



# AcquisitionApplets Advanced

Acq\_DualGEx2AreaGray12  
for microEnable IV VQ4-GE/-GPoE

# AcquisitionApplets Advanced

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User Documentation

## **Acq\_DualGEx2AreaGray12 for microEnable IV VQ4-GE/-GPoE**

### **Applet Characteristics**

Applet Name	Acq_DualGEx2AreaGray12
Applet Version	1.0.2
Type of Applet	AcquisitionApplets Advanced
Frame Grabber	microEnable IV VQ4-GE/-GPoE
No. of Cameras	2
Camera Interface	Gigabit Ethernet with Link Aggregation
Sensor Type	Area Scan
Color	Grayscale
Processing Bit Depth	12 Bit

### **Supplemental Information**

1. Runtime Software Documentation: Is part of the Runtime Software Installation [InstDir]/doc
2. AcquisitionApplets Advanced Release Notes: Please refer to the Runtime Software Documentation, section *AcquisitionApplets Advanced - Release Notes*
3. Software Updates and Support (engl.): [www.Silicon-Software.info/en/downloads.html](http://www.Silicon-Software.info/en/downloads.html)
4. Software Updates and Support (dt.): [www.Silicon-Software.info/de/downloads.html](http://www.Silicon-Software.info/de/downloads.html)

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# Chapter 1. Introduction

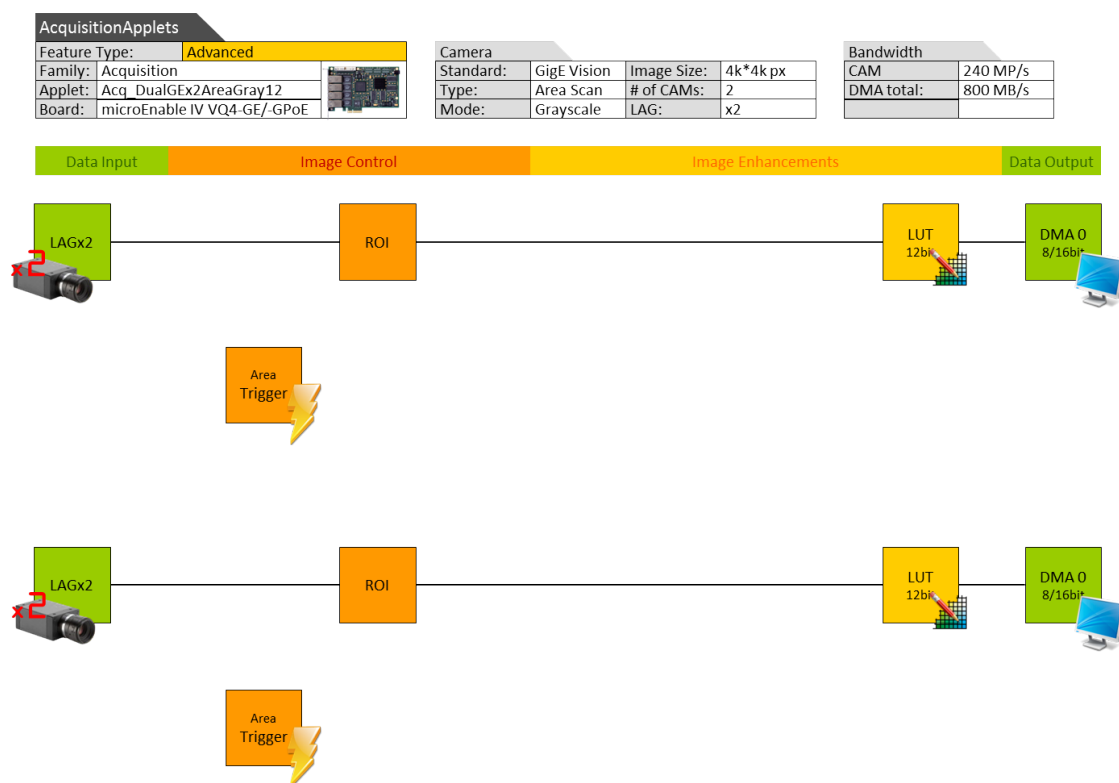
This document provides detailed information on the Silicon Software

AcquisitionApplets Advanced "Acq\_DualGEx2AreaGray12" for microEnable IV VQ4-GE/-GPoE frame grabbers. This document will outline the features and benefits of this AcquisitionApplets Advanced. Furthermore, the output formats and the software interface is explained. The main part of this document includes the detailed description of all applet modules and their parameters which make the AcquisitionApplets Advanced adaptable for numerous applications.



## 1.1. Features of Applet Acq\_DualGEx2AreaGray12

Figure 1.1. Block Diagram of AcquisitionApplets Advanced Acq\_DualGEx2AreaGray12




AcquisitionApplets Advanced "Acq\_DualGEx2AreaGray12" is a dual camera applet. Up to two individual cameras can be used in parallel. All features of this applet are available for both camera ports. The Gigabit Ethernet link aggregation (LAG) camera interface can be configured for GigE Vision cameras transferring grayscale pixels at bit depths between 8 and 16 bits. A multi-functional area trigger is included to control the camera or external devices using grabber generated, external or software generated trigger pulses. Area scan cameras transferring images with a resolution of up to 4096 by 4096 pixels are supported. The applet is processing data at a bit depth of 12 bits. Acquired images are buffered in frame grabber memory. A ROI can be selected for further processing. The stepsize of the ROI width is 16 pixel and the ROI stepsize for the image height is 1 lines. The full resolution lookup table can either be configured by using a user defined table or by using a processor. The processor gives the opportunity

to use pre-defined functions such as offset, gain, and gamma to enhance the image quality.

Processed image data is output via high speed DMA channels. Pixel format can either be 8 or 16 bits per pixel.

The applet can easily be included into user applications using the Silicon Software runtime.

**Table 1.1. Feature Summary of Acq\_DualGEx2AreaGray12**

Feature	Applet Property
Applet Name	 Acq_DualGEx2AreaGray12
Type of Applet	AcquisitionApplets Advanced
Board	microEnable IV VQ4-GE/-GPoE
No. of Cameras	2 , asynchronous or synchronous
Camera Type	link aggregation (LAG)  GigE Vision (MONO8, MONO8_SIGNED, MONO10, MONO10_PACKED, MONO12, MONO12_PACKED, MONO16)
Sensor Type	Area Scan
Camera Format	Grayscale
Processing Bit Depth	12 Bit
Maximum Images Dimensions	4096 * 4096
ROI Stepsize	x: 16, y: 1
Mirroring	no
Image Selector	No
Noise Filter	No
Shading Correction	No
Dead Pixel Interpolation	No
Bayer Filter	No
Color White Balancing	No
Lookup Table	Full Resolution
DMA	Full Speed
DMA Image Output Format	Grayscale 8 or 16 bits
Event Generation	yes
Overflow Control	yes

### 1.1.1.1. Parameterization Order

It is recommended to configure the functional blocks which are responsible for sensor correction first. This will be the camera settings, shading correction and dead pixel

interpolation, if available. Afterwards, other image enhancement functional blocks can be configured, such as the white balancing, noise filter and lookup table.

## 1.2. Bandwidth

The maximum bandwidths of applet Acq\_DualGEx2AreaGray12 are listed in the following table.

**Table 1.2. Bandwidth of Acq\_DualGEx2AreaGray12**

Description	Bandwidth
Mean Bandwidth per Camera	240 MPixel/s
DMA Bandwidth	800 MByte/s (depends on PC mainboard)

The mean bandwidth per camera describes the maximum allowed mean bandwidth for each camera at the camera interface. It is the product of the framerate and the image pixels. For example, for a 1 Megapixel image and a framerate of 100 fps, the mean bandwidth will be 100 MPixel/s.

The required output bandwidth of an applet can differ from the input bandwidth. A region of interest (ROI) and the output format can change the required output bandwidth and the maximum mean bandwidth. Mind that the DMA bandwidth is the total bandwidth. The sum of all camera channel bandwidths has to be less than the maximum DMA bandwidth to avoid overflows.

Regard the relation between MPixel/s and MByte/s. The MByte/s depends on the applet and the parameterization. 1 MByte is 1,000,000 Byte.



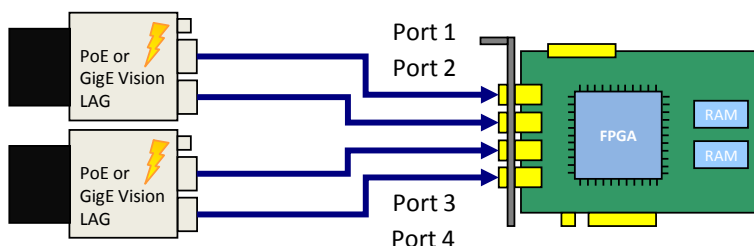
### Bandwidth Varies

The exact maximum DMA bandwidth depends on the used PC system. The camera bandwidth depends on the image size. The given values might vary.

## 1.3. Camera Interface

AcquisitionApplets Advanced "Acq\_DualGEx2AreaGray12" supports Gigabit Ethernet Vision cameras. The microEnable IV VQ4-GE/-GPoE frame grabber has four Gigabit Ethernet camera ports {0, 1, 2, 3}. This applet supports 2 asynchronous camera(s). LAG camera(s) have to be connected using two cables. Connect the first cameras to ports 0 and 1 while a second camera has to be connected to ports 1 and 2.

**Figure 1.2. Camera Interface and Camera Cable Setup**



## 1.4. Image Transfer to PC Memory



Image transfer between the frame grabber and the PC is performed by DMA transfers. In this applet, 2 DMA channels exist to transfer the image data. One channel for each camera. The DMA channels have the same indices as the cameras starting with 0. The applet output format can be set with the parameters of the output format module. See Chapter 9, *Output Format*. All outputs are little endian coded.



### **DMA Image Tag**

The applet does not generate a valid DMA image tag (*FG\_IMAGE\_TAG*). Check for lost or corrupted frames using the overflow module described in Chapter 6, *Overflow*. Moreover the trigger system offers possibilities to detect lost trigger signals. See Chapter 5, *Trigger* for more information.

---

## Chapter 2. Software Interface

The software interface is fully compatible to the Silicon Software runtime. Please read the SDK manual of the Silicon Software runtime software to understand how to include the microEnable frame grabbers and their applets into own applications.

The runtime includes functional SDK examples which use the features of the runtime. Most of these examples can be used with this AcquisitionApplets Advanced. These examples are very useful to learn on how to acquire images, set parameters and use events.

This document is focused on the explanation of the functionality and parameterization of the applet. The next chapter will list all parameters of this applet. Keep in mind that for multi-camera applets, parameters are can be set for all cameras individually. The sample source codes in parameterize the processing components of the first camera. The index in the source code examples has to be changed for the other cameras.

Amongst others, parameters of the applet are set and read using functions

- `int Fg_setParameter(Fg_Struct *Fg, const int Parameter, const void *Value, const unsigned int index)`
- `int Fg_setParameterWithType(Fg_Struct *Fg, const int Parameter, const void *Value, const unsigned int index, const enum FgParamTypes type)`
- `int Fg_getParameter(Fg_Struct *Fg, int Parameter, void *Value, const unsigned int index)`
- `int Fg_getParameterWithType(Fg_Struct *Fg, const int Parameter, void *Value, const unsigned int index, const enum FgParamTypes type)`

The index is used to address a DMA channel a camera index or a processing logic index. It is important to understand the relations between cameras, processes, parameters and DMA channels. This AcquisitionApplets Advanced is a dual camera applet and is using only one DMA channel for each camera. All parameterizations for the first camera are made using index 0 and all parameterizations for the second camera are made using index 1.

For applets having multiple DMA channels for each camera, the relation between the indices is more complex. Please check the respective documentation of these applets for more details.

## Chapter 3. Camera

This AcquisitionApplets Advanced can be used with up to 2 area scan cameras. To receive correct image data from your camera, it is crucial that the camera output format matches the selected frame grabber input format. The following parameters configure the grabber's camera interface to match with the individual camera properties. Most cameras support different operation modes. Please, consult the manual of your camera to obtain the necessary information, how to configure the camera to the desired data format.

Ensure that the images transferred by the camera do not exceed the maximum allowed image dimensions for this applet (4096 x 4096).

### 3.1. FG\_GBE\_CAMTYPE

This parameter specifies the data format of the connected camera. Select the same setting as used in the camera. In this AcquisitionApplets Advanced, the processing data bit depth is 12 bit. The camera interface automatically performs a conversion to the 12 bit format using bit shifting independently from the selected camera format. If the link bit depth is greater than the processing bit depth, bits will be right shifted to meet the internal bit depth. If the Camera Link bit depth is less than the processing bit depth, bits will be left shifted to meet the internal bit depth. In this case, the lower bits are fixed to zero.

**Table 3.1. Parameter properties of FG\_GBE\_CAMTYPE**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_GBE_CAMTYPE</b>
Type	<b>Enumeration</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>MON08</b> Mono 8bit <b>MON08_SIGNED</b> Mono 8bit signed <b>MON010</b> Mono 10bit <b>MON012</b> Mono 12bit <b>MON016</b> Mono 16bit
Default value	<b>MON08</b>

**Example 3.1. Usage of FG\_GBE\_CAMTYPE**

```
int result = 0;
unsigned int value = MON08;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_GBE_CAMTYPE, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_GBE_CAMTYPE, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}
```

### 3.2. FG\_MTU\_SIZE

Specify the MTU size set for the link. The MTU size can be easily adapted and obtained from the GenICam explorer or by SDK parameter.

**Table 3.2. Parameter properties of FG\_MTU\_SIZE**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_MTU_SIZE</b>
Type	<b>Unsigned Integer</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum 44</b> <b>Maximum 9036</b> <b>Stepsize 4</b>
Default value	<b>7204</b>
Unit of measure	<b>byte</b>

**Example 3.2. Usage of FG\_MTU\_SIZE**

```
int result = 0;
unsigned int value = 7204;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_MTU_SIZE, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_MTU_SIZE, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}
```

### 3.3. FG\_SWAP\_CHANNELS

If the link aggregation gigabit ethernet cables are in wrong order and the image is corrupted, you can swap the channels.

**Table 3.3. Parameter properties of FG\_SWAP\_CHANNELS**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_SWAP_CHANNELS</b>
Type	<b>Enumeration</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>FG_YES</b> Yes <b>FG_NO</b> No
Default value	<b>FG_YES</b>

**Example 3.3. Usage of FG\_SWAP\_CHANNELS**

```
int result = 0;
unsigned int value = FG_YES;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_SWAP_CHANNELS, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_SWAP_CHANNELS, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}
```

### 3.4. FG\_CAMERA\_WIDTH

The parameter specifies the width of the image sent by the camera to the frame grabber. Set this parameter to exactly the same value as specified in the camera. Keep in mind that this parameter is not the width of the sensor - it is the width of the ROI set in the camera.

**Table 3.4. Parameter properties of FG\_CAMERA\_WIDTH**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_CAMERA_WIDTH</b>
Type	<b>Unsigned Integer</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum 16</b> <b>Maximum 4096</b> <b>Stepsize 16</b>
Default value	<b>1024</b>
Unit of measure	<b>pixel</b>

**Example 3.4. Usage of FG\_CAMERA\_WIDTH**

```
int result = 0;
unsigned int value = 1024;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

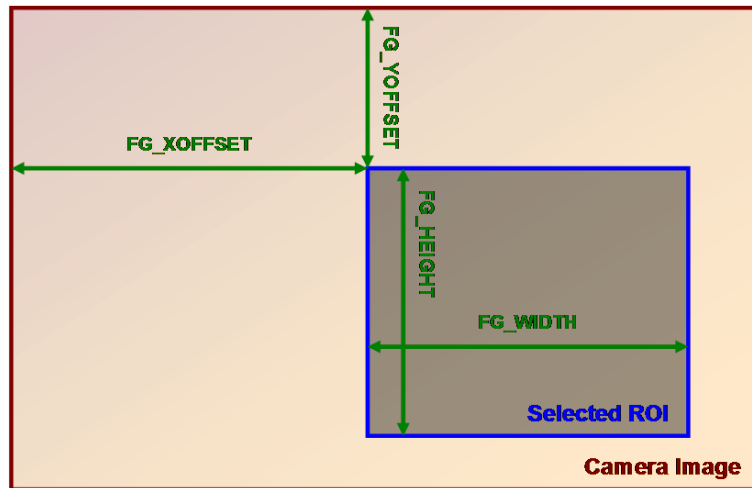
if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_CAMERA_WIDTH, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_CAMERA_WIDTH, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}
```

## Chapter 4. ROI

This module allows the definition of a region of interest (ROI), also called area of interest (AOI). A ROI allows the selection of a smaller subset pixel area from the input image. It is defined by using parameters *FG\_XOFFSET*, *FG\_WIDTH*, *FG\_YOFFSET* and *FG\_HEIGHT*. The following figure illustrates the parameters.

**Figure 4.1. Region of Interest**



As can be seen, the region of interest lies within the input image dimensions. Thus, if the image dimension provided by the camera is greater or equal to the specified ROI parameters, the applet will fully cut-out the ROI subset pixel area. However, if the image provided by the camera is smaller than the specified ROI, lines will be filled with random pixel content and the image height might be cut or filled with random image lines as illustrated in the following.

**Figure 4.2. Region of Interest Selection Outside the Input Image Dimensions**



Furthermore, mind that the image send by the camera must not exceed the maximum allowed image dimensions. This applet allows a maximum image width of 4096 pixels and a maximum image height of 4096 lines. The chosen ROI settings can have a direct influence on the maximum bandwidth of the applet as they define the image size and thus, define the amount of data.

The parameters have dynamic value ranges. For example an x-offset cannot be set if the sum of the offset and the image width will exceed the maximum image width. To set a high x-offset, the image width has to be reduced, first. Hence, the order of setting the parameters for this module is important. The return values of the function calls in the SDK should always be evaluated to check if changes were accepted.

Mind the minimum step size of the parameters. This applet has a minimum step size of 16 pixel for the width and the x-offset, while the step size for the height and the y-offset is 1.

The settings made in this module will define the display size and buffer size if the applet is used in microDisplay. If you use the applet in your own programs, ensure to define a sufficient buffer size for the DMA transfers in your PC memory.

All ROI parameters can only be changed if the acquisition is not started i.e. stopped.



## Camera ROI

Most cameras allow the setting of a ROI inside the camera. The ROI settings described in this section are independent from the camera settings.



## Influence on Bandwidth

A ROI might cause a strong reduction of the required bandwidth. If possible, the camera frame dimension should be reduced directly in the camera to the desired size instead of reducing the size in the applet. This will reduce the required bandwidth between the camera and the frame grabber.

## 4.1. FG\_WIDTH

The parameter specifies the width of the ROI. The values of parameters *FG\_WIDTH* + *FG\_XOFFSET* must not exceed the maximum image width of 4096 pixels.

**Table 4.1. Parameter properties of FG\_WIDTH**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_WIDTH</b>
Type	<b>Unsigned Integer</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum 16</b> <b>Maximum 4096</b> <b>Stepsize 16</b>
Default value	<b>1024</b>
Unit of measure	<b>pixel</b>

**Example 4.1. Usage of FG\_WIDTH**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = 1024;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_WIDTH, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_WIDTH, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

## 4.2. FG\_HEIGHT

The parameter specifies the height of the ROI. The values of parameters *FG\_HEIGHT* + *FG\_YOFFSET* must not exceed the maximum image height of 4096 pixels.

**Table 4.2. Parameter properties of FG\_HEIGHT**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_HEIGHT</b>
Type	<b>Unsigned Integer</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum 2</b> <b>Maximum 4096</b> <b>Stepsize 1</b>
Default value	<b>1024</b>
Unit of measure	<b>pixel</b>

**Example 4.2. Usage of FG\_HEIGHT**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = 1024;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_HEIGHT, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_HEIGHT, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

## 4.3. FG\_XOFFSET

The x-offset is defined by this parameter.



**Table 4.3. Parameter properties of FG\_XOFFSET**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_XOFFSET</b>
Type	<b>Unsigned Integer</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum 0</b> <b>Maximum 4080</b> <b>Stepsize 16</b>
Default value	<b>0</b>
Unit of measure	<b>pixel</b>

**Example 4.3. Usage of FG\_XOFFSET**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = 0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_XOFFSET, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_XOFFSET, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

## 4.4. FG\_YOFFSET

The y-offset is defined by this parameter.

**Table 4.4. Parameter properties of FG\_YOFFSET**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_YOFFSET</b>
Type	<b>Unsigned Integer</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum 0</b> <b>Maximum 4095</b> <b>Stepsize 1</b>
Default value	<b>0</b>
Unit of measure	<b>pixel</b>

**Example 4.4. Usage of FG\_YOFFSET**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = 0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_YOFFSET, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_YOFFSET, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

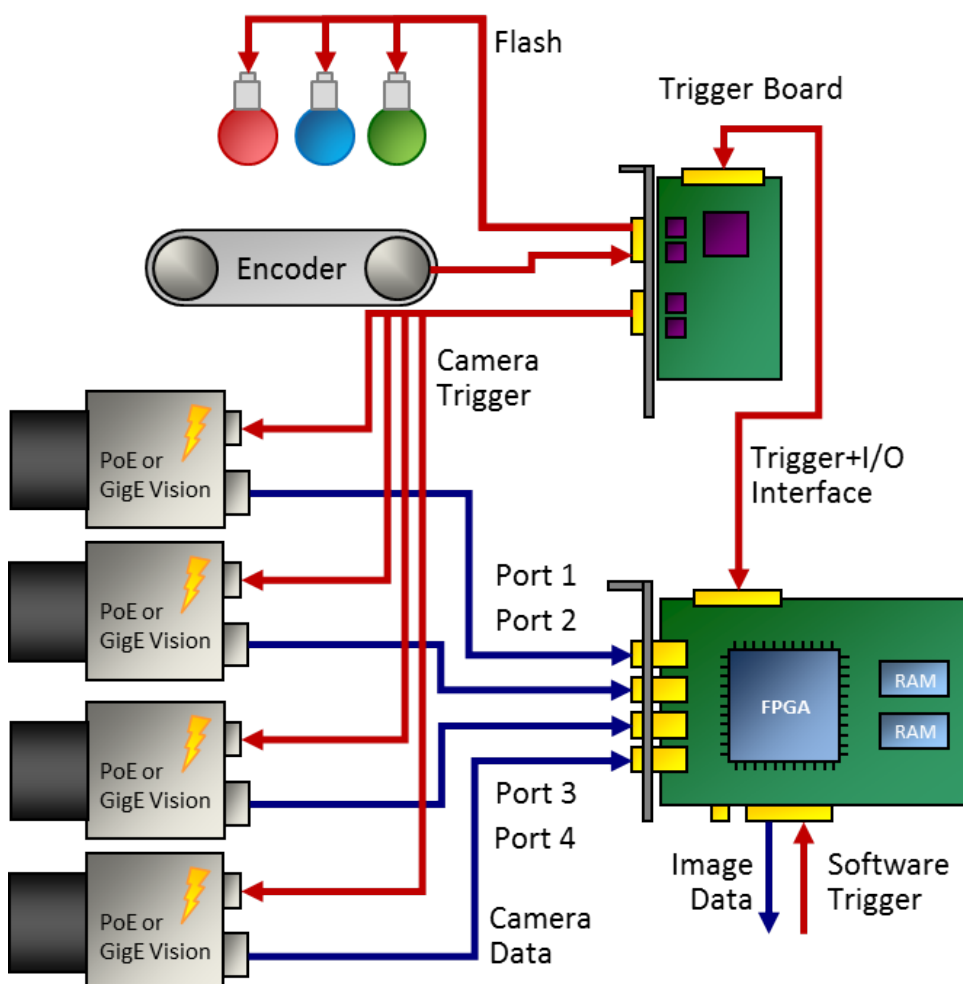
```

# Chapter 5. Trigger

The area trigger system enables the control of the image acquisition process of the frame grabber and the connected camera(s). In detail it controls the exact exposure time of the camera and controls external devices. The trigger source can be external devices, internal frequency generators or the user's software application.

Figure 5.1 shows an overview of the signals involved. There are eight different input signals available to the trigger system plus a software trigger input. The external trigger inputs are connected to the frame grabber through a SiliconSoftware trigger IO board. The microEnable IV VQ4-GE/-GPoE generates the desired trigger outputs and control signals from the input events according to the trigger system's parameterization. The trigger system outputs can be routed to the Gigabit Ethernet cameras using the digital outputs. These outputs can also be used for control of external devices such as flash lights, for synchronization or for debugging.

**Figure 5.1. microEnable microEnable IV VQ4-GE/-GPoE Trigger System**



In the following an introduction into the Silicon Software microEnable microEnable IV VQ4-GE/-GPoE trigger system is presented. Several trigger scenarios will show the possibilities and functionalities and will help to understand the trigger system. The documentation includes the parameter reference where all parameters of the trigger system are listed and their functionality is explained in detail.

## 5.1. Features and Functional Blocks of Area Trigger

The Silicon Software trigger system was designed to fulfill the requirements of various applications. Powerful features for trigger generation, controlling and monitoring were included in the implementation. This includes:

- Trigger signal generation for cameras and external devices.
- **External devices** such as encoders and light barriers can be used to source the trigger system and control the trigger signal generation.
- In alternative an internal **frequency generator** can be used to generate trigger pulses.
- The trigger signal generation can be fully controlled by **software** . Single pulses or sequences of pulses can be generated. The trigger system will automatically control and limit the output frequency.
- Input **signal monitoring** .
- Input signal **frequency analysis** and **pulse counting** .
- Input signal **debouncing**
- Input signal **downscaling**
- **Pulse multiplication** using a sequencer and controllable maximum output frequency. Make up to 65,000 output pulses out of a single input pulse.
- **Trigger pulse queue** for buffering up to 2000 pulses and control the output using a maximum frequency valve.
- Four **pulse form generators** for individual controlling of pulse widths, delays and output downscaling.
- **Eight outputs**
- A **bypass** option to keep the pulse forms of the input signals and forward them to outputs and cameras.
- **Event generation** for input and output monitoring by application software.
- Trigger state events for fill level monitoring, trigger busy states and lost trigger signals give full control of the system.
- Camera **frame loss notification** .
- Full **trigger signal reliability** and easy error detections.

The trigger system is controlled and configured using parameters. Several read only parameters return status information on the current trigger state. Moreover, the trigger system is capable of generating events for efficient monitoring and controlling of the trigger system, the software, the frame grabber and external hardware.

The complex trigger system can be easily used and parameterized. The following figure shows a block diagram of the implementation. As can be seen, the trigger system consists of four different main functional blocks.

### 1. Trigger Input:

Trigger inputs can be external signals, as well as software generated inputs and the frequency generator. Moreover, if you are using a multi-camera applet, the cameras can be synchronized and can be controlled by the trigger configuration of the first camera.

External input signals are debounced and split into several paths for monitoring, and further processing.

### 2. Input Pulse Processing:

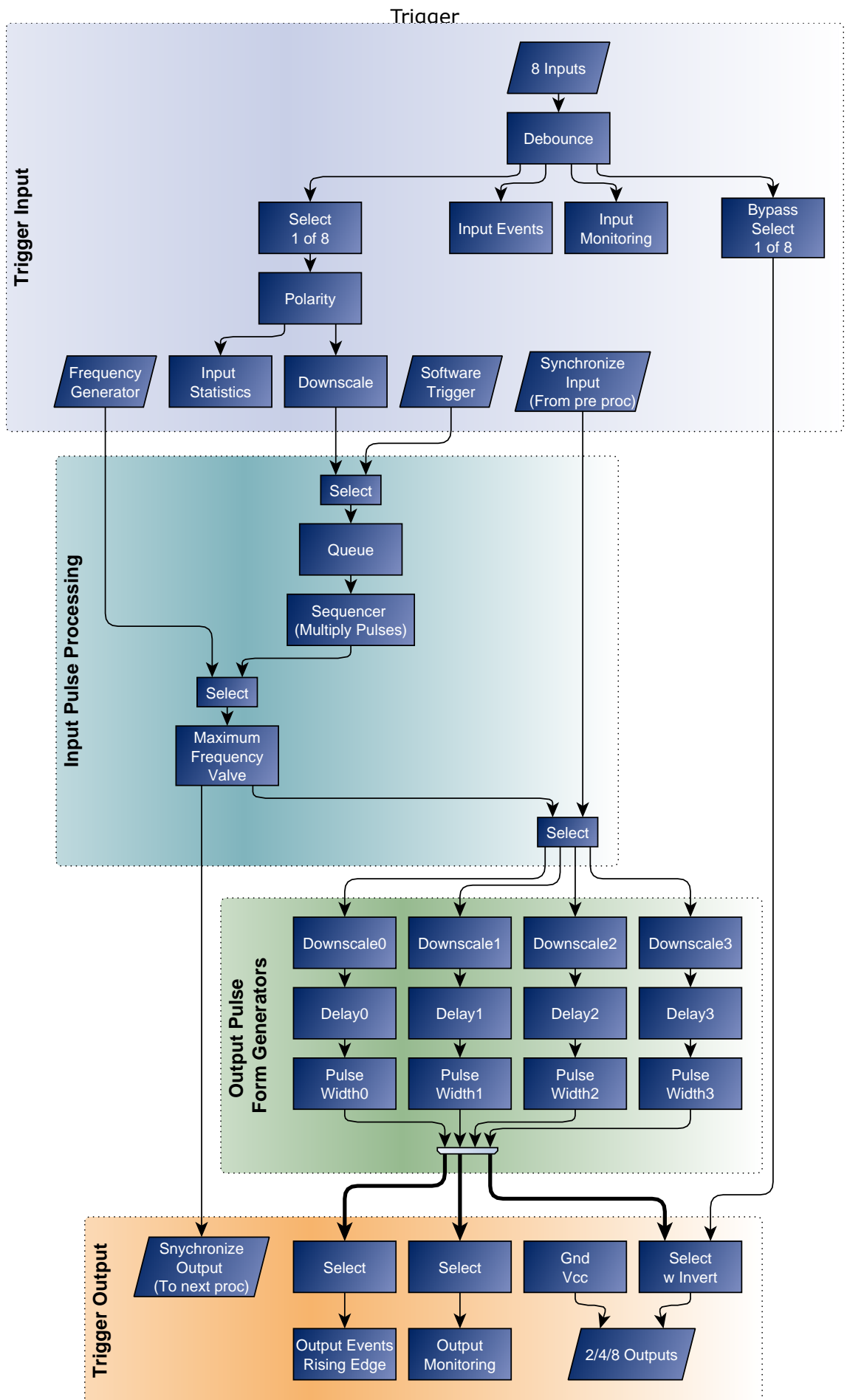
The second main block of the trigger system is the Input Pulse Processing. External inputs as well as software trigger generated pulses can be queued and multiplied in a sequencer if desired. All external trigger pulses are processed in a maximum frequency valve. Pulses are only processed by this valve if their frequency is higher than the previously parameterized limit. If a higher frequency is present at the input, pulses will be rejected or the trigger pulse queue is filled if activated. The maximum frequency valve ensures that the output-pulses will not exceed the maximum possible frequency which can be processed by the camera.

### 3. Output Pulse Form Generators:

After the input pulses have been processed, they are feed into four optional pulse form generators. These pulse form generators define the signal width, a delay and a possible downscale. The four pulse form generators can arbitrarily allocated to the outputs which makes the trigger system capable for numerous applications such as multiple flash light control, varying camera exposure times etc.

### 4. Trigger Output:

The last block is related to the trigger outputs. The pulse form generator signals can be output at the digital outputs. Moreover, they can be monitored using registers and events.



## 5.2. Pin allocation

The trigger system supports eight digital inputs and eight digital outputs. These inputs and outputs are allocated to the pins of the trigger IO boards. In the following trigger system explanations, the inputs are numbered from 0 to 7. In the documentation of the trigger IO boards and microEnable IV VQ4-GE/-GPoE frame grabber the allocation between these inputs and outputs can be found.

The outputs are also numbered from 0 to 7. Here, the allocation depends on the camera index. If a single camera applet is used, all eight outputs can be used. The allocation between the output indices and the output pins can be found in the documentation of the hardware. In dual camera applets, the first four outputs 0 to 3 can be used by the triggers system of the first camera, while outputs 4 to 7 can only be used by the trigger system of the second camera. This applet is a dual camera applet. For each camera, the parameters *FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_SELECT0*, *FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_SELECT1*, *FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_SELECT2* and *FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_SELECT3* exist. For the first camera, the parameters are related to outputs 0 to 3. For the second camera, they are related to outputs 4 to 7.



### Trigger IO Boards

The given trigger digital inputs and outputs refer to the inputs and outputs of the microEnable IV VQ4-GE/-GPoE frame grabber. For an explanation of the mapping of these IOs to trigger on boards, please check the respective documentations.

## 5.3. Event Overview

In the following, a list of all events of the trigger system is presented. Detailed explanations can be found in the respective module descriptions. The events are available for both cameras. Replace CAM0 by the respective camera index if necessary.

- *FG\_TRIGGER\_INPUT0\_RISING*, *FG\_TRIGGER\_INPUT0\_FALLING* to *FG\_TRIGGER\_INPUT7\_RISING*, *FG\_TRIGGER\_INPUT7\_FALLING*

Trigger input events. Events can be generated for all digital trigger inputs. The events are triggered by either rising or falling signal edges.

See Section 5.5.7.3.7, "FG\_TRIGGER\_INPUT0\_RISING et al." and Section 5.5.7.3.8, "FG\_TRIGGER\_INPUT0\_FALLING et al."

- *FG\_TRIGGER\_EXCEEDED\_PERIOD\_LIMITS\_CAM0*

The event is generated for each lost input trigger pulse.

See Section 5.5.6, "FG\_TRIGGER\_EXCEEDED\_PERIOD\_LIMITS\_CAM0 et al."

- *FG\_TRIGGER\_QUEUE\_FILLLEVEL\_THRESHOLD\_CAM0\_ON* and *FG\_TRIGGER\_QUEUE\_FILLLEVEL\_THRESHOLD\_CAM0\_OFF*

The trigger queue exceeded the upper "on" threshold or got less than the "off" threshold.

See Section 5.5.6, "FG\_TRIGGER\_EXCEEDED\_PERIOD\_LIMITS\_CAM0 et al."

- *FG\_TRIGGER\_OUTPUT\_CAM0*

Events for trigger output.

See Section 5.5.15.2, "FG\_TRIGGER\_OUTPUT\_CAM0 et al."

- *FG\_MISSING\_CAM0\_FRAME\_RESPONSE*

The event is generated for a missing camera frame response.

See Section 5.5.14.2.6, "FG\_MISSING\_CAM0\_FRAME\_RESPONSE et al."

## 5.4. Trigger Scenarios

In the following, trigger sample scenarios are presented. These scenarios will help you to use the trigger system and facilitate easy adaptation to own requirements.

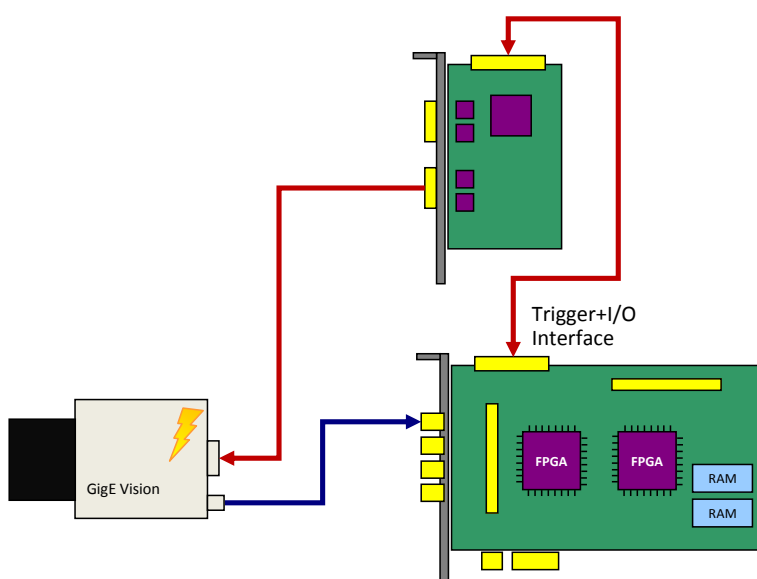
The scenarios show real life configurations. They explain the requirements, illustrate the inputs and outputs and list the required parameters and their values.

### 5.4.1. Internal Frequency Generator

Let's start the trigger system examples with a simple scenario. In this case we simply want to control the frequency of the camera's image output and the exposure time with the frame grabber. Assume that there is no additional external source for trigger events and we do not need to control any flash lights. Thus the frame grabber's trigger system has to control the frequency of the trigger pulses and the exposure time.

Figure 5.3 shows the hardware setup. Only the camera connected to the frame grabber is required.

**Figure 5.3. Generator Controlled Trigger Scenario**



To put this scenario into practice, you will need to set your camera into an external trigger mode. Consult the vendor's user manual for more information. Gigabit

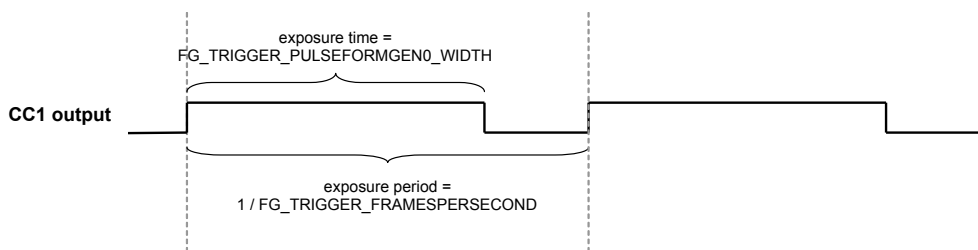


Ethernet Vision cameras are configured using GenICam. Use the Silicon Software GenICam explorer to set the camera into external trigger mode. Note that you cannot trigger the camera efficiently using the GigE cable. Thus an extra cable is required between the camera and the frame grabber through a Silicon Software trigger board.

After the camera is set to an external trigger mode, the exposure period and the exposure time can be controlled by one of the camera control inputs. Use the input of the camera which is connected to the frame grabber's digital output. The names of the camera trigger modes vary. You will need to use an external trigger mode, where the exposure period is programmable. If you also want to define the exposure time using the frame grabber, the respective trigger mode needs to support this, too.

In the following, a waveform is shown which illustrates the frame grabber trigger output. Most cameras will start the acquisition on the rising or falling edge of the signal. The exposure time is defined by the length of the signal. Note that some cameras use inverted inputs. In this case, the signal has to be 'low active' instead of being 'high active'. Thus the frame grabber output has to be inverted which is explained later on.

**Figure 5.4. Waveform of Generator Controlled Trigger Scenario**



After hardware setup and camera configuration we can start parameterizing the frame grabber's trigger system. Parameters can be changed in your own application, in microDisplay or by editing a microEnable Configuration File (mcf). For more information on how to parameterize applets, please consult the Silicon Software runtime documentation.

In the following, all required parameters and their values are listed. In Figure 5.5, "Area Trigger Block Diagram with Highlighted Blocks for Generator Mode" the block diagram of the trigger system is shown, where only the relevant parts are highlighted.

- `FG_AREATRIGGERMODE = ATM_GENERATOR`

First, we will need to configure the trigger system to use the internal frequency generator.

- `FG_TRIGGER_FRAMESPERSECOND = 10`

Next, the output frequency is defined. In this example, we use a frequency of 10Hz.

- `FG_TRIGGER_PULSEFORMGEN0_WIDTH = 200`

So far, we have set the trigger system to generate trigger pulses at a rate of 10Hz. However, we have not set the pulse form of these pulses i.e. the signal length or signal width. The frame grabber's trigger system includes four pulse form generators which allow to set the signal width, a delay and a downscaling. In our example, we only have one output and therefore, we will need only one pulse form generator, respectively pulse form generator 0. Moreover, only the signal length has to be defined, a delay and a downscaling is not required.



Suppose, that we require an exposure time of 200 $\mu$ s. Thus, we will set the parameter to value 200.00. Note that the unit of the parameter is  $\mu$ s.

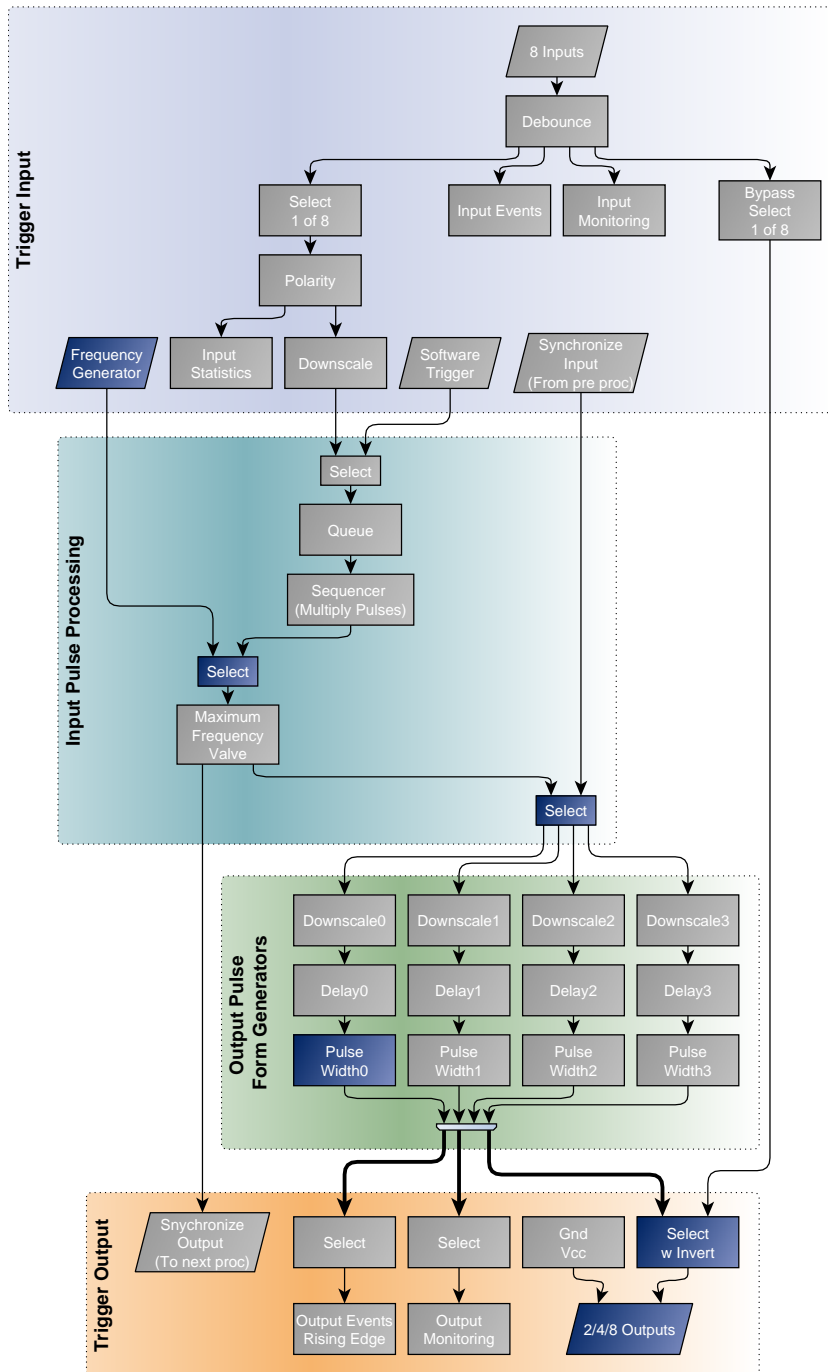
- *FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_SELECT0* = PULSEGEN0

The only thing left to do is to allocate the output of pulse form generator 0 to one of the digital frame grabber outputs. As Gigabit Ethernet Vision cameras do not allow an efficient way to trigger cameras by GigE cable, we have to use a digital output and extra cable. Instead of using output number 0, any of the available outputs can be used.

Now, the trigger is fully configured. However the trigger signal generation is not started yet. Set parameter *FG\_TRIGGERSTATE* to TS\_ACTIVE to start the system. Of course, you will also need to start your image acquisition. It is up to you if you like to start the trigger generation prior or after the acquisition has been started. If the trigger system is started first, the camera will already send images to the frame grabber. These images are discarded as no acquisition is started.

You will now receive images from your camera. Change the frequency and the signal width to see the influence of these parameters. A higher frequency will give you a higher frame rate. A shorter exposure time will make the images 'darker'. You will realize, that it is not possible to set an exposure time which is longer than the exposure period. In this case, writing to the parameter will result in an error. Therefore, the order of changing parameter values might be of importance. Also be careful to not select a frequency or exposure time which exceeds the camera's specifications. In this cases you will lose trigger pulses, as the camera cannot process them. Get the maximum ranges from the camera's specification sheets.

To stop the trigger pulse generation, set parameter *FG\_TRIGGERSTATE* to TS\_SYNC\_STOP. The trigger system will then finalize the current pulse and stop any further output until the system is activated again. The asynchronous stop mode is not required in this scenario.

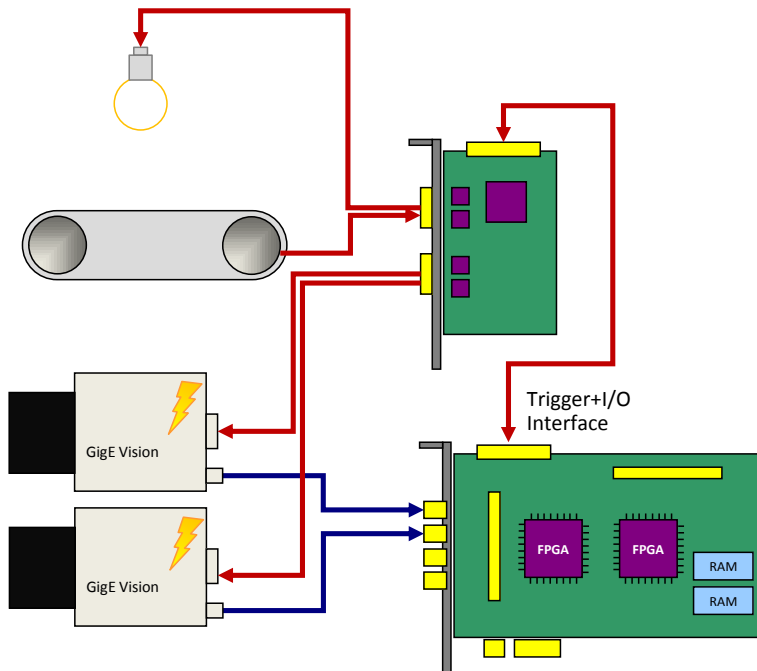
**Figure 5.5. Area Trigger Block Diagram with Highlighted Blocks for Generator Mode**

### 5.4.2. External Trigger Signals

In the previous example we used an internal frequency generator to control the camera's exposure. In this scenario, an external source will define the exact moment of exposure. This can be, for example, a light barrier as illustrated in the following figure. Objects move in front of the camera, a light barrier will define the moment, when an object is located directly under the camera. In practice, it might not be possible to locate the light barrier and the camera at the exact position. Therefore, a delay is required which delays the pulses from the light barrier before using them

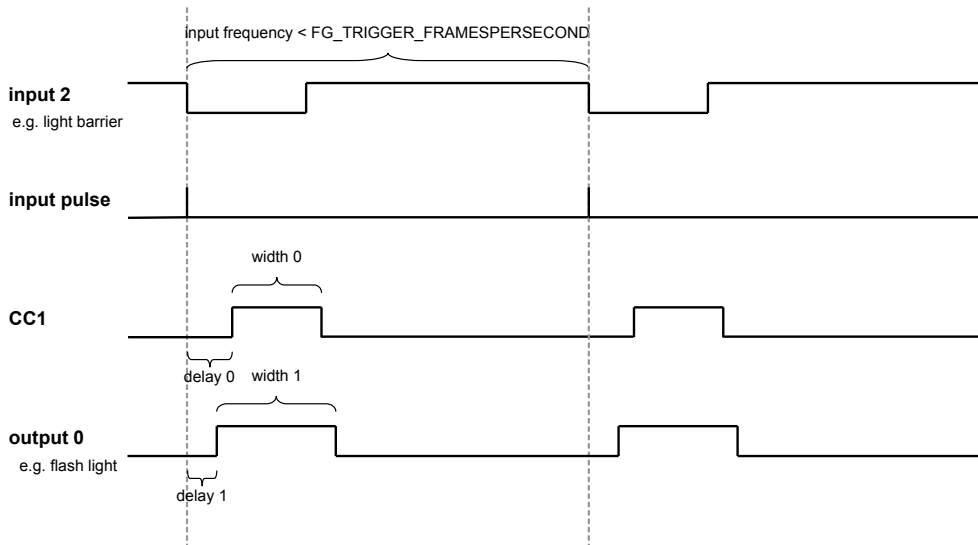
to trigger the camera. Moreover, in our scenario, we assume that a flash light has to be controlled by the trigger system, too.

**Figure 5.6. External Controlled Trigger Scenario**



An exemplary waveform (Figure 5.7) provides information on the input signal and shows the desired output signals. The input is shown on top. As you can see, the falling edge of the signal defines the moment which is used for trigger generation. Thus, the signal is 'low active'. Mind that the pulse length of any external input is ignored (second row), only falling edges are considered.

The output to the camera is shown in the third row. Here we can see an inserted delay. This delay will compensate the positions of the light barrier and the camera. The signal width at the output connected to the camera defines the exposure time, if the camera is configured to the respective trigger mode. Control of the flash light is done using trigger output 0. Again, a delay is added. Depending on the requirements of the flash light, this delay has to be shorter or longer than the camera output delay. Similarly, the required pulse length varies for different hardware.

**Figure 5.7. Waveform of External Trigger Scenario**

Before parameterizing the applet, ensure that your camera has been set to an external trigger mode. Check the previous trigger scenario for more explanations.

In this example, we have to parameterize the trigger mode, the input source and we have to configure two trigger outputs. Figure 5.8, "Area Trigger Block Diagram with Highlighted Blocks for External Trigger Scenario" shows the relevant blocks in the area trigger block diagram.

- `FG_AREATRIGGERMODE = ATM_EXTERNAL`

In external trigger mode, the trigger system will not use the internal frequency generator. External pulses control the output of trigger signals. This requires the selection of an input source and the configuration of the input polarity.

- `FG_TRIGGERIN_SRC = TRGINSRC_2`

Select the trigger input by use of this parameter. You can choose any of the inputs. If you use a multi-camera applet, cameras can share same sources.

- `FG_TRIGGERIN_POLARITY = FG_LOW_ACTIVE`

For the given scenario, we assume that a trigger is required on a falling edge of the input signal.

- `FG_TRIGGER_FRAMESPERSECOND = 500`

Do not forget to set this parameter. For any use of the trigger system, the correct parameterization of this parameter is required. If you do not use the internal frequency generator, this parameter defines the maximum allowed trigger pulse frequency. In other words, you can set a limit with this parameter. The limiting frequency could be the maximum exposure frequency of the camera.

### **The advantage of setting this limit is the information on lost trigger signals.**

Let's suppose the frequency of the external trigger signals will get too high for the camera or the applet. In this case, you will lose images or obtain corrupted images. If you have set a correct frequency limit in the trigger system, the trigger system will provide you with information of these exceeding line periods. This information can be obtained by register polling or you can use the event

system. Thus you always have the possibility to prevent your application of getting into a bad, probably undefined state and you will always get the information of when and how many pulses got lost. Check the explanations of parameters *FG\_TRIGGER\_FRAMESPERSECOND* and *FG\_TRIGGER\_EXCEEDED\_PERIOD\_LIMITS* as well as the event *FG\_TRIGGER\_EXCEEDED\_PERIOD\_LIMITS\_CAM0* for more information.

More information on error detection and analysis can be found in scenario Section 5.4.8, "Hardware System Analysis and Error Detection"

The trigger system also allows the queuing of trigger pulses if you have a short period of excess pulses. We will have a look at this in a later scenario.

In our example, we set the maximum frequency to 500 frames per second. If you do not want to use this feature, set *FG\_TRIGGER\_FRAMESPERSECOND* to a high value, such as 1MHz.

- *FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN0\_WIDTH* = 200

So far, we have set the trigger system to accept external signals and generate the trigger pulses out of these signals. Next, we need to output these pulses. For realization, we need to define the pulse form of the output signals. Just as shown in the previous scenario, we use pulse form generator 0 for generating the pulse form of the CC1 signals. We set a pulse width of 200µs.

- *FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN0\_DELAY* = 50

In addition to the signal width, a delay will give us the possibility to delay the output as the light barrier might not be positioned at the exact location. For this fictitious scenario we use a delay of 50µs.

- *FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN1\_WIDTH* = 250

In addition to the CC output we want to control a flash light. We use pulse form generator 1 for this purpose and set the signal width to 250µs.

- *FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN1\_DELAY* = 25

A delay for the flash output is set, too.

- *FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_SELECT3* = PULSEGEN0

The only thing left to do is to allocate the output of pulse form generator 0 to one of the digital frame grabber outputs. As Gigabit Ethernet Vision cameras do not allow an efficient way to trigger cameras by GigE cable, we have to use a digital output and extra cable. We use output 3 in this case.

- *FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_SELECT0* = PULSEGEN1

The flash light, connected to output 0 has to be allocated to pulse form generator 1.

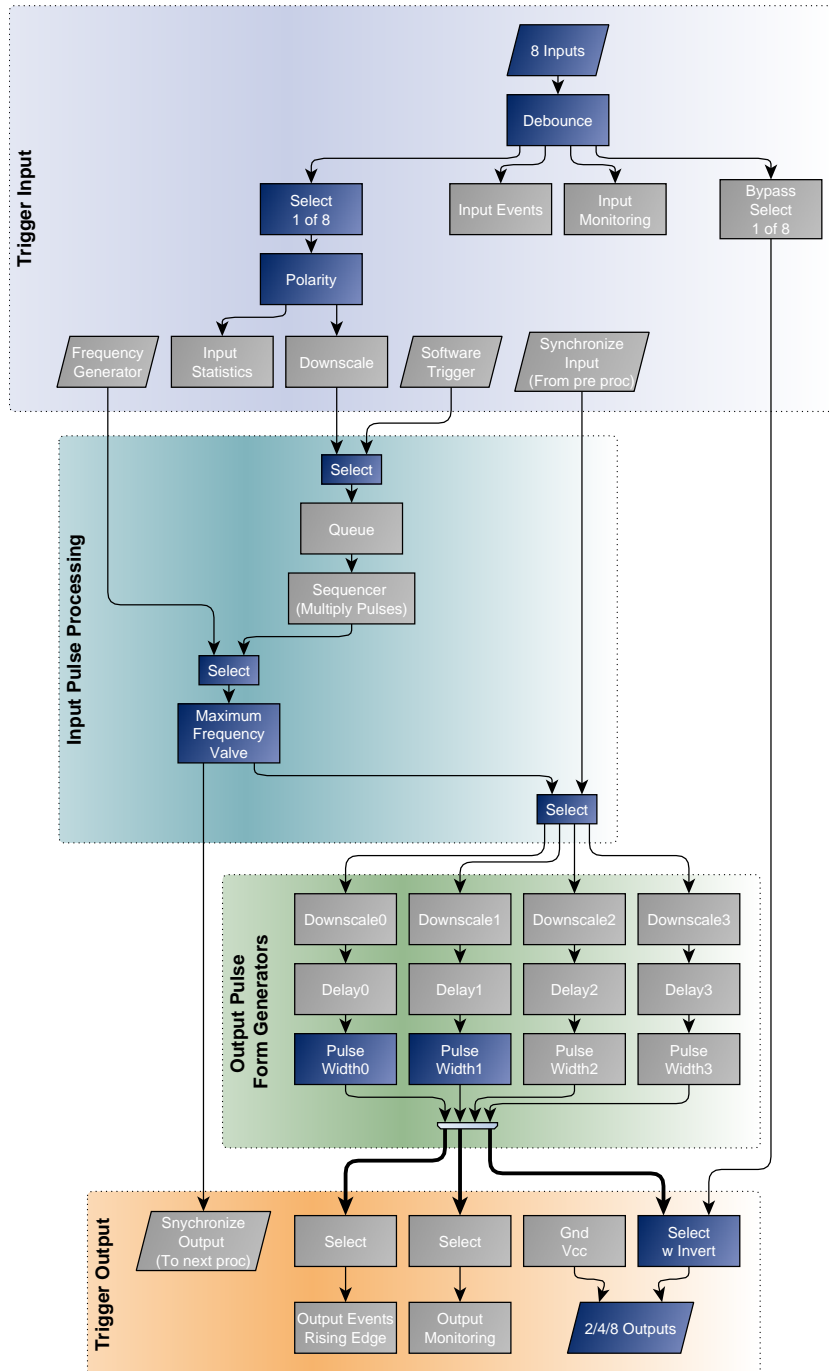
- *FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_SELECT1* = PULSEGEN0

Let's assume that it is necessary to measure the camera trigger output using a logic analyzer. Hence, we allocate output 1 to pulse form generator 0 as well.

The trigger is now fully configured. Just as described in the previous scenario, you can now start the acquisition and activate the trigger system using parameter *FG\_TRIGGERSTATE*.

You will now receive images from the camera for each external trigger pulse. Compare the number of external pulses with the generated trigger signals and the received images for verification. Use parameter *FG\_TRIGGERIN\_STATS\_PULSECOUNT* of category Trigger Input -> Input Statistics and parameter *FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_STATS\_PULSECOUNT* of the output statistics parameters to get the number of input pulses and generated pulses. You can compare these values with the received image numbers.

**Figure 5.8. Area Trigger Block Diagram with Highlighted Blocks for External Trigger Scenario**

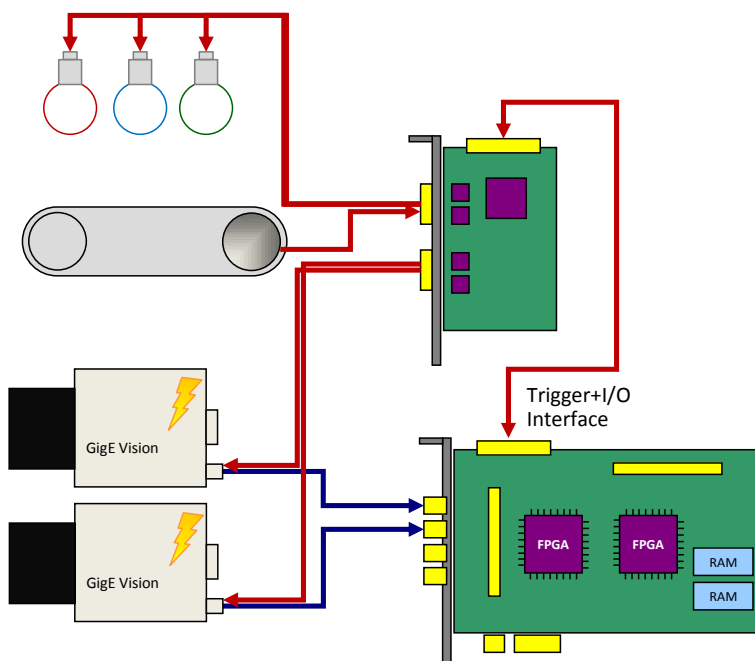


### 5.4.3. Control of Three Flash Lights

This scenario is similar to the previous one. We use an external trigger to control the camera and a flash light. But in difference, we want to get three images from one external trigger pulse. Each image out of the sequence of three images has to use a different light source. Thus, in this scenario we will learn on how to use a trigger pulse multiplication and on how to control three lights connected to the grabber.

The application idea behind this scenario is that an object is acquired using different light sources. This could result in a HDR image or switching between normal and infrared illumination. The following figure illustrates the hardware setup. As you can see, we have three light sources this time. The objects move in front of the camera. The light barrier will provide the information on when to trigger the camera. Let's suppose that the objects stop in front of the camera or the movement is slow enough to generate three images with the different illuminations.

**Figure 5.9. External Controlled Trigger Scenario**



Before looking at the waveform, let's have a look at our fictitious hardware specifications.

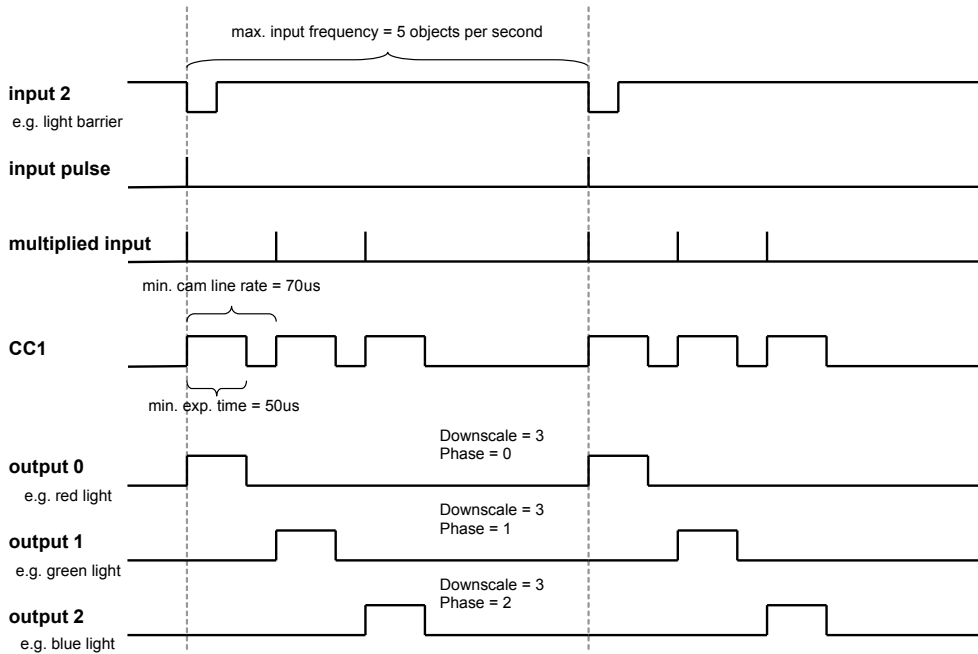
**Table 5.1. Fictitious Hardware Specifications of Trigger Scenario Three Light Sources**

Element	Limit
Object Speed	Max. 100 Objects per Second
Minimum Camera Exposure Time	50µs
Minimum Camera Frame Period	70µs

The object speed is 100 objects per second. The minimum camera exposure time is 50µs at a minimum camera frame period of 70µs. Thus we only need 210µs to acquire the three images. The following waveform shows the input and output signals, as well as the multiplied input signals. The first row shows the input. Each falling edge represents the light barrier event as marked in the second row. The third row shows the multiplied input pulses with a gap of 70µs between the pulses. The trigger signal

is generated for each of these pulses, however the trigger flash outputs 0, 1 and 2 are downscaled by three and a delay is added.

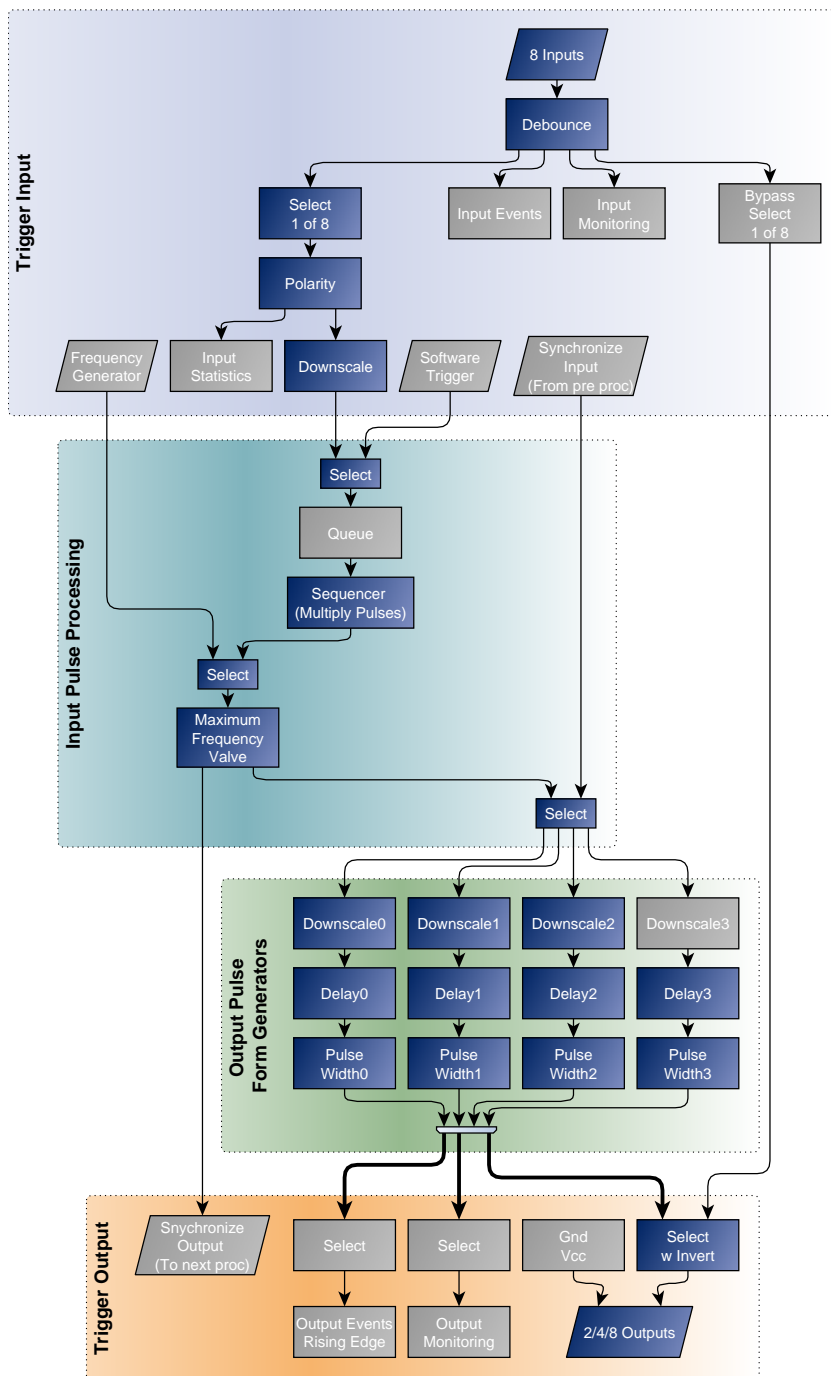
**Figure 5.10. Waveform of External Trigger Scenario Controlling Three Flash Lights**



Parameterization is similar to the previous example. In contrast, this time, we have to set the trigger pulse sequencer using a multiplication factor and we have to use all four pulse form generators. A look at the block diagram (Figure 5.11, "Area Trigger Block Diagram with Highlighted Blocks for Three Flash Lights Trigger Scenario ") will show us the relevant blocks.



Figure 5.11. Area Trigger Block Diagram with Highlighted Blocks for Three Flash Lights Trigger Scenario



- `FG_AREATRIGGERMODE = ATM_EXTERNAL`
- `FG_TRIGGERIN_SRC = 2`
- `FG_TRIGGERIN_POLARITY = FG_LOW_ACTIVE`
- `FG_TRIGGER_MULTIPLY_PULSES = 3`

The parameter specifies the multiplication factor of the sequencer. For each input pulse, we have to generate three internal pulses. The period time of this multiplication is defined by parameter `FG_TRIGGER_FRAMESPERSECOND`

- *FG\_TRIGGER\_FRAMESPERSECOND* = 14285

This time, the maximum frames per second correspond to the gap between the multiplied trigger pulses. We need a gap of 70µs which results in a frequency of 14285Hz.

- *FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN0\_WIDTH* = 50

Again, we use pulse form generator 0 for CC signal generation. The pulse width is 50µs. A delay or downscaling is not required.

- *FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN1\_WIDTH* = 50

The pulse width for the flash lights depends on the hardware used. We assume a width of 50µs in this example.

- *FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN2\_WIDTH* = 50

- *FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN3\_WIDTH* = 50

- *FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN1\_DOWNSCALE* = 3

The flash outputs need a downscale of three. This is the same for all flash pulse form generators.

- *FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN2\_DOWNSCALE* = 3

- *FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN3\_DOWNSCALE* = 3

- *FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN1\_DOWNSCALE\_PHASE* = 0

We use the phase shift for delaying the downscaled signals of the outputs. You could use the delay instead, but any frequency change will require a change of the delay as well. The phase shift of pulse form generator 1 i.e. the first flash light is 0.

- *FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN2\_DOWNSCALE\_PHASE* = 1

The phase shift of pulse form generator 2 i.e. the second flash light is 1.

- *FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN3\_DOWNSCALE\_PHASE* = 2

The phase shift of pulse form generator 3 i.e. the third flash light is 2.

- *FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_SELECT3* = PULSEGEN0

The output allocation is as usual.

- *FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_SELECT0* = PULSEGEN1

- *FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_SELECT1* = PULSEGEN2

- *FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_SELECT2* = PULSEGEN3

Start the trigger system using parameter *FG\_TRIGGERSTATE* as usual. You will notice that you get thrice the number of images from the frame grabber than external trigger pulses have been generated by the light barrier. Equally to the previous example, check for exceeding line periods at the input when you run your application or ensure

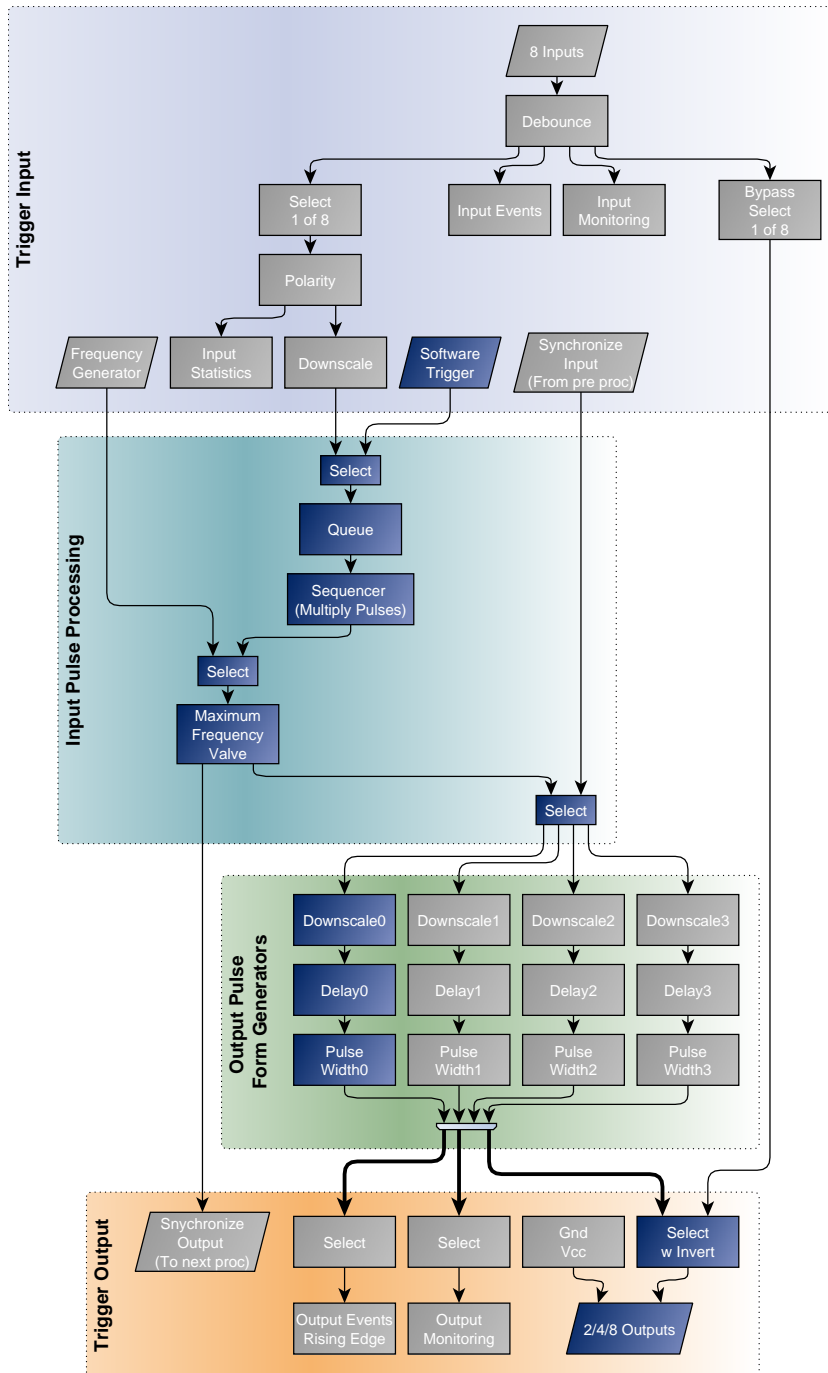
that your external hardware will not generate the input pulses with an exceeding frequency.

Keep in mind to start the acquisition before activating the trigger system. This is because you will receive three images for one external trigger pulse. If you start the acquisition after the trigger system, you cannot ensure that the first transferred image is the first image out of a sequence.

### 5.4.4. Software Trigger

The previous examples showed the use of the internal frequency generator and the use of external trigger pulses to trigger your camera and generate digital output signals. Another trigger mode is the software trigger. In this mode, you can control the generation of each trigger pulse using your software application. To use the software triggered mode, set parameter *FG\_AREATRIGGERMODE* to *ATM\_SOFTWARE*. Next, configure the pulse form generators and the outputs as usual and start the trigger system (set *FG\_TRIGGERSTATE* to *TS\_ACTIVE*) and the acquisition. Now, you can generate a trigger pulse by writing value '1' to parameter *FG\_SENDSOFTWARETRIGGER* i.e. each time you write to this parameter, a trigger pulse is generated. The relevant blocks of the trigger system are illustrated in the following figure.

Figure 5.12. Area Trigger Block Diagram with Highlighted Blocks for Software Trigger Scenario

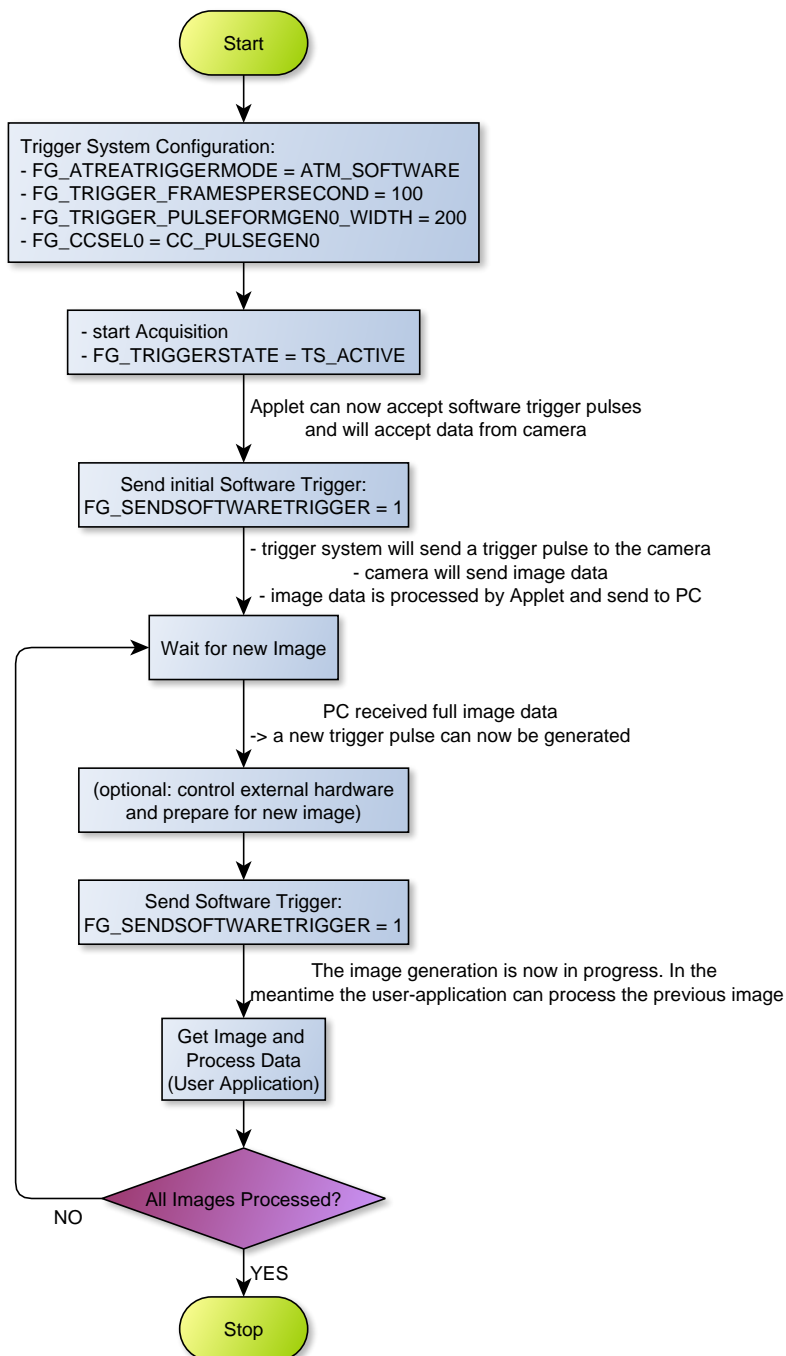


Keep in mind that the time between two pulses has to be larger than  $1 / FG\_TRIGGER\_FRAMESPERSECOND$  as this will limit the maximum trigger frequency. The trigger system offers the possibility to check if a new software trigger pulse can be accepted i.e. the trigger system is not busy anymore. Read parameter *FG\_SOFTWARETRIGGER\_IS\_BUSY* to check it's state. While the parameter has value *IS\_BUSY*, writing to parameter *FG\_SENDSOFTWARETRIGGER* is not allowed and will be ignored. You should always check if the system is not busy before writing a pulse. To check if you lost a pulse, read parameter *FG\_TRIGGER\_EXCEEDED\_PERIOD\_LIMITS*.

In some cases, you might want to generate a sequence of pulses for each software trigger. To do this, simply set parameter *FG\_TRIGGER\_MULTIPLY\_PULSES* to the

desired sequence length. Now, for every software trigger pulse written to the trigger system, a sequence of the define length with a frequency defined by parameter *FG\_TRIGGER\_FRAMESPERSECOND* is generated. Again, the system cannot accept further inputs while a sequence is being processed.

Let's have a look at some flow chart examples on how to use the trigger system in software triggered mode. The flow charts visualize the steps of a fictitious user software implementation. In the first example, we simply generate single software trigger pulses using parameter *FG\_SENDSOFTWARETRIGGER*. When the applet receives this pulse, it will trigger the camera. The camera will send an image to the frame grabber which will be processed there and will be output to the PC via DMA transfer. In the meantime, the users software application will wait for any DMA transfers. After the application got the notification that a new image has been fully tranferred to the PC it will send a new software trigger pulse and the frame grabber and camera will start again generating an image. Our software application will now have the time to process the previously received image until it is waiting for a new transfer. Thus, the software can process images while image generation is in progress. Of course, you can first process your images and afterwards generate a new trigger pulse, as well. So the steps are: Generate a SW trigger pulse, wait for image, generate a SW trigger pulse, wait for image, ... The flowchart of this example can be found in the following figure.

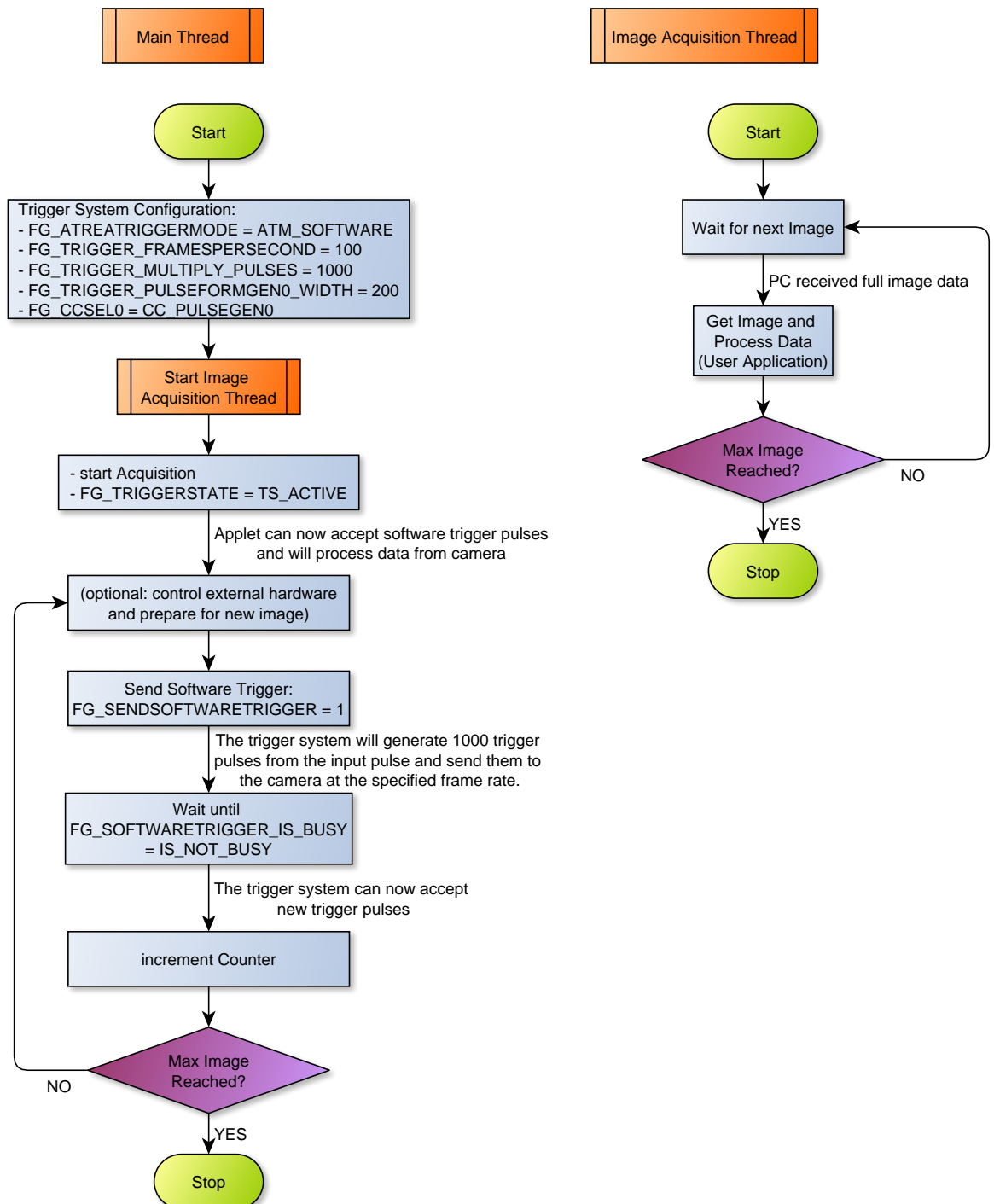
**Figure 5.13. Flowchart of Software Application Using the Software Trigger**

In the shown sample application, it is ensured that the trigger system is not busy after you received the image. Therefore, we do not need to check for the software trigger busy flag in this example. One drawback of the shown example is that we might not acquire the frames at the maximum speed. This is because we have to wait for the full transfer of images before generating a new trigger pulse. Cameras can accept new trigger pulses while they transfer image data. The next example will therefore use the trigger sequencer.

The next example uses two threads. One thread for trigger generation and one thread for image acquisition and processing. In comparison to the previous example, we use

the trigger sequencer for pulse multiplication and we will have to use the busy flag. This will allow an acquisition at a higher frame rate.

**Figure 5.14. Flowchart of Software Application Using the Software Trigger with a Sequencer**



The main thread will configure and start the trigger system and the acquisition. For each software trigger pulse we send to the frame grabber, 1000 pulses are generated and send to the camera at the framerate specified by *FG\_TRIGGER\_FRAMESPERSECOND*. After sending a software trigger pulse to the frame grabber we wait until the software is not busy anymore by polling on register



*FG\_SOFTWARETRIGGER\_IS\_BUSY*. To control the number of generated trigger pulses we count each successful sequence generation. If more images are required we can send another software trigger pulse to the frame grabber to start a new sequence.

The second thread is used for image acquisition and image data processing. Here, the software will wait for new incoming images (Use function *Fg\_getLastPicNumberBlockingEx()* for example) and process the received images. The thread can exit if the desired number of images have been acquired and processed.

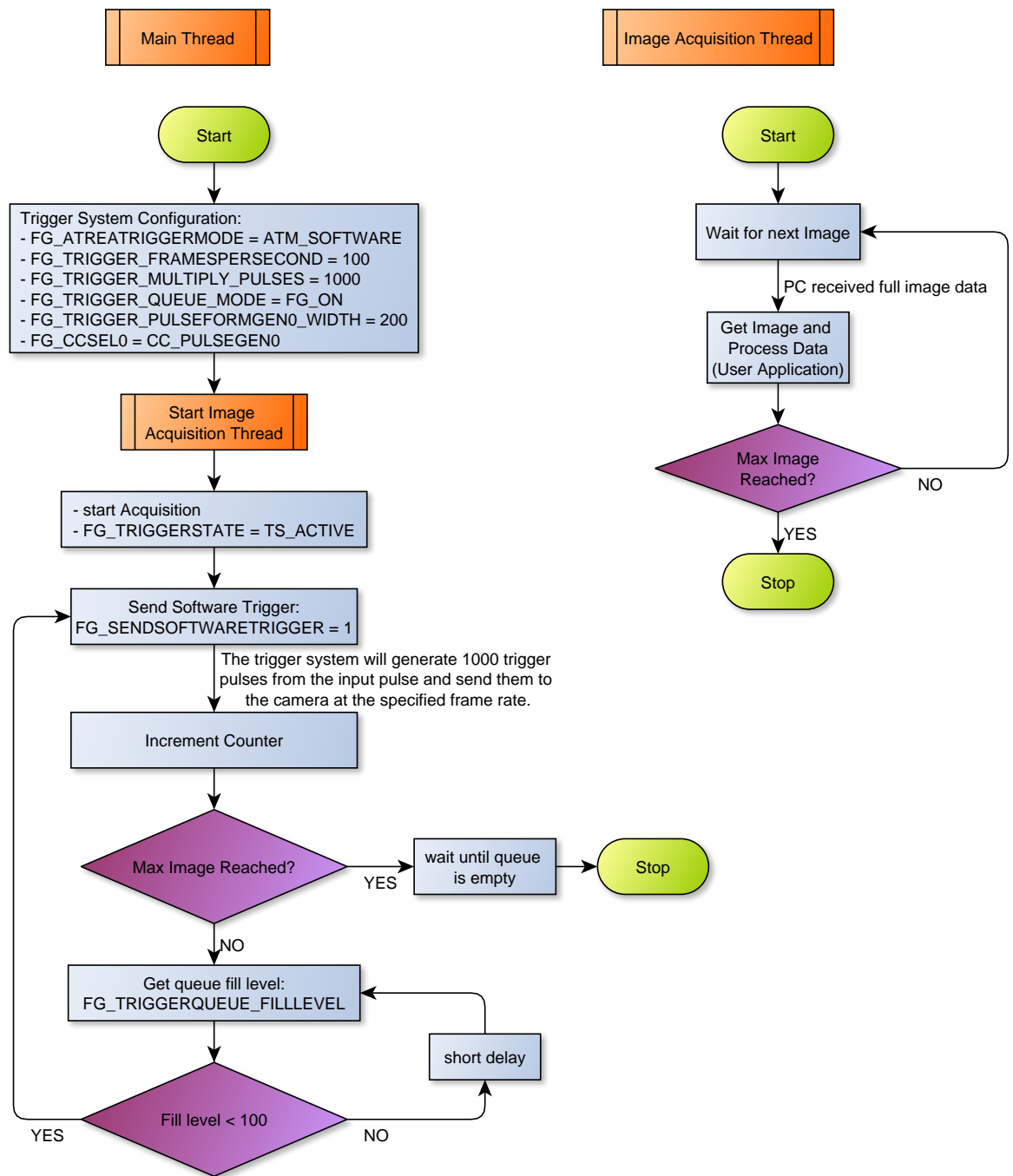
### 5.4.5. Software Trigger with Trigger Queue

To understand the following scenario you should have read the previous scenario first. In the following we will have a look at the software trigger once again. This time, we use the trigger queue. The trigger queue enables the buffering of trigger pulses from external sources or from the software trigger and will output these pulses at the maximum allowed frequency specified by *FG\_TRIGGER\_FRAMESPERSECOND*. Therefore, we can write to *FG\_SENDSOFTWARETRIGGER* multiple times even if the trigger system is still busy. Parameter *FG\_SOFTWARETRIGGER\_IS\_BUSY* will only have value *IS\_BUSY* if the queue is full. Instead of writing multiple times to *FG\_SENDSOFTWARETRIGGER* you can directly write the number of required pulses to the parameter.

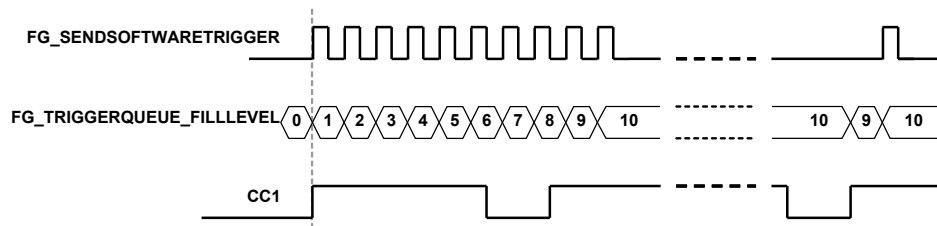
The trigger queue can buffer 2040 pulses. This buffer does not include the sequencer. Thus if you have a sequence length of 1000 pulses and currently 200 pulses in the queue, the trigger system has 200,000 remaining pulses to output. You can check the fill level by reading parameter *FG\_TRIGGERQUEUE\_FILLEVEL*.

In the following flow chart you can see a queue fill level minimum limit of 10 pulses. In our supposed application we will check the queue fill level and compare it with our limit. If less pulses are in the queue, we generate a new software trigger pulse. Thus, on startup, the queue will fill-up until it contains 10 pulses. We count the software trigger pulses send to the trigger system. Multiplied with our sequence length, we can obtain the number of pulses which will be send to the camera. If enough pulses have been generated, we can stop the trigger pulse generation.



**Figure 5.15. Flowchart of Software Application Using the Software Trigger with Trigger Queue**

When having a look at the waveform (Figure 5.16) we can see the initialization phase where the queue is filled. After fill level value 10 has been reached, no more software trigger pulses are written to the applet. The system will now continue the output of trigger pulses. As our sequence length is 1000 pulses we have to wait for 1000 pulses to be generated until a change in the fill level will occur. After the 1000th pulse has been completely generated, the fill level will change to 9. This will cause the generation of another software trigger pulse by our sample application which will cause a fill level of 10 again.

**Figure 5.16. Waveform Illustrating Software Trigger with Queue Example"**

When using the trigger queue, the stopping of the trigger system is of interest. If you set parameter `FG_TRIGGERSTATE` to `TS_SYNC_STOP`, the trigger system will stop accepting inputs such as software trigger pulses, but it will complete the trigger pulse generation until the queue is empty and all pulses are fully output. You can immediately cancel the pulse generation by setting the trigger state to `TS_ASYNC_STOP`.

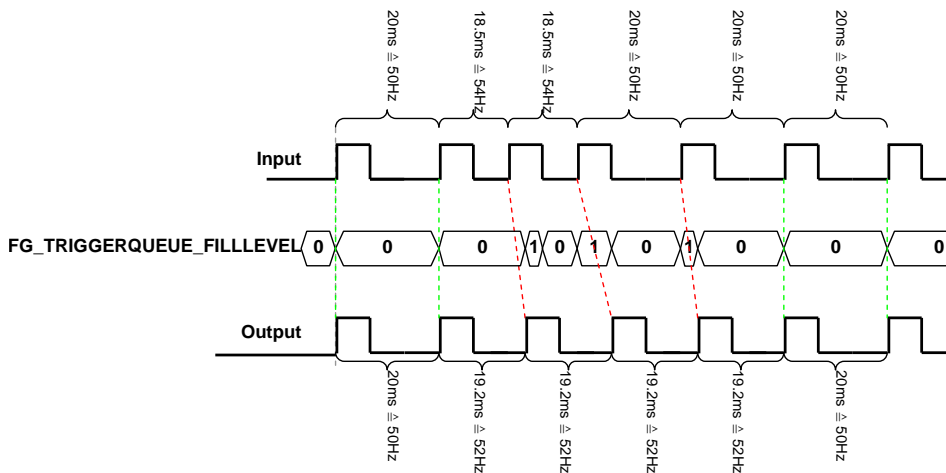
#### 5.4.6. External Trigger with Trigger Queue

Of course, we can use the trigger queue with external triggers, too. This will give us a possibility to buffer 'jumpy' external encoders or any other external trigger signal generators. Let's suppose an external encoder which is configured to generate trigger pulses with a frequency of 50Hz and a camera which can be run at a maximum frequency of 52Hz. Thus, we set parameter `FG_TRIGGER_FRAMESPERSECOND` to 52Hz. Now assume that the external hardware is a little 'jumpy' and the 50Hz is just an average. So if we have inputs with a frequency higher than 52Hz we will lose at least one pulse. You can check this using the trigger lost events or by reading parameter `FG_TRIGGER_EXCEEDED_PERIOD_LIMITS`.

Now let's have a look at the same scenario if the queue is enabled. If it is enabled, we can buffer trigger pulses. Thus, we can buffer the exceeding input frequency and output the pulses at the maximum camera trigger frequency which is 52Hz in our example. After the input frequency is reduced, the queue will get empty and the pulse output is synchronous to the input again. Note that the delay might result in images with wrong content such as 'shifted' object positions.

To enable the queue, just write value `FG_ON` to `FG_TRIGGERQUEUE_MODE`.

The following waveform illustrates the input signal, the queue fill level and the output signal. At the beginning, the gap between the first two input signals is 20ms i.e. the frequency is less than 52Hz. Thus, the queue will not fill with pulses and the trigger system will directly output the second pulse. Now, the gap between the second and the third as well as the fourth pulse is less than 19.2ms and therefore, the trigger system will delay the output of these pulses to have a minimum gap of 19.2ms. During this period, the queue fill level will increment to value 1 for short periods. The gap between the fourth and the following input pulses is sufficiently long enough, however, the system will have to delay these pulses, too.

**Figure 5.17. Using External Trigger Signal Sources together with the Trigger Queue**

Note that the trigger lost event and `FG_TRIGGER_EXCEEDED_PERIOD_LIMITS` will only be set if the queue is full i.e. in overflow condition.

### 5.4.7. Multi Camera Applications

A basic application is that multiple cameras at one or more frame grabbers are connected to the same trigger source. If all cameras have to acquire images for every trigger pulse. Simply connect the trigger source to all frame grabbers and set the same trigger configuration for all cameras. This applet supports up to two cameras. Set the same parameters for both cameras. Multiple trigger systems are allowed to share the same trigger input, so you do not have to connect your trigger source to two inputs.

If you do not have an external trigger source, but use the generator or the software trigger you can synchronize the triggers to ensure camera exposures at the same moment. Simply output the camera control signal on a digital trigger output and connect this output to a digital input of other frame grabbers which have to be synchronized with the master. In the slave applets bypass the input to the camera control (CC) outputs. In addition to that, this applet includes a special trigger mode called `SYNCHRONIZED`. This mode can be chosen for the second camera. The second camera uses the trigger pulses at the output of the first camera as input source. However, users will still have to configure the pulse form generators in the trigger system of the second camera and will still have to allocate them to the trigger outputs.

### 5.4.8. Hardware System Analysis and Error Detection

The Silicon Software trigger system includes powerful monitoring possibilities. They allow a convenient and efficient system analysis and will help you to detect errors in your hardware setup and wrong parameterizations.

Let's have a look at the simple external trigger example once again. Assume that you have set up all devices and have fully configured the applet. You start the system and receive images. Unfortunately, the number of acquired images or the framerate is not as expected. This means, at some point trigger signals or frames got lost. To analyze the error, let's have a look at the monitoring applet registers.

- Trigger Input Statistics

The parameters of the trigger input statistics category allow an analysis of the external trigger pulses. Parameter *FG\_TRIGGERIN\_STATS\_FREQUENCY* performs a continuous frequency measurement of the input signals. Compare this value with the expected trigger input frequency. If the measured frequency is much higher or lower than the expected frequency, check your external hardware. Also check if the correct trigger input has been chosen by parameter *FG\_TRIGGERIN\_SRC* and if the pulse width of the input is long enough to be detected by the hardware.

To validate a constant input frequency, the trigger system will also show the maximum and minimum detected frequencies using parameters *FG\_TRIGGERIN\_STATS\_MAXFREQUENCY* and *FG\_TRIGGERIN\_STATS\_MINFREQUENCY*. On startup, you will have a very low frequency as no external pulses might have been detected so far. Therefore, you have to clear the measurement using parameter *FG\_TRIGGERIN\_STATS\_MINMAXFREQUENCY\_CLEAR* first. If you detect an unwanted deviation from the expected values or the difference between the minimum and maximum frequency is comparably high, your external trigger generating hardware might be 'jumpy', skips pulses or is 'bouncing' which causes pulse multiplication. In this case, you might be able to compensate the problem using a higher debouncing value, set a lower maximum allowed frequency (see Section 5.4.2, "External Trigger Signals") or use the trigger queue (see Section 5.4.6, "External Trigger with Trigger Queue").

Another feature of the input statistics module is the pulse counting. This feature can be used to compare the number of input pulses with the output pulses and acquired images. Read the pulse count value from parameter *FG\_TRIGGERIN\_STATS\_PULSECOUNT*. To ensure a synchronized counting of the input and any output pulses and images you should clear the pulse counter before generating external trigger inputs.

- Trigger Output Statistics

A pulse counter is connected to the trigger output, too. Here you can select one of the pulse form generators using parameter *FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_STATS\_SOURCE* and read the value with parameter *FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_STATS\_PULSECOUNT*. Reset the pulse counter using *FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_STATS\_PULSECOUNT\_CLEAR*.

Use the pulse count value to compare it with the input pulse counter. If the values vary, pulses in the frame grabber have been discarded. This can happen if the input frequency is higher than the maximum allowed frequency specified by parameter *FG\_TRIGGER\_FRAMESPERSECOND*. If this happens, flag *FG\_TRIGGER\_EXCEEDED\_PERIOD\_LIMITS* will be set. Moreover, if the pulse counter values dramatically differ, ensure that no trigger multiplication and/or downscaling has been set. Check parameters *FG\_TRIGGERIN\_DOWNSCALE*, *FG\_TRIGGER\_MULTIPLY\_PULSES* and the downscale parameters of the pulse form generators.

It is also possible to count the input and output pulses with the input events and the output event *FG\_TRIGGER\_OUTPUT\_CAM0*.

- Camera Response Check

Trigger pulses might get lost in the link to the camera or the trigger frequency is too high to be processed by the camera. In this case, the number of frames received by the frame grabber differs from the send trigger pulses. For this error, the trigger system includes the missing camera frame response detection module. The module

can detect missing frames and generate an event for each lost frame or set a register. Check Section 5.5.14.2, “Statistics” for more information and usage.

- Acquired Image Compare

Of course, it is also possible to count the number of acquired images i.e. the number of DMA transfers and compare them with the generated trigger pulses. If the values differ, you might have lost trigger pulses in the camera. In this case, check that the trigger frequency is not too high for the camera. Ensure that you do not run the applet in overflow state, where images can get lost in the applet. If the applet is run in overflow, check the maximum bandwidths of the applet. A smaller region of interest might solve the problems.

For every monitoring values, check the maximum and minimum ranges of the parameters. If pulse counters reached their maximum value, they will reset and start from zero.

## 5.5. Parameters

### 5.5.1. FG\_AREATRIGGERMODE

The area trigger system of this AcquisitionApplets Advanced applet can be run in three different operation modes.

- Generator

An internal frequency generator at a specified frequency will be used as trigger source. All digital trigger inputs and software trigger pulses will be ignored.

- External

In this mode, one of the digital inputs is used as trigger source i.e. you can use an external source for trigger generation.

- Software

In software triggered mode, you will need to manually generate the trigger input signals. This has to be done by writing to an applet parameter.

- Synchronized

The synchronized mode is not available for the first camera. If the area trigger mode of a process (Process) is set to synchronized mode, the trigger source of the process will be the output of the previous process. For example, if the area trigger mode of process 1 is set to synchronized mode, the trigger system is sourced by the output of process 0.

In Section 5.4.7, “Multi Camera Applications” an example of the usage is presented. The block diagram in Figure 5.2, “microEnable IV Trigger System” illustrates the sources of the synchronize outputs and inputs.



### Free-Run Mode

If you like to use your camera in free run mode you can use any of the modes described above. The camera will ignore all trigger pulses or,

if required, you can disable the output or deactivate the trigger using parameter *FG\_TRIGGERSTATE*.



## Allowed Frequencies

Mind the influence of parameter *FG\_TRIGGER\_FRAMESPERSECOND* in external and software triggered mode. Always set this parameter for these modes.

**Table 5.2. Parameter properties of FG\_AREATRIGGERMODE**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_AREATRIGGERMODE</b>
Type	<b>Enumeration</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>ATM_GENERATOR</b> Generator <b>ATM_EXTERNAL</b> External <b>ATM_SOFTWARE</b> Software <b>ATM_SYNCHRONIZED</b> Synchronized
Default value	<b>ATM_GENERATOR</b>

**Example 5.1. Usage of FG\_AREATRIGGERMODE**

```
int result = 0;
unsigned int value = ATM_GENERATOR;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_AREATRIGGERMODE, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_AREATRIGGERMODE, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}
```

### 5.5.2. FG\_TRIGGERSTATE

The area trigger system is operating in three trigger states. In the 'Active' state, the module is fully enabled. Trigger sources are used, pulses are queued, downscaled, multiplied and the output signals get their parameterized pulse forms. If the trigger is set into the 'Sync Stop' mode, the module will ignore further input pulses or stop the generation of pulses. However, the module will still process the pulses in the system. This means, a filled queue and the sequencer will continue processing the pulses and furthermore, the pulse form generators will output the signals according to the parameterized parameters. Finally, the 'Async Stop' mode asynchronously and immediately stops the full trigger system for the respective camera process. Note that this stop might result in output signals of undefined signal length as a current signal generation could be interrupted. Also note that a restart of a previously stopped trigger i.e. switching to the 'Active' state will clear the queue and the sequencer.



**Table 5.3. Parameter properties of FG\_TRIGGERSTATE**

Property	Value	
Name	<b>FG_TRIGGERSTATE</b>	
Type	<b>Enumeration</b>	
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>	
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>	
Allowed values	<b>TS_ACTIVE</b>	Active
	<b>TS_ASYNC_STOP</b>	Async Stop
	<b>TS_SYNC_STOP</b>	Sync Stop
Default value	<b>TS_SYNC_STOP</b>	

**Example 5.2. Usage of FG\_TRIGGERSTATE**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = TS_SYNC_STOP;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGERSTATE, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGERSTATE, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

### 5.5.3. FG\_TRIGGER\_FRAMESPERSECOND

This is a very important parameter of the trigger system. It is used for multiple functionalities.

If you run the trigger system in 'Generator' mode, this parameter will define the frequency of the generator. If you run the trigger system in 'External' or 'Software Trigger' operation mode, this parameter will specify the maximum allowed input frequency. Input frequencies which exceed this limit will cause the loss of the input pulse. To notify the user of this error, a read register contains an error flag or an event is generated. However, if the trigger queue is enabled, the exceeding pulses will be buffered and output at the maximum frequency which is defined by *FG\_TRIGGER\_FRAMESPERSECOND*. Thus, the parameter also defines the maximum queue output frequency. Moreover, it defines the maximum sequencer frequency.

Note that the range of this parameter depends on the settings in the pulse form generators. If you want to increase the frequency you might need to decrease the width or delay of one of the pulse form generators.

**Equation 5.1. Dependency of Frequency and Pulse Form Generators**

$$\frac{1}{\text{fps}} > \text{Max} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{\text{Max}\{\text{WIDTH0}, \text{DELAY0}\}}{\text{DOWNSCALE0}}, \\ \frac{\text{Max}\{\text{WIDTH1}, \text{DELAY1}\}}{\text{DOWNSCALE1}}, \\ \frac{\text{Max}\{\text{WIDTH2}, \text{DELAY2}\}}{\text{DOWNSCALE2}}, \\ \frac{\text{Max}\{\text{WIDTH3}, \text{DELAY3}\}}{\text{DOWNSCALE3}} \end{array} \right\}$$

- $\text{fps} = \text{FG\_TRIGGER\_FRAMESPERSECOND}$



- $WIDTH[0..3] = FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN[0..3]\_WIDTH$
- $DELAY[0..3] = FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN[0..3]\_DELAY$
- $DOWNSCALE[0..3] = FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN[0..3]\_DOWNSCALE$

Read the general trigger system explanations and the respective parameter explanations for more information.

**Table 5.4. Parameter properties of FG\_TRIGGER\_FRAMESPERSECOND**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_TRIGGER_FRAMESPERSECOND</b>
Type	<b>Double</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum</b> <b>NaN</b> <b>Maximum</b> <b>6250000.0</b> <b>Stepsize</b> <b>2.220446049250313E-16</b>
Default value	<b>8.0</b>
Unit of measure	<b>Hz</b>

**Example 5.3. Usage of FG\_TRIGGER\_FRAMESPERSECOND**

```

int result = 0;
double value = 8.0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_DOUBLE;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGER_FRAMESPERSECOND, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGER_FRAMESPERSECOND, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

#### 5.5.4. FG\_TRIGGER\_EXCEEDED\_PERIOD\_LIMITS

This read-only register has value FG\_YES if the input signal frequency exceeded the maximum allowed frequency defined by parameter *FG\_TRIGGER\_FRAMESPERSECOND*. If the queue is enabled, the register is only set if the queue is full and cannot store a new input pulse. Reading the register will not reset it. It is required to reset the register by writing to *FG\_TRIGGER\_EXCEEDED\_PERIOD\_LIMITS\_CLEAR*.

**Table 5.5. Parameter properties of FG\_TRIGGER\_EXCEEDED\_PERIOD\_LIMITS**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_TRIGGER_EXCEEDED_PERIOD_LIMITS</b>
Type	<b>Enumeration</b>
Access policy	<b>Read-Only</b>
Storage policy	<b>Transient</b>
Allowed values	<b>FG_YES</b> Yes <b>FG_NO</b> No

**Example 5.4. Usage of FG\_TRIGGER\_EXCEEDED\_PERIOD\_LIMITS**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = FG_NO;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGER_EXCEEDED_PERIOD_LIMITS, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

**5.5.5. FG\_TRIGGER\_EXCEEDED\_PERIOD\_LIMITS\_CLEAR**

Reset *FG\_TRIGGER\_EXCEEDED\_PERIOD\_LIMITS* with this parameter.

**Table 5.6. Parameter properties of FG\_TRIGGER\_EXCEEDED\_PERIOD\_LIMITS\_CLEAR**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_TRIGGER_EXCEEDED_PERIOD_LIMITS_CLEAR</b>
Type	<b>Enumeration</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Transient</b>
Allowed values	<b>FG_APPLY</b> Apply
Default value	<b>FG_APPLY</b>

**Example 5.5. Usage of FG\_TRIGGER\_EXCEEDED\_PERIOD\_LIMITS\_CLEAR**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = FG_APPLY;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGER_EXCEEDED_PERIOD_LIMITS_CLEAR, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGER_EXCEEDED_PERIOD_LIMITS_CLEAR, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

**5.5.6. FG\_TRIGGER\_EXCEEDED\_PERIOD\_LIMITS\_CAM0 et al.****Note**

This description applies also to the following events:  
FG\_TRIGGER\_EXCEEDED\_PERIOD\_LIMITS\_CAM1

The event is generated for each lost input trigger pulse. A trigger loss can occur if the input frequency is higher than the maximum allowed frequency set by parameter *FG\_TRIGGER\_FRAMESPERSECOND* (see Chapter 5.5.3). If the trigger queue is enabled, the events will only be generated if the queue is full i.e. for overflows. In generator and synchronized trigger modes, the events will not be generated. Except for the timestamp, the event has no additional data included.

**5.5.7. Trigger Input**

The parameters of category Trigger Input are used to configure the input source of the trigger system. The category is divided into sub categories. All external sources are

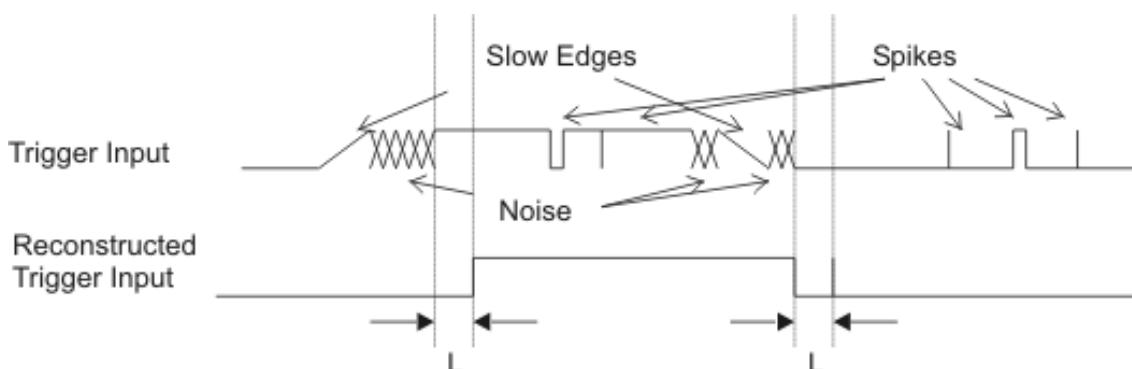
configured in category external. Category software trigger allows the configuration, monitoring and controlling of software trigger pulses. In category statistics the parameters for input statistics are present.

### 5.5.7.1. External

#### 5.5.7.1.1. FG\_TRIGGERIN\_DEBOUNCE

In general, a perfect and steady trigger input signal can not be guaranteed in practice. A transfer using long cable connections and the operation in bad shielded environments might have a distinct influence on the signal quality. Typical problems are strong flattening of the digital's signal edges, occurring interferences during toggling and inducing of short jamming pulses (spikes). In the following figure, some of the influences are illustrated.

**Figure 5.18. Faulty Signal and it's Reconstruction**



L : stability criterion of hysteresis

The trigger system has been designed to work highly reliable even under problematic signal conditions. An internal debouncing of the inputs will eliminate unwanted trigger pulses. It is comparable to a hysteresis. Only signal changes which are constant for a specified time (marked 'L' in the figure) are accepted which makes the input insensitive to jamming pulses. Also multiple triggering will be effectively disabled, which occurs by slow signal transfers and bouncing. Set the debounce time according to your requirements in  $\mu\text{s}$ . Note that the debounce time will also be the delay time before the trigger signal can be processed. The settings made for this parameter affect all digital inputs. The parameter is camera process independent i.e. the latest settings will apply for all camera inputs.

**Table 5.7. Parameter properties of FG\_TRIGGERIN\_DEBOUNCE**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_TRIGGERIN_DEBOUNCE</b>
Type	<b>Double</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum 0.096</b> <b>Maximum 3.024</b> <b>Stepsize 0.048</b>
Default value	<b>1.0</b>
Unit of measure	<b>us</b>

**Example 5.6. Usage of FG\_TRIGGERIN\_DEBOUNCE**

```

int result = 0;
double value = 1.0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_DOUBLE;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGERIN_DEBOUNCE, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGERIN_DEBOUNCE, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

### 5.5.7.1.2. FG\_DIGIO\_INPUT

Parameter *FG\_DIGIO\_INPUT* is used to monitor the digital inputs of the frame grabber. This AcquisitionApplets Advanced has eight digital inputs. You can read the current state of these inputs using parameter *FG\_DIGIO\_INPUT*. Bit 0 of the read value represents input 0, bit 1 represents input 1 and so on. For example, if you obtain the value 37 or hexadecimal 0x25 the frame grabber will have high level on it's digital inputs 0, 2 and 5.

**Table 5.8. Parameter properties of FG\_DIGIO\_INPUT**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_DIGIO_INPUT</b>
Type	<b>Unsigned Integer</b>
Access policy	<b>Read-Only</b>
Storage policy	<b>Transient</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum 0</b> <b>Maximum 255</b> <b>Stepsize 1</b>

**Example 5.7. Usage of FG\_DIGIO\_INPUT**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = 0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_DIGIO_INPUT, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

### 5.5.7.1.3. FG\_TRIGGERIN\_SRC

To use the external trigger you have to select the input carrying the image trigger signal. Select one of the eight inputs. If *FG\_AREATRIGGERMODE* is not set to external, this parameter will select the input for the input statistics only.

**Table 5.9. Parameter properties of FG\_TRIGGERIN\_SRC**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_TRIGGERIN_SRC</b>
Type	<b>Enumeration</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>TRGINSRC_0</b> Trigger Source 0 <b>TRGINSRC_1</b> Trigger Source 1 <b>TRGINSRC_2</b> Trigger Source 2 <b>TRGINSRC_3</b> Trigger Source 3 <b>TRGINSRC_4</b> Trigger Source 4 <b>TRGINSRC_5</b> Trigger Source 5 <b>TRGINSRC_6</b> Trigger Source 6 <b>TRGINSRC_7</b> Trigger Source 7
Default value	<b>TRGINSRC_0</b>

**Example 5.8. Usage of FG\_TRIGGERIN\_SRC**

```
int result = 0;
unsigned int value = TRGINSRC_0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGERIN_SRC, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGERIN_SRC, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}
```

### 5.5.7.1.4. FG\_TRIGGERIN\_POLARITY

For the selected input using parameter *FG\_TRIGGERIN\_SRC* the polarity is set with this parameter.

**Table 5.10. Parameter properties of FG\_TRIGGERIN\_POLARITY**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_TRIGGERIN_POLARITY</b>
Type	<b>Enumeration</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>LOW_ACTIVE</b> Low Active <b>HIGH_ACTIVE</b> High Active
Default value	<b>HIGH_ACTIVE</b>

**Example 5.9. Usage of FG\_TRIGGERIN\_POLARITY**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = HIGH_ACTIVE;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGERIN_POLARITY, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGERIN_POLARITY, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

**5.5.7.1.5. FG\_TRIGGERIN\_DOWNSCALE**

If you use the trigger system in external trigger mode, you can downscale the trigger inputs selected by *FG\_TRIGGERIN\_SRC*. See *FG\_TRIGGERIN\_DOWNSCALE\_PHASE* for more information.

**Table 5.11. Parameter properties of FG\_TRIGGERIN\_DOWNSCALE**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_TRIGGERIN_DOWNSCALE</b>
Type	<b>Unsigned Integer</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum</b> <b>1</b> <b>Maximum</b> <b>256</b> <b>Stepsize</b> <b>1</b>
Default value	<b>1</b>

**Example 5.10. Usage of FG\_TRIGGERIN\_DOWNSCALE**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = 1;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

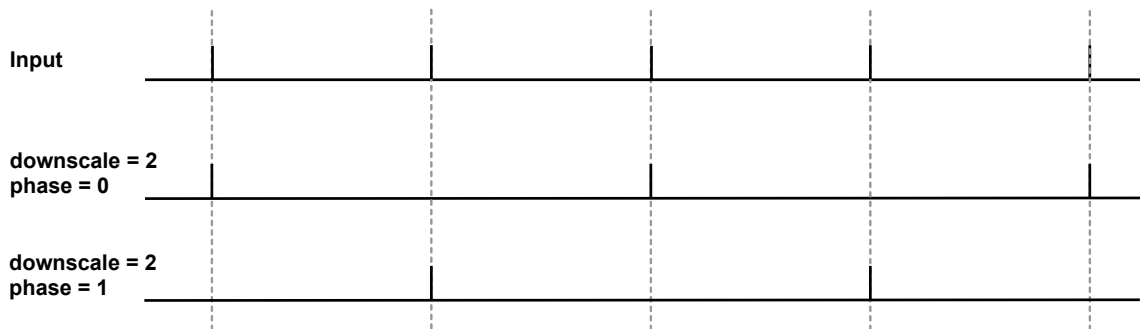
if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGERIN_DOWNSCALE, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGERIN_DOWNSCALE, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

**5.5.7.1.6. FG\_TRIGGERIN\_DOWNSCALE\_PHASE**

Parameters *FG\_TRIGGERIN\_DOWNSCALE* and *FG\_TRIGGERIN\_DOWNSCALE\_PHASE* are used to downscale external trigger inputs. The downscale value represents the factor. For example value three will remove two out of three successive trigger pulses. The phase is used to make the selection of the pulse in the sequence. For the given example, a phase set to value zero will forward the first pulse and will remove pulses two and three of a sequence of three pulses. See the following figure for more explanations.

**Figure 5.19. Triggerin Dowscale**

Mind the dependency between the downscale factor and the phase. The value of the downscale factor has to be greater than the phase!

**Table 5.12. Parameter properties of FG\_TRIGGERIN\_DOWNSCALE\_PHASE**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_TRIGGERIN_DOWNSCALE_PHASE</b>
Type	<b>Unsigned Integer</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum 0</b> <b>Maximum 255</b> <b>Stepsize 1</b>
Default value	<b>0</b>

**Example 5.11. Usage of FG\_TRIGGERIN\_DOWNSCALE\_PHASE**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = 0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGERIN_DOWNSCALE_PHASE, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGERIN_DOWNSCALE_PHASE, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

### 5.5.7.1.7. FG\_TRIGGERIN\_BYPASS\_SRC

Select an external trigger source to bypass the signal to an output. The bypass will keep the pulse form, i.e. the signal length of the external signal. For every output, the selected bypass can be selected. See Chapter and Chapter 5.5.14 to an explanation on how to map the selected source to an output.

**Table 5.13. Parameter properties of FG\_TRIGGERIN\_BYPASS\_SRC**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_TRIGGERIN_BYPASS_SRC</b>
Type	<b>Enumeration</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>TRGINSRC_0</b> Trigger Source 0 <b>TRGINSRC_1</b> Trigger Source 1 <b>TRGINSRC_2</b> Trigger Source 2 <b>TRGINSRC_3</b> Trigger Source 3 <b>TRGINSRC_4</b> Trigger Source 4 <b>TRGINSRC_5</b> Trigger Source 5 <b>TRGINSRC_6</b> Trigger Source 6 <b>TRGINSRC_7</b> Trigger Source 7
Default value	<b>TRGINSRC_0</b>

**Example 5.12. Usage of FG\_TRIGGERIN\_BYPASS\_SRC**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = TRGINSRC_0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGERIN_BYPASS_SRC, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGERIN_BYPASS_SRC, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

## 5.5.7.2. Software Trigger

### 5.5.7.2.1. FG\_SENDSOFTWARETRIGGER

If the trigger system is run in software triggered mode (see parameter *FG\_AREATRIGGERMODE*), this parameter is activated. Write value '1' to this parameter to input a software trigger. If the trigger queue is activated multiple software trigger pulses can be written to the frame grabber. They will fill the queue and being processed with the maximum allowed frequency parameterized by *FG\_TRIGGER\_FRAMESPERSECOND*.

Note that software trigger pulses can only be written if the trigger system has been activated using parameter *FG\_TRIGGERSTATE*. Moreover, if the queue has not been activated, new software trigger pulses can only be written if the trigger system is not busy. Therefore, writing to the parameter can cause an *FG\_SOFTWARE\_TRIGGER\_BUSY* error.



**Table 5.14. Parameter properties of FG\_SENDSOFTWARETRIGGER**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_SENDSOFTWARETRIGGER</b>
Type	<b>Unsigned Integer</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Transient</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum 1</b> <b>Maximum 1</b> <b>Stepsize 1</b>
Default value	<b>1</b>
Unit of measure	<b>pulses</b>

**Example 5.13. Usage of FG\_SENDSOFTWARETRIGGER**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = 1;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_SENDSOFTWARETRIGGER, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_SENDSOFTWARETRIGGER, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

### 5.5.7.2.2. FG\_SOFTWARETRIGGER\_IS\_BUSY

After writing one or multiple pulses to the trigger system using the software trigger, the system might be busy for a while. To check if there are no pulses left for processing use this parameter.

**Table 5.15. Parameter properties of FG\_SOFTWARETRIGGER\_IS\_BUSY**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_SOFTWARETRIGGER_IS_BUSY</b>
Type	<b>Enumeration</b>
Access policy	<b>Read-Only</b>
Storage policy	<b>Transient</b>
Allowed values	<b>IS_BUSY</b> Busy Flag is set <b>IS_NOT_BUSY</b> Busy Flag is not set

**Example 5.14. Usage of FG\_SOFTWARETRIGGER\_IS\_BUSY**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = IS_NOT_BUSY;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_SOFTWARETRIGGER_IS_BUSY, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

### 5.5.7.2.3. FG\_SOFTWARETRIGGER\_QUEUE\_FILLLEVEL

The value of this parameter represents the number of pulses in the software trigger queue which have to be processed. The fill level depends on the number of pulses written to *FG\_SENDSOFTWARETRIGGER*, the trigger pulse multiplication factor *FG\_TRIGGER\_MULTIPLY\_PULSES* and the maximum output frequency defined by *FG\_TRIGGER\_FRAMESPERSECOND*. The value decrement is given in steps of *FG\_TRIGGER\_MULTIPLY\_PULSES*.

**Table 5.16. Parameter properties of FG\_SOFTWARETRIGGER\_QUEUE\_FILLLEVEL**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_SOFTWARETRIGGER_QUEUE_FILLLEVEL</b>
Type	<b>Unsigned Integer</b>
Access policy	<b>Read-Only</b>
Storage policy	<b>Transient</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum 0</b> <b>Maximum 2040</b> <b>Stepsize 1</b>
Unit of measure	<b>pulses</b>

**Example 5.15. Usage of FG\_SOFTWARETRIGGER\_QUEUE\_FILLLEVEL**

```
int result = 0;
unsigned int value = 0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_SOFTWARETRIGGER_QUEUE_FILLLEVEL, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}
```

### 5.5.7.3. Statistics

The trigger input statistics module will offer you frequency analysis and pulse counting of the selected input. The digital input for the statistics is selected by *FG\_TRIGGERIN\_POLARITY*. Measurements are performed after debouncing and polarity selection but before downscaling.

#### 5.5.7.3.1. FG\_TRIGGERIN\_STATS\_PULSECOUNT

The input pulses are count and the current value can be read with this parameter. Use the counter for verification of your system. For example, compare the counter value with the received number of images to check for exceeding periods.

**Table 5.17. Parameter properties of FG\_TRIGGERIN\_STATS\_PULSECOUNT**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_TRIGGERIN_STATS_PULSECOUNT</b>
Type	<b>Unsigned Integer</b>
Access policy	<b>Read-Only</b>
Storage policy	<b>Transient</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum 0</b> <b>Maximum 65535</b> <b>Stepsize 1</b>
Unit of measure	<b>pulses</b>

**Example 5.16. Usage of FG\_TRIGGERIN\_STATS\_PULSECOUNT**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = 0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGERIN_STATS_PULSECOUNT, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

### 5.5.7.3.2. FG\_TRIGGERIN\_STATS\_PULSECOUNT\_CLEAR

Clear the input pulse counter by writing to this register.

**Table 5.18. Parameter properties of FG\_TRIGGERIN\_STATS\_PULSECOUNT\_CLEAR**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_TRIGGERIN_STATS_PULSECOUNT_CLEAR</b>
Type	<b>Enumeration</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Transient</b>
Allowed values	<b>FG_APPLY</b> Apply
Default value	<b>FG_APPLY</b>

**Example 5.17. Usage of FG\_TRIGGERIN\_STATS\_PULSECOUNT\_CLEAR**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = FG_APPLY;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGERIN_STATS_PULSECOUNT_CLEAR, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGERIN_STATS_PULSECOUNT_CLEAR, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

### 5.5.7.3.3. FG\_TRIGGERIN\_STATS\_FREQUENCY

The current frequency can be read using this parameter. It shows the frequency of the last two received pulses at the frame grabber.

**Table 5.19. Parameter properties of FG\_TRIGGERIN\_STATS\_FREQUENCY**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_TRIGGERIN_STATS_FREQUENCY</b>
Type	<b>Double</b>
Access policy	<b>Read-Only</b>
Storage policy	<b>Transient</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum</b> <b>0.0</b> <b>Maximum</b> <b>6.25E7</b> <b>Stepsize</b> <b>2.220446049250313E-16</b>
Unit of measure	<b>Hz</b>

**Example 5.18. Usage of FG\_TRIGGERIN\_STATS\_FREQUENCY**

```

int result = 0;
double value = 0.0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_DOUBLE;

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGERIN_STATS_FREQUENCY, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

#### 5.5.7.3.4. FG\_TRIGGERIN\_STATS\_MINFREQUENCY

The trigger system will memorize the minimum detected input frequency. This will give you information about frequency peaks.

**Table 5.20. Parameter properties of FG\_TRIGGERIN\_STATS\_MINFREQUENCY**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_TRIGGERIN_STATS_MINFREQUENCY</b>
Type	<b>Double</b>
Access policy	<b>Read-Only</b>
Storage policy	<b>Transient</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum 0.0</b> <b>Maximum 6.25E7</b> <b>Stepsize 2.220446049250313E-16</b>
Unit of measure	<b>Hz</b>

**Example 5.19. Usage of FG\_TRIGGERIN\_STATS\_MINFREQUENCY**

```

int result = 0;
double value = 0.0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_DOUBLE;

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGERIN_STATS_MINFREQUENCY, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

#### 5.5.7.3.5. FG\_TRIGGERIN\_STATS\_MAXFREQUENCY

The trigger system will memorize the maximum detected input frequency. This will give you information about frequency peaks.

**Table 5.21. Parameter properties of FG\_TRIGGERIN\_STATS\_MAXFREQUENCY**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_TRIGGERIN_STATS_MAXFREQUENCY</b>
Type	<b>Double</b>
Access policy	<b>Read-Only</b>
Storage policy	<b>Transient</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum 0.0</b> <b>Maximum 6.25E7</b> <b>Stepsize 2.220446049250313E-16</b>
Unit of measure	<b>Hz</b>

**Example 5.20. Usage of FG\_TRIGGERIN\_STATS\_MAXFREQUENCY**

```

int result = 0;
double value = 0.0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_DOUBLE;

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGERIN_STATS_MAXFREQUENCY, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

**5.5.7.3.6. FG\_TRIGGERIN\_STATS\_MINMAXFREQUENCY\_CLEAR**

To clear the minimum and maximum frequency measurements, write to this register. The minimum and maximum frequency will then be the current input frequency.

**Table 5.22. Parameter properties of FG\_TRIGGERIN\_STATS\_MINMAXFREQUENCY\_CLEAR**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_TRIGGERIN_STATS_MINMAXFREQUENCY_CLEAR</b>
Type	<b>Enumeration</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Transient</b>
Allowed values	<b>FG_APPLY</b> Apply
Default value	<b>FG_APPLY</b>

**Example 5.21. Usage of FG\_TRIGGERIN\_STATS\_MINMAXFREQUENCY\_CLEAR**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = FG_APPLY;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGERIN_STATS_MINMAXFREQUENCY_CLEAR, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGERIN_STATS_MINMAXFREQUENCY_CLEAR, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

**5.5.7.3.7. FG\_TRIGGER\_INPUT0\_RISING et al.****Note**

This description applies also to the following events: FG\_TRIGGER\_INPUT1\_RISING, FG\_TRIGGER\_INPUT2\_RISING, FG\_TRIGGER\_INPUT3\_RISING, FG\_TRIGGER\_INPUT4\_RISING, FG\_TRIGGER\_INPUT5\_RISING, FG\_TRIGGER\_INPUT6\_RISING, FG\_TRIGGER\_INPUT7\_RISING

This Event is generated for each rising signal edge at trigger input 0. Except for the timestamp, the event has no additional data included. Keep in mind that fast changes of the input signal can cause high interrupt rates which might slow down the system.

**5.5.7.3.8. FG\_TRIGGER\_INPUT0\_FALLING et al.**



## Note

This description applies also to the following events: `FG_TRIGGER_INPUT1_FALLING`, `FG_TRIGGER_INPUT2_FALLING`, `FG_TRIGGER_INPUT3_FALLING`, `FG_TRIGGER_INPUT4_FALLING`, `FG_TRIGGER_INPUT5_FALLING`, `FG_TRIGGER_INPUT6_FALLING`, `FG_TRIGGER_INPUT7_FALLING`

This Event is generated for each falling signal edge at trigger input 0. Except for the timestamp, the event has no additional data included. Keep in mind that fast changes of the input signal can cause high interrupt rates which might slow down the system.

## 5.5.8. Sequencer

The sequencer is a powerful feature to generate multiple pulses out of one input pulse. It is available in external and software trigger mode, but not in generator mode. The sequencer multiplies an input pulse using the factor set by `FG_TRIGGER_MULTIPLY_PULSES`. The inserted pulses will have a time delay to the original signal according to the setting made for parameter `FG_TRIGGER_FRAMESPERSECOND`. Thus, the inserted pulses are not evenly distributed between the input pulses, they will be inserted with a delay specified by `FG_TRIGGER_FRAMESPERSECOND`. Hence, it is very important, that the multiplicate pulses with a parameterized delay will not cause a loss of input signals.

Let's have a look at an example. Suppose you have an external trigger source generating a pulse once every second. Your input frequency will then be 1Hz. Assume that the sequencer is set to a multiplication factor of 2 and the maximum frequency defined by `FG_TRIGGER_FRAMESPERSECOND` is set to 2.1Hz.

The trigger system will forward each external pulse into the trigger system and will also generate a second pulse 0.48 seconds later. As you can see, the multiplication frequency is chosen to be slightly higher than the doubled input frequency. This will allow the compensation of varying input frequencies. If the time between two pulses at the input will be less than 0.96 seconds, you will loose the second pulse. Silicon Software recommends the multiplication frequency to be fast enough to not loose pulses or recommends the activation of the trigger queue for compensation. You can check for lost pulses with parameter `FG_TRIGGER_EXCEEDED_PERIOD_LIMITS`.

### 5.5.8.1. FG\_TRIGGER\_MULTIPLY\_PULSES

Set the trigger input multiplication factor.

**Table 5.23. Parameter properties of FG\_TRIGGER\_MULTIPLY\_PULSES**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_TRIGGER_MULTIPLY_PULSES</b>
Type	<b>Unsigned Integer</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum 1</b> <b>Maximum 65535</b> <b>Stepsize 1</b>
Default value	<b>1</b>

**Example 5.22. Usage of FG\_TRIGGER\_MULTIPLY\_PULSES**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = 1;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGER_MULTIPLY_PULSES, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGER_MULTIPLY_PULSES, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

**5.5.9. Queue**

The maximum trigger output frequency is limited to the the setting of parameter *FG\_TRIGGER\_FRAMESPERSECOND*. This can avoid the loss of trigger pulses in the camera which is hard to detect. In some cases it is possible, that the frequency of your external trigger source varies. To prevent the loose of trigger pulses, you can activate the trigger queue to buffer these pulses. Furthermore, the queue can be used to buffer trigger input pulses if you use the sequencer and the software trigger.

Activate the trigger queue using parameter *FG\_TRIGGERQUEUE\_MODE*.

The queue fill level can be monitored by parameter *FG\_TRIGGERQUEUE\_FILLEVEL*. Moreover, two events allow the monitoring of the fill level. Using parameters *FG\_TRIGGER\_QUEUE\_FILLEVEL\_EVENT\_ON\_THRESHOLD* and *FG\_TRIGGER\_QUEUE\_FILLEVEL\_EVENT\_OFF\_THRESHOLD* it is possible to set two threshold. If the fill level exceeds the ON-threshold the respective event *FG\_TRIGGER\_QUEUE\_FILLEVEL\_THRESHOLD\_CAM0\_ON* is generated. If the fill level gets less or equal than the OFF-threshold the event *FG\_TRIGGER\_QUEUE\_FILLEVEL\_THRESHOLD\_CAM0\_OFF* is generated.

Note that a fill level value  $n$  indicates that between  $n$  and  $n + 1$  trigger pulses have to be processed by the system. Therefore, a fill level value zero means that no more values are in the queue, but there might be still a pulse (or multiple pulses if the sequencer is used) to be processed. There exists one exception for value zero obtained with *FG\_TRIGGERQUEUE\_FILLEVEL* i.e. the parameter and not the events. This value at this parameter truly indicates that no more pulses are in the queue and all pulses have been full processed.

**5.5.9.1. FG\_TRIGGERQUEUE\_MODE**

Activate the queue using this parameter. Note that a queue de-activation will erase all remaining values in the queue.

**Table 5.24. Parameter properties of FG\_TRIGGERQUEUE\_MODE**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_TRIGGERQUEUE_MODE</b>
Type	<b>Enumeration</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>FG_ON</b> On <b>FG_OFF</b> Off
Default value	<b>FG_OFF</b>



**Example 5.23. Usage of FG\_TRIGGERQUEUE\_MODE**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = FG_OFF;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGERQUEUE_MODE, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGERQUEUE_MODE, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

**5.5.9.2. FG\_TRIGGERQUEUE\_FILLLEVEL**

Obtain the currently queued pulses with this parameter. At maximum 2040 pulses can be queued. The queue fill level includes the input pulses, i.e. the external trigger pulses in the queue or the software trigger pulses in the queue. The fill level does not include the pulses generated by the sequencer. The fill level is zero, if the trigger system is not busy anymore i.e. no more pulses are left to be processed.

**Table 5.25. Parameter properties of FG\_TRIGGERQUEUE\_FILLLEVEL**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_TRIGGERQUEUE_FILLLEVEL</b>
Type	<b>Unsigned Integer</b>
Access policy	<b>Read-Only</b>
Storage policy	<b>Transient</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum 0</b> <b>Maximum 2040</b> <b>Stepsize 1</b>
Unit of measure	<b>pulses</b>

**Example 5.24. Usage of FG\_TRIGGERQUEUE\_FILLLEVEL**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = 0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGERQUEUE_FILLLEVEL, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

**5.5.9.3. FG\_TRIGGER\_QUEUE\_FILLLEVEL\_EVENT\_ON\_THRESHOLD**

Set the ON-threshold for fill level event generation with this parameter.



**Table 5.26. Parameter properties of FG\_TRIGGER\_QUEUE\_FILLLEVEL\_EVENT\_ON\_THRESHOLD**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_TRIGGER_QUEUE_FILLLEVEL_EVENT_ON_THRESHOLD</b>
Type	<b>Unsigned Integer</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum 2</b> <b>Maximum 2047</b> <b>Stepsize 1</b>
Default value	<b>2047</b>
Unit of measure	<b>pulses</b>

**Example 5.25. Usage of FG\_TRIGGER\_QUEUE\_FILLLEVEL\_EVENT\_ON\_THRESHOLD**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = 2047;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGER_QUEUE_FILLLEVEL_EVENT_ON_THRESHOLD, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGER_QUEUE_FILLLEVEL_EVENT_ON_THRESHOLD, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

#### 5.5.9.4. FG\_TRIGGER\_QUEUE\_FILLLEVEL\_EVENT\_OFF\_THRESHOLD

Set the OFF-threshold for fill level event generation with this parameter.

**Table 5.27. Parameter properties of FG\_TRIGGER\_QUEUE\_FILLLEVEL\_EVENT\_OFF\_THRESHOLD**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_TRIGGER_QUEUE_FILLLEVEL_EVENT_OFF_THRESHOLD</b>
Type	<b>Unsigned Integer</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum 2</b> <b>Maximum 2047</b> <b>Stepsize 1</b>
Default value	<b>2</b>
Unit of measure	<b>pulses</b>

**Example 5.26. Usage of FG\_TRIGGER\_QUEUE\_FILLLEVEL\_EVENT\_OFF\_THRESHOLD**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = 2;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGER_QUEUE_FILLLEVEL_EVENT_OFF_THRESHOLD, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGER_QUEUE_FILLLEVEL_EVENT_OFF_THRESHOLD, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

#### 5.5.9.5. FG\_TRIGGER\_QUEUE\_FILLLEVEL\_THRESHOLD\_CAM0\_ON et al.



#### Note

This description applies also to the following events:  
FG\_TRIGGER\_QUEUE\_FILLLEVEL\_THRESHOLD\_CAM1\_ON

The event is generated if the queue fill level exceeds the ON-threshold set by parameter *FG\_TRIGGER\_QUEUE\_FILLLEVEL\_EVENT\_ON\_THRESHOLD*. Except for the timestamp, the event has no additional data included.

#### 5.5.9.6. FG\_TRIGGER\_QUEUE\_FILLLEVEL\_THRESHOLD\_CAM0\_OFF et al.



#### Note

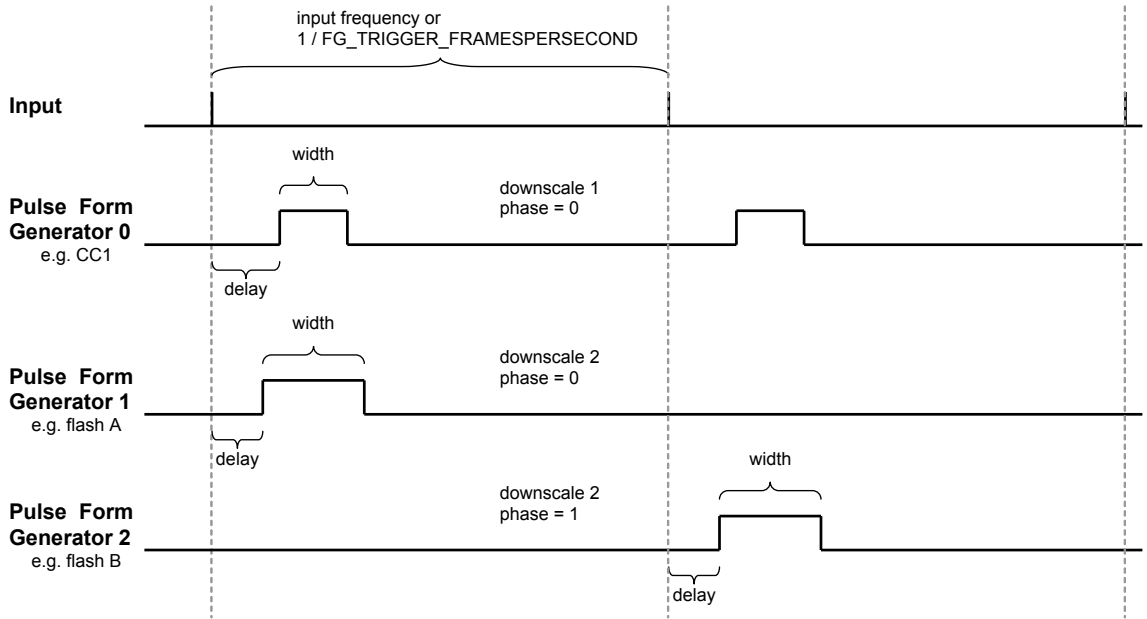
This description applies also to the following events:  
FG\_TRIGGER\_QUEUE\_FILLLEVEL\_THRESHOLD\_CAM1\_OFF

The event is generated if the queue fill level gets less or equal than the OFF-threshold set by parameter *FG\_TRIGGER\_QUEUE\_FILLLEVEL\_EVENT\_OFF\_THRESHOLD*. Except for the timestamp, the event has no additional data included.

### 5.5.10. Pulse Form Generator 0

The parameters explained previously were used to generate the trigger pulses i.e. the source selection, the frequency, queue, ... Next, we will need to prepare the pulses for the outputs. The SiliconSoftware area trigger system includes four individual pulse form generators. These generators define the width and delay of the output signals and also support downscaling of pulses which can be useful if different light sources are used successively. After parameterizing the pulse form generators you can arbitrarily allocate the pulse form generators to the outputs.

The following figure illustrates the output of the pulse form generators and the parameters.

**Figure 5.20. Pulse Form Generators**

Once again, note that the ranges of the parameters depend on the other settings in the pulse form generators and on parameter `FG_TRIGGER_FRAMESPERSECOND`. If you want to increase the frequency you might need to decrease the width or delay of one of the pulse form generators.

**Equation 5.2. Dependency of Frequency and Pulse Form Generators**

$$\frac{1}{\text{fps}} > \text{Max} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{\text{Max}\{\text{WIDTH0}, \text{DELAY0}\}}{\text{DOWNSCALE0}}, \\ \frac{\text{Max}\{\text{WIDTH1}, \text{DELAY1}\}}{\text{DOWNSCALE1}}, \\ \frac{\text{Max}\{\text{WIDTH2}, \text{DELAY2}\}}{\text{DOWNSCALE2}}, \\ \frac{\text{Max}\{\text{WIDTH3}, \text{DELAY3}\}}{\text{DOWNSCALE3}} \end{array} \right\}$$

- `fps = FG_TRIGGER_FRAMESPERSECOND`
- `WIDTH[0..3] = FG_TRIGGER_PULSEFORMGEN[0..3]_WIDTH`
- `DELAY[0..3] = FG_TRIGGER_PULSEFORMGEN[0..3]_DELAY`
- `DOWNSCALE[0..3] = FG_TRIGGER_PULSEFORMGEN[0..3]_DOWNSCALE`

#### 5.5.10.1. FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN0\_DOWNSCALE et al.



#### Note

This description applies also to the following parameters:  
`FG_TRIGGER_PULSEFORMGEN1_DOWNSCALE`,  
`FG_TRIGGER_PULSEFORMGEN2_DOWNSCALE`,  
`FG_TRIGGER_PULSEFORMGEN3_DOWNSCALE`

The trigger pulses can be downscaled. Set the downscale factor by use of this parameter. Note the dependency between this parameter and the phase. See `FG_TRIGGER_PULSEFORMGEN[0..3]_DOWNSCALE_PHASE` for more information.

**Table 5.28. Parameter properties of FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN0\_DOWNSCALE**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_TRIGGER_PULSEFORMGEN0_DOWNSCALE</b>
Type	<b>Unsigned Integer</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum 1</b> <b>Maximum 7</b> <b>Stepsize 1</b>
Default value	<b>1</b>

**Example 5.27. Usage of FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN0\_DOWNSCALE**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = 1;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGER_PULSEFORMGEN0_DOWNSCALE, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGER_PULSEFORMGEN0_DOWNSCALE, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

### 5.5.10.2. FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN0\_DOWNSCALE\_PHASE et al.



#### Note

This description applies also to the following parameters: FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN1\_DOWNSCALE\_PHASE, FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN2\_DOWNSCALE\_PHASE, FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN3\_DOWNSCALE\_PHASE

Parameters *FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN[0..3]\_DOWNSCALE* and *FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN[0..3]\_DOWNSCALE\_PHASE* are used to downscale the trigger pulses. The downscale value represents the factor. For example value three will remove two out of three successive trigger pulses. The phase is used to make the selection of the pulse in the sequence. For the given example, a phase set to value zero will forward the first pulse and will remove pulses two and three of a sequence of three pulses. Check Section 5.5.10, "Pulse Form Generator 0" for more information.

Mind the dependency between the downscale factor and the phase. The factor has to be greater than the phase!

**Table 5.29. Parameter properties of FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN0\_DOWNSCALE\_PHASE**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_TRIGGER_PULSEFORMGEN0_DOWNSCALE_PHASE</b>
Type	<b>Unsigned Integer</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum 0</b> <b>Maximum 6</b> <b>Stepsize 1</b>
Default value	<b>0</b>

**Example 5.28. Usage of FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN0\_DOWNSCALE\_PHASE**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = 0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGER_PULSEFORMGEN0_DOWNSCALE_PHASE, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGER_PULSEFORMGEN0_DOWNSCALE_PHASE, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

### 5.5.10.3. FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN0\_DELAY et al.



#### Note

This description applies also to the following parameters:  
 FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN1\_DELAY,  
 FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN2\_DELAY,  
 FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN3\_DELAY

Set a signal delay with this parameter. The unit of this parameter is  $\mu\text{s}$ .

**Table 5.30. Parameter properties of FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN0\_DELAY**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_TRIGGER_PULSEFORMGEN0_DELAY</b>
Type	<b>Double</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum 0.0</b> <b>Maximum 3.4E7</b> <b>Stepsize 0.016</b>
Default value	<b>0.0</b>
Unit of measure	<b>us</b>

**Example 5.29. Usage of FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN0\_DELAY**

```

int result = 0;
double value = 0.0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_DOUBLE;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGER_PULSEFORMGEN0_DELAY, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGER_PULSEFORMGEN0_DELAY, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

**5.5.10.4. FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN0\_WIDTH et al.****Note**

This description applies also to the following parameters:  
 FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN1\_WIDTH,  
 FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN2\_WIDTH,  
 FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN3\_WIDTH

Set the signal width, i.e. the active time of the output signal. The unit of this parameter is  $\mu\text{s}$ .

**Table 5.31. Parameter properties of FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN0\_WIDTH**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_TRIGGER_PULSEFORMGEN0_WIDTH</b>
Type	<b>Double</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum 1.0</b> <b>Maximum 6.8E7</b> <b>Stepsize 0.016</b>
Default value	<b>4000.0</b>
Unit of measure	<b>us</b>

**Example 5.30. Usage of FG\_TRIGGER\_PULSEFORMGEN0\_WIDTH**

```

int result = 0;
double value = 4000.0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_DOUBLE;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGER_PULSEFORMGEN0_WIDTH, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGER_PULSEFORMGEN0_WIDTH, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

**5.5.11. Pulse Form Generator 1**

The settings for pulse form generator 1 are equal to those of pulse form generator 0. Please read Section 5.5.10, "Pulse Form Generator 0" for a detailed description.

### 5.5.12. Pulse Form Generator 2

The settings for pulse form generator 2 are equal to those of pulse form generator 0. Please read Section 5.5.10, "Pulse Form Generator 0" for a detailed description.

### 5.5.13. Pulse Form Generator 3

The settings for pulse form generator 3 are equal to those of pulse form generator 0. Please read Section 5.5.10, "Pulse Form Generator 0" for a detailed description.

### 5.5.14. Digital Output

The microEnable IV VQ4-GE/-GPoE frame grabber has eight digital outputs. This applet is a dual camera applet. You can use outputs 0 to 3 for the first camera (index 0) and outputs 4 to 7 with camera 1.

The trigger system of this AcquisitionApplets Advanced provides several possibilities of mapping sources to the digital output signals:

- Pulse form generators 0 to 3

The pulse form generators are the main output sources of the trigger system. You can either directly one of the four sources to a digital output or invert the signal if you need low active signals.

- Ground or Vcc if a digital output is not used or you want to manually set the signal level.
- The input bypass

The trigger system will ignore the signal length of the input signals. If you want to directly bypass one of the inputs to a digital output, you can set the digital output to 'bypass' or the 'inverted bypass' Input signals will then be directly output. The source is selected by parameter *FG\_TRIGGERIN\_BYPASS\_SRC*.

#### 5.5.14.1. FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_SELECT0 et al.



#### Note

This description applies also to the following parameters: *FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_SELECT1*, *FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_SELECT2*, *FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_SELECT3*

**Table 5.32. Parameter properties of FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_SELECT0**

Property	Value	
Name	<b>FG_TRIGGEROUT_SELECT0</b>	
Type	<b>Enumeration</b>	
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>	
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>	
Allowed values	<b>PULSEGEN0</b> <b>PULSEGEN1</b> <b>PULSEGEN2</b> <b>PULSEGEN3</b> <b>GND</b> <b>VCC</b> <b>NOT_PULSEGEN0</b> <b>NOT_PULSEGEN1</b> <b>NOT_PULSEGEN2</b> <b>NOT_PULSEGEN3</b> <b>INPUT_BYPASS</b> <b>NOT_INPUT_BYPASS</b>	Pulse Generator 0 Pulse Generator 1 Pulse Generator 2 Pulse Generator 3 Gnd Vcc !Pulse Generator 0 !Pulse Generator 1 !Pulse Generator 2 !Pulse Generator 3 Input Bypass !Input Bypass
Default value	<b>NOT_PULSEGEN0</b>	

**Example 5.31. Usage of FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_SELECT0**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = NOT_PULSEGEN0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGEROUT_SELECT0, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGEROUT_SELECT0, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

### 5.5.14.2. Statistics

The output statistics module counts the number of output pulses. The source can be selected by parameter *FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_STATS\_SOURCE*. The count value can be read from parameter *FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_STATS\_PULSECOUNT*. Parameter *FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_STATS\_SOURCE* also selects the source for the missing frame detection functionality.

#### 5.5.14.2.1. FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_STATS\_SOURCE



**Table 5.33. Parameter properties of FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_STATS\_SOURCE**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_TRIGGEROUT_STATS_SOURCE</b>
Type	<b>Enumeration</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>PULSEGEN0</b> Pulse Generator 0 <b>PULSEGEN1</b> Pulse Generator 1 <b>PULSEGEN2</b> Pulse Generator 2 <b>PULSEGEN3</b> Pulse Generator 3
Default value	<b>PULSEGEN0</b>

**Example 5.32. Usage of FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_STATS\_SOURCE**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = PULSEGEN0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGEROUT_STATS_SOURCE, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGEROUT_STATS_SOURCE, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

#### 5.5.14.2.2. FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_STATS\_PULSECOUNT

Output pulse count read register. Select the source for the pulse counter by parameter *FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_STATS\_SOURCE*.

**Table 5.34. Parameter properties of FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_STATS\_PULSECOUNT**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_TRIGGEROUT_STATS_PULSECOUNT</b>
Type	<b>Unsigned Integer</b>
Access policy	<b>Read-Only</b>
Storage policy	<b>Transient</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum 0</b> <b>Maximum 65535</b> <b>Stepsize 1</b>
Unit of measure	<b>pulses</b>

**Example 5.33. Usage of FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_STATS\_PULSECOUNT**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = 0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGEROUT_STATS_PULSECOUNT, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

#### 5.5.14.2.3. FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_STATS\_PULSECOUNT\_CLEAR

Output pulse count register clear.

**Table 5.35. Parameter properties of FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_STATS\_PULSECOUNT\_CLEAR**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_TRIGGEROUT_STATS_PULSECOUNT_CLEAR</b>
Type	<b>Enumeration</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Transient</b>
Allowed values	<b>FG_APPLY</b> Apply
Default value	<b>FG_APPLY</b>

**Example 5.34. Usage of FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_STATS\_PULSECOUNT\_CLEAR**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = FG_APPLY;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGEROUT_STATS_PULSECOUNT_CLEAR, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

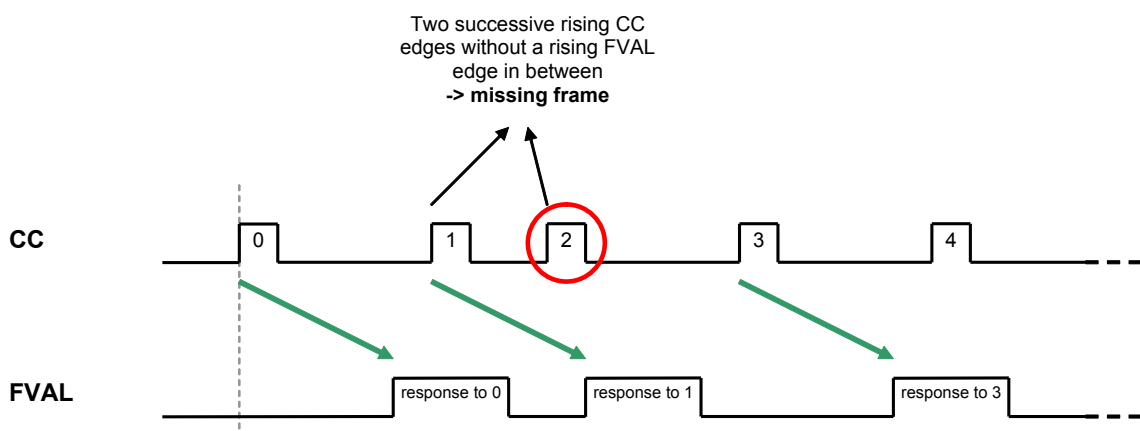
if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGEROUT_STATS_PULSECOUNT_CLEAR, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

#### 5.5.14.2.4. FG\_MISSING\_CAMERA\_FRAME\_RESPONSE

This applet is equipped with a detection of missing camera frame responses to trigger pulses. If the camera will not send a frame for each output trigger pulse, the register is set to FG\_YES until cleared by writing to parameter *FG\_MISSING\_CAMERA\_FRAME\_RESPONSE\_CLEAR*.

The idea of the frame loss detection is that for every trigger pulse generated by the trigger system, the camera will send a frame to the frame grabber. If a trigger pulse gets lost, or the camera cannot send a frame, this register will be set to FG\_YES. Technically, between two CC output signal edges, a rising FVAL edge has to exist. Or in other words: There must not be two or more successive CC edges without a rising FVAL edge in between. The following figure illustrates the behavior.

**Figure 5.21. Missing Camera Frame Response**

The pulse form generator allocated to the CC signal line carrying the image trigger pulses has to be selected by *FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_STATS\_SOURCE*. The missing frame response system might not work correct for all camera models due to different timings.



## Select CC Signal Line

Don't forget to select the pulse form generator feeding the CC signal line which carries the image trigger pulses by setting parameter *FG\_TRIGGEROUT\_STATS\_SOURCE* to the respective source.



## Acquisition Start Before Trigger Activation

Keep in mind to start the acquisition before activating the trigger. Otherwise, the sent trigger pulses will get lost. Also keep in mind, that any changes of the camera configuration might result in invalid data transfers.



## Events for Missing Frame Response

If you want to monitor the exact moment of a missing frame responses, and the exact number of missing frames use event *FG\_MISSING\_CAM0\_FRAME\_RESPONSE* or *FG\_MISSING\_CAM1\_FRAME\_RESPONSE*.

**Table 5.36. Parameter properties of FG\_MISSING\_CAMERA\_FRAME\_RESPONSE**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_MISSING_CAMERA_FRAME_RESPONSE</b>
Type	<b>Enumeration</b>
Access policy	<b>Read-Only</b>
Storage policy	<b>Transient</b>
Allowed values	<b>FG_YES</b> Yes <b>FG_NO</b> No

**Example 5.35. Usage of FG\_MISSING\_CAMERA\_FRAME\_RESPONSE**

```
int result = 0;
unsigned int value = FG_NO;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_MISSING_CAMERA_FRAME_RESPONSE, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}
```

### 5.5.14.2.5. FG\_MISSING\_CAMERA\_FRAME\_RESPONSE\_CLEAR

Clear the *FG\_MISSING\_CAMERA\_FRAME\_RESPONSE* flag by writing to this parameter.

**Table 5.37. Parameter properties of FG\_MISSING\_CAMERA\_FRAME\_RESPONSE\_CLEAR**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_MISSING_CAMERA_FRAME_RESPONSE_CLEAR</b>
Type	<b>Enumeration</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Transient</b>
Allowed values	<b>FG_APPLY</b> Apply
Default value	<b>FG_APPLY</b>

**Example 5.36. Usage of FG\_MISSING\_CAMERA\_FRAME\_RESPONSE\_CLEAR**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = FG_APPLY;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_MISSING_CAMERA_FRAME_RESPONSE_CLEAR, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_MISSING_CAMERA_FRAME_RESPONSE_CLEAR, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

**5.5.14.2.6. FG\_MISSING\_CAM0\_FRAME\_RESPONSE et al.****Note**

This description applies also to the following events:  
FG\_MISSING\_CAM1\_FRAME\_RESPONSE

The missing camera frame response event is generated for each camera output trigger pulse with no frame response. Please read the description of the detection and the documentation on how to configure the mechanism in Chapter 5.5.14.2.4 carefully. If the mechanism is compatible with the used camera and set up correct, the number of events is equal to the number of lost frames. Except for the timestamp, the event has no additional data included.

**5.5.15. Output Event****5.5.15.1. FG\_TRIGGER\_OUTPUT\_EVENT\_SELECT**

Select the source for the output event *FG\_TRIGGER\_OUTPUT\_CAM0* respectively *FG\_TRIGGER\_OUTPUT\_CAM1* with this register. One of the pulse form generators can be selected.

**Table 5.38. Parameter properties of FG\_TRIGGER\_OUTPUT\_EVENT\_SELECT**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_TRIGGER_OUTPUT_EVENT_SELECT</b>
Type	<b>Enumeration</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>PULSEGEN0</b> Pulse Generator 0 <b>PULSEGEN1</b> Pulse Generator 1 <b>PULSEGEN2</b> Pulse Generator 2 <b>PULSEGEN3</b> Pulse Generator 3
Default value	<b>PULSEGEN0</b>

**Example 5.37. Usage of FG\_TRIGGER\_OUTPUT\_EVENT\_SELECT**

```
int result = 0;
unsigned int value = PULSEGEN0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGER_OUTPUT_EVENT_SELECT, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_TRIGGER_OUTPUT_EVENT_SELECT, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}
```

**5.5.15.2. FG\_TRIGGER\_OUTPUT\_CAM0 et al.****Note**

This description applies also to the following events:  
FG\_TRIGGER\_OUTPUT\_CAM1

This event is generated for each start of an output trigger pulse. The respective pulse form generator has to be selected by parameter *FG\_TRIGGER\_OUTPUT\_EVENT\_SELECT*. Except for the timestamp, the event has no additional data included. Keep in mind that a high output frequency can cause high interrupt rates which might slow down the system.

---

## Chapter 6. Overflow

The applet processes image data as fast as possible. Any image data sent by the camera is immediately processed and send to the PC. The latency is minimal. In general, only one concurrent image line is stored and processed in the frame grabber. However, the transfer bandwidth to the PC via DMA channel can vary caused by interrupts, other hardware and the current CPU load. Also, the camera frame rate can vary due to an fluctuating trigger. For these cases, the applet is equipped with a memory to buffer the input frames. This buffer can store up to 32,000 image lines. The fill level of the buffer can be obtained by reading from parameter *FG\_FILLLEVEL*.

In normal operation conditions the buffer will always remain almost empty. For fluctuating camera bandwidths or for short and fast acquisitions, the buffer can easily fill up quickly. Of course, the input bandwidth must not exceed the maximum bandwidth of the applet. Check Section 1.2, "Bandwidth" for more information.

If the buffer's fill level reaches 100%, the applet is in overflow condition, as no more data can be buffered and camera data will be discarded. This can result in two different behaviors:

- Corrupted Frames:

The transfer of a current frame is interrupted by an overflow. This means, the first pixels or lines of the frame were transfered into the buffer, but not the full frame. The output of the applet i.e. the DMA transfer will be shorter. The output image will not have it's full height.

- Lost Frames:

A full camera frame was discarded due to a full buffer memory. No DMA transfer will exist for the discarded frame. This means the number of applet output images can differ from the number of applet input images.

A way to detect the overflows is to read parameter *FG\_OVERFLOW* or check for event *FG\_OVERFLOW\_CAM0*. Reading from the parameter will provide information about an overflow condition. As soon as the parameter is read, it will reset. Using the parameter an overflow condition can be detect, but it is not possible to obtain the exact image number and the moment. For this, the overflow event can be used.

### 6.1. FG\_FILLLEVEL

The fill-level of the frame grabber buffers used in this AcquisitionApplets Advanced can be read-out by use of this parameter. The value allows to check if the mean input bandwidth of the camera is to high to be processed with the applet.

**Table 6.1. Parameter properties of FG\_FILLEVEL**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_FILLEVEL</b>
Type	<b>Unsigned Integer</b>
Access policy	<b>Read-Only</b>
Storage policy	<b>Transient</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum 0</b> <b>Maximum 100</b> <b>Stepsize 1</b>
Unit of measure	<b>%</b>

**Example 6.1. Usage of FG\_FILLEVEL**

```
int result = 0;
unsigned int value = 0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_FILLEVEL, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}
```

## 6.2. FG\_OVERFLOW

If the applet runs into overflow, a value "1" can be read by the use of this parameter. Note that an overflow results in the loose of images. To avoid overflows reduce the mean input bandwidth.

The parameter is reseted at each readout cycle. The program microDisplay will continuously poll the value, thus the occurrence of an overflow might not be visible in microDisplay.

A more effective way to detect overflows is the use of the event system.

**Table 6.2. Parameter properties of FG\_OVERFLOW**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_OVERFLOW</b>
Type	<b>Unsigned Integer</b>
Access policy	<b>Read-Only</b>
Storage policy	<b>Transient</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum 0</b> <b>Maximum 1</b> <b>Stepsize 1</b>

**Example 6.2. Usage of FG\_OVERFLOW**

```
int result = 0;
unsigned int value = 0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_OVERFLOW, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}
```



## 6.3. FG\_OVERFLOW\_CAM0 et al.

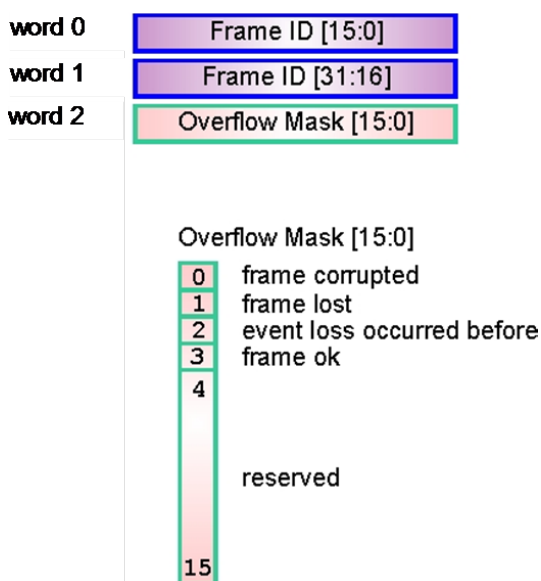


### Note

This description applies also to the following events: FG\_OVERFLOW\_CAM1

Overflow events are generated for each corrupted or lost frame. In contrast to the other events presented in this document, the overflow event transports data, namely the type of overflow, the image number and the timestamp. The following figure illustrates the event data. Data is included in a 64 Bit data packet. The first 32 Bit include the frame number. Bits 32 to 47 include an overflow mask.

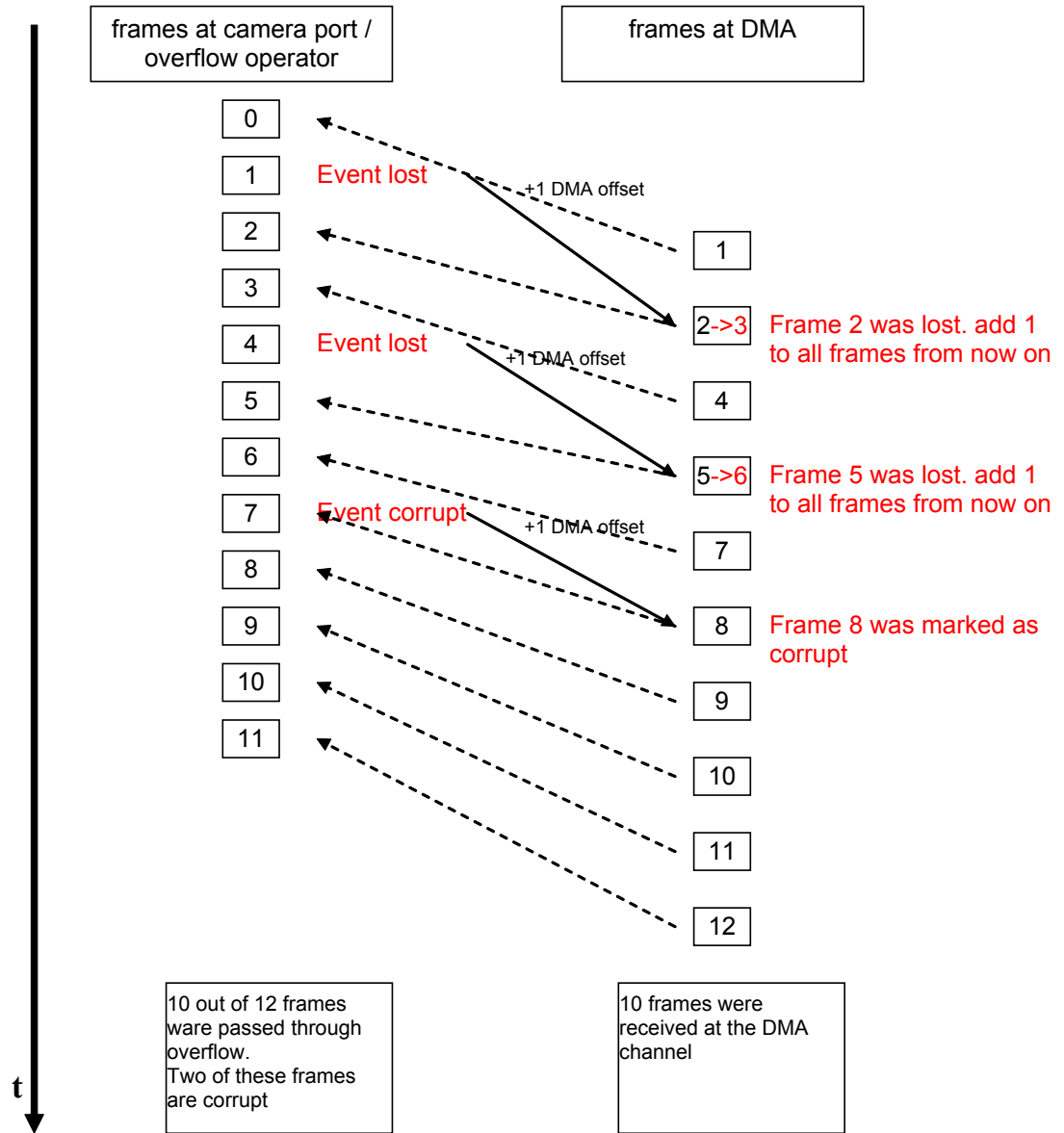
Figure 6.1. Illustration of Overflow Data Packet



Note that the frame number is reset on acquisition start. Also note that the first frame will have frame number zero, while a DMA transfer starts with frame number one. The frame number is a 32 Bit value. If it's maximum is reached, it will start from zero again. Keep in mind that on a 64 Bit runtime, the DMA transfer number will be a 64 Bit value. If the frame corrupted flag is set, the frame with the frame number in the event is corrupted i.e. it will not have it's full length but is still transfered via DMA channel. If the frame lost flag is set, the frame with the frame number in the event was fully discarded. No DMA transfer will exist for this frame. The corrupted frame flag and the frame lost flag will never occur for the same event. The flag "event loss occurred before" is an additional security mechanism. It means that an event has been lost. This can only happen at very high event rates and should not happen under normal conditions.

The analysis of the overflow events depends on the user requirements. In the following, an example is shown on how to ensure the integrity if the DMA data by analyzing the events and DMA transfers.

Figure 6.2. Analysis of Overflow Data



In the example, two frames got lost and one is marked as corrupted. As the events are not synchronous with the DMA transfers, for analysis a software queue (push and pull) is required to allocate the events to the DMA transfers.

# Chapter 7. Lookup Table

This AcquisitionApplets Advanced includes a full resolution lookup table (LUT). Settings are applied to the acquired images just before transferring them to the host PC. Thus, it is the last pre-processing step on the frame grabber.

A lookup table includes one entry for every allowed input pixel value. The pixel value will be replaced by the value of the lookup table element. In other words, a new value is assigned to each pixel value. This can be used for image quality enhancements such as an added offset, a gain factor or gamma correction which can be performed by use of the processing module of this applet in a convenient way (see Module 8). The lookup table can also be loaded with custom values. Application areas are: custom image enhancements or pixel classifications.

This applet is processing data with a resolution of 12 bits. Thus, the lookup table has 12 input bits i.e. pixel values can be in the range [0, 4095]. For each of these 4096 elements, a table entry exists containing a new output value. The new values are in the range from 0 to 4096.

In the following the parameters to use the lookup table are explained. Parameter *FG\_LUT\_TYPE* is important to be set correctly as it defines the lookup table operation mode.

## 7.1. FG\_LUT\_TYPE

There exist two basic possibilities to use and configure the lookup table. One possibility is to use the internal processor which allows a convenient way to improve the image quality using parameters such as offset, gain and gamma. Check category Chapter 8, *Processing* for more detailed documentation. Set this parameter to *LUT\_TYPE\_PROCESSING* to use the processor.

The second possibility to use the lookup table is to load a file containing custom values to the lookup table. Set the parameter to *LUT\_TYPE\_CUSTOM* to enable the possibility to load a custom file with lookup table entries.

Beside these two possibilities it is always possible to directly write to the lookup table entries using the field parameter *FG\_LUT\_VALUE*. The use of these parameters will overwrite the settings made with the processor or the custom input file. Vice versa, changing a processing parameter or loading a custom lookup table file, will overwrite the settings made by the field parameters.

**Table 7.1. Parameter properties of FG\_LUT\_TYPE**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_LUT_TYPE</b>
Type	<b>Enumeration</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>LUT_TYPE_PROCESSING</b> Processor <b>LUT_TYPE_CUSTOM</b> User file
Default value	<b>LUT_TYPE_PROCESSING</b>

**Example 7.1. Usage of FG\_LUT\_TYPE**

```
int result = 0;
unsigned int value = LUT_TYPE_PROCESSING;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_LUT_TYPE, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_LUT_TYPE, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}
```

## 7.2. FG\_LUT\_VALUE

**Table 7.2. Parameter properties of FG\_LUT\_VALUE**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_LUT_VALUE</b>
Type	<b>Unsigned Integer Field</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Transient</b>
Default value	<b>0</b>

**Example 7.2. Usage of FG\_LUT\_VALUE**

```
int result = 0;

FieldParameterInt access;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_STRUCT_FIELDPARAMINT;

for (unsigned int i = 0; i < 4096; ++i)
{
    access.index = i;
    access.value = 0;

    if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_LUT_VALUE, &access, 0, type)) < 0) {
        /* error handling */
    }

    if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_LUT_VALUE, &access, 0, type)) < 0) {
        /* error handling */
    }
}
```

## 7.3. FG\_LUT\_CUSTOM\_FILE

If parameter *FG\_LUT\_TYPE* is set to *LUT\_TYPE\_CUSTOM*, the according path and filename to the file containing the custom lookup table entries can be set here. If the file is valid, the file values will be loaded to the lookup table. If the file is invalid, the call to this parameter will return an error.

A convenient way of getting a draft file, is to save the current lookup table settings to file using parameter *FG\_LUT\_SAVE\_FILE*.

Please make sure to activate the Type of LUT *FG\_LUT\_TYPE* to "UserFile"/ *LUT\_TYPE\_CUSTOM* in order to make the changes and file names taking effect.

This section describes the file formats which are in use to fill the so called look-up tables (LUT). The purpose of a LUT is a transformation of pixel values from a input

(source) image to the pixel values of an output image. This transformation is done by a kind of table, which contains the assignment between these pixel values (input pixel values - output pixel values). Basically the LUT is defined for gray format and color formats as well. When defining a LUT for color formats, the definition of tables has to be done for each color component. The LUT file format consists of 2 parts:

- Header section containing control and description information.
- Main section containing the assignment table for transforming pixel values from a source (input) image to a destination (output) image.

The following example shows how a grey scale lookup table description could look like:

```
# Lut data file v1.1
id=3;
nrOfElements=4096;
format=0;
number=0;
0,0;
1,1;
2,2;
3,3;
4,4;
5,5;
6,6;
...
4096,4096;
```

General Properties:

- File format extension should be ".lut"
- LUT file format is an ASCII file format consisting of multiple lines of data.
- Lines are defined by a line separator a <CR> <LF> line feed (0x3D 0x0D 0x0A).
- Lines consist of pairs of Keys / values. Key and value are separated by "=". The value has to be followed by a semicolon (0x3B)
- Format consist of header data, containing control information and the assignment table for a specific color component (gray, red, green blue).
- Basically the LUT file color format follows the same rules as the gray image format. In addition, due to the fact, that each color component can has its own transformation, the definitions are repeated for each color component.

The following example shows how a color scale lookup table description could look like:

```
# Lut data file v1.1
[red]
id=0;
nrOfElements=256;
format=0;
number=0;
0,0;
1,1;
...
255,255;
[green]
id=1;
nrOfElements=256;
format=0;
number=0;
```

```
0,0;
1,1;
..
255,255;
[blue]
id=2;
nrOfElements=256;
format=0;
number=0;
0,0;
1,1;
..
255,255;
```

A more detailed explanation of the lookup table file format can be found in the runtime SDK manual.

**Table 7.3. Parameter properties of FG\_LUT\_CUSTOM\_FILE**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_LUT_CUSTOM_FILE</b>
Type	<b>String</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Default value	""

**Example 7.3. Usage of FG\_LUT\_CUSTOM\_FILE**

```
int result = 0;
char* value = "";
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_CHAR_PTR;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_LUT_CUSTOM_FILE, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_LUT_CUSTOM_FILE, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}
```

## 7.4. FG\_LUT\_SAVE\_FILE

To save the current lookup table configuration to file, write the according output filename to this parameter. Keep in mind that you need to have full write access to the specified path.

Writing the current lookup table settings to file is also a convenient way to exploit the settings made by the processor. Moreover, you will get a draft version of the lookup table file format. The values in the output file can directly be used to be loaded to the lookup table again using parameter *FG\_LUT\_CUSTOM\_FILE*.

**Table 7.4. Parameter properties of FG\_LUT\_SAVE\_FILE**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_LUT_SAVE_FILE</b>
Type	<b>String</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Transient</b>
Default value	""

**Example 7.4. Usage of FG\_LUT\_SAVE\_FILE**

```
int result = 0;
char* value = "";
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_CHAR_PTR;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_LUT_SAVE_FILE, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_LUT_SAVE_FILE, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}
```

## 7.5. Applet Properties

In the following, some properties of the lookup table implementation are listed.

### 7.5.1. FG\_LUT\_IMPLEMENTATION\_TYPE

In this applet, a full lookup table is implemented.

**Table 7.5. Parameter properties of FG\_LUT\_IMPLEMENTATION\_TYPE**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_LUT_IMPLEMENTATION_TYPE</b>
Type	<b>Enumeration</b>
Access policy	<b>Read-Only</b>
Storage policy	<b>Transient</b>
Allowed values	<b>LUT_IMPLEMENTATION_FULL_LUT</b> Full LUT <b>LUT_IMPLEMENTATION_KNEELUT</b> KneeLUT

**Example 7.5. Usage of FG\_LUT\_IMPLEMENTATION\_TYPE**

```
int result = 0;
unsigned int value = LUT_IMPLEMENTATION_FULL_LUT;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_LUT_IMPLEMENTATION_TYPE, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}
```

### 7.5.2. FG\_LUT\_IN\_BITS

This applet is using 12 lookup table input bits.

**Table 7.6. Parameter properties of FG\_LUT\_IN\_BITS**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_LUT_IN_BITS</b>
Type	<b>Unsigned Integer</b>
Access policy	<b>Read-Only</b>
Storage policy	<b>Transient</b>
Unit of measure	<b>bit</b>



**Example 7.6. Usage of FG\_LUT\_IN\_BITS**

```
int result = 0;
unsigned int value = 0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_LUT_IN_BITS, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}
```

### 7.5.3. FG\_LUT\_OUT\_BITS

This applet is using 12 lookup table output bits.

**Table 7.7. Parameter properties of FG\_LUT\_OUT\_BITS**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_LUT_OUT_BITS</b>
Type	<b>Unsigned Integer</b>
Access policy	<b>Read-Only</b>
Storage policy	<b>Transient</b>
Unit of measure	<b>bit</b>

**Example 7.7. Usage of FG\_LUT\_OUT\_BITS**

```
int result = 0;
unsigned int value = 0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_LUT_OUT_BITS, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}
```

# Chapter 8. Processing

A convenient way to improve the image quality are the processing parameters. Using these parameters an offset, gain and gamma correction can be performed. Moreover, the image can be inverted.



## Processor Activation

The processing parameters use the lookup table for determination of the correction values. For activation of the processing parameters, set *FG\_LUT\_TYPE* of category Lookup Table to *LUT\_TYPE\_PROCESSING*. Otherwise, parameter changes will have no effect.

All transformations apply in the following order:

1. Offset Correction, range [-1.0, +1.0], identity = 0
2. Gain Correction, range [0, 2<sup>12</sup>[, identity = 1.0
3. Gamma Correction, range ]0, inf], identity = 1.0
4. Invert, identity = 'off'

In this applet, a full lookup table with m = 12 input bits and n = 12 outputs bits is used to perform the corrections. Values are determined by

**Equation 8.1. LUT Processor without Inversion**

$$Output(x) = \left[ \left[ gain * \left( \frac{x}{2^{12} - 1} + offset \right) \right]^{\frac{1}{gamma}} \right] * (2^{12} - 1)$$

If the inversion is used, output values are determined by

**Equation 8.2. LUT Processor with Inversion**

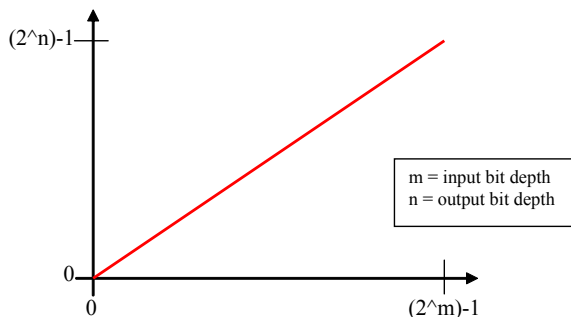
$$Output(x) = 2^{12} - 1 - \left[ \left[ gain * \left( \frac{x}{2^{12} - 1} + offset \right) \right]^{\frac{1}{gamma}} \right] * (2^{12} - 1)$$

where x represents the input pixel value i.e. is in the range from 0 to 2<sup>12</sup> - 1. If the determined output value is less than 0, it will be set to 0. If the determined output value is greater than 2<sup>12</sup> - 1 it is set to 2<sup>12</sup> - 1.

Color applets process each color component separately using the same processing parameters for each component.

If no parameters are changed, i.e. they are set to identity, the output values will be equal to the input values as shown in the following figure. In the following, you will find detailed explanations for all processing parameters.

**Figure 8.1. Lookup Table Processing: Identity**



## 8.1. FG\_PROCESSING\_OFFSET

The offset is a relative value added to each pixel, which leads to a behavior similar to a brightness controller. A relative offset means, that e. g. 0.5 adds half of the total brightness to each pixel. In absolute numbers when using 8 bit/pixel, 128 is added to each pixel ( $0.5 \times 255 = 127.5$ ). If you rather want to add an absolute value to each pixel do the following calculation: e. g. add -51 to an 8 bit/pixel offset =  $-51 / 255 = -0.2$ . The following figure shows an example of an offset. Identity = 0.0

Figure 8.2. Lookup Table Processing: Offset

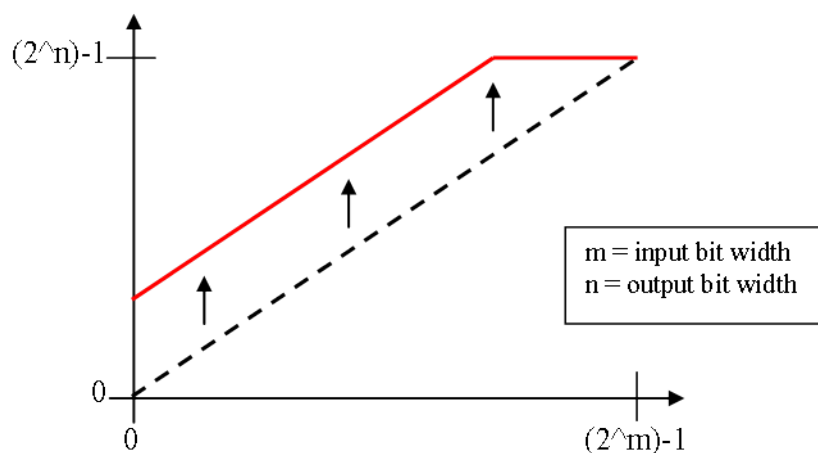


Table 8.1. Parameter properties of FG\_PROCESSING\_OFFSET

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_PROCESSING_OFFSET</b>
Type	<b>Double</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum -1.0</b> <b>Maximum 1.0</b> <b>Stepsize 2.220446049250313E-16</b>
Default value	<b>0.0</b>

Example 8.1. Usage of FG\_PROCESSING\_OFFSET

```

int result = 0;
double value = 0.0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_DOUBLE;

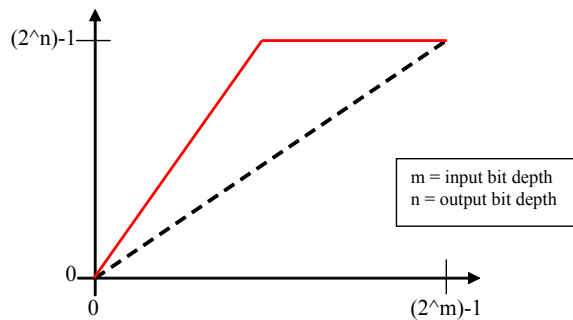
if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_PROCESSING_OFFSET, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_PROCESSING_OFFSET, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

## 8.2. FG\_PROCESSING\_GAIN

The gain is a multiplicative coefficient applied to each pixel, which leads to a behavior similar to a contrast controller. Each pixel value will be multiplied with the given value. For identity select value 1.0.

**Figure 8.3. Lookup Table Processing: Gain****Table 8.2. Parameter properties of FG\_PROCESSING\_GAIN**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_PROCESSING_GAIN</b>
Type	<b>Double</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum 0.0</b> <b>Maximum 4096.0</b> <b>Stepsize 2.220446049250313E-16</b>
Default value	<b>1.0</b>

**Example 8.2. Usage of FG\_PROCESSING\_GAIN**

```

int result = 0;
double value = 1.0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_DOUBLE;

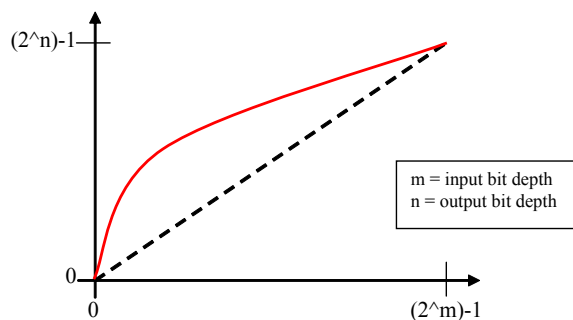
if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_PROCESSING_GAIN, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_PROCESSING_GAIN, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

## 8.3. FG\_PROCESSING\_GAMMA

The gamma correction is a power-law transformation applied to each pixel. Normalized pixel values  $p$  ranging  $[0, 1.0]$  transform like  $p' = p^{1/\text{gamma}}$ . Identity = 1.0

**Figure 8.4. Lookup Table Processing: Gamma**

**Table 8.3. Parameter properties of FG\_PROCESSING\_GAMMA**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_PROCESSING_GAMMA</b>
Type	<b>Double</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum    -1000.0</b> <b>Maximum    1000.0</b> <b>Stepsize    2.220446049250313E-16</b>
Default value	<b>1.0</b>

**Example 8.3. Usage of FG\_PROCESSING\_GAMMA**

```

int result = 0;
double value = 1.0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_DOUBLE;

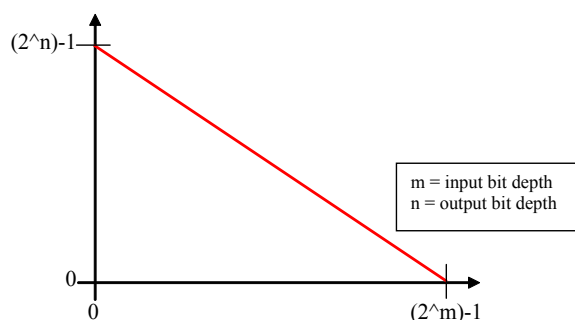
if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_PROCESSING_GAMMA, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_PROCESSING_GAMMA, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

## 8.4. FG\_PROCESSING\_INVERT

When Invert is set to **FG\_ON**, the output is the negative of the input. Normalized pixel values  $p$  ranging  $[0, 1.0]$  transform to  $p' = 1 - p$ .

**Figure 8.5. Lookup Table Processing: Invert****Table 8.4. Parameter properties of FG\_PROCESSING\_INVERT**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_PROCESSING_INVERT</b>
Type	<b>Enumeration</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>FG_ON    On</b> <b>FG_OFF   Off</b>
Default value	<b>FG_OFF</b>

### Example 8.4. Usage of FG\_PROCESSING\_INVERT

```
int result = 0;
unsigned int value = FG_OFF;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_PROCESSING_INVERT, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_PROCESSING_INVERT, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}
```

# Chapter 9. Output Format

The following parameter can be used to configure the applet's image output format i.e. the format and bit alignment.

## 9.1. FG\_FORMAT

Parameter *FG\_FORMAT* is used to set and determine the output formats of the DMA channels. An output format value specifies the number of bits and the color format of the output. A possibly differing applet processing bit depth from the output format is compensated by adaption to the output format bit depth.

This applet supports the following output formats:

- **FG\_GRAY**: 8 bit grayscale format
- **FG\_GRAY16**: 16 bit grayscale format



### DMA Bandwidth

Keep in mind that for the 16 bit output mode, the DMA bandwidth might not be sufficient to process the camera input data. Check Section 1.2, "Bandwidth" for more information.

**Table 9.1. Parameter properties of FG\_FORMAT**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_FORMAT</b>
Type	<b>Enumeration</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>FG_GRAY</b> Gray 8bit <b>FG_GRAY16</b> Gray 16bit
Default value	<b>FG_GRAY</b>

**Example 9.1. Usage of FG\_FORMAT**

```
int result = 0;
unsigned int value = FG_GRAY;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_FORMAT, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_FORMAT, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}
```

## 9.2. FG\_BITALIGNMENT

The bit alignment is used to map the pixel bits of the internal processing bit depth (12 for the this respective AcquisitionApplets Advanced) to the DMA output bit depth. If the output bit depth is greater than the internal processing bit depth, the bits can



either be left- or right-aligned in the output. For example, an internal processing bit depth of 12 bit has to be mapped into a 16 bit output. If the parameter is set to **FG\_LEFT\_ALIGNED**, the output bits 4 to 11 will transport the pixel data, while bits 0 to 3 are set to zero. If the parameter is set to **FG\_RIGHT\_ALIGNED**, the output bits 0 to 11 will transport the pixel data. Now, the upper four bits are set to zero.

If the output bit depth is less than the internal processing bit depth, the parameter has no effect as the pixel are automatically left shifted.

If the DMA output bit depth is less than the internal bit depth, values will be rounded. For example the 12 bit value 3785 has to be mapped into an 8-bit output. The value will be divided by 16 (= 236.5625) and rounded to value 237.

**Table 9.2. Parameter properties of FG\_BITALIGNMENT**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_BITALIGNMENT</b>
Type	<b>Enumeration</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>FG_LEFT_ALIGNED</b> Left Aligned <b>FG_RIGHT_ALIGNED</b> Right Aligned
Default value	<b>FG_LEFT_ALIGNED</b>

**Example 9.2. Usage of FG\_BITALIGNMENT**

```
int result = 0;
unsigned int value = FG_LEFT_ALIGNED;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_BITALIGNMENT, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_BITALIGNMENT, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}
```

## 9.3. FG\_PIXELDEPTH

The pixel depth read-only parameter is used to determine the number of bits used to process a pixel in the applet. For example, a 12 bit applet will transfer its image data in 16 bit DMA packages. Hence, only 12 bits of the 16 bits data are used.

**Table 9.3. Parameter properties of FG\_PIXELDEPTH**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_PIXELDEPTH</b>
Type	<b>Unsigned Integer</b>
Access policy	<b>Read-Only</b>
Storage policy	<b>Transient</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum 0</b> <b>Maximum 128</b> <b>Stepsize 1</b>
Unit of measure	<b>bit</b>

### Example 9.3. Usage of FG\_PIXELDEPTH

```
int result = 0;
unsigned int value = 8;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_PIXELDEPTH, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}
```

# Chapter 10. Miscellaneous

The miscellaneous module category summarizes other read and write parameters such as the camera status, buffer fill levels, DMA transfer lengths, time stamps and buffer fill-levels.

## 10.1. FG\_TIMEOUT

This parameter is used to set a timeout for DMA transfers. After a timeout the acquisition is stopped.

**Table 10.1. Parameter properties of FG\_TIMEOUT**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_TIMEOUT</b>
Type	<b>Unsigned Integer</b>
Access policy	<b>Read/Write/Change</b>
Storage policy	<b>Persistent</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum 2</b> <b>Maximum 2147483646</b> <b>Stepsize 1</b>
Default value	<b>1000000</b>
Unit of measure	<b>seconds</b>

**Example 10.1. Usage of FG\_TIMEOUT**

```
int result = 0;
unsigned int value = 1000000;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_setParameterWithType(FG_TIMEOUT, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_TIMEOUT, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}
```

## 10.2. FG\_APPLET\_VERSION

This parameter represents the version number of the AcquisitionApplets Advanced. Please report this value for any support of the applet.

**Table 10.2. Parameter properties of FG\_APPLET\_VERSION**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_APPLET_VERSION</b>
Type	<b>Unsigned Integer</b>
Access policy	<b>Read-Only</b>
Storage policy	<b>Transient</b>

**Example 10.2. Usage of FG\_APPLET\_VERSION**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = 0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_APPLET_VERSION, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

## 10.3. FG\_APPLET\_REVISION

This parameter represents the revision number of the AcquisitionApplets Advanced. Please report this value for any support case with the applet.

**Table 10.3. Parameter properties of FG\_APPLET\_REVISION**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_APPLET_REVISION</b>
Type	<b>Unsigned Integer</b>
Access policy	<b>Read-Only</b>
Storage policy	<b>Transient</b>

**Example 10.3. Usage of FG\_APPLET\_REVISION**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = 0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_APPLET_REVISION, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

## 10.4. FG\_APPLET\_ID

This value is for internal use only.

**Table 10.4. Parameter properties of FG\_APPLET\_ID**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_APPLET_ID</b>
Type	<b>Unsigned Integer</b>
Access policy	<b>Read-Only</b>
Storage policy	<b>Transient</b>

**Example 10.4. Usage of FG\_APPLET\_ID**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = 0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_APPLET_ID, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

## 10.5. FG\_HAP\_FILE

Please report this read-only string parameter for any support case of the AcquisitionApplets Advanced.

**Table 10.5. Parameter properties of FG\_HAP\_FILE**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_HAP_FILE</b>
Type	<b>String</b>
Access policy	<b>Read-Only</b>
Storage policy	<b>Transient</b>

**Example 10.5. Usage of FG\_HAP\_FILE**

```
int result = 0;
char* value = "";
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_CHAR_PTR;

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_HAP_FILE, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}
```

## 10.6. FG\_DMASTATUS

Using this parameter the status of a DMA channel can be obtained. Value "1" represents a started DMA i.e. a started acquisition. Value "0" represents a stopped acquisition.

**Table 10.6. Parameter properties of FG\_DMASTATUS**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_DMASTATUS</b>
Type	<b>Unsigned Integer</b>
Access policy	<b>Read-Only</b>
Storage policy	<b>Transient</b>

**Example 10.6. Usage of FG\_DMASTATUS**

```
int result = 0;
unsigned int value = 0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_DMASTATUS, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}
```

## 10.7. FG\_CAMSTATUS

The camera status shows whether an active camera can be recognized by the frame grabber or not. If value "1" is determined from this read parameter, the grabber recognized a camera.

**Table 10.7. Parameter properties of FG\_CAMSTATUS**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_CAMSTATUS</b>
Type	<b>Unsigned Integer</b>
Access policy	<b>Read-Only</b>
Storage policy	<b>Transient</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum 0</b> <b>Maximum 1</b> <b>Stepsize 1</b>

**Example 10.7. Usage of FG\_CAMSTATUS**

```

int result = 0;
unsigned int value = 0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_CAMSTATUS, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}

```

## 10.8. FG\_CAMSTATUS\_EXTENDED

This parameter provides extended information on the pixel clock from the camera, LVAL and FVAL, as well as the camera trigger signals, external trigger signals, buffer overflow status and buffer status. Each bit of the eight bit output word represents one parameter listed in the following:

- 0 = CameraClk
- 1 = CameraLval
- 2 = CameraFval
- 3 = Camera CC1 Signal
- 4 = ExTrg
- 5 = BufferOverflow
- 6 = BufStatus
- 7 = BufStatus

**Table 10.8. Parameter properties of FG\_CAMSTATUS\_EXTENDED**

Property	Value
Name	<b>FG_CAMSTATUS_EXTENDED</b>
Type	<b>Unsigned Integer</b>
Access policy	<b>Read-Only</b>
Storage policy	<b>Transient</b>
Allowed values	<b>Minimum 0</b> <b>Maximum 255</b> <b>Stepsize 1</b>

### Example 10.8. Usage of FG\_CAMSTATUS\_EXTENDED

```
int result = 0;
unsigned int value = 0;
const enum FgParamTypes type = FG_PARAM_TYPE_UINT32_T;

if ((result = Fg_getParameterWithType(FG_CAMSTATUS_EXTENDED, &value, 0, type)) < 0) {
    /* error handling */
}
```



---

# Glossary

Area of Interest (AOI)	See Region of Interest.
Board	A Silicon Software hardware. Usually, a board is represented by a frame grabber. Boards might comprise multiple devices.
Board ID Number	An identification number of a Silicon Software board in a PC system. The number is not fixed to a specific hardware but has to be unique in a PC system.
Camera Index	The index of a camera connected to a frame grabber. The first camera will have index zero. Mind the difference between the camera index and the frame grabber camera port. See Also Camera Port.
Camera Port	The Silicon Software frame grabber connectors for cameras are called camera ports. They are numbered {0, 1, 2, ...} or enumerated {A, B, C, ...}. Depending on the interface one camera could be connected to multiple camera ports. Also, multiple cameras could be connected to one camera port.
Camera Tap	See Tap.
Device	A board can consist of multiple devices. Devices are numbered. The first device usually has number one.
Direct Memory Access (DMA)	<p>A DMA transfer allows hardware subsystems within the computer to access the system memory independently of the central processing unit (CPU).</p> <p>SiliconSoftware uses DMAs for data transfer such as image data between a board e.g. a frame grabber and a PC. Data transfers can be established in multiple directions i.e. from a frame grabber to the PC (download) and from the PC to a frame grabber (upload). Multiple DMA channels may exist for one board. Control and configuration data usually do not use DMA channels.</p>
DMA Channel	See DMA Index.
DMA Index	The index of a DMA transfer channel. See Also Direct Memory Access.
Port	See Camera Port.
Process	An image or signal data processing block. A process can include one or more cameras, one or more DMA channels and modules.
Region of Interest (ROI)	A part a frame. Mostly rectangular and within the original image boundaries. Defined by coordinates. The frame grabber cuts the region of interest from the camera

	image. A region of interest might reduce or increase the required bandwidth.
Sensor Tap	See Tap.
Tap	<p>Some cameras have multiple taps. This means, they can acquire or transfer more than one pixel at a time which increases the camera's acquisition speed. The camera sensor tap readout order varies. Some cameras read the pixels interlaced using multiple taps, while some cameras read the pixel simultaneously from different locations on the sensor. The reconstruction of the frame is called sensor readout correction.</p> <p>The Camera Link interface is also using multiple taps for image transfer to increase the bandwidth. These taps are independent from the sensor taps.</p>
Trigger	In machine vision and image processing, a trigger is an event which causes an action. This can be for example the initiation of a new line or frame acquisition, the control of external hardware such as flash lights or actions by a software applications. Trigger events can be initiated by external sources, an internal frequency generator (timer) or software applications.
Trigger Input	A logic input of a trigger IO. The first input has index 0. Check mapping of input pins to logic inputs in the hardware documentation.
Trigger Output	A logic output of a trigger IO. The first output has index 1. Check mapping of output pins to logic outputs in the hardware documentation.

---

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