## IE1206 Embedded Electronics



## How to measure pulses?



To measure various digital pulses is one of the PIC processor main tasks


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## - Pulses from numerous sensors

Numerous sensors have their output in the form of
 digital pulses: number, time, period time, frequency, duty cycle ... Here are some examples :

With the stream flow meter. The flow-ball followes the fluid and pass the photodiode each lap.

The sensor is used as fuel gauge, the number of pulses from the photodiode are summarized as fuel consumed.


eg. Number


Gear meter. Fluid moves in "tooth gaps". No leaks, can measure very small amounts of liquid (the resolution is the volume of a tooth gap). Used as a fuel gauge on gasoline stations. The number of turns is a measure of liquid quantity.


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## Propeller and turbine Meter



## Pulse frequency is proportional to the flow rate.

## eg. Pulse time

## Torque meter.

When a torque is transferred with a rotating shaft, it will be sheared so that the gear wheels rotate relative to each other. It will be an a measurable time difference between the pulses from the sensor elements, which detects teeth peaks passage.


The torque can be calculated from this time difference with knowledge of the shaft torsional stiffness.

## eg. Pulse time



Laser Scan Micrometer. Measured object diameter shades the laser light. A resolution of 1 $\mu \mathrm{m}$ is possible.

$$
D \propto \Delta t
$$

This is how to check camshaft tolerances in one turn!


Sales man's dream: Computerized Measuring System.

They have succeeded selling 6 units!

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## Inductive pulse sensor



There are some requirements on the magnetic properties.

$$
e \propto \frac{\Delta \Phi}{\Delta t}
$$

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## Control of the internal combustion engine



Inductive pulse sensor

Inductive pulse sensor

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## eg. Pulse time, number



Speed and angle are measured against a gear ("starting ring gear") with an inductive pick up. The sensor produces a pulse for each tooth top. The speed. RPM, is calculated from the pulse duration between two peaks.

An "index mark" denotes the angle $0^{\circ}$.
(Alternatively, a cog can be "missing" at $0^{\circ}$ ).
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## eg. Low pulse frequency

ABS brakes. When the wheel "locks up", it releases the grip to the ground. This the ABS system detects and then "reduces" the brake pressure.


An pulse sensor is integrated in the wheel bearing and gives a pulse frequency proportional to the wheel speed.
"Locked" wheel is signified by low pulse rate.

## Sensors are nowadays often integrated in pure machine products



Hub bearing unit with integrated ABS sensor. SKF.

## Inductive ABS-sensor (coil)

The toothed metal wheel is embodied in the ball bearing plastic seal! (eg. SKF)


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## $f$ Capacitive pressure sensor



Differential capacitor for pressure difference

## Simple measurement equipment?



74HC14
Six CMOS Schmitttrigger inverter

$$
\frac{f_{1}}{f_{2}}
$$

Two oscillators are constructed close to the differential capacitor. The frequencies $f_{1}$ and $f_{2}$ are measured. By forming the ratio between the frequencies then everything that affected both frequencies equally is suppressed (= can be shortend away).

## Accurate measurement of $f$

Measurement of frequency can be done very accurate. More accurate than other measurements.

The pulse sensors emit pulses of highly variable appearance and frequencies - there is not a single measurement method that can cover all the measuring case.

PIC processor has three different Timer's and a CCP device for this. The processor clock can be generated with eight different methods.

## Frequency Measurement

> High frequency $f_{\text {MEAS }}>f_{\mathrm{CLK}}$


Quantization.
The counter onlu counts complete pulses.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& f=\frac{p \pm 1}{T_{\mathrm{REF}}} \\
& f=(p \pm 1) \cdot f_{\mathrm{CLK}}
\end{aligned}
$$

- Direct frequency measurement the Number of positive edges $p$ under one period of $T_{\text {REF }}$ is counted ( $T_{\text {REF }}=1 / f_{\text {CLK }}$ ).

High measured frequency $f_{\text {MEAS }}$ together with long measure time $T_{\text {REF }}$ minimizes the impact of the quantization error.

## Frequency Measurement

> Lower frequency $f_{\text {MEAS }}>\frac{1}{4} f_{\mathrm{CLK}}$


$$
T_{\mathrm{REF}}=\frac{4}{f_{\mathrm{CLK}}}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& T_{\mathrm{REF}}=\frac{1}{\frac{1}{4} \cdot f_{C L K}}=\frac{4}{f_{C L K}} \\
& f=\frac{p \pm 1}{T_{\mathrm{REF}}}=\frac{(p \pm 1) \cdot f_{\mathrm{CLK}}}{4}
\end{aligned}
$$

To measure lower frequencies requires that the measurement time is extended by dividing down the reference frequency $f_{\text {CLK }}$ with a prescaler.

## Period time measurement

> Low frequency $f_{\text {MEAS }}<f_{\text {CLK }}$


$$
f=\frac{f_{\mathrm{CLK}}}{(n \pm 1)}
$$

Alternatively, when measuring low frequencies one can do this indirectly by measuring the period time. The measurement frequency is obtained by mathematically invert the count.

During a period of the signal $n$ clock pulses are counted.

# Multiperiod time measurement 



$$
f=k \cdot \frac{f_{\mathrm{CLK}}}{(n \pm 1)}
$$

Higher frequencies can be measured with multiperiod time measurement. The measured signal frequency is then divided down by a factor $k$ before measurement (register only every 4 or every 16 of the edges).

- PIC processor is prepared for all these different measurement methods. (And many more ... )


## Clock frequency accuracy

In addition to quantization, ie counting only the whole pulses, one will always have a relative error which is equal to the reference frequency error.

Eg. Wrist watch requires crystal. Crystals have typical error $\Delta f$ $\pm 20 \mathrm{ppM}$ (parts per million). $f=4 \mathrm{MHz} \pm 80 \mathrm{~Hz}$.

Wishes: clock may not lose more than 10 sek/month. $10 \mathrm{~s} /(30[$ days $] \cdot 24[\mathrm{hr}] \cdot 60[\mathrm{~min}] \cdot 60[\mathrm{sec}])=25 \mathrm{ppM}$.


## Glock freouency accuracy

Eg. Stopwatch to use at a 800 m race. (2 minutes total measurement time is probably enough)
Wishes: resolution 0.01 sec .

$1 /(2[\mathrm{~min}] \cdot 60[\mathrm{sek}] \cdot 100)=1 \%$.
A RC-oscillator has typical a 5\% error, if untrimmed. ( $\mathrm{R} 1 \%$, but C seldom better than 5\%)

PIC16F690-processor internal RC-oscillator is
factory trimmed to $\pm 1 \%$.
Dthis is not enough ... but perhaps we can finetune!

## PIC-processor clock module



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## PIC-processor clock module

REGISTER 3-1: OSCCON: OSCILLATOR CONTROL REGISTER

| U-0 | R/W-1 | R/W-1 | R/W-0 | R-1 | R-0 | R-0 | RN-0 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| - | IRCF2 | IRCF1 | IRCF0 | OSTS $^{(1)}$ | HTS | LTS | SCS |
| bit 7 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

- At lab we use the default setting, 4 MHz - that makes it easy to calculate the execution time.

REGISTER 3-2: OSCTUNE: OSCILLATOR TUNING REGISTER


| U-0 | U-0 | U-0 | R/W-0 | R/W-0 | R/W-0 | RN-0 | R/W-0 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| - | - | - | TUN4 | TUN3 | TUN2 | TUN1 | TUN0 |
| bit 7 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

$$
\text { 10000(min) - } 00000 \text { (factory trim) - } 01111 \text { (max) }
$$

- If you are able to "fine tune" so can the factory tuned frequency be adjusted in $\pm 16$ small steps to $\approx \pm 0,5 \%$. Now enough for the stopwatch!

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## External crystal



PIC processors can use external crystal. C1 and C2 can be omitted on the breadboard, but they are necessary on a PCB.

## Piezoelectric crystal



## Piezoelectric crystal



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## External clock signal

PIC processors can use the external clock frequency signal.
If you have access to an exact frequency then the PIC processor to can be as accurate. (The picture shows such an external clock module, oscillator and crystal "all in one").


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## Atomic clock?

Radio Controlled Watches, from eg. Claes Ohlsson \& co, are phase locked to an atomic standard in germany.
So it can actually be possible to get extremely accurate reference frequency to low price!


Such a clock module gives a pulse per second (excluding sec No 60). A so-called PPS signal.

## Low clock frequency $R C$

## When the frequency accuracy is not that important

- external RC-circuit.

Data acquisition of one measurement per day does not require high clock frequencies. You can then change/increase the clock frequency of the program when the processor will report back!


Recommended values: $10 \mathrm{k} \Omega \leq \operatorname{RExT} \leq 100 \mathrm{k} \Omega,<3 \mathrm{~V}$
$3 \mathrm{k} \Omega \leq \mathrm{REXT} \leq 100 \mathrm{k} \Omega, 3-5 \mathrm{~V}$
CEXT > $20 \mathrm{pF}, 2-5 \mathrm{~V}$
Note 1: Alternate pin functions are listed in the Section 1.0 "Device Overview".
2: Output depends upon RC or RCIO Clock mode.

- The lower the clock speed, the lower current consumption, and less risk that the PIC processor emits interferences.



## PIC 16F690 Timer1

FIGURE 6-1: TIMER1 BLOCK DIAGRAM


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## PIC 16F690 Timer1

FIGURE 6-1: TIMER1 BLOCK DIAGRAM


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## PIC 16F690 Timer1

Timer 1 is a 16 -bit timer/counter. You reach it through two 8-bit registers TMR1H and TMR1L. A flag TMR1IF will be set if the timer overflows.
Must be reset if you want to know if this happens again.
Timerl can use its own oscillator - for a 32768 Hz watch crystal, or it could use the processor cloch. Timer 1 has then a Prescaler for $\{1: 1,1: 2,1: 4,1: 8\}$.

REGISTER 6-1: T1CON: TIMER 1 CONTROL REGISTER

| RW-0 | RW-0 | RW-O | RW-O | RW-0 | RW-0 | RW-0 | RW-0 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| T1GINV ${ }^{(1)}$ | TMR1GE ${ }^{(2)}$ | T1CKPS1 | T1CKPS0 | T1OSCEN | $\overline{\text { T1SYNC }}$ | TMR1CS | TMR1ON |
| bit 7 bit 0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0 | 0 | pres | ler | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |

- Settings at our frequency measurment lab.


## How to read from a 16-bit "Freerunning" Timer1?

Timer 1 is a 16 -bit counter. It must be read as two 8 -bit numbers, the 8 most significant bits TMR1H and the 8 last significant bits TMR1L. This can be a problem because the timer can "turn around" between the readings of 8 -bit numbers. The following code shows the safe way:

```
long unsigned int time; char TEMPH; char TEMPL;
TEMPH = TMR1H; TEMPL = TMR1L;
if (TEMPH == TMR1H) // Timer1 not rolled over = good value
    {
        time = TEMPH*256; OK direct
        time += TEMPL;
    }
else // Timer1 rolled over - no new rollover for some time
            // lots of time to read new good values
{
        time = TMR1H*256;
        time += TMR1L;
    }
```


## How to write to a 16-bit "Freerunning" Timer1?

It can also be problematic to write to a 16 -bit counter as it must be done as two 8 -bit number.
This is the safe way :

```
TMR1L = 0; // clear low byte = no rollover for some time
TMR1H = 12345/256; // high byte of constant 12345
TMR1L = 12345%256; // low byte of constant 12345
```

The number 12345 fits in 16 bits. With integer division / and the och modulo operator $\%$ a constant can be split into two 8 -bit parts 8at compilation time). One other way is to use hexadecimal constants:
$12345_{10}=3039_{16} \quad$ TMR $1 \mathrm{H}=0 \times 30 \quad$ TMR $1 \mathrm{~L}=0 \times 39$

## CCP synchronized registers

## ECCP-unit, Enhenced Capture/Compare/(PWM)

- One can avoid writing to and reading from Timer1 registers - there is synchronized registers in the ECCP unit for this!

- CCPR1H and CCPR1L


Special Event Trigger will:

- Clear TMR1H and TMR1L registers.
- NOT set interrupt flag bit TMR1IF of the PIR1 register.
- Set the GO/DONE bit to start the ADC conversion.

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## ECCP Capture modes



## Setup Timer1

## Timer1, as fast as possible:

```
// Setup TIMER1
/*
    0.x.xx.x.x.x.x TMR1 gate not invert
    x.0.xx.x.x.x.x TMR1 gate not enable
    x.x.00.x.x.x.x Prescale 1:1
    x.x.xx.0.x.x.x TMR1-oscillator is shut off
    x.x.xx.x.1.x.x no input clock-synchronization
    x.x.xx.x.x.0.x Use internal clock f_osc/4
    x.x.xx.x.x.x.1 TIMER1 is ON
*/
Clear comment that
T1CON = 0b0.0.00.0.1.0.1 ;
shows how the T1CON
value is developed.
```


## Setup ECCP

CCP1, capture time for positive edges :

```
// Setup CCP1
/*
    00.00.xxxx -- --
    xx.xx.0101 Capture each positive edge
*/
CCP1CON = 0b00.00.0101 ;
```


## Wait for the edges

```
unsigned long T, f, t1, t2; 16-bit numbers
CCP1IF = 0 ; // reset the flag
while (CCP1IF == 0 ) ; // wait for capture
t1 = CCPR1H*256;
t1 += CCPR1L;
CCP1IF = 0 ; // reset the flag
while (CCP1IF == 0 ) ; // wait for next capture
t2 = CCPR1H*256;
t2 += CCPR1L;
```



```
T = t2 - t1; // calculate period
f = 1000000U/T; // calculate frequency
```


## t2 - t1

unsigned long $T, f, t 1, t 2$; - What will happen if t1>t2 (100-63636)?

The difference t 2 - t 1 is taken modulo $2^{16}$ so the number of counts between t 1 and t 2 will always be the correct value "around the circle"!


$$
(100-63636) \bmod \left(2^{16}\right)=2000
$$

## $\mathrm{f}=1000000 \mathrm{U} / \mathrm{T}$

```
unsigned long T, f, t1, t2; /* long is max 65535 */
f = 1000000U/T;
```

- Scalefactor between $f$ and $T$ is 1000000 . Timer 1 is clocked with 1 MHz .
- If $T=1(T=1 \pm 1)$ the measured frquency is $1 \mathrm{MHz} . f>65535$, to big for 16 bit.
- If $T=10(T=10 \pm 1)$ the measured frequency is $100 \mathrm{kHz} . f>65535$, to big.
- If $T=\mathbf{1 0 0}(\mathrm{T}=100 \pm 1)$ the measured frequency is $\mathbf{1 0} \mathbf{k H z} . f<65535$, ok.
- If $T=\mathbf{1 0 0 0}(\mathrm{T}=1000 \pm 1)$ the measured frequency is $\mathbf{1} \mathbf{k H z} . f<65535$, ok.
- If $T=\mathbf{1 0 0 0 0}(T=10000 \pm 1)$ measured frequency is $\mathbf{1 0 0} \mathbf{~ H z} . f<65535$, ok.
- If $T>65535$ TMR1 overflows can be anything $f=$ ?


## Frequence measurement lab

PIC16F690 can distribute the processor clock $f_{\text {OSC }} / \mathbf{4}=1 \mathrm{MHz}$ to the pin CLKOUT. Wit the cheap frequency divider chip 74 HC 4040 we will get 12 different frequencies for for measuring purposes!


## Frequence measurement lab

|  | (TOP VIEW) |
| :---: | :---: |
| QL | $\square_{1} \cup_{18}$ |
| $Q_{F}$ | 215 |
| $Q_{E}$ | 314 |
| $\mathrm{Q}_{G}$ | $4 \quad 13$ |
| $Q_{D}$ | $5 \quad 12$ |
| $Q_{C}$ | 611 |
| $Q_{B}$ | $7 \quad 10$ |
| GND | 8 |

Why is the readings so incredibly precise?
Have you got hold of a super PIC16F690?

區PICkit 2 UART Tool

| 9600 | Connect | Disconnect | $\nabla$ VDD |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| The frequency is | [ Hz$]$ : | 976 |  |
| The frequency is | [ Hz$]$ : | 976 |  |
| The frequency is | [ Hz$]$ : | 976 |  |
| The frequency is | [ Hz$]$ : | 976 |  |
| The frequency is | [ Hz$]$ : | 976 |  |
| The frequency is | [ Hz$]$ : | Disconnect76 andchange testpoint |  |
| The frequency is | [ Hz$]$ : |  |  |
| The frequency is | [ Hz$]$ : |  |  |
| The frequency is | [ Hz$]$ : | 6 Reconnect |  |
| The frequency is | [ Hz$]$ : |  |  |
| The frequency is | [ Hz$]$ : | 906 |  |
| The frequency is | [ Hz$]$ : | 906 |  |
| The frequency is | [ Hz$]$ : | 488 |  |
| The frequency is | [ Hz ]: | 488 |  |


| $74 \mathrm{HC4040} f_{\text {CLK }}=1 \mathrm{MHz}$ |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| PIN | freq [Hz] | Uppmätt [Hz] | Kommentar |
| 1 | $10^{6} / 2^{12}=244,1$ |  |  |
| 2 | $10^{6} / 2^{6}=15625$ |  |  |
| 3 | $10^{6} / 2^{5}=31250$ |  |  |
| 4 | $10^{6} / 2^{7}=7812,5$ |  |  |
| 5 | $10^{6} / 2^{4}=62500$ |  |  |
| 6 | $10^{6} / 2^{3}=125000$ |  |  |
| 7 | $10^{6} / 2^{2}=250000$ |  |  |
| 9 | $10^{6} / 2=500000$ |  |  |
| 12 | $10^{6} / 2^{9}=1953,1$ |  |  |
| 13 | $10^{6} / 2^{8}=3906,3$ | 3906 |  |
| 14 | $10^{6} / 2^{10}=976,6$ | 976 |  |
| 15 | $10^{6} / 2^{11}=488,3$ | 488 |  |

Something seems fishy ...

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