure the ADC module of the ATmega16
    ADMUX = 0b01100000; // REFS1:0 = 01 -> AVCC as reference,
                        // ADLAR = 1 -> Left adjust
                        // MUX4:0 = 00000 -> ADC0 as input

    ADCSRA = 0b10000001; // ADEN = 1: enable ADC,
                        // ADSC = 0: don't start conversion yet
                        // ADATE = 0: disable auto trigger,
                        // ADIE = 0: disable ADC interrupt
                        // ASPS2:0 = 001: prescaler = 2

    while(1){ // main loop
        // Start conversion by setting flag ADSC
        ADCSRA |= (1 << ADSC);

        // Wait until conversion is completed
        while (ADCSRA & (1 << ADSC)){;}

        // Read the top 8 bits, output to PORTB
        result = ADCH;

        PORTB = ~result;
    }
    return 0;
}
```

1

2

3

Example 11.1: Testing



[Video demo](#): [avr]/ecte333/adc.mp4



11.2.3 Using ADC interrupt

- In the polling approach shown previously, we must check ADSC flag to know when an ADC operation is completed.
- Alternatively, the ADC unit can trigger an interrupt when ADC is done.
- We enable ADC interrupt through ADIE flag in register ADCCSRA.
- In the ISR, we can write code to read registers ADCL and ADCH.
- ADC interrupt is usually combined with auto-trigger mode [[Tutorial 11](#)].

Example 11.2: ADC interrupt

Write interrupt-driven program to digitise a sinusoidal signal and display the result on LEDs.

■ Step 1: Configure the ADC.

- What is the ADC source? **ADC0**
- What reference voltage to use? **AVCC = 5V**
- Align left or right? **Left, top 8-bit in ADCH**
- Enable or disable ADC auto-trigger? **Disable**
- Enable or disable ADC interrupt? **Enable**
- What is the prescaler? **2 (fastest conversion)**

■ Step 2: Start ADC operation.

■ Step 3: In ISR, read and store ADC result.

Example 11.2: adc_int.c

```
#include<avr/io.h>
#include<avr/interrupt.h>

volatile unsigned char result;

ISR(ADC_vect){
    result = ADCH; // Read the top 8 bits, and store in variable result
}

int main (void){
    DDRB = 0xFF; // set port B for output

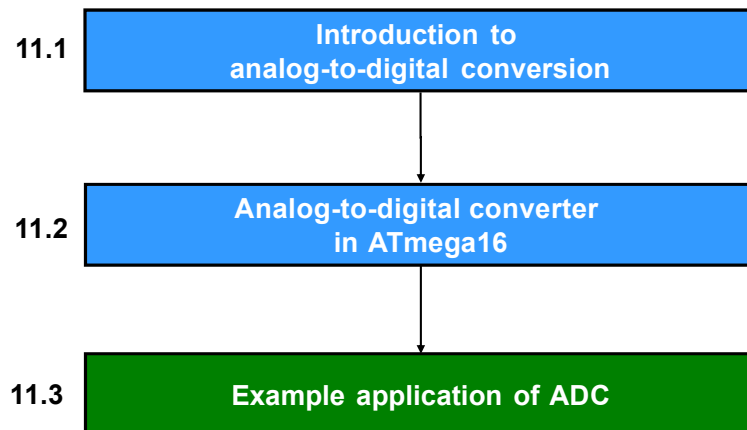
    // Configure the ADC module of the ATmega16
    ADMUX = 0b01100000; // REFS1:0 = 01 -> AVCC as reference,
                        // ADLAR = 1 -> Left adjust
                        // MUX4:0 = 00000 -> ADC0 as input

    ADCSRA = 0b10001111; // ADEN = 1: enable ADC,
                        // ADSC = 0: don't start conversion yet
                        // ADATE = 0: disable auto trigger,
                        // ADIE = 1: enable ADC interrupt
                        // ASPS2:0 = 002: prescaler = 2

    sei(); // enable interrupt system globally
    while(1){ // main loop
        ADCSRA |= (1 << ADSC); // start a conversion

        PORTB = ~result; // display on port B
    }
    return 0;
}
```

Lecture 11's sequence



11.3 Example application of the ADC

- This section presents an application of the ADC in the ATmega16.
- A joystick is used to move a camera up/down/left/right, as in a security console.
- The pan-tilt camera is mCAM100x (Lecture 8).
- It can be moved by sending a character '4', '6', '8', or '2' via a serial connection: 9600bps, 8 data bits, 1 stop bit, no parity.



Joystick

The joystick we use is Grove SS-COM90133P, by Seed Studio.

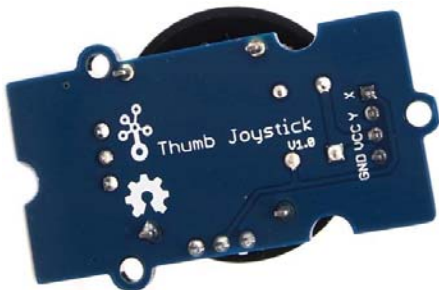


The joystick has 4 pins

- GRD: ground
- VCC: 5V-supply
- X: x coordinate, analogue voltage between [0, 5V]
- Y: y coordinate, analogue voltage between [0, 5V]

URLs: littlebirdelectronics.com/products/grove-thumb-joystick
www.seeedstudio.com/wiki/Grove_-_Thumb_Joystick

Joystick



| Description | Min | Typical | Max |
|---------------------------------|-------|---------|-------|
| Working voltage VCC | 4.75V | 5.00V | 5.25V |
| X coordinate (after digitising) | 206 | 516 | 798 |
| Y coordinate (after digitising) | 203 | 507 | 797 |

Joystick

Step 1: Configure the ADC

- What is the ADC source? ADC0 or ADC1
- What reference voltage to use? AVCC = 5V
- Align left or right? Right, bottom 8-bit in ADCL
- Enable or disable ADC auto-trigger? Disable
- Enable or disable ADC interrupt? Disable
- What is the ADC pre-scaler? 128 (slowest conversion)

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|--------|
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0/1 | |
| REFS1 | REFS0 | ADLAR | MUX4 | MUX3 | MUX2 | MUX1 | MUX0 | ADCMUX |

| | | | | | | | | |
|------|------|-------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | |
| ADEN | ADSC | ADATE | ADIF | ADIE | ADPS2 | ADPS1 | ADPS0 | ADCSRA |

Steps 2 and 3: Show next in C program.

Joystick and Pan-Tilt Camera: Code

```
#include<avr/io.h>
int main (void){
    unsigned int result_low, result_high, result_x, result_y;
    // ... Initialise serial port ...

    // Configure the ADC module of the ATmega16
    ADCSRA = 0b10000111; // ADEN = 1: enable ADC,
                        // ADSC = 0: don't start conversion yet
                        // ADATE = 0: disable auto trigger,
                        // ADIE = 0: disable ADC interrupt
                        // ASPS2:0 = 111: prescaler = 128

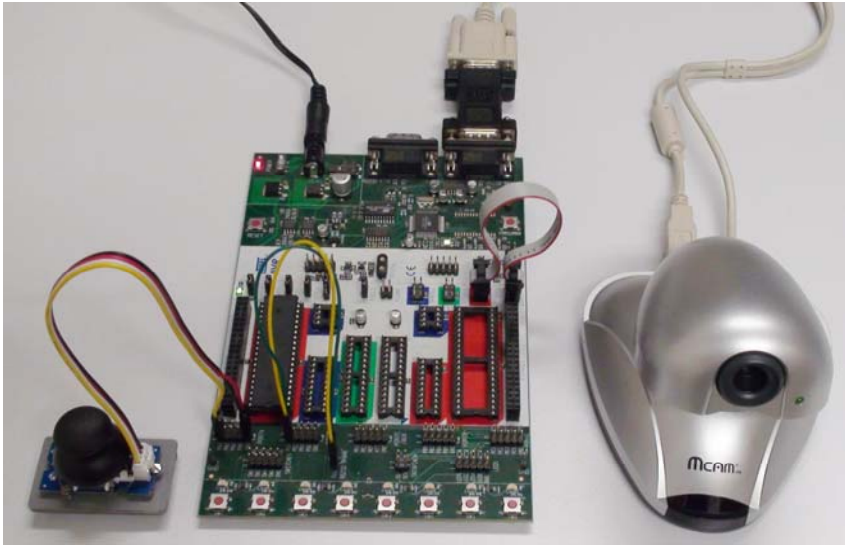
    while(1){
        // Read X coordinate...
        ADMUX = 0b01000000; // REFS1:0 = 01 -> AVCC as reference,
                        // ADLAR = 0 -> Right adjust
                        // MUX4:0 = 00000 -> ADC0 as input
        ADCSRA |= (1 << ADSC); // Start conversion by setting flag ADSC
        while (ADCSRA & (1 << ADSC)){;} // Wait until conversion is completed
        // Read digital output
        result_low = ADCL; // low 8 bits in ADCL
        result_high = ADCH & 0b00000011; // bit 8 and 9 in ADCH
        result_x = (result_high << 8) + result_low;

        // Read Y coordinate...
        ADMUX = 0b01000001; // MUX4:0 = 00001 -> ADC1 as input
        ...

        // Serial port code for camera control ...

    }
    return 0;
}
```

Joystick and Pan-Tilt Camera: Demo



[A live [demo](#) will be shown in the lecture]

Lecture 11's references

- Atmel Corp., 8-bit AVR microcontroller with 16K Bytes In-System Programmable Flash ATmega16/ATmega16L, 2007, **Manual** [Analog to Digital Converter].
- S. F. Barrett and D. J. Pack, Atmel AVR Microcontroller Primer: Programming and Interfacing, 2008, Morgan & Claypool Publishers, [Chapter 3: Analog-to-Digital Conversion].

Lecture 11's summary

- What we learnt in this lecture:
 - Analogue-to-digital conversion process.
 - Sampling and quantization steps.
 - Using the ADC in the ATmega16 microcontroller.
 - An example application of ADC.
- What are the next activities?
 - Tutorial 11: 'Analogue-to-Digital Converter'.
 - Lab 11: 'Analogue-to-Digital Converter'.
 - ❖ Complete the online Pre-lab Quiz for Lab 11.
 - ❖ Write programs for Tasks 1 and 2 of Lab 11.
 - ❖ See video demos of Lab 11: [avr]/ecte333/lab11_task1.mp4 [avr]/ecte333/lab11_task2.mp4 🤖💡

Lecture 11's references

- M. Mazidi, J. Mazidi, R. McKinlay, "The 8051 microcontroller and embedded systems using assembly and C," 2nd ed., Pearson Prentice Hall, 2006, [Chapters 13.1].
- P. Spasov, "Microcontroller technology the 68HC11," 3rd ed., Prentice Hall, 1999, [Chapters 12].
- H. Huang, "MC68HC12 an introduction: software and hardware interfacing," Thomson Delmar Learning, 2003, [Chapter 10].