

↳ Branch - CSE (CS)
↳ sem - 4th

Q1 What is the primary function of digital-to-analog Converter (D/A Converter)?

Ans, A Bridge between Digital and Analog worlds.

The Primary function of a digital to analog Converter (DAC) is to convert digital signal; which are represented as discrete binary values (typically in the form of 0s and 1s) into devices, such as speakers, display - The DAC enables digital devices to produce audio, video other analog signals that can be processed and used in the real world.

→ The exact implementation varies; but most DAC use a combination of resistor, switches and operational amp^s to generate an analog output voltage proportional to the input digital code.

Q2 Explain the working principle of a weighted resistor D/A Converter?

Ans → A weight resistor Digital-to-Analog Converter (D/A C) operates based on the principle of summing currents or voltages that correspond to the digital input bits using a resistor network.

Working principle →

1.) Binary Input:- The digital input to the DAC is a binary number, with each bit representing a different weight. For instance, n -bit DAC, the MSB has highest weight and LSB lowest weight.

2.) Resistor Network → Each bit of the digital input is connected to a corresponding resistor in the network.

For. Ex

- MSB is connected to a resistor of R
- Next significant bit is connected to a resistor $2R$
- Following bit is connected to resistor of $4R$.

3) Current Generation, Each digital bit control a switch that either connects the corresponding resistor to a reference voltage or ground. This setup generates current propⁿ to the binary weight of the active bits.

4) Summing Nodes → The current from all the resistors are summed at a common point, typically the inverting input of an operational amplifiers.

5) Analog output → The summed current is converted to a voltage using the operational amplifiers. The output voltage is proportional to the weight sum of the binary inputs bits, giving a corresponding analog signal.

This method provides a simple and direct way to convert digital signals to analog, though it is typically limited to low-bit resolution due to the impracticality of precise resistor for higher bits.

Q3 ⇒ Why are only two resistor values (R and $2R$) used in a R - $2R$ ladder?

Ans → The R - $2R$ ladder DAC uses only two resistor values because it offers several key advantages:

- Simplified Manufacturing: - using only two resistor values significantly simplify the manufacturing process. It reduces → the number of different resistor values the need to be precisely manufactured and stocked leading to lower production cost.

- Reduced Sensitivity to Resistor Tolerance: - In a weight resistor DAC, the accuracy of the output voltage heavily relies on the precise ratios between resistor.

~~Def~~

→ In contrast, R-2R ladder's reliance on only two resistor values minimizes the impact of resistor tolerance on the overall accuracy.

• Modular design:- The R-2R ladder architecture is inherently modular.

→ Adding more bits to the DAC simply involves adding more sections to the ladder, making it easy to expand.

• Improved Accuracy:- By using only two resistor values, the R-2R ladder minimizes the impact of resistor mismatches on the overall accuracy of the DAC.

→ This leads to a more predictable and consistent output voltage.

It provides significant advantage in terms of manufacturing simplicity, cost-effectiveness, accuracy and modularity.

Q4 Define resolution in the context of D/A Converters. How does it affect the output signal?

Ans → Resolution in a Digital-to-Analog Converter (DAC) refers to the smallest changes in the analog output voltage that can be produced by a change in the least significant bit (LSB) of the digital input.

→ Essentially, it determines the "fineness" or granularity of the analog output signal.

→ It is determined by the number of bits n in the digital input word.

→ The resolution is typically expressed in terms of bits or as a percentage of the full-scale output.

Calculation of Resolution

$$\text{Resolution} = \frac{1}{2^n}$$

n is the number of bits in the digital input.

How Resolution Affects the output signal?

- 1.) Step size (Granularity): Higher resolution results in finer granularity, meaning the DAC can produce smaller changes in the output voltage for each step in the digital input.
- 2.) Quantization Error: It is the difference betⁿ the actual analog value and the nearest representable value by the DAC.
 - lower resolution increases quantization error, making the output signal less accurate and potentially.
- 3.) Dynamic Range: Higher Resolution extends the dynamic range, which is the ratio betⁿ the largest and smallest possible output values.
 - This allow the DAC to handle a wider range of signal amplitudes.
 - lower resolution restrict the dynamic range.

Q5 → Compare the features of DAC0808 and DAC1210.

Features	DAC0808	DAC1210
1.) Resolution	8-bits	12 bits
2.) Output Type	Current output	voltage output
3.) Conversion Speed	Moderate (Typically: 150ns)	High speed (Typically: 1 μ s)
4.) Monotonicity	Monotonic	Guaranteed monotonic
5.) Architecture	R-2R ladder network	Internal architecture typically uses R-2R
6.) Linearity Error	$\pm 0.19\%$ (Typical)	$\pm 0.021\%$ (Typical)
7.) Reference Voltage	External reference required	internal or external reference options.
8.) Application	General-purpose, audio instrumentation.	High-precision instrumentation, industrial control.

Key considerations for choosing between two:

1) Resolution: If you require higher accuracy and finer control over the analog output the 12-bit DAC1210 would be better

2) Output type:- Your application requires a voltage output the DAC1210 is the suitable option. If you need current output the DAC0808 is ~~is~~ setting.

3) Speed: If fast settling time is critical, the DAC0808 is setting time might be an advantage

4) Power Consumption:- If power consumption is a major concern, the DAC0808 low power consumption could be a factor.

Q6 How does a sample and hold circuit help reduce errors during conversion?

Ans A sample and hold (S/H) circuit plays a crucial role in analog-to-digital conversion (ADC) by reducing errors and ensuring accurate conversion.

Functions of a sample and hold circuit:-

1) Sampling: When triggered, the circuit quickly "grabs" the instantaneous values of the input analog signal.

2) Holding: It then "holds" this sampled value constant, effectively freezing the signal in time.

How Reduces Errors:

→ Eliminates Input Signal Changes:- By holding the input voltage steady, the sample and hold circuit prevents any variations in the input signal from affecting the ADC's measurement.

→ Improves Accuracy:- The stability significantly improves the accuracy of the ADC conversion, especially for high speed signals or signals with significant noise.

→ Reduces Quantization Noise:- Holding a stable input value reduces the quantization noise that can arise from a ADC trying to convert a fluctuating signal, leading to a cleaner.

Sample and Hold circuits are essential components in many high-performance ADC systems.

→ The sample and hold circuit acts as a buffer, isolating the ADC from the dynamic variations of the input signal.

Q7 → What is the significance of quantization in A/D conversion and how does it introduce error?

Ans → Significance of Quantization in A/D conversion

- 1.) Digital Representation:- It allows us to represent an infinite range of analog values using a finite set of digital codes.
- 2.) Simplifies processing:- Quantized signals are easier to manipulate, store and transmit in digital systems.
- 3.) Practical Implementation: Quantization makes it possible to process and store analog information within the constraints of digital electronics.

Introduction of Quantization Error:-

This error arises due to the difference between the actual analog input values and the nearest representable digital value.

- 1.) Nature of Quantization Error: (Discrete level, difference)
- 2.) Magnitude of Error: (Max Error: $V_{ref}/2^n$)
- 3.) Effect on signal: (Distortion, Noise)

Minimizing Quantization Error:-

- 1.) Increasing Resolution:- Using more bits in the ADC increases the number of discrete levels.

2) Oversampling:- Sampling the signal at a higher rate than the Nyquist rate and then digitally filtering can help reduce the perceived quantization noise.

→ Quantization is an inherent limitation of A/D Conversion.

→ Higher resolution reduces quantization error and improves the accuracy of the conversion.

Q8 → Explain the operation of a Flash A/D Converter?

Ans → A Flash ADC also known as a parallel ADC, is a type of analog-to-digital converter known for its high-speed conversion.

→ It is one of the fastest ADC types available.

Component:-

1.) Resistor ladder network

2.) Comparators

3.) Encoders

1.) A key component is a resistor ladder that generates a series of reference voltages

→ Each rung of the ladder provides a unique reference voltage

2.) Comp:- An array of comparators is connected to the resistor ladder

→ Each comparator compares the input analog signal to its corresponding reference voltage

3.) Encoders:- The output of all the comparators are fed into a priority encoder

→ The encoder analyzes the pattern of '1's and '0's from

Application

↳ Digital Oscilloscopes

↳ High speed and acquisition system

↳ Radar and Communication system

→ High speed: Flash ADCs are the fastest ADCs due to their parallel architecture.

→ Power Consumption: Higher power consumption due to large number of active components

Q9) Describe the working principle of successive approximation A/D converter.

Ans, A successive Approximation ADC is a type of analog-to-digital converter that converts an signal to a digital output by iterative approximation the input signal.

Working Process:-

1.) Initialization:-

→ The SAR is initialised with the most significant bit (MSB) set to 1 and all other bits set to 0.

→

2.) Comparison:-

The DAC output voltage is compared to the input analog signal using a comparator

3.) Bit Determination:-

→ If the DAC's output is greater than input signal the MSB is reset to 0.

→ If the DAC's output is less than input voltage, the MSB remains set to 1.

4.) Next Bit:-

This process of setting a bit, comparing and the DAC's output is updated accordingly.

5.) Iteration:

This process of setting a bit comparing and adjusting continues for all bits in the digital output.

6.) Final output:

After processing all bits, the SAR holds the final digital code that represents the closest approximation of the input analog signal.

→ Efficiency and Accuracy. SAR ADC iteratively refines its digital output by successively approximating the input signal.

Q10 → How does a counting ADC converter determine the digital equivalent of an analog input?

Ans → In a counting ADC, the digital equivalent of an analog input is determined through a sequential counting process.

Components:-

- 1) Counter
- 2) Digital-to-Analog Converter
- 3) Comparator
- 4) Control logic

Working Process,

1) Initialization:

The counter is set to zero (0) at the beginning of conversion process.

2) Counting up:

The counter starts incrementing at a constant clock rate.

3) Comparison:

A comparator continuously compares the DAC's output voltage to the input analog signal.

4) Completion:

When the DAC output equals or exceeds the input voltage, the comparator signals the control logic to stop the counter.

5) Output:

The final count is the digital output, which corresponds to the input analog signal.
→ After outputting the result the counter is reset to 0.

Application →

- 1) Digital Voltmeters
- 2) Low speed data acquisition system

The counting ADC determines the digital equivalent of an analog input by incrementally increasing its digital output until it matches the input signal providing a simple and direct conversion method.

Q11 $\Rightarrow$ what is meant by "word size" in memory organization, and how does it affect memory operations?

Ans $\rightarrow$ Word size in memory organization refers to the number of bits that a processor or memory system can process, transfer, or store in a single operation.

$\rightarrow$ It is typically expressed in bits (e.g. - 8-bits, 16-bit, 32-bit)

$\rightarrow$ It's a fundamental characteristic of a computer system architecture.

How word size affects memory operations:-

1.) Data Processing:-

$\bullet \rightarrow$ Larger word size:- A system with a larger word size can process more bits of data simultaneously, leading to faster data processing and computation.

$\bullet \rightarrow$ Smaller word size:- System with smaller word size may require more cycles to process the same amount of data, potentially reducing performance.

2.) Address space:-

$\bullet \rightarrow$ Word size directly influences the amount of memory that a processor can directly address.

E.g.: a 32-bit processor can directly address 2^{32} bytes.

3.) Data Types:-

Word size determines the natural size of data types supported by the processor.

Memory Alignment: Data structures are often aligned to word boundaries. Larger word size can reduce the number of memory accesses needed for some

4.) Instruction Set:-

$\bullet \rightarrow$ The word size of a processor influences the design of its instruction set.

$\bullet \rightarrow$ Larger word size allow for more complex instructions and larger operands.

5.) Performance:

Speed: larger word size typically lead to higher performance, especially in tasks involving large datasets.

$\rightarrow$ Larger word size generally lead to better performance

$\rightarrow$ ~~more~~

Q12 → How Can multiple smaller memory chips be combined to expand memory size in terms of Capacity or data width?

Ans → To expand the memory size of a system, smaller memory chips can be combined in two main ways:

- i) Increasing Capacity
- ii) Expanding data width.

* Increasing Capacity:-

- Method:- connect multiple memory chips in parallel, effectively increasing the total number of memory.

• Implementation:

- ↳ Address Decoding: use an address decoder to select the appropriate chip based on the higher order bit.

- ↳ Data Bus: connect all the data lines of the chips together to form a wider data bus.

Eg → memory chip 4MB, total memory = 16MB

chip 1: 0x0000000 to 0x003fffff

chip 2: 0x004000 to 0x007fffff

chip 3: 0x0080000 to 0x00Bffff

* Increasing data Width:-

- Method: connect multiple memory chip in parallel, but each chip stores a portion of the overall data.

• Implementation:-

- ↳ Address lines:- share the same address line among all chips.

- ↳ Data Bus: Divide the data bus into segments, with each segment connected to a different chip.

- ↳ Control lines:- share common control signal among all chips.

Eg → 16-bit wide memory using 8-bit chips:

- Two 8-bit chips are connected in parallel.
- First chip handle the lower 8 bit (D0-D7)
- Second chip the upper 8 bits (D8-D15) 16-bit data bus.

Q13 → Differentiate between volatile and non-volatile memories with examples:

Volatile memory

- 1.) Loses data when power is off
- 2.) Fast read/write speeds
- 3.) It is used in temporary storage
- 4.) Limited storage capacity
- 5.) It requires continuous power supply
- 6.) Generally more expensive per bit
- 7.) Example,
RAM (Random Access Memory)
Cache memory

Non-volatile memory

- 1.) Retains data without power
- 2.) Slower read/write speeds
- 3.) Permanent storage
- 4.) Larger storage capacity
- 5.) Does not require power for data retention
- 6.) Less expensive per bit compared to volatile memory
- 7.) Example:-
ROM (Read-Only Memory)
Flash memory

Q14 → What is sequential memory, and how does it differ from random-access memory?

Ans, Sequential memory refers to a type of memory where data is accessed in a fixed (predetermined) order.

→ It is commonly used in devices where data is stored and retrieved in a linear fashion.

Access Method, Data can be accessed in a linear order, one after the other (Sequential)

Access Time, Access Time can vary depending on the position of the data; it takes longer to retrieve data

Example, Magnetic Tape : data stored linearly
Some optical disks : certain disc formats or playback

Sequential Memory

- 1.) Data accessed in linear (Sequential)
- 2.) Varies; depends on the position of the data Access Time
- 3.) Speed Generally slower due to sequential
- 4.) Usage suitable for sequential data storage
- 5.) Cost is cheaper
- 6.) Eg:- magnetic tape, optical discs.

Random Access Memory

- 1.) Data accessed randomly, any location
- 2.) Access Time constant; independent of data position.
- 3.) Speed faster due to direct access.
- 4.) Usage suitable for temporary storage of active data
- 5.) Cost is higher
- 6.) Eg:- DRAM, SRAM

Q15 How does CAM differ from traditional RAM in terms of data access?

CAM (Content-Addressable Memory)

- 1.) Data Access: CAM searches for data based on its content rather than a specific memory address.
Parallel search, which allows it to find data very quickly
- 2.) Speed faster for searches
- 3.) Storage Efficiency for searches
CAM stores data in a way that facilitates rapid search
- 4.) Data Matching using content matching
- 5.) It is used in:-
Networking
Cache memory
Database engine

Traditional Random Access Memory

- 1.) Data Access: RAM retrieves data based on a specific memory address.
RAM provides direct access to any location in memory
- 2.) Faster for direct access
- 3.) Storage Efficiency for storage
RAM is optimized for storing large data efficiently
- 4.) Data Matching Address-Based Access: It requires exact address to retrieve.
- 5.) It is used in:
Running applications
Store temporary

- CAM and Traditional RAM different purpose in computing
CAM excels in scenarios requiring fast searches based on data content while RAM is used for general data storage and retrieval based on specific address.
- CAM Parallel search capability makes it ideal for repetitive application like Network IP address matching.)