## 56F8300 and 56F8100 ADC

Understanding 56F8300 and 56F8100 ADC Specifications and How to Get the Best Performance in Applications

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## 1. Introduction

This document describes the meaning of the Data Sheet specifications for the Analog-to-Digital Converter (ADC), how they are calculated, and how they relate to real-world signal impairments. In addition, this note will introduce simple methods to get the best performance from the ADC in the 56 F 8300 and 56 F 8100 devices.

## 2. ADC Transfer Function and Error Sources

This section describes the ideal transfer function for an ADC. The Data Sheet specifications provide data on how the real ADC transfer function strays from the ideal.
The theoretical ideal transfer function for an ADC is a straight line, but this would require an infinite number of steps and therefore an infinite number of bits to represent. A practical theoretical transfer function is a uniform linear staircase function, shown in Figure 2-1. The ADC specifications in each device's Data Sheet describe in quantitative terms how far the component deviates from the ideal transfer function.

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Figure 2-1. Transfer Function

### 2.1 Quantization Error

The practical ideal transfer function is used to represent a continuous analog signal as a set of discrete staircase digital codes, which introduces quantization error. As shown in Figure 2-1, the width of each step is one code increment or one Least Significant Bit (LSB), so a range of continuous analog inputs is represented by a single code value. The mapping can be represented as shown in Table 2-1.

Table 2-1. Quantization Error

| Analog Input | Digital Code |
| :---: | :---: |
| $4.5-5.5$ | 101 |
| $3.5-4.5$ | 100 |
| $2.5-3.5$ | 011 |
| $1.5-2.5$ | 010 |
| $0.5-1.5$ | 001 |
| $0-0.5$ | 000 |

If we state that the value 001 represents the mid-point of the analog input range of 0.5 to 1.5 , then the analog value 1.0 is represented by 001 with no error. But since the analog value of 0.5 is also represented by the digital value 001 , the end points of the analog range represent the maximum error. In terms of bits, the maximum error can be expressed as $+1 / 2$ bit for the 0.5 endpoint and $-1 / 2$ bit for the 1.5 endpoint. Maximum physical voltage error, $\mathrm{e}_{\mathrm{v}}$, can be calculated with the following equation:

$$
e_{v}=(1 \text { LSB voltage range }) / 2
$$

The voltage range of 1 LSB depends on the full-scale voltage range that the ADC is set to sample and the total number of digital codes present. Analog-to-Digital Converters are specified in the number of bits of resolution. If " $n$ " is the number of bits of resolution, then the total number of digital codes present is 2 . The voltage range represented by each bit, $\mathrm{v}_{\mathrm{b}}$, can be expressed as:

$$
\mathrm{v}_{\mathrm{b}}=(\text { Full scale voltage range }) / 2^{\mathrm{n}}
$$

The maximum physical voltage error, $\mathrm{e}_{\mathrm{v}}$, can be expressed as:

$$
\mathrm{e}_{\mathrm{v}}=(\text { Full scale voltage range }) / 2^{\mathrm{n}+1}
$$

### 2.2 Static Errors

Static errors are characterized by offset error, gain error, integral non-linearity and differential non-linearity. Static errors can be fully characterized using non-varying input signals, but they affect the conversion of all input signals, whether they are static or dynamic.

Gain and offset errors are shown in Figure 2-2. Examining the actual transfer function shows a DC-bias error that causes the zero crossing to occur at a point other than the origin. In this example, the analog input that causes a zero code to be output is 1.5 to 2.5 code instead of 0 to 0.5 code. This offset error is a constant across the entire analog input range. The gain error reflected in Figure 2-2 shows that the actual transfer function doesn't have a 45 degree slope. The following equation describes the best-fit linear regression of the actual ADC transfer function:
$\mathrm{Y}=\left(\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{GAIN}} \mathrm{X}\right)+\mathrm{V}_{\text {OFFSET }}$
$\mathrm{E}_{\text {GAIN }}=$ Gain error value from the component Data Sheet
$\mathrm{X}=$ Actual analog input
$\mathrm{V}_{\text {OFFSET }}=\mathrm{DC}$ input offset voltage from the component Data Sheet
$\mathrm{Y}=$ Apparent analog input converted by ADC
These effects are linear over the input voltages and frequency and demonstrate that the actual analog input voltage can be solved for and the effects of the gain errors and offset voltages can be removed.


Figure 2-2. Gain and Offset Errors
In any given system, the conversion point of interest to an algorithm can be fairly far removed from the analog input of the ADC, as illustrated in Figure 2-3. In these cases, gain and DC voltage offsets can be introduced external to the ADC, so it is often important to take the entire system into account when analyzing the total gain and offset errors. A calibration step may be required, depending on the specific requirements of the end system. In the calibration, known precise and accurate signals are injected into the system and conversions are performed. The actual results of the conversions are compared to the expected values and the error values for gain and offset voltage can be determined. These errors can then be removed digitally in the processor or by trimming the analog circuitry before the analog input into the processor ADC.


Figure 2-3. System Gain and Offset Errors
The 56 F 8300 and 56 F 8100 devices have been characterized and most of the gain and offset errors have been removed by internal compensation in the chip. A designer should analyze the gain and offset errors stated in the Data Sheet for the device being implemented and the requirements for the algorithm they are to perform, because it is possible that no adjustment is required for proper operation. If it is determined that the gain and
offset errors must be compensated for, this is a relatively straightforward proposition because these errors are linear, stable over frequency, and easily characterized. To help with this, the 56 F 8300 and 56 F 8100 ADC design was enhanced over previous parts to allow for run-time calibration of the on-chip gain and offset error. This further reduces these errors, essentially removing them from consideration, as long as the software correctly utilizes the calibration feature. This is shown as $\mathrm{E}_{\text {GAINC }}$ and $\mathrm{V}_{\text {OFFSETC }}$ in the Data Sheet parameters. The implementation and use of the calibration feature is described as part of the ADC chapter in the 56F8300 Peripheral User Manual and will not be repeated here.

Integral (INL) and differential non-linearity (DNL) errors are introduced by all ADC units. and are quite difficult to compensate and characterize. In general, a designer will need to determine the required linearity for a particular algorithm and choose the system components accordingly. As with gain and offset errors, integral and differential non-linearity errors can be introduced at any part of the system and are not limited to the ADC.
The integral and differential non-linearity errors are closely related to one another. As shown in Figure 2-4, the width of each conversion step of the output code sequence is not the same. This non-uniformity in step width is the source of the differential and integral non-linearity. The differential non-linearity is the difference in width from the ideal case in each step and is measured in LSBs. In the specific case shown in Figure 2-4, the net result of the non-linearities is an under-representation of the code sequences 011 and 101 which have a negative differential non-linearity because the width is less than the ideal 1 LSB bit width. The sequence 100 will be over-represented and has a positive differential non-linearity because the step width is greater than 1 LSB. It is possible in some ADCs that the differential non-linearity will cause output codes to be missing completely or repeated. An ADC's Monotonicity is guaranteed when the digital output codes increase, or remain the same, with increasing analog input voltage. Monotonicity is guaranteed in the 56F8300 and 56 F 8100 components. A maximum differential non-linearity of one 1 LSB or less also ensures a monotonic transfer function with no missing or repeated codes. All 56 F 8300 and 56 F 8100 components have a maximum differential non-linearity of 1 LSB or less.


Figure 2-4. Non-linear Static Errors

Integral non-linearity is the summation of the previous differential non-linearity errors at any given point. In the 56F8300 and 56F8100 devices, integral non-linearity is specified by using test equipment to determine the actual transfer function of the ADC , then performing a linear regression to produce a best-fit straight line for the actual transfer function. When the integral non-linearity is measured, the gain and offset errors are nullified. The integral non-linearity is specified in LSBs of the conversion code outputs, so a specification of $+/-3$ LSBs means that at any given analog input, the summation of previous differential errors produces an output code where the error from the ideal is within the range of $+/-3$ output codes. The maximum specification for the integral non-linearity is the point of greatest distance of the best-fit straight line transfer function from the ideal transfer function and is again expressed in LSBs.


Figure 2-5. Integral Non-linearity

### 2.3 Dynamic Errors

In addition to the static error specifications, other specifications are commonly given that take into account dynamic error sources. This section reviews a few that are specified in the 56F8300 and 56F8100 Data Sheets.

In the Data Sheet, the dynamic errors are characterized by the Total Harmonic Distortion (THD), the Signal-to-Noise plus Distortion (SINAD), the Spurious Free Dynamic Range (SFDR), and the Effective Number Of Bits (ENOB).

THD is the rms power in the harmonics of the signal of interest.
SINAD is the ratio of the rms signal power to the noise floor power plus the harmonic distortion.
SFDR is the decibel distance of the largest spur or harmonic noise in comparison to the signal of interest. For example, in the measurement of the specification, a signal is injected into the ADC at a frequency of 8 KHz and a Fourier transformation is performed on the samples to yield the energy level as a function of frequency. The signal of interest will form the largest decibel (dB) spike. Below this will be a noise floor with several spikes or spurs occurring at specific frequencies. The SFDR is the distance in dB of the signal of interest to the largest spur.

A good overall figure of merit that takes into account the effects of the overall noise and the distortion of the signal is the Effective Number Of Bits, or ENOB. The ENOB takes into account the noise floor of the component and reflects the best achievable dynamic accuracy of the ADC. The ENOB reflects the best-case achievable noise-free number of bits. The ENOB number specifically does not include the static gain, offset, and linearity errors.
The dynamic range of an ADC refers to the decibel ratio of the smallest to the largest value that can be represented. The dynamic range of an ADC is fully dependent on the bits of resolution. The following equation calculates the dynamic range of an ADC:

Dynamic Range $=20 \log _{10}\left(2^{\mathrm{n}}\right)$
" n " is the number of bits of resolution

### 2.4 Measurement Methods

Each 56F8300 and 56F8100 component's ADC is characterized in accordance with IEEE Std 1241-2000 for gain, offset, DNL, INL, SNR, THD, SFDR, SINAD and ENOB.

The Gain, offset, INL and DNL are performed using the code density method, which uses a noise-free sine wave. Gain and offset are calculated doing a least-squared fit from the histogram data obtained from the digitized sine wave.

## 3. Using the 56 F 8300 and 56 F 8100 ADC

This section explores some of the issues that must be considered to get the best performance from the ADC in your system and how to choose an appropriate 56 F 8300 or 56 F 8100 component in terms of ADC performance.

### 3.1 Input Impedance

An equivalent circuit for an analog input is shown in Figure 3-1.


Figure 3-1. Equivalent Analog Input Circuit

1. Parasitic capacitance due to package, pin-to-pin, and pin-to-package base coupling. ...... 1.8pf
2. Parasitic capacitance due to the chip bond pad, ESD protection devices and signal routing. 2.04pf
3. Equivalent resistance for the ESD isolation resistor and the channel select mux... . . . . . . 500 ohms
4. Sampling capacitor at the sample and hold circuit. 1 pf

When interfacing to the ADC, one must be concerned with the ADC clock rate and the size of the sampling capacitor, which is 1 pf and depicted in Figure 3-1 as " 4 ". This capacitor is charged to the sampling voltage and discharged to $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{DD}} / 2$ during each ADC clock cycle. This effectively creates a switched cap implementation of a resistor that is dependent on clock rate and voltage level at the input. This switched cap equivalent resistance is effectively the input impedance to the ADC. The equivalent circuit shown in Figure 3-1 is valid for realistic operating conditions and ADC clock rates. The circuit in Figure 3-1 is present at any specific analog input during the time that the analog input is being converted and the analog mux is feeding the input into the appropriate sample and hold circuitry. During periods when another input is being muxed into the sample and hold circuitry and converted, or if no conversion occurs, the external circuitry will meet a very high input resistance at the analog input pin.
As an example, if the input voltage is 1 volt greater than $\left(\mathrm{V}_{\text {REFH }}-\mathrm{V}_{\text {REFLO }}\right) / 2$ and the ADC clock rate is 5 MHz , then the ADC input impedance is:

$$
\mathrm{i}=\mathrm{C} d v / \mathrm{dt} \text {, so } \quad \mathrm{idt}=\mathrm{C} \mathrm{dv}
$$

Where:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{dt}=1 / 5 \mathrm{e}+6 \\
& \mathrm{dv}=1 \text { volt } \\
& \mathrm{C}=1 \mathrm{e}-12
\end{aligned}
$$

So:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{i}=(5 \mathrm{e}+6)(1 \mathrm{e}-12)(1)=5 \mathrm{e}-6 \\
& \mathrm{R}=\mathrm{V} / \mathrm{I}
\end{aligned}
$$

So:

$$
\mathrm{R}=1 / 5 \mathrm{e}-6=200 \mathrm{~K} \text { ohms }
$$

The input impedance at the ADC clock rate of 5 MHz can be as low as 200 K ohms. A typical input configuration for driving the ADC is depicted in Figure 3-2. Using this input configuration, if one wants to maintain the signal amplitude to within 10 bits or more of its original amplitude, at the anti-aliasing capacitor $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{a}}$, then the source impedance of what's driving the ADC must be less than:

$$
\mathrm{Rs} /(\mathrm{Rs}+\mathrm{Ri})=1 /\left(2^{+10}\right)
$$

Source resistance of the driver $=$ Rs
Input resistance of the $\mathrm{ADC}=\mathrm{Ri}$
Where:
$\mathrm{Ri}=200 \mathrm{~K}$ ohms
$1 /\left(2^{+10}\right)=.0009766$
Solving for Rs results in:

$$
\mathrm{Rs}=200 \mathrm{ohms}
$$

If the ADC clock rate were changed to 1 MHz , then the source impedance of what's driving the ADC must be less than 1 K ohms to maintain an effective input signal that's within 10 bits of its original amplitude.

Increasing the source impedance introduces gain error, not a loss, in accuracy. As the source impedance of the driver goes up, the overall transfer gain from the buffer to the output of the ADC will go down. As shown in the previous example, this is also dependent on the ADC clock rate. In other words, with a fixed source resistance as the ADC clock rate goes up, the overall transfer gain from the buffer to the output of the ADC will go down.

Figure 3-2 shows a typical circuit for the input of the ADC analog input.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{Rs}=\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{o}}+\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{a}} \\
& \mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{o}}=\text { Output resistance of input buffer } \\
& \mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{a}}=\text { Anti-aliasing circuit resistance } \\
& \mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{a}}=\text { Anti-aliasing circuit capacitance }
\end{aligned}
$$

The value of the anti-aliasing capacitor, $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{a}}$, does not affect the transfer gain or accuracy of the ADC. However, it does limit the bandwidth of the input signal for anti-aliasing considerations.


Figure 3-2. Typical Input Configuration

### 3.2 Practical ADC Calibration

It's recommended that a user implements an auto-calibration network on his board, so that he can find the gain and offset for the specific ADC that's used, in addition to the errors introduced by the aliasing and buffering circuitry. A simple calibration network consists of an array of matched precision resistors, as shown in Figure 3-3.


Figure 3-3. Example Calibration Circuitry

Calibration is typically used to remove the effects of gain and offset from a specific reading. The transfer function relating an ideal code to a measured code that has gain and offset is shown in the following equation:

$$
\mathrm{Y}=\mathrm{m} * \mathrm{X}+\mathrm{b}
$$

Where:
X is the measured code corresponding to a specific input voltage
$m$ is the transfer gain of the ADC
Y is the ideal code corresponding to this input voltage
b is the code offset
The transfer equations for the resulting conversion code for node A and node B are:

$$
\mathrm{Ya}=\mathrm{m} * \mathrm{Xa}+\mathrm{b}
$$

and

$$
\mathrm{Yb}=\mathrm{m} * \mathrm{Xb}+\mathrm{b}
$$

Using these two equations, the ADC transfer gain is:

$$
\mathrm{m}=(\mathrm{Ya}-\mathrm{Yb}) /(\mathrm{Xa}-\mathrm{Xb})
$$

The offset code is:

$$
\mathrm{b}=\mathrm{Ya}-\mathrm{m} * \mathrm{Xa}
$$

or

$$
\mathrm{b}=\mathrm{Yb}-\mathrm{m} * \mathrm{Xb}
$$

Note: Using either equation should result in the same answer.
Finally, the resulting code that's been corrected for gain and offset error, for any input voltage, is:

$$
\mathrm{Y}=\mathrm{m} * \mathrm{X}+\mathrm{b}
$$

To obtain an acceptable level of accuracy when converting the calibration node voltages, make multiple measurements, then average the result. Also, the resistor values in the calibration network should be 200 ohms or less when operating the ADC at 5 MHz . The resistor values can double in size when the ADC clock frequency is halved, so for an ADC clock frequency of 1 MHz during calibration, the resistor value in the calibration network could be as large as 1 K ohms.

## Example:

The voltages at nodes A and B were converted by the ADC and found to be 2570 and 1273 , respectively. The ideal codes that should have resulted from the conversion of the voltage at nodes A and B are:

$$
\mathrm{Ya}=(2 / 3) * 4095=2730
$$

and

$$
\mathrm{Yb}=(1 / 3) * 4095=1365
$$

Therefore, the transfer gain, " m ", is:

$$
\mathrm{m}=(\mathrm{Ya}-\mathrm{Yb}) /(\mathrm{Xa}-\mathrm{Xb})=(2730-1365) /(2570-1273)=1365 / 1297=1.0524
$$

The code offset, "b", is: $2730-(2570) * 1.05=25.3$

When this ADC is converting an input signal that's at mid-scale, $\left(\mathrm{V}_{\text {REFH }}-\mathrm{V}_{\text {REFLO }}\right) / 2$, it produces a code of 1922. Correcting this result using the offset and gain derived previously yields:

$$
\mathrm{Y}=\mathrm{m} * \mathrm{X}+\mathrm{b}=1.0524 * 1922+25=2048
$$

Using this calibration method corrects for the effects of gain and offset.

### 3.3 Optimizing Linearity and ENOB

To achieve optimal results in ENOB terms, all sources of coupled noise should be minimized. These can be from sources internal or external to the chip.
The ADC has operational sweet spots where the digital noise from its internal environment has a minimal coupling effect. These sweet spots occur when the ADC clock prescaler is set to values of 4, 9 or 14. If not operating at one of these sweet spots, the accuracy of the ADC typically drops by $1 / 2$ of a bit.
In addition to minimizing the internal noise sources, care must be taken in design of the external noise coupling. To achieve optimal results, the board should have separate analog and digital power and ground planes and very clean $V_{\text {REF }}$ signals. Using these methods, the best practically achievable ENOB will be as stated in the Data Sheet.

Since noise is modeled as a Gaussian distribution, the noise power can be lowered through a scheme of oversampling the input and averaging the samples. In the averaging process, noise spikes will tend to cancel each other out, lowering the overall noise power and thus increasing the ENOB. SNR improvement is proportional to the amount of oversampling and averaging performed.
The INL peaks at the minimum or maximum codes and is minimized between the $10 \%$ to $90 \%$ code range. If the user wishes to maximize accuracy, he should limit the input swing to be within the $10 \%$ to $90 \%$ range from $\mathrm{V}_{\text {REFH }}$ to $\mathrm{V}_{\text {REFLO }}$. The INL measurement in the Data Sheets is measured using the $10 \%$ to $90 \%$ range.

### 3.4 Choosing the Right Device

The ADC is a System-on-Chip ( SoC ) peripheral that is on the IPBus of the chip. The ADC peripheral is identical in all 56 F 8300 and 56 F 8100 components, but the performance of the ADC is different across the components. The ADC's performance is affected by the physical location of the peripheral in the silicon. These layout considerations affect the amount of coupled noise and resistive loads that directly impact the noise figures and the linearity.
All members of this family of devices contain the on-chip calibration feature, which can remove the effects of gain and offset error. Note that this feature is limited to correcting for on-chip errors and cannot compensate for off-chip effects.

### 3.5 Using the ADC's Operational Modes

This section is not intended to replace the data published in the 56F8300 Peripheral User Manual, but to add clarification. The reader must use the information located in the manual to fully understand this section.
First, consider samples in the ADC and how they relate to the scan modes. ADC inputs can be configured for either single-ended or differential mode and a user can mix single-ended and differential inputs. Samples may be taken either one at a time (sequential mode) or two at a time (simultaneous mode). The mapping of input pin to sample number is arbitrary, with one exception: the same input pin cannot be used for both sides of a simultaneous sample pair. For example: AN2/AN5 is a valid sample pair, but not AN2/AN2.

The ADC captures/converts up to eight samples at a time in a "scan". There are several different scan modes:

1) Once (single): The ADC starts to sample just one time using the START bit or by a sync pulse. This mode must be re-armed by writing to the ADCR1 register again before capturing another scan.
2) Triggered: Sampling begins with every recognized START command or sync pulse
3) Loop: The ADC continuously take samples as long as power is on and the STOP bit has not been set

Each of the preceding sequences can be coupled with sequential or simultaneous modes, enabling a total of six scan modes:

- Once Sequential
- Once Simultaneous
- Loop Sequential
- Loop Simultaneous
- Triggered Sequential
- Triggered Simultaneous

One of these six configurations is coded in the ADC Mode Control bits (SMODE[2:0]) of the ADC Control Register 1 (ADCR1).
The scan modes can be triggered in several ways:

- Directly under software control
- By the output of a quadrature timer
- By a PWM reload event

The PWM reload event is first routed through a Quadrature Timer that can be used to provide an arbitrary delay before causing the ADC convert command. This is discussed in greater detail in application note AN1933/D (See References), which offers examples pertaining only to the 56F80x devices.
To set up a periodic conversion at a specific rate, the triggered mode can be used in conjunction with one of the timers to provide the conversion start or sync pulse. An interrupt can be generated at the conclusion of the conversion. At this point, the samples can be and should be read from the ADC result registers. These registers are not buffered, so the samples must be read before the next conversion writes out to the result registers.
The ADC can also be set up in a continuous loop mode, where a trigger to start conversion is not required. But the end of conversion cannot be set to cause an interrupt in this mode, so the software must poll the ADC status register to know when the conversion has been completed.
Because the ADC peripheral has an internal pipeline, the first conversion requires 8.5 ADC clock cycles and each additional conversion requires 6 ADC clock cycles. The 2.5 clock cycle difference is the time required to fill the pipeline. In the triggered modes or the once mode, the pipeline must be filled whenever a sync pulse or START command is issued. In the loop mode, the pipeline is filled only once at the very beginning of the process.
For example, the ADC is set up in sequential triggered mode with only the first four samples enabled. The number of clock cycles required for the conversion follows:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{N}_{\mathrm{clk}} & =(\text { Sample0 conversion })+(\text { Sample1 conversion })+(\text { Sample } 2 \text { conversion })+(\text { Sample3 conversion }) \\
& =(8.5)+(6.0)+(6.0)+(6.0)=26.5 \text { ADC clock cycles }
\end{aligned}
$$

The samples which are not to be converted must be disabled in the ADC sample disable register. Any samples that are not disabled will be converted and will add to the total ADC conversion time.

The ADC conversion time calculated previously is only the amount of time the ADC requires to perform the conversion. But in a real system, the samples must be removed from the result registers using software, typically run from an ISR associated with the end of conversion interrupt.
As an example of this constraint, assume a system running on a 56 F 8300 component, with the ADC in a simultaneous triggered mode using a timer set to provide start pulses at a 100 k sample rate ( $10 \mu \mathrm{~s}$ interval); the ADC clock set for 5 MHz ; the processor running at 60 MIPS from internal Flash; and an ISR at the end of conversion interrupt takes the samples and buffers them.

The time to perform the conversion is:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{conv}} & =\text { Time to perform conversion } \\
& =(8.5 \mathrm{ADC} \text { clock cycles }) *(\text { time per cycle })=(8.5) *(0.2 \mathrm{e}-6) \\
& =1.7 \mu \mathrm{~s} \\
\mathrm{~T}_{\text {get samples }} & =\text { Time available to get samples } \\
& =\mathrm{T}_{\text {trig rate }}-\mathrm{T}_{\text {conv }}+(\text { Time for } 6 \mathrm{ADC} \text { clock cycles }) \\
& =10 \mu \mathrm{~s}-1.7 \mu \mathrm{~s}+(6 * 0.2 \mathrm{e}-6) \\
& =10 \mu \mathrm{~s}-1.7 \mu \mathrm{~s}+1.2 \mu \mathrm{~s} \\
& =9.5 \mu \mathrm{~s}
\end{aligned}
$$

At the beginning of the second conversion, the result registers still contain the previous data, which will not be overwritten for at least 6 ADC clock cycles.

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{N}_{\text {instr }} & =\text { Number of instructions cycles left for software to retrieve samples } \\
& =\left(\mathrm{T}_{\text {get samples }}\right) /\left(\mathrm{T}_{\text {instr }}\right) \\
& =9.5 \mu \mathrm{~s} /(1 / 60 \mathrm{MHz})=570 \text { instructions }
\end{aligned}
$$

This example indicates that for high sampling rates, the processor may have difficulty keeping up with the ADC samples, especially if there is a significant processing load in handling this data and/or there are other peripherals that must also be serviced. A thorough system analysis is recommended to make sure real-time issues are not encountered.

## 4. Conclusion

The 56 F 8300 and 56 F 8100 families include parts with a very powerful and accurate on-board ADC peripheral. This document has discussed in detail the Data Sheet parameters, what they measure, and how they are measured. It has discussed at a high level the performance characteristics across the family of components, but the reader should consult the Data Sheet for the component being implemented to find the latest performance characteristics. Additionally, it has explored ways to achieve optimal performance from the ADC, as well as some of the modes of operation and performance items to consider.

## 5. References

1. 56F8300 Peripheral User Manual,MC56F8300UM, Freescale Semiconductor
2. Synchronization of On-Chip Analog-to-Digital Converter on DSP56F80x DSPs, AN1933, Freescale Semiconductor

## Appendix A 56F8300 and 56F8100 ADC Internal Structure

This appendix describes the internal structure of the 56F8300 and 56F8100 ADC peripheral. The cyclic ADC designed for the 56 F 8300 and 56 F 8100 components consists of a dual-cyclic ADC core, dual interface function and an analog input select mux. The input select mux routes the analog inputs of choice to either ADC\#0 or ADC\#1. While in the simultaneous mode, both converters are used in a synchronous fashion for converting two signals at the same time. The interface function that follows the input select mux samples the single-ended or differential input signal and converts it to a scaled differential within the operational range of the ADC. The ADC core consists of two Redundant Signed Digit (RSD) sections that resolve one bit of the Analog-to-Digital conversion during each half ADC sample clock cycle. Figure A-1 depicts a top-level block diagram of the 56 F 8300 and 56F8100 components' cyclic converter.


Figure A-1. Cyclic ADC Top-Level Block Diagram
In most general-purpose applications, the analog signal that's to be converted by the ADC can have values ranging from $V_{\text {REFLO }}$ to $\mathrm{V}_{\text {REFH }}$. This signal is selected via the input select mux, depicted in Figure A-2, sampled by the interface function, and presented to the ADC core.


Figure A-2. Input Select Mux
For noise isolation reasons, the ADC core in turn uses differential signaling that's within the operational range of its sub-functions, which is less than the supply voltage and more than ground potential. The purpose of the interface functions is to convert the full range, single-ended or differential signal into a scaled differential signal during the sampling process of Analog-to-Digital conversion. A functional diagram of the interface function is depicted in Figure A-3.


Figure A-3. Interface Function Functional Block Diagram
The interface function depicted in Figure A-3 works on the principle of charge conservation and distribution. The switches labeled $\theta_{2}$ are closed during the first half of a clock cycle and those labeled $\theta_{1}$ are closed during the second half of a clock cycle. Also, all capacitors are of the same size, typically in the picofarad range. For a single-ended signal, during $\theta_{2}$, the input signal and $\mathrm{V}_{\mathrm{REF}} / 2$ are sampled onto capacitors C 1 and C 2 . During $\theta_{1}$, capacitors C 1 and C 2 are shorted together and charge is redistributed between C 1 and C 2 so that the voltage on C 1 and C 2 becomes equal. If the input signal were larger than $\mathrm{V}_{\text {REF }} / 2$, the voltage on C 1 is reduced and the voltage on C 2 is increased during $\theta_{1}$. In response to this charge movement, the voltage at Out_Pos moves up to replace the charge being taken from C1. Likewise, the voltage at Out_Neg moves down to negate the charge increase that occurs on C 2 . Because all capacitors are of the same size, the voltage change that occurred at C1 and C2 is the same at Out_Pos and Out_Neg, resulting in a differential signal. A functional block diagram of an RSD function contained in the ADC core is depicted in Figure A-4.


Figure A-4. Redundant Signed Digit, RSD Functional Block Diagram

A detailed description of how the RSD stage works can be found in reference manuals addressing the functionality of the cyclic Analog-to-Digital converter. A Robertson diagram, depicting the voltage in to residue out and data bits out, is found in Figure A-5.


Figure A-5. Robertson Diagram

Once the chosen analog signals have been selected, the ADC conversion starts with the sync signal going high, as depicted in Figure A-6. The input signals to be converted are sampled onto capacitors C1 and C2, shown in Figure A-3, during $\theta_{2}$ in preparation for conversion during $\theta_{1}$. During $\theta_{1}$, the sampled signals are converted to scaled differential signals and passed into the first RSD block, shown in Figure A-1, where a data bit is extracted and its capacitors are charged in preparation for calculating the residue. The residue from the first RSD stage is then calculated on $\theta_{2}$ and passed into the second RSD stage, where another data bit is extracted and its capacitors are charged in preparation for calculating the residue. The residue, in the second stage, is then calculated and passed back into the first RSD stage, during $\theta_{1}$, where another bit is extracted and preparations are made for calculating the residue. The resulting residue continues to be passed back and forth between the two RSD stages until the required number of bits have been extracted. The signaling diagram, shown in Figure A-6, is for a 12-bit extraction.


Data rdy
Figure A-6. ADC Signaling

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