Automotive audio boosters

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Topics

- About me
- Car audio amplifier – whats easy, whats hard.
- Class D amplifier
- Briefly about SMPS
- Piccolo C2000 microcontroller from Texas Instruments
- Programming controllers, ADC, PWM
- Quality Assurance
- What can possibily go wrong?

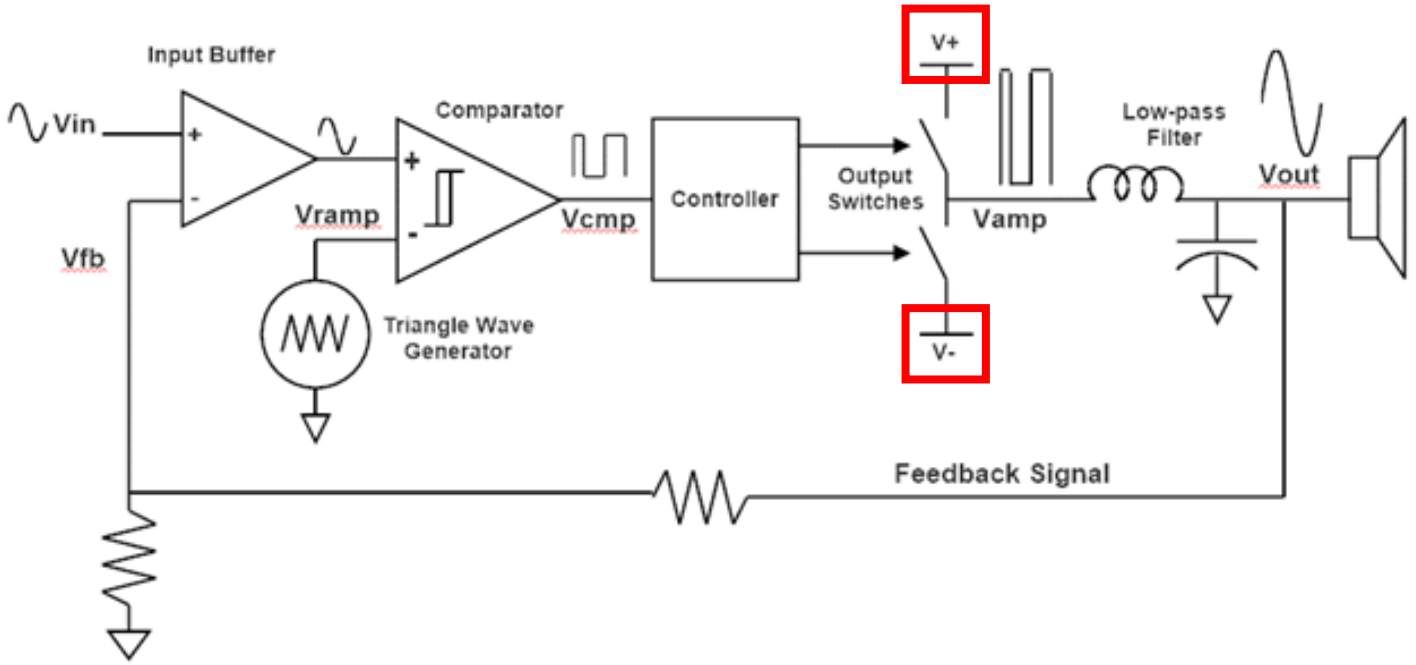
About me

- 25 years of experience in IT
- Masters degree 2007 from TTU
- Have worked on all kinds of IT projects
  - Started as sysadmin
  - Backend, databases, webservers etc
  - Frontend a little
  - Lots of integration
  - Mobile apps for iOS
  - Embedded development for last 2 years

Car audio amplifier

- Sits between the „Radio“ / headunit and the speakers.
- It’s always a class D amplifier.
- Plays audio - EASY
- Hard parts
  - Remains quiet at all other times.
  - Pass the long and rigorous testing.
  - Survive the human capability to wire everything wrong.
  - Software cannot be updated later.

Class D amplifier



https://www.whatsbestforum.com/threads/class-d-amplifiers-101.28375/

From audio to PWM

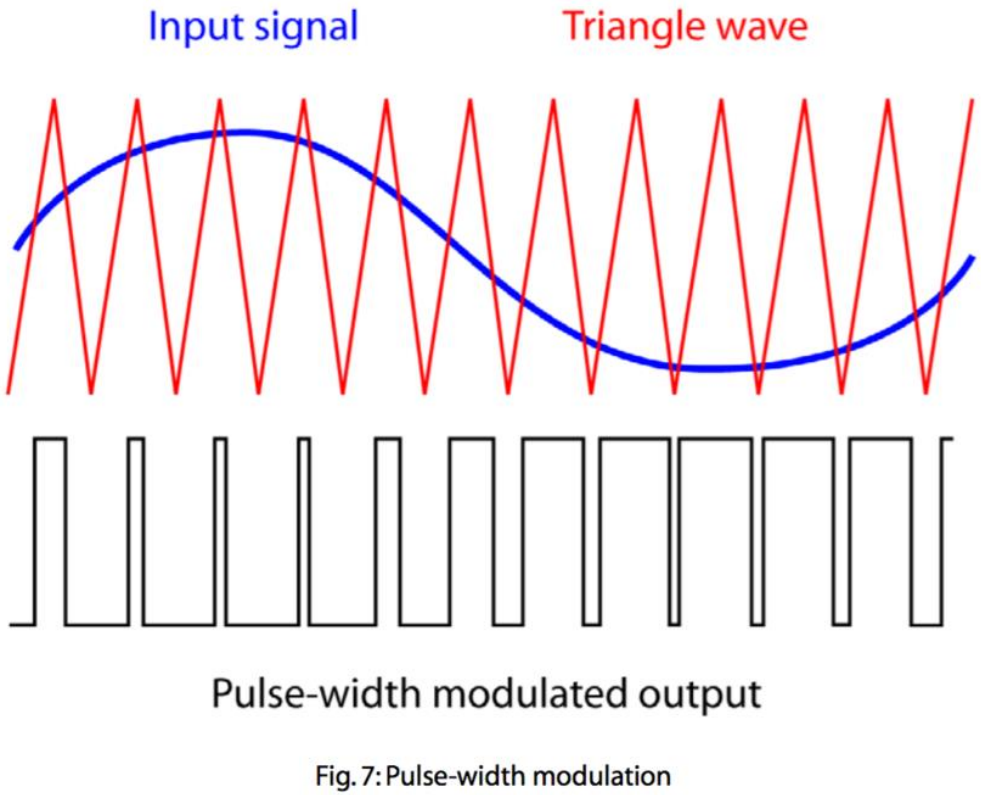
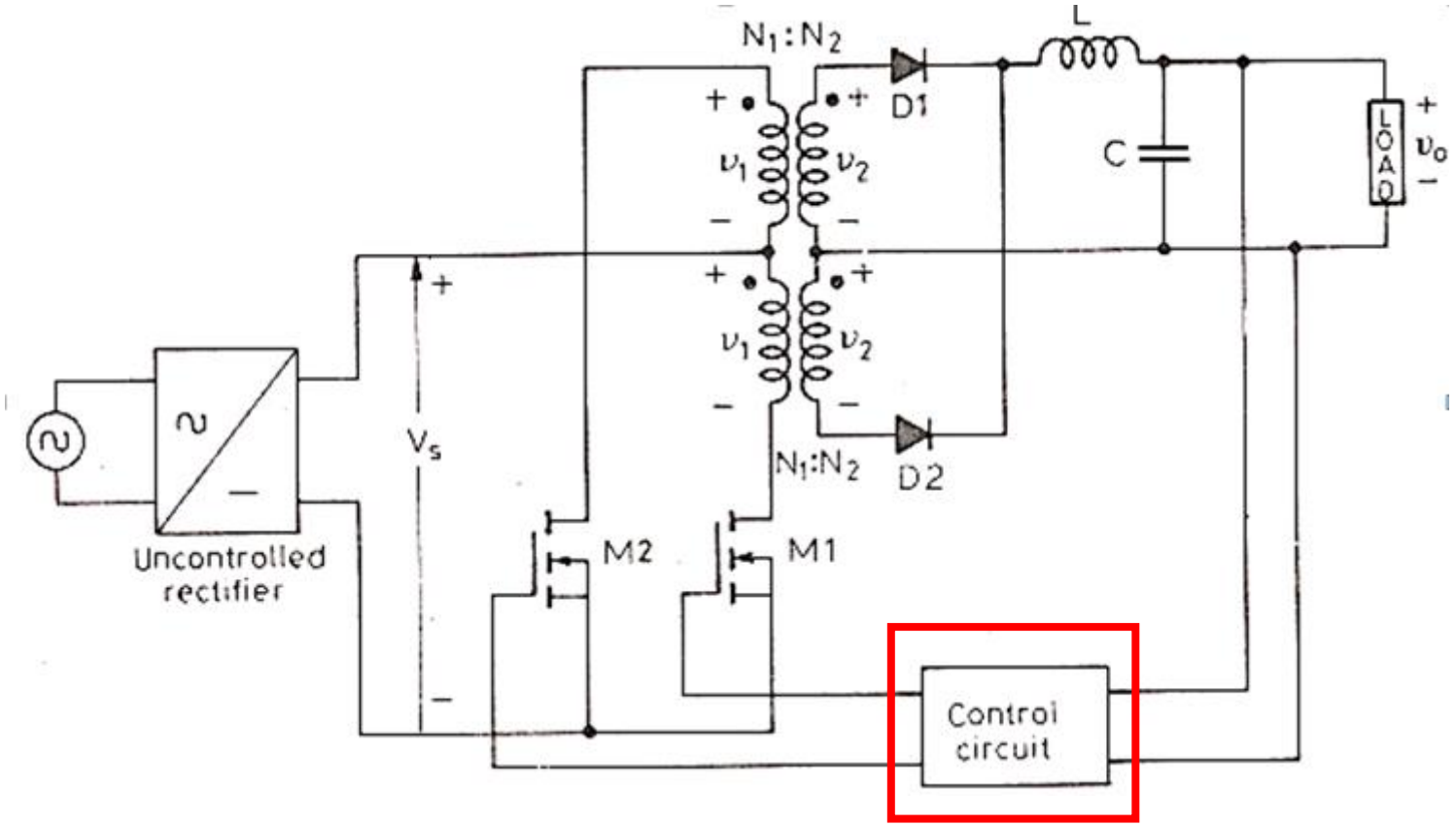


Fig. 7: Pulse-width modulation

https://www.soundonsound.com/techniques/what-class-d-amplification

SMPS push-pull topology



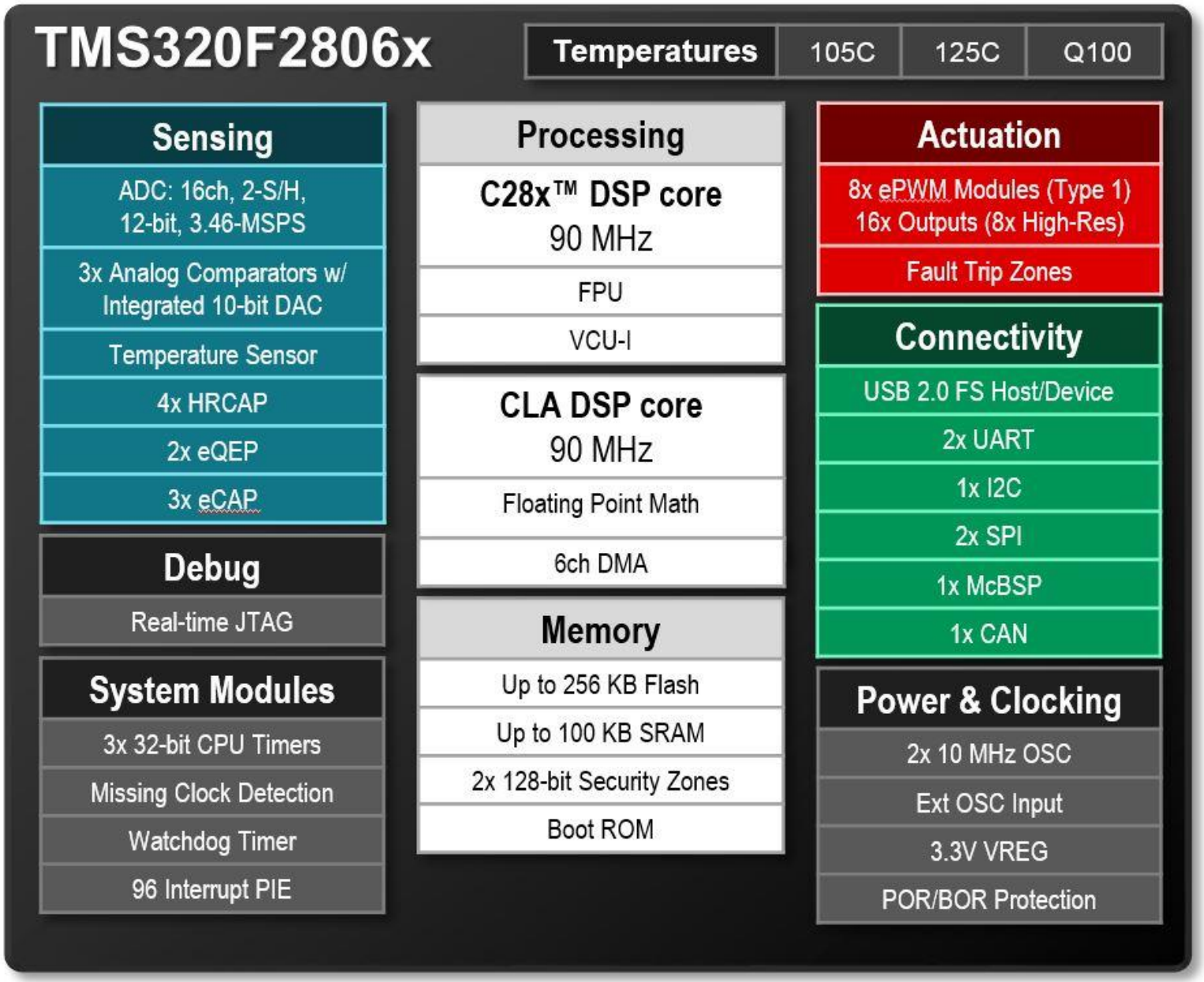
https://www.ques10.com/p/7333/use-of-power-electronic-systems-in-smps-1/

How hard can it be?

- 10% to get it working
- 90% to get it fault tolerant.

Piccolo C2000 microcontroller

purpose-built to control power electronics and provide advanced digital signal processing in industrial and automotive applications



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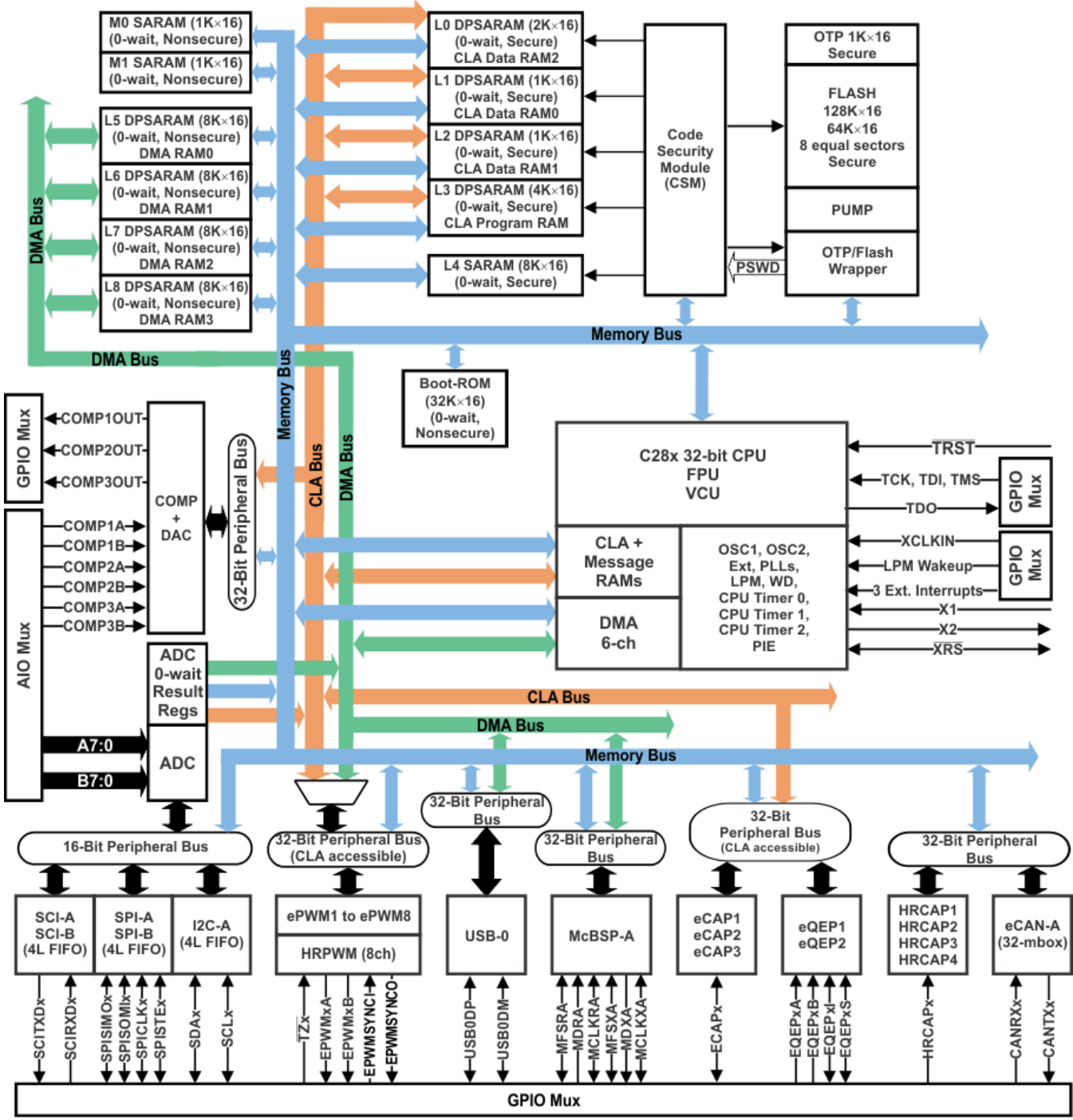
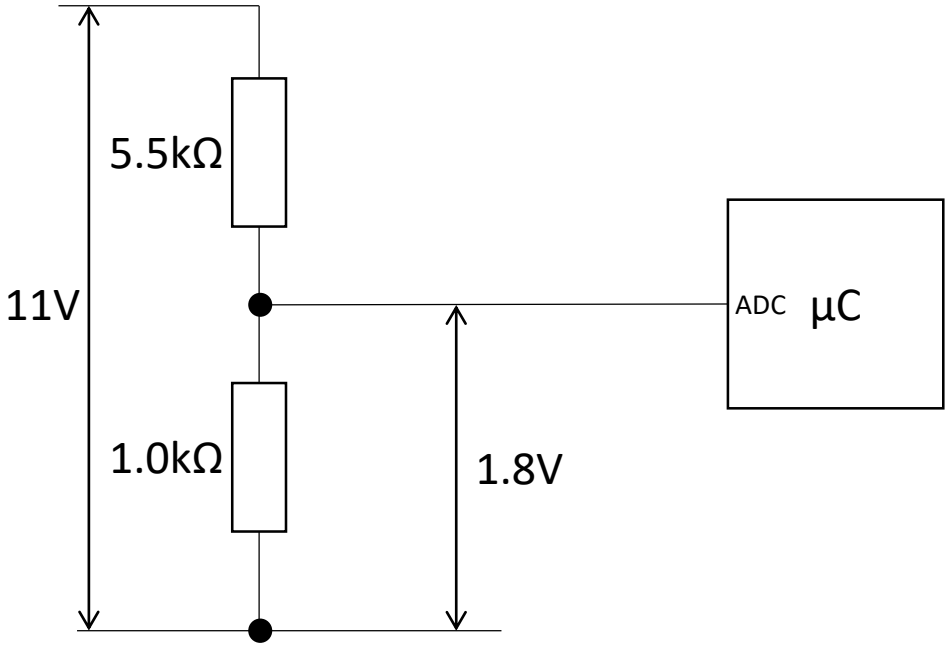


Programming methods

- No libraries
- No OS
- Directly on bare metal.
- All functionality available via registers.
- Programming languages: C, assembler.
- Main task – setup and configure the microcontroller, implement interrupts.

Analog to digital converter (ADC)



Voltage divider ratio 6.1 : 1

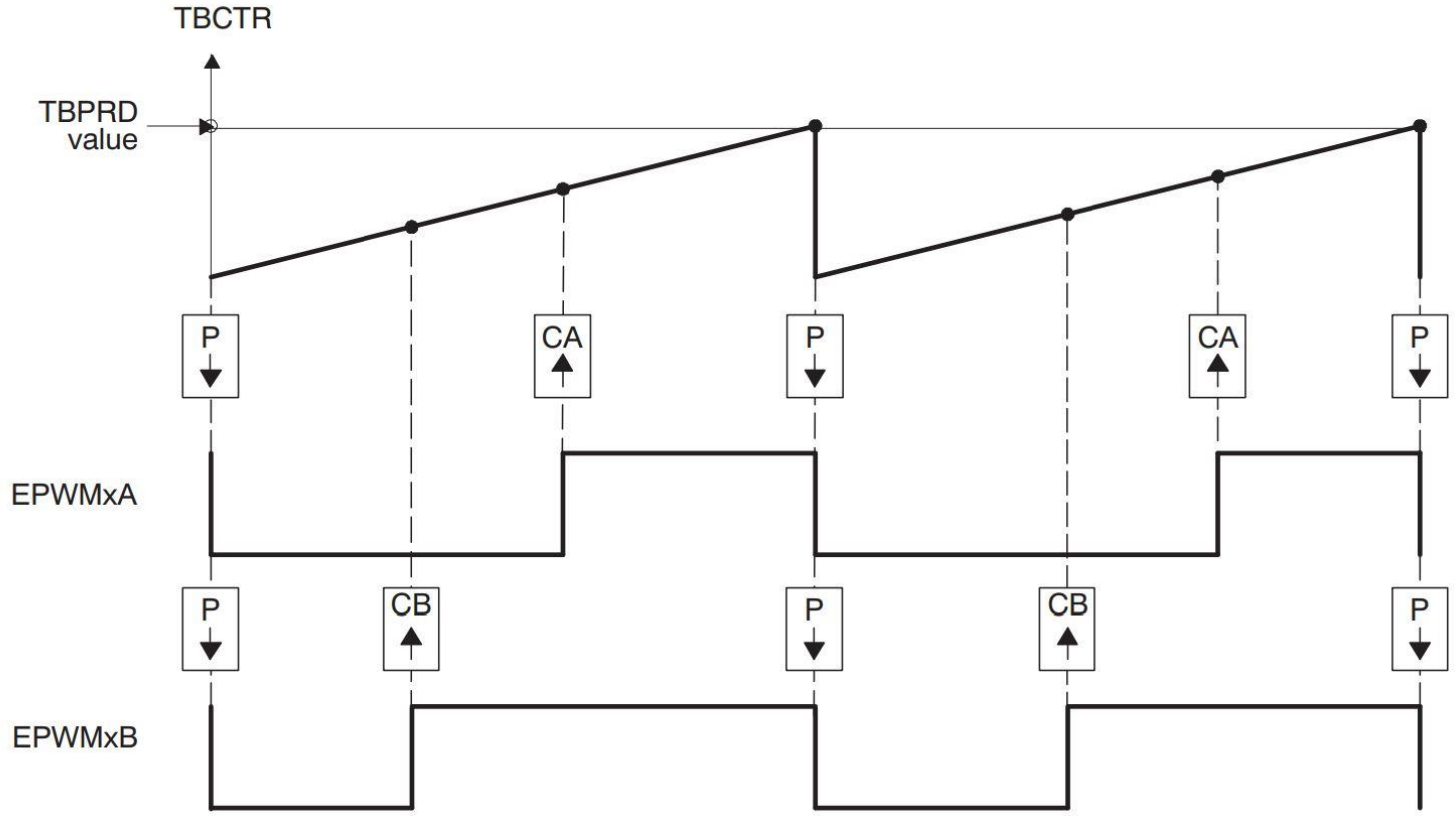
ADC voltage = 11 / 6.1 = 1.8V

ADC full range is 0 – 3.3V
12-bit ADC range mapped to 0 – 4096

1.8V / 3.3V = 54.54% of full range

ADC value: 54.54% * 4096 = 2234

Pulse Width Modulation (PWM)



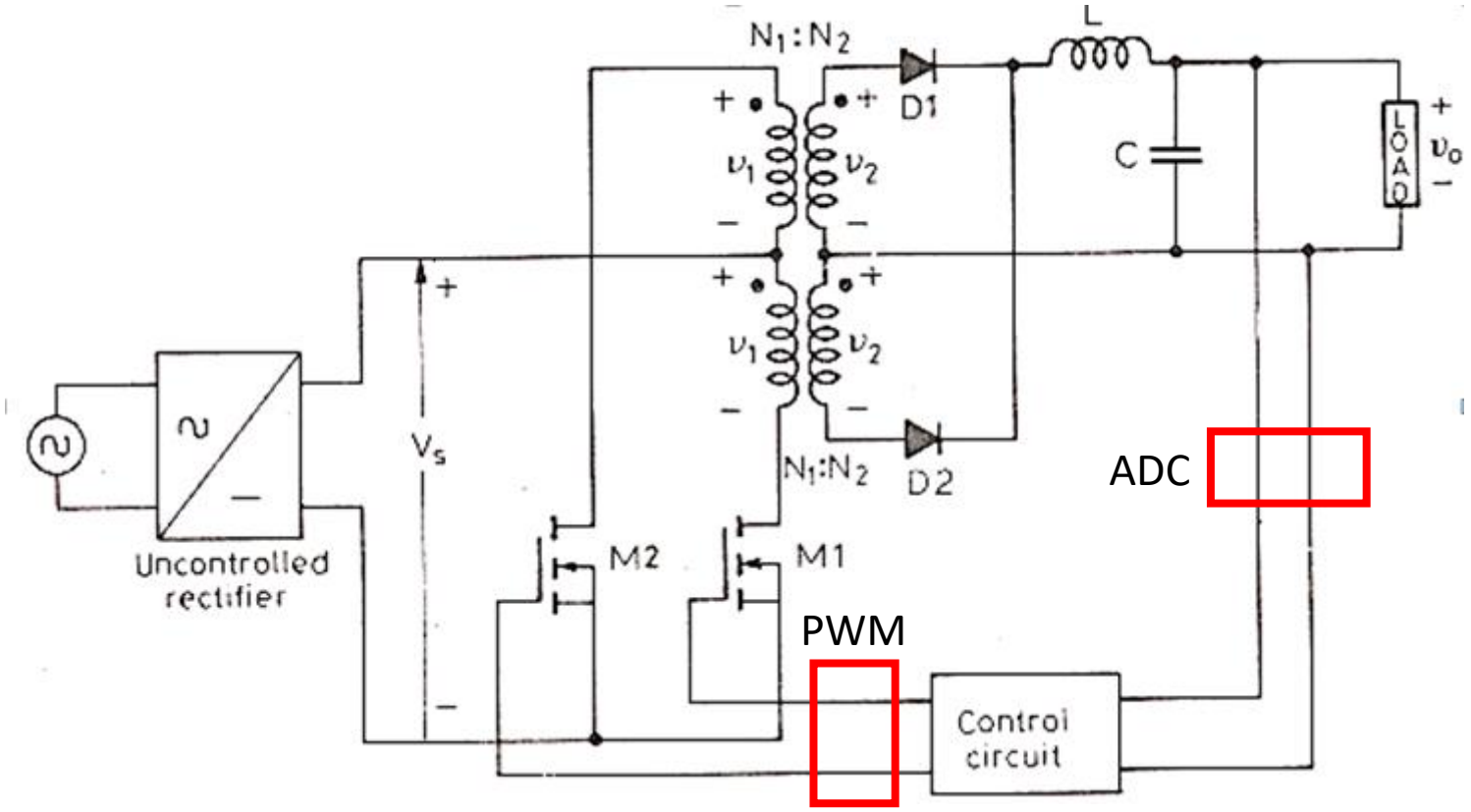
400kHz PWM @ 90MHz CPU

$$TBPRD = \frac{90\ 000\ 000}{400\ 000} = 225$$

40% PWM @ 400kHz

$$CA = 225 - (225\ * 0.4) = 135$$

SMPS push-pull topology



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Getting the quality

- Code conforms to MISRA C 2012 standard.
- Static code analysis
- Unittesting with 100% coverage.
- Dedicated testers
- Validation testing

What can go wrong?

- Overclocking.
- Missing clock detection.
- Voltage rampup and hidden feedback.
- Output is stuck.
- MOSFET linear mode.
- Old software.

Thank you

Q & A