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# Digital Current-Mode Control of DC-DC Converters

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## Objectives /Scope

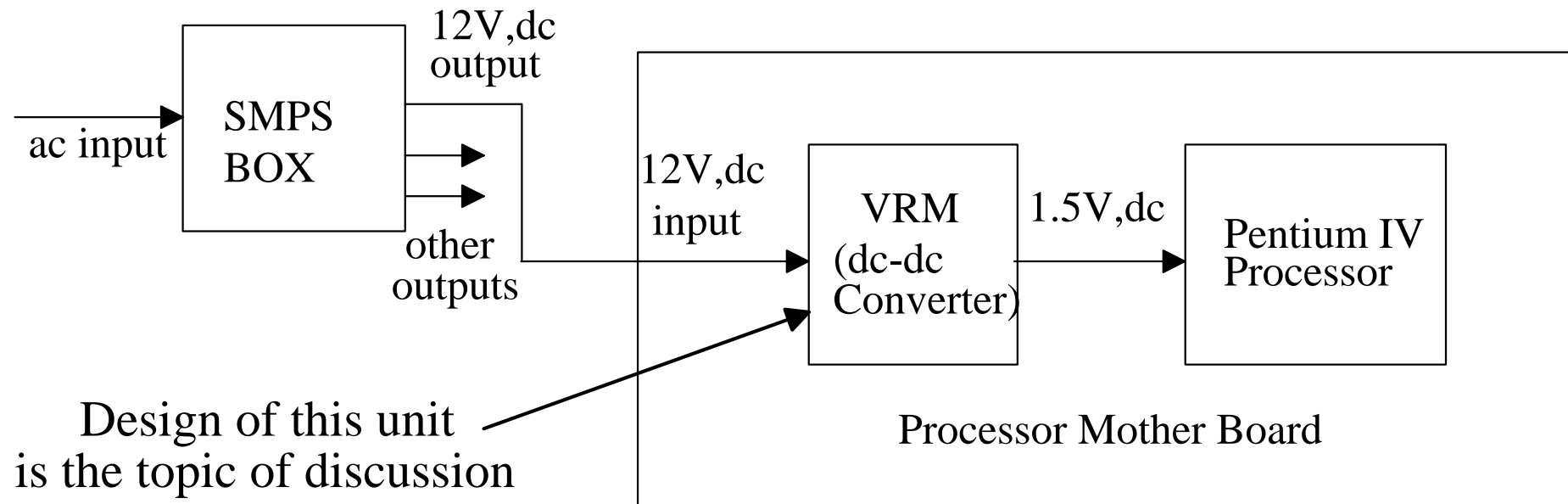
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Presents the application areas that require digital control of DC-DC converters

Answers the question why Digital Current-Mode Control is preferable over Digital Voltage-Mode Control.

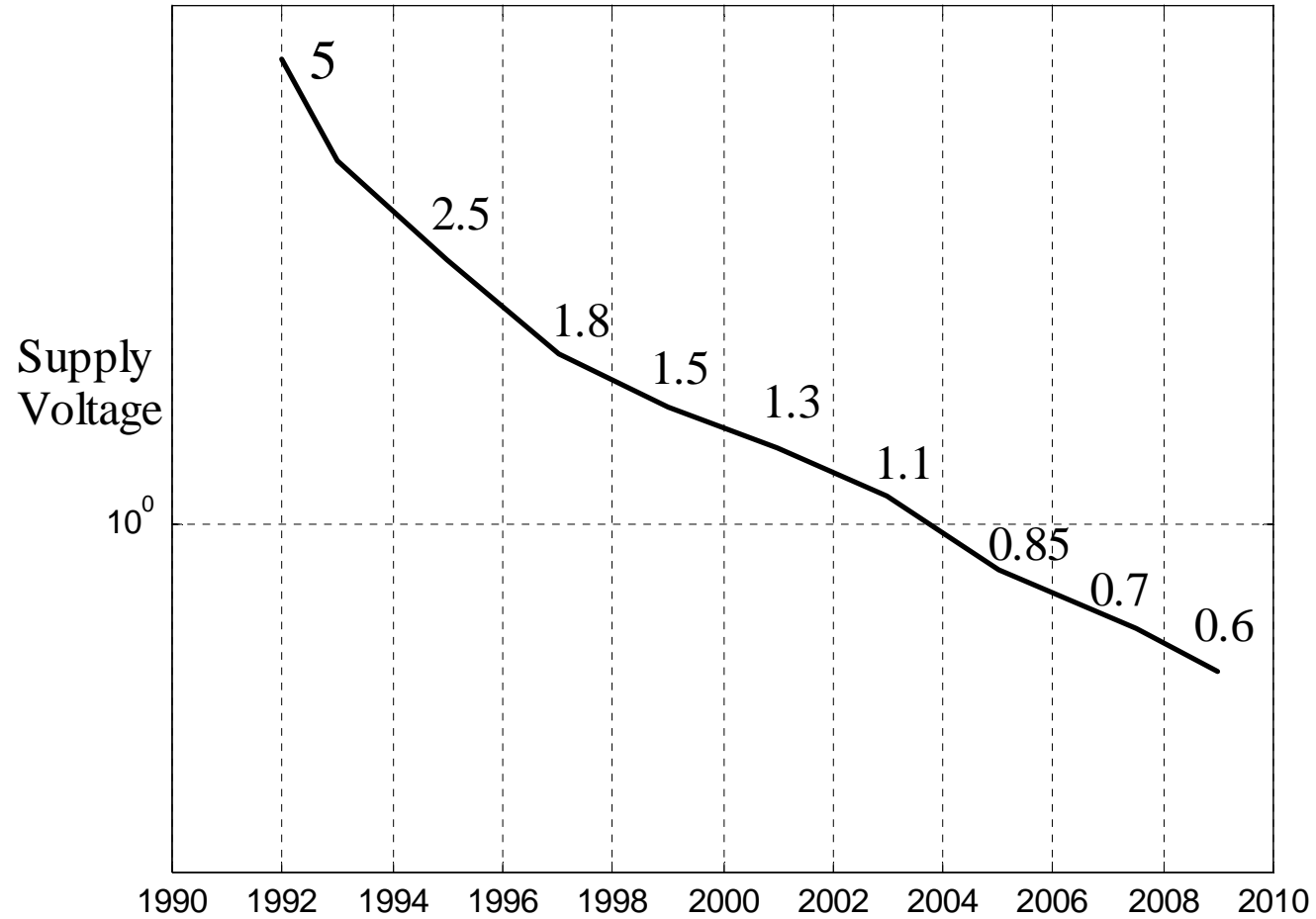
Presents analysis and implementation of the proposed Digital Current-Mode Control.

## VRM : Connection Configuration



A Typical Connection Configuration of Voltage Regulator Module (VRM)

## VRM : Voltage Roadmap for Intel's Microprocessors

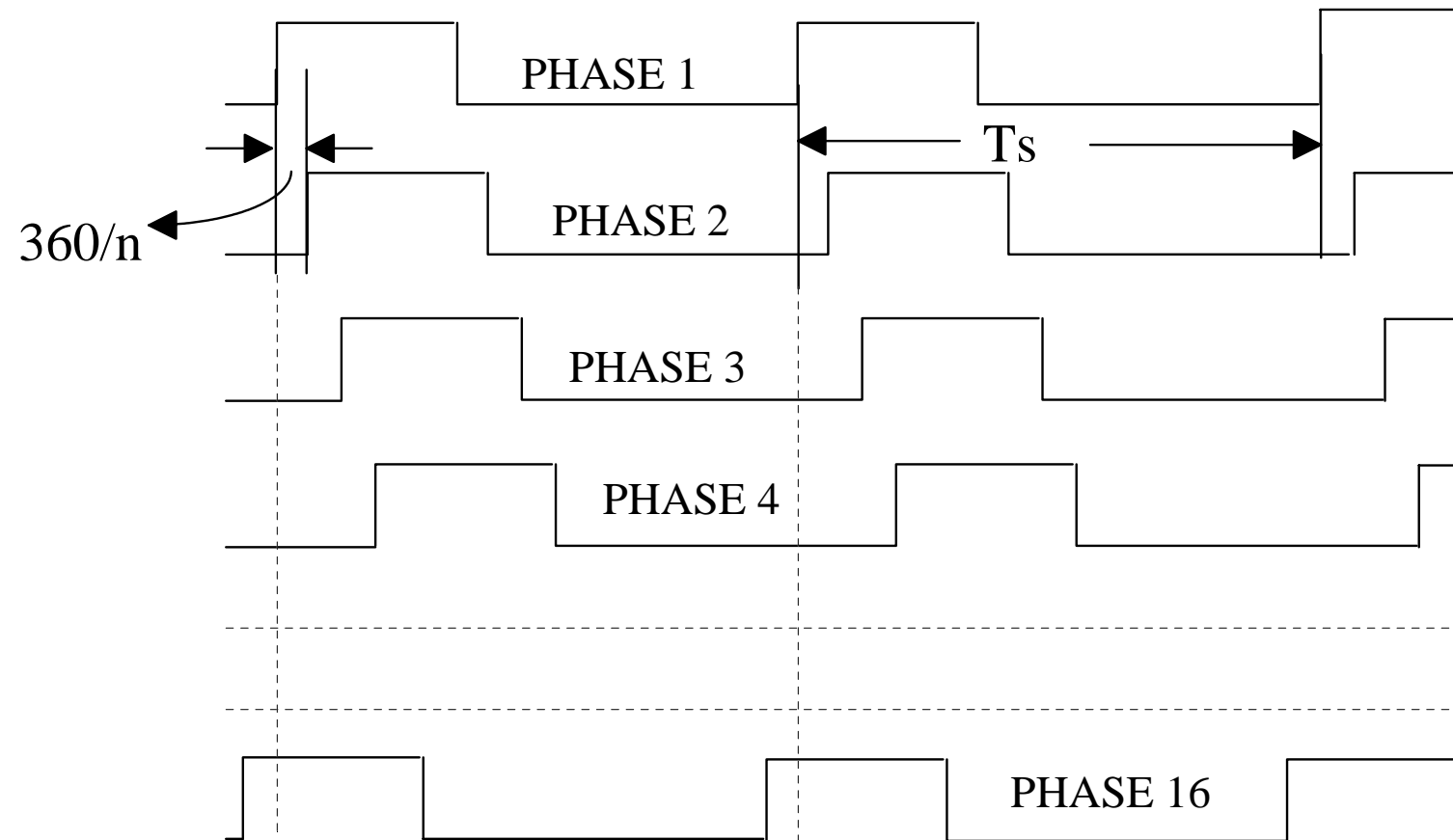


## VRM : Next Generation Microprocessor VRM Specifications

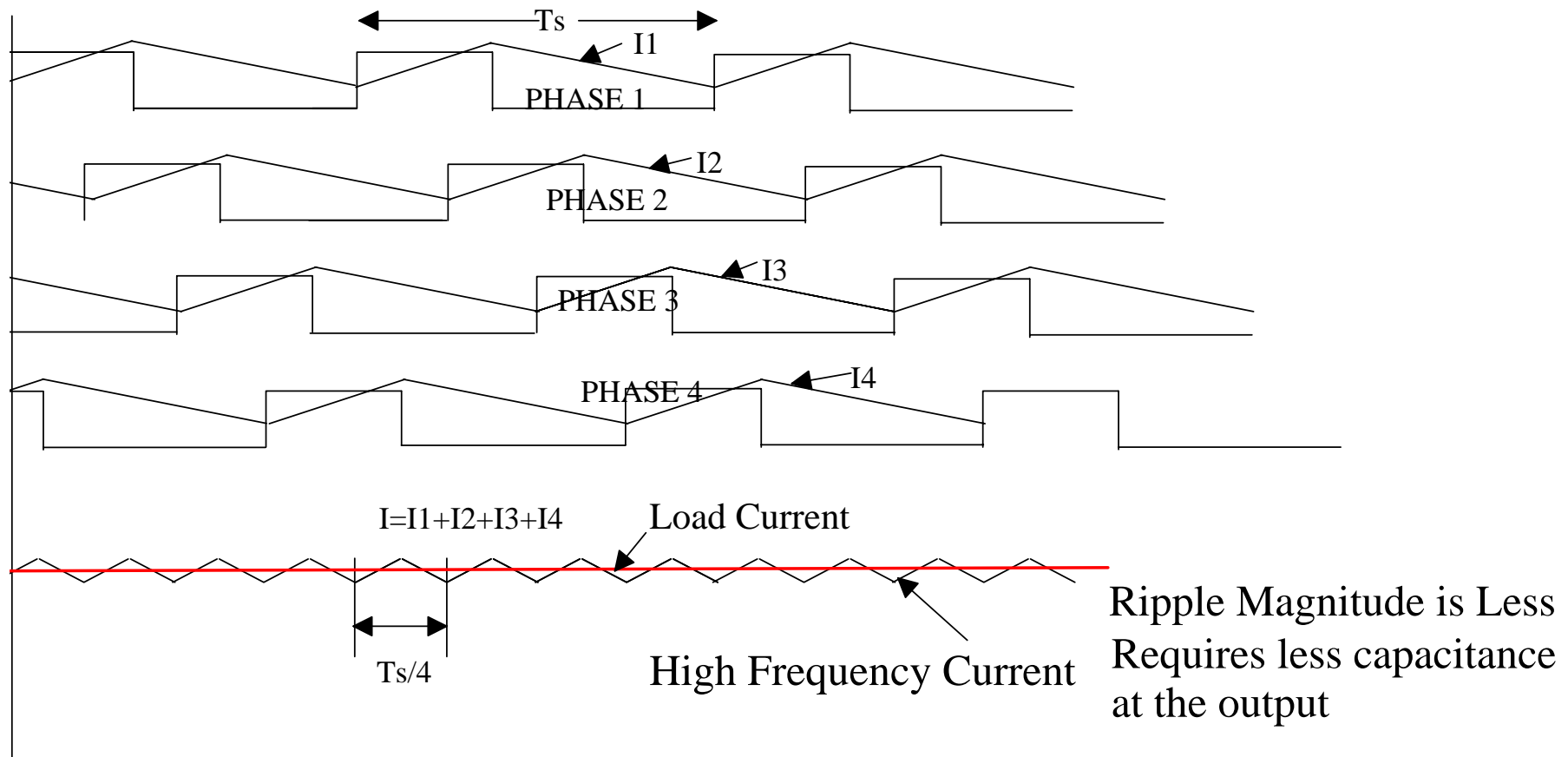
$V_{in}$	input voltage	>12 V
$V_{ref}$	reference voltage	<1 V
$\Delta V_{o,max}$	regulation tolerance	< 50 mV
$I_{o,max}$	load current	> 100 A
$\frac{dI_o}{dt}$	current slew rate	> 350A/ $\mu$ Sec
$T_d$	regulator response time	<200 ns

# Driving Signals of Multiphase Converter

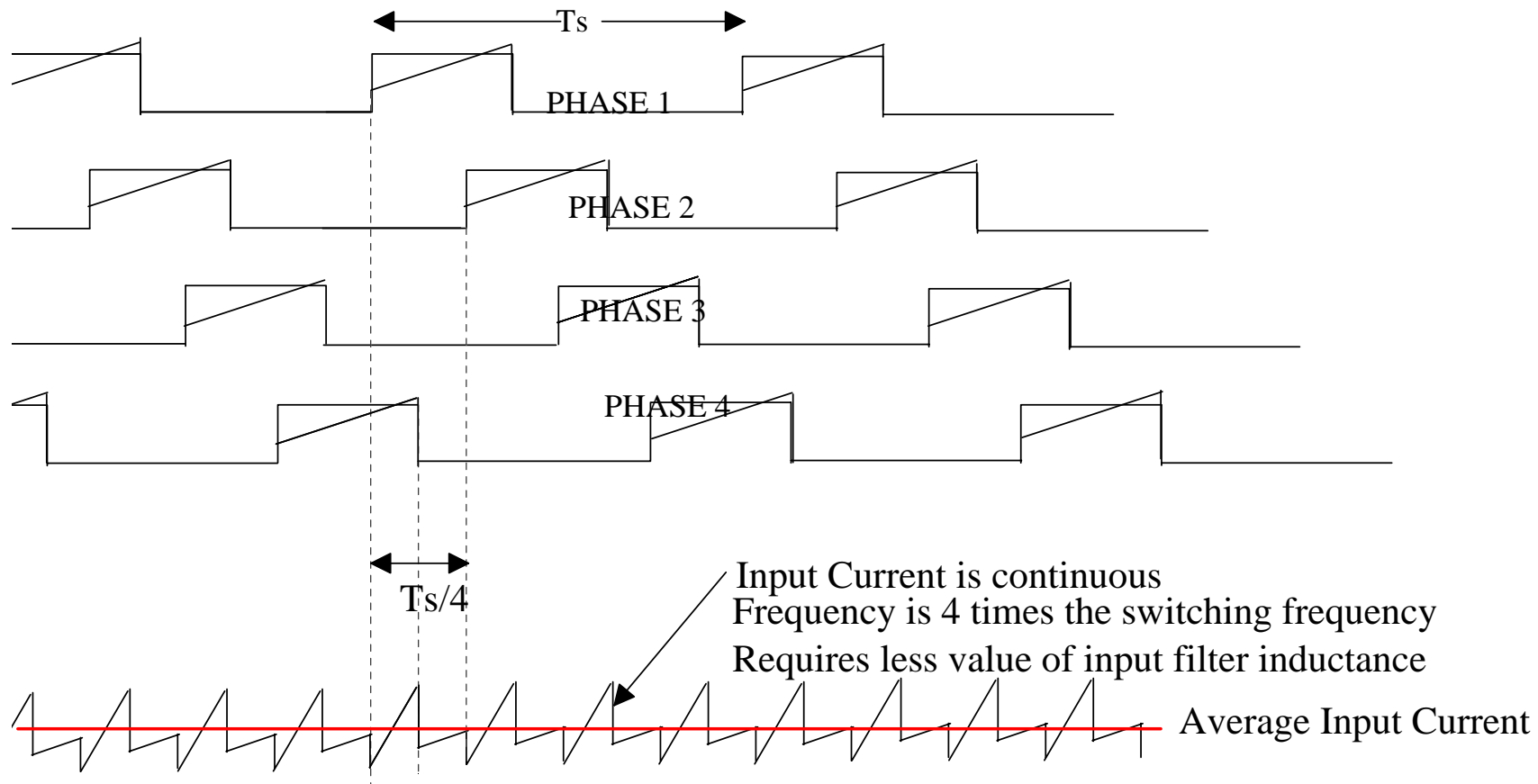
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## Other Advantage: Less Output Capacitance



## Other Advantage: Less Input Filter Inductance





## VRM : Advantages of multiphase

- (1) Reduce the output voltage ripple (as the effective frequency is  $n * f_s$ )
- (2) Reduce the input current ripple (as the effective frequency is  $n * f_s$ )
- (3) Better transient response

## VRM : Disadvantages of multiphase

Phase current mismatch due to

- (1) Duty ratio and frequency mismatch between phases
- (2) Power train resistance mismatch
- (3) MOSFET switching parameter mismatch

## VRM : Preferred Control Method

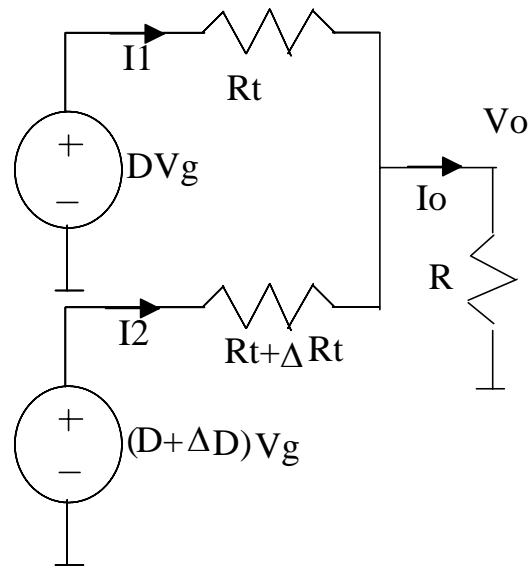
Digital

- (1) Immunity to analog component variations
- (2) Can implement sophisticated control - precise matching of duty ratio
- (3) Ease of integration with other digital system

# Multiphase Converter: Design Problems

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- ✓ Current in each phase of the converter need not be equal due to unbalance in circuit components and duty ratios.
- ✓ Typically 1% difference in the duty ratio would cause about 47% unbalance in the current.



Steady State Equivalent  
Circuit of Unbalance

If  $R \gg R_t$  and  $\Delta R_t = 0$  then

Current Unbalance is given by

$$\frac{\Delta D}{D} \frac{R}{R_t}$$

## Multiphase Converter: Reasons for Current Unbalance

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- ✓ PCB trace layout of each phase need not be exactly identical
- ✓ The dc resistances of the inductors need not be exactly same
- ✓ The  $R_{ds(on)}$  of the MOSFETs of the same part number may also be slightly different.
- ✓ The switching characteristics of the power semiconductor devices and the threshold voltages of the gate need not be exactly same and this will result into unequal effective duty ratios in the phases
- ✓ The duty ratio signals generated by the analog PWM controller need not exactly match in all the phases. => Most Important

# Multiphase Converter: Solutions to Current Unbalance

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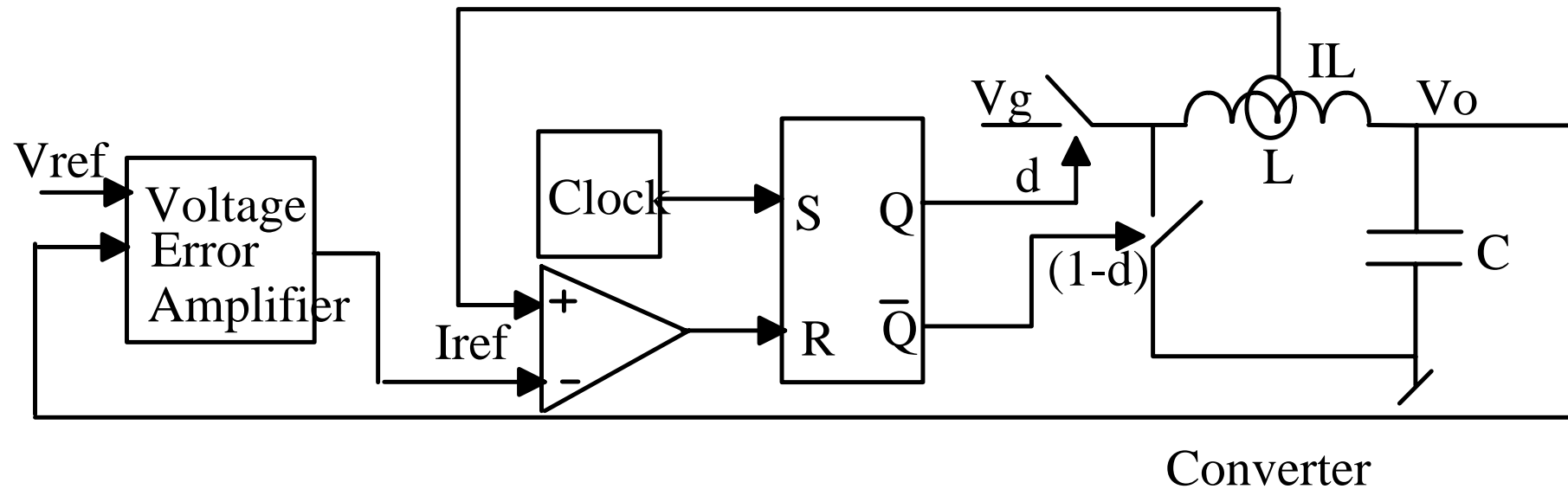
Try Passive Current Equalization Techniques:

- ✓ Symmetrical low resistance layout of each phase of the converter.
- ✓ Selection of very low  $R_{ds(on)}$  MOSFETs
- ✓ Implement the control algorithm in a high performance digital hardware such as FPGA (Field Programmable Gate Array).
- ✓ => Most Important : Introduce a current loop per phase.

=> Solution : DIGITAL CURRENT-MODE CONTROL

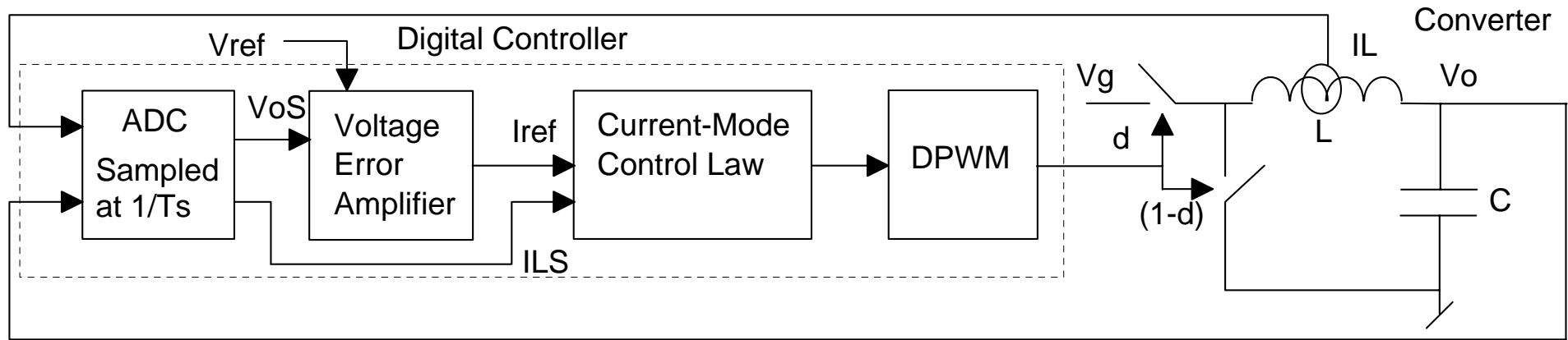
# Analog Current Mode Control: Schematic Diagram

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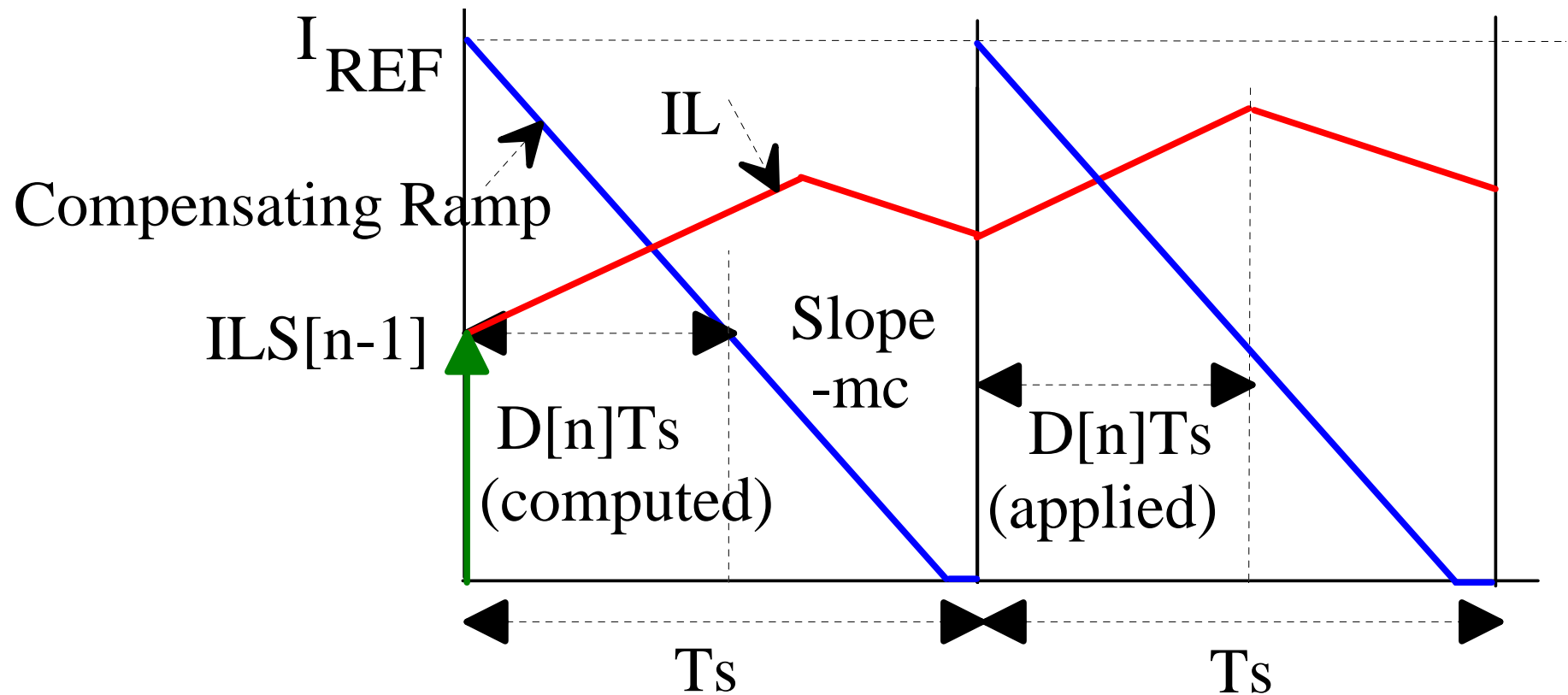
Note: During ON-time inductor current  $I_L$  is continuously sensed

# Digital Current Mode Control: Circuit Schematic



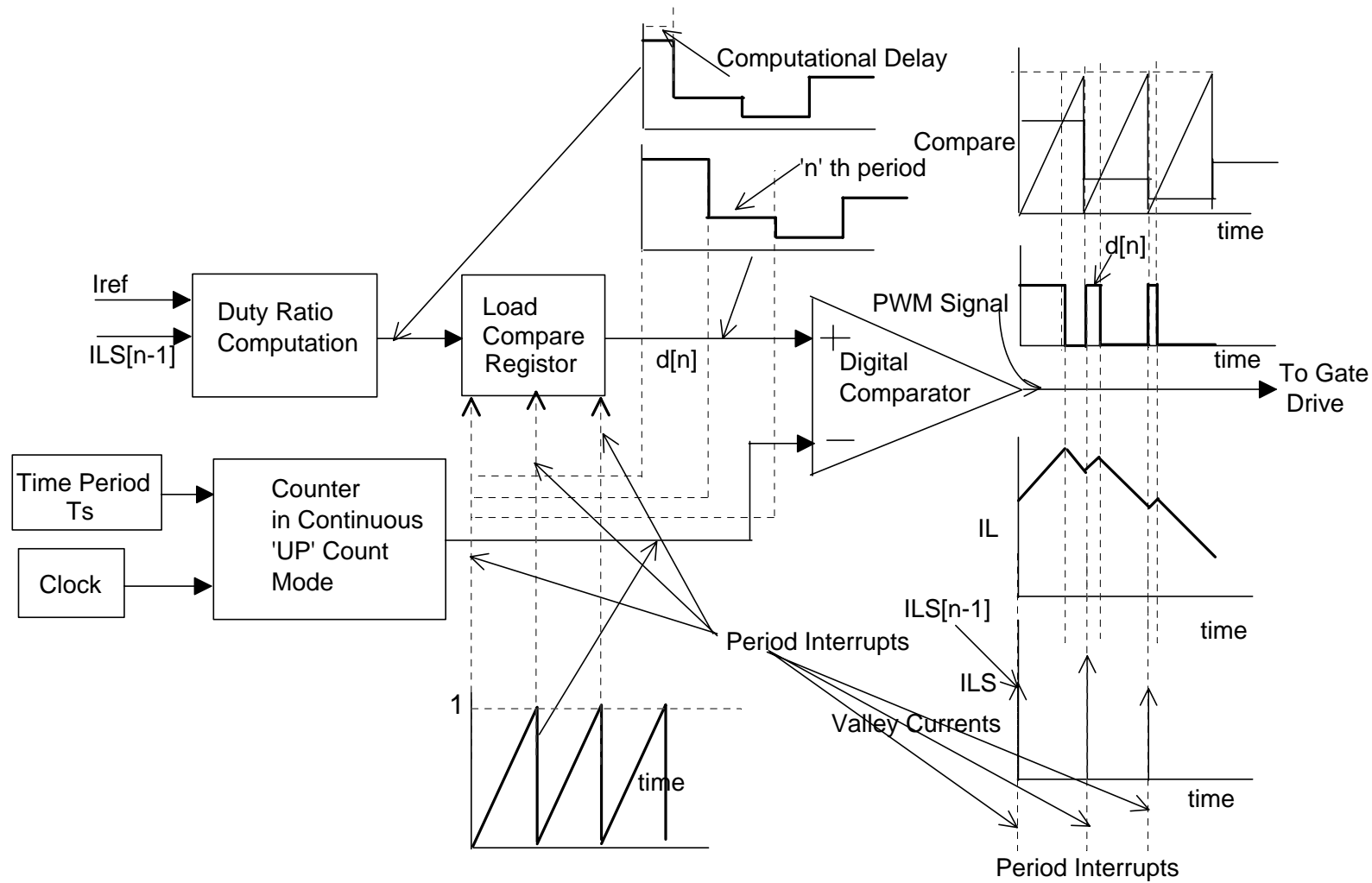
Note: The Current is sampled only once in a switching period ( $T_s$ )

# Proposed Control Law: Duty Ratio Generation



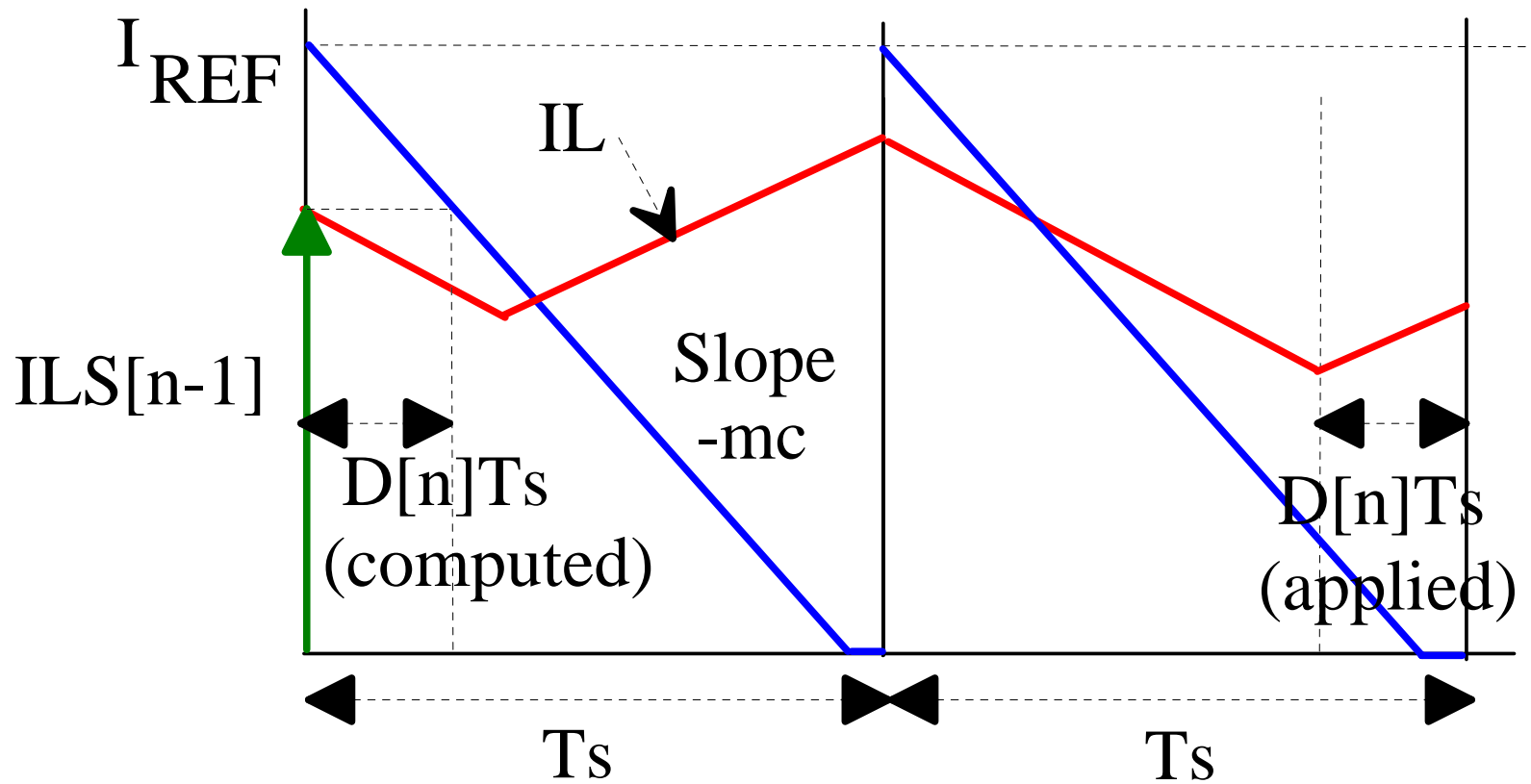
Note: Use of Compensating Ramp  
One Cycle Delay in Effective Duty Ratio  
Valley Current Mode Control

# Digital Pulse Width Modulator: Valley Current Mode Control

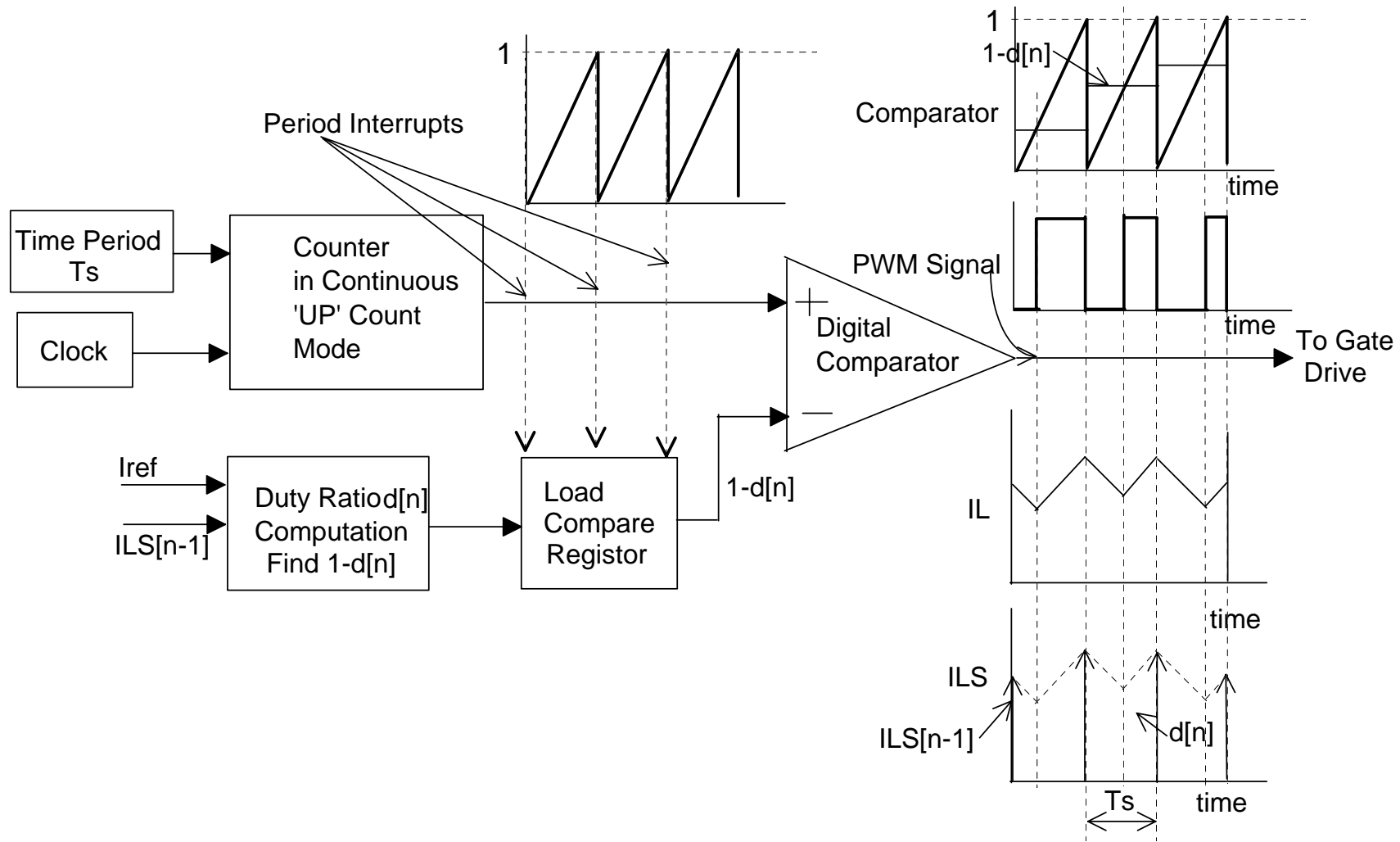




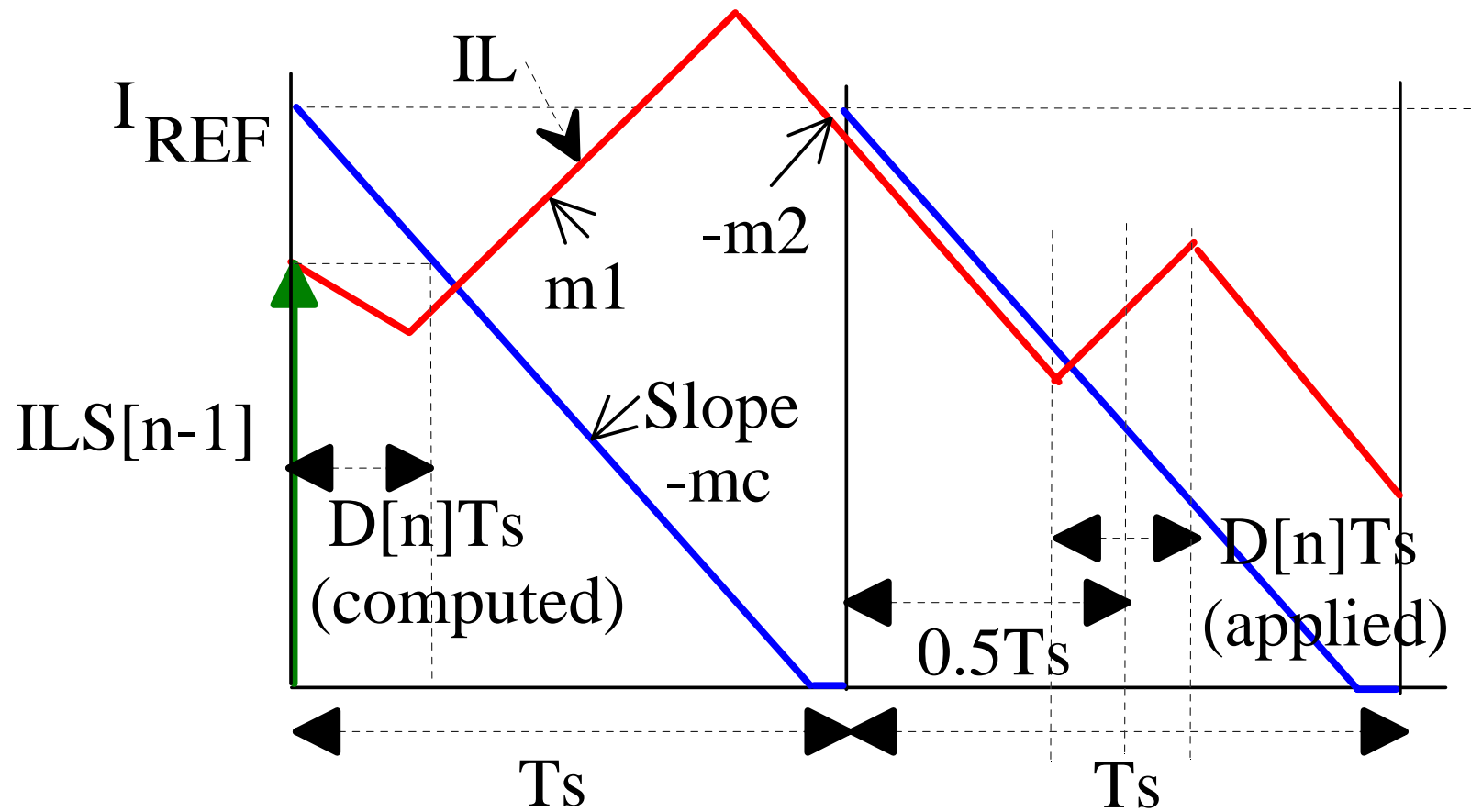
# Peak Current Mode Control



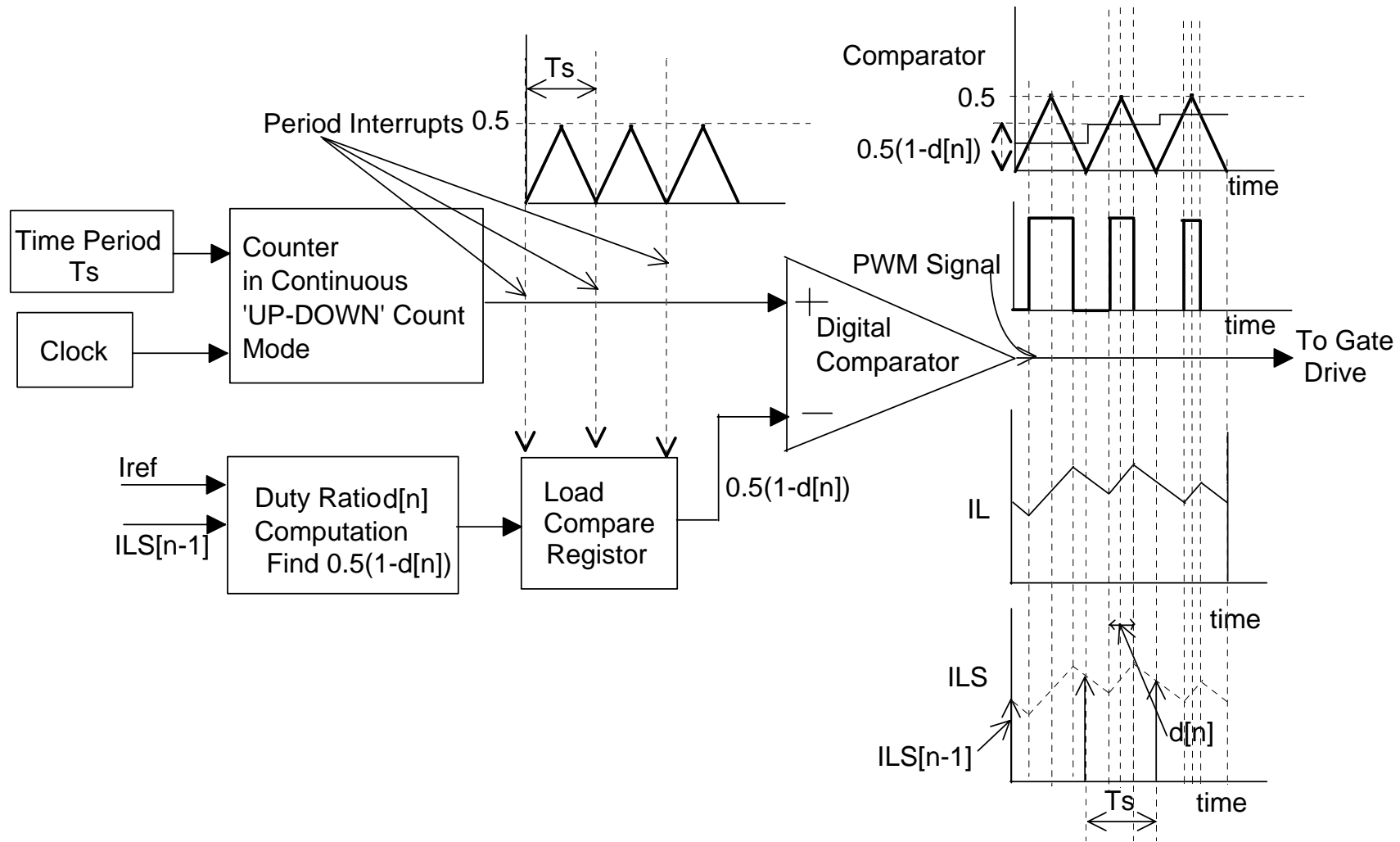
# Digital Pulse Width Modulator: Peak Current Mode Control



# Average Current Mode Control



# Digital Pulse Width Modulator: Average Current Mode Control

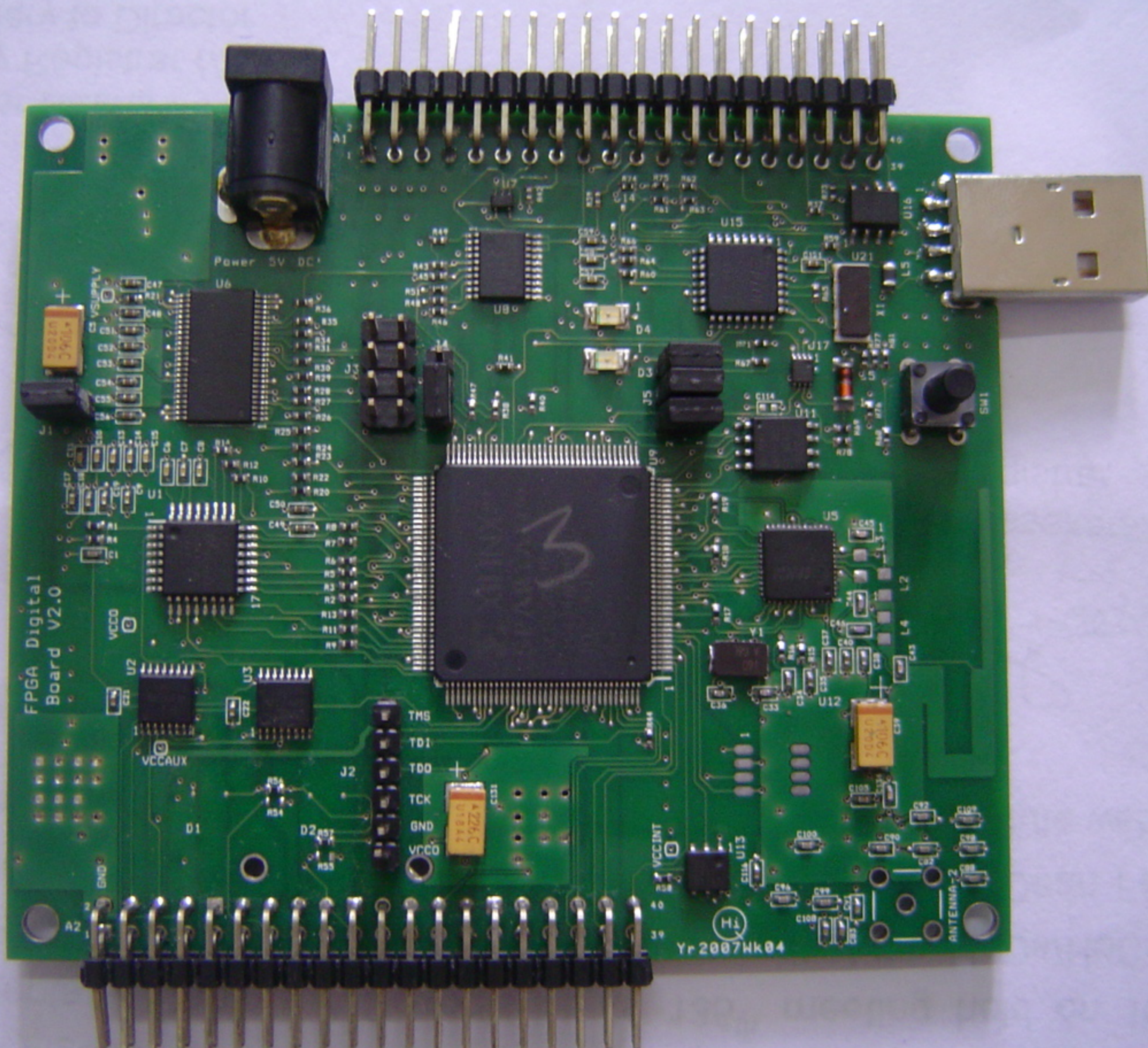


# Multiphase Converter: Digital Control Board (Version I)

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FPGA Digital  
Board V2.0

Power 5V DC

VCCAUX

VCCINT

Yr 2007Wk04

ANTENNA-2

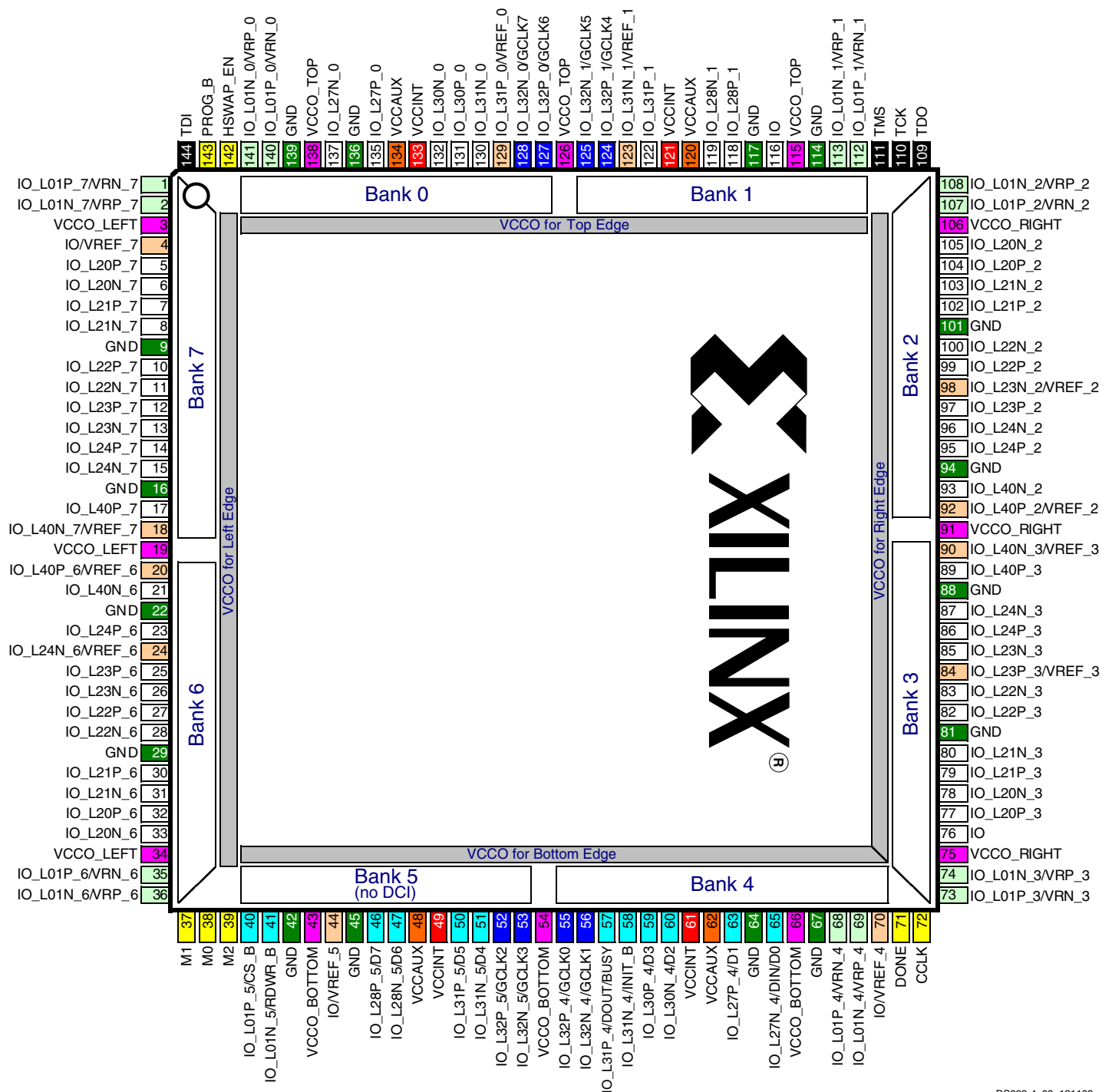


## Digital Hardware : Advantage of FPGA Over DSP in VRM Application

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- The desirable bandwidth of VRM  $> 100$  KHz
- Switching frequency required  $> 500$  kHz.
- Control loop execution time  $< 2$   $\mu$ sec
- TI's DSP TMS320F2407 Clock Frequency: 40 MHz
- Spartan-III FPGA Clock Frequency: 250 MHz
- Advantage of FPGA : Concurrency  $\Rightarrow$  faster execution
- In this project digital current mode control algorithm has been implemented in Spartan III FPGA devices

# TQ144 Footprint



DS099-4\_08\_121103

Figure 7: TQ144 Package Footprint (top view). Note pin 1 indicator in top-left corner and logo orientation.

51	I/O: Unrestricted, general-purpose user I/O	12	DUAL: Configuration pin, then possible user I/O	12	VREF: User I/O or input voltage reference for bank
14	DCI: User I/O or reference resistor input for bank	8	GCLK: User I/O or global clock buffer input	12	VCCO: Output voltage supply for bank
7	CONFIG: Dedicated configuration pins	4	JTAG: Dedicated JTAG port pins	4	VCCINT: Internal core voltage supply (+1.2V)
0	N.C.: No unconnected pins in this package	16	GND: Ground	4	VCCAUX: Auxiliary voltage supply (+2.5V)



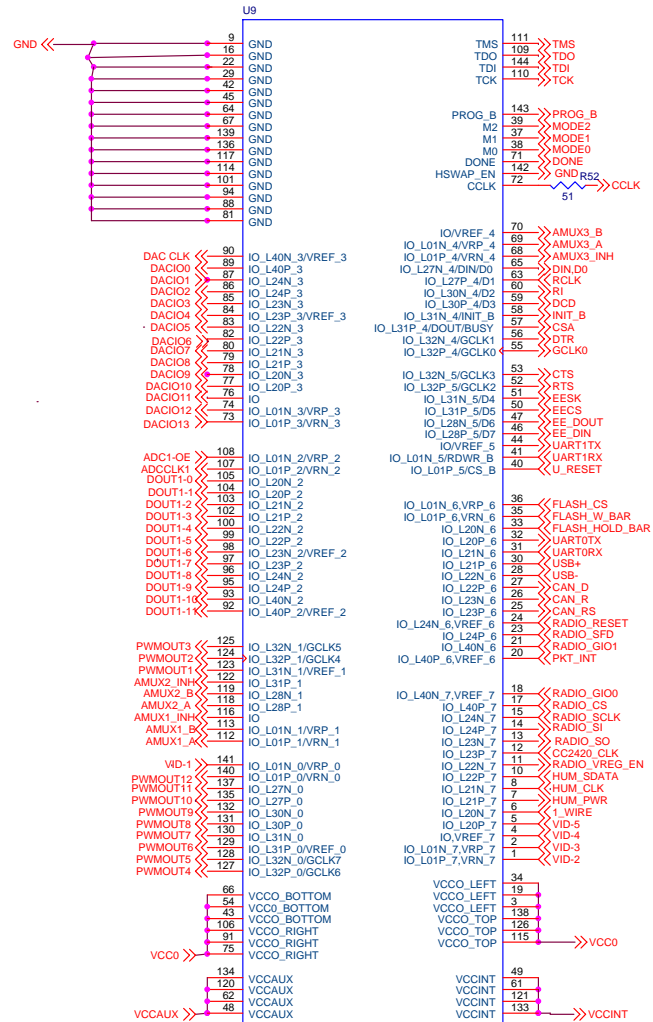
# Spartan III Specification

- 200K System Gates
- 4320 Equivalent Logic Cells (1 Logic Cell = 4 Input Look-Up Table + 1 D Flop/Flop) with shift register capability
- 30K Distributed RAM Bits and 120K Block RAM Bits
- 12 Dedicated (18\*18) Fast Multipliers
- JTAG Logic Compatible with IEEE 1149.1/1532 standard
- 4 DCM (Digital Clock Manager) Modules
- 8 Global Clock lines with abundant routing
- MicroBlaze processor, PCI and other cores
- 622 Mb/s data transfer rates per I/O
- 18 single-ended signal standards
- 8 differential I/O standards including LVDS, RSDS
- Signal swing ranging from 1.14V to 3.45V
- Double Data Rate (DDR) support
- Well supported by development tools for synthesis, mapping, placement and routing

# FPGA Board Specification

- High Speed (15 Mega Samples/Sec) 12 bit Analog to Digital Converter -2 Numbers
- High Speed (150 Mega Samples/Sec) 14 bit Digital to Analog Converters
- Xilinx XC3S200TQ144 FPGA Device
- 2 Mb FPGA Configuration Flash Memory
- 8 Mbit Serial Flash Memory with 40 MHz SPI Interface
- JTAG Interface with PC for FPGA Configuration
- LDO Voltage Regulators 3.3V, 2.5V, 1.2V
- 78 User IOs
- 64K\*16 external SRAM

# FPGA Connections



## ADC12010

# 12-Bit, 10 MSPS, 160 mW A/D Converter with Internal Sample-and-Hold

### General Description

The ADC12010 is a monolithic CMOS analog-to-digital converter capable of converting analog input signals into 12-bit digital words at 10 Megasamples per second (MSPS), minimum. This converter uses a differential, pipeline architecture with digital error correction and an on-chip sample-and-hold circuit to minimize die size and power consumption while providing excellent dynamic performance. Operating on a single 5V power supply, this device consumes just 160 mW at 10 MSPS, including the reference current. The Power Down feature reduces power consumption to 25 mW.

The differential inputs provide a full scale input swing equal to  $2V_{REF}$  with the possibility of a single-ended input. Full use of the differential input is recommended for optimum performance. For ease of use, the buffered, high impedance, single-ended reference input is converted on-chip to a differential reference for use by the processing circuitry. Output data format is 12-bit offset binary.

This device is available in the 32-lead LQFP package and will operate over the industrial temperature range of  $-40^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $+85^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

### Features

- Internal sample-and-hold
- Outputs 2.4V to 5V compatible
- TTL/CMOS compatible input/outputs
- Power down mode
- On-chip reference buffer

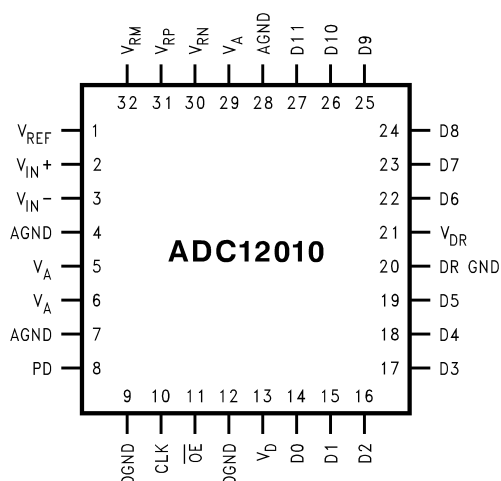
### Key Specifications

■ Resolution	12 Bits
■ Conversion Rate	10 MSPS (min)
■ DNL	$\pm 0.3$ LSB (typ)
■ INL	$\pm 0.5$ LSB (typ)
■ SNR ( $f_{IN} = 10.1$ MHz)	70 dB (typ)
■ ENOB ( $f_{IN} = 10.1$ MHz)	11.3 bits (typ)
■ Data Latency	6 Clock Cycles
■ Supply Voltage	+5V $\pm 5\%$
■ Power Consumption, 10 MHz	160 mW (typ)

### Applications

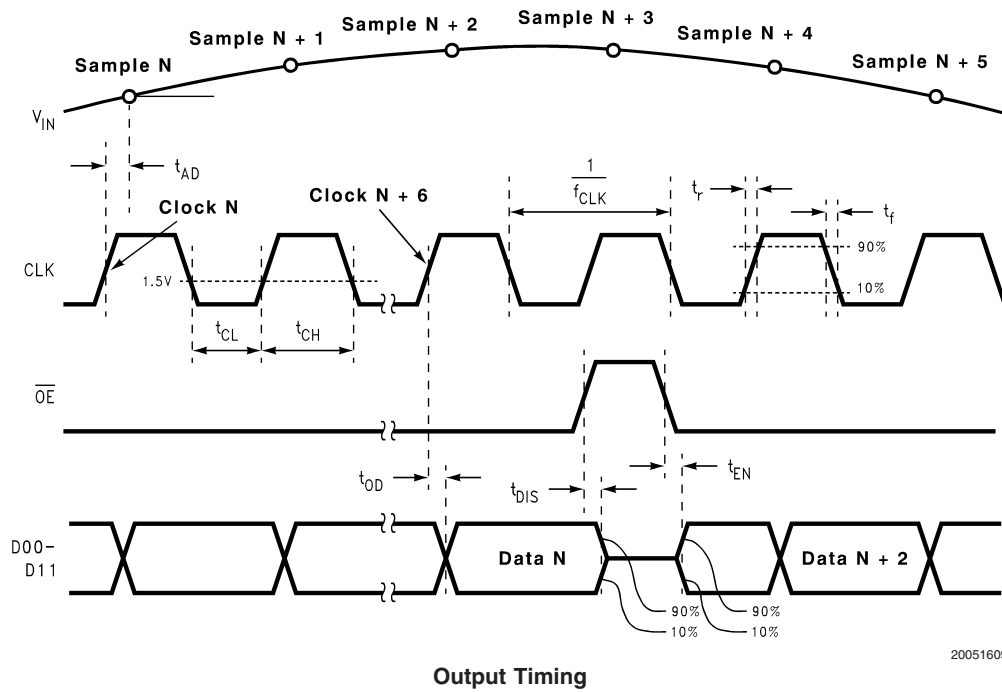
- Image Processing Front End
- Instrumentation
- PC-Based Data Acquisition
- Fax Machines
- Wireless Local Loops/Cable Modems
- Waveform Digitizers
- DSP Front Ends

### Connection Diagram



20051601

## Timing Diagram



Output Timing

## Transfer Characteristic

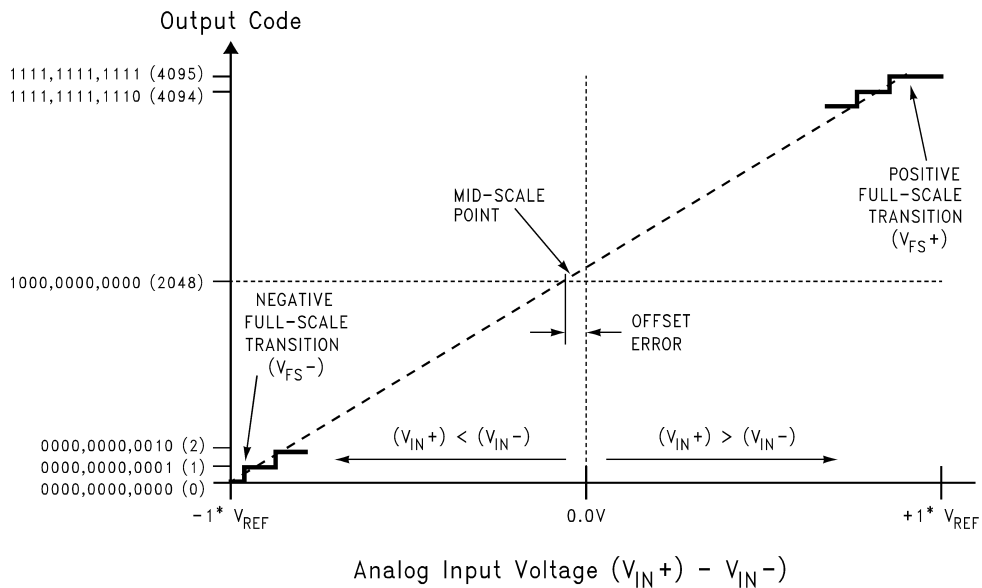


FIGURE 1. Transfer Characteristic

## Functional Description

Operating on a single +5V supply, the ADC12010 uses a pipeline architecture with error correction circuitry to help ensure maximum performance. The differential analog input signal is digitized to 12 bits.

The reference input is buffered to ease the task of driving that pin.

The output word rate is the same as the clock frequency, which can be between 100 kSPS and 15 MSPS (typical). The analog input voltage is acquired at the rising edge of the clock and the digital data for a given sample is delayed by the pipeline for 6 clock cycles.

A logic high on the power down (PD) pin reduces the converter power consumption to 40 mW.

## Applications Information

### 1.0 OPERATING CONDITIONS

We recommend that the following conditions be observed for operation of the ADC12010:

$$4.75V \leq V_A \leq 5.25V$$

$$V_D = V_A$$

$$2.35V \leq V_{DR} \leq V_D$$

$$100 \text{ kHz} \leq f_{CLK} \leq 15 \text{ MHz}$$

$$1.0V \leq V_{REF} \leq 2.4V$$

### 1.1 Analog Inputs

The ADC12010 has two analog signal inputs,  $V_{IN+}$  and  $V_{IN-}$ . These two pins form a differential input pair. There is one reference input pin,  $V_{REF}$ .

### 1.2 Reference Pins

The ADC12010 is designed to operate with a 2.0V reference, but performs well with reference voltages in the range of 1.0V to 2.4V. Lower reference voltages will decrease the signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) of the ADC12010. Increasing the reference voltage (and the input signal swing) beyond 2.4V will degrade THD for a full-scale input. It is very important that all grounds associated with the reference voltage and the input signal make connection to the analog ground plane at a single point to minimize the effects of noise currents in the ground path.

The three Reference Bypass Pins ( $V_{RP}$ ,  $V_{RM}$  and  $V_{RN}$ ) are made available for bypass purposes. These pins should each be bypassed to ground with a 0.1  $\mu$ F capacitor. Smaller capacitor values will allow faster recovery from the power down mode, but may result in degraded noise performance. DO NOT LOAD these pins.

### 1.3 Signal Inputs

The signal inputs are  $V_{IN+}$  and  $V_{IN-}$ . The input signal,  $V_{IN}$ , is defined as

$$V_{IN} = (V_{IN+}) - (V_{IN-})$$

Figure 2 shows the expected input signal range.

Note that the common mode input voltage range is 1V to 3V with a nominal value of  $V_A/2$ . The input signals should remain between ground and 4V.

The Peaks of the individual input signals ( $V_{IN+}$  and  $V_{IN-}$ ) should each never exceed the voltage described as

$$V_{IN+}, V_{IN-} = V_{REF} + V_{CM}$$

to maintain THD and SINAD performance.

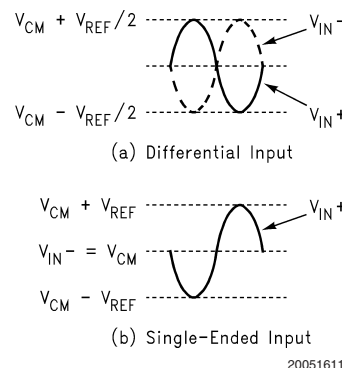


FIGURE 2. Expected Input Signal Range

The ADC12010 performs best with a differential input with each input centered around  $V_{CM}$ . The peak-to-peak voltage swing at both  $V_{IN+}$  and  $V_{IN-}$  each should not exceed the value of the reference voltage or the output data will be clipped. The two input signals should be exactly 180° out of phase from each other and of the same amplitude. For single frequency inputs, angular errors result in a reduction of the effective full scale input. For a complex waveform, however, angular errors will result in distortion.

For angular deviations of up to 10 degrees from these two signals being 180 out of phase, the full scale error in LSB can be described as approximately

$$E_{FS} = \text{dev}^{1.79}$$

Where dev is the angular difference, in degrees, between the two signals having a 180° relative phase relationship to each other (see Figure 3). Drive the analog inputs with a source impedance less than 100 $\Omega$ .

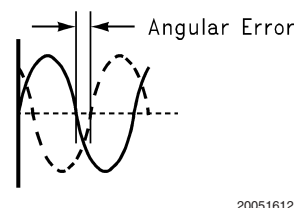


FIGURE 3. Angular Errors Between the Two Input Signals Will Reduce the Output Level

For differential operation, each analog input signal should have a peak-to-peak voltage equal to the input reference voltage,  $V_{REF}$ , and be centered around a common mode voltage,  $V_{CM}$ .

TABLE 1. Input to Output Relationship—Differential Input

$V_{IN+}$	$V_{IN-}$	Output
$V_{CM} - V_{REF}/2$	$V_{CM} + V_{REF}/2$	0000 0000 0000
$V_{CM} - V_{REF}/4$	$V_{CM} + V_{REF}/4$	0100 0000 0000
$V_{CM}$	$V_{CM}$	1000 0000 0000
$V_{CM} + V_{REF}/4$	$V_{CM} - V_{REF}/4$	1100 0000 0000
$V_{CM} + V_{REF}/2$	$V_{CM} - V_{REF}/2$	1111 1111 1111

## Applications Information (Continued)

**TABLE 2. Input to Output Relationship—  
Single-Ended Input**

$V_{IN+}$	$V_{IN-}$	Output
$V_{CM} - V_{REF}$	$V_{CM}$	0000 0000 0000
$V_{CM} - V_{REF}/2$	$V_{CM}$	0100 0000 0000
$V_{CM}$	$V_{CM}$	1000 0000 0000
$V_{CM} + V_{REF}/2$	$V_{CM}$	1100 0000 0000
$V_{CM} + V_{REF}$	$V_{CM}$	1111 1111 1111

### 1.3.1 Single-Ended Operation

Single-ended performance is lower than with differential input signals. For this reason, single-ended operation is not recommended. However, if single ended-operation is required, one of the analog inputs should be connected to the d.c. common mode voltage of the driven input. The peak-to-peak differential input signal should be twice the reference voltage to maximize SNR and SINAD performance (Figure 2b).

For example, set  $V_{REF}$  to 1.0V, bias  $V_{IN-}$  to 1.0V and drive  $V_{IN+}$  with a signal range of 0V to 2.0V. Because very large input signal swings can degrade distortion performance, better performance with a single-ended input can be obtained by reducing the reference voltage when maintaining a full-range output. Table 1 and Table 2 indicate the input to output relationship of the ADC12010.

### 1.3.2 Driving the Analog Input

The  $V_{IN+}$  and the  $V_{IN-}$  inputs of the ADC12010 consist of an analog switch followed by a switched-capacitor amplifier. The capacitance seen at the analog input pins changes with the clock level, appearing as 8 pF when the clock is low, and 7 pF when the clock is high. Although this difference is small, a dynamic capacitance is more difficult to drive than is a fixed capacitance, so choose the driving amplifier carefully. The LMH6702 and the LMH6628 are good amplifiers for driving the ADC12010.

The internal switching action at the analog inputs causes energy to be output from the input pins. As the driving source tries to compensate for this, it adds noise to the signal. To prevent this, use 100 $\Omega$  series resistors at each of the signal inputs with a 150 pF at each of the inputs, as can be seen in Figure 5 and Figure 6. These components should be placed close to the ADC because the input pins of the ADC is the most sensitive part of the system and this is the last opportunity to filter the input. Table 3 gives component values for Figure 5 to convert individual input signals to a range of 2.5V  $\pm$  2.0V at each of the input pins of the ADC12010.

**TABLE 3. Resistor Values for Circuit of Figure 5**

SIGNAL RANGE	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5, R6
0 - 0.5V	392 $\Omega$	1540 $\Omega$	102 $\Omega$	115 $\Omega$	1000 $\Omega$
0 - 1.0V	634 $\Omega$	1470 $\Omega$	2490 $\Omega$	1050 $\Omega$	499 $\Omega$
$\pm$ 0.25V	499 $\Omega$	499 $\Omega$	499 $\Omega$	499 $\Omega$	1000 $\Omega$
$\pm$ 0.5V	100 $\Omega$	200 $\Omega$	100 $\Omega$	200 $\Omega$	499 $\Omega$

### 1.3.3 Input Common Mode Voltage

The input common mode voltage,  $V_{CM}$ , should be in the range of 0.5V to 4.0V and be of a value such that the peak excursions of the analog signal does not go more negative than ground or more positive than 0.5 Volts below the  $V_A$  supply voltage. The nominal  $V_{CM}$  should generally be equal to  $V_{REF}/2$ , but  $V_{RM}$  can be used as a  $V_{CM}$  source as long as  $V_{CM}$  need not supply more than 10  $\mu$ A of current.

## 2.0 DIGITAL INPUTS

The digital TTL/CMOS compatible inputs consist of CLK,  $\overline{OE}$  and PD.

### 2.1 CLK

The **CLK** signal controls the timing of the sampling process. Drive the clock input with a stable, low jitter clock signal in the range of 100 kHz to 15 MHz with rise and fall times of less than 3ns. The trace carrying the clock signal should be as short as possible and should not cross any other signal line, analog or digital, not even at 90°.

If the **CLK** is interrupted, or its frequency too low, the charge on internal capacitors can dissipate to the point where the accuracy of the output data will degrade. This is what limits the lowest sample rate to 100 kSPS.

The duty cycle of the clock signal can affect the performance of the A/D Converter. Because achieving a precise duty cycle is difficult, the ADC12010 is designed to maintain performance over a range of duty cycles. While it is specified and performance is guaranteed with a 50% clock duty cycle, performance is typically maintained over a clock duty cycle range of 20% to 80%.

The clock line should be series terminated at the source end in the characteristic impedance of that line if the clock line is longer than

$$\frac{t_r}{6 \times t_{PR}}$$

where  $t_r$  is the rise time of the clock signal and  $t_{PR}$  is the propagation rate along the line. For a Board of FR-4 material,  $t_{PR}$  is typically about 150 ps/inch, or 60 ps/cm. This resistor should be as close to the source as possible.

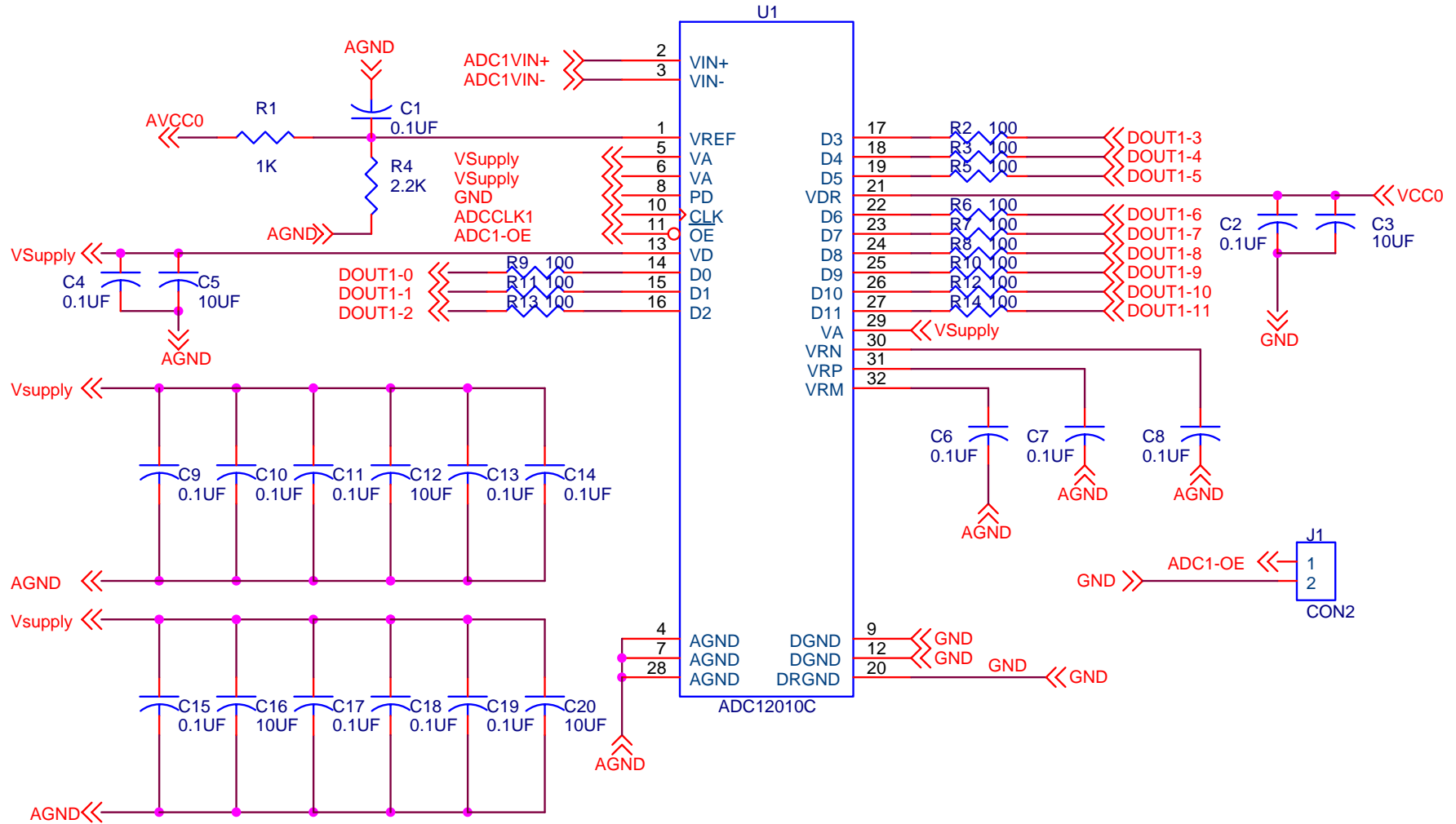
It might also be necessary to AC terminate the ADC end of the clock line with a series RC to ground such that the resistor value equals the characteristic impedance of the clock line and the capacitor value is

$$C \geq \frac{4 \times t_{PR} \times L}{Z_0}$$

where  $t_{PR}$  is again the propagation rate down the clock line, L is the length of the line in inches and  $Z_0$  is the characteristic impedance of the clock line. A.C. termination should be near the ADC clock pin but beyond that pin as seen from the clock source.

Take care to maintain a constant clock line impedance throughout the length of the line. Refer to Application Note AN-905 or AN-1113 for information on setting and determining characteristic impedance.

# ADC Interface





# DAC14135 14-bit, 135MSPS D/A Converter

## General Description

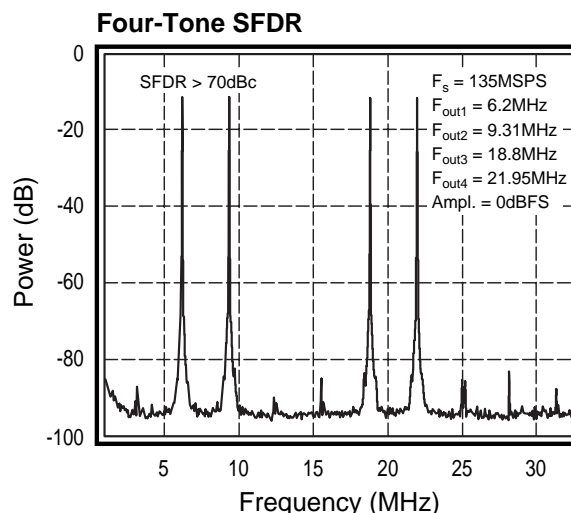
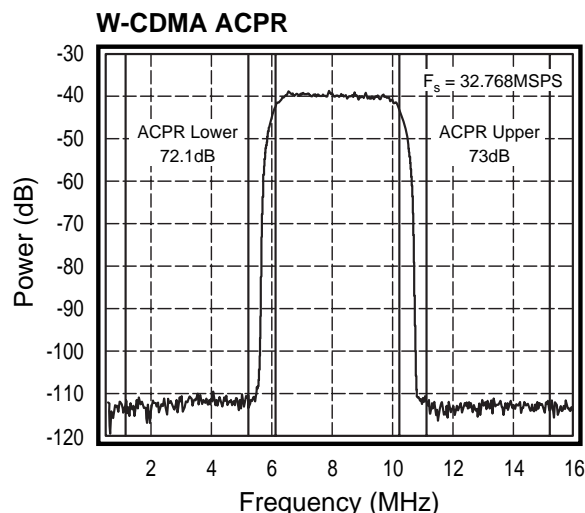
The DAC14135 is a monolithic 14-bit, 135MSPS digital-to-analog converter. The device has been optimized for use in cellular base stations and other applications where high resolution, high sampling rate, wide dynamic range, and compact size are required. The DAC14135 has many integrated features including a proprietary segmented DAC core, differential current outputs, a band-gap voltage reference, and TTL/CMOS compatible inputs. The converter features an 85dBc spurious free dynamic range (SFDR) at low frequencies and a 70dBc SFDR with 20MHz output signals. The 48-pin TSSOP package provides an extremely small footprint for applications where space is a critical consideration. The DAC14135 operates from a single +5V power supply. The digital power supply can also operate from +3.3V for lower power consumption and compatibility with +3.3V data inputs. The DAC14135 is fabricated in a 0.5 $\mu$ m CMOS process and is specified over the industrial temperature range of -40°C to +85°C. National Semiconductor thoroughly tests each part to verify full compliance with the guaranteed specifications.

## Features

- 135 MSPS
- Wide dynamic range
  - SFDR @ 1MHz  $f_{out}$ : 85dBc
  - SFDR @ 5MHz  $f_{out}$ : 79dBc
  - SFDR @ 20MHz  $f_{out}$ : 70dBc
- Differential Current Outputs
- Low power consumption: 185mW
- Very small package: 48-pin TSSOP
- TTL/CMOS (+3.3V or +5V) inputs

## Applications

- Cellular Basestations:
  - GSM, WCDMA, DAMPS, etc.
- Multi-carrier Basestations
- Multi-standard Basestations
- Direct digital synthesis (DDS)
- ADSL modems
- HFC modems



# DAC14135

## Electrical Characteristics

(sample rate = 135MSPS,  $T_{min} = -40^{\circ}\text{C}$ ,  $T_{max} = +85^{\circ}\text{C}$ ,  $AV_{DD} = +5\text{V}$ ,  $DV_{DD} = +5\text{V}$ ,  $CV_{DD} = +5\text{V}$ , full scale current = 20mA, differential 50 $\Omega$  doubly terminated output, unless specified otherwise)

PARAMETERS		CONDITIONS	TEMP	RATINGS			UNITS	NOTES
				MIN	TYP	MAX		
<b>POWER REQUIREMENTS</b>								
analog supply current			+25°C		28	35	mA	1
digital supply current		135MSPS, DV <sub>DD</sub> = +5V	+25°C		9	15	mA	1
digital supply current		100MSPS, DV <sub>DD</sub> = +3.3V	+25°C		4.5		mA	
power consumption		135MSPS, DV <sub>DD</sub> = +5V	+25°C		185		mW	
power consumption		100MSPS, DV <sub>DD</sub> = +3.3V	+25°C		150		mW	
AV <sub>DD</sub> power supply rejection ratio		at mid-scale	+25°C		1.0		%FS/V	

Min/max ratings are based on product characterization and simulation. Individual parameters are tested as noted. Outgoing quality levels are determined from tested parameters.

## Notes

- These parameters are 100% tested at 25 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ .
- These parameters are sample tested at -40 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ , +25 $^{\circ}\text{C}$  and +85 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ .
- Defined as the net area of undesired output transients in pV-s at a major transition.

## Absolute Maximum Ratings

positive supply voltage ( $V_{DD}$ )	-0.5V to +6V
analog output voltage range	-0.7V to $V_{DD}$
digital input voltage range	-0.5V to $V_{DD}$
output short circuit duration	infinite
junction temperature	175 $^{\circ}\text{C}$
storage temperature range	-65 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ to 150 $^{\circ}\text{C}$
lead solder duration (+300 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ )	10sec

Note: Absolute maximum ratings are limiting values, to be applied individually, and beyond which the serviceability of the circuit may be impaired. Functional operability under any of these conditions is not necessarily implied. Exposure to maximum ratings for extended periods may affect device reliability.

## Recommended Operating Conditions

positive analog supply voltage	+5V $\pm 5\%$
positive digital supply voltage	+3.3V or +5V $\pm 5\%$
positive clock supply voltage	+5V $\pm 5\%$
operating temperature range	-40 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ to +85 $^{\circ}\text{C}$

## Package Thermal Resistance

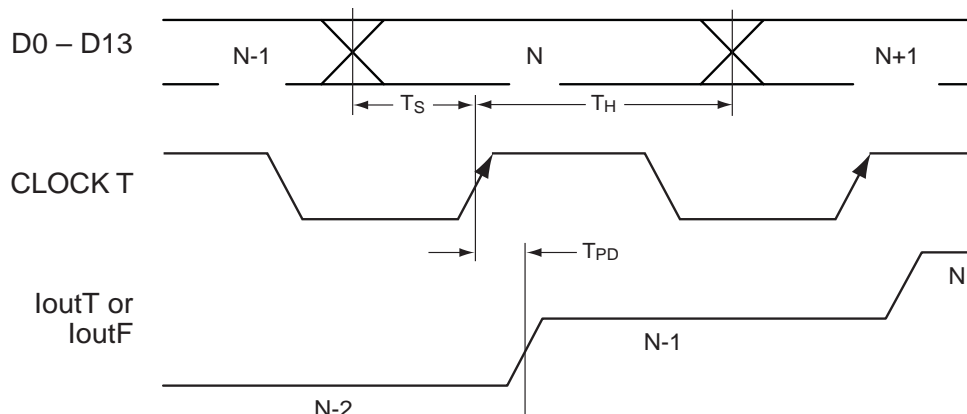
Package	$\theta_{JA}$	$\theta_{JC}$
48-pin TSSOP	56 $^{\circ}\text{C/W}$	16 $^{\circ}\text{C/W}$

## Package Transistor Count

Transistor count 8,600

## Ordering Information

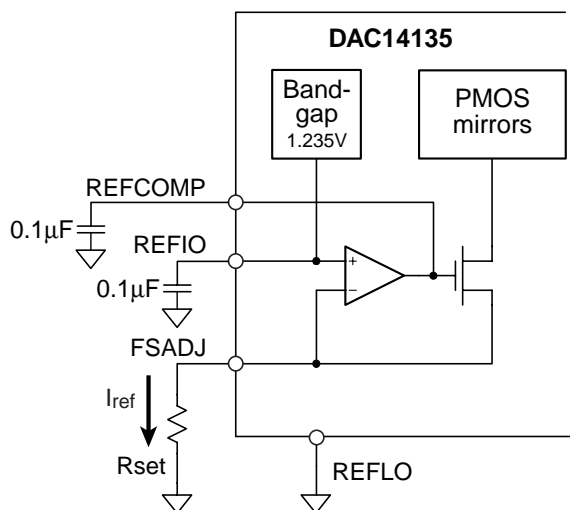
Model	Temperature Range	Description
DAC14135MT	-40 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ to +85 $^{\circ}\text{C}$	48-pin TSSOP (industrial temperature range)
DAC14135MTX	-40 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ to +85 $^{\circ}\text{C}$	48-pin TSSOP (TNR 1000 pc reel)
DAC14135PCASM		Fully loaded evaluation board with DAC14135 ... ready for test.



NOTE: 1 clock cycle latency

DAC14135 Timing Diagram

ridden by an external bandgap reference voltage. The reference ground (REFLO) should always be tied to analog ground. The REFIO pin should be bypassed to REFLO using a 0.1μF capacitor. For reduced noise, an external compensation capacitor (0.1μF) should also be used to bypass the internal reference loop from pin REFCOMP to AGND. Figure 3 shows the internal voltage reference loop functional schematic.



**Figure 3: Internal Voltage Loop Functional Schematic**

A reference current source ( $I_{ref}$ ) from pin FSADJ to ground may be used to set the full scale output current ( $I_{fs}$ ) of the DAC14135. The full scale current is given by,

$$I_{fs} = 42.67 \times I_{ref}$$

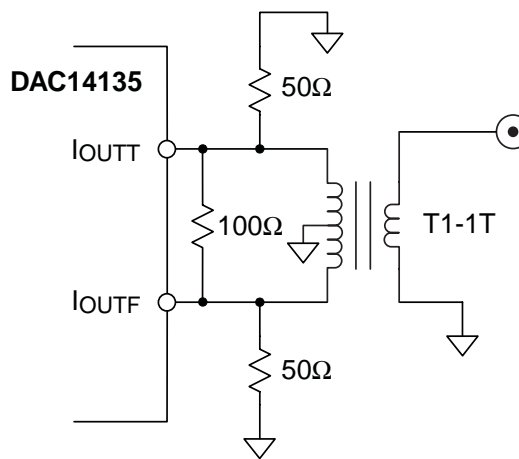
Alternatively, a resistor ( $R_{set}$ ) from FSADJ to AGND may be used to set the full scale output current of the DAC.

$$I_{fs} \text{ (mA)} = 42.67 \times \text{REFIO}/R_{set}$$

The voltage at REFIO is nominally set by the internal bandgap at 1.235V. For a full scale output current of 20mA, the value of  $R_{set}$  is 2.635kΩ.

## Analog Outputs

The differential analog outputs,  $I_{OUTT}$  and  $I_{OUTF}$  are high impedance current source outputs. These outputs, if terminated into 50Ω at 20mA full scale current, will generate a differential voltage output at  $2V_{pp}$ . The output compliance of each of the current outputs of the DAC14135 is -0.5V to +1.25V. The differential outputs can be converted to a single-ended output using an RF center-tapped transformer or a differential to single-ended amplifier. The  $I_{OUTT}$  and  $I_{OUTF}$  traces on the printed circuit board should be short and matched with adequate analog grounding nearby. One example of an AC coupled differential to single-ended topology is shown in Figure 4.

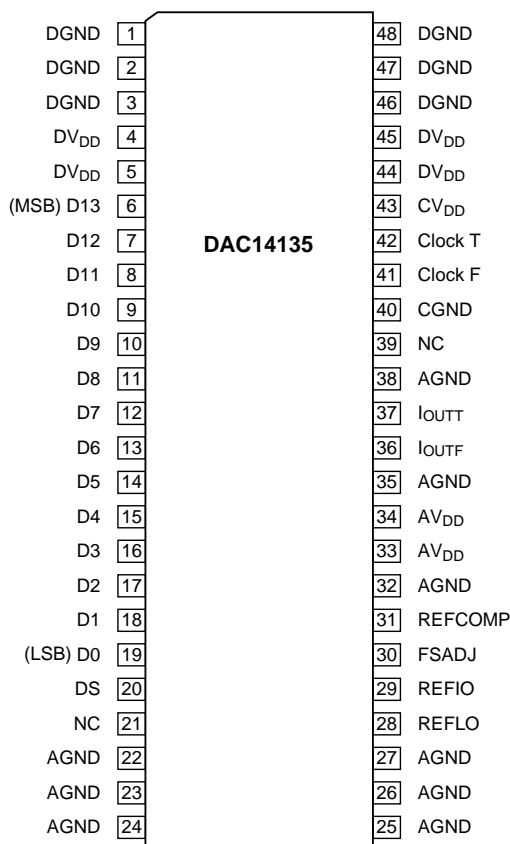


**Figure 4: AC Coupled Differential to Single-ended Topology**

## DAC14135 Grounding Information

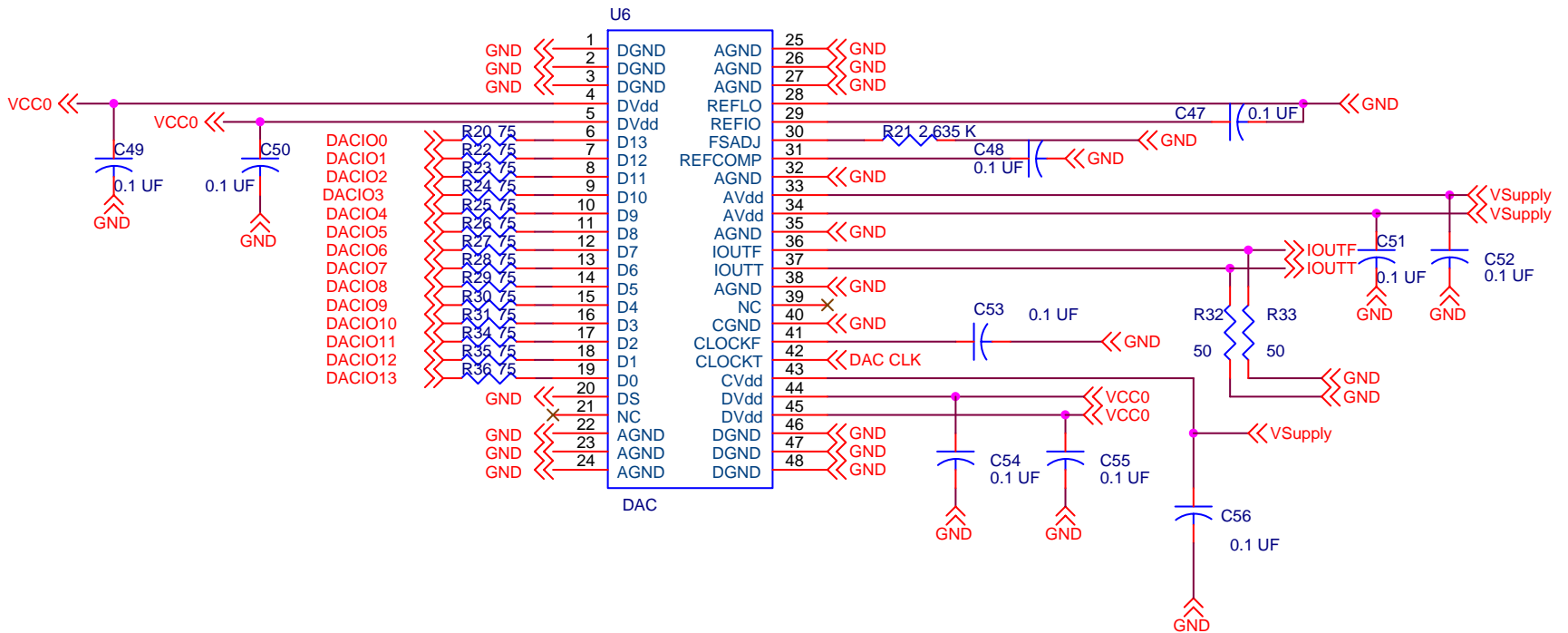
In the DAC14135, all the grounds AGND, REFLO, DGND and CGND are shorted together inside the package. The purpose of having separate grounds on the printed circuit board is to prevent digital data currents from returning through the analog or reference grounds, and corrupting the analog outputs. Refer to the evaluation board layout.

# DAC14135 Pin Definitions

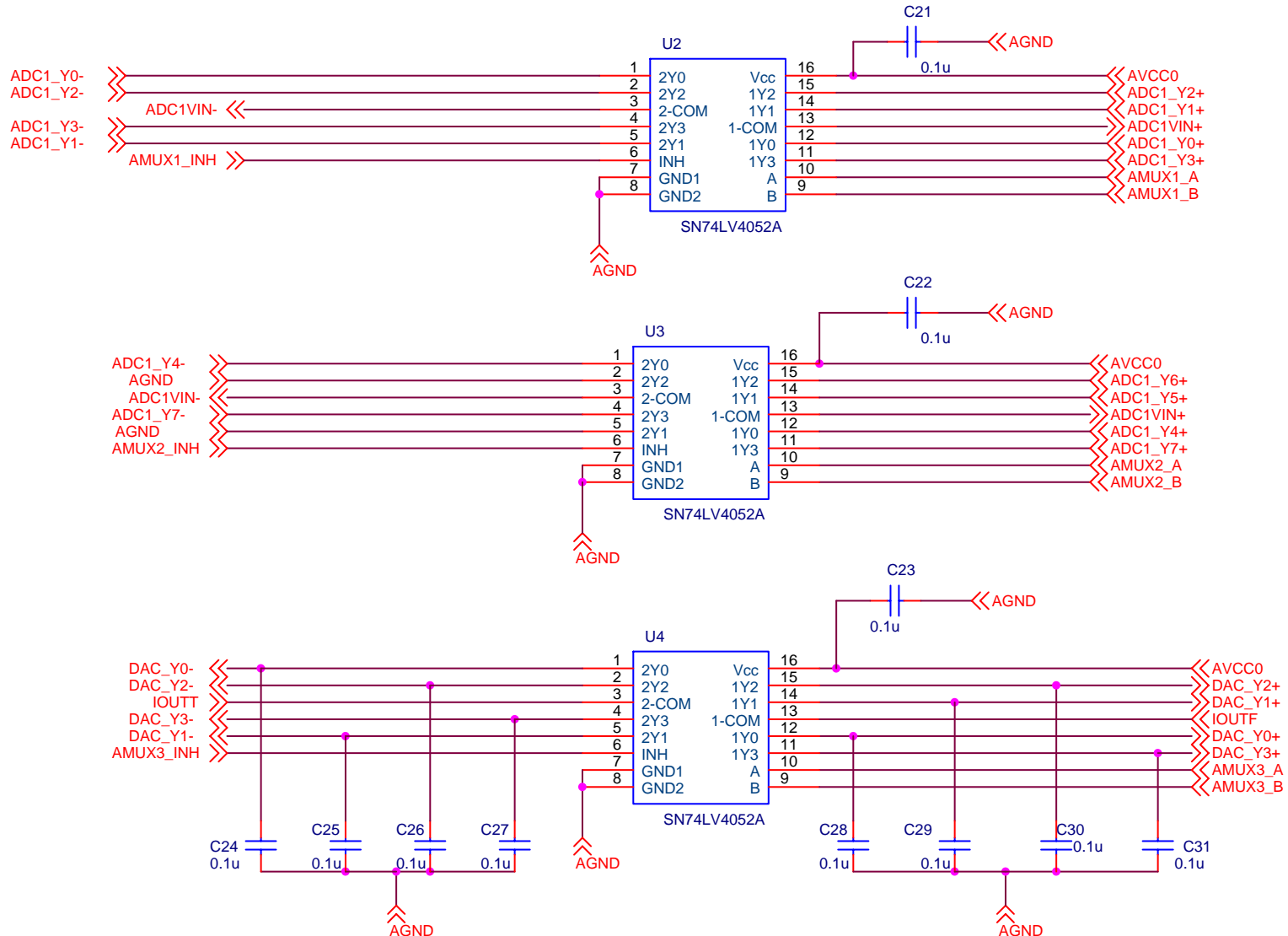


<b>I<sub>OUTT</sub></b> <b>I<sub>OUTF</sub></b>	(Pins 37, 36) Differential current outputs. Output compliance range is -0.5V to +1.25V.
<b>Clock T</b> <b>Clock F</b>	(Pins 42, 41) Differential clock inputs. Bypass CLOCKF with a 0.1μF capacitor to CGND if using single-ended clock on CLOCKT. Both inputs have internal self-bias at approximately 1.5V.
<b>D0 - D13</b>	(Pins 6 - 19) Digital data inputs. CMOS (+3.3V and +5V) and TTL (with +3.3V DV <sub>DD</sub> ) compatible. <b>D13</b> is the MSB.
<b>DS</b>	(Pin 20) Data scramble input. If not used, either connect to ground or leave unconnected.
<b>AGND</b>	(Pins 22 - 27, 32, 35, 38) Analog ground.
<b>DGND</b>	(Pins 1 - 3, 46 - 48) Digital ground.
<b>CGND</b>	(Pin 40) Clock ground. Connect to AGND.
<b>AV<sub>DD</sub></b>	(Pins 33, 34) +5V power supply for the analog section. Bypass to analog ground with a 0.1μF capacitor.
<b>DV<sub>DD</sub></b>	(Pins 4, 5, 44, 45) +5V or +3.3V power supply for the digital section. Bypass to digital ground with a 0.1μF capacitor.
<b>CV<sub>DD</sub></b>	(Pin 43) Internal clock buffer power supply. Bypass to clock ground with 0.1μF capacitor.
<b>REFIO</b>	(Pin 29) Internal voltage reference output (Vref) or voltage reference input. Nominally +1.235V. Can be overdriven with an external reference. Bypass to AGND with 0.1μF capacitor.
<b>REFLO</b>	(Pin 28) Ground for reference circuitry. Should be connected to AGND.
<b>FSADJ</b>	(Pin 30) Full scale current adjust. Must be connected with an external resistor (Rset) or an external current source (Iref) to analog ground. $I_{fullscale} (mA) = 42.67 \times I_{ref} = 42.67 \times REFIO/R_{set}$
<b>REFCOMP</b>	(Pin 31) Compensation pin for the internal reference circuitry. Bypass to analog ground with a 0.1μF capacitor.
<b>NC</b>	(Pins 21, 39) No connect.

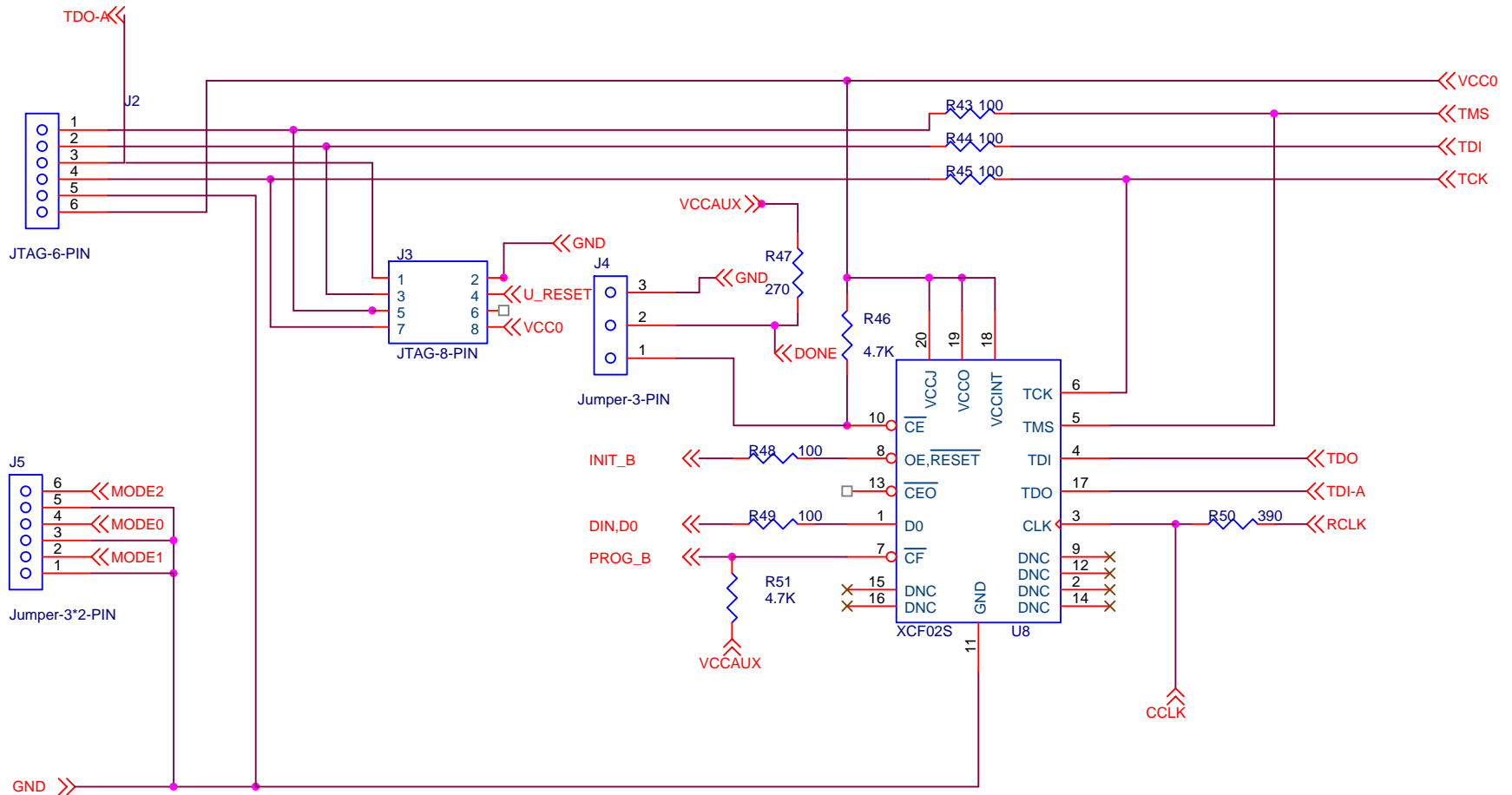
# DAC Interface



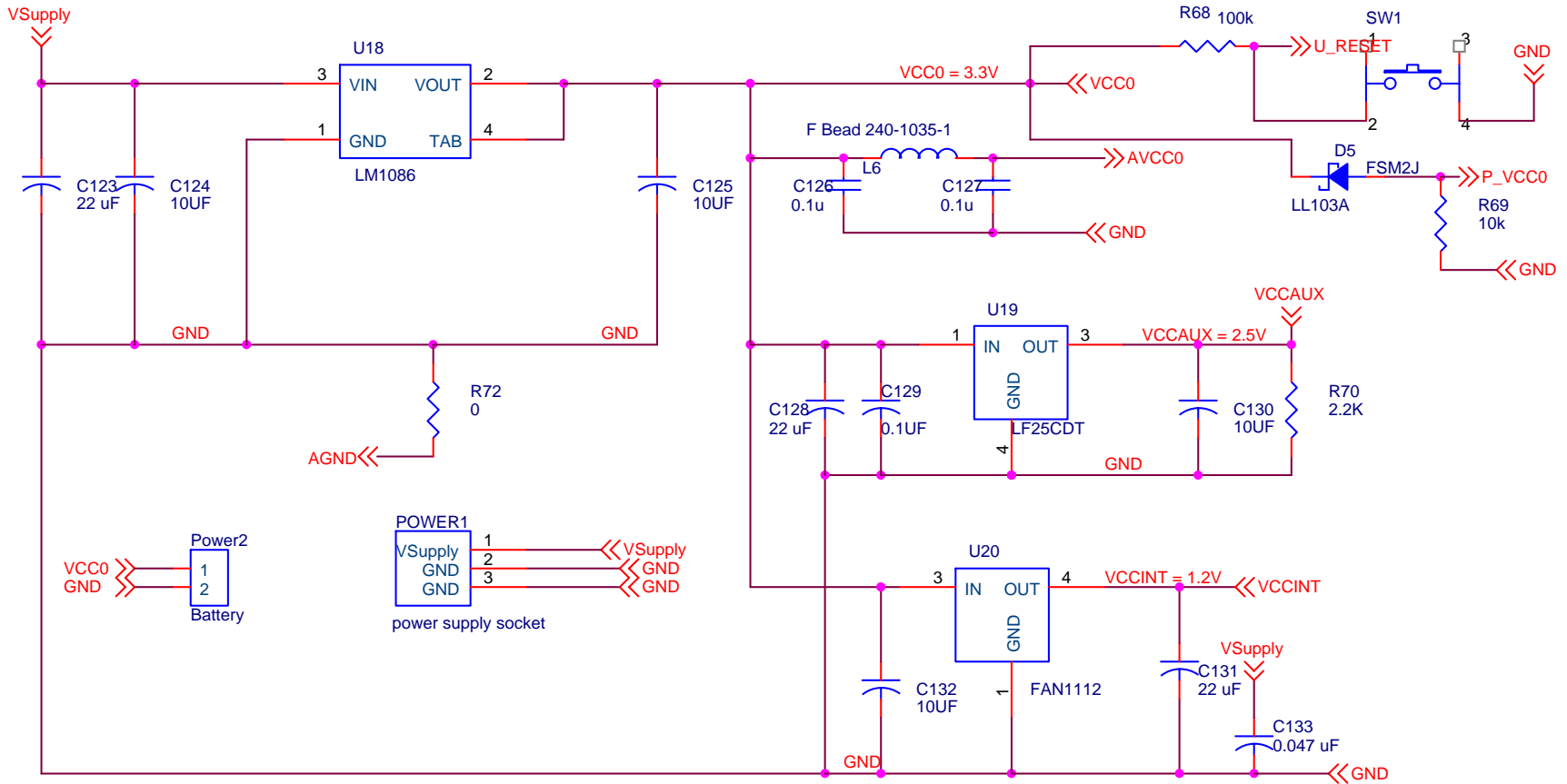
# Analog Multiplexer



# JTAG and PROM Interface

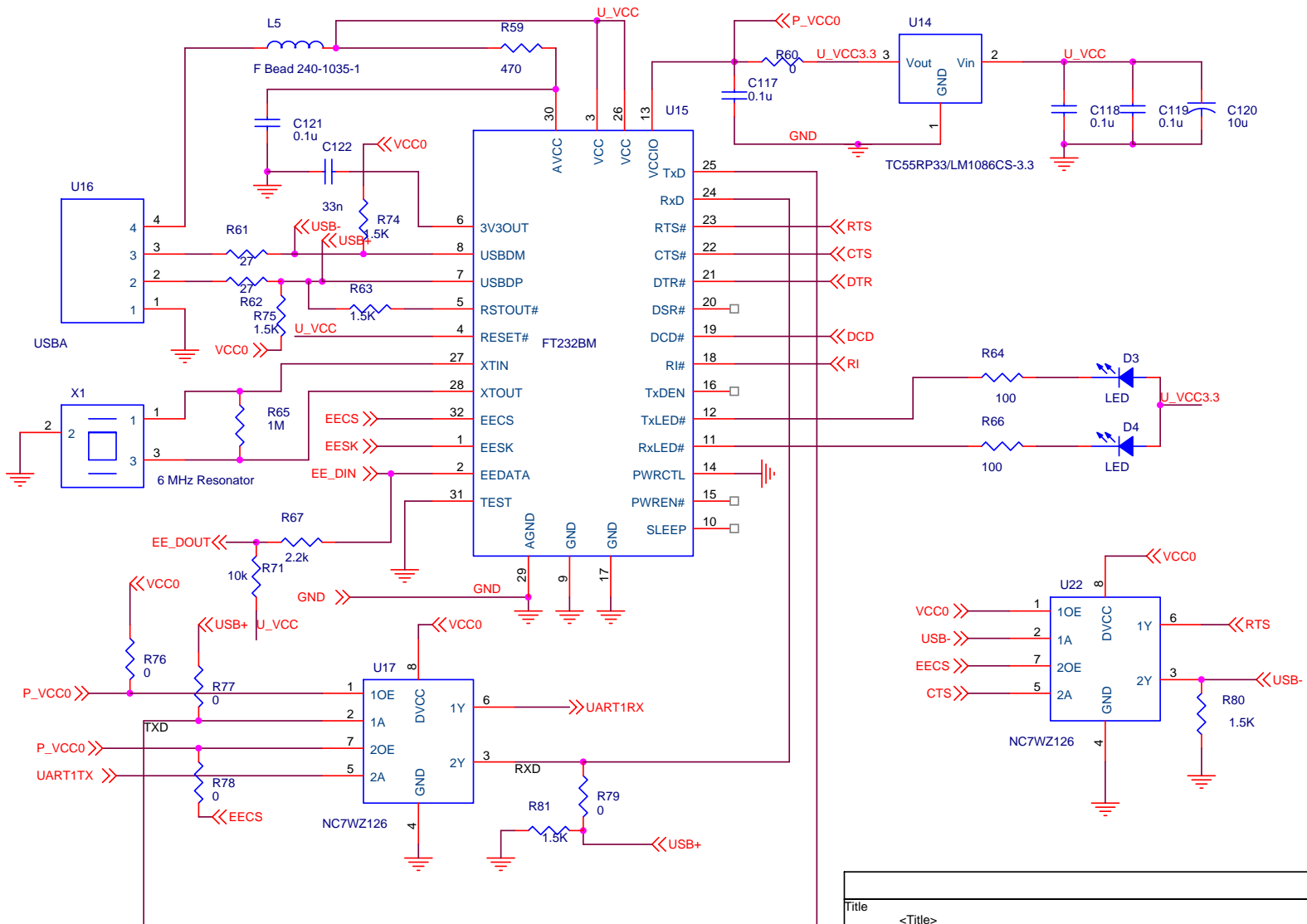


# Voltage Regulators

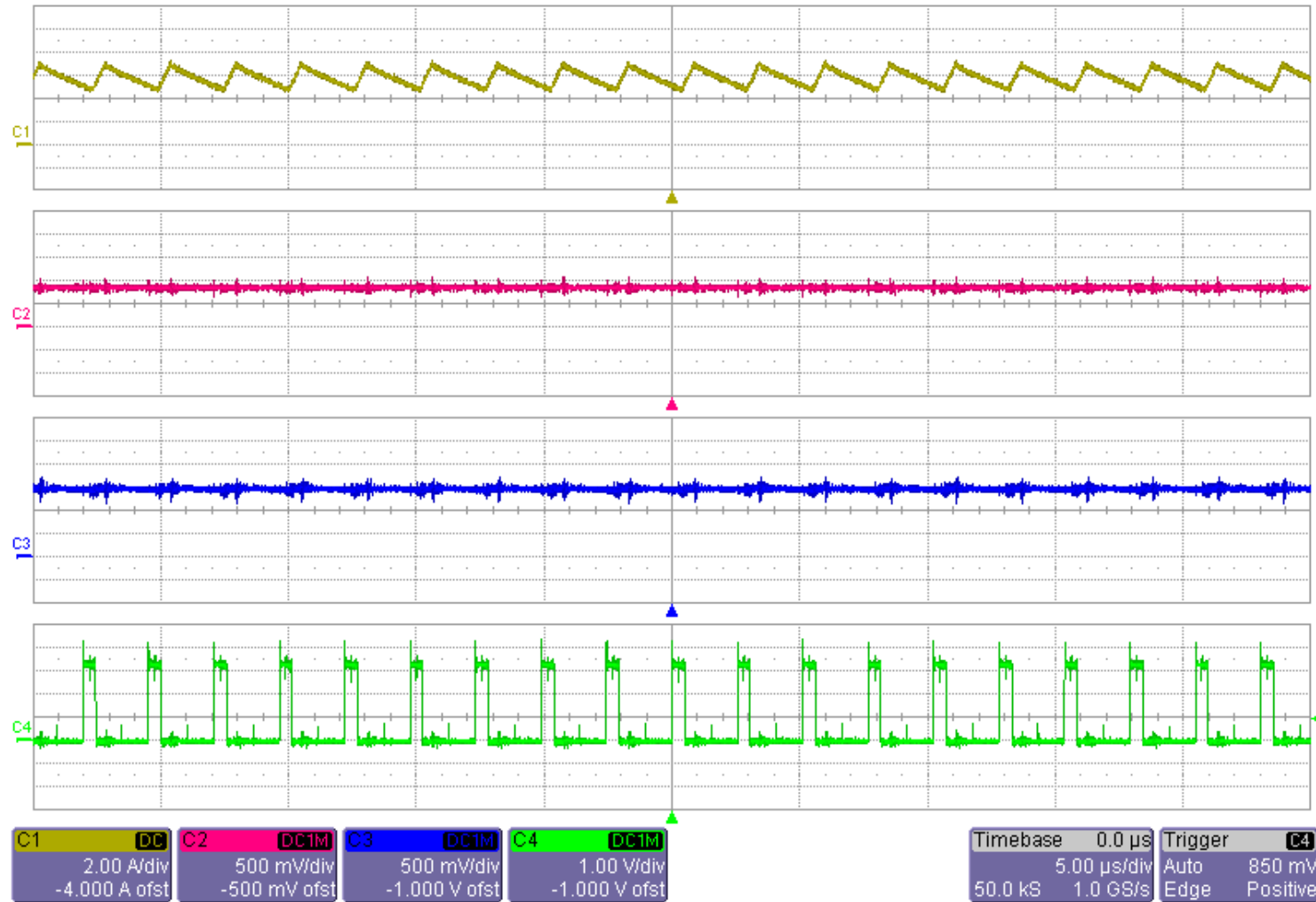




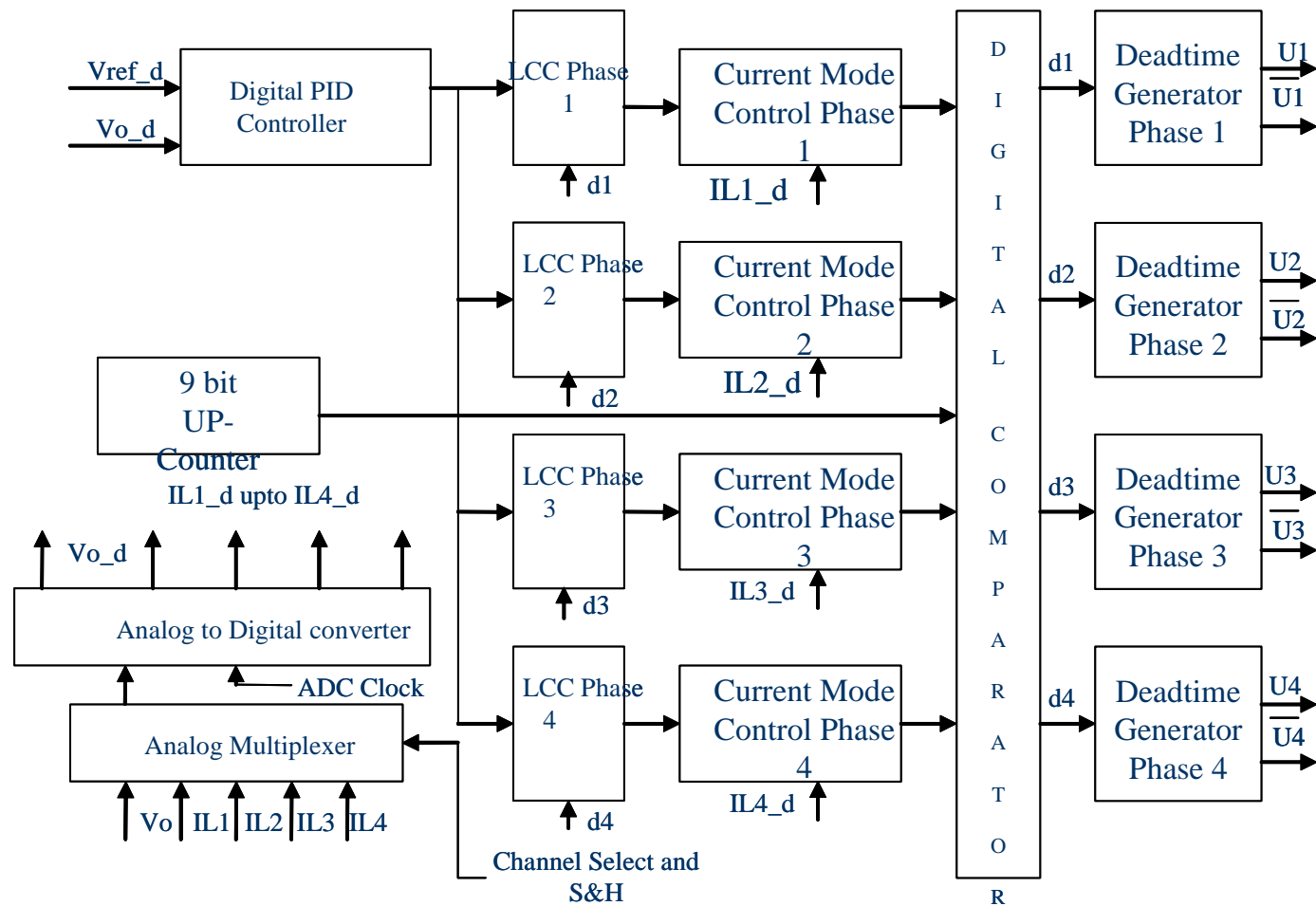
# USB Interface



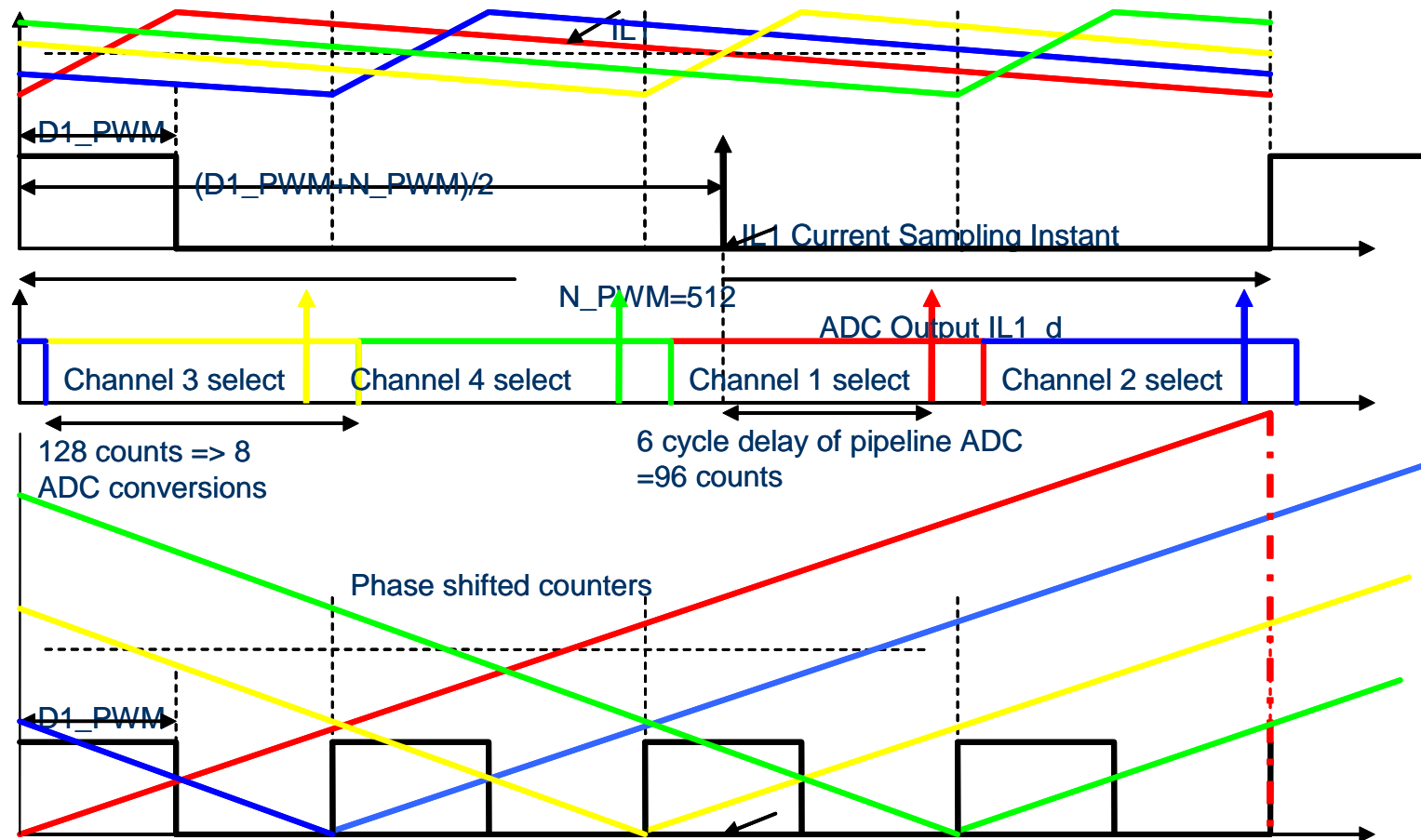
# Digital Current-Mode Control: FPGA Implementation



# Multiphase Converter Current-Mode Control : Block Diagram



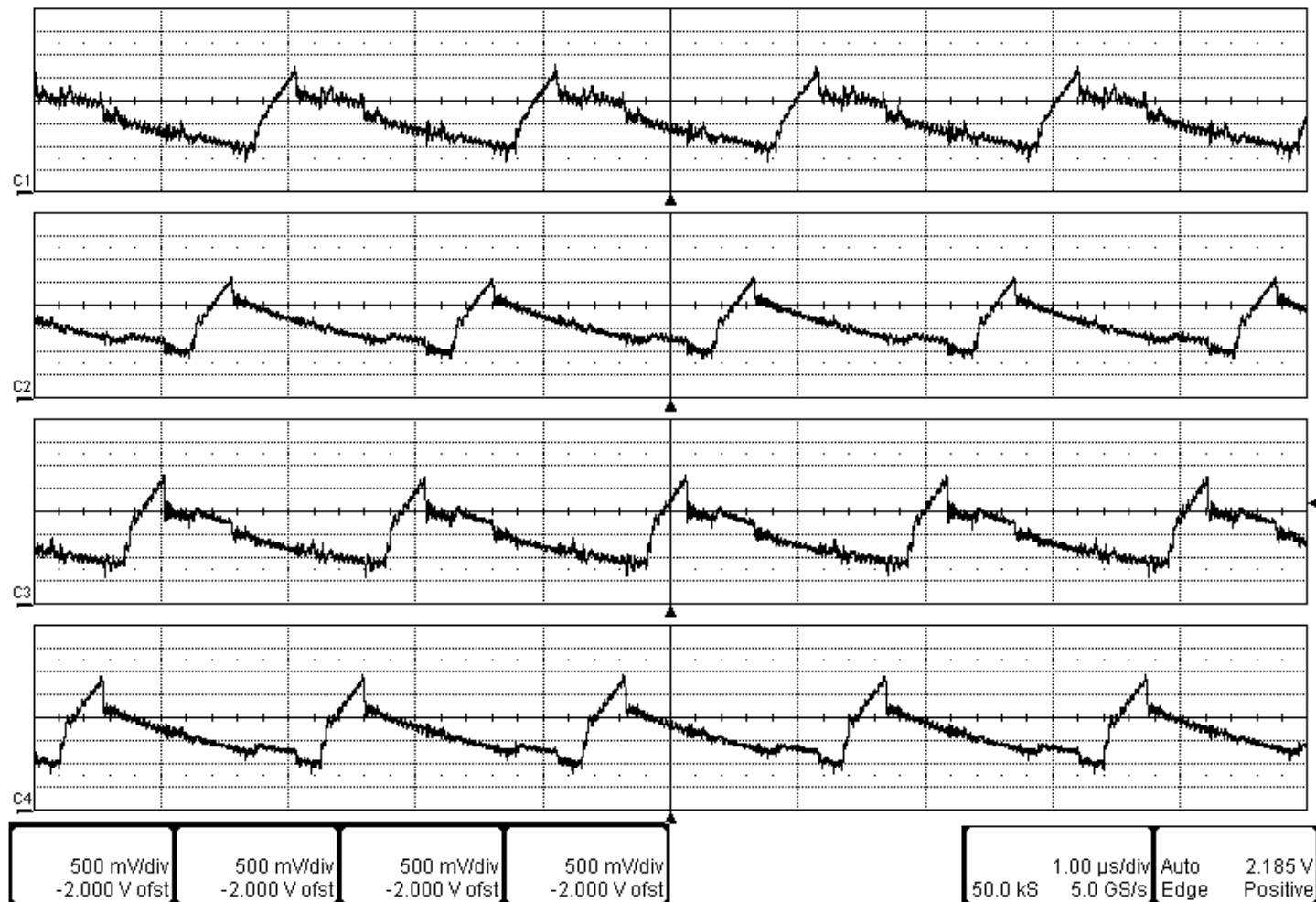
# Sampling Strategy in 4 Phase Average Current-Mode Control



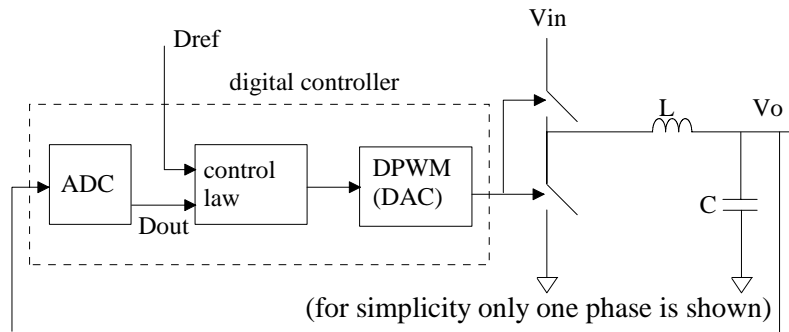
# Gate Pulses of 4 Phase Buck Converter



# Inductor Currents of 4 Phase Buck Converter



# VRM : Elimination of Limit Cycles in Digitally Controlled VRM

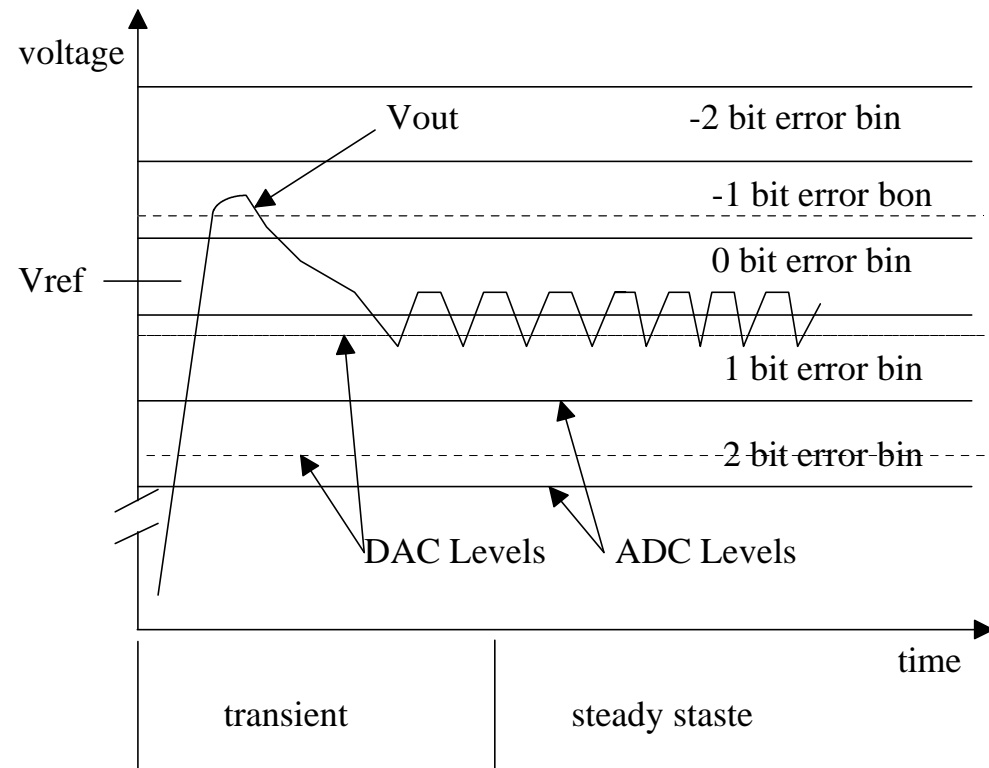


## Limit Cycles

Oscillations of  $V_o$  at frequencies lower than  $f_{sw}$  - Cause EMI problem

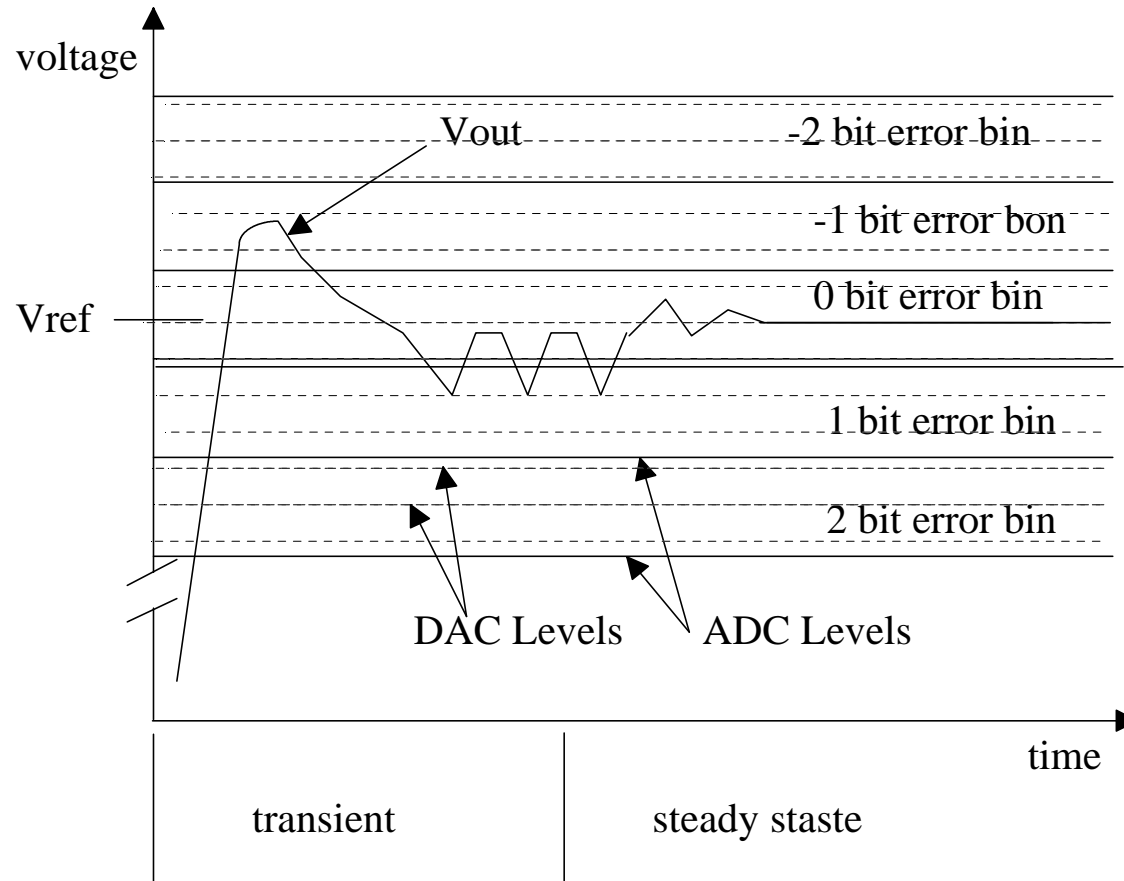
Reason

Presence of quantizers such as ADC and DPWM in the controller



Limit Cycle Oscillations of  $V_o$

## VRM : Elimination of Limit Cycles in Digitally Controlled VRM



No limit cycle condition #1  
 $\text{resolution}(\text{DPWM}) > \text{resolution}(\text{ADC})$

No limit cycle condition #2  
 $0 < K_I < 1$  ,  $K_I$ : integral gain

No limit cycle condition #3  
 $1 + N(A)L(j\omega) \neq 0$  (Nyquist Criterion)

Solution

Increase DPWM resolution



# Digital Current Mode Control : Operating Parameters

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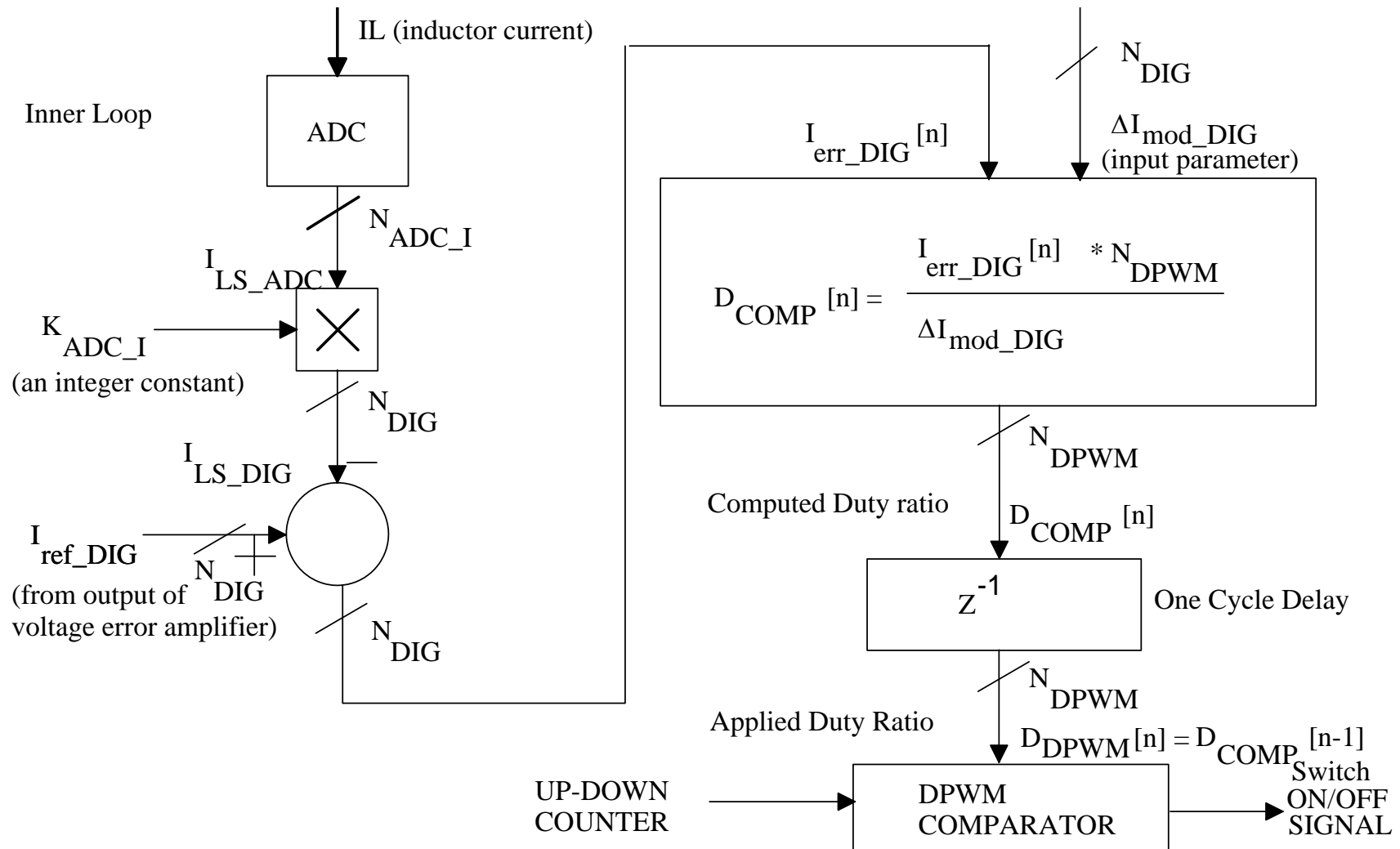
## BUCK CONVERTER PARAMETERS

$V_g$	$L$	$C$	$T_S$	$R$	$M_c(\text{min})$	$I_{ref}$
12 V	12 $\mu\text{H}$	100 $\mu\text{F}$	10 $\mu\text{Sec}$	0.2 $\Omega$	2 A/ $\mu\text{Sec}$	10.25 A

## SPECIFICATION OF DIGITAL CONTROLLER

$N_{DIG}$	$T_{clk}$	$N_{ADC}(\text{hardware})$	$N_{ADC_I}$	$N_{DPWM}$	$N_{ADC_V}$	$I_{LM}$	$V_{OM}$
2 <sup>16</sup>	50 nSec	2 <sup>10</sup>	2 <sup>4</sup>	200	2 <sup>5</sup>	15 A	3.3 V

# Digital Current-Mode Control: Quantization Analysis of Algorithm



# Digital Current-Mode Control: Parameters for Graphical Analysis

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## PARAMETERS FOR ANALYSIS OF LIMIT CYCLE OSCILLATIONS

$K_{ADC\_I}$	$I_{ref\_DIG}$	$\Delta I_{mod\_DIG}$	$\Delta I_{con\_DIG}$	$\Delta I_{adc\_DIG}$
512	5597	54	163	512

Definitions:

$$K_{ADC\_I} = \text{floor}\left(\frac{N_{DIG}}{P} * \frac{1}{N_{ADC\_I}}\right)$$

$$I_{ref\_DIG} = \text{floor}\left(\frac{I_{ref}}{I_{LM}} \frac{N_{DIG}}{P}\right)$$

$$\Delta I_{adc\_DIG} = K_{ADC\_I}$$

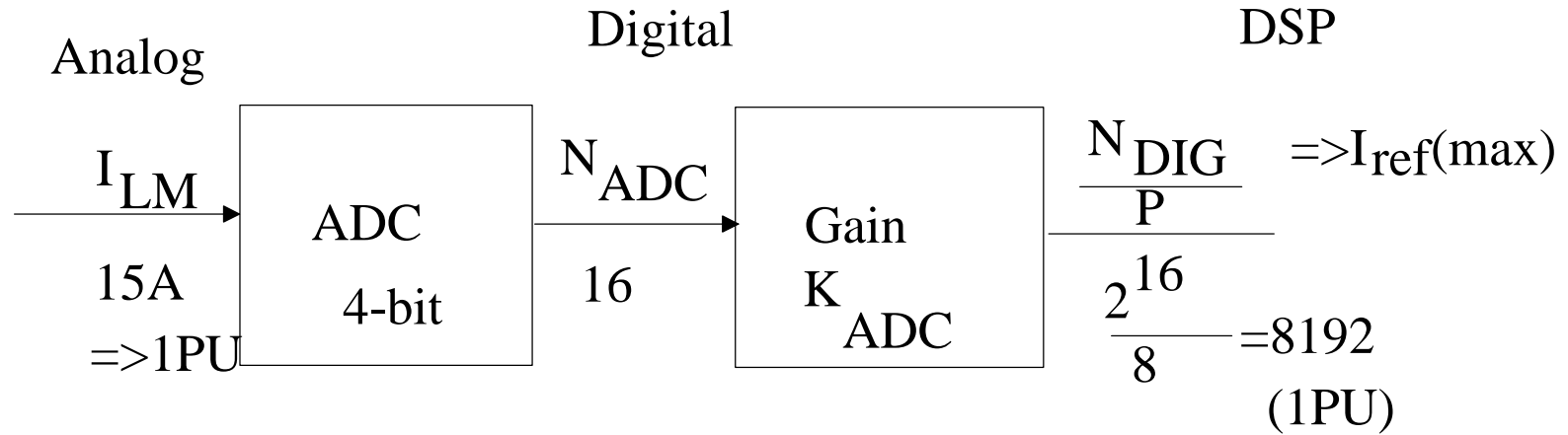
$$\Delta I_{mod\_DIG} = \text{floor}\left(\frac{M_c T_S}{I_{LM}} \frac{1}{N_{DPWM}} \frac{N_{DIG}}{P}\right)$$

$$\Delta I_{con\_DIG} = \text{floor}\left(\frac{V_g}{R * N_{DPWM}} \frac{N_{DIG}}{I_{LM} * P}\right)$$

$$P = \frac{I_{ref(max)}}{I_{LM}}$$

# Digital Current-Mode Control: Quantization Analysis of Algorithm

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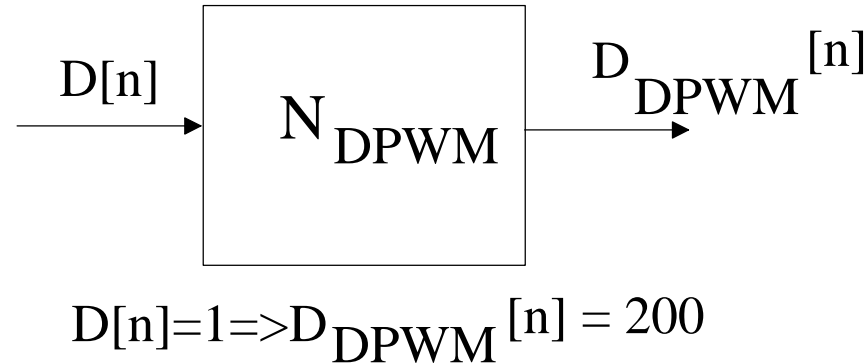
$$K_{ADC\_I} = \text{floor}\left(\frac{N_{DIG}}{P} * \frac{1}{N_{ADC\_I}}\right)$$

$$\Delta I_{adc\_DIG} = K_{ADC\_I}$$

$$I_{ref\_DIG} = \text{floor}\left(\frac{I_{ref}}{I_{LM}} \frac{N_{DIG}}{P}\right)$$

# Digital Current-Mode Control: Quantization Analysis of Algorithm

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Analog Equation:

$$D[n] = \left( \frac{I_{ref}[n-1] - I_{LS}[n-1]}{M_c T_s} \right)$$

Digital Equivalent:

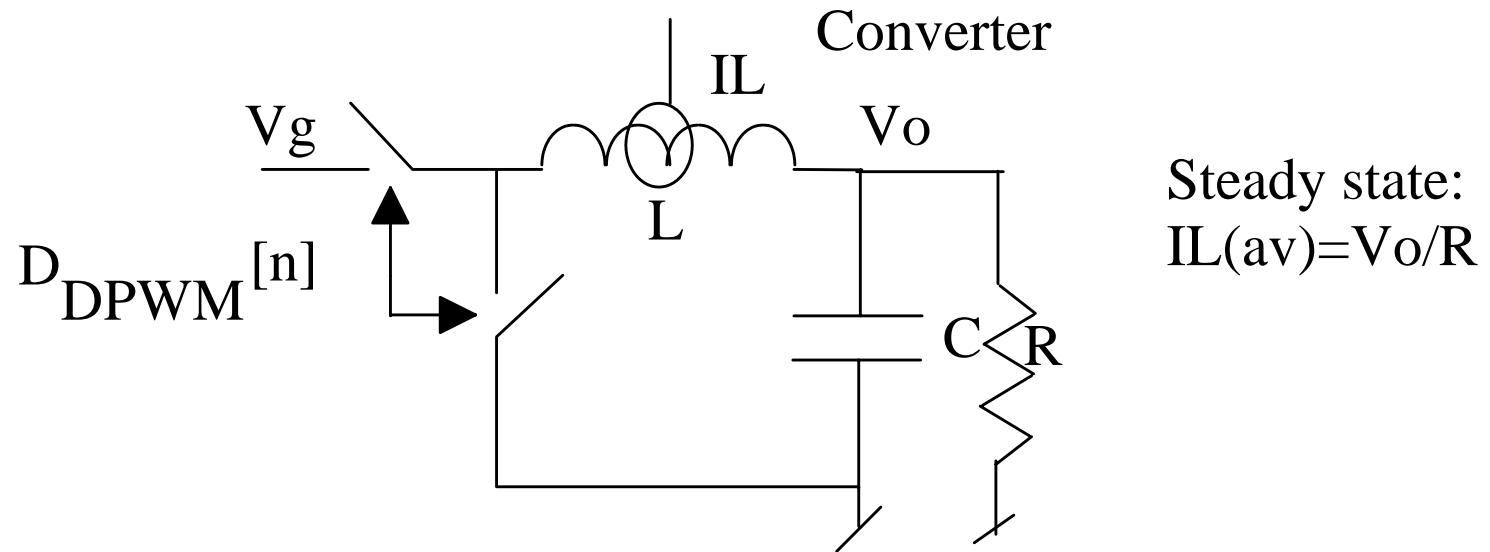
$$D_{DPWM}[n] = \text{floor} \left( \frac{I_{ref\_DIG}[n-1] - I_{LS\_DIG}[n-1]}{\Delta I_{mod\_DIG}} \right)$$

Therefore

$$\Delta I_{mod\_DIG} = \text{floor} \left( \frac{M_c T_s}{I_{LM}} \frac{1}{N_{DPWM}} \frac{N_{DIG}}{P} \right)$$

# Digital Current-Mode Control: Quantization Analysis of Algorithm

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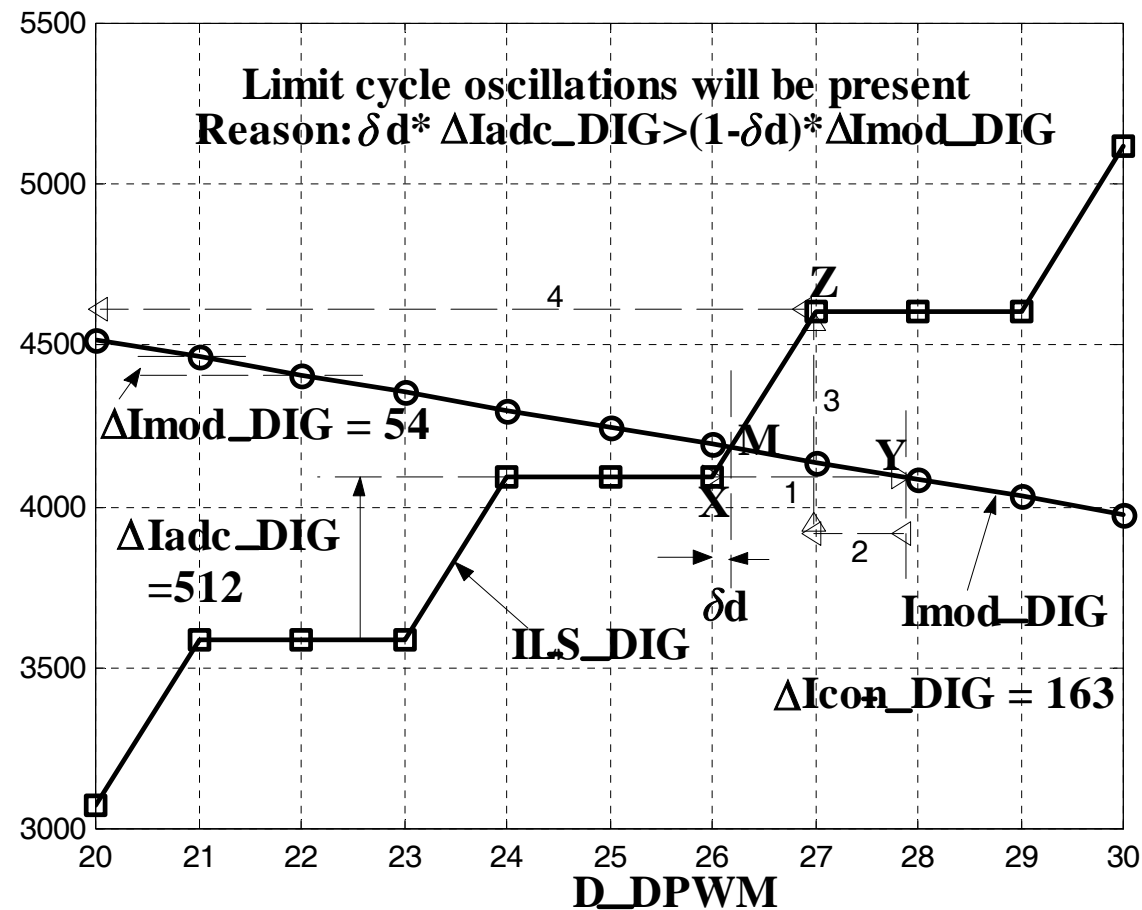
Note that if  $D_{DPWM}$  changes by 1 the output current (also the inductor current) changes by  $\frac{V_g}{R * N_{DPWM}}$

Therefore

$$\Delta I_{con\_DIG} = \text{floor}\left(\frac{V_g}{R * N_{DPWM}} \frac{N_{DIG}}{I_{LM} * P}\right)$$

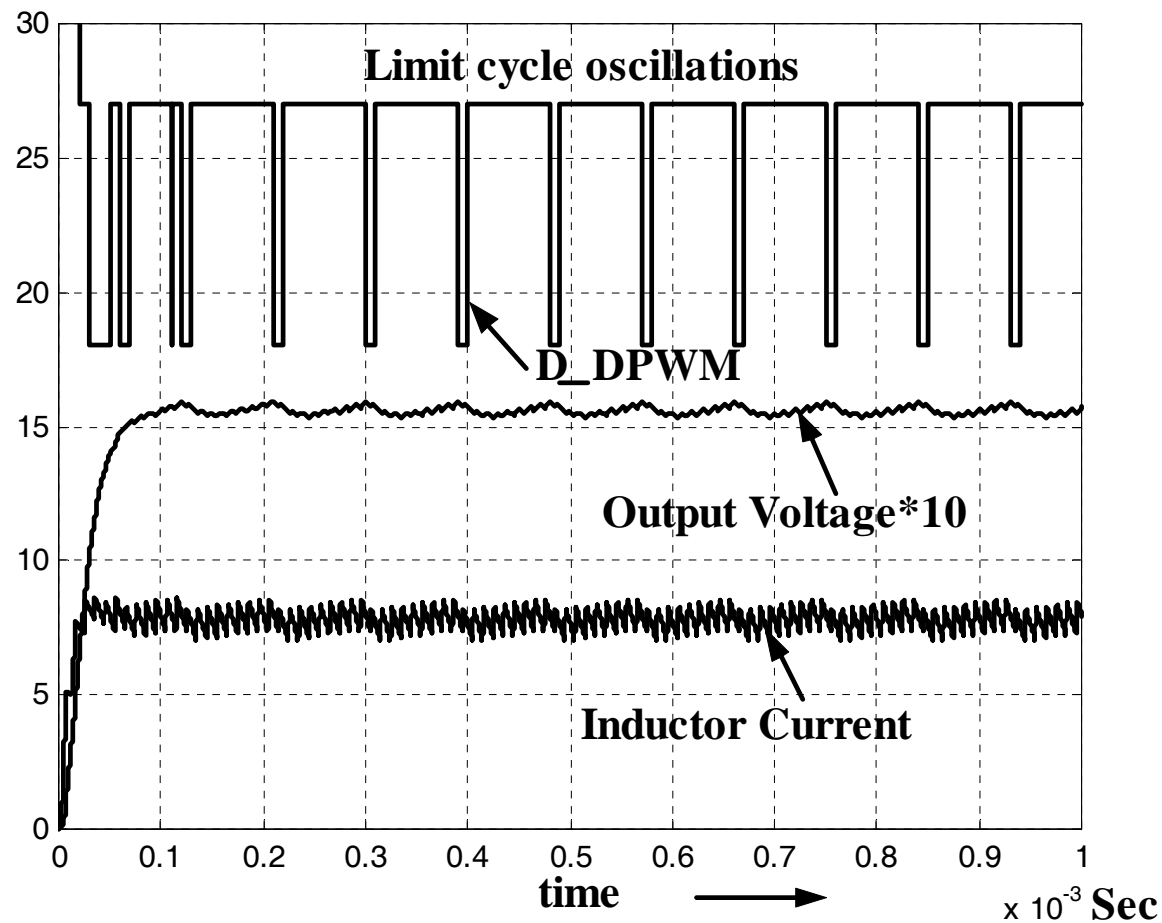
# Digital Current-Mode Control: Graphical Analysis

Condition :  $I_{ref\_DIG} = 5597$  , Current Conversion ADC 4 bit



# Limit Cycling in Inductor Current : Simulation Results

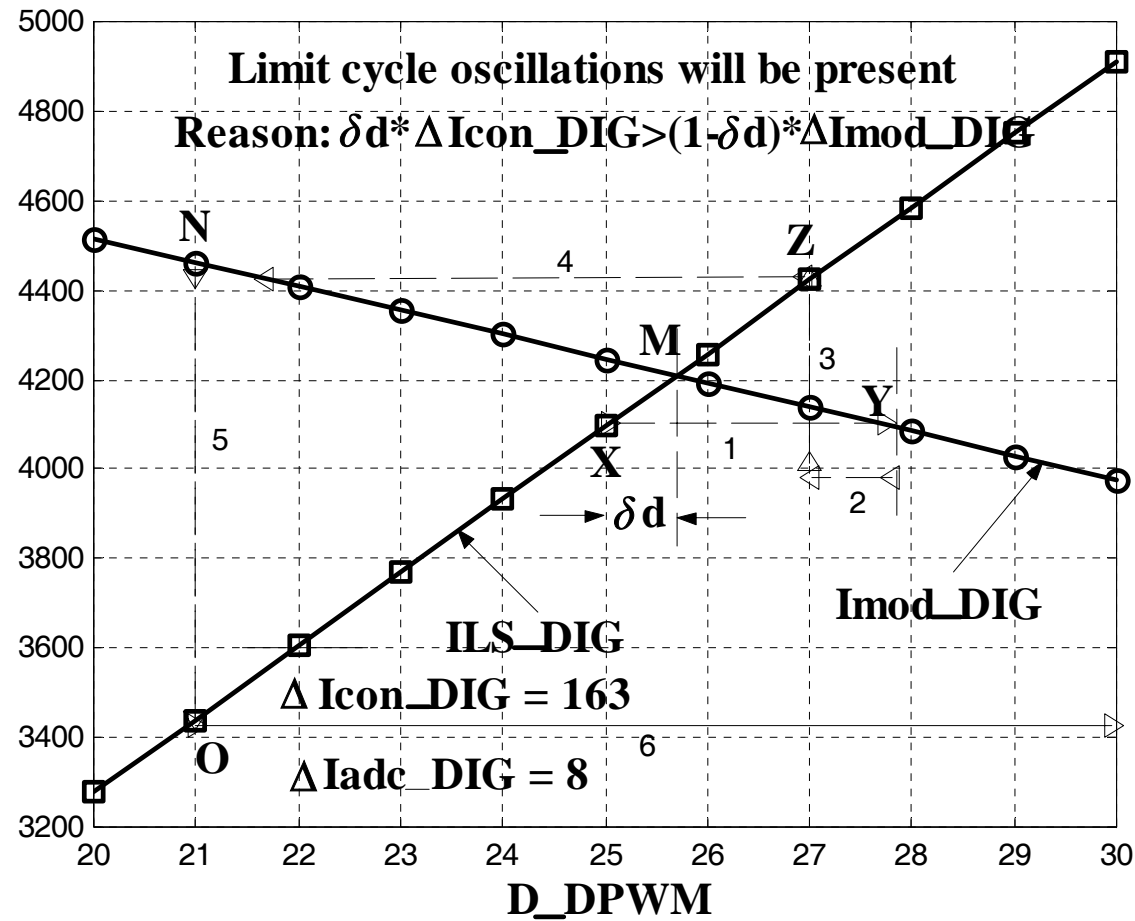
Condition :  $I_{ref\_DIG} = 5597$  , Current Conversion ADC 4 bit





# Limit Cycle Oscillations : Prediction by Analysis

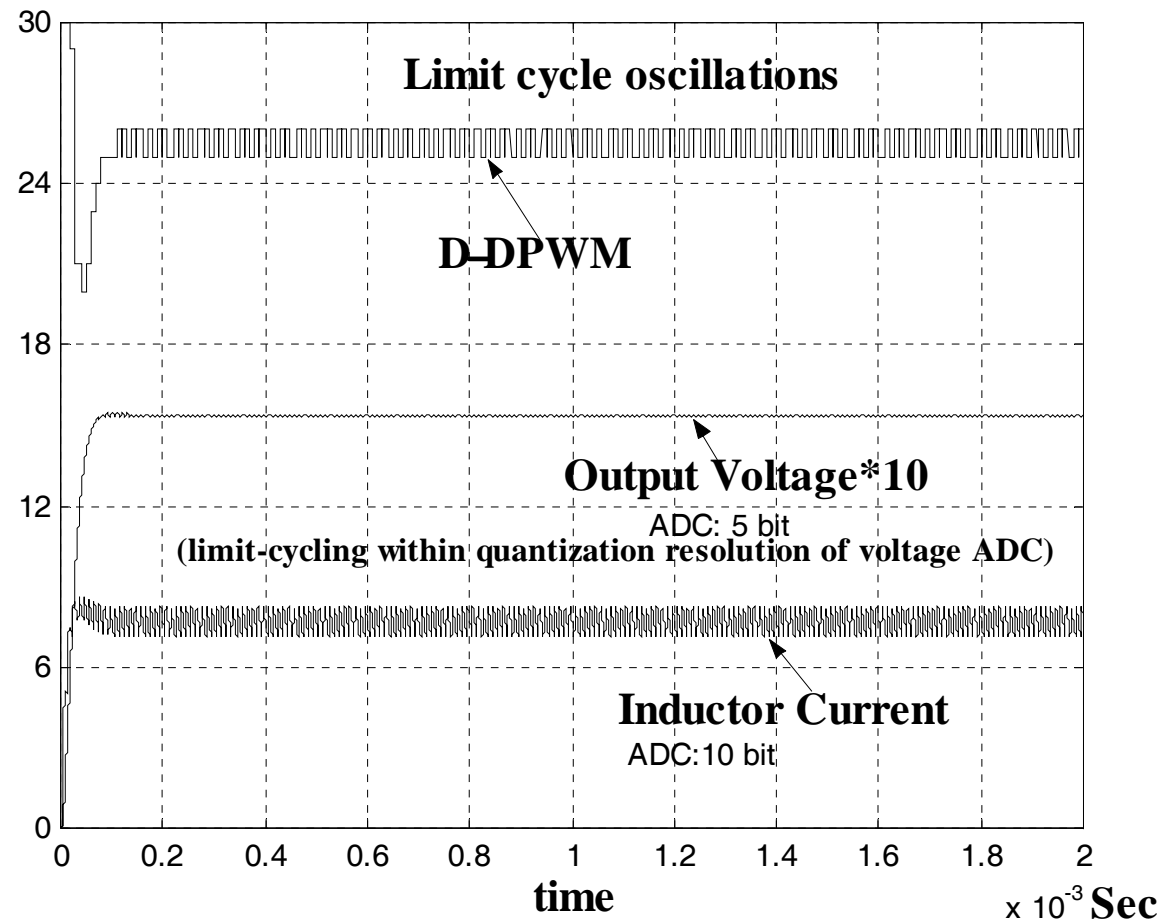
Condition :  $I_{ref\_DIG} = 5597$  , Current Conversion ADC 10 bit



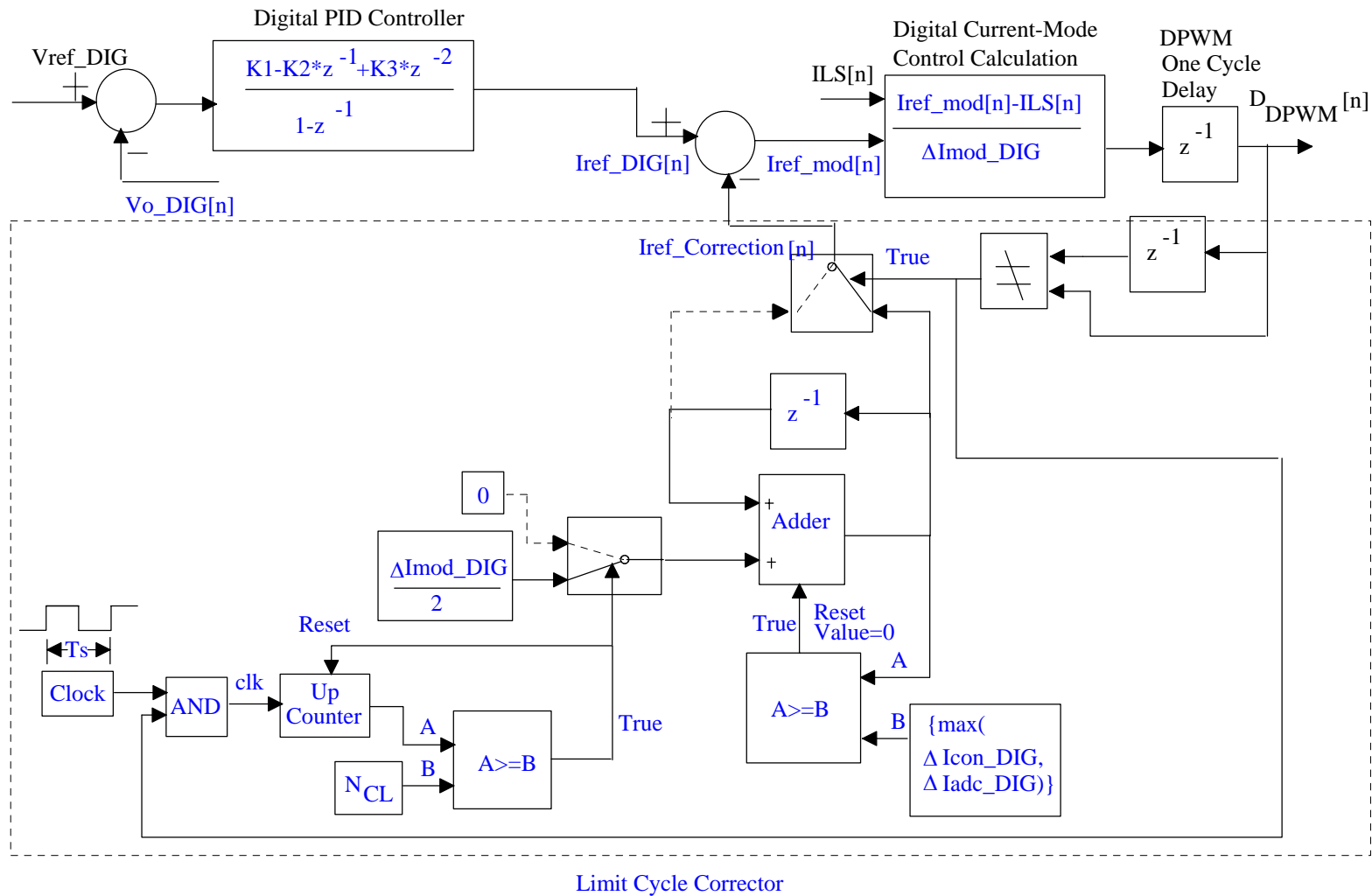
# Simulation Results : Verification of the Prediction

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Condition :  $I_{ref}$  DIG = 5597 , Current Conversion ADC 10 bit

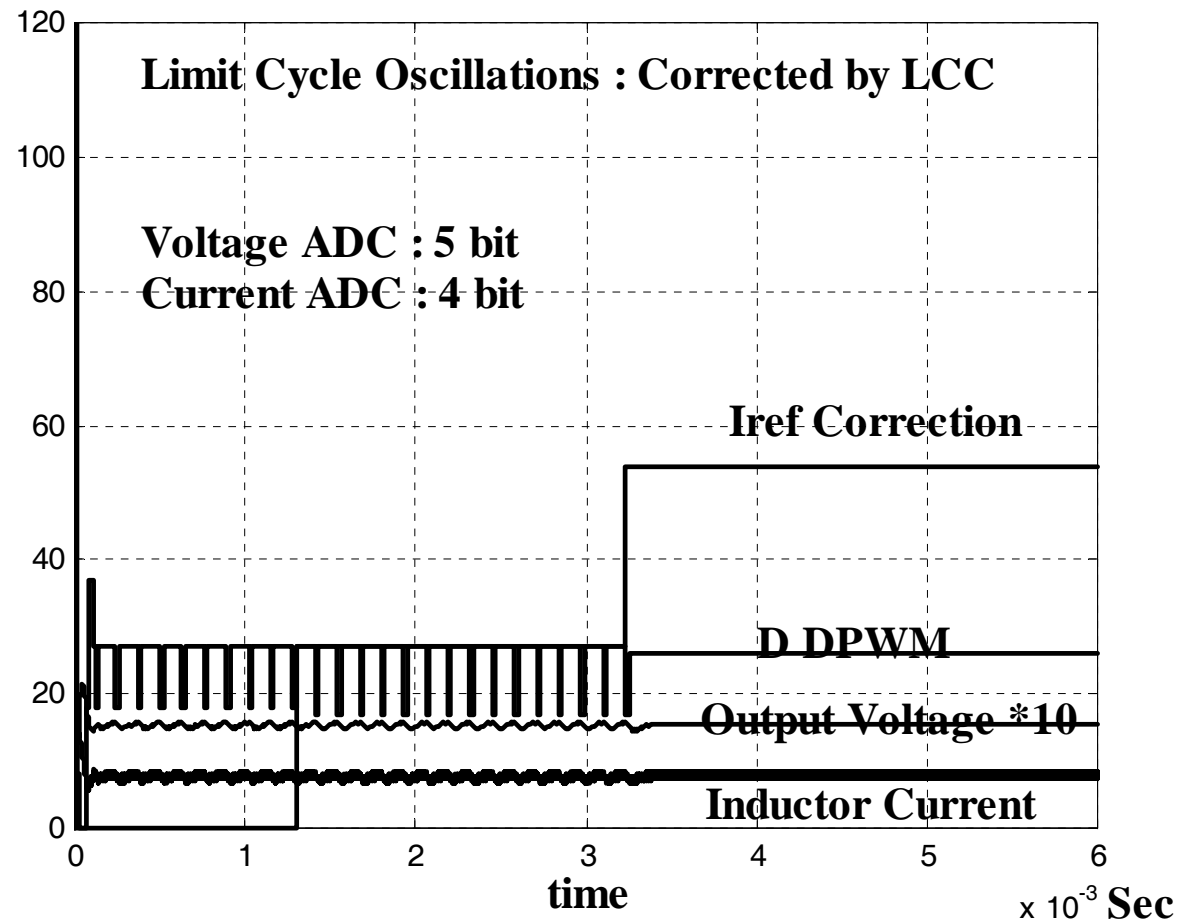


# Limit Cycle Corrector (LCC): Block Diagram



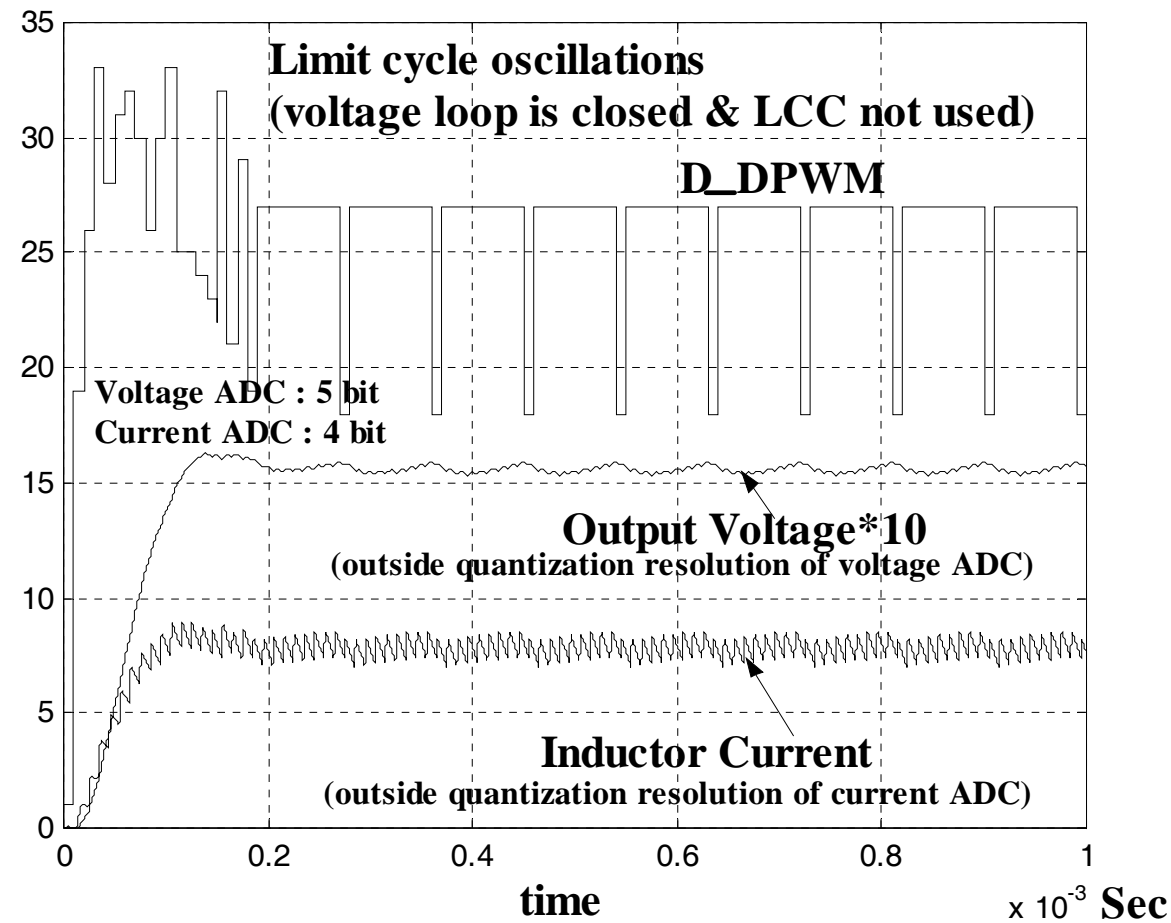
# Limit Cycle Oscillations : Corrected by LCC

Condition : **Outer Voltage Loop Open**,  $I_{ref\_DIG} = 5597$



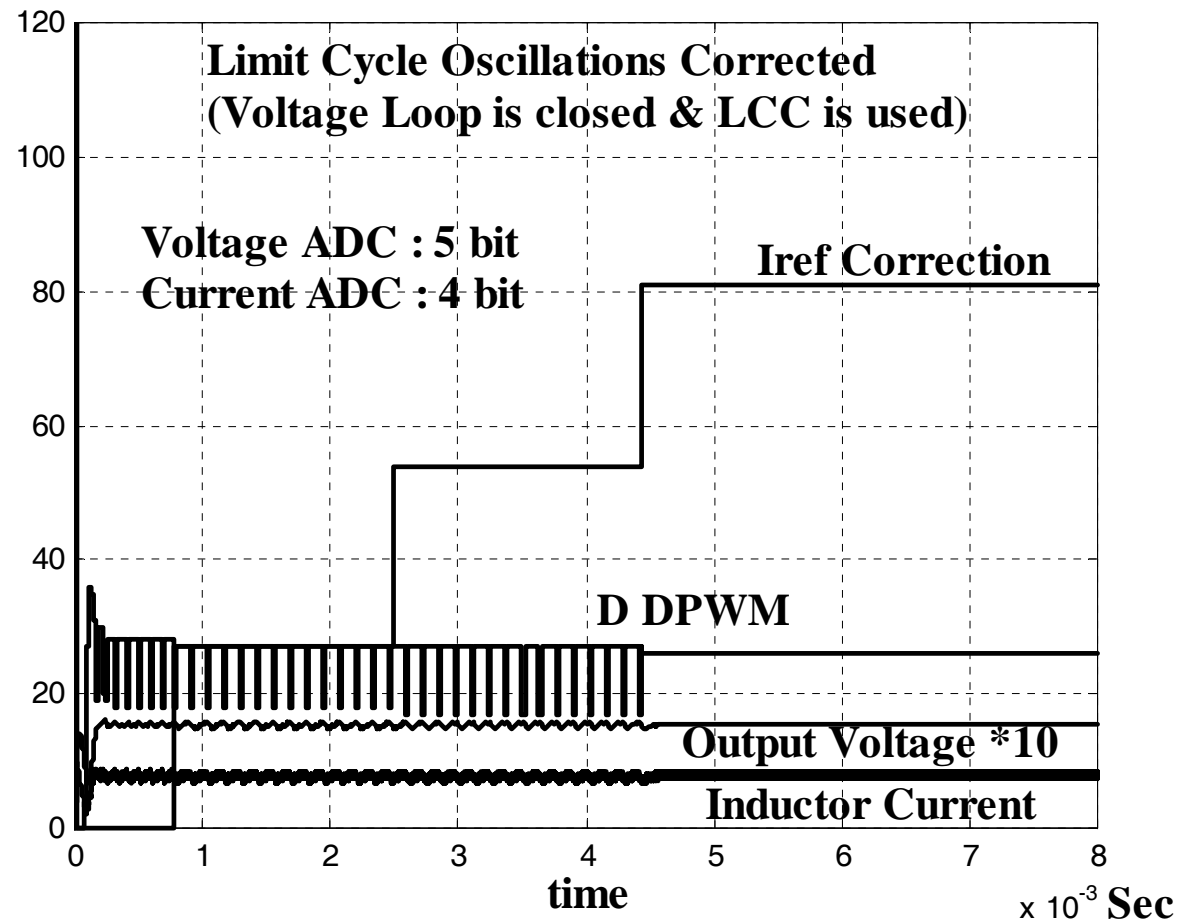
# Limit Cycle Oscillations : Without LCC

Condition : **Outer Voltage Loop Closed**,  $V_{ref\_DIG} = 3840$  (Equivalent to 1.5 V)



# Correction of Limit Cycle Oscillations : With LCC

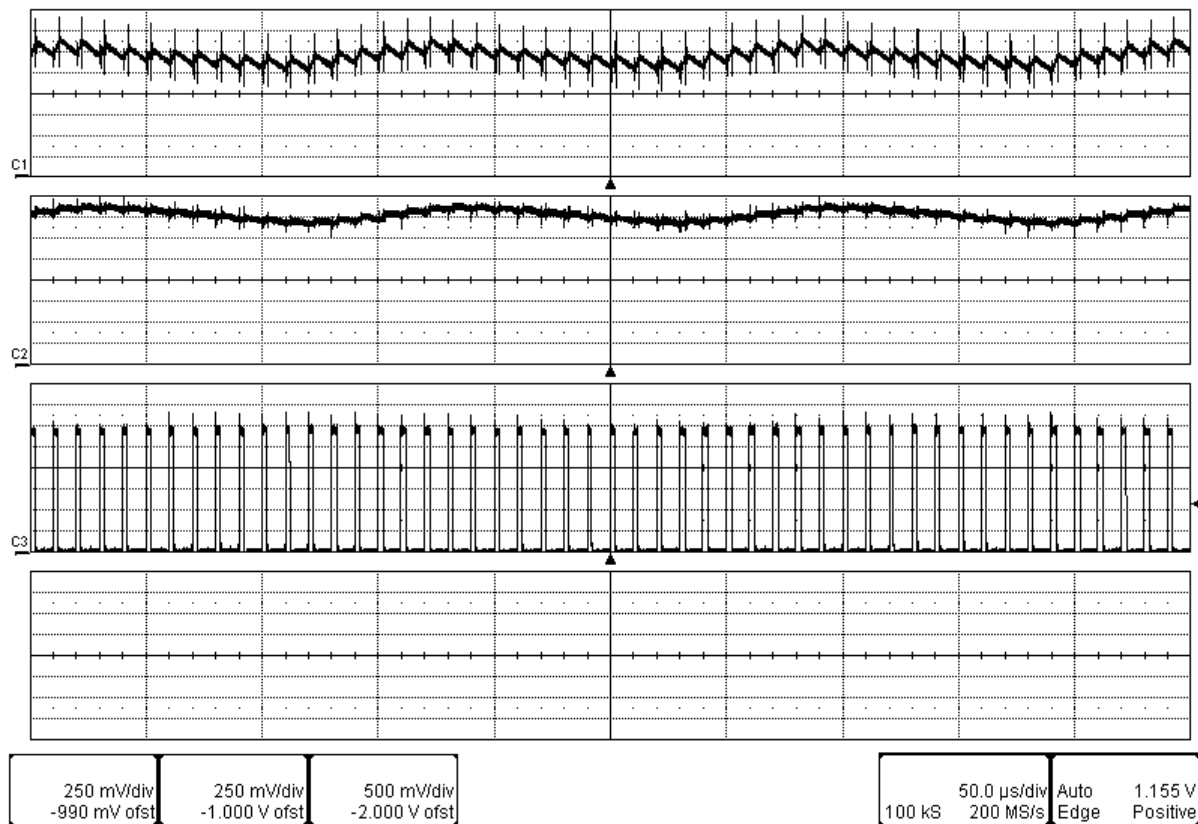
Condition : **Outer Voltage Loop Closed**,  $V_{ref\ DIG} = 3840$  (Equivalent to 1.5 V)



# Experimental Results: Limit Cycle Oscillations Without LCC

Buck Converter Parameters:  $V_g = 12\text{ V}$ ,  $V_{o\_ref} = 1.5\text{ V}$ ,  $L = 27\text{ }\mu\text{H}$ ,  $C = 100\text{ }\mu\text{F}$ ,  
 $R = 0.2\text{ }\Omega$ ,  $T_S = 10\text{ }\mu\text{Sec}$

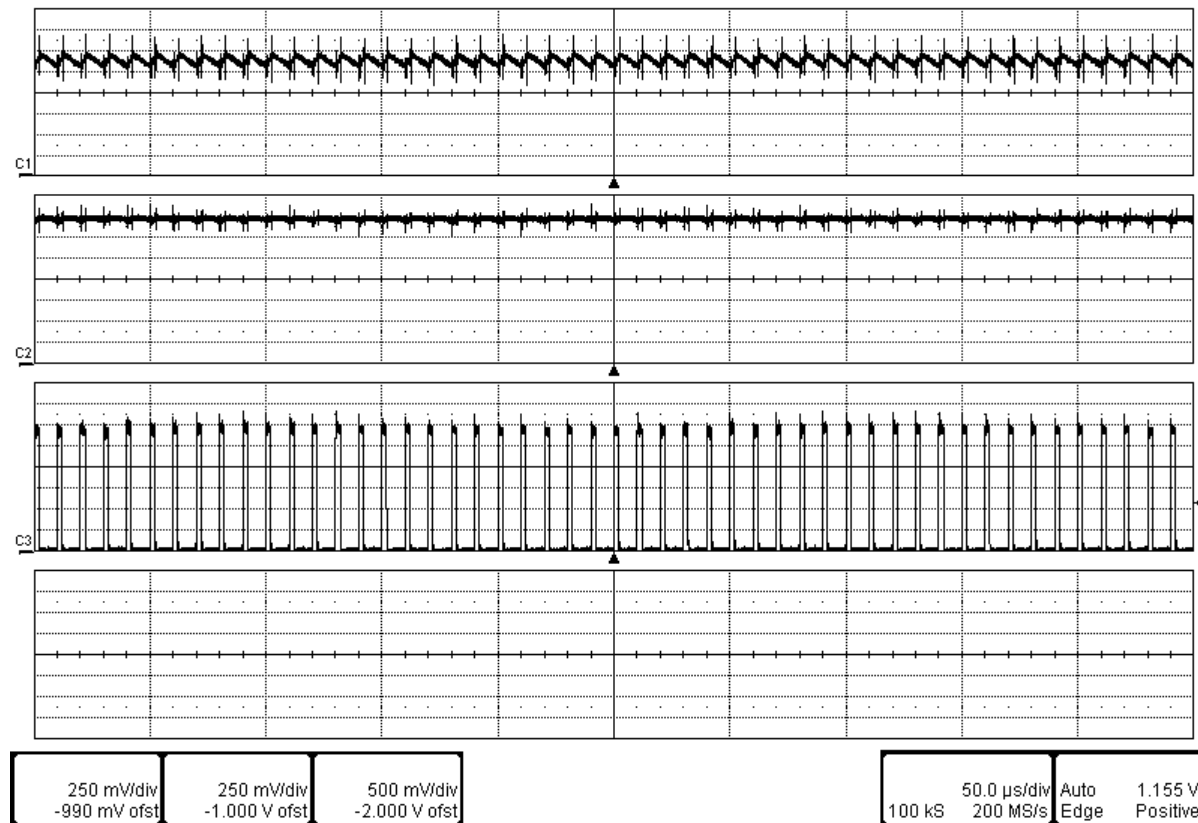
Condition : **Outer Voltage Loop Open,  $I_{ref\_DIG} = 5597$**



# Experimental Results: Limit Cycle Oscillations Corrected by LCC

Buck Converter Parameters:  $V_g = 12\text{ V}$ ,  $V_{o\_ref} = 1.5\text{ V}$ ,  $L = 27\text{ }\mu\text{H}$ ,  $C = 100\text{ }\mu\text{F}$ ,  
 $R = 0.2\text{ }\Omega$ ,  $T_S = 10\text{ }\mu\text{Sec}$

Condition : **Outer Voltage Loop Open,  $I_{ref\_DIG} = 5597$**

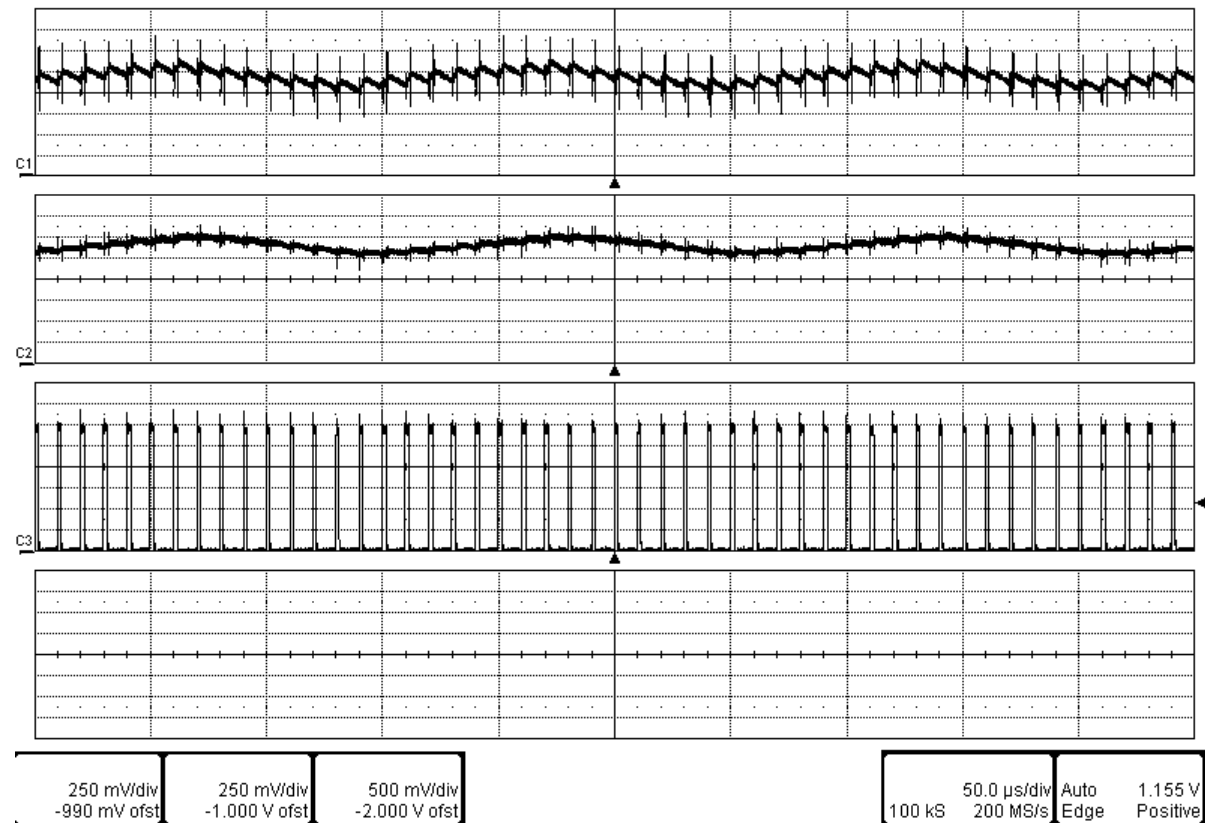




# Experimental Results: Limit Cycle Oscillations Without LCC

Buck Converter Parameters:  $V_g = 12\text{ V}$ ,  $V_{o\_ref} = 1.5\text{ V}$ ,  $L = 27\text{ }\mu\text{H}$ ,  $C = 100\text{ }\mu\text{F}$ ,  
 $R = 0.2\text{ }\Omega$ ,  $T_S = 10\text{ }\mu\text{Sec}$

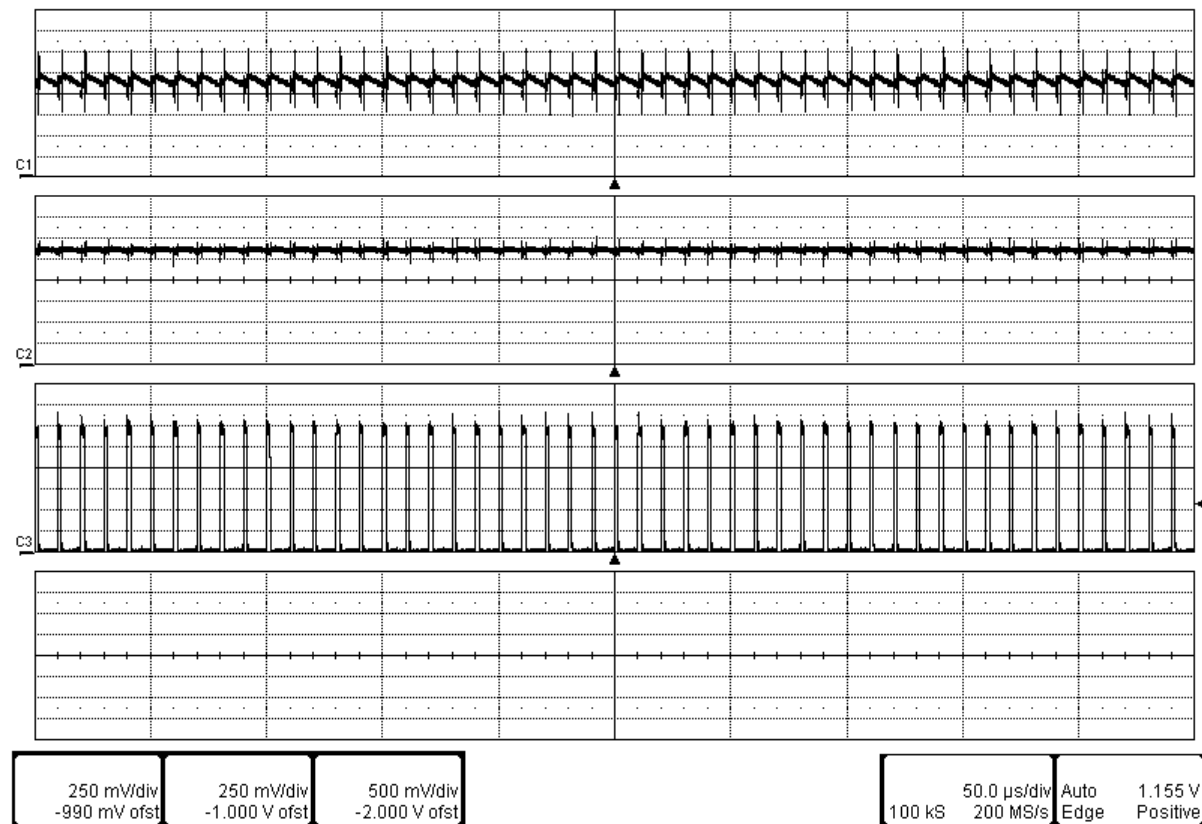
Condition : **Outer Voltage Loop Closed**,  $V_{ref\_DIG} = 3840$  (Equivalent to 1.5 V)



# Experimental Results: Limit Cycle Oscillations Corrected by LCC

Buck Converter Parameters:  $V_g = 12\text{ V}$ ,  $V_{o\_ref} = 1.5\text{ V}$ ,  $L = 27\text{ }\mu\text{H}$ ,  $C = 100\text{ }\mu\text{F}$ ,  
 $R = 0.2\text{ }\Omega$ ,  $T_s = 10\text{ }\mu\text{Sec}$

Condition : **Outer Voltage Loop Closed**,  $V_{ref\_DIG} = 3840$  (Equivalent to 1.5 V)



## Digital Current-Mode Control: Conclusions

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- ✓ Digital Current-Mode Control method is simple to implement in digital hardware => Higher Switching Frequency
- ✓ Digital architecture for Peak, Valley and Average Current-Mode Controls are described
- ✓ Experimental results of a 400 kHz digital implementation is presented. It could achieve 1 MHz with improved digital architecture.
- ✓ FPGA is more suitable as digital hardware for high switching frequency applications compared to DSP.
- ✓ Digital control is yet to become economical but matching the analog performances and exceeding it on many cases.

## Analysis of Limit Cycle Oscillations : Conclusions

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- ✓ The talk has shown that when a dc-dc converter employs digital current mode control steady-state limit cycling may occur due to quantization of the inductor current.
- ✓ It has been shown that unlike digital voltage-mode control this problem may appear irrespective of whether the quantization resolution of the ADC is more or less compared to the DPWM.
- ✓ This talk has presented a method of graphical analysis to accurately predict limit cycle oscillations in inductor current.
- ✓ Finally it has also proposed a closed-loop solution to the limit cycling problem by adjustment of the current reference.
- ✓ Simulations and experimental results have been presented to validate the analysis.