EE 3171 Lecture 12

D/A and A/D Conversion

Lecture 8 Concepts

- ADC Conversion
 - Why and how in general
 - How to do it on the Tiva C
 - The registers
 - The programming
 - The alphabet soup

Why Do We Need Conversions?

- Real world is analog, not digital.
 - Microcontroller must interface to real world.
 - Efficient DTA and ADC are important.
 - Digital to analog is easy.
 - Analog to digital is harder.

Digital-to-Analog

- DTA output is easy.
 - We output the digital value.
 - A low-pass filter smoothes output.

Analog-to-Digital

- ADC input is harder.
 - We must represent an analog value by one of a set of digital values.
- We are constrained by the precision of our converter.
 - Which, in turn, defines the resolution of the converter.

ATD Resolution

- ADCs have a fixed number of bits they put the converted value into.
 - E.g., 8, 9, 10, 12 and so on.

This is the precision.

- The entire range of voltages gets divided up among the possible range of binary values.
- Let:
 - V_{RH} = the highest reference voltage
 - V_{RI} = the lowest reference voltage
 - b be the number of bits the ADC uses to store results
- Then the resolution = $(V_{RH}-V_{RL})/2^b$.

Resolution Examples

- Let $V_{RH} = +5$, $V_{RL} = -5$ and b = 10.
 - Resolution = ?
- If $V_{sampled} = 1.3V$, what is the converted value?
- If the converted value is 0x3F, what is $V_{sampled}$?

Basic ADC Procedure

- Goal: Find a binary value proportional to an input voltage.
- Typical ATD Algorithm
 - Pass input voltage to analog voltage comparator.
 - Guess the number represented by the voltage.
 - Pass number to DTA converter to get assumed voltage.
 - Pass assumed voltage to other input of comparator.
 - If Comparator output = 0
 Then the number guessed was correct (output it)
 Else guess again

The "Guess Again" Step

- The key issues are:
 - What's the first guess?
 - How do we guess the next value?
- Basic methods are
 - Up counter
 - Successive approximation

Up Counter

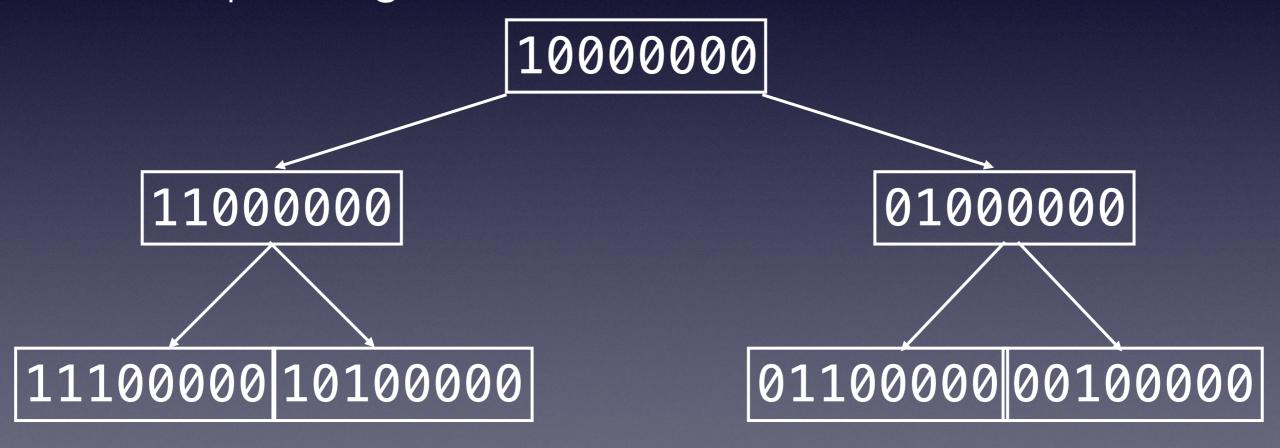
- Simplest method is an Up-counter
 - Done_Flag = 0
 - Number = 0
 - While difference ≠ 0
 - Increment number
 - Done_Flag = 1
 - Output the Number
- Problem: may have to count to 0xFFF (or other maximum value).
 - Worst-case time = 2^b cycles where b is the number of bits.

Successive Approximation

- Classic binary search
 - Usually something around log b cycles
- Best Worst-Case Time
 - Done_Flag = 0
 - Number = $2^{5}/2$
 - While difference ≠ 0
 - If Guess is too low
 Then Number = Number + Number/2
 Else Number = Number Number/2
 - Done_Flag = 1
 - Output the Number

Algorithm Progress

- Error is cut in half every step
- Compare against:



The Tiva ADC

- The TM4C123GH6PM microcontroller provides two ADC modules with each having the following features:
- 12 shared analog input channels
- 12-bit precision ADC
- On-chip internal temperature sensor
- Maximum sample rate of one million samples/second
- Four programmable sample conversion sequencers from one to eight entries long, with corresponding conversion result FIFOs
- Flexible trigger control
- Efficient transfers using Micro Direct Memory Access Controller (µDMA)

ADC Sample Sequencers

- Rather than a "one and done" conversion, the Tiva performs a sequence of conversions called a "sample sequence".
- Each sample sequence is a fully programmed series of consecutive samples, allowing the ADC to collect data from multiple input sources without having to be reconfigured or serviced by the processor.
- The programming of each sample includes parameters such as the input source and mode, interrupt generation and the indicator for the last sample in the sequence.

Other ADC Characteristics

- Interrupt Generation
 - Can alert the processor when conversions are done.
- DMA Integration
 - Can move the data to memory without processor intervention.
- Programmable Priority
 - There are four sample sequencers that have programmable adjustable priorities.
- Sampling Triggers
 - What causes a sequence to start.
- Hardware Averaging
 - Can automatically average up to 64 samples
- Differential Sampling
 - Instead of sampling against a reference voltage, it compares the difference between two inputs.

ADC Initialization

- The fairly straightforward initialization sequence for the ADC is as follows:
- 1. Enable the ADC clock using the RCGCADC register.
- 2. Enable the clock to the appropriate GPIO modules via the RCGCGPIO register.
- 3. Set the GPIO AFSEL bits for the ADC input pins.
- 4. Configure the AINx signals to be analog inputs by clearing the corresponding DEN bit in the GPIO Digital Enable (GPIODEN) register.
- 5. Disable the analog isolation circuit for all ADC input pins that are to be used by writing a 1 to the appropriate bits of the GPIOAMSEL register in the associated GPIO block.
- 6. If required by the application, reconfigure the sample sequencer priorities in the ADCSSPRI register. The default configuration has Sample Sequencer 0 with the highest priority and Sample Sequencer 3 as the lowest priority.

Sequencer Configuration

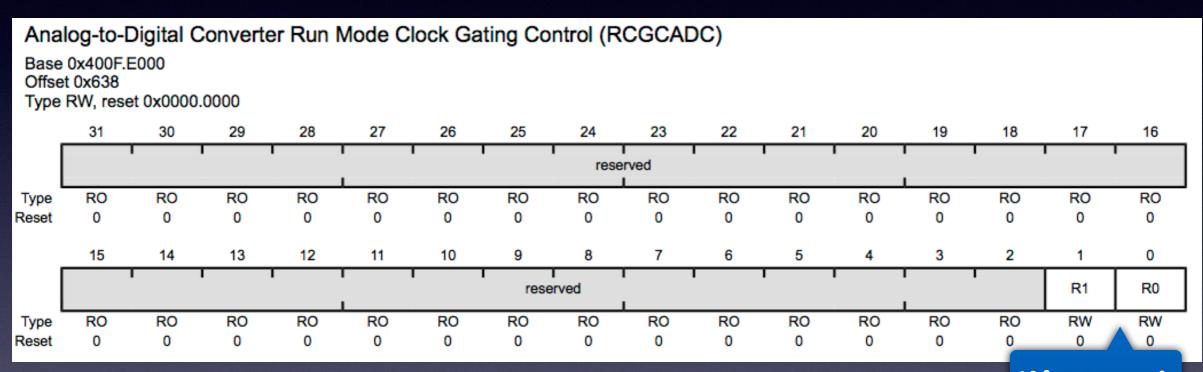
- The configuration for each sample sequencer should be as follows:
- 1. Ensure that the sample sequencer is *disabled* by clearing the corresponding ASENn bit in the ADCACTSS register.
- 2. Configure the *trigger event* for the sample sequencer in the ADCEMUX register.
- 3. For each sample in the sample sequence, configure the corresponding input source in the ADCSSMUXn register.
- 4. For each sample in the sample sequence, configure the sample control bits in the corresponding nibble in the ADCSSCTLn register. When programming the last nibble, ensure that the END bit is set.
- 5. If interrupts are to be used, set the corresponding MASK bit in the ADCIM register.
- 6. Enable the sample sequencer logic by setting the corresponding ASENn bit in the ADCACTSS register.

ADC Registers

- Let's do a full initialization and configuration of an ADC sequencer to show how this works...
 - ...examining each register as we go.

But you don't always have helpful libraries like TivaWare.

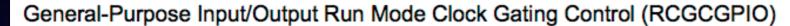
ADC Clock



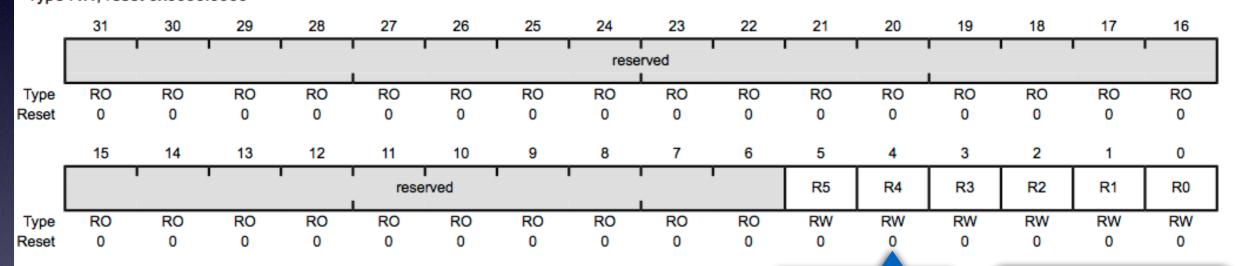
Initialization Code: SYSCTL_RCGCADC_R |= 0x01;

Writing a 1 to either of these bits turns on the clock.

GPIO Clock



Base 0x400F.E000 Offset 0x608 Type RW, reset 0x0000.0000

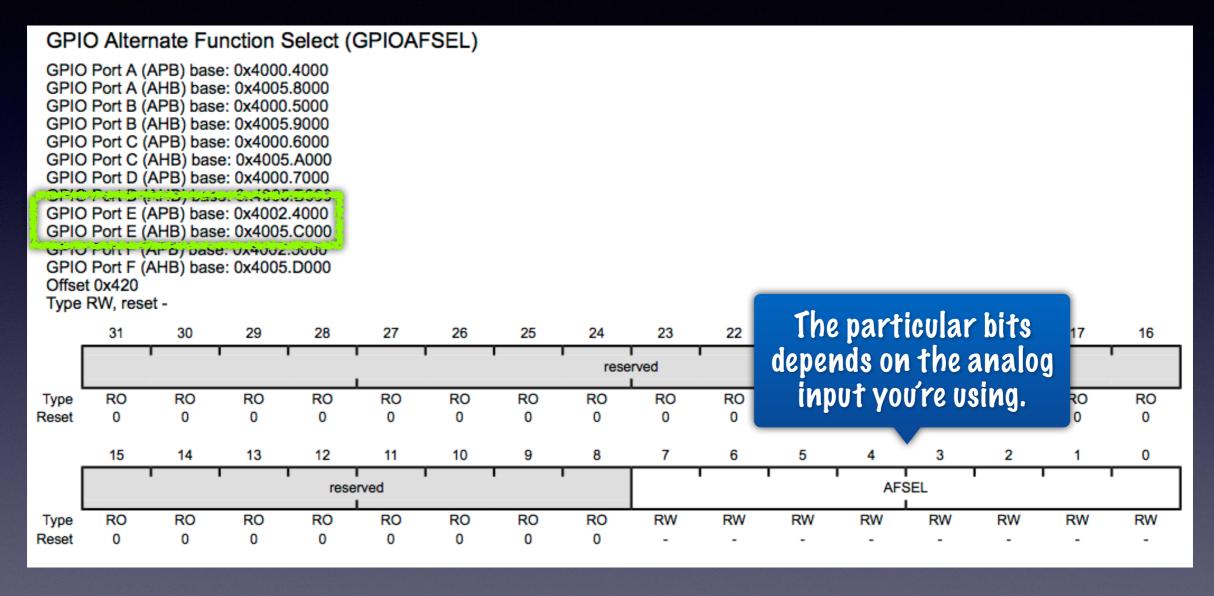


This is the clock bit for Port E.

On the Tiva, ADC inputs share pins with GPIO Port E.

Initialization Code: SYSCTL_RCGCGPI0_R |= 0x10;

Alternate Function Select

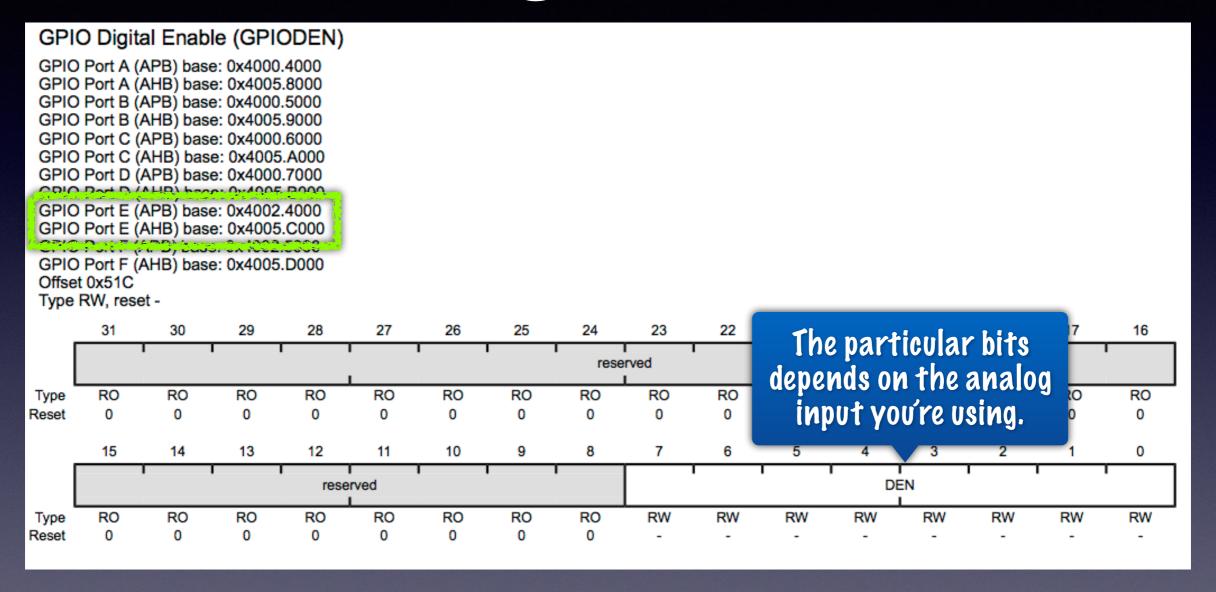


Initialization Code:

GPI0_PORTE_AFSEL_R |= 0x10;

This works for Ain9 and is NOT a general solution.

ADC Digital Enable

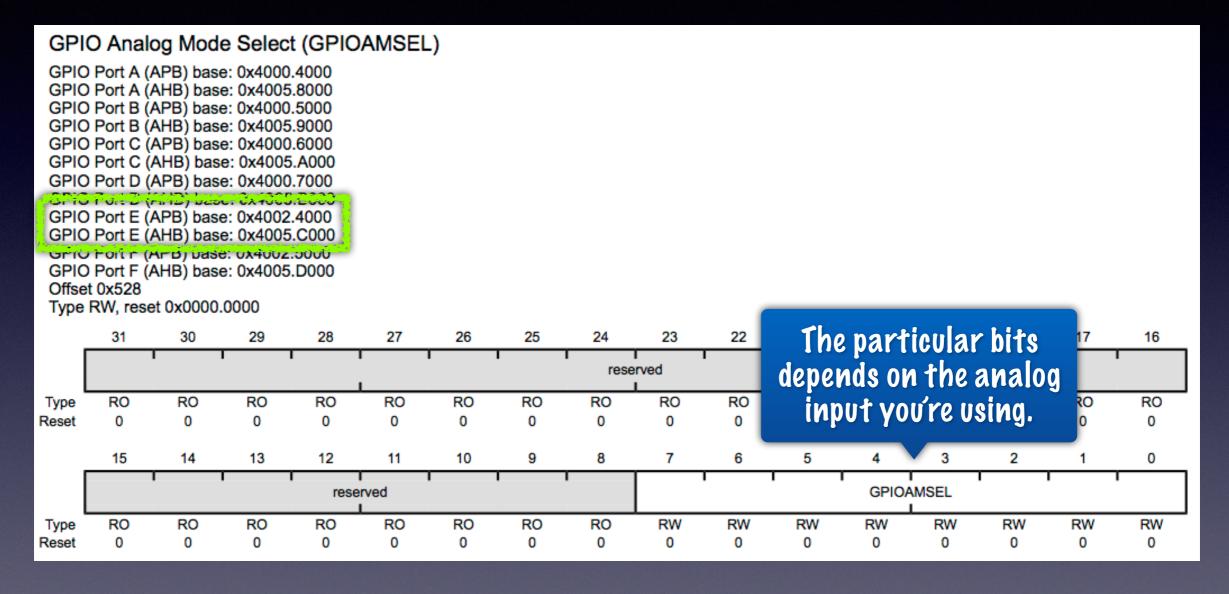


Initialization Code:

GPIO_PORTE_DEN_R |= 0x00;

Remember, DEN means "Digital input ENable". Clearly we are using analog inputs!

Analog Mode Select

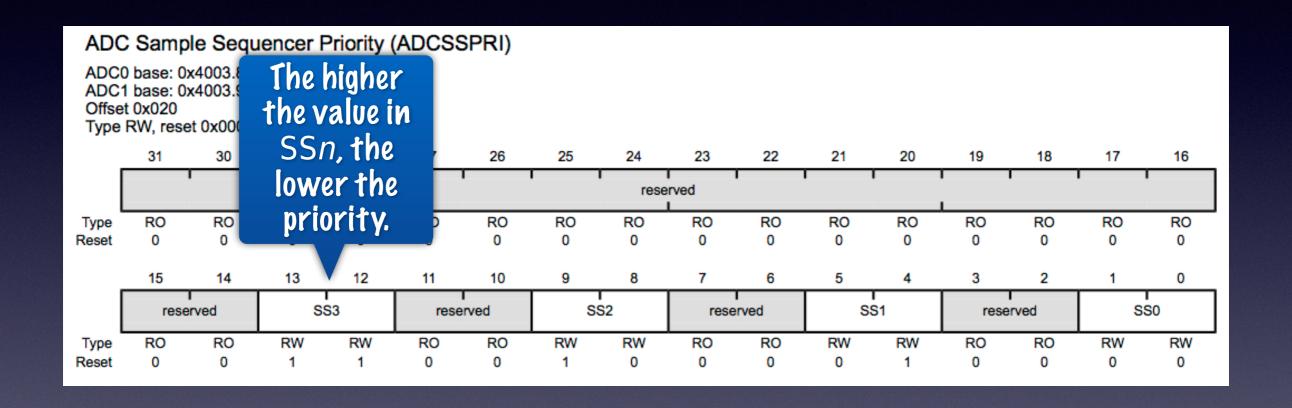


Initialization Code:

GPI0_PORTE_AMSEL_R |= 0x10;

This works for Ain9 and is NOT a general solution.

Sequence Priority Select



Initialization Code: ADC0_SSPRI_R = 0x0123;

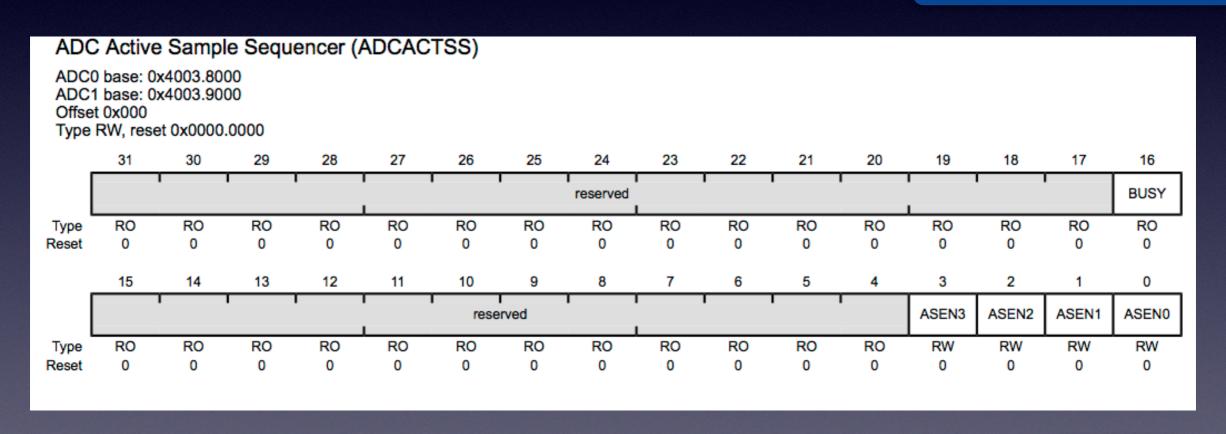
Suggested value from textbook. Inverts default priority.

Initialization Done

- So now the ADC is initialized. That was the easy part.
- Configuring the sample sequencer takes a lot more work, because every sequencer is completely programmable.

Disable the Sequencer

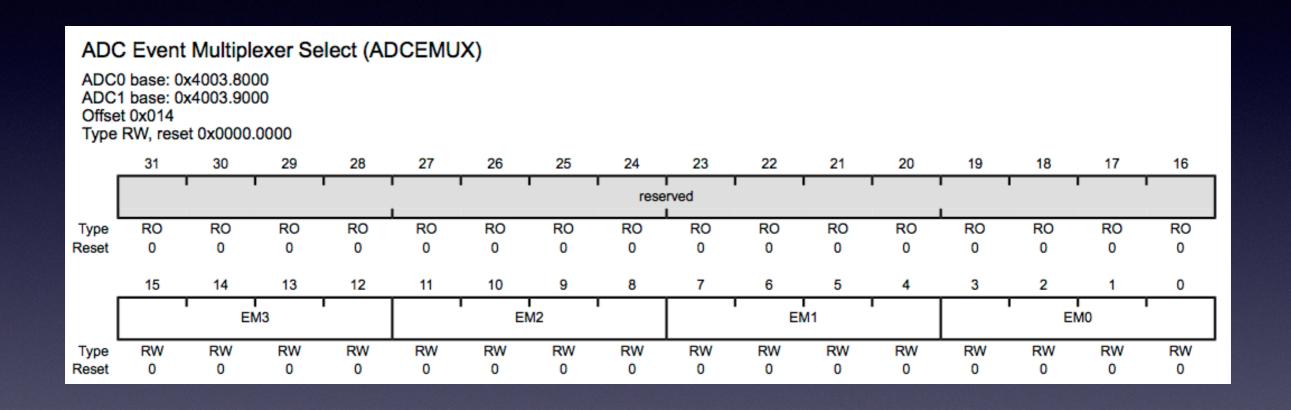
We do this during configuration to make sure there isn't an accidental trigger.



Initialization Code: ADC0_ACTSS_R &= ~0x0008;

Weird, but <u>safe,</u> clearing.

Choose the Trigger

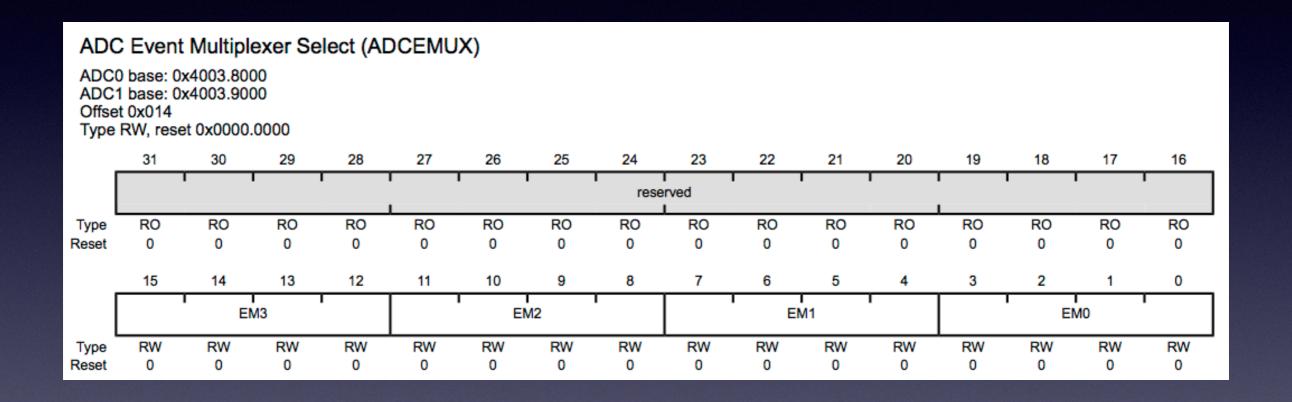


We put an appropriate value into the EMx field for whatever trigger we want.

Trigger Options

EMx Value	ADC Trigger
0×0	Processor (default)
0×1	Analog Comparator 0
0x2	Analog Comparator 1
0x3	Reserved
0x4	External (GPIO Pins)
0x5	Timer
0x6	PWM Generator 0
0x7	PWM Generator 1
0x8	PWM Generator 2
0x9	PWM Generator 3
0xA-0xE	Reserved
0xF	Always

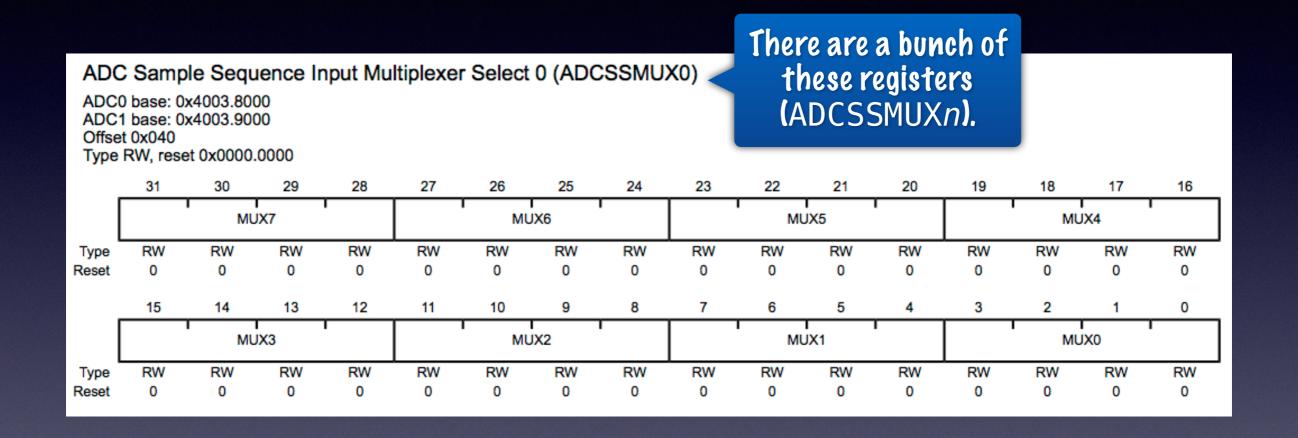
Choose the Trigger



Initialization Code: ADC0_EMUX_R &= ~0xF000;

Enables software (processor) trigger for SS3.

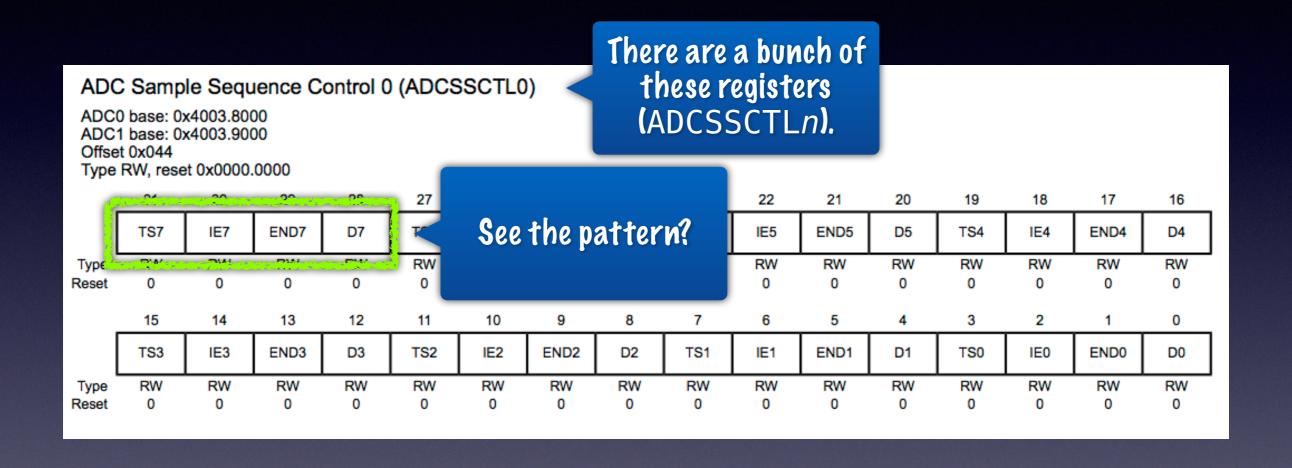
Choose the Input Source



Initialization Code: ADC0_SSMUX3_R = 0x09;

Again, this is an initialization for Ain9.

Configure Sequence Control



So what do these four bits do?

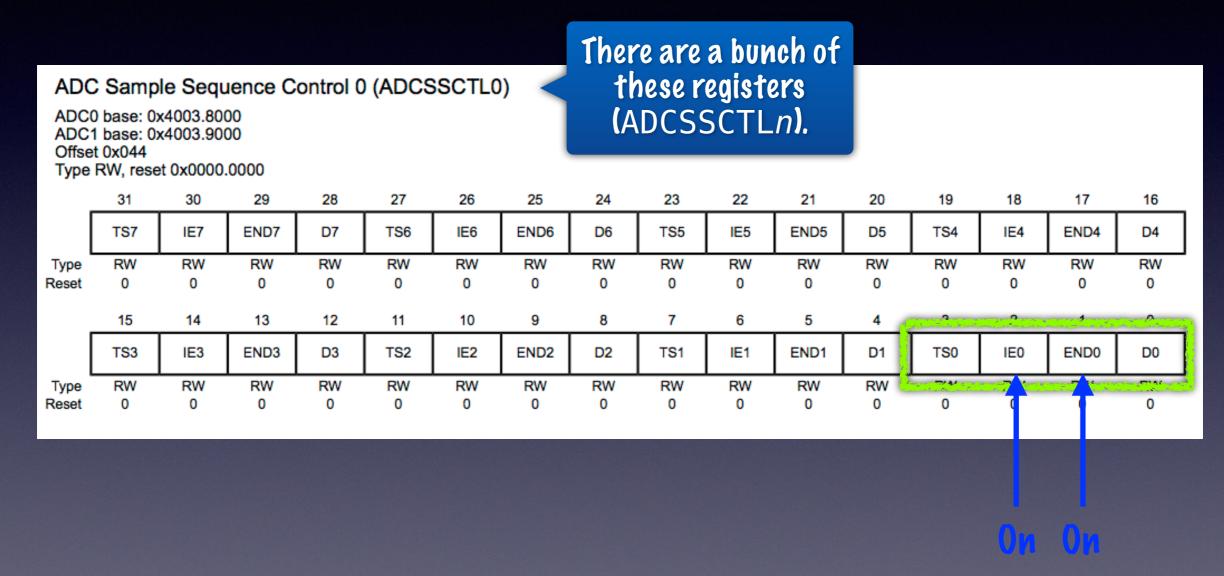
Sequence Control Bits

- nth Sample Temp Sensor Select (TSx)
 - O The input pin specified by the ADCSSMUXn register is read during the nth sample of the sample sequence.
 - 1 The temperature sensor is read during the nth sample of the sample sequence.
- nth Sample Interrupt Enable (IEx)
 - O The raw interrupt is not asserted to the interrupt controller.
 - 1 The raw interrupt signal (INRn bit) is asserted at the end of the nth sample's conversion.
 - It is legal to have multiple samples within a sequence generate interrupts.

Sequence Control Bits

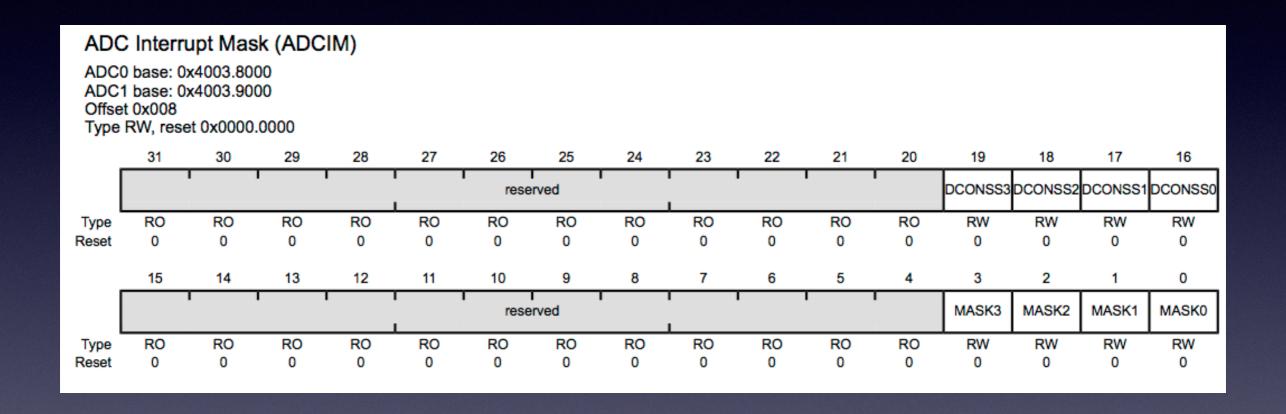
- nth Sample is End of Sequence (ENDx)
 - O Another sample in the sequence is the final sample.
 - 1 The *n*th sample is the last sample of the sequence.
 - It is possible to end the sequence on any sample position. Software must set an ENDx bit somewhere within the sequence.
- *n*th Sample Differential Input Select
 - 0 The analog inputs are not differentially sampled.
 - 1 The analog input is differentially sampled.
 - Because the temperature sensor does not have a differential option, this bit must not be set when the TSx bit is set.

Configure Sequence Control



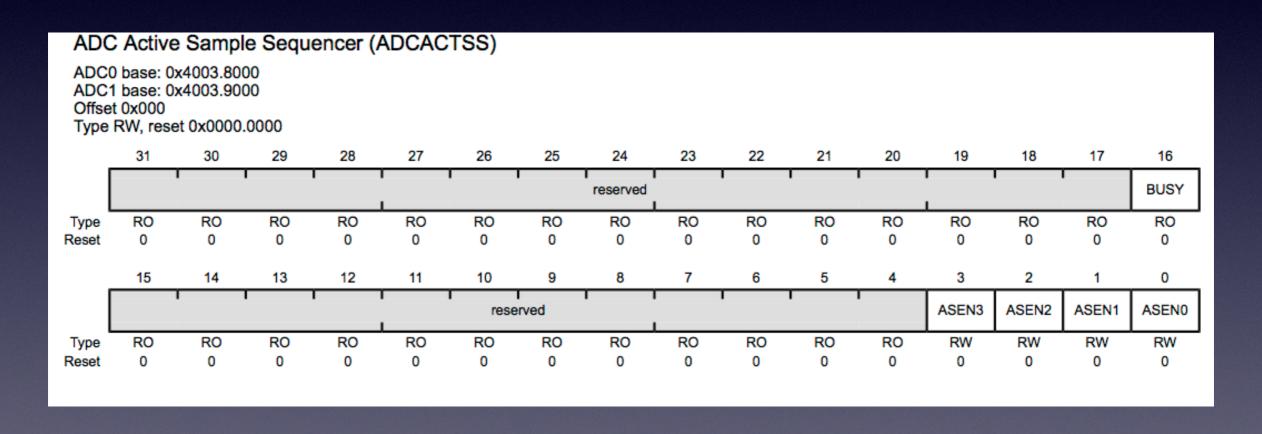
Initialization Code: ADC0_SSCTL3_R = 0x0006;

Sequence Interrupt Enable



Initialization Code: ADC0_IM_R = 0x0000;

Enabler the Sequencer



Initialization Code: ADC0_ACTSS_R |= 0x0008;

Important!

- The initializations shown in this lecture are NOT universal solutions.
- You have to pick the specific set of initializations for your application.

TivaWare ADC Functions

- The ADC API is broken into three groups of functions: those that deal with the sample sequencers, those that deal with the processor trigger, and those that deal with interrupt handling.
- The sample sequencers are configured with ADCSequenceConfigure() and ADCSequenceStepConfigure(). They are enabled and disabled with ADCSequenceEnable() and ADCSequenceDisable(). The captured data is obtained with ADCSequenceDataGet().
- The processor trigger is generated with ADCProcessorTrigger().
- The interrupt handler for the ADC sample sequencer interrupts are managed with ADCIntRegister() and ADCIntUnregister(). The sample sequencer interrupt sources are managed with ADCIntDisable(), ADCIntEnable(), ADCIntStatus(), and ADCIntClear().

ADCSequenceConfigure()

- Configures the trigger source and priority of a sample sequence.
- void ADCSequenceConfigure(uint32_t ui32Base, uint32_t ui32SequenceNum, uint32_t ui32Trigger, uint32_t ui32Priority)
 - ui32Base is the base address of the ADC module.
 ui32SequenceNum is the sample sequence number.
 ui32Trigger is the trigger source that initiates the sample sequence; must be one of the ADC_TRIGGER_* values.
 ui32Priority is the relative priority of the sample sequence with respect to the other sample sequences.
- This function configures the initiation criteria for a sample sequence. Valid sample sequencers range from zero to three. The trigger condition and priority (with respect to other sample sequencer execution) are set.
- We will almost always set the ui32Trigger parameter to ADC_TRIGGER_PROCESSOR to generate a trigger generated by processor via the ADCProcessorTrigger() function.
- The ui32Priority parameter is a value between 0 and 3, where 0 represents the highest priority and 3 the lowest. Note that when programming the priority among a set of sample sequences, each must have unique priority; it is up to the caller to guarantee the uniqueness of the priorities.

ADCSequenceEnable()

- Enables a sample sequence.
- void ADCSequenceEnable(uint32_t ui32Base, uint32_t ui32SequenceNum)
 - ui32Base is the base address of the ADC module.
 ui32SequenceNum is the sample sequence number.
- Allows the specified sample sequence to be captured when its trigger is detected.
- Remember: A sample sequence must be configured before it is enabled.

ADCSequenceDisable()

- Disables a sample sequence.
- void ADCSequenceDisable(uint32_t ui32Base, uint32_t ui32SequenceNum)
 - ui32Base is the base address of the ADC module.
 ui32SequenceNum is the sample sequence number.
- Prevents the specified sample sequence from being captured when its trigger is detected.
- Remember: A sample sequence should be disabled before it is configured.

ADCSequenceStepConfigure()

- Configure a step of the sample sequencer.
- void ADCSequenceStepConfigure(uint32_t ui32Base, uint32_t ui32SequenceNum, uint32_t ui32Step, uint32_t ui32Config)
 - ui32Base is the base address of the ADC module.
 ui32SequenceNum is the sample sequence number.
 ui32Step is the step to be configured.
 ui32Config is the configuration of this step;
 - ui32Config must be a logical OR of ADC_CTL_TS, ADC_CTL_IE, ADC_CTL_END, ADC_CTL_D, one of the input channel selects
 (ADC_CTL_CH0 through ADC_CTL_CH23), and one of the digital comparator selects (ADC_CTL_CMP0 through ADC_CTL_CMP7).

ADCSequenceStepConfigure()

- Bit Field Meanings:
 - ADC_CTL_D Differential Mode
 - ADC_CTL_CH0-ADC_CTL_CH23 Select the channel to sample
 - ADC_CTL_TS Use the internal temperature sensor
 - ADC_CTL_END Configure this step to be the last step
 - ADC_CTL_IE Enable the interrupt for this step
- The **ui32Step** parameter determines the order in which the samples are captured by the ADC when the trigger occurs.
 - Valid values:
 - First sequencer 0-7
 - Second sequencer 0-3
 - Third sequencer 0-3
 - Fourth sequencer 0

ADCProcessorTrigger()

- Causes a processor trigger for a sample sequence.
- ADCProcessorTrigger(uint32_t ui32Base, uint32_t ui32SequenceNum)
 - ui32Base is the base address of the ADC module.
 ui32SequenceNum is the sample sequence number.
- This function triggers a processor-initiated sample sequence if the sample sequence trigger is configured to ADC_TRIGGER_PROCESSOR.

ADCSequenceDataGet()

- Gets the captured data for a sample sequence.
- int32_t ADCSequenceDataGet(uint32_t ui32Base, uint32_t ui32SequenceNum, uint32_t* pui32Buffer)
 - ui32Base is the base address of the ADC module.
 ui32SequenceNum is the sample sequence number.
 pui32Buffer is the address where the data is stored.

Be clear: This is a pointer!

- This function copies data from the specified sample sequencer output FIFO to a memory resident buffer. The number of samples available in the hardware FIFO are copied into the buffer, which is assumed to be large enough to hold that many samples.
- Returns the number of samples copied to the buffer.

```
uint32_t ui32Value;
3
                                                                               Configure ADCO,
          // Enable the first sample sequencer to capture the value of chann
4
5
          // the processor trigger occurs.
                                                                              Sequencer 0 to be
6
                                                                             processor triggered
          ADCSequenceConfigure(ADC0_BASE, 0, ADC_TRIGGER_PROCESSOR, 0);
          ADCSequenceStepConfigure(ADC0_BASE, 0, 0,
8
                                                                              with the highest
                                   ADC CTL IE | ADC CTL END | ADC CTL CH0);
9
                                                                                    priority.
          ADCSequenceEnable(ADC0_BASE, 0);
10
11
          //
          // Trigger the sample sequence.
12
13
          ADCProcessorTrigger(ADC0_BASE, 0);
14
15
          //
16
          // Wait until the sample sequence has completed.
17
          while(!ADCIntStatus(ADC0_BASE, 0, false))
18
19
20
21
22
          // Read the value from the ADC.
23
          ADCSequenceDataGet(ADC0_BASE, 0, &ui32Value);
24
```

```
uint32_t ui32Value;
3
          // Enable the first sample sequencer to capture the value of channel 0 when
4
5
          // the processor trigger occurs.
                                                                                 APCO, sequencer 0,
6
                                                                                  sample 0. Enable
          ADCSequenceConfigure(ADC0_BASE, 0, ADC_TRIGGER_PROCESSOR, 0);
          ADCSequenceStepConfigure(ADC0_BASE, 0, 0,
8
                                                                                    the interrupt,
                                   ADC CTL IE | ADC CTL END | ADC CTL CH0);
9
          ADCSequenceEnable(ADC0_BASE, 0);
                                                                                 indicate this is the
10
11
          //
                                                                                   last sample and
          // Trigger the sample sequence.
12
13
                                                                                 read from channel
          ADCProcessorTrigger(ADC0_BASE, 0);
14
15
          //
16
          // Wait until the sample sequence has completed.
17
          while(!ADCIntStatus(ADC0_BASE, 0, false))
18
19
20
21
22
          // Read the value from the ADC.
23
          ADCSequenceDataGet(ADC0_BASE, 0, &ui32Value);
24
```

```
uint32_t ui32Value;
3
          // Enable the first sample sequencer to capture the value of channel 0 when
4
5
          // the processor trigger occurs.
6
          ADCSequenceConfigure(ADC0_BASE, 0, AD
          ADCSequenceStepConfigure(ADC0_BASE,
8
                                    ADC CTL IE
9
                                                      Enable the
10
          ADCSequenceEnable(ADC0_BASE, 0);
                                                      sequencer.
11
          //
          // Trigger the sample sequence.
12
13
          ADCProcessorTrigger(ADC0_BASE, 0);
14
15
          //
          // Wait until the sample sequence has completed.
16
17
          while(!ADCIntStatus(ADC0_BASE, 0, false))
18
19
20
21
22
          // Read the value from the ADC.
23
          ADCSequenceDataGet(ADC0_BASE, 0, &ui32Value);
24
```

```
uint32_t ui32Value;
3
          // Enable the first sample sequencer to capture the value of channel 0 when
4
5
          // the processor trigger occurs.
6
          ADCSequenceConfigure(ADC0_BASE, 0, ADC_TRIGGER_PROCESSOR, 0);
          ADCSequenceStepConfigure(ADC0_BASE, 0, 0,
8
                                    ADC_CTL_IE | ADC_CTL_END | ADC_CTL_CH0);
9
          ADCSequenceEnable(ADC0_BASE, 0);
10
11
          //
          // Trigger the sample sequence.
12
                                                           Trigger the
13
          ADCProcessorTrigger(ADC0_BASE, 0);
14
                                                           conversion.
15
          //
          // Wait until the sample sequence has comp
16
17
          while(!ADCIntStatus(ADC0_BASE, 0, false))
18
19
20
21
22
          // Read the value from the ADC.
23
          ADCSequenceDataGet(ADC0_BASE, 0, &ui32Value);
24
```

```
uint32_t ui32Value;
3
          // Enable the first sample sequencer to capture the value of channel 0 when
4
5
          // the processor trigger occurs.
6
          ADCSequenceConfigure(ADC0_BASE, 0, ADC_TRIGGER_PROCESSOR, 0);
          ADCSequenceStepConfigure(ADC0_BASE, 0, 0,
8
                                   ADC CTL IE | ADC CTL END | ADC CTL CH0);
9
          ADCSequenceEnable(ADC0_BASE, 0);
10
11
          //
          // Trigger the sample sequence.
12
13
          ADCProcessorTrigger(ADC0_BASE, 0);
14
15
          //
          // Wait until the sample sequence has complete
                                                              Wait for the
16
17
                                                              conversion to
          while(!ADCIntStatus(ADC0_BASE, 0, false))
18
19
                                                                complete.
20
21
22
          // Read the value from the ADC.
23
          ADCSequenceDataGet(ADC0_BASE, 0, &ui32Value);
24
```

```
uint32_t ui32Value;
4
          // Enable the first sample sequencer to capture the value of channel 0 when
5
          // the processor trigger occurs.
6
          ADCSequenceConfigure(ADC0_BASE, 0, ADC_TRIGGER_PROCESSOR, 0);
          ADCSequenceStepConfigure(ADC0_BASE, 0, 0,
8
9
                                    ADC CTL IE | ADC CTL END | ADC CTL CH0);
          ADCSequenceEnable(ADC0_BASE, 0);
10
11
          // Trigger the sample sequence.
12
13
          ADCProcessorTrigger(ADC0_BASE, 0);
14
15
16
          // Wait until the sample sequence has completed.
17
          while(!ADCIntStatus(ADC0_BASE, 0, false))
18
19
20
21
          // Read the value from the ADC.
22
23
                                                                  Get the result.
          ADCSequenceDataGet(ADC0_BASE, 0, &ui32Value);
24
```

Definitely note how the data is collected. We pass the address of ui32Value using the & operator.

Summary

- ATD is hard, expensive and necessary.
- The Tiva C has two 12-bit, 8-channel ATD converter units (at least most do).
- Remember, resolution = $(V_{RH}-V_{RL})/2^b$.